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The Indian Values Reflected in The Selected Works of Sudha Murty

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Abstract

Value refers to the collection of ideas that shape how we act or speak. A value, according to Princeton Wordnet, is what an individual, group or society believes in and is emotionally attached to it. Values is another term that is defined in the same way as values that are called ethics, they consist of principles that define good or bad, and they are identical to moral philosophy. Value of education towards peace has been incorporated into the current curriculum to help in instilling respectfulness towards others, humanity and tolerance in a country of diverse people like India.

Keywords: Storytelling, Humanistic, Enlightenment, Indian, Moral, Values, Truths, Ethics

Introduction

In India, children's author Sudha Murty is known for her work in the genre of children's literature. Through simple but effective storytelling, Murty promotes humanitarian ideals such as kindness, truthfulness, courage and compassion. Children from a number of social classes can relate to the heroes and heroines in her stories because of the universal truths they learn and the moral dilemmas they face. Her portrayal of strong female characters and her message of women's empowerment also encourage little girls to be self-assured and independent. Rather than using mythical and epic plot lines, Murty writes her stories about actual events in order to help children better understand the moral conflicts and emotional growth they are experiencing, and to help them examine their own values and actions.

Grandma's Bag of Stories, Gopi Diaries, The Lost Temple's Magic, etc. demonstrate how kids' literature can be both fun and transformational. They are able to build a kinder world and impact man in a better and more positive way. To their misfortune, the current social values and human principles are being overshadowed by their own self-interest and consumerism; and most humans are losing their compassion and care towards other humans by prioritizing themselves above the community in a world of fast-paced and self-

centered culture. The necessity of the long-term and immediate solutions to the worldwide lack of empathy regarding early education and morality is crucial. The solution to this problem with the help of children literature is to educate children on good morals of caring, understanding, team work, and responsibility. Moral lessons in children literature on how to look after others, how to have significant relationships with others and how to behave in a morally favorable way in the real world are the common elements of moral development in children.

The values of society are passed on to ancient myths, modern fiction and oral histories and it is a potent means of social change. In addition to offering stories to entertain children, we can also instill such concepts in our children as perseverance, fairness, community and respect through reading to them. One of the main themes of children in literature is the theme of helping the needy, cooperating with others, and assisting the vulnerable in order to serve the others. The global crises of COVID-19 demonstrated many examples of humanitarian cooperation to the world; therefore, when the examples of cooperation and the willingness to help others are outlined in the books offered to children, children can learn about empathy and about behaving so as to help other people, who need help.

Moreover, they get to know that they are not isolated but belong to a bigger, interconnected and interdependent world. The efforts to address human suffering and to promote human dignity evidently continue in the programs of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the monthly celebration of World Humanitarian Day on August by the United Nations.

Literature Review

Chopra, Heera & Mathur, Dr. (2025) ^[1] By fusing simplicity with deep human experiences, Sudha Murthy's literary works provide a realistic depiction of rural life in India. The problems that are discussed in this article as they apply to the description of rural life presented by Murthy include community, tradition, economic hardships, and the power of compassion and education to change it. In her stories, Murthy provides a multifaceted image of the rural India, which introduces the charismatic peculiarities of the area and the hard issues. Moreover, the paper also explores how the rural life has been depicted in the works of Sudha Murthy, especially in her vivid illustrations of the social, economic, and cultural aspects of rural India.

Jadhavraje, Mrs & Gaikwad, Prashant. (2024) ^[2] The oral storytelling traditions and lengthy history of Indian children's literature are replete with folklore and tales. Drawing mostly on her own life experiences and enhancing them with elements of Indian mythology, Sudha Murthy crafts straightforward but accessible narratives. She helps young readers learn about their ancestry while incorporating contemporary relevance into cultural heritage. Using New Historicist methods, such as contextualizing the text within its historical context, analyzing how the text interacts with prevailing cultural ideologies, and investigating how power and identity are shaped through storytelling, children's literature can be seen in a different light, beyond that of innocent or neutral narratives. Using a New Historicist lens, this article analyzes Sudha Murthy's work for children and how it contributes to the formation of national identity. Symbols play an important role in her depictions of rural Indian culture and the customs upheld by its inhabitants.

