



SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF TORU DUTT IN SOUTH ASIA

MUKESH KUMARI

PH.D. SCHOLAR, SUNRISE UNIVERSITY, ALWAR, RAJASTHAN.

DR. EISHA SHARMA

RESEARCH GUIDE & ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, B.ED. DEPARTMENT, SUNRISE UNIVERSITY, ALWAR, RAJASTHAN.

ABSTRACT:

Culture and identity are closely intertwined. Culture refers to what we do in our daily lives—it shapes our habits, practices, and interactions. Over time, this culture contributes to our identity. Identity can be seen as the root of a tree, while culture represents its branches. As the roots grow deeper, the branches grow stronger. Similarly, as time progresses, culture evolves and strengthens.

The identity of one person often overlaps with that of another, but the shared aspects of a group or community ultimately shape its culture. These shared aspects may include professional, public, and private practices. Culture, like the branches of a tree, extends and diversifies, while identity, like the roots, remains deeply embedded.

This paper presents about socio economic in culture and identity because the Handy crafts and textile industry may not increase the economy of a country but also written literature is very important to increasing the economy of any nation .so there are lot of writers may be poet , play writers and novelist of India who has played vital role to increase the economy during the colonial time and Post colonial time ,even in modern days.

KEYWORDS:

SOCIO ECONOMIC, LITERATURE, LANGUAGE, CULTURE, IDENTITY , GLOBAL, TRADE, PUBLICATION.

INTRODUCTION

Writers, poets, and novelists have played a significant role in shaping and preserving Indian culture, particularly during colonial times. By translating regional works into global languages like French and English, they brought India's rich traditions, customs, and folk heritage to an international audience. These writers not only served their local communities but also elevated India's cultural identity on a global platform.

For instance, Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore is a renowned figure whose works transcended regional boundaries. Toru Dutt Known as a literary genius, she was also one of India's first feminist novelists. His translated works, such as the sheaf gleaned in the French field , translated into The ancient ballad and the Legend of the Hindustan, gained international acclaim and contributed significantly to India's economy through book sales and global recognition.

Similarly, the works of regional writers who preserved folk songs, traditions, and music highlighted the diversity of Indian culture. Their contributions enriched India's cultural economy by attracting global attention, much like the handicrafts, textiles, and other industries that showcase India's heritage.

Moreover, India's art forms, may be it Bollywood, classical music, dance, theatre, or visual arts—serve as significant contributors to the nation's economy. The richness and

variety of Indian culture continue to attract global interest, making literature and arts a key part of India's socio-economic development.

This shows that India's cultural heritage, preserved and shared by its artists and writers, remains a crucial factor in enhancing both its identity and economic prosperity.

MAIN ARGUMENTS

Most writers in literature, whether in Hindi, English, or any other language, have written extensively about their culture. In English literature, writers like A.K. Ramanujan, Rabindranath Tagore, and Sarojini Naidu stand out for their contributions. But Toru Dutt has very important role in Indian English literature for cultural studies. she presents the stories in narrative form of Vedas and puranas taken from Ramayana and Mahabharata epics . In words French critic and writer, James Darmesteter, makes a correct he observes ,this daughter of Bengal, so admirably and so strangely gifted, Hindu by race and tradition and English woman by education, a French woman at heart, poet in English, prose writer in French; who at the age of eighteen made India acquainted with the poets of France in the rhyme of England, who blended in herself three souls and three traditions, and died at the age of twenty (one), in the full bloom of her talent and on the eve of awakening of her genius , presents in the history of literature a phenomenon without parallel".¹

All these writers often explored themes of culture, aiming to awaken people to their roots—essentially, the essence of "Indian's." Their work sought to instil pride in Indian identity and bind individuals to their cultural heritage.

Now in modern times, this happened on global platform. Many Global South nations focus on preserving cultural identity through initiatives promoting indigenous crafts, music, and oral histories. For example, in South Africa, cultural festivals like the Cape Town International Jazz Festival attract global audiences while showcasing local talent. In India, the revival of handloom traditions such as Banarasi sarees supports cultural pride and local economies. In the poetry of Sarojini Naidu the Bazaar of Hyderabad, Indian weavers, planaquin bearer can we seen the attraction of our culture². The widespread sale of writer Toru Dutt that Ancient Ballad and legend of Hindustan when Edmond Ghosh published her work, the confessional poetry of Kamla Das, all these were medium of expression in every way. The cultural products of nationalism—poetry, prose fiction, music, plastic arts—show this love very clearly in thousands of different forms and ...³

Indian English literature has contributed to India's global economic and trade footprint by creating opportunities and markets for cultural exports. Due to digital technology ,we can see global publishing industry's Indian English writers form a significant part of the global literary market, with bestsellers contributing to publishing revenue and related industries like film adaptations. For example Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things* became an international sensation, selling millions of copies. Meanwhile Cultural identity in the Global South often attracts international tourism. This not only sustains local economies but also fosters global cultural understanding.

for example, Peru's promotion of Machu Picchu boosts national pride and generates significant revenue. Inka, Peruvian and Amazonian are the mixture of culture .Films and Media Emerging industries like Nigeria and India act as cultural ambassadors, blending traditional storytelling with modern narratives, creating identity-based ,those what were in Vedas and puranas in olden time , written literature that is now digitalized with IT technology on the global platform socio-economic growth. Cultural trade and Socioeconomic Integration can often be seen in global South countries where they participate in fair trade

practices for example the Lavi fair in India , Coffee cooperatives in Ethiopia and Colombia thrive by blending traditional farming techniques with modern trade networks. Regional trade agreements often include cultural goods like textiles, crafts, and food products.

Cultural exports such as cuisine, fashion, and literature create global demand for identity-rich products.

CONCLUSION

The impact of literature extends beyond cultural representation. It contributes to economic growth, much like handicrafts and textile industries. Translations, publications, and artistic creations enrich India's economy by attracting global attention to its cultural diversity. For example, the work of colonial and post colonial writers Henry Derozio, Toru Dutt Sarojini Naidu, Kamla Das, AK Ramanujan, Nizam Ezical Indian English poets enrich India's cultural identity by preserving its traditions, reflecting its modernity, and addressing social issues. Economically, they contribute to publishing, tourism, and international trade in cultural goods. Their work bridges cultural divides, elevating India's status as a global cultural powerhouse while fostering socio-political dialogue within and beyond its borders, also bollywood, music, dance, theater, folk art, and literature collectively promote India's cultural heritage, boosting tourism and creating jobs.

India's rich cultural heritage and variety ensure its art, literature, and traditions continue to attract global interest, contributing significantly to the economy and cultural diplomacy.

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