

Blend: A Tapestry of Multi-Disciplinary Narratives

ENGLISH PART - II, MARATHI & HINDI



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Title

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11. Nativism in the Context of Indian English Literature

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Abstract

Nativism aims to understand our literature through our own point of view to achieve cultural confidence. The concept of nativism is not merely literary or critical concept but a general part of culture. In Indian context nativism is to offer an alternative way of reading India's past, culture, literature and languages. And this way must be non-colonial and non-globalised. In postcolonial theory, nativism refers to the political and cultural retrieval, or attempts at it, by the colonized natives to assert the claims of their own culture against the one introduced by the colonizers. Nativist theorists argue that children are born with an innate ability to organize laws of language, which enables children to easily learn a native language. They believe that children have language-specific abilities that assist them as they work towards mastering a language.

Key Words Nativism, literature and languages, immigrants, Empiricism, identity, power, loss of culture, community, Indian English Literature.

Introduction

The father of most nativist theories of language acquisition is Noam Chomsky, who brought greater attention to the innate capacity of children for learning language, which had widely been considered a purely cultural phenomenon based on imitation. Noam Chomsky is a pioneer in the field of linguistics. He is credited with developing the nativist theory of language, which argues we all have an innate ability to learn a language.

Nativism is the practice of supporting the wants and needs of residents of a given area over the interests of immigrants. Nativism may refer to social, political, or economic exclusion of immigrants in order to promote the rights of native people. Nemade in his Nativism argues that, "every place has its own "code of the land". If the code is not felt in our intellectual activities our

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literary activities will be of no consequence". Not understand one's own literature or culture or history with the eyes of the others, nativism is needed.

Empiricism is the belief that knowledge is acquired through experience and observation, while nativism is the belief that some knowledge is innate and inborn. Nativism involves our genetic inheritance, while empiricism is what we learn through our experiences. The cause of nativism in the 1920s was that a new kind of immigrant was coming to America who was not white and was illiterate and unskilled. Many people at this time believed that these immigrants would take jobs away from native born Americans for these reasons they wanted this type of immigration to stop.

Edward Said's book *Orientalism* in 1978 is considered the foundational work on which post-colonial theory developed. Said, then, could be considered the 'father' of post-colonialism. Common themes in postcolonial literature include identity, power, loss of culture, and 'othering'. Postcolonial theory is a critical analysis of the history and impact of colonialism used to evaluate fictional works. *Kanthapura*, recognized as a major landmark in Indian English fiction, illustrates the story of how the Gandhian struggle for independence against the British was brought to a remote South Indian village, *Kanthapura*.

Mulk Raj Anand is known as Father of Indian English Literature. Anand's novels, particularly "Untouchable" (1935), were groundbreaking. They were among the earliest works of fiction in Indian English literature that tackled sensitive and deeply entrenched social issues, such as the Caste System and untouchability. R. K. Narayan, Mulk Raj Anand and Raja Rao contributed to the growth and popularity of Indian English fiction in the 1930s. It is also associated, in some cases, with the works of members of the Indian diaspora who subsequently compose works in English. It is frequently referred to as Indo-Anglian literature. Nativists believe their rights and freedoms should be protected before those of people who immigrate to their community. Nativists believe that immigrants should assimilate to their social norms in order to earn their rights and freedoms. Nativism means a policy of favoring native inhabitants as opposed to immigrants. It is the revival or perpetuation of an indigenous culture especially in opposition to acculturation or nativist.

Nativism is defined as an ideology, governmental policy, or political stance that prioritizes the interests and well-being of native-born or long-established residents of a given country over those of immigrants, typically by advocating or enacting restrictions on immigration. Nativism is

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the practice of supporting the wants and needs of residents of a given area over the interests of immigrants. Nativism may refer to social, political, or economic exclusion of immigrants in order to promote the rights of native people. Nativism is the idea or policy of favouring people who have lived in a country for a long time over more recent immigrants. Few leaders have openly confronted this rise of nationalism and nativism.

In most places, the new arrivals received a cold welcome: Native-born residents whose families had lived here for several generations suddenly felt overrun by strangers. Competition for jobs only heightened resentment toward immigrants. A growing sense of “us” and “them” gave rise to a movement called nativism. These anti-immigrant, or nativist, sentiments had many sources. They fueled economic competition over jobs, housing, and public services, but also by religious, cultural, and political biases. Those beliefs were often intertwined with racist views of immigrants that saw them as debased, immoral, and criminal.