Devi, Ningombam & Singh, Mutum. (2024) ^[3] Renowned Indian novelist Sudha Murthy writes in English and her novels and short tales deal with the difficulties women face in a patriarchal and conventional culture. The essay explores the ways in which female characters in Murthy's works, such as "Mahasweta" and "House of Cards," deal with the limitations imposed by a traditional society. In areas including healthcare, work, and property rights, women face several obstacles in their fight for dignity. Hence, achieving gender equality in India is still a challenging task. Narratives by Murthy illuminate the pervasive problems of women's oppression, humiliation, and exploitation. No matter how much society relies on women and girls, they continue to face obstacles such as poverty, injustice, discrimination, and violence. This article seeks to highlight a strong and determined women's movement, made up of people who can question patriarchal standards, tackle the root causes of injustice, and fight for their complete rights.

Tharun, M & Brinda, P. (2024) ^[4] A distinct chance within modern scholarly procedures exists in the field of comparative literature to investigate texts and ideas transcending disciplinary, historical, and linguistic

boundaries. Comparative literature is a useful tool for analyzing works of English literature from a variety of angles and opening up new avenues of research. Sudha expertly depicts contemporary women in Gently Falls Bakula as willing sacrifice objects, assuming the roles of obedient life partners, successful spouses, and victims of society demands while dressed in the guise of matrimony. When Shrimati feels the need to pursue further education—a desire she had to give up for her husband's work and marriage—she snaps out of her complacency and makes a tough choice. Novelist Sudha Murthy makes an effort to capture the spiritual and literary sensibilities that shape a woman's individuality. While praising the tenacity and bravery of women, she notes that physical beauty is fleeting. She makes an effort to get the word out about ladies recognizing the immense power of their own inner wellspring, the wellspring of their soul and heart.

Priya, R. & Kavitha, K (2025) ^[5] By fusing simplicity with deep human experiences, Sudha Murthy's literary works provide a realistic depiction of rural life in India. Community, tradition, economic hardships, and the transforming power of compassion and education are some of the issues that this article examines as they pertain to Murthy's portrayal of rural life. Murthy offers a complex picture of rural India via her stories, which bring forth the region's endearing quirks and serious problems. Sudha Murthy's rich depiction of the social, economic, and cultural elements of rural India is the focal point of this paper's examination of rural life representation in her work.

Reflection of Indian Values in The Selected Work of Sudha Murthy

Values and attitudes are profoundly impacted in a country like India, where several religions, cultures, and languages are prevalent. The word "ethics" is used to describe the rules that dictate what kind of actions are considered ethically acceptable. It involves taking care of the environment as well as the way one treats other human beings. Every individual possesses his or her values that reflect his or her tastes, desires and interests and nature. It is our values that define our thoughts, knowledge, understandings, feelings and daily activities. The severity of the feelings of certain individuals may be correct. This feeling is a way of relating personal values and the conventions of the society. The values of an individual may be conservative, orthodox, radical or liberal based on the region where the values are deeply rooted in an individual. This includes how one performs their work, whether they are healthy or not, the food that they consume, their relationship, their religion and their politics. Not only is it quite important to respect the values of other people but it is also important to be able to explain and justify our own. Depending on our upbringing and the friends we meet, our childhood beliefs could be tested as we grow into young adults. Another purpose of our reading is to reaffirm our own basic beliefs.

