

# **INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH JOURNAL OF MANAGEMENT SOCIOLOGY & HUMANITIES**



**ISSN 2277 – 9809 (online)**

**ISSN 2348 - 9359 (Print)**

*An Internationally Indexed Peer Reviewed & Refereed Journal*

[www.IRJMSH.com](http://www.IRJMSH.com)  
[www.isarasolutions.com](http://www.isarasolutions.com)

Published by iSaRa Solutions

Cultural Clash and Marital Crash in Manju Kapur’s <i>Custody</i> .....	10
Dr. P. Babu.....	10
ROLE OF EDUCATION IN POPULATION CONTROL .....	14
Miss Malati Shankar Patgar .....	14
Dr. V.Sharda .....	14
हिन्दी रीतिकव्य परम्परा और आचार्य भिखारीदास .....	19
-कृष्ण कुमार.....	19
Skill Development in India: Challenges and Opportunities .....	25
Dr. Anand Prakash .....	25
गैर सहायताप्राप्त शहरी एवं ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के प्राथमिक विद्यालयों के प्रधानाचार्यों शिक्षकों एवं अभिभावकों के शिक्षा अधिकार कानून के क्रियान्वयन की समस्याओं के प्रति दृष्टिकोण का तुलनात्मक अध्ययन। .....	37
‘मीना कुमारी.....	37
“प्रो बी०सी० दूबे.....	37
पिछड़े बालकों के शैक्षणिक विकास में समावेशी शिक्षा का महत्त्व.....	47
KUMAR BIGYANA NAND SINGH .....	47
The role of Inclusive Education in empowering Special children .....	52
Nigam B Pandya* and Dr. Namrata B. Upadhyay #.....	52
Impact of work environment on job satisfaction .....	57
P.Sivasankari.....	57
दबायी जाती स्त्रियों का विद्रोही स्वर: ‘रंग राची’ के संदर्भ में .....	59
लोक-कला एक अध्ययन .....	65
IMPACT OF KUDUMBASHREE ON FINANCIAL INCLUSION WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO ALAPPUZHA DISTRICT.....	72
*Krishna .M.B.....	72
**Keerthi .B.....	72
***Saisree .A .....	72
INFLUENCE OF PATANJALI COSMETIC PRODUCTS AMONG YOUTH WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO KANNUR CITY.....	82
JITHESH MON MULLOOL.....	82
Subsistence Farming and Matriliney: A case of Meghalaya .....	89
K. Kamaljit Singh .....	89

Role of Performance evaluation in enhancing job satisfaction in Pharmaceutical sector .....	107
Dr. Rajni Saluja.....	107
Harneet Kaur.....	107
Analysis of security as a service in cloud computing: a Review .....	119
Dr. V. Kiran Kumar .....	119
E. Hari Prasad .....	119
मुसव्विरी के मुकाम और राजस्थान .....	128
ज्योति कुमावत.....	128
शीर्षक "ग्रामीणों पर भू-स्वामित्व में परिवर्तन का प्रभाव".....	141
(बिहार राज्य के सन्दर्भ में एक समाजशास्त्रीय विश्लेषण).....	141
नसरीन सबा .....	141
Human crisis in ancient promises .....	154
Noufia S. N .....	154
CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY - EVOLUTION .....	158
Dr. Rajni Saluja.....	158
Spiritual Coexistence in Marathi Literature of Sufis in Deccan History .....	168
Dr. Shaikh Musak Rajjak .....	168
Role of Government in Agricultural Marketing .....	182
A.G.Anitha.....	182
Dr.S.Panneerselvam.....	182
Inter-Relationships between Migration, Employment, and Agricultural Productivity: A Study of Bilaspur District in Himachal Pradesh.....	188
Dr. Dinesh Kumar Sharma.....	188
The impact of Information and Communication Revolution on the Business operations of Distributors of Class 1 UA/Towns of India. ....	199
Mrs. Sukomal Agarwal .....	199
FORECASTING FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT INFLOWS IN INDIA WITH ARIMA MODELS .....	210
Swati Singh.....	210
Dr. Devesh Kumar .....	210
A STUDY ON JIO'S SATISFACTIONS WITH TELECOM SUBSCRIBERS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO ERNAKULAM DISTRICT .....	220

