

Abstract

Historical fiction is known to portray a fictional account or dramatization of historical figures and events. As history and literature have strong bonds together, the literary texts produced are mainly a product of historical environment. This research is an exploratory study of the Ibis Trilogy, from the perspective of historical events of the first opium war, in relation to the issues such as cultural dislocation, and diasporic society. The study examines the Ibis Trilogy of Amitav Ghosh and identifies that it is in these historical novels that the actual skepticism, socio-economic struggle, political upheaval and survival of life can be encountered, examined, exposed, challenged, and rectified. The author is one of those contemporary Indian novelists who reforms their professional skills and combine them with historical occurrences to create works of art which are profoundly concerned with civilization and history. The study explores the novels *Sea of Poppies*, *River of Smoke* and *Flood of Fire*, in the awakening of the traumas and helplessness of people in amidst of colonial upheaval in the nineteenth century, when people were forcibly compelled to turn over their fields to opium production; due to which India was facing an enormous social disruption and displacement. Ghosh depicts an era of agricultural scandal: burgeoning western demand for profitable but inedible crops which were causing starvation in the subaltern world till date. The novels reveal the damage done by British devastation which has reeked upon the Indian economy as well as the society at large. There is the panorama of characters encapsulating the vexed colonial history of the East which makes the Ibis Trilogy a breathtaking historical masterpiece. The research shadows the theory of New Historicism by Stephen Greenblatt, to study the relationship of literary works and its repercussions in a broader social, cultural and historical context.