

Malgudi a Fictional World: A Critical Study on R.K. Narayan's Malgudi Days

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Abstract

Rasipuram Krishna Swami Iyer Narayanaswami, a leading writer of early Indian English literature famous for his works set in the fictional South Indian town of Malgudi. Malgudi is the fictional place of R.K. Narayan, like Wordsworth's Lake District and Arnold Bennett's Five Cities. It is the eternal source of pleasure and sadness for the characters of the novel. This article consists of four parts; such as introduction, setting, people and structure. It has its limitations, but it is hoped that it will help those who lead the same path. It analyzes and interprets the life of this city. This distinguishes the author's approach to Indian life from that of some Western writers. It also shows a live image of configuration Malgudi. Additionally; it focuses on the people and structure of Malgudi.

Keywords: Literature, Malgudi, Fictional Town, Lake District and Structure.

Introduction

R.K. Narayan's first work, *Swami and Friends*, was published in 1935 and *The Guide* in 1958. He also wrote a number of short stories, which appeared in the Sunday edition of the prestigious publication. Daily 'Madras/ Chennai Hindu'. All his novels and most of his short stories contain descriptions of the fictional town of Malgudi. It is an old and peaceful city. The people of this city are very simple and sincere. They have a lot in common, their social status, pride of their caste and cute quarrels. They always respect their customs traditions but the treaty with foreign elements disturbed the pattern of their traditions. Narayan is not a modernist. He believes in tradition. He never allows foreign winds to blow away any room. Unlike his contemporary writer Mulk Raj Anand, he did not introduceism in his novels. All his novels are completely non-political. The *Decisive City* is one of the salient features of his novels written during the Swaraj movement. All his novels are written in English and published in England and America. They have also been translated into several European languages. But no critical review has been seen yet.

Settings of Malgudi

Malgudi, purely an imaginary location created by R.K. Narayan, stands for a small South Indian town. It becomes the setting for all his novels. His fictional world becomes the world of Malgudi. It is like the Wessex of Thomas Hardy and Lake District of Wordsworth. Once he was asked how Malgudi struck his mind. He said: I remember waking up on Malgudi Vijayadashami, the day celebrated for the goddess of learning. Malgudi was a shocking discovery for me because I didn't remember facts and such things which are needed to write about Malgudi or any real place. At first I couldn't imagine my city but only the train station, which was a small platform with a banyan tree, a station master and two trains during the day, one coming and one going. On Vijayadashami I sat down and wrote the first sentence about my city; the train has just reached Malgudi station. Hatri, Chote Lal, R.K. Narayan: *Reflections and Revolutions* (Sarup and Sons, New Delhi, 2006 (62) Malgudi is not found anywhere on the map of India.

It was originally located in Malgudi Trichinopoly district on the river Kaveri. It has common features like rivers. on one side, forests on the other, Albert Mission School headed by Principal. Brown, Cooperative Bank, newly built bungalow sat Law lay Extension, Engladia Banking Co-operative etc. This is Sampathi and Margayya Malgudi This is Swami Malgudi and Rajam, Chandran and Krishna with an imaginary background Narayan It is always alive. It is always real. Its lanes and streets are very familiar like one's home town. But it is not a true picture of Malgudi. It has also another dark side, the area beyond Nallapa Grove, the location where the untouchable live. Another prominent feature of the setting of Malgudi is the Sarayu. It is the pride of Malgudi. It reflects the cultural life of this city. The elders of Malgudi bathe here before sunrise and offer water to the Surya Devata. Krishna and Chandra generation are not much interested in such activities. This is R.K. activity center Narayan Swami and friends. Where Mani is waiting for Rajam and plans to throw him into the river. Here Chandran looks at his beloved Malat.

The main character of K. Narayan's Bachelor of Arts. Narayan is the only artist who has presented a vivid picture of Indian life. His depiction of joys and sorrow, the warmth of human relationship paints the world of Malgudi with colour of a real place.

