

POSTMODERN ANXIETY IN THE WRITINGS OF TABISH KHAIR

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ABSTRACT

The present manuscript is an attempt to analyze the range of themes and issues portrayed by a diaspora writer, Tabish Khair in postmodern Indian English literature. The eminent figures of Indian English literature like Raja Rao, R. K. Narayan, Mulk Raj Anand, V.S. Naipaul and Kamala Markandaya, Jhumpa Lahiri, Salman Rushdie, and Tabish Khair undertook the harsh realities of society and life. Nationalism, racism, identity, partition, caste, class, poverty, cultural roots, peasantry, doubly oppressed lives of women, rural-urban division, east-west encounter, feudal practices, Dalits, communalism, and tribal culture are some of the major issues exposed in their writings. These writers are also deified as path-breakers and pathmakers of the new era of Indian writing in English. Tabish Khair is one of the most enthusiastic and energetic diasporic writers of the postmodern era. He has portrayed the contemporary Indian life in a truthful and simple manner.

KEYWORDS: Diasporic Sensibility, Quest for Identity, Alienation, Assimilation, Racism, Cultural Roots