

GLIMPSES IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

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Glimpses in Language and Literature

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**THEME OF PARTITION AND RELIGIOUS DISCORD IN
KHUSHWANT SINGH'S *TREAIN TO PAKISTAN***

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ABSTRACT:

The Partition of India was a sectarian separation of the subcontinent that took place in 1947 when India gained freedom from the British Empire. The principally Muslim north became the nation of Pakistan and the chiefly Hindu south became the Republic of India. However, partition shattered both India and Pakistan as the process claimed many lives in riots, rapes, murders and looting. Both countries began their independence with devastated economies and countries without established, experienced governance systems, not only that, but around 15 million people were exiled from their homes and their lives fell apart. The beliefs he had cherished all his life were shattered. Unravelling her inner struggle and pain, she says, "My beliefs that I had cherished all my life were shattered. I believed in the inherent goodness of the common man, but the partition of India was followed by the most public slaughter in the country's history. He says I believed that we Indians are peaceful and non-violent, that we are engaged in spiritual pursuits while the rest of the world is engaged in material pursuits. After the experience of the fall of 1947, I became an angry middle-aged man who wanted to show his disappointment to the world and decided to try writing.

Keywords:, Discord, Partition, Train, Pakistan etc.

Introduction:

Train to Pakistan (Train to Pakistan) is the most notable novel because it is the first English-language novel written to have an English section as its subject. Later, many authors began to write in English language on the same subject. Violence here refers to sexual harassment, the murder of men belonging to certain communities. Khushwant Singh perfectly represents the brutality of a section with an accurate history. At a young age, he was greatly influenced by the partition of India, when India was divided into two countries. The dark and toxic effects of Partition and the outrage it created are portrayed realistically in Train to Pakistan. With bold and unflinching realism, the novel presents a story of political hatred and violence in the stormy and fateful days that preceded and followed the partition of British India, when communal fervour and passionate self-expression raged and exploded. Every citizen fell under the holocaust. No one could stand aside; no one can be trusted to be neutral. It is true that that part concerned the whole country and Singh's attempt in the novel is to see the events from the perspective of the people of Mano Majra, a small town that is considered to be the background of that novel. Khushwant Singh reinvents a small village in rural Punjab and its people in that fateful summer when a flood of refugees and inter-communal bloodshed from Bengal to the Northwest Frontier finally touches them. Many ordinary men and women are confused, victimized and torn. The most heart-breaking moment in the book is when the government decides to transport all the Muslim families of Mano Majra to Pakistan. Stupid villagers miss the events. The Muslims leave with their scanty possessions within ten minutes and the non-Muslim fellow citizen don't get a chance to say farewell. The whole scene is painful on many levels; especially the poverty in which these people live, the insecurity they faced and the eclipse the humanity of people. Train to Pakistan is Khushwant Singh's highest achievement. It is one of the best realist novels in post-World

War II Indo Anglian fiction. It has a well thought out structure, a well thought out plot, an engaging story and beautifully portrayed characters. It has many important symbolic features, significant atmosphere and great expression and style.

Conclusion:

Khushwant Singh has accurately portrayed the true picture of the ill effects of segregation and the sufferings that people go through. Khushwant Singh held his unique mirror to reflect on the physical torture and psychological explosion that unfolded after the partition of the subcontinent into India and Pakistan. He paints a vivid picture of the division between Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs in the summer of 1947. The novel briefly describes the themes of independence and division, using this opportunity to explore other themes that then emerge as a whole.

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