



Dystopia in Literature

- Sheeza Abbas • Anshu Priya • Sayoni
- Sahar Rahman

Received : November 2012
Accepted : March 2013
Corresponding Author : Sahar Rahman

Abstract : *Dystopia or anti-utopia is defined as a society which is characterised by poverty or oppression. It usually exaggerates elements of contemporary society and function as a warning against some modern trend, often the threat of oppressive regimes in one form or another. Many utopias can be seen as dystopias with regard to their treatment to the issues of justice, freedom and happiness. The main point of a dystopia is to make people think about the world in which they live and to see how the idea of happiness can be perverted. Several novels have been written on this theme.*

Sheeza Abbas

B.A. III year, English (Hons.), Session: 2010-2013,
Patna Women's College, Patna University, Patna,
Bihar, India

Anshu Priya

B.A. III year, English (Hons.), Session: 2010-2013,
Patna Women's College, Patna University, Patna,
Bihar, India

Sayoni

B.A. III year, English (Hons.), Session: 2010-2013,
Patna Women's College, Patna University, Patna,
Bihar, India

Sahar Rahman

Assistant Professor, Department of English,
Patna Women's College, Bailey Road,
Patna – 800 001, Bihar, India
E-mail : saharr@rediffmail.com

*This genre of novel has found a strong footing in world literature. Some of the most famous novels translated into English are **We** by Yevgeny Zamyatin, **The Unit** by Ninni Holmqvist, **Blindness** by Jose Saramago and **Battle Royale** by Kouhun Takami. The most read English dystopian novels are Aldous Huxley's **Brave New World**, George Orwell's **Nineteen Eighty-Four**, **Fahrenheit 451** by Ray Bradbury, **The Iron Heel** by Jack London, **The Handmaid's Tale** by Margaret Atwood and **Never Let Me Go** by Kazuo Ishiguro.*

*In our research paper we have referred to only three famous dystopian novels- Aldous Huxley's **Brave New World**, Margaret Atwood's **The Handmaid's Tale** and Kazuo Ishiguro's **Never Let Me Go** to study the presentation of dystopia in fiction.*

Key Words: *Futuristic, Soma, Handmaids, Clones.*