



EXPLORING NATIONALISTIC THREADS: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF NATIONALISM IN THE SHORT STORIES OF R.K. NARAYAN AND MULK RAJ ANAND

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ABSTRACT

An analysis of nationalism in the short stories of Mulk Raj Anand and R.K. Narayan, two well-known Indian authors, in contrast. This research attempts to provide light on the nuanced ways in which these great writers investigate and explain nationalism in the context of India both before and after independence by a detailed assessment of the patriotic motifs included into their works. To elucidate how Narayan and Anand's narrative strategies and character portrayals serve as means of conveying different facets of the nationalistic passion, the comparative method aims to highlight the distinct perspectives and thematic divergences that arise from their respective works. The research provides a comprehensive understanding of the writers' engagement with the complex web of Indian nationalism in the early to mid-20th century by delving into the sociocultural and historical strands that are interwoven in their writings. The abstract hopes to further the larger conversation on literary nationalism through comparative analysis. It offers comprehension of the many and varied facets of this matter as they manifest in the compositions of these two illustrious writers.

Keywords: Nationalistic Threads, Nationalism, Short Stories, R.K. Narayan, Mulk Raj Anand



1. INTRODUCTION

The study of nationalism is an important and intricate topic that is reflected in the rich tapestry of Indian literature, which itself reflects the nation's dynamic socio-political setting. This study compares the nationalistic themes that are present in the short stories written by two renowned authors, R.K. Narayan and Mulk Raj Anand. Their narratives, set in India's tumultuous pre- and post-independence eras, provide a unique lens through which to examine the complexities and nuances of nationalism. Two of the pioneers of Indian literature, Narayan and Anand, wrote stories that both brilliantly captured the everyday lives of their people and conveyed profound ideas about the nascent nation's identity. This research makes an effort to examine their corpus of work, highlighting the many approaches and thematic changes these great writers employed to both critique and express nationalism.

Renowned for his timeless tales set in the fictional town of Malgudi, R.K. Narayan offers a window into the pre-independence period via tales that blend comedy, wit, and insightful societal criticism. His art often navigates the tension between tradition and modernity, presenting a microcosm of the rapidly evolving Indian society. This study closely examines Narayan's short stories in an effort to pinpoint the complex ways in which he addresses the idea of nationalism. It will look at whether his tales depict tensions found in India's complex cultural tapestry or show an optimistic embrace of a single country.

Mulk Raj Anand, a distinguished writer in India, tackled the post-independence socio-economic landscape via his works of literature at the same time. Through his works, which are often set against the backdrop of poverty and injustice, Anand explores the human condition and brings attention to the struggles experienced by underprivileged communities. This comparative research will examine how Anand's stories address social justice, inclusivity, and the evolving concept of the Indian nation in order to gain a deeper understanding of how he expresses nationalism. This research examines the underlying themes of Anand's short stories to find out how nationalism is relevant in a changing culture.

By examining the short tales of R.K. Narayan and Mulk Raj Anand, this study seeks to further our knowledge of how Indian literature influences and reflects the national consciousness. By analysing the patriotic threads woven throughout these literary masterpieces, we want to



uncover the many perspectives these literary giants offer on the trajectory of India's journey towards independence and the subsequent challenges in nation-building. The goal of this comparative study is to unravel the layers of meaning hidden in the short stories of Narayan and Anand. It is situated at the intersection of sociology, literature, and history. It sheds fresh insight on nationalism's complex and dynamic nature in Indian creative imagination.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Mulk Raj Anand's (2001) *Uncompromising* in its portrayal of the appalling conditions faced by the untouchable caste in pre-independence India, "Untouchable" is a key work of Indian literature. Penguin published this edition of the book in 2001, and it has garnered attention for being very accessible and offering a comprehensive synopsis of Anand's research on social injustice and caste discrimination. Apart from narrating the tale of Bakha the persona, the book presents a forceful critique of the deeply embedded societal structures that envelop Indian society. Anand's literary prowess and his commitment to social realism are significant topics that recur in this book, laying the foundation for further discussions on the connection between literature and social justice.

