



॥ ज्ञान, विज्ञान आणि सुसंस्कार यासाठी शिक्षणप्रसार ॥
- शिक्षणमहर्षी डॉ. बापूजी साळुंखे

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ABSTRACTS

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mother as a tree, as bird. The poem evokes the idea of birth, survival and death. In the end the poet expresses his guilt as he had taken his mother for granted as almost all children do.

The present paper aims to examine the changing images of the mothers while struggling to survive the family and to keep the family united.

Glossary: mother, motherhood, domesticity, birth, survival, death

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73. PORTRAYAL OF THE MOTHER IN SHANTA GOKHALE'S RITA WELINKAR

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ABSTRACT:

Mother, the very word stands for love, care, affection, support, and it is said that God has no time to care for everyone so He created Mother. So naturally Mother is shouldered with lots of responsibilities and duties. Concept of mother is hard to define. Mother is not just a female parent of child who gives birth to a child or raises a child, but she is always more than this. Mother also refers to creativity, production, and nourishment. Mother has been central theme of each and every art of expression such as painting, craft, music, dancing, and literature etc. Our main concern here is presentation of mother in literature with special reference to Indian English fiction. In fact literature in all its forms viz poetry, drama, novel (prose & verse) has given not just beautiful but a graceful picture of a mother.

As literature is reflection of society, presentation of Mother in literature has changed as per the society and transformations in the society. Even the portrayal of mother varies as per the individual. Mother is highly valued in Indian culture and tradition. One of the sayings in Sanskrit says that there is possibility of a wicked or cruel son or daughter but wicked mother is just impossible. Shanta Gokhale's Rita Welinkar attracts our attention against this saying. Rita's Mother in Rita Welinkar is really wicked, cruel mother who just loves her own world or whether she is just a blind imitation of western culture is a question that confuses us.

Shanta Gokhale is an Indian writer, translator, journalist and theatre critic. She has been formerly Arts Editor with The Times of India. She has written screenplay for several films and documentaries. As a translator she has translated Durga Khoté's autobiography and published translation of several play by Marathi playwrights, including Mahesh Elkunchwar and Satish Alekar. Her novel Rita Welinkar was originally published in Marathi in 1990 and then translated by the author herself in English in 1995. Rita Welinkar presents a couple Nellie and Shakes that imitates western lifestyle and manners, but the imitation proves blind imitation and the veil of morality and values are torn away when their elder daughter Rita becomes the victim of nervous breakdown. The present novel is critical comment on many socio-economic issues in Indian society such as inter-caste marriage and its impact on children, problems of a single women, extra marital relations and its effect on family, worse impacts of parent's negligence to their children etc. As a research student my main concern here is to focus the presentation of mother, her attitude and behaviour to Rita, treatment given to Rita by her mother and its impact and effect on Rita, in turn Rita's attitude to her mother and mother daughter relationship reflected in the novel.