*Krishna M B.....	220
**MadhuriNandan.....	220
***Theertha P Sekhar.....	220
Human Resource Development Mechanism.....	228
DEVENDRA KUMAR.....	228
“मराठों के उदय में महाराष्ट्र की भौगोलिक परिस्थितियों का योगदान”.....	233
SUKENDER KUMAR (M.A., NET).....	233
West Asia, China and India in the Making of International Law.....	236
*Dr Ghulam Yazdani ,.....	236
Nutritional importance among primary school children.....	247
Dr Amita.....	247
जनजातीय शिक्षा एवं विकास के आयाम.....	253
शोधार्थी नन्दनी कुमारी.....	253
Women empowerment through SHGs: An analytical study on SHGs and empowerment of urban women in Bihar.....	260
Fatma.....	260
A STUDY ON EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND OF EMPLOYEES IN INDIA.....	272
*Dr. Rajiv Khosla.....	272
*Shafali,.....	272
Personality grooming through co-curricular activities.....	280
JOSHY GEORGE.....	280
<b>ROLE OF LANGUAGE IN TEACHING OF ENGLISH LITERATURE.....</b>	<b>286</b>
<b>Dr. Sohan Lal.....</b>	<b>286</b>
‘रामचरितमानस’ भारतीय सामाजिक-सांस्कृतिक व्यवस्था का आधार.....	292
डॉ. मनोज कुमार कैन.....	292
<b>SOCIO-ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS OF OUT-OF-POCKET (OOP) EXPENDITURE AND THE INDIAN HEALTHCARE SYSTEM.....</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>Dr.Manjul Singh.....</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>A STUDY ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY.....</b>	<b>306</b>
<b>Ramesh Singh.....</b>	<b>306</b>
तेंदुलकरांचे नाटक कमला : आशय आणि नाट्याभिव्यक्ती.....	320

मा. डॉ. अंजली पांडे.....	320
Women At The Margin: Representation of Women in Parsi Literature .....	325
Sawant Singh Manto .....	325
EMBRACING NATURAL WORLD: WORDSWORTH'S POETIC HARMONY .....	332
K.M.Jayanthi.....	332
ARTICLE.....	337











## Cultural Clash and Marital Crash in Manju Kapur's *Custody*

**Dr. P. Babu**

M.A.,M.Phil.,Ph.D.

### Abstract

Manju Kapur a well known Indian women novelist in English, as a feminist she deals with women's problems from different dimensions. To her credit she has written *Difficult Daughters* for which she won Common Wealth writers' prize in 1999, *A Married women* in 2003, *Home* in 2006, *The Immigrant* in 2008 and *Custody* in 2011. Manju Kapur novels were very simple as her titles, for all her novels she got much fame in the realm of literature. Her latest novel '*Custody*' deals with the concept of matrimony. It gives us revolutionary theme, the plot centers on a woman's obsession with love and lesbianism. Here, "new woman" is bold and modern in perspectives. She is job oriented, rebellious, educated and thoughtful. Kapur's heroines are mostly educated, aspiring individuals caged within the confines of a conservative society. Their education leads them to independent thinking for which their family and society become intolerant of them. They struggle between tradition and modernity. Kapur has taken profound insight into woman's inner turmoil to find a place, an identity and individuality of her own in society. For centuries, women are always back staged by patriarchal world. This paper brings out the feminist views of Manju Kapur and the issues related to the passion, desire and middle class women in her novel.

**Key Words:** Culture, Marriage, Middle class, Divorce.

---

Lecturer in English, Govt. College for Men(A),Kadapa-516004.

Manju Kapur a well known Indian women novelist in English, as a feminist she deals with women's problems from different dimensions. To her credit she has written *Difficult Daughters* for which she won Common Wealth writers' prize in 1999, *A Married women* in 2003, *Home* in 2006, *The Immigrant* in 2008 and *Custody* in 2011. Manju Kapur novels were very simple as her titles, for all her novels she got much fame in the realm of literature.

Manju Kapur's latest novel '*Custody*' deals with the concept of matrimony. In this novel the Shagun the protagonist is fascinated towards romance and they give less importance to marriage. Though she is married and has two children she gives divorce to Raman and remarries another man for the sake of desire for charm, passion and excitement in life, luxury life. The novel begins after the infidelity of the protagonist, Shagun who enjoys her social status as a wife of committed and devoted husband Raman. Perhaps Raman is portrayed as such to project the

distinguished sexual qualities of his beautiful bored house wife. The atmosphere is set in a bourgeois family of 1990's who reside at an elite colony in southern part of Delhi. In this era of globalization and liberalization, the advent of computers has changed the life of the suddenly grown rich software engineers. The rat race sucks the life of the man, while the lonely wife in nuclear family suffers loneliness of a different type, from that of the women suffering in a joint family. Unable to make her life meaningful she depends on her husband to engage her even after the honey moon period or her dream boy throughout the life. The sudden riches have changed the lives of corporate life.

Early in their married life Raman tries to cheer up his wife's spirits, took her to cricket world cup in England.

