

SOCIO-POLITICAL CONSCIOUSNESS IN ROHINTONMISTRY'S FICTION WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO *FAMILY MATTERS*

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ABSTRACT

The present work, 'Socio-political Consciousness in RohintonMistry's Fiction with Special Reference to Family Matters as the title itself unfolds, emphasizes on the consciousness of social, political, economic, moral, cultural and intellectual background.

In fact, his novel Family Matters is a social document pregnant with political and historical flavour. The project unfolds how Mistry has delineated these features by using various devices. The novel is a literary presentation of facts, both historical and contemporary. Mistry's language is a fine specimen of Indo-Canadian English. He uses highly polished and refined language, sometimes tinged with emotions, when he describes the dignity of his characters and when he champions the cause of the dignity of under-fog. In the novel Mistry's engagement is with the Parsi community, to which he belongs. He remains a constant one, even as he goes on to expand his concerns to the wider issues of politics and society in India, and foregrounds the lives of the poor and disadvantaged with sympathy and understanding. This novel treats directly Parsi anxiety concerning immigration, cross-cultural marriages, and declining birth rates.

As a whole it is Mistry's unmistakable yearning to go back to his roots nostalgically that finds its multiple expressions in his fiction. In his writings, he desires to go back to his roots and during the course of narration; Mistry also images India in its multifaceted complexities and realities. He perceives India minutely with a critical view point in his work.

Mistry depicts the contemporary politics through the mirror of society in his novels. With the help of his characters Mistry brings out stark and real contemporary politics in the front of the reader. He has brought out some real but one sided and limited version of politics of almost every level which was present in India. His novel has vivid portrayal of contemporary politics and political consciousness of the society.

KEYWORDS: Socio-political Consciousness, *Family Matters*, RohintonMistry, cultural and social life, Parsi religion, Zoroastrian, Politics, Communal riots, Contemporary India, Fundamentalism, Indian secularism, *Shiv Sena*