

Rethinking Craft : Colonialism, Postcolonialism & Decolonialism



Editor

Dr P. ANANTHAN

Asst. Professor & Research Advisor,
PG & Research Department of English,
Maruthupandiyar College, Thanjavur



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Principal

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Principal
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**HYBRIDITY OF CULTURE AND RACE IN AMITAV
GHOSH'S THE GLASS PALACE**

Mr.M. SURESH

**Excel College for Commerce
and Science,
Komarapalayam¹**

Dr.S. NARMATHA SIVASANKARI

**Tiruppur Kumaran College
for Women,
Tirupur²**

Abstract

The present paper intends to study the hybridity of culture and race in the postmodern world in Amitav Ghosh's novel The Glass Palace. The novel is a saga of many families, their lives and their connection with each other. The story of Rajkumar, an Indian orphan is transported to Burma by accident. It mainly focuses on perception of women, and also throws light on the man-woman relationship between Rajkumar-Dolly, Beni Prasad-Uma, Dinu- Alison. This is the true picture of Indian marriages. The couple lives together for decades without really knowing each other, without actually sharing innermost thoughts and without genuinely loving each other. Marriage becomes a matter of habit, a taken for granted ritual of life. The racial hybridity is clear through the relationship between queen Supayalat (a Burmese Queen) daughter and Marathi coachman Sawant and through their marriage. Saya John's character also reveals this type of racial hybridity. Ghosh comments on the Indian caste-system through Uma and Dolly's conversation. It depicts modern relations which are not based on true love. Rajkumar's children reflect the hybridity of nation and culture.

Key Words: Culture, racial hybridity & language.



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