

Abstract

The literary endeavours of Indian women writers give voice to the anguish, aspirations, and assertions of women. Indian women in the contemporary times are in a conflicting state where they are trapped between the pressure of traditions and the advancement of modernity. The fictional narratives of Manju Kapur propagate to redefine the status of Indian women and liberate them from the conventional social structures of the past which is the need of the hour. The ultimate goal of Manju Kapur's writings is to eliminate the destructive and claustrophobic socio-cultural restrictions that continue to deny new opportunities for women. Manju Kapur emphasizes the need for emancipation of women from man-made social and cultural principles to lay a strong foundation for a healthy, peaceful, and prosperous world. She expects a transition in Indian society to necessitate a better living environment where every individual enjoys equal respect irrespective of their gender. The novelist, through the representation of her women protagonists, take efforts to break the gender boundaries that cripple women's competency and potential in the familial, professional, and public spheres. She wants to annihilate prejudiced parental upbringing, domestic violence, marital subjugation, and workplace challenges to create a secured familial milieu and safe work environments to preserve women's eminence and integrity. She envisions that the 'Women Power' of India has the ability and authority to adorn the nation with a prestigious status around the globe. The literary contributions of Manju Kapur serve to acknowledge women's selfhood and honour the uniqueness of womanhood that contributes to the enrichment of the country's cultural heritage.