

A STUDY OF SUBALTERN SUFFERING IN ROHINTON

MISTRY'S A FINE BALANCE

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ABSTRACT

*Rohinton Mistry is a prominent writer to emerge from the Parsi community in India. He migrated to Canada in his early twenties as he wanted to become a Pop singer. He has confessed in various interviews that he migrated because it was the fashion of the times. He is an author who is writing about the India which he has seen and observed during his youth. In his novels, Mistry has expressed the pain and grief of immigrant writers who were born in India but staying away from their motherland. His novel *A Fine Balance* (1995) is set in an unnamed city that the reader can easily guess as Bombay, the author's native city.*

*A Fine Balance revolves around the lives of four protagonists; each very different from the next. They find themselves thrown together in the same humble city apartment: Dinabhai, a widow who refuses to remarry and fights to earn a meager living as a seamstress; two tailors, Ishvar and Omprakash, uncle and nephew, who have come to the city in the hope of finding work; and a student, Maneck Kohlah, from a village situated at the foothills of the Himalayas. This article analyzes the theme of subaltern suffering in *A Fine Balance*.*

KEYWORDS: *Parsi, Migration, Diaspora, State of Emergency, Immigrant, Subaltern*

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