OBJECTIVE:

• To critically analyze the feminist issues addressed in the writings of Anita Desai and Shashi Deshpande.

• **SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESEARCH:** The fictional concerns of Anita Desai’s and Shashi Deshpande’s writings are not limited to the world of women and their sufferings as victims of male hegemony; they also express social, economic and political upheavals in Indian society. Anita Desai probes into the inner layers of solitary individuals, reflects the anguished state they are in feels their heart cry out. Anita Desai portrays the alienation, the segregation and most important the reluctance of female characters to take charge of their life.

• Shashi Deshpande has made bold attempts at raising a voice to the disappointments and frustrations of women despite her vehement denial of being a feminist. Deshpande, thus, exposes the gross gender discrimination and its fall-out in a male-dominated society.