

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE FINAL REPORT OF WORK DONE ON THE MINOR RESEARCH PROJECT OF SARAH NIRMALA MULIYIL ENTITLED “INDIAN CAMPUS NOVELS: AN EMERGING EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL REFORMER”- SANCTIONED BY UGC, VIDE SANCTION LETTER NO. MRP(H)-0169/12-13/KAMA002/UGC-SWRO DATED 23 Sept 2013**

Campus novels are a genre which has enriched Indian English fiction. They are usually comic or satirical, highlighting the follies of academic life. Contemporary issues and educational trends are discussed in Campus Novels.

The popularity of Indian campus novels can be attributed to certain features of the novel i.e the cheesy, catchy titles, they are light reads, often narrating the story of friends, their college conflicts, their romances, these novels are juicily plotted with fun and satire and this genre of novels have generated quite a good fan following in recent times, mainly because of the thrill of revisiting student life, apart from other reasons.

Campus novels throw light on several follies of our education system. The structure of our education system needs to be re-structured as it fails to fulfil student requirement, in terms of career orientation and globalization. Individuals need to possess multifarious potentialities, like technology, innovation, hard work and adventurous spirit to get them on their way up the ladder. What our country is looking for today is a revolution in education. Students should be given the opportunity to think for themselves, to observe and solve problems themselves. Every student is a different individual and achieving a high score is not the only way to a successful career.

This project is divided into five chapters. Chapter I deal with the introduction –the definition of campus novels and the origin and development of campus novels in India. Campus novels mainly came from European countries like Britain and America. They were also known as ‘Academic Fiction’ because of its focus on the academy, making it an interesting genre. Chapter II deals with the various types of campus novels divided on the basis of the people they deal with namely a. Campus novels focused on students b.Campus novels focused on Faculty c.Campus novels focused on Vice Chancellor d. The Malfunctioning in the Campus and e. Buildingsroman novels which concentrate on the character of the protagonist, Chapter III scrutinizes a few campus novels as “reflections of the educational and social follies in our society” wherein reforms should be brought about. Chapter IV deals with a few regular malpractices/ follies in educational campuses and the Final chapter V summarizes and concludes this project by suggesting some methods towards reforming and creating a better world for the youth.

My findings after working on this topic is that most of the Indian Campus novels have repetitive content and can make it rather monotonous for the reader. It can be easily said that the earlier campus novels were relatively more serious than the present ones. Also Indian Campus Novels lacks novels written by the teaching faculty themselves, i.e college life viewed from their perspective.

The novels selected for the study of this topic “Indian Campus Novels – An Educational and Social Reformer” have been examined in detail with reference to the above theme and their relevance to the

campus. The authors have been successful in portraying the educational and the social trends in the Indian campuses, highlighting on their flaws in particular. A sense of realization takes place in the reader and the reader is able to comprehend the reasons for such set ups in educational institutions and the frustration of the staff and the students to the contemporary happenings on the campus. Campus novels have many things to point out and bring a change in society although being partly fictional and partly autobiographical.

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