Malgudians

Narayan Malgudians are true Malgudians. They belong to the middle class. They usually slide around as if waiting outside. One Narayan Soma Sundram is the best example. Malgudians appears as the president of the district board even as illiterate. He is elite. We see him, he is at the door of Totuuspaino the press is wearing a jacket and a turban. R.K. Narayan introduces us to Mr. Natesh, another chairman of the district board med in the novel waiting for Mahatma. He always very close to caricature. He has a great desire to be the host of Mahatma Gandhi during his stay in Malgudi. Besides these characters, we see another elite, he is Rajam's father, the deputy commissioner of Nammatt. He represents the officer class during the colonial period. He will be seen in Narayan's *Swami and His Friends*. We don't get a chance to meet Rajam's mother. The only time he appears is when Rajam comes to visit Swami's house. Rajam's father shows up as it were once in this novel.

He has been settled duty to maintain law and arrange within the society as a senior police officer. Once he considering the peace of Malagudi, orders alathi charge in a parade composed by Congress party. Mr. Brown, Vital of Albert Missions College is another living character in Narayan's 'Swami and his Friends', could be a wealthy man who gets one thousand rupees a month. Briefly expressed, he does not have a place to the social structure of Malgudi. He shows up as an outsider and continuously lean towards to stay so. Narayan's anecdotal town, Malgudi isn't casteless. His individuals are well concerned with their possess duties and obligations. They never dream to toss themselves exterior. They cherish to live inside the four dividers of Malgudi, their hometown. Chandran, the hero of the Lone ranger of

Expressions is emphatically contradicted by his mother when he considers wedding a young lady of exterior. His individuals are exceptionally conventional and solid devotee of superstitions. R. K. Narayan acknowledges them as they are. He has never attempted to deform and criticize their beliefs. It varies from Mulkraj Anand. Establishment of Albert Missions College may be a favoring for the boys like Chandran and Natesan. They spend four a long time seeking after their lone ranger degree there. They are instructed Greek dramatization, Shakespeare, Milton, Wordsworth etc. They are not instructed any Indian language or writing they are never instructed around Kalida and Banabhatt though; they are made to deliver significance to Plato and Aristotle. Nearly all the character portrayed in Narayan's books, are Hindus. He has moreover depicted a few non Hindu characters like Central Brown, Gaffer, the taxi driver within the Direct and Aziz, principal's peon.

Structure of Malgudi

Briefly expressed, the structure of R.K. Narayan's plot is free. His plots are distant from the impression of diversity but exceptionally near to the natural solidarity. He may not approval his ubiquity as an master expert but he has continuously shown his sharp understanding on the surface of life. He comes to know his characters Sampath and Chandran from a really near perception. His plots are exceptionally straightforward as well as natural. They are never complicated. He never depends upon mischances as a implies of providing plot joins like Thomas Solid does in his works. His plots are stuffed with sensational possibilities. The plot of the Lone ranger of Expressions is developed in a lighter level. Chandran's passion for Malathishows his interminability. The plot is completely decided by these characteristics of the protagonist. The plot of Malgudi includes three minds and six wild universes. Here, fundamentally, the part of Srinivas's exceptionally critical. The structure of 'Waiting for the Mahatma' is one of the loosest plots.

The plot of the novelist closely connected with the political occasions the period. Portion one of this novel is great. Here is Narayan at his best. Portion two takes a walk out of Malgudi, but portion three is nearly unnecessary. The printer of Malgudi is fabulous and critical. Its finishing is not one or the other comedian nor awful. Here Sampathi as well enormous a character to be contained in a customary finishing. Narayan's 'Swami and his Companions' may be a simple story. It is all almost a youthful Indian boy beneath the overwhelming impact of western instruction. This theme is loosely interwoven. 'The English Teacher' is Narayan's to begin with catastrophe. It is the catastrophe of his individual misfortune. The plot of this story is exceptionally straightforward. Its effects are appeared with the youthful couple's daily life. Its structure is like a jigsaw puzzle. It makes a difference its characters to profit sufficient flexibility to uncover themselves, and genuine men and women.

Conclusion

R.K. Narayan's anecdotal town, Malgudi is of an awesome centrality to both the creator and peruses. It symbolizes the central center of his creative ability. All his stories are interlinked with this little town. It is the source of both joy and distress of all his living characters. His works illustrate a striking picture of Indian social reality. He accepts in 'Craftsmanship for art's sake'. It does not cruel he could be an essayist without any vision of life.

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