The fact that a person can give empathy to others is good. Love develops the spirit of thanks, selflessness, generosity, trust, and compassion. Empathy as the mental practice of putting oneself in the position of another person is what defines the ability to understand and take care of that individual. When we truly sympathize with the other human being, then we can give up our own time, culture and ability

and give plentifully of ourselves. The feeling of pity towards the needy results in compassion which destroys the planet instead of causing violence. And these are just some of the numerous values that underlie our society and so do remember that. Following these principles, people can have a more accurate idea of who they are and why they live in this universe. One of the valuable skills would be the skill to reason oneself out of a moral or social dilemma. One is also able to develop the ability to think critically, a factor that makes them a better person to understand and appreciate the numerous different views that there are. In social unrest conditions, this set of ideas calls people to be adaptive and flexible and, at the same time, meet their social and moral duties. Creativeness, novelty, and exchange of ideas in the arts, literature, and architecture are perfectionistic ideals, which promote positive emotions and experiences. The possibilities are brought to life through the concepts that strive to transcend the temporal boundaries. The example is provided to show how since everything portrays the society, it all has a role to play in the process of socialization as it helps impart the appropriate attitudes and skills.

Role of Values in Education

The associations among values are recursive. The loyalty of a teacher towards her students, on the other hand, depends on her genuineness and how she interacts with her students in society in general. Instead of seeing the extremist religious ideologies, environmental degradation, intercultural tensions, technological abuse, social inequality, and other problems as idealistic ideals, we can perceive them as the tools of empowerment that can be used in addressing the pressing social problems of our era. National values taught in the public schools include faith, patriotism, and self-control. Being a child, a child ought to be taught that he or she should study moral, religious, and ethical values. Education is considered to be one of the national education priorities according to the national education policy. Cynicism and loss of core values have led to the realization that schools could no longer be a good form of instilling moral and social values.

Uniting people with different backgrounds, beliefs, and social economic statuses, Universal rules, such as honesty and compassion, make communities stronger. What you think and what you do are both significant to define what your morals are. Other healthy behaviors such as getting enough sleep and being in excellent health are related to positive attitudes. When you are around high-quality literature, you validate your high-quality thoughts. As much as we need to encourage personal growth and as well as play a role in the maintenance of our diverse and rich heritage, we all exist as a society on the basis of the same values. Good ideas, and equality in life are developed better in case virtuous qualities like truth are taught through positive literature. Integrative learning could assist students to acquire such virtues as resilience, honesty and contentment. In inculcating values in children, it is necessary to look at both the emotional development and the cognitive development. In the modern world, where gaining new knowledge is a matter of high stakes and time constraints, it is beneficial to create a more rounded human being capable of realizing his/her place in the society and the importance of emotional and interpersonal intelligence.

A values-oriented education in the classroom is a stepping stone towards having students grow up to become creative, responsible, and peaceful adults. The diminishing of morals may be the case when the actions of people cause the devastation of the environment, the rise of terrorism, and the exploitation of people and the world. The principles of inclusion in society, including social justice, equality, and respect for cultural variety, are an attempt to bring these concepts back to India in the constitution. The freedom to think and do as one pleases is a cornerstone of India's constitutional framework, which guarantees that citizens will not do anything that would bring disgrace to themselves or others and promotes creative problem-solving within society.

Role of Stories in Imparting Values

Through the medium of great stories, one may achieve self-discovery, healing, and a deeper spiritual connection to both humanity and God. As a result, one might have a deeper comprehension of themselves and their environment. Like a novel or an ongoing drama, we see our life as a series of interrelated storylines. We come to life when we share stories. Narratives are our go-to for sharing our innermost ideas and emotions with the world. We get structure and meaning from our experiences via the narratives we tell ourselves. Stories not only mold our lives, but they can also jolt us out of our comfort zones and into something fresh. When the divine and humanity unite, we are able to hear our own stories spoken clearly, and it changes our lives.