*She looked about her; there was not one wife seated around the low table who didn't have to be alone most of the week, but the success of their husbands' jobs added to the things they could buy and the places they could visit. Even six or seven years ago, would it have been possible for people like them to consider going abroad to watch the Indian cricket team? (Custody: 9)*

She is made a representative of such growing middle class wives and the developing bored feeling in them. People after all search for happiness and fulfillment in one thing or another. She need not struggle as does he for the family. He is the provider and he did his job well. But it is his role as a husband that worries her. They met Hrithik Roshan, the popular new Hindi film star of the time. She wanted to see his boss, whom he praised a lot, a student of Harvard Business school. Roman feels happy that her spirits were aroused. It is this positive thought about his wife that made him a classic cuckold. He is not a traditional jealous husband to be a careful guard of his beautiful wife. He has taken her for granted that she would be as honest as he is. When Ashok proposes to take her for an advertisement Raman did not object. Slowly she was attracted towards Ashok Khanna for his words and actions. So she leaves her perfect-complete home to run after Ashok Khanna, CEO Brand. Ashok Khanna with his professional and speaking skills makes Shagun to believe that all relationships are enemies of women's individuality and identity. Shagun believes all the speeches given by Ashok Khanna she follows as if she was hypnotized by him. After listening to Ashok Khanna she feels that she is like a sandwich between her family duties and her desire for some restful life that leads her to illicit love. She did not oscillate between two men. She makes her choice and in this way she seeks judgment and adheres to the traditional norms. Divorce is thus sanctified and is made sacred. She starts a new life after divorce or even before deciding for divorce and thus compelled Raman to accept her choice. Shagun wins in her private battle with the social norms which could not support her decision. In order to have individuality an identity she negotiates with the cultural norms.

In the other part of the city, Ishita in a colony governed by far more traditional bonds is forced out of marital state unwillingly. Ishita, very sincere, sensible, capable and reliable middle class women who follows and practices traditional norms is forced to give divorce due to her barrenness. She suffers as a no one in the house whom they have spend money for her food and accommodation even Suryakanta, her husband neglects her that she undergoes emotional tension to the point where

*She thought of the body that had known so much love and then so much punishment. She hated her body, hated it. Tyranny of biology is what's wrong with the society (Custody: 183).*

She hates herself subjects to scrutiny and marginalizes herself. She at first feels that it is her fate, gradually alienating turns to self-hatred and develops finally a stoic feeling in which relations have no meaning “Hatred towards her body filled her. It had let her down in this most basic function and she had to live with the knowledge for the rest of her life” (Custody: 63).

She becomes a prisoner of her thoughts Greer says:

*The battlefield where she fights for liberation. It is through her body that oppression works, reifying her. Her physicality is a medium for others to work on; her job is to act as their viceroy, presenting her body for their ministrations, and applying to her body the treatment that have been ordained (106).*

She becomes the victim of traditional chauvinistic society which considers it a moral obligation for a daughter-in-law to produce grand children and when she fails to fulfill this duty, she is forced into divorce. Culture made her a failure, she experience exile in her deep sense as she could not fulfill her biological destiny as infertile women. She feels powerless when divorce becomes inevitable, five years of her life is wasted in ‘other house’ working and toiling for them. Later she became a soul in the social work of looking after and educating the poor children who are in the slum area. This forceful divorce could not dampen her spirit, rather strengthens her in her mission of providing kindness, affection and pays attention to destitute who have similar fate. She starts to work and the social work gives her sense of loss is refilled only when she encounters divorced Raman. The lives of the broken heart bind together restoring the loss in their lives, she takes autonomy over her body too. Hither to she hated her body, treated it as a one with defects. Her long vanished desire of her body blooms it arouses a passion of sex in her and the couple satisfy each other’s wants. Raman wants to have his children, she realises her new identity as a mother. She develops a bond with Roohi one and half year old, Raman’s child.

*She thought of the little arms around her neck, her weight on her lap, the smell of her breath. For those moments in*

*the car she had allowed herself to feel she was the child's mother. (Custody: 293)*

Leaving behind the bitter scars of earlier marriage both get married to help each other and in the process satisfy their own. Her desire to have a family and to become a mother are satisfied, her role as a mother against priority.

*Ever since my marriage I have put her welfare above everything. I think of her as my flesh and blood. If anybody is like a stepmother it is this lady. To be a mother you need a heart (Custody: 412).*

She gains a position above her biological mother. The judge rewards for her devotion as a mother of Roohi. In the real sense she is a new woman who maintains her dignity even in adverse circumstances. In Manju Kapur novel *Custody* the existence of feminine consciousness suggested, she portrays how a woman despite the restrictions find ways to develop and assert their woman hood. They are morphed into new women who step out of four walls of their homes.

#### **REFERENES:**

Bande, Usha and Atma Ram. *Woman in Indian Short Stories, Feminist Perspective*, Jaipur and New Delhi: Rawat, 2003.

Jasbir Jain, ed. *Women in Patriarchy, Cross Cultural Readings* (Jaipur and New Delhi: Rawat, 2005), Dust jacket.

Kapur, Manju. *Custody*. Noida: Random. 2011