

Shifting Paradigms of Culture: Rise of Secular Sensibility in Indian Literature

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Abstract : Burgeoning demand of 'Secularism' has shaken the pillars of cultural studies in the contemporary literature. The perplexity of the culturally estranged term 'secular' gives rise to temporal ideologies across the world. Hence, it is high time to scan this concept in the context of Indian lifestyle which is a blend of assimilated cultures woven in multiple religious fabrics. The infliction of such secular taste is depicted in literary productions like 'Satanic Verses' and 'An Area of Darkness'. The paper conceptually makes a cross-cultural analysis of anti-religious Indian literary texts, assessing its revitalization in current times. Further, this paper studies the increasing popularity of secular sensibility in the contemporary times. The mushrooming elements of secularism such as abstraction, spirituality, liberation, individualism give rise to a seemingly newer idea i.e. 'Plurality' making the literature highly hybrid. This approach has been used to study Indian modernity reflected in its literature. Seminal works of stalwarts are used to understand the consequence of this cultural synthesis. Conclusively, this theoretical research inspects the efficiency of secular culture, intertwined with internal coherence and throws light on the plurality of texts in Indian literature.

Keywords : culture, indian, literature, plurality, secular, secularism

Conference Title : ICLLC 2020 : International Conference on Language, Literature and Culture

Conference Location : London, United Kingdom

Conference Dates : February 13-14, 2020