Sudha Murty has a way of immersing readers in the lives of regular people. She thoughtfully addresses women's concerns in many of her works. The written word is a powerful tool for inspiration, action, and decision-making. Reading great literature teaches us to assess the worth of things and other people. As individuals, we all have a set of fundamental principles that we use to guide our actions and make moral judgments. The community's regulations are followed. Being trustworthy is a great leadership quality since it motivates and encourages others. We learn to keep things simple and take calculated risks because of our principles. We are also instructed to keep going even when things become tough. It enables us to maximize our capabilities as well. Among these principles are candor and openness, empathy, courage, responsibility, loyalty, justice, and patriotism. The values are yardsticks of evaluating the moral principles of the people. The thoughts and actions we have are our moral or ethical beliefs founded on a great perception of right and wrong.

Humanism, Realism, Idealism

The cognitive, emotional and behavioral levels of the value creation process are significant factors that are based on beliefs and sensitivities. This scale has expression, emotion and action. The weaknesses and strengths of a person, skills and talents must be appreciated. To be genuine, honest, patient and optimistic will help a great number of people to attempt to live through the difficult times. The values of one culture may be radically different with another culture. The US values success, freedom and personal achievement the most as compared to the Vietnam who value the family loyalty and group responsibilities most. Even values in a society may be conflicting-with-one-another. Cultural

factors are intangible as well as tangible like values and beliefs. The American flag can be one of the potential objects of patriotism. Conversely, Christian sees engagement ring as a symbol of commitment and love.

Culture also includes language. The goal of realistic fiction is to make the reader feel as if they are a part of the story by making them imagine genuine people, places, and things. Some examples of what great writing accomplishes to subtly reestablish lost ideals include moral standards and traditional values. Because they spell out what is and isn't acceptable behavior in a certain society, a set of standards for behavior is sometimes called a code of conduct. The capacity to conceptualize ideas and articulate them via language is fundamental for the creation of reality. An essential quality of exceptional writing is its ability to encapsulate a culture's essence and its impact on readers' lives. A person's capacity to define or impact other individuals via their values is a key component in the formation of any civilization. Literature is a means of communication and an insight into a people's culture. According to the new critics, great literature provides a holistic view of the human condition by skillfully blending rational and subjective elements.

India through Sudha Murty's House of Cards

A new English-language book from India focuses on women, child labor, family dynamics, the subaltern, and other underrepresented groups in a rapidly developing nation. This essay is an effort to bring attention to the subjects of a new English book written in India. The 2013 novel *House of Cards* by Sudha Murty, one of the most famous and widely read Indian writers working in English, encapsulates contemporary India.

She writes beautifully about family ties, work, and finding a happy medium between the three in her book *House of Cards*. Married couple Sanjay and Mridula have financial difficulties, which is the story's foundation. Sincere and selfless, they put the needs of others above their own. But Sanjay doesn't stand to gain from his kind demeanor. After being disappointed by the amount of corruption around him, he gives up on his convictions and morals in pursuit of wealth. Along with a friend, he constructs a hospital and sets astronomical fees for its treatments. He becomes more narcissistic and self-centered as the money starts to pour in. However, Mridula persists in standing by her principles, which leads to a schism between them. Sanjay becomes an authoritarian partner in the upbringing of their only child, Sishir, and forces Mridula to lie for the sake of her reputation. Mridula finally chooses to leave Sanjay as their gulf grows.

Slavery and corrupt choices are recurrent themes in the books written by Sudha Murty, who comes from a petty-bourgeois Indian household. Nonetheless, this one culminates in a transformation and has a courageous female protagonist. The straightforwardness of her language and the simplicity of her story telling make her work accessible to a wide audience. These qualities unsurprisingly contributed to her status as the most beloved Indian English writer of the 21st century. Her writings provide a clear depiction of many of the modern issues that trouble rational people today.

A big reason to be concerned is that greed for money is

prevalent in modern culture. Here, we see ourselves in all our raw, unfiltered glory. Due to their miraculous healing powers, doctors are worshipped as deities and seen as saviors. The book's protagonist, Sanjay, exemplifies a disturbing dilemma and a glimpse into humanity's unethical, greedy, and bleak future.

