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Representation of Social and Cultural Issues in the Works of Dr. U. R. Ananthamurthy



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ABSTRACT

The Renaissance, in India, started with Raja Rammohan Roy. He was called as the first prose writer in English. Indian English fiction is at least a century and half old which is the gift of English education. U. R. Ananthamurthy is a contemporary writer and critic in the Kannada Language as well as considered as one of the pioneers of Navya Movement. His writing supposedly analyzes aspects ranging from challenges and changes faced by Brahmin families of Karnataka. Most of his novels portray a reaction of individuals to situations that are unusual and artificial. He portrays the tale of mystery, passion, spiritual exploration as well as mysteries of present and past. Ananthamurthy has deeply focused the socio-cultural elements in his works. The deep study of the novels puts forth the ideologies like impact of Hindu religion, influence of tradition in orthodox society, caste system, conflict between upper and lower class, the problem of untouchability, the effective use of rites and rituals in day today life, love, lust and sex etc. These social and cultural elements are representatives of the stronghold of Hindu principles, specially practiced by Brahmin people.

Keywords : *Navya Movement, orthodox society, untouchability, rites, rituals, Sati Pratha, liberalization, globalization, privatization, social politics.*