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Narration of Hybrid Identity: Homogeneous Nation Interrogated in the Select Novels of Salman Rushdie

Abstract

As a postcolonial writer, Salman Rushdie's fictions are preoccupied with narration of interstitiality and hybrid identity. Salman Rushdie endeavours to establish the fluidity of identity, the dynamism of spaces and the communion of global and the local. The formation of hybrid identity which occurs due to the ideology of multiculturalism dismantles nationalist perspectives of root and home. It is transnationalism which leads to cultural pluralism and cosmopolitanism. Rootless mobility characterizes the contemporary fluid world inhabited by migrants and expatriates. Moreover, the post-colonial legacy of linguistic and cultural imperialism which has given shape to "palimpsest" identity deconstructs the homogeneous structure of nation. My paper which is concerned with Salman Rushdie's four novels- Midnight's Children (1981) The Moor's Last Sigh (1995) Shalimar the Clown (2005) and The Enchantress of Florence (2008) investigates at large how the construct of hybrid identity problematises the monolithic structure of nation.