Linguistic nativism is the view that human infants have at least some linguistically specific innate knowledge. We argue that linguists have not achieved what they are widely thought to have achieved. It is a policy of favoring native-born inhabitants of a country rather than immigrants. Economic nativism preaches that good jobs ought to be reserved for native citizens. Welfare nativism insists that native citizens should have absolute priority in access to governmental benefits. Symbolic nativism calls on the society and government to defend and promote the nation's cultural heritage. Nativism aims to understand our literature through our own point of view to achieve cultural confidence. The concept of nativism is not merely literary or critical concept but a general part of culture.

Nativism is also discussed from the point of view of anti-colonial aesthetics of the orient. This idea helps the literary practitioners to have different readings about colonial literature, marginal literature and also Indian indigenous literature or the literatures which were outside the influence of Europe. In the defense of local identity and cultural particularity, Nativism stresses the values of the native rooted to a particular place and the distinctive social, cultural and geographical qualities of being native.

Nativism is a 'term for desire to return to indigenous practices and cultural forms as they existed in pre-colonial society'. Nationalism also had an impact on the language and style of Indian English poetry. Many poets began to experiment with traditional Indian forms of poetry, such as the ghazal and the haiku. They also incorporated Indian idioms, expressions, and dialects into their

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work to create a unique Indian English poetic voice. Nationalism emphasizes collective identity - a 'people' must be autonomous, united, and express a single national culture. Nationalism centers on a country's culture, language, and often race. It may also include shared literature, sports, or the arts, but is primarily driven by cultural associations.

Nativism is the idea or policy of favouring people who have lived in a country for a long time over more recent immigrants. Few leaders have openly confronted this rise of nationalism and nativism. Literature encouraged Indian people, through the themes of patriotism and nationalism, to fight for the independence of their country. It played the role of public awakening. People were mobilized through literature by the intellectual classes. The desire to return to, or restore, indigenous practices, beliefs, and cultural forms inhibited, destroyed, or outlawed by a colonizing power. It generally holds the view that indigenous practices are more authentic and therefore more culturally nourishing than the adopted or imposed western practices.

Geoffrey Chaucer is known as the Father of the English Language for his contributions to forming the English language. Mulk Raj Anand Known as Father of Indian English Literature. Raja Ram Mohan Roy was the father of Modern India's Renaissance and a tireless social reformer who inaugurated the age of enlightenment and liberal reformist modernisation in India. Kamala Das is the mother of Modern English Poetry in India. John Locke is considered the father of liberalism because he helped establish key principles that continue to shape modern democratic societies. His emphasis on individual freedom and limited government has informed debates around civil liberties, economic policy, and social welfare for centuries. It is also associated with the works of members of the Indian Diaspora, such as V.S. Naipul, Kiran Desai, Sulman Rushdie, JhumpaLahiri, Agha Shahid Ali, Rohinton Mistry, who are of Indian descent. English was not the native language of India.

Nativism is the political policy of promoting or protecting the interests of "native-born" or established inhabitants over those of immigrants, including the support of anti-immigration and immigration-restriction measures. Nativism in modernist literature asserts the primacy of personal and collective identity mediated through language, culture, geography, religion and race. nativism, an ideology, governmental policy, or political stance that prioritizes the interests and well-being of native-born or long-established residents of a given country over those of immigrants, typically by advocating or enacting restrictions on immigration. A growing sense of "us" and "them" gave

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rise to a movement called nativism. In Indian context nativism is to offer an alternative way of reading India's past, culture, literature and languages.

Conclusions

Nativism is an approach to understanding human cognition that has a long and rich history within philosophy and even today is considered by many to be an important component of how we explain human nature. Nativism is the political policy of promoting or protecting the interests of "native-born" or established inhabitants over those of immigrants, including the support of anti-immigration and immigration-restriction measures. The nativist theory help us to study important areas of linguistics. It can help explain aspects of language acquisition and language learning such as how children develop language. Thus Nativism embodies opposition to immigration based in part on its purported erosion of established cultural norms. Nativists also tend to target immigrants as convenient scapegoats for problems such as crime, unemployment, housing shortages, and the overuse of social welfare programs and other public services.

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