Abstract

The main purpose of this study is to focus on the change in the concept of Nationalism that has prevailed within the Pakistani nation from the time of partition to the contemporary times and how this alteration is portrayed by the writers writing on such topics. The novels used for this study are: The Ice Candy Man, Reluctant Fundamentalist, The Shadows of a Crescent Moon. This brings us to the second issue to be discussed in this dissertation which is the location of culture in Pakistan. This country is said to be a multicultural country and so this study will aim to identify reasons for such multiculturalism. Bapsi Sidhwa in her novel depicted the sentiment of the nation at the time of Partition and made it explicit that at that time the people of Pakistan were willing to sacrifice everything to get away from the British Raj. They sacrificed their homes, their valuables and property to earn freedom. But with the changing time it became visible that however hard they had tried they could not rid the society of Colonialism and eventually the Pakistanis started aspiring to become a part of the American dream. That is why Changez had to suffer victimization at the hands of the Americans. Changez was in America when he had to go through that entire episode but in Fatima Bhutto's novel it became visible that the people of Waziristan had also started to suffer. This time the idea of nation had devolved as the Taliban stood against the State. People from the same religion stood against each other, it wasn't the Hindus versus Muslims or Americans versus Islam but two sect namely Shia and Sunni who stood at daggers with each other.

To come to a conclusion Bhabha suggested that in any place there cannot be any single culture being followed and especially in nations like Pakistani, the solution can never be in a singular setup.