M.K. Bhatnagar's (2003) *The 2003 book "Modern Indian English Novel,"* published by Atlantic Publishers & Distributors, puts Anand's "Untouchable" in the context of Indian English literature. Bhatnagar's writings are a priceless resource for understanding the evolution and thematic underpinnings of the modern Indian English novel. It examines the socio-political elements that shaped Indian literature, highlighting the significance of novels such as "Untouchable" in expressing shifting social mores and the formation of a new national identity. By placing Anand's work within the wider literary canon, Bhatnagar's book offers insights into the novel's contribution to the larger saga of post-colonial Indian literature.

Francies Herbert Bradely's (2003) *"Appearance and Reality: A Metaphysical Essay,"* published by Adamant Media Corporation in 2003, is another source that might provide a philosophical framework for analysing Anand's analysis of social structures and the difference between the material world and the ultimate reality in "Untouchable." Bradley's philosophical perspectives, while not exclusively focused on Indian literature, may offer an additional framework for



understanding the deeper metaphoric and symbolic aspects of Anand's work, especially in relation to addressing the pervasive issues of social injustice and untouchability.

E.M. Forster's (2001) "Aspects of the Novel," a landmark book that explores the essential elements of the novel as a literary form, was released by Atlantic Publications in 2001. Forster's examination of elements including narrative structure, symbolism, plot, and character offers a fundamental grasp of the book writing process. With its clear insights and lively discussion, the book continues to be a classic that not only enriches literary studies but also advances our understanding of the novelistic form. As such, it is an invaluable resource for both researchers and readers.

K. R. S. Iyengar's (2012) A thorough survey of the wide subject of Indian writing in English may be found in the 2012 book "Indian Writing in English," published by Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd. Iyengar provides a critical and historical account of the evolution of Indian literature in English from its inception to the present. Iyengar's book is a valuable tool for scholars examining the diverse perspectives and narratives that comprise the intricate tapestry of Indian literature in English through an analysis of the writings of different authors and their thematic interests.

Aamir R. Mufti's essay (2007) The piece "Peasantry, Politics and Historiography" in the 2007 Permanent Black collection "Community, Gender and Violence" explores the intricate relationship between the peasantry, politics, and history. Through a critical lens, Mufti's work provides an understanding of how political and social realities impact historical narratives. By emphasising the relationships between literature, history, and politics within the broader context of community dynamics and violence, this study adds a crucial component to our understanding of narratives as agents of socio-political transformation.

3. LITERARY LANDSCAPE: R.K. NARAYAN'S NATIONALISTIC PALETTE

Understanding the subtleties of R.K. Narayan's narrative palette and the literary environment of his works—particularly his study of patriotic themes—requires close examination. In the core of Narayan's contribution to Indian literature is the well-known town of Malgudi, a fictional community that serves as a microcosm of the evolving Indian culture. In this context, Narayan deftly weaves tales that capture the essence of India before independence and the pulse



of a nation about to undergo radical change. Because Malgudi is used frequently, Narayan may highlight a variety of characters and situations, all of which contribute to the rich tapestry of the nation's history.

Tradition and modernity form a theme axis throughout Narayan's short tales, highlighting the conflict and balance between the two. In his made-up world, Narayan often depicts tradition through accepted social mores, familial bonds, and cultural rituals. Furthermore, the introduction of Western ideas, urban influences, and the shifting objectives of his characters all serve to highlight modernity's invasion. Through this dynamic encounter, Narayan offers a subtle commentary on the evolving nature of the Indian nation, one that strikes a balance between a loyalty to its traditional heritage and the unavoidable march of modernization.

Humour is one quality that distinguishes Narayan's patriotic message. His stories are rife with subtly funny satire that aims to be both a lighthearted diversion and a critique of society. Narayan adeptly navigates the complexities of Indian culture with sarcasm and comedy, often bringing attention to the oddities and stupidities associated with nation-building. His comedy encourages readers to reflect on the quirks and flaws inherent in human nature and, by extension, the nation's mindset. His stories are a great way to start a conversation.

Analysing Narayan's patriotic palette reveals that his literary contributions go beyond straightforward narrative analysis. His works serve as a mirror, capturing the aspirations and hardships of a nation on the cusp of independence. In addition to giving characters and situations greater depth, his short stories' exploration of tradition, modernity, and humour offers a nuanced perspective on how Indian nationalism is evolving. With his skill in crafting gripping stories and his perceptive observations of societal nuances, Narayan cedes his status as one of literature's greatest writers, whose works never fail to captivate readers and provide incisive viewpoints on the myriad dimensions of the Indian national experience.

