

CULTURE AND SOCIETY ANALYSIS IN ARAVIND ADIGA'S *THE WHITE TIGER*

M. Muthumari

Research Scholar (Part Time) Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, India

Abstract

Aravind Adiga's The White Tiger is a powerful critique of contemporary Indian society and culture, exploring themes such as class struggle, corruption, the caste system, and the impact of globalization. The novel offers a searing commentary on the cultural and societal structures of modern India, exposing the deep-rooted inequalities and the transformative forces shaping the country. This paper sketches the cultural reality and social attitude of the country.

Introduction

The novel *The White Tiger* defines the Economic disparity and social class's role. The rich urban elite and the destitute rural poor are portrayed as the "two Indias" in the book. The journey of Balram Halwai from the "Darkness" (poor rural) to the "Light" (urban luxury) is a microcosm of the goals and challenges of society. commentary on the lower classes' lack of mobility and structural oppression. Laxmangarh's landlord system is an example of the feudal relics that still exist in contemporary India. Moral degradation and corruption. Portrayal of corruption as a widespread problem in Indian society that affects business, politics, and law enforcement. A metaphor for surviving in a corrupt system is Balram's journey from a devoted servant to a morally dubious businessman. Critique of the hypocrisy of the ruling class, which oppresses and exploits while professing to support

Urbanization and Globalization analysis of how Indian culture and society are changing as a result of globalization and the country's fast urbanization. Bangalore serves as a metaphor for both the exploitation of the poor and India's ascent to prominence in the world economy. the decline of traditional values and the increase in materialism and consumerism. Individualism and family. The novel examines the conflict between personal ambition and familial loyalty. Balram's decision to leave his family is a critique of conventional oppressive systems. conflict between Indian society's collectivist culture and contemporary individualism.

Knowledge and consciousness. the part that education plays in empowering people like Balram and highlighting access disparities. Satirical depiction of India's educational system, which frequently falls short of improving the lot of the underprivileged. Balram used experience and observation to educate himself as a means of resistance. The novel is repeated as a critique of India's long-standing social and cultural problems. Considering how Balram came to represent both resistance and cooperation with an unjust regime. Concluding remarks regarding Adiga's portrayal of India as a dynamic society battling its paradoxes and ambitions.

Dark World of Laxmangarh: Born into a low-income family, Balram Halwai lives in the rural village of Laxmangarh, which is known as the "Darkness." His education is interrupted because of his family's financial difficulties, even though he is clever and known

as a “white tiger” - a rare animal that represents individuality. He is compelled to work in a tea store and hopes to break out from the cycle of servitude and poverty there.

Exploitation and Servitude: In an attempt to turn his life around, Balram learns to drive and gets a job as a chauffeur for Ashok, the affluent son of a dishonest landlord known as “The Stork”. After moving to Delhi with Ashok and his wife, Pinky Madam, Balram grows more conscious of the exploitation, hypocrisy, and corruption that characterize the lives of the wealthy and powerful.

Balram learns about the enormous gap between the privileged and the poor through his work with Ashok. He starts to lose faith in Indian society due to the pervasive corruption and the presumption of servitude. When Ashok and Pinky Madam make him accept responsibility for a hit-and-run accident that Pinky caused, his resentment becomes even deeper. The breaking point is Balram’s perception that he is imprisoned in the “Rooster Coop,” which is a metaphor for the repressive structure that sustains the subordination of the lower classes. He chooses to escape in spite of the repercussions of betraying his lord. After killing Ashok and stealing a bundle of cash intended for a bribe, Balram flees to Bangalore.

The gender dynamics in Indian society are also clarified by the book. Women are frequently marginalized in *The White Tiger*, and their responsibilities are limited to what is expected of them. Balram’s grandmother Kusum, for instance, controls the family but is nonetheless confined by the patriarchal structure. Balram’s employer’s wife, Pinky Madam, finds it difficult to stand out in a world where men predominate. These depictions underscore the complex nature of injustice in Indian society by highlighting the interplay of oppression based on gender, caste, and class.

To sum up, *The White Tiger* by Aravind Adiga offers a compelling analysis of the social and cultural factors influencing contemporary India. The novel challenges systemic corruption, long-standing injustices, and the moral concessions required by a society that is changing quickly through Balram’s story. Adiga pushes readers to face the harsh realities of a culture where ambition frequently comes at the expense of people. *The White Tiger* is still a powerful and thought-provoking work that reflects India’s challenges and ambitions.

Works Cited

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