Politics these days is frequently linked to stealing from the public coffers and autocratic leaders whose stances seem to change with every election. Still, "*there is no smoke without fire*" (to paraphrase an old adage). "This much is known: the health minister did not care about the time of others, as the narrator of *House of Cards* puts it.

This happens when Sanjay and Mridula approach a minister in an effort to get a promotion for Sanjay. Murty brings up the issue of the group's herd mentality. It is clear that Indian values have evolved considerably during the last several decades. The educated elite of India set out in the early years of the country's independence to enlighten and teach the less-informed masses; they often bemoaned the indigenous peoples' lack of study, scientific methodology, and indigenous progress. Nowadays, Indians care more about earning a buck than they do about upholding moral principles. Though it elevated India on the global arena, this reform fell short of fostering the kind of scientific outlook that would have made it the world leader in invention, preventing it from contributing to the betterment of mankind. There are challenges unique to claiming to be a developing nation. It unwittingly introduces the small bourgeoisie. As shown in the film, teaching is a low-paying profession in modern India. When Sanjay's best friend Alex says, "Come on, Sanjay, who wants to become a professor?," it's obvious that Sanjay is deep in thought. I want to amass a wealth. If you want to grow rich and powerful in India's government, corruption is your only option. I can work in the Middle East for four years, then come back to the US, construct a hospital, and amass a fortune.

S. Murty also discusses family ties and online communities. In today's fast-paced, highly competitive world, it's crucial to build and maintain connections with people who can help you at any point in your life. For a multilingual country like India, having a common language and culture makes it much simpler to grind one's axe. "Community, language, and ties that are vital in our nation, even if we speak about equal opportunity for everyone realistically," Alex informs Sanjay in the same book. As stated in the Penguin Books India publication from 2013, page 56,

In his one comment, Sanjay examines and rejects the concept of unity in diversity. Indians have consistently maintained their equality claims, even when confronted with such diversity. When we're competing with one another, however, and push ourselves to our limits, the real us comes out. It is possible to buy and sell today's ministries and officials. The highest bidder uses the approaching officer's power to their advantage and wins. The extra flavor comes from having a similar language and a sense of community. It is easy for people to lose sight of the importance of hard work and the idea of equal opportunity. Consequently, we develop an unhealthy obsession with ourselves and our own interests. While many of us have earned our positions in life, dishonest people like Sanjay suffer because bribery helps some people climb to even higher pedestals than they

deserve.

Today, we talk about how important it is to treat men and women fairly in today's society. Even if we've made great strides, we still hold women in high esteem on paper. Our treatment of women is something we'd like to believe has defied all odds. We are elated to see a more inclusive perspective, where women are not viewed as less capable of carrying out duties that have historically been associated with men, for the first time in our species' history. I can think of one scene from the same narrative when Sanjay and Mridula have a conversation.,

“Well, she’s a woman, she shouldn’t drink.” “Who said that you have to be a man to drink?” Sanjay wanted to support his son and said, “Sarla worked hard and made loads of money. She has a right to enjoy it too.” Mridula got irritated. “What do you mean? Haven’t I earned money with hard work too?””

Mridula disapproves of Sarla's drinking habits; she believes it is because Sarla is a girl. Patriarchy may manifest in several forms, but it is most effective when the oppressed internalize it. When the people patriarchy rules over welcome it, she is a great example of how it works. According to her, people are evaluated based on their gender and the way they conduct their life. Conversely, Sanjay seems to have developed personally as a consequence of the financial successes that have befallen him. The story's narrator claims that Mridula is "a bit ahead of her time," despite the fact that she is meant to be a modern lady who works outside the home and helps support the family financially,

“Mridula was not like everybody, she was different. She had enormous enthusiasm for life and unlimited energy for reading, cooking and sketching. She wanted to spend every minute of the day fruitfully. It seemed that the sun rose for her and the rainbow colours were meant only for her. Every day was to be lived to its fullest and every beautiful moment to be enjoyed.” (Penguin Books India, 2013, 2)

Despite her creative achievements, Mridula shows little respect for women who drink alcohol or who finally adopt a western lifestyle. This is because, according to Indian etiquette, (Hindu) women should not partake in intoxicating beverages. Nevertheless, Mridula is representative of a larger group of women in our country who, despite their comfort and wealth, have not yet achieved gender maturity in their attitudes.

