Review of Related Literature:

In addition to literary texts mentioned in Scope and Limitation of the study, books on the theoretical background to the proposed study will be studied to understand the themes of rootlessness, alienation, identity crisis, feminism, gayism, gender discrimination etc. The study of Freudian and Lacanian concepts will be studied to understand Dattani’s plays better. To understand properly the plays of Dattani; books, research articles, reviews, interviews and reference books will also be referred.


A Novel About the Experiences of a ‘Sub-continental Bumpkins’ in America. This novel has the central character named Gopal Kumar, from Madhya Pradesh, the son of a hair oil tycoon. He goes to America to study chemical engineering in a university in Eversville. His Indian individuality, his experiences at America and his superficial orthodoxy against his physical urges fulfillments, his homesickness when he is out of India, are shown in this novel.


A Novel (Man Booker Prize Winner) won a number of awards including Man Booker Prize, National Book Critics Circle Fiction award and Vodafone Crossword Book Award. Migration, living between two worlds, living between past and present and individual space are the main themes of this novel. There are two main characters in this novel, one is Biju and other is Sai. Biju is an illegal migrant in the US who works for a cook there and Sai is the girl who is Anglicised Indian girl living with her maternal grandfather. The conflict of these two groups is shown in this novel. Both suffer psychologically for their Individual Space. People want to earn money from outside but want to live Indian luxurious life. Colonialism and the effects post colonialism are the central themes of this novel. The individual space and the loss of identity runs through the generations. The snobbery embodies the Indian way of life in the novel. The characters show an anger at the English Indians who lost Indian traditions but want to become and enjoy life like them.


Anita Desai’s this novel is an existential novel dealing with the fierce physical attacks of existence on modern men who are striving to survive. Modern men are having body but not the soul. The novel directly focuses on urban living and its dangers. ‘Voices in the City’ is written on the life of the middle class intellectuals of Calcutta. It is an unforgettable story of a Bohemian brother and his two sisters, Nirod and Monisha and Amla respectively. It shows the crosscurrents of the Indian life and its social effects on beings. The imagery of the city is very beautifully
shown in this novel. So the gender discrimination and the traditionality versus modernity are depicted aptly.


A novel is of alienation in Post-Independence era. Anita Desai tries to study in depth her characters’ psyche. *In Custody* is a different category in the sense that she attempts to study the helpless nature of male protagonist due to poverty, helplessness and lack of initiative. The character of Sarla does not get the extent of canvas that Deven gets. Deven is the protagonist teaching Hindi literature to uninterested colleges students. Deven’s true interests lie in Urdu poetry but he cannot fulfill it. Under the advice of his friend Murad, he conducted a person interview of his living Urdu idol, Nur Sahib. However things do not happen as he expects and met with frustration.


A novel of how Gandhi’s nonviolent struggle for independence from the British came to a typical village in South India. His first novel ‘Kanthapura’ was published in 1938. Raja Rao’s profound and philosophic knowledge of Indain life, his passionate attachment with the Indian national movement and his literary quest for a soothing and inspiring language for expressing his thoughts have got expression in ‘Kanthapura’. The tremors of Gandhi’s impact on a south Indian village are recorded here in the chatty language of an elderly window Achakka. Everything is seen through the film of her memory and sensibility. A regional novel is a novel which deals with the physical features, people, life, customs, habit, manners, tradition, language etc., of a particular locality. However, this does not mean that regionalism is more factual reporting or photographic reproduction. The regional artist emphasizes the unique feature of a particular locality, its uniqueness, and the various ways in which it is different from other localities.


A Novel is about cast system. It is Mulk Raj Anand’s book which is inspired by his own aunt’s experience, when she had a meal with Muslim woman and was outcaste for that. This depicts the life of protagonist, Bakha, a young sweeper who is untouchable due to his work cleaning latrines. Again the individual space is focused here.


Drama based on Mahabharata- Post Modern Era. In ‘Naga-Mandala’, Karnad exposes male chauvinism, the exploitation of a woman, injustice done them by men and patriarchal culture. Rani cooks food and arranges for bath of Appanna. After lunch he locks her in the house and goes to his concubine. Rani feels lonely and frightened at night. At her parent’s place she slept between her mother and father, and always felt very secure. Appanna treats her as if she were a
non-human thing without any feeling and a robot following his oral instructions. As a male chauvinism he has utter contempt for his wife.


