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Challenging the Notions of Alienation, Ideology and Dialectics in the Works of E.M. Forster: Marxist Perspective

Fares Mohammed S. Ali, Anand Ubale

Abstract

This research article is devoted to exploring the notions of alienation, ideology, and dialectics in the selected novels of E.M. Forster. It is seen that Forster directly or indirectly included these themes in his novels; The Longest Journey, A Room with a View, Howards End, and A Passage to India. The current research paper focuses properly on the deep analysis of these works to find out the main arguments mentioned above in the light of the Marxist perspective. The researcher will provide detailed knowledge about these ideas based on the whole rereading of these books concerning the story's actions, characters, thoughts, reactions, points of view, and the roles given to these characters. It is observed that the socio-political and economic crisis at that time regarding the global great events such as the First World War and the Second World War influenced the writer's attitude. Thus, the researcher will investigate the ideas mentioned above critically in the light of the Marxist point of view.

KEYWORDS: alienation, ideology, dialectics, exploitation, bourgeoisie, capitalism, liberalism, etc.

Introduction

Exploring the ideas of Alienation, Ideology, and Dialectics is considered one of the major features of the 20th century. As well as other notions namely isolation, restlessness, homelessness and marginalization. A lot of literary writers have adopted these major ideas in their works. These writers intended to convey a

message to the people of that time in one way or the other to treat these issues seriously. E. M. Forster as one of these great writers embodied these as the basic themes of his literary articulations, particularly his novels. In this research paper, the ideas of Alienation Ideology and Dialectics in the selected novels; The Longest Journey, A Room with a View,

*Department of English, Aden University-Yemen.

**Professor, Department of English, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad-India.

Howards End, and A Passage to India will be analyzed critically according to the Marxist approach standpoint. In this context, all the selected novels that have been previously mentioned can be studied carefully. The current basic arguments of Marxism can be examined throughout the books by providing explicit examples of the texts. It has drawn the attention of many English writers, particularly Edward Morgan Forster.

Alienation

The concept of alienation is one of the most significant notions of the Marxist approach. It literally meant estrangement. It is a multidimensional term related to different social, political, economic, religious, and literary contexts. It is a historical phenomenon since the early centuries according to the Holy Quran and the Old Testament allegations that it had taken place in the time of Adam and Eve who felt alienation, loneliness, and isolation as it is mentioned in the Fall of Adam and Eve as a result of God's disobedience. In this case, Adam and Eve felt alienated and tried to regain heaven after their expelling. The feeling of alienation led them to a continuous struggle for breaking this isolation by the return to paradise. Before Marx, the term 'alienation' had been highlighted by Hegel. The concept of alienation had been the central argument of Hegelian philosophy.

Ideology

The concept of ideology is a large term that has occupied the prominent status of most contemporary philosophers, critics, and thinkers in different aspects of life. It can be known as a collection of values, thoughts, beliefs, and allegations on which any social, political, religious, or economic system is based. In 1796, this term was first articulated by the French thinker Antoine Destutt de Tracy and means the 'science of ideas'. It is a comprehensive set of beliefs and attitudes about social and economic institutions and processes. Althusser defined ideology as "a system (possessing its logic and proper rigor) of representations (images, ideas, or concepts according to the case) endowed with an existence and a historical role at the heart of a given society" (Luke 76). Later on, this concept has been used by many well-known philosophers like Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. Ideology is a set of ideas or philosophies associated with a particular person or group of people.

Dialectics

Dialectic is also known as a dialectical approach which is a discursive term occurring between two or more individuals or groups of people bearing various standpoints about a particular subject intended to create the truth through arguments and discussions. It refers to the way of

my respected guide for his assistance and encouragement.

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