As mentioned before, Sudha Murty has been the best-selling author in India this century. Reading one of her works in your leisure time is more than simply a black-and-white affair. She discusses issues that are pertinent to modern India. The concerns of the early twentieth century and those of the late nineteenth century are strikingly different in terms of the topics they tackle. Modern issues such as the pain of division or the atrocities committed by the British against Indians do not exist (since India began to urbanize in the twentieth century). The new Indian English book delves into a variety of topics, including family life, disagreements

and differences within families, corruption and modernity, and life in a newly formed country, without specifically discussing disparities outside of familial relationships.

India is one of the world's fastest-growing economies, but its value system is in shambles. The British brought us Western values, which we have adapted, but since the LPG reforms and India's accession to the global village in the last 30 years, the way of life and values of the Indian people have changed dramatically. The generational divide is wider than it has ever been, and those who can't adapt to the new times and try to fit in with the encroaching western lifestyle are happy. On the other hand, those who refuse to accept societal obligations, either because they can't walk hand in hand with their children or grandchildren or because they feel like outsiders, endure mental torture.

Sanjay, the mercenary doctor in House of Cards, rides the capitalist wave. From the beginning, he was a morally upright man who wanted to assist others by fixing their physical problems. The more he learned about biology, the happier he became since he realized he might find cures for diseases that were formerly believed to have no hope of recovery. Greed is another byproduct of capitalism. After he realized being truthful wouldn't get him anywhere, he made this choice. He starts charging outrageous prices, giving unnecessary drugs, and conducting unnecessary procedures all in an attempt to boost his income. Conversely, Mridula stays grounded despite her success and manages to accumulate fortune without sacrificing her morals, kindness, or sense of community. Their strained relationship is a direct result of their divergent opinions. The two are increasingly separated by an odd and widening chasm. But their kid loves his father-the one with the more avaricious tendencies-and hates his mother. But when he sets off for college, he realizes how important his mother's values are and wishes he had treated her with more respect when he was younger. Here we have a generation of the confused young Indians, who have lost their moral compass. In their bid to be modern by adopting a fashion of life that is not similar to the traditional Indian culture, say, dress as a wild partying animal, in their efforts to avoid expectations offered by their parents, they seek solace and love in a tradition that they have known since birth although it is not to their liking. They are both trying to preserve their Indian heritage in their quest to achieve modernity.

The works of Sudha Murty have surely echoed in the nobility of India due to the themes they discuss. Her work is still relevant today and as such she has many fans in India. Her work is her voice of her Indianness. The fact that she locates her characters on actual Indian environments makes her work more modern. She emphasizes the significance of putting her art piece in its natural environment. In the same case, Murty only limits himself to the metropolitan areas of Bengaluru, Mumbai and Karnataka. The theme that she has written about on numerous occasions is the conflict that occurs in the Indian families due to the shift in the moral compass of the members. Politics, avarice, familial ties, and the decline toward utilitarianism are among topics she covers. Despite English being a foreign language, it does not inhibit her. Her tale takes on an unusual quality of Indianness because of this effort, which is what makes a book intrinsically Indian.