Like most of Rushdie's work, this book was written in the style of magic realism. This story takes place in a town called "Q" which is actually a fictitious version of Pakistan. In Q, the 3 sisters (Chunni, Munnee, and Bunny Shakil) simultaneously pretend to give birth to Omar Khayyám Shakil. Therefore, it is impossible to know who Omar's true mother is. In addition, they are unsure of who Omar's father is as the three sisters got pregnant at a house party. While growing up, Omar becomes mischievous and learns hypnosis. As a birthday present, Omar Khayyám Shakil's "mothers" allow him to leave Q. He enrolls in a school and is convinced by his tutor (Eduardo Rodriguez) to become a doctor. Over time, he comes in contact with both Iskander Harappa and General Raza Hyder. The central theme of the novel is that violence is born out of shame. The concepts of 'shame' and 'shamelessness' are explored through all of the characters, with main focus on Sufiya Zinobia and Omar Khayyám. *Shame* discusses heritage, authenticity, truth, and, of course, shame and shamelessness, as well as the impact of all these themes on an individual, the protagonist Omar Khayyám. Rushdie wrote *Shame* after his second novel *Midnight's Children*.


Salman Rushdie has established himself as one of the most powerful modern writers with *Midnight’s Children*, *Shame* and *Satanic Verses* to his credit. *Midnight’s Children* deals with India’s transition from British colonialism to independence and the partition of India. It is considered an example of postcolonial literature and magical realism. The story is told by its chief protagonist, Saleem Sinai, and is set in the context of actual historical events as with historical fiction. *Midnight’s Children* is a loose allegory for events in India both before and, primarily, after the independence and partition of India. The protagonist and narrator of the story is Saleem Sinai, born at the exact moment when India became an independent country. He was born with telepathic powers, as well as an enormous and constantly dripping nose with an extremely sensitive sense of smell. The novel is divided into three books.


*A River Sutra* is a collection of stories. The book's stories are interconnected by both a geographical reference (the Narmada River and the Narmada River Valley), and by the theme of diversity within Indian society, both present and past. Unlike some of Mehta's previous stories, the ones in *A River Sutra* feature only Indian characters. It is considered an accurate representation of Indian Culture, as it covers much of the culture of India, through its portrayal of music, religion, and major landmarks. The story is told in mid-to-late 20th century India and is set around the Narmada River in central India. It is told from the perspective of a retired bureaucrat who interacts with a variety of travellers and residents of the area, whose stories are relayed to the reader through a series of vignettes. Through these stories, the major themes of love, the Narmada River, desire, the human heart, lust, and religion are explored.
Singh, Khuswant, We, the Indians, June 1, 1993, Orient Paperbacks, ISBN: 812220015X

This is a small book of very interesting collection of essays. Some are hilarious and some are insightful. He explains various political, social and cultural facets of the Indian society in a very simple and straightforward language. Gleeful name dropping, worship of the successful, face flattery accompanied with back-biting, and envy to the extent of sickness are some of the highlights of We Indians. We Indians tend to be deeply religious, but religion invariably brings out the worst in us. Women have no individuality in her life. Khushwant Singh analyses the good and the bad of Indian character in this unusual and timely book. He brings a special fervour to the Indian character by his rare ability of effortless writing.


‘Train to Pakistan’ is a social document drafted by a distinguished Indian writer, Khushwant Singh. The novelist recounts the trauma and tragedy of the Partition that has remained the most tragic chapter in the history of India. After declaring India independent country 1947, the outgoing rulers Britishers split the country into a Muslim Pakistan and a technically secular though mostly Hindu India. The Britishers drew borders based on geography and the fact that most Muslims were on the Pakistani side and most Hindus were on the Indian side. However, at the same time, many villages had multiple co-existing religions within them. This fact was not considered while drawing the dividing line. So the split caused a period of disunity and border fights as Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs scrambled to get to ‘their own side’. This resulted in the death of one million people and the displacement of ten million people. Because India had been declared independent before actual partition, the new governments were faced with the impossible task of dealing with a crumbling law and order alone. In ‘Train to Pakistan’, Khushwant Singh’s version of the partition is a social one. The horrifying events of 1947 had shaken the faith of the people in the innate nobility of human beings. The writer presents the events with fidelity to truth. This was a period of crisis of values. This novel has cinematic version also which makes it more effective to understand.


The book exposes the changes in Indian society from independence in 1947 to the Emergency called by Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Mistry is generally critical of Gandhi in the book. Gandhi, however, is never referred to by name by any of the characters, and is instead called simply "the Prime Minister". The characters, from diverse backgrounds, are brought together by economic forces changing India. This has the prologue of Ishvar and Om’s story, then Dina’s story, Maneck’s too and emergency effects and finally epilogue 1984. This story is the story of the characters that suffer from identity crisis and try to find their space.

