Epitome : International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research
ISSN : 2395-6968

Voices of Diaspora: A Comparative Study of Cultural Dislocation and Identity Negotiation in the Fiction of Caryl Phillips, Monica Ali, and Zadie Smith

Prof. Dr. Vijay Dashrath Misal
Supervisor
Moreshwar College, Bhokardan, Dist. Jalna.

Ambadas Bhagwan Sonwane
Research Scholar

Abstract

In this paper, a comparative analysis of how Caryl Phillips, Monica Ali and Zadie Smith depict cultural dislocation and identity negotiation within British diasporic literature is discussed. Drawing on the novels as primary texts and on secondary sources, such as published criticism, theoretical texts on diaspora and hybridity, and analyses of the novels, this paper contends that the three novelists articulate displacement through three different literary modes. The first novelist, Caryl Phillips articulates displacement as an inherited legacy of history and structure through fragmentation and polyphony. The second novelist, Monica Ali articulates it as a gendered and domestic experience through intimate realism. Zadie Smith on the other hand articulates displacement as an ordinary experience of urban multiculturalism through comic irony and in later works, through literary experiment.

Keywords: *diaspora; cultural dislocation; identity negotiation; hybridity; British fiction; Caryl Phillips; Monica Ali; Zadie Smith*