The Representation and Reflection of Indian Culture in Sudha Murty's Selected Non-Fictional Works

Humans rely on culture and society for the majority of their emotional, intellectual, social, and educational development. Both the ideal society and the cultural connection are necessary for the formation of a perfect society. A new awakened society is created via the interchange of political, economic, and psychological notions, which is a facet of socialism. As a writer, Sudha Murty has perceptively observed and accurately portrayed the common man and typical society, including but not limited to: the traits of a particular group, the customs, traditions, positivity, humanity, wisdom, and social behaviour of that group; the backgrounds of various families; and so on. Additionally, culture is a factor that looks at the characteristics, habits, and outlook of a certain social group across time. Cultural aspects include the ideas, practices, and social behaviour of certain social groupings as well as their influence on society as a whole. Each social group has its own distinct culture, which encompasses its members' outlooks, actions, personality traits, rituals, festivals, and connections.

A work of literature may serve as both an entry point into a culture and a vehicle for the dissemination of ideas. The best literature, according to the new critics, combines logic and feeling to provide a comprehensive analysis of the human condition. Great literature, among other things, captures the essence of a culture and shows how that culture affects its readers. By upholding moral principles, one may influence the course of other people's lives, which helps build communities and, more broadly, a decent country. As an example, whereas Americans place a premium on individual achievement, freedom, and prosperity, Vietnamese place a higher importance on family loyalty and communal duty. Values and ideas, along with other immaterial aspects of culture, could conflict with a society's goals. Also, readers may get insight into actual events, thoughts, and experiences via non-fiction, which is a crucial literary genre. Nonfiction literature helps readers become more knowledgeable, empathetic, and sympathetic by exposing them to real-life examples of human nature, culture, and society. Nonfiction is an influential and worthwhile literary style because it allows authors to impart information, question viewpoints and interpretations, and encourage introspection.

Tradition and social standards in India are shaped by a complex web of religious beliefs, several languages, moral principles, and societal-familial values. These elements come together to create the foundation of Indian cultural philosophy. Sudha Murty is a prolific writer whose writings delve deeply into Indian culture, examining its many aspects. A diverse audience has been enthralled by her moving stories told in language that is both simple and deep. Numerous academic studies have analysed the social and cultural contexts in which Sudha Murty discusses moral and ethical principles in her works.

Nevertheless, it became clear after perusing a plethora of internet sites that the distinctive aspects of Indian culture are mostly unexplored. Specifically, there is a noticeable lack of research on Indian culture as it pertains to non-fiction. An opportunity for research and analysis to bridge the gap has been presented by this literature review, which emphasizes the need of taking a comprehensive approach to comprehending Indian culture. According to the assessment,

Sudha Murty's fiction and nonfiction works serve as a bridge for Indian cultural values, bringing together ethics, tradition, and modern social issues. Her work on nonfiction is understudied, particularly in relation to its transmission of cultural identity and empathy in contemporary settings, despite scholars praising her complex depiction of familial ties, gender issues, humanitarianism, and moral endurance. Filling this void via qualitative textual analysis will provide light on the relationship between literature, values, and social change. At its core, Murty's writing strives to honour India's rich cultural history while simultaneously providing readers with contemplation and advice on how to face the challenges of modern life with a sense of compassion and common humanity.

Values In Sudha Murty's Works

There were tales that were found in the glorious literary tradition of India, including the Kathasaritsagara, Panchatantra and the Jataka Tales which have mesmerized audiences over the ages. Though they are, in themselves, entertaining as fables, they are really brilliant when told out, as moral lessons, in the form of parables and allegories. It is through such stories that moral values can be instilled in the young people and even our own moral character can be boosted as Sudha Murty puts it. According to her, the legends have been passed across the centuries across the world. In this exploration of the worldly practices she came upon several Indian legends, which had gods, curses, blessings, matrimony and happily thereafter. In fact, Middle Eastern narratives are full of magic and supernatural as compared to the Western ones that are more concerned with human reason and rationality.

Sudha Murty asserts that poverty comes in various forms, and one of them happens to be financial deprivation. Such shortcomings include absence of empathy, intolerance, care and consideration towards the rest of the people. They do not have any justice, vision, integrity and human understanding. It is highly costly to be meek and pardoning and loving. There are a lot of people who badly require compassion and empathy most notably the elderly, crippled and the homeless among others.