_This_ is the debut novel of Indian writer Arundhati Roy. It is a story about the childhood experiences of fraternal twins whose lives are destroyed by the "Love Laws" that lay down "who should be loved, and how and how much." The book is a description of how the small things in life affect people's behaviour and their lives. This is her only novel. While generally praised, the book did receive some criticism for its verbosity and controversial subject matter. The central character is Ammu and Velutha, who suffered because of their finding individual room for their interest. Ammu suffers because she is woman and Vethula suffers because he is from lower cast and untouchable. Thus Ammu is the victim of gender discrimination and Velutha is the victim of caste system.


_Moll Flanders_ is a central text in the English canon and has inspired debate and analysis on issues such as Christian moral virtue, capitalism, legal reform, and feminism. Part of the reason for the novel's importance is its extraordinarily vivid and compelling female protagonist. Through her, Defoe creates a novel uniquely fascinating among his works for both readers and critics alike. The ambiguity of the novel's themes and the implications of the text fostered a vigorous debate in the first decades of the twentieth century, and critics continue to advance new perspectives on _Moll Flanders_ in light of recent literary theory.


This novel is semi-autobiographical one. The title of the novel is taken from the 1825 poem _Work Without Hope_, by Samuel Taylor Coleridge. The following excerpt from which the title is taken is also included as the epigraph of the novel: _Work without hope draws nectar in a sieve, / And hope without an object cannot live._ In the novel, Rukmani comments, "Change I had known before, and it had been gradual. But the change that now came into my life, into all our lives, blasting its way into our village, seemed wrought in the twinkling of an eye." Rural India for centuries, continued to remain a stagnant society. It held out a hoary landscape, where time stood still without movement admits squalor and poverty as if God has turned his eyes away from it. The novelist here has attempted to portray and authentic picture of rural India in transition. Rukhmini, the protagonist and narrator in the novel is a simple peasant woman whose persistent battle has been against poverty. She is the most dominant character of ‘Nectar in a Sieve’ and is the narrator of this novel Dr. A. V. Krishna Rao calls her a triumph of the spirit of tradition. Milwaukee Journal throws light on the importance of her character.


‘The Colour Purple’ is a novel that emerges out of Alice Walker’s central concern with the existence, experience and culture of Afro-American women. It deals with the role of male domination in frustrating and black women’s struggle for identity and independence. The novel shows how women are oppressed and manipulated by men and humiliated into powerless. Simultaneously it is also a novel of liberation and redemption. It shows women moving from
victimization to a growth in consciousness which enables them to control their own lives. It celebrates the courage of female spirit. ‘The Colour purple’ is the women’s novel in that it carries an identifiable tradition of women writing. It can be called a lesbian novel because two central female characters become ‘lovers; and also because women are positively portrayed as having a rich inner life. The story is of central character Celie and other characters as Shug Avery, Celie’s step father, Celie’s sister etc.

**Shelly, Mary.** Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus, 1 January 1818, Lackington, Hughes, Harding, Marvor & Jones, ISO-8859-1

It is horror, gothic, romance, a science fiction. The title of the novel refers to a scientist, Victor Frankenstein, who learns how to create life and creates a being in the likeness of man, but larger than average and more powerful. In popular culture, people have tended incorrectly to refer to the monster as "Frankenstein". *Frankenstein* is infused with some elements of the Gothic novel and the Romantic Movement, and is also considered to be one of the earliest examples of science fiction. It was also a warning against the expansion of modern man in the Industrial Revolution, escaped to in the novel’s subtitle, *The Modern Prometheus*. This is the story where the man made monster can not hold his absurd identity and he tries to seek his individuality. *Frankenstein* begins in epistolary form, documenting the correspondence and the further story takes place in letter form.


Raju, the rogue is one of the most interesting characters in Indo-Anglian fiction. He deceives the society by passing for a spiritual man and is carried away by his deception until a point comes when it is difficult to undo the enormous lie. Thus Raju finds it more and more difficult to tear off the mask until he finds that the mask has become his face. Narayan’s women may be divided into two categories. The first are the typical Hindu housewives, suffering and drudging throughout life, but always faithful to their homes and their husbands. Sometimes they revolt against the tyranny of their husbands, as does Savitri in ‘The Dark Room’, but ultimately they come back to their homes and their husbands. To the second category belong butterfly-type of women like Rosie.


