



**Epitome : International Journal
of Multidisciplinary Research**

ISSN : 2395-6968

***Comprehending India through the Novels of Nyantara Sahgal
and Kota Neelima***

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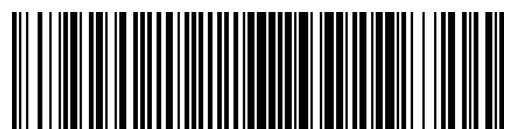
ABSTRACT:

Indian writing in English has been one of the most pivotal pillars of the worldwide literature. Presenting the nation on the global platform, it highlights everything that makes India, India, including its culture, history, geographical specialities, socio-political dynamics, traditions, and customs. Indian female writers writing in English, with their rich and comprehensive contribution added to the existing literary body depth and glory.

Majorly dealing with gender identity, gender disparity, quest for identity and identity crisis, the Indian female writers writing in English also touched upon the socio-political realities of the time. The colonial rule, the independence

movements, the post-independence phase, the transition of the country, everything is best captured and immortalised in their writing. Complementing to the words of Scottish philosopher Thomas Carlyle, 'In Books, we find the soul of a nation', literature by female contributors like Kamala Markandeya, Nayantara Sahgal, Kota Neelima presented the nation as it was and as it is through their pens. This paper attempts to view the nation through the writings of Nayantara Sahgal and Kota Neelima.

Key words: pivotal, socio-political dynamics, comprehensive contribution, gender identity, gender disparity, quest, identity crisis, colonial rule, independence movement, transition.



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