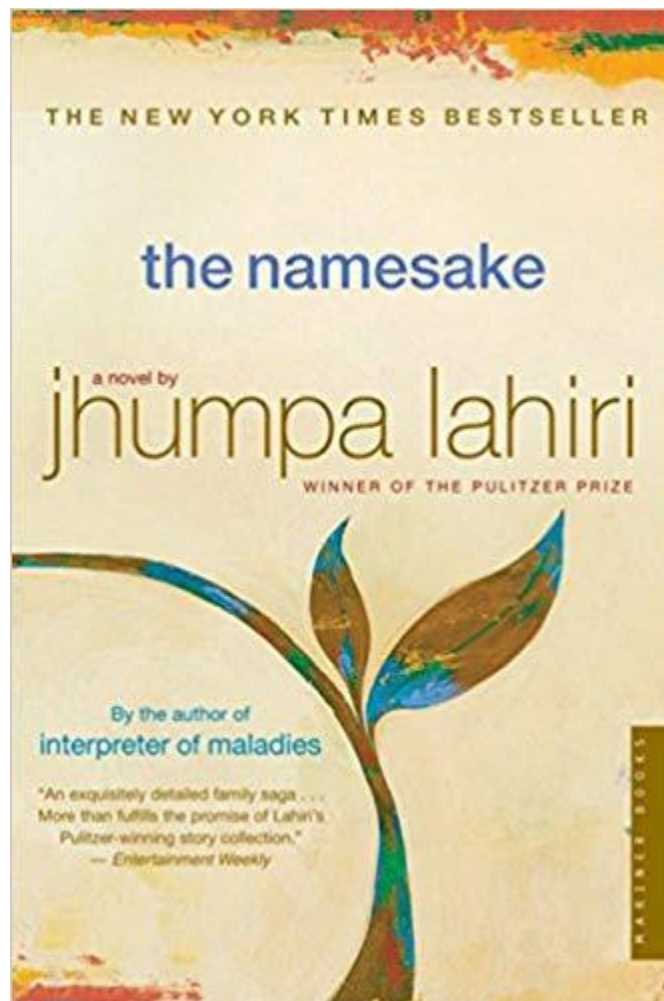


Cultural Identity of Individuals in Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Namesake*

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Courtesy: https://www.amazon.com/Namesake-Novel-Jhumpa-Lahiri/dp/0618485228/ref=sr_1_2?crd=3DT1POV48N2JX&keywords=the+namesake+by+jhumpa+lahiri&qid=1584359712&s=books&sprefix=The+Namesake%2Caps%2C1179&sr=1-2

Abstract

This paper focuses upon the cultural dislocation of Indian immigrants in USA. Jhumpa Lahiri presents the wisdom of creating identity as transnational. This paper shows the

identity of diasporic nature, conflict of dual identity and cultural dislocation and multiculturalism.

Keywords: Jhumpa Lahiri, *The Namesake*, Identity, religion, cultural, immigration, human relationship.

The identity of the individual is shaped by religion, ethnicity and economic and social status and so on. Jhumpa Lahiri explores the concepts of cultural and personal relationships and identity through a variety of characters and explores the same in her first novel, *The Namesake*. The themes of first and second generations of Indian Diaspora aliens who feel the pain of experiences in daily life and in cultural areas are presented in this novel. The novel shows isolation as one of the burning problems of foreigners in the United States of America.

The novel explores the landscape of human relations by successfully analyzing the cross-cultural conflict between Indian and Western cultures, rather than the simplistic method of dealing with the complexities of immigrant experiences and background of geographical and emotional displacement. Characters' Cultural Isolation isolation with radical personal solutions suggests that individual multiculturalism can solve a number of peaceful differences between cultural communities, including minorities. The novel *The Namsake* is a deeply moving family drama that features signature themes such as the diaspora experience.

This first novel describes Ganguli family's life for over thirty years, their Calcutta Bonds, parents Gogol and Sonia and their generation as well as Jack's cultural experience with their parents in the United States.

The story of two generations of an Indian family and their struggle to thrive themselves in the West is a true story experienced by many. Story reveals how the original national identity is eroded and replaced with the hybrid.

They argue riotously over the films of Ritwik Ghatak versus those of Satyajit Ray. The CPI (M) versus the Congress party. North Calcutta versus South Calcutta. For hours they argue about the politics of America, a country in which none of them is eligible to vote. (*The Name Sake*, 38).

The Namesake celebrates cultural hybridity as a result of globalization and the retreat of the typical diaspora experience, in which the nationalism and cultural identity of India are reduced to slide. V. Ganesan suggests that individuals cannot find themselves within the narrow notion of national and cultural boundaries. V. Ganesan presents global migration issues and cultural elements into a popular area, reflecting the fact that it is a 'home of the heart'.

Edward Said's scepticism with the concept of culture is very relevant (Said 1993).

Constructing new identity in the foreign country is very difficult and holding the cultural values by sticking to the conventional ways was very difficult for them. The frantic search for the cultural identity, personal identity and psychological identity has been portrayed by Jewellery in Small Boy. Gogol is not in a right way until he realises that she is symbolised by new culture.

The Namesake is a novel that ends with Gogol's nickname, but he legally turned it into a name and realized how difficult it was to become a different person in the Gogol drive suite, with different identities at different levels closely linked to Gogol's sanity. Gogol presents the current deadly train crash in 1961. Gogol still doesn't understand that part of his identity is the day his father destroys it.

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