His second novel *The Bachelor of Arts* (1937), is a mature work and deals with a later stage of life in a young man’s career when he is about to leave college and enter life when he is neither a boy nor a man, but somewhere in between. The novel with its detailed characterization and deftly knitted style stands apart as a journey from fantasy to reality. The very concept of the gradual growing of a boy and then becoming busy with worldly affairs is beautifully depicted with utmost tenderness. The novel is also remarkable for its skilful mingling of humour and pathos. It is a great work of art and well-deserves the attention that has been given to it.
Bapsi Sidhwa's novel *Ice-Candy Man* deals with the partition of India and its aftermaths. This is the first novel by a woman novelist from Pakistan in which she describes about the fate of people in Lahore. The novel opens with the verse of Iqbal from his poem 'Complaint to God', with this, the child-narrator Lenny is introduced. She is lame and helpless. She finds that her movement between Warris Road and Jail Road is limited. She sees the Salvation Army wall with ventilation slits which makes her feel sad and lonely. The narration is in the first person. Lenny lives on Warris Road. The novelist describes about the localities in Lahore through the Child-narrator. Lenny observes: "I feel such sadness for the dumb creature I imagine lurking behind the wall." Lenny is introvert and she is engrossed in her private world.

This is the first novel by poet and novelist Vikram Seth. The work is a novel in verse composed of 590 Onegin stanzas, *The Golden Gate* follows the lives of a group of yuppies in San Francisco.

‘A House for Mr. Biswas’ is single individual’s search for identity. The novel deals with the theme of isolation, frustration & negation in a colonized society; a society that turns cruel & callous to the aspiration of the protagonist, Mr. Mohan Biswas. It shows Mr. Biswas’ dry & monotonous journey of life, full of many jerks & jolts. Mr. Mohan Biswas was born in the village of Trinidad at the hour of midnight. This is considered as an auspicious hour in that country. He was predicted by the Pandit to be a lecher, a spendthrift & a liar. However, this did not happened though he proved to be an unlucky person in many ways.

‘Of Human Bondage’ is an autobiographical novel written by a modern novelist Somerset Maugham’s. Maugham’s novels show his intense in human nature. He is at his best in deputizing contradictions and frustrations of life. ‘Of Human Bondage’, originally titled ‘Beauty from Ashes’, tells the story of Philip who builds up his career from what is called Ashes. The story is centered on the character Philip Carey who tries to find his identity.

Virginia Woolf’s ‘A Room of One’s Own’ is a classic text of the feminist movement. It is based on two lectures that Virginia Woolf presented in 1928 at Newnham and Girton College, Women’s Colleges at Cambridge Univ. later she expanded the lectures and published them together as one long essay in 1929. The book is focused on women as both writers of fiction and as characters is fiction. Woolf asserts that some of the most interesting and intellectual characters
in literature have been women. However, off the printed page women have played second class roles. She insists that creative works required freedom both financial and intellectual. A woman must have independent means and a room of her own. At the time when this essay was published, Woolf’s message was unprecedented and radical.


This novel is the type of stream of consciousness technique in which the post colonial effects are emphasized. Heart of Darkness is a short novel written by Joseph Conrad, written as a frame narrative, about Charles Marlow’s life as an ivory transporter down an unnamed river in Central Africa. The river is “a mighty big river, that you could see on the map, resembling an immense snake uncoiled, with its head in the sea, its body at rest curving afar over a vast country, and its tail lost in the depths of the land.” In the course of his travel in central Africa, Marlow becomes obsessed with Mr. Kurtz.

The story is a complex exploration of the attitudes people hold on what constitutes a barbarian versus a civilized society and the attitudes on colonialism and racism that were part and parcel of European imperialism. Originally published as a three-part serial story, in Blackwood's Magazine, the novella Heart of Darkness has been variously published and translated into many languages.


Look Back in Anger (1956) is a John Osborne play. This is about a love triangle involving an intelligent and educated but disaffected young man of working class origin (Jimmy Porter), his upper-middle-class, impassive wife (Alison), and her haughty best friend (Helena Charles). The play was a success on the London stage, and spawned the term "angry young men" to describe Osborne and those of his generation who employed the harshness of realism in the theatre in contrast to the more escapist theatre that characterized the previous generation.


This is Science fiction, dystopian fiction novel. Brave New World is a novel written in 1931 by Aldous Huxley and published in 1932. The novel anticipates developments in reproductive technology, sleep-learning, psychological manipulation, and operant conditioning that combine to profoundly change society. Huxley answered this book with a reassessment in an essay, Brave New World Revisited (1958), and with Island (1962), his final novel. Brave New World's title derives from Miranda's speech in William Shakespeare's The Tempest, Act V, Scene I:

O wonder!
How many goodly creatures are there here!
How beauteous mankind is! O brave new world,
That has such people in't.

