PREFACE

It is no exaggeration to say that Indian Fiction in English is marching towards progress by leaps and bounds. The modern novelists like Anita Desai, Salman Rushdie, Vikram Seth, Arundhati Roy, Manju Kapur, Shobha De, Amitav Ghosh, Kiran Desai, Aravind Adiga have contributed much to its growth. Almost all of them have received a widespread recoginition and admiration. Salman Rushdie's Midnight Children, Arundhati Roy's The God of Small Things, Kiran Desai's The Inheritence of Loss and A. Adiga's The White Tiger, have bagged the covetous Booker Prize for literature. These books have registered a tremendous sale all over the world. The modern novelists, specially the women novelists have created such a visiion of life both thematically and stylistically that now it is wrong to say that great art can only be rendered in the mother tongue of the writer. Today we see that several authors of creative fiction have managed to overcome this insurmountable hurdle. The present trend of Indo-Anglian fiction is very bright and optimistic.

This present book is a humble attempt to analyse critically almost all the chief novelists and their respective works. The authors whose works have been evaluated in this book are Mulk Raj Anand, R.k. Narayan, Kamala Markandaya, R.P. Jhabvala, Manohar Malgonkar, Anita Desai, Shashi Deshpande, Arundhati Roy and Amitav Ghosh.

We wish to record our heart felt obligations to all our contributors who stretched their helping hands in making of this volume. We are very thankful to Prof. B.S. Naikar, Karnataka University, Dharwad, Dr. Santosh Chakrabarty, Vishva Bharati, Kolkata, Ashok G. Chasker, Akurdi, Pune, Dr. Anita Singh, R.D.S. College, Muzaffarpur, Dr. Rajiv Kumar Mallik, Bhagalpur and all my friends, collegues and students who made this work possible. Our sincere thanks also go to Prof. M.S. Kushwaha, Ex. Head of the Dept. of English, Lucknow University and Prof. S.Z.H. Abidi, Head of the Dept. of English and Modern European Languages, Lucknow University.

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