

IDENTIFYING HYBRIDITY IN THE FICTION OF JHUMPA LAHIRI

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines how the protagonists of Jhumpa Lahiri's novels navigated cultural tension and difficulty as they immigrated to America. It is a practical application of the theoretical ideas of hybridity and assimilation that critics like Homi Bhabha have discussed in the context of post-colonial criticism. With its themes of displacement, assimilation, and the conflict between several cultures and individual identity, Lahiri's literary work engages in postcolonial discourse. The Namesake covers the tale of two generations of an Indian immigrant family in the United States as they struggle with issues like identity development and the immigrant experience, among other things. The short stories in The Interpreter of Maladies address the themes of dislocation, and cultural anxiety to varying degrees. The researcher will go through how the characters ultimately come up with fresh, anti-monolithic theories of cultural development and exchange. As a result, in what way they are able to adopt a new culture while retaining their desi background.

KEYWORDS: *Immigration, Post-Colonialism, Displacement, Cultural Anxiety, Hybridity.*

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