3.1. Setting the Stage: Narayan's Malgudi Chronicles

"Setting the Stage: Narayan's Malgudi Chronicles" serves as a vital examination into the narrative world that R.K. Narayan methodically built via his enduring series of works centred in the imaginary village of Malgudi. This literary universe, with its bustling streets, varied personalities, and cultural tapestry, works as more than simply a backdrop; it becomes a



character in itself, representative of the Indian spirit. Narayan's Malgudi is a microcosm that encompasses the diversity, complexities, and spirit of the Indian experience during a key era of transition.

The town of Malgudi, albeit imaginary, is filled with a genuine feeling of authenticity. Narayan, via vivid descriptions and painstaking attention to detail, brings life into the streets, bazaars, and houses of this imagined place. The choice of a tiny town allows him to intimately dive into the lives of its residents, offering a more thorough analysis of the socioeconomic changes that precede India's road toward freedom. Malgudi therefore becomes a canvas where the bigger narrative of the nation develops through the everyday lives of its different citizens.

A recurrent cast of individuals whose lives overlap to provide a feeling of continuity and community may be found in Narayan's Malgudi Chronicles. The people that live in the town, from the quirky and witty to the sober and contemplative, all add to the overall story of Indian identity. The people of Malgudi come from many professions, social classes, and cultural origins, reflecting the variety of India and creating a mosaic of experiences that capture the essence of its multiplicity.

Furthermore, Malgudi's surroundings start to represent India's larger sociocultural changes. Every location in Malgudi, from the ancient homes with their rites and customs to the newly developed metropolitan areas signifying modernity, symbolises a different aspect of the changing national identity. During a time of significant change, Narayan uses these locations not just as backgrounds but also as essential components that mould and reflect the country's socio-political environment.

The book "Setting the Stage: Narayan's Malgudi Chronicles" encourages readers to recognise the richness and importance of the made-up town as a plot device. Narayan can explore universal issues in Malgudi because of its timeless aspect, but he can also place his works in the particular setting of pre- and post-independence India. Through the detailed representation of this imagined region, Narayan develops a literary world that transcends its fictional borders, allowing readers a gripping and informative journey into the heart of Indian culture, tradition, and the rising spirit of nationality.



3.2. Tradition and Modernity: Themes in Narayan's Short Stories

"Tradition and Modernity: "Themes in Narayan's Short Stories" highlights a key contradiction that permeates R.K. Narayan's narrative fabric and highlights the author's astute examination of the conflict and cohabitation between traditional practises and India's unstoppable modernization. With the backdrop of a nation in flux, Narayan's stories skillfully negotiate the complicated interaction between tradition and modernity, offering readers a nuanced representation of the socio-cultural dynamics during a pivotal moment of change.

Narayan's depiction of tradition is firmly anchored in the customs, familial ties, and social mores that are typical in the made-up town of Malgudi. He explores the traditions and rites that ties people to their ancestry via his characters. Through these customs—whether they take the form of family responsibilities, religious rites, or communal ideals—Narayan examines the diverse aspects of Indian society. However, Narayan portrays tradition's dynamic nature, showing how it adjusts and faces the difficulties provided by a changing society, as opposed to portraying it as a static and unchanging force.

The introduction of modernism into Narayan's characters' lives concurrently emerges as a major theme. In Narayan's works, urbanisation, Western influence, and technical breakthroughs are encountered by the protagonists as India struggles with the effects of colonial authority and moves towards independence. The introduction of education, shifting economic paradigms, and exposure to ideas from throughout the world bring about a surge of change that puts traditional values to the test. With his trademark wit and storytelling skill, Narayan explores the tensions and harmonies between the old and the modern, illustrating the different ways that people deal with the challenges of a world that is changing.

Narayan employs humour as a potent storytelling tool to examine the tension between tradition and modernity. His light-heartedness lends the stories a poignancy that makes it possible for readers to interact with the cultural tensions without losing sight of their deeper meaning. The characters' witty interactions with modern inventions and their attempts to balance traditional practises with new difficulties offer valuable insights into the flexibility and resiliency of the Indian spirit.



"Tradition and Modernity: The opposing forces sculpting the narrative landscape of R.K. Narayan's works are revealed in "Themes in Narayan's Short Stories." Readers are given a thorough understanding of the chances and difficulties that come with India's journey towards independence and contemporary nationhood as Narayan weaves stories that connect with the intricacies of a nation in flux via the lenses of tradition and modernity.

