



**Dr. M.G.R. Educational and Research Institute**  
*(University with Graded Autonomy Status), Chennai*

**Papers Presented in**  
**In-House Seminar on Changing Contours of**  
**Contemporary Indian Writing in English**

**Editors: Dr. R. Pushkala, Dean, English**  
**Dr M. Chandrasena Rajeswaran, HoD, English**

---

**Familial Relationship in Sudha Murty's**  
*Grandma's Bag of Stories*

**Suman Raj. K, II M.A. English**

Dr. M.G.R. Educational and Research Institute (University with Graded Autonomy Status)  
Chennai

E mail: [beastsuman1997@gmail.com](mailto:beastsuman1997@gmail.com)

---

**ABSTRACT**

The stories of Sudha Murty are resplendent with the essence of human relationships. The theme of love and human relationships is the recurring idea in many of her writings. Sudha Murty in her novels probes the submergence of love and communication between family relationships. This makes the characters quest one's identity and acquires a stage of maturity and equability. Here , the discussion and analysis are about the relationships between Grandparents and Grandchildren.

**Keywords:** human relationships; familial relationship; submergence; stories ,communication

**INTRODUCTION**

Family is the basic unit of all human society. Sudha Murty loves to explore the tension between

---

an individual character and family, exploring the ways in which relationships are formed. The family, whether happy or otherwise is a vital institution. It is the primary social unit in any community, the individual's opening into the wider cultural and social network. As the first locus of development, the family provides nourishment to the individual and sets the conditions of growth.

As a literary theme, the family and familial relationships offer a fascinating and complex area of research. In contemporary Indian English literature, the theme of the family is particularly rich and diversified. For most Indians familial relationships mean the infrastructure shaping their life's journey in one way or another from the cradle to the grave. It provides the earliest experiences of interpersonal relationships, nurturing, security and socialization, as well as a family, also provides a window onto culture, trend, innovations, conflicts, and aspirations of society at large.

## ANALYSIS

Grandma's Bag of Stories is a beautiful collection of interesting stories to share with kids from the pen of a very popular author Mrs. Sudha Murthy. The book will take you through the memory lane of your childhood days spent at your grandparent's home. Sudha Murthy's Grandma's Bag of stories is simply wonderful and full of engaging stories of monkeys and mice, kings and cheats, scorpions and hidden treasures and princesses and onions.

The book starts with the grandmother Ajji waiting for her grandkids Raghu and Meenu to arrive for summer vacations. The other pair of sibling Anand and Krishna had already arrived. The craziness and fondness of the kids for their Ajji is what is narrated in the first chapter of the book. How the kids loved to listen to Ajji's funny and wonderful stories.

The conversation between Ajji and her grandchildren is interesting and engaging. It lets us dig into the kind of bondings and inspiration grandparents can have on today's younger generation. The book takes you on a journey from a real world to the world of fantasies and fiction. The children in the story learn about the village life, farmers, birds, and animals while walking in the paddy fields with their grandfather. On the other hand, they learn about the moral values, culture and different virtues of life from the stories narrated to them by their loving and affectionate grandmother.

After narrating every story, the grandmother discusses it with the kids in the first few stories. And this is the part which brings the crux of every story they listened. The visualizations the kids went to and the lessons they learned are all discussed at last which further increases the curiosity of the reader to read all the stories covered in the book

Ajji's stories are based on the values of courage, intelligence, foresight, and kindness. There are stories where she tells the significance of listening to other, how with the help of intelligent people in our life we can overcome any problems.

The importance of being active in life, the goals that can be achieved through courage and determination, our outlook and perception of things and a lot of other emotions and values are discussed via engaging, interesting stories of different characters. The characters are so lively and imaginable that one starts connecting with them. There are stories about shopkeepers, mouse, kings, gods, sculptors and other people.

The author Sudha Murty has no doubt done a wonderful job of highlighting the importance of family bondings. In between the storytelling sessions, the family chores are very well inserted by the author. The concept of the grandmother telling a story a day is really adorable as it keeps the stories length at a pace enough for young readers to carry on with their reading habit. This book is truly one of the finest books of short stories.

## CONCLUSION

Sudha Murty's writings deal with human relationships working in the modern Indian context with its well-established socio-cultural norms and perpetual norms and perpetual moral and ethical values.

---

## REFERENCES

1. "Murty family gift establishes Murty classical library of Indian series" Harvard Gazette.29 April 2010.Retrieved 8 March 2022.
  2. Sudha Murthy: Humility personified Business-standard.com (23 January 2011). Retrieved on 8 December 2011.
  3. Home/ The Murty classical Library of India Murtylibrary.com. Retrieved on 31 August 2
-