Declaration

I hereby declare that the thesis, “Magic Realism in the Select Novels of Salman Rushdie,” submitted for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in English is my original work and that the thesis has not formed the basis for the award of any diploma, associateship, or any other similar title. It has not been submitted to any other university or institution for the award of any degree or diploma.

Annamalai Nagar
23, September 2015

Signature of the Scholar

(D. Shanthi)
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Abstract

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Title of Study : “Magic Realism in the Select Novels of Salman Rushdie”
Pages of Study : 272
Purpose of the Study : Doctor of Philosophy in English
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Scope and Method of Study

The purpose of this dissertation is to study and estimate how Rushdie consciously blends history and mythology into reality according to his wish. The study analyzes Rushdie’s technique of magic realism in the novels from Postcolonial and Postmodern perspectives. His theme is to blend the boundaries between fact and fiction and create hybridity between them. He validates his position as a migrant of postcolonial writer by highlighting the multiple heritages that allow him to access the multiplicity between the three countries. The dissertation has a close examination of Rushdie as an immigrant and how his major fictional works bring out his personal experiences of migration through magic realism. For the purpose of analysis, Midnight's Children (1981), Shame (1983), The Moor's Last Sigh (1995), Fury (2001), and Shalimar the Clown (2005) have been taken for study. Further it has been divided into five chapters such as Introduction, Hybridity and Postcolonialism, History and Fantasy in the Postmodern Era, Techniques, and Conclusion.

Finding and Conclusion

Rushdie as an enthusiastic and optimistic portrayer of the themes of hybridity discusses the potential beauty of the immigrant condition. By stepping away from the past diasporic writers, he looks to the future, where he can live, imagine, and create a work according to his wish. As a multicultural immigrant from India to England and England to America, he vividly portrays the sensitive psyche, pain, and suffering of the immigrant in the foreign country. He voices for the immigrant, who is trying to define their identity as a cultural hybrid in the multicultural society. Rushdie considered this hybridization of cultures as the central aspect of postcolonialism and the creation for the growth of globalization and he also welcomes the horizon that has no place for any kind of divisions or borders. He is an avid defender and celebrator of cultural hybridity and his connections between globalization and localization are clearly mentioned in his works. Rushdie uses magic realism technique to describe the condition of world through his novels. He wants the world to be united without any bias among the people and he also wants the countries to welcome globalization. Through globalization the world can bring back peace and harmony and exchange love with others. He gives the solution for the destruction of the world, that is love by loving each other and respecting each other, the world can remain in peace and harmony.
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