3.3. Humor as a Narrative Device in Nationalistic Expression

"Humour as a Narrative Device in Nationalistic Expression" is a noteworthy aspect of R.K. Narayan's storytelling ability and a pivotal point in his examination of nationalistic subjects. With humour, Narayan allows readers to interact with the difficulties of national identity and cultural progress with a sense of lightness and reflection in his short tales. He also uses humour as a subtle social criticism tool.

Narayan's humour is distinguished by its delicacy, wit, and frequent subtle sarcasm that seeps into his stories. He deftly analyses customs, cultural conventions, and the peculiarities of human conduct using comic components, giving readers a mirror to consider the peculiarities of Indian culture during a time of transition. Narayan uses this comedy as a means of navigating the difficulties associated with patriotic expression and bringing lightheartedness to weighty subjects.

In Narayan's works, humour is used to fulfil several goals in patriotic expression. First of all, it eases the tension between opposing ideas by serving as a bridge between the old and the contemporary. Narayan encourages people to think on the difficulties of cultural change without the burden of didacticism by incorporating humour into the story. This method allows for contemplation on how Indian identity is changing, as seen in his portrayal of characters struggling with the conflict between long-standing customs and the advance of modernity.

Furthermore, Narayan uses humour as a tool for criticism, addressing social concerns without taking a dictatorial stance. He gently pokes fun at societal mores, questions established customs, and highlights the follies that come with nation-building. Through this humorous perspective, Narayan is able to retain an approachability that appeals to a wide range of readers while providing insightful reflections on the difficulties encountered by a country undergoing change.



Characters and, thus, the national identity are humanised in Narayan's stories via humour. Readers get to know the people living in Malgudi better via humour, connecting with their hopes, dreams, and foolishness. Through stepping beyond the abstract and allowing readers to connect with the real-life experiences of people navigating the challenges of a changing society, this sympathetic engagement promotes a greater understanding of the human components of nationalism.

"Humour as a Narrative Device in Nationalistic Expression" demonstrates how novelist R.K. Narayan deftly use humour to examine and convey nationalistic topics. By incorporating humour into his stories, Narayan not only makes his audience laugh, but also encourages them to reflect on the significant social changes and difficulties that come with becoming an Indian citizen. This promotes a sophisticated yet approachable comprehension of the nuances of national identity.

4. SOCIO-ECONOMIC REALITIES: MULK RAJ ANAND'S PORTRAYAL OF NATIONALISM

"Socio-Economic Realities: Anand's literary works portraying India's socio-economic landscape are extensively explored in "Mulk Raj Anand's Portrayal of Nationalism." Anand, a socially aware writer, provided a nuanced view on the socio-economic realities that built the nation and put light on the difficulties of marginalised populations throughout the post-independence era. His stories, which are frequently set against the backdrop of injustice and poverty, provide as an effective prism through which to examine the nuances of national identity and the pursuit of social justice.

Anand's depiction of nationalism is firmly anchored in the real-life encounters of the disadvantaged. He exposes the hard socioeconomic realities that disadvantaged groups in society, like as peasants, labourers, and untouchables, must contend with through his characters. The author's unvarnished portrayal of poverty, exploitation, and the structural inequities that permeate Indian society demonstrates his dedication to reality and his support for social reform. Through emphasising these marginalised groups' hardships, Anand presents a compelling criticism of a society pondering the ramifications of its recent freedom.



Although the years after independence were ones of hope and nation-building, Anand's stories highlight the glaring differences and injustices that lingered throughout this time. His writings, like "Untouchable" and "Coolie," expose the reader to the brutality of social distinctions, caste systems, and economic exploitation. Anand examines the shortcomings of the social structure as well as the role of nationalism in addressing and resolving these systemic problems via these stories.

Anand's dedication to social justice and nationalism are inextricably linked. The author emphasises the critical need for inclusive and fair advancement by speaking for the voiceless via his characters. Anand's depiction of nationalism goes beyond simple patriotism by fusing the specific hardships of people with the larger story of national identity. This calls for societal change that tackles the underlying causes of poverty, injustice, and exploitation.

Furthermore, because Anand actively participated in social and political movements that promoted change, his stories serve as a bridge between the literary and political spheres. By challenging the fundamental tenets of a country that, while celebrating its newfound freedom, struggles with internal paradoxes and societal divisions, his works add to the larger conversation on nationalism.

