ABSTRACT

Unlike most of the postcolonial writers, V.S. Naipaul, in his writing has focussed upon the decline in the state of Third World decolonized countries. He has a unique vision of the social realities of the Third World countries. His fiction and non-fiction works encompass a large variety of regions, their culture and traditions. This dissertation focuses on Naipaul's portrayal of postcolonial societies, Caribbean, African, and South Asian countries: India, Malaysia, Indonesia, Iran and Pakistan. Both fiction and non-fiction works of Naipaul have been included in the dissertation to arrive at a comprehensive view of the author's vision of future of Third World countries. First chapter examines Naipaul's portrayal of postcolonial Caribbean and African societies. He has portrayed paradox of freedom in these societies as these societies mainly comprise of the immigrants from different continents, for whom the end of colonialism has brought more difficulties. After the end of colonialism, these immigrants have been at the mercy of the black native population. The second chapter focuses upon Naipaul's travel books about India. These books have a strong autobiographical element. So while analysing the Indian nation, Naipaul also seeks to search for his ancestral roots. This journey is journey of disappointment as he finds deterioration and chaos in Indian society. But during his third journey, Naipaul finds renewal taking place in Indian society. The third chapter discusses Naipaul's travel books about non-Arab Muslim countries: Malaysia, Indonesia, Iran and Pakistan, These books reveal Naipaul's scathing view of Islam. He has criticized these Muslim countries for their adherence to fundamentalism that he considers a major hindrance in their way to future progress. The fourth and last chapter studies Naipaul's latest and last work Magic Seeds to arrive at the final vision of the author. In this last work, Naipaul has focussed upon the postindependence revolutionary movements in Third World countries that has become the major issue of the contemporary era. All these postcolonial societies have been going through the process of decline due to faulty strategies and lack of planning. The individuals projected in these societies have been torn apart by the contradictions in their societies. By analysing the inadequacies of these traditional, stagnant, disorganised and non-creative societies, Naipaul has presented a vision of future for these countries that how they can reclaim their place in the world in the rapidly changing scenario. The conclusion reached is that Naipaul wants these Third World societies to move towards future by genuine analysis of their inadequacies. And instead of hostility to the Western civilization, these countries need to integrate with the Western civilization because most of these countries are still dependent on the West. According to Naipaul, these societies should attempt at globalization and modernization while retaining link with their roots. All these countries need to build new strategies for future progress.