**Foster, E.M, A Passage to India, 1924, Edward Arnold, (London), ISBN: 978-0-14-144116-0**

*A Passage to India* (1924) is a novel by English author E. M. Forster set against the backdrop of the British Raj and the Indian independence movement in the 1920s. It was selected as one of the 100 great works of English literature by the *Modern Library* and won the 1924 James Tait Black Memorial Prize for fiction. *Time* magazine included the novel in its "100 Best English-language Novels from 1923 to 2005".[1] The novel is based on Forster's experiences in India. E.M. Forster borrowed the book's title from Walt Whitman's poem of the same name in *Leaves of Grass*. A young British schoolmistress, Adela Quested, and her elderly friend, Mrs. Moore, visit the fictional city of Chandrapore, British India which is said to have been based on the city of Bankipur, a suburb of Patna in the state of Bihar. Adela is to decide if she wants to marry Mrs. Moore's son, Ronny Heaslop, the city magistrate.


*The Grass Is Singing* is the first novel, published in 1950, by Doris Lessing. It takes place in Southern Rhodesia(now Zimbabwe), in southern Africa, during the 1940s and deals with the racial politics between whites and blacks in that country (which was then a British Colony). The novel created a sensation when it was first published and became an instant success in Europe and the United States.

**Bronte Charlotte, Jane Eyre, 16 October 1847, HarperCollins1443425052**

*Jane Eyre Jane Eyre: An Autobiography* is a novel by English writer Charlotte Brontë. It was published on 16 October 1847 under the pen name "Currer Bell." Primarily of the bildungsroman genre, *Jane Eyre* follows the emotions and experiences of its eponymous character, including her growth to adulthood, and her love for Mr. Rochester, the byronic[1] master of fictitious Thornfield Hall. In its internalisation of the action – the focus is on the gradual unfolding of Jane's moral and spiritual sensibility and all the events are coloured by a heightened intensity that was previously the domain of poetry – the novel revolutionised the art of fiction. Charlotte Brontë has been called the 'first historian of the private consciousness' and the literary ancestor of writers likes Joyce and Proust.[2] The novel contains elements of social criticism, with a strong sense of morality at its core, but is nonetheless a novel many consider ahead of its time given the individualistic character of Jane and the novel's exploration of classism, sexuality, religion, and proto-feminism.
Hardy, Thomas, The Return of the Native, December 1878 HarperCollins, UK, ISBN: 000750263X,

The Return of the Native is Thomas Hardy's sixth published novel. The Return of the Native became one of Hardy's most popular novels. The central character in this novel is Eustacia Vye and her husband Clement (Clym) Yeobright, her former boyfriend Damon Wildeve, and Wildeve’s wife; Ms. Yeobright. The story is woven around the complex nature of the heroin of novel. Her psychology and urge for better life created tragedy in other characters’ life.


The Bluest Eye is a 1970 novel by American author Toni Morrison. The story is about a year in the life of a young black girl, named Pecola, who develops an inferiority complex due to her eye colour and skin appearance in Lorain, Ohio, against the backdrop of America’s Midwest as well as in the years following the Great Depression. It is told from the perspective of Claudia MacTeer as a child and an adult, as well as from a third-person, omniscient viewpoint. Because of the controversial nature of the book, which deals with racism, incest, and child molestation, there have been numerous attempts to ban it from schools and libraries. The novel opens with a prologue relating a paragraph-long Dick and Jane tale in which none of Jane's family will agree to play with her until a friend comes along at last. The tale is then repeated two times, each time with less punctuation or fewer spaces between words, until finally all the words are concatenated together.


This is the autobiography written by APJ Abdul Kalam in which he has written memories of his childhood which was precious to him, but would be anyone relevance to anyone else. This autobiography is not the account of his personal triumphs and tribulations. He tells about the success and setbacks of the scientific establishment in modern India, struggling to establish himself on the technology. We all are born with a divine fire in us according to him. Our effort should be to give wings to his fire; he believes. In this work he has explained the psyche of people around him, the modern thoughts which he possessed and the traditionality in which he grown up.


Things Fall Apart is an English-language novel by Nigerian author Chinua Achebe published in 1958 by William Heinemann Ltd in the UK. It is seen as the archetypal modern African novel in English. The title of the novel comes from; William Butler Yeats' poem "The Second Coming".
The novel shows the life of Okonkwo, a leader and local wrestling champion in Umuofia—one of a fictional group of nine villages in Nigeria, inhabited by the Igbo people (in the novel, "Ibo"). It describes his family and personal history, the customs and society of the Igbo, and the influence of British colonialism and Christian missionaries on the Igbo community during the late nineteenth century.