In the majority of her stories Sudha Murty cogitates about human attitude; some of them are educative, some shocking due to the fact that educated and intelligent people can not read and write.

In contrast, illiterates, like the villager in *The Old Man and His God* or the protagonist in *The Day I Stopped Drinking Milk*, illustrate humanity and culture more effectively than city-bred and educated people. Sudha Murty thinks that these peasants, who don't act like the privileged, might teach us humility. A peasant named Thandapa teaches Sudha Murty the value of generosity when he first rejects her offers of school uniforms, water bottles, and umbrellas but eventually accepts his annual gift of fruit juice. Sudha Murty learned valuable lessons about hospitality in India as a result of these occurrences. In the process of accepting the gift, she learns modest adoration and imparts to the readers yet another lesson about human emotions.

In another set of human attitudes, Sudha Murty portrays a son betraying his father in old age by taking him to the foundation office to get his savings, as in the story of an old man whose son brings him to the foundation office to leave

him in the old age home so that he can get his savings. In her stories, Sudha Murty shows how simpletons, like villagers, value material things, saying that the earth, water in rivers, the monsoon, and everything else on Earth are beyond human reach, so being materialistic is pointless. The stories teach a poignant lesson about sharing resources and leaving them after use for the next generation, as these earthly elements are meant for everyone. Meeting people in the day-to-day life is also important.

By influencing public opinion via ethical discourse, these tales aid in gauging, rectifying, and re-establishing societal ideals. A total absence of compassion for one's fellow humans, which is really a lack of fraternity and a lack of sustaining beliefs, is perhaps the gravest evil that exists. It is safe to claim that the goal of Sudha Murty's works is to remove this "poverty" of moral principles.

Social Issues in Sudha Murty's Books

The place of Indian women in society is only one of many societal and gendered concerns discussed in Sudha Murty's writings.

Being an illustration of the constant struggle that she is going through as a daughter-in-law, she remembers that once her childhood neighbor came to punish her meanly for the sole reason of ensuring that she stays at the top in the house. Once Narayan and Sudha Murty got married, Narayan grandma took over the responsibility of a peacemaker in their family. Sudha Murty says that these problems would never be faced in the future, in case they are handled as a trifle, friendly affair, and then see the dust bin as life goes.

The Indian traditional attitude towards the issue of women rights is evidenced by the works of Sudha Murty, in which she presents the story of the death of a twenty-year-old girl, which later is explained by dowry (Stove Bursts and Dowry Deaths). In the story, one can see unemployment, sexism, prejudice, and disempathy and lack of care towards the common man. These stories awaken people to take action in order to correct the society through general principles.

During the day of the Rakhi, there is a ritualistic tying of a thread to a brother during which the formal relationship between a sister and a brother is established and many stories deal with the problem of human trafficking, which is the case in *A Bond Betrayed on Rakhi Day*, where the protagonist Tara is trafficked by her own brother. Stories by Sudha Murty connect with everyone in society as they are candid descriptions of ordinary life that any person can identify with, and the values they impart cover the spectrum of humility to social issues. Our protagonists, like tribal couple, tribal youngster Hanumanthapa and the salesgirl on a local train, are of humble origins. Such teachers as she are constantly expanding themselves to better their trade through her articles. Metro Reader has had some of her readers review her books and their opinions are thought provoking and a commendation to her efforts. Production of students superior to him is the best thing that can happen to a teacher.

Conclusion

Murthy as a writer is a big splash since her work appeals to so many. Even those who would never read a feminist book will see the lessons on gender equality in her that include

underlying lessons on gender equality. This way she also makes the consciousness of feminism in both the young and old readers. Her writing is authentic because her biography which mentions that she is the only female student in her engineering college and then, becomes a philanthropist and an author is one of struggles and success she writes.

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