"Socio-Economic Realities: Mulk Raj Anand's Portrayal of Nationalism" sheds light on the potent way in which Anand's writings combine socioeconomic critique with literary. Anand tackles the difficulties of national identity via his unwavering depiction of the sufferings of the marginalised, providing a profound reflection on the socio-economic realities that build a nation in the wake of freedom. His stories demonstrate the literature's continued value as a tool for social transformation and provide insight into the complex character of nationalism in post-colonial India.

4.1. Post-Independence Realities in Anand's Works

"Post-Independence Realities in Anand's Works" contains Mulk Raj Anand's literary investigation of India's socio-political milieu in the aftermath of achieving independence. Anand, a significant voice in post-colonial Indian writing, dives into the intricacies and obstacles that distinguished the early years of the nation. His writings, such as "Two Leaves



and a Bud" and "The Big Heart," present a devastating picture of the post-independence era, providing readers a nuanced view on the growing realities of a newly free India.

Anand's storylines develop against the backdrop of a nation dealing with the promise and possible perils of independence. The optimism that greeted independence is coupled with the grim socio-economic and political reality that endured. Through the perspective of his characters, Anand analyses the gaps between the ideals of democracy and the ground-level realities encountered by the common people. Issues including as land reform, economic inequality, and political corruption appear significantly in his works, reflecting the real issues of the post-independence period.

The impact of division and communal conflicts also finds echo in Anand's post-independence writings. The human cost of the partition is powerfully shown in works like "The Sword and the Sickle," where Anand explores the communal turmoil that preceded the divide of the subcontinent. The wounds left by partition, both physical and psychological, become key components of his examination of post-independence reality, underlining the ongoing difficulty of nation-building in the aftermath of huge political upheavals.

Anand's characters become conduits for the investigation of the human difficulties within the greater canvas of post-independence India. Whether it is the hardship of the laborer in "The Big Heart" or the obstacles encountered by tea plantation workers in "Two Leaves and a Bud," Anand emphasises the microcosmic battles to show the macrocosmic concerns ailing the nation. Through these personalities, viewers are encouraged to see the socio-economic inequities, exploitation, and the desire for dignity that define the post-independence world.

The author's devotion to social realism and his direct encounters with social and political movements shape the authenticity of his works. Anand's connection with the Progressive Writers' Movement, together with his association with personalities like Jawaharlal Nehru, presents his works as a literary reaction to the ambitions and conflicts of the nation in the post-independence era. In addition to criticising social failings, his works issue a challenge to readers to take up the issues head-on and actively engage in the continuous process of nation-building.



The article "Post-Independence Realities in Anand's Works" highlights Mulk Raj Anand's literary contribution in depicting the complex post-independence Indian terrain. Anand skillfully navigates the difficulties of the age through his perceptive storytelling, tackling topics such as communal strife, socio-economic disparities, and the human cost of political upheaval. His creations function as a mirror, reflecting the goals, hardships, and social changes that shaped India following its freedom.

4.2. Social Justice and National Identity

In Mulk Raj Anand's literary works, "Social Justice and National Identity" are central topics. The author's dedication to tackling societal injustices transforms into a deep investigation of the relationship between justice and the formation of a national identity in post-independence India. Anand, a strong supporter of social change and equality, uses his stories to highlight the structural inequities and difficulties that the underprivileged segments of society confront, tying their battles into the larger national story.

The idea that social fairness must be maintained for all people before a meaningful national identity can be achieved is at the heart of Anand's investigation. His stories' characters, who frequently stand in for the oppressed and disadvantaged, transform into change agents by questioning accepted wisdom and calling for a more inclusive view of the country. Anand's characters, like as the untouchable youngster Bakha in "Untouchable" and the exploited labourers in "Coolie," personify the pursuit of social justice as a fundamental component of the national identity.

Anand's depiction of caste hierarchy, a deeply embedded social structure that remained long after India attained freedom, is closely related to the issue of social justice. Readers are forced to confront the necessity of eliminating these long-standing societal inequities in order for the country to genuinely create a just and inclusive identity as Anand's narratives reveal the harsh reality of prejudice and untouchability. Anand asks viewers to consider the fundamental tenets of a society that tolerates such injustices by using the hardships of people like Bakha.

