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## Indianness in The Characters of Rohinton Mistry A study of family matters



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Rohinton Mistry is a prominent Indian author writing in English Language. He is so much inspired by his country's love that this particular article deals with the study of influence of Indianness on every character of his novel. Rohinton Mistry is a migrant writer who was born and brought up in India, but later on shifted to Canada but still he was highly inspired by Indian background, Indian people their psychology that he could not stop the temptation of writing about India.

Every character of Mistry reflects his own personality, his all characters are being taken from different strata of the society and they all are the representative of their own cast, creed and community. "Family Matters" is one of the Mistry's novel which deals with all the problems which a normal person faces in his or her life.

If we start discussing about the behavior of various characters then we can come to know that every character is being influenced by some or the other factor may it be their surroundings or social arena, family background or educational background. Mistry's novel "Family Matters" is having a number of characters on whom we can study the effect of background.

The Protagonist of the novel Nariman Va-keel has various shades in his character, right from his adulthood he has been shown as a very loving person, who was madly in love with a Non Parsi girl Lucy. But in India it is commonly practiced that the children's have to marry according to the wish of their parents.

So the same was his tragedy, he was independent, earning well, mature enough but according to his parents he was not grown up enough to take the most important decision of his life that was Marriage. Initially he was in no "Congratulations, Marzi Said Mr. Kotwal To his Father.

After Eleven Year's of battle you win.

Better late than never, said Mr. Burdy.

But fortune always favors the bold. Remember the fruits of patience are sweet, and all's well that end's well." (12)

Although it was decision difficult to take for him because Lucy was his dream girl and he could not even think of marrying somebody else.

He thought about the eleven years he and Lucy had struggled to create a world for themselves. "A Cocoon, she used to call it. A Cocoon was what they needed, she said into which they could retreat and after their families had forgotten their existence, they would emerge mood to accept the proposal but at last he has to surrender in front of his parents wish. The following lines from novel "Family Matters" shows the conversation between Nariman's father and his friends.

In this conversation a forty two year old man was forced by his parents and their friends to marry the girl of their choice. like two glistening butterflies and fly away together....." (13)

The above lines from "Family Matters" show the love and affection between Nariman and Lucy. But in India the parents take all the decision right from the profession their child will choose to the decision of marriage everything is controlled by the parents.

"In my Youth, my Parents controlled me and destroyed those years. Thanks to them, I married your mother and wrecked my middle years. Now you want to torment my old age. I won't allow it." (8)

Lines from Rohinton Mistry's novel "Family Matters" express the extreme pain and grief of a person whose life was spoiled just because of a wrong decision of his parents, and now even in this age of 79 he feels like as if he is controlled by his children's which irritates him the most.

In "Family Matters" we can strongly observe the shadow of Indianness in his various characters, through his characters Mistry has shown his own attachment with his motherland, these lines from "Family Matters" express the same.

"Nariman thought he smelled the benign fragrance of earth after rain. He could almost taste it on his tongue." (5)

Indians are usually so close to their motherland that they feel a strong bond between them

and their birthplace, and this is a unique beautiful feeling which is being possessed by nobody else in this world.

The Other important character of the novel are Jal and Commy who are the Step children of Nariman Vakeel the tragedy of their life is they lost their father in a very young age and their mother Yasmeen married Nariman Vakeel for the security of her and her children's future, but it was very obvious that Jal and Coomy could not get that love from Nariman which they would have got from their real father.

“During her girlhood, relatives would scrutinize her and remark sadly that a fathers love

was sunshine and freshwater without which a daughter could not bloom, a step father, they said was quite useless in this regard, once they were careless and spoke in her hearing. Their words had incandesced painfully in her mind, and she had fled to her room to weep for her dead father.” (4)

These lines from Rohinton Mistry's novel “Family Matter's” shows that in India the relatives and neighbors' keep on commenting and they unnecessarily interfere in others life. So this paper is an effort to study the influence of Indianness on the characters of Rohinton Mistry.

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