

SHASHI DESHPANDE'S INDIAN FEMININE PROTAGONISTS

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Abstract

Shashi Deshpande's novels usually deal with female protagonists striving to search or find their own selves. Deshpande's heroines do it through writing and ultimately take a resolution in their lives. The unexpressed and often ignored issues of women from their unknown regions are clearly portrayed in her novels.

Keyword: Unexpressed, Portrayed, Region. Feminine, Protagonists

INTRODUCTION

Shashi Deshpande is an Indian woman novelist having great concern for her own women community in the society. It is her perfect understanding of the women psyche and deep insight of Indian society brought her international recognition. Her novels deal with the problems of a middle class woman's career besides her marital constraints. The undiscussed tribulations of women from their unfamiliar regions of minds are clearly portrayed in her novels. The present paper focuses on the need for women to get rid of the chains imposed on them in the name of tradition. In spite of being modern and educated, still Deshpande's heroines are the victims of prejudices emanated from society.

Most women were tend to be happy with their secondary status named 'Savi-Savitri' and it often restricted them to express their dissatisfaction and opinions. It was the male dominated society that permitted the role of a woman in doing housework, rearing children etc. Unlike anyone, Pande's female protagonists are not mere representatives of traditional 'Sita' images.