Furthermore, Anand's investigation of social justice goes beyond the caste system to include more general concerns about exploitation and economic inequality. His stories usually highlight the misery of the impoverished in both rural and urban areas, highlighting the



difficulties faced by labourers, peasants, and manufacturing workers. By doing this, Anand challenges readers to consider the socio-economic aspects of justice, arguing that a just country is one that guarantees equal opportunity and protects each citizen's dignity.

Anand's commitment to social justice is consistent with the goals of the Progressive Writers' Movement, a literary and activist group that aimed to create social change and address issues of injustice. Anand added to the greater conversation on the role of literature in facilitating social transformation by positioning his works as a literary tool for advancing a more just and equitable society through his affiliation with the movement.

"Social Justice and National Identity" inside Mulk The works of Raj Anand highlight the close connection that exists in post-independence India between the development of a national identity and justice. His stories shed light on the hardships faced by underprivileged people and communities, highlighting the necessity of resolving social inequalities in order to fulfil the potential of the country. Anand's literary works persist in serving as a catalyst for change, imploring readers to actively participate in the quest for a fair and comprehensive national identity.

4.3. Inclusivity and Diversity in Anand's Narratives

The article "Inclusivity and Diversity in Anand's Narratives" summarises Mulk Raj Anand's in-depth examination of India's varied cultural and socioeconomic context while highlighting the necessity of inclusion as a pillar of the country's identity in his literary creations. Prominent figure in Indian literature after independence, Anand, utilises his stories to highlight the value of variety and the need of integrating all aspects of society in building a single, cohesive nation.

Anand's stories, which include individuals from a variety of linguistic, cultural, and religious backgrounds, effectively capture the varied aspect of Indian culture. This intentional inclusiveness serves as a potent weapon for shattering myths and promoting a better comprehension of the diverse fabric that makes up India. The syncretic kinship between characters in "The Village" and the Sikh community's investigation in "The Sword and the Sickle" are just two examples of how Anand's stories demonstrate the variety that adds to the country's cultural tapestry.



By portraying persons from various socioeconomic classes, the author challenges hierarchical standards and offers a more equal view of society, demonstrating his dedication to inclusion. Anand's tales emphasise the agency and perseverance of people from marginalised areas by highlighting their difficulties and ambitions. Anand deliberately seeks to challenge established hierarchies by putting these different individuals at the centre of his stories and encouraging readers to see the inherent worth of each and every person in the story of the country as a whole.

In Anand's stories, inclusiveness serves as both a storytelling technique and a thematic element. Anand weaves a literary tapestry that reflects the complexity and diversity of the Indian country by combining stories that cross national, cultural, and social borders. This strategy serves to support the notion that a meaningful national identity can only be attained by taking into account the wide range of perspectives and life experiences that make up the nation's unique fabric.

Anand's investigation on inclusivity also fits in with his larger involvement in politics and society. He actively participated in the conversation about social change and the role of literature in fostering a more inclusive and just society as a member of the Progressive Writers' Movement and as a thinker who was contemporaneous with other progressives. By means of his storytelling, Anand cultivates in his audience a feeling of collective duty, imploring them to take an active role in building a country that values variety.

The article "Inclusivity and Diversity in Anand's Narratives" highlights Mulk Raj Anand's dedication to offering a comprehensive and varied picture of India in the years after independence. His stories honour the diverse cultural, religious, and social facets of the country and emphasise inclusion as a key component in the development of a cohesive and peaceful national identity. Anand's literary contributions are still relevant today, serving as a reminder of how crucial it is to acknowledge and value the variety that makes India unique.

5. CONCLUSION

Comparatively analysing the nationalism found in the short stories of Mulk Raj Anand and R.K. Narayan reveals that both literary giants, despite having different narrative styles, made substantial contributions to the complex understanding of India's national identity both before and after independence. Narayan's investigation, which is mostly based around the made-up



town of Malgudi, provides a microcosmic picture of the country by examining the ways in which humour, modernity, and tradition interact to form the fabric of nationalism. Conversely, Anand's artistic creations, firmly rooted in the socio-economic conditions of India following its independence, offer a realistic depiction of social justice, inclusion, and diversity as fundamental components of the country's story. The comparative analysis, taken as a whole, highlights the complex nature of Indian nationalism by demonstrating how these great writers use their distinctive storytelling styles to both mirror and critique the changing socio-cultural dynamics. This gives readers a profound understanding of the difficulties and complexities involved in the process of building an independent and cohesive nation.

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