

CHAPTER 43

SLAVONIC & FINNO-UGRIAN STUDIES

Doctoral Theses

01. MEGHWAL (Sumitra)
Depiction of Motherhood in the Works of Mahasweta Devi and Ludmila Ulitskaya: A Comparative Study.
Supervisors: Prof. Namita Ranganathan and Prof. Neelakshi Suryanarayan
Th 27774

Abstract

“Depiction of Motherhood in the Works of Mahasweta Devi and Ludmila Ulitskaya: A comparative study” is based on a close study of selected works of two well-known women writers, Mahasweta Devi from India and Lyudmila Ulitskaya from Russia. The selected works portray different facets of motherhood some of which question the prescribed norms laid down by society. The first chapter we undertake to give a strong theoretical background on the concept of motherhood and study the ideas propounded by various schools: the sociologists, the psychoanalytic theory related to motherhood and the feminist movement and its approach to the study of motherhood. The second chapter is a detailed analysis of the works of Mahashweta Devi: Bayen, Stanyadayani and Hazzar Chaurasi ki Maa. The main protagonists of these works are unique mother figures, strong characters, yet struggling against the odds in the Indian patriarchal society. The third chapter covers the literary works of Ludmila Ulitskaya: The daughter of Bukhara, March 1953 and Medea and her children. These stories also depict mother figures in unusual tones and question the predominant idea of motherhood. The fourth chapter is a comparative analysis of the above-mentioned works highlighting similarities and differences in the depiction of mother characters which can be attributed to the gender specific issues as well as cultural traditions. In this context the study tries to arrive at different dimensions of ‘Motherhood’ as propounded by the two writers.

Contents

1. Introduction 2. Theoretical Approaches to The Study of Motherhood 3. The Image of Motherhood in The Works of Mahasweta Devi 4. The Image of Motherhood in The Work Daughter of Bukhara 5. Comparative Study of The Works of Mahasweta Devi And Lyudmila Children 6. Conclusion and Bibliography.

02. VARUN KUMAR
The Evolution of Socio-Political Satire in Russian Literature: A Comparative Analysis of Selected Works from Tsarist, Soviet and Post-Soviet Periods.
Supervisors: Dr. Shraddha Pal and Prof. Neelakshi Suryanarayan
Th 27909

Abstract

Satire is an entertaining tool for expressing dissatisfaction with the ruling power of the country, and sometimes world leaders. Satire traces its history from the ancient Greek and Roman periods to the middle Ages and modernity. In particular, in Russia satire occupies a prominent place in the general literary space. Satire is depicted with the help of various methods of expressiveness such as irony, sarcasm, allegory, exaggeration, grotesque, non-responsiveness, invective, anachronism etc. A comprehensive understanding of these methods of satire is the most important component of our research, because we compared selected satirical works from different time periods. Comparison of these works is conducted not only from the socio-political point of view, but also from the point of view of different methods of satire used in these works. The actuality of this work lies in the fact that satire is a universal and relevant genre, which never seems outdated. Satire appears in various forms of literature, such as stories, novels and dramas, but in the present time we see its wide use in media of mass information as cartoons, stand-up comedy. Radio commentaries, television shows, cartoons and etc. Our research is an attempt to analyze this topic in a comparative manner, to reveal the special qualities and differences that Political satire appears in accordance with the times. This research can be used to create a special course on satire for students studying Russian literature. The scientific novelty of this research is determined by the fact that for the first time an attempt is made at comparative description on the basis of special algorithm of analysis of Russian satire over three centuries by conducting comprehensive comparative analysis of selected masterpieces of satire, representative of contemporary times, and give basic knowledge about socio-political elements and specific distinguishing features of that time.

Contents

1. Introduction 2. Theoretical Basis of Satire 3. Social and Political Satire in Literature of The Xix Century 4. Social and Political Satire in Soviet Literature 5. Social and Political Satire in Post-Soviet Literature 6. Comparative Analysis of Satire in Selected Works 7. Conclusion and Bibliography.