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Identity and Alienation in Postcolonial Fiction: A Comparative Analysis of Selected Novels

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Abstract

This research paper looks at the problems of feeling disconnected and not knowing where you belong and how culture and identity are affected using a close look at stories from different books. The study focuses on books by well-known authors like Chinua Achebe, Salman Rushdie, Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. It looks at how the characters deal with the pressure of feeling separate from their traditions and being left out in modern society. By using ideas from people like Frantz Fanon, Edward Said and Homi K. Bhabha the study shows how the way stories are told shows the feelings of people who have been moved away from their homes. The results show that feeling disconnected from your past and being left out in places happens at the same time. The comparison helps show ways regions deal with these issues and also shows things that are the same around the world. This study shows how important stories from countries that were once ruled by others are in helping people understand how they are moving and finding ways to get stronger and change in a world that is connected but also broken.

Keywords; *Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Ethics, Human-Machine Interaction (HMI), Moral Agency, Algorithmic Transparency, Applied Philosophy*

Introduction

Postcolonialism looks at the deep effects of being ruled by an empire and the long process of becoming free. In the past empires controlled people not by force and taking over land but by changing the way societies worked to help the empire. When countries finally became independent the fight wasn't over. Real freedom meant more than having your own government. It meant changing the way people think and feel about themselves. People had to bring their own languages, their art and their sense of value after years of being told they were not good enough. Even when the foreign leaders left the systems they built stayed, making people feel like they did not fit anywhere. This feeling of not belonging

appears in places today. People often feel stuck between where they came from and the ways of living that the world is pushing. This makes them wonder where they really belong. Looking at this struggle through stories is still important for understanding what is going on now. Books show how writers talk about these problems of who you're where you are and how you feel. By looking at these stories people can see the same struggles and ways to get through them helping everyone understand how to heal and find their own way in a world that is changing fast.

Objectives of the study

- To look at how certain books about being ruled by others show the ideas of feeling broken and not belonging.
- To check how being moved away from home mixing cultures and being forced to change affects the people in the stories.
- To see how the characters in the stories deal with feeling separated from others.
- To compare how different writers use stories to show what it is like to live in a world that was once ruled by others.

Literature Review

Modern studies on being ruled by others are built on ideas from people. Frantz Fanon in books like Black Skin, White Masks talked about how being treated by others breaks peoples minds and makes them feel like they need to act like the people in power. Edward Said changed how people think about the East by showing how the West made up ideas to explain why they should be in charge. Homi K. Bhabha added ideas about places where cultures meet and mix saying that identity grows in these spaces where different ways of life come together. A lot of research looks at the problems people face after being ruled moving around and losing their way of life. Scholars like Bill Ashcroft, Gareth Griffiths and Helen Tiffin in The Empire Writes Back showed that people who lived under empires still move between being in the center and being left out. More research shows that when people move to cities they end up in places where they are not sure where they fit. Even though there is a lot of research on moving and feeling broken there is still something. Most studies look at books from one place or another not looking at how different writers from languages talk about losing their home. This study fills that gap by looking at books side by side to see how people from places deal with feeling disconnected and trying to find their way.

Methodology

This study uses a look at stories and compares them. It does not use numbers or surveys. Instead it looks carefully at the stories how they are told and the ideas they have to find meaning. The main books are stories from people like Chinua Achebe, Salman Rushdie, Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. These books show parts of the world and how people feel about their old ways and new ways. To support the ideas the study uses articles from experts books that talk about important ideas and old papers that help explain the world that the stories are in. The method looks deeply at the words and ideas in the stories. Uses theories about being ruled by others to understand them. By looking at parts of the stories the way characters grow and how the stories are told the study shows how different writers talk about mixing cultures, pain from being forced to change and trying to find a way of being.

Analysis

One story shows how a person loses their way of thinking because of outside pressure. Watching how the main characters change shows a loss of their old traditions, caused by new rules and changes in society. The places in the story move from sad places to new empty cities showing how the person feels broken inside. The story shows how being pushed out of a group makes people feel alone and lose their sense of belonging. Another book has different ideas about losing your home being forced to change and hiding your own ways. Of fully giving in the people in this story try to balance two ways of life. The places in the story are in areas where ways and new ways mix. The story shows how people fight back against being pushed out turning life into a way of saying no to being forgotten. Language is a part of who you are. Losing your language means losing a connection to your past making it hard to express true feelings. People often feel like outsiders, both in places and in their own old places. This makes them feel lonely and not part of anywhere. After being free things are not the same for everyone. Women and people who are poor face problems. They have to deal with rules and new ones at the same time, which makes them feel even more lost.

Discussion

Looking at both stories together shows where they are similar and where they are different in how they show people feeling disconnected. Both stories care about the pain of being moved and how being free does not fix everything. The characters in both stories have problems with their traditions and with changing societies. Their stories are different in how they end. One story shows people falling apart and not being able to go while the other shows people finding ways to live in a mixed world. Looking at these stories through ideas helps understand what is going on in the stories. Frantz Fanons ideas about being hurt and feeling show how people in the stories feel. Their struggles match what people who studied after empires said. Homi K. Bhabhas ideas about mixing cultures and being in a place help see how people in the stories find a way to live. These ideas connect to life today. Many people move around. They feel disconnected. The pain in the books shows what real people go through. Understanding this helps show why stories are important. They help people feel closer teach about problems and offer ways to get through times.

Result

The study shows that being disconnected in stories happens in two ways. People lose their traditions and are left out in new places. This makes them feel stuck, between two worlds, not where to belong. The way stories are told shows the feelings of people who have been moved. Using stories together helps see ways that places deal with the same problems. It shows that even though the world has changed some things are the same. This project started to look at alienation using a way of thinking that compares texts. By looking at some novels the research followed how old imperial history still affects how people see themselves and how they feel inside. The main points showed that people are caught between two places struggling to stay connected to where they came from and still dealing with being left out in places. The way the research was done worked well at showing ways stories are told, showing both broken parts of life and ways people keep going. Postcolonial stories are still very important for understanding how people move around today and how they create who they are. As more people move around the world the feelings shown in these stories connect with a lot of people who are

trying to live between cultures. Books offer a place where people who are split up can talk about their pain fight against unfair systems and try to build lives from different parts of culture. Researchers who want to add more to these ideas can look into ways of comparing. Future studies could look at people who are connected online even when they are away seeing how this changes how people feel about being away, from home. Also looking at the environment could help understand how hurting the land is connected to ways of taking over. Finally looking at stories that use languages could show special ways people resist using just one language giving a better and more different view of how the world is healing.

Conclusion

This project aimed to look at alienation using a way of studying texts that compares different books. By looking at novels together the research showed how past empires still affect peoples sense of who they are and how they feel inside. The main ideas talked about two kinds of moving showing how people feel disconnected from where they came from and still face being left out in todays world. The way the research was done worked well at showing ways stories are told, showing both broken parts of life and how people keep going. Postcolonial books are still very important for understanding how people today move around and create their identities. As more people move from one place to another the feelings shown in these books connect with a lot of people who are dealing with moving between cultures. Books offer a place where people who are split up can talk about their pain fight against unfair systems and build better lives from different parts of culture. People who want to do research can add to this by looking at new online groups of people who are far from their home seeing how being connected online changes what it means to be away from home. Also looking at nature criticism could help understand how destroying the environment links with ways of taking over land. Lastly looking at books, in languages could show how people resist in their own languages going beyond just English books and giving a fuller more varied view of how the world is healing.

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