Contemporary Indian Literature in English: global encounters

Carmen Escobedo de Tapia. University of Oviedo.
1. LITERATURE AS A SPACE FOR GLOBAL CONVERSATION AMONG NATIONS: CULTURAL GLOBALIZATION.

2. EVOLUTION OF INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH: THE SOCIAL NOVEL.

3. INDIAN GLOBAL WRITERS : THE CONTEMPORARY SPHERE.

1. LITERATURE AS A SPACE FOR GLOBAL CONVERSATION AMONG NATIONS
GLOBALIZATION

CULTURAL GLOBALIZATION

GLOCALIZATION
THE CONTEXT OF LITERATURE

THE INDIAN LITERARY TEXT
1. PRE MODERN PERIOD: UP TO 1500.

2. MODERN PERIOD: FROM 1500 TO 1945.

3. CONTEMPORARY PERIOD: 1945 up TO CONTEMPORARY TIMES

2. EVOLUTION OF INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH:

THE SOCIAL NOVEL
INDIAN SOCIAL NOVEL IN ENGLISH:

EVOLUTION:

FROM M. R. ANAND TO THE CONTEMPORARY

ARAVIND ADIGA

THE WHITE TIGER (2008)
LAST MAN IN TOWER (2011)
‘Completely fascinating and told with a feverish and furious necessity’
Alan Warner
THE LOWLAND
A NOVEL

JHUMPA LAHIRI

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize
“The city, the contemporary metropolis, is for many the chosen metaphor of the modern world. In its everyday details, its mixed histories, languages and cultures, its elaborate evidence of global tendencies and local distinctions, the figure of the city, as both a real and an imaginary place, apparently provides a reading map for reading, interpretation and comprehension (1993, 188).”

DELHI
“Rush our in Delhi. Cars scooters, motorbikes, autorickshaws, black taxis, jostling for space on the road. The pollution is so bad that the men on the motorbikes and scooters have a handkerchief wrapped around their faces- each time you stop at a red light, you see a row of men with black glasses and masks on their faces, as if the whole city were out on a bank heist that morning.

There was a good reason for the face; they say the air is so bad in Delhi that it takes ten years off a man’s life (THE WHITE TIGER, 133).”
“The main thing to know about Delhi is that the roads are good, and the people are bad. The police are totally rotten. If they see you without a seatbelt, you’ll have to bribe them a thousand rupees (TWT, 124).”
THE WHITE TIGER AND BALRAM: AS REPRESENTATION OF INDIAN CAPITALISM
GLOBAL CULTURAL ELEMENTS MIXED WITH THE LOCAL:

the contrast between the rich and the poor

multiculturalism

megacity: new delhi

crime in the city

terrorism

lack of values

ecology

technology
INDIAN REALITY AS IMAGE

OF THE CULTURAL GLOBAL

OF OUR TIMES
CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE BECOMES A SPACE FOR A TRANSNATIONAL DIALOGUE THAT WILL LEAD TO A CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING OF HUMAN BEINGS IN THE 21ST CENTURY.
THANK YOU!