The Novels Of Nayantara Sehgal A Prismatic View

For the eminent scientist Sir Nitin Basu, spending the summer of 1914 at a remote hill station in the Himalayas, the arrival of a single Danish woman - hired as his secretary by his sister didi - is as alarming as an invasion. Tall, fair, unconventional Miss Anna Hansen is a feminist, a woman ahead of her times, enjoying a year of travel before her marriage to an English diplomat. Before her short stay in Himapur is over, she will have come dangerously close to loving another man, stumbled on the evidence, she believes, of a secret crime, and been shaken by a violet and mysterious death. Making up the small European community in Himapur are the missionary Marlowe Croft, a bullying, obsessive man determined at all costs to build a Christian church in the hills; his shrill, foolish wife Lulu, the chief obstacle to his mission; and the district Magistrate Henry Brewster, an enigmatic figure, ill-at-ease with the imperial authority he represents. Deserted by his wife Stella, for whom ge gave up his dreams of a new political life in England, he is still consumed with love for her. Anna's fascination with rewster, her involvement in India's growing political unrest, lead her to reconsider her future, but a horrific accident and a startling find in a forest glade make it impossible for her to stay. Tormented by unanswered questions, Anna makes her plans for departure, as the intimate tragedies of Himapur are swept away by the cataclysm of war. Plans for Departure is both a love story and mystery, set in a continent poised for revolution and a world on the edge of war. Nayantara Sahgal has a written a new novel of haunting power and superb craftsmanship, rich in intrigue, gentle humour and exquisite observation.

This book on Nayantara Sahgal probes and analyses the social and political concern in her novels through broad critical resources, exploring the fundamentals of human experiences. The author has tried to give a comprehensive survey and fine critical discrimination of outer and inner realities in the novels of Nayantara Sahgal. Dividing into seven chapters the concept of freedom, the sociopolitical scenario of colonial and post colonial India, and feminism are the vital points of discussion in this book, which forms the matrix of her novels. The author has reflected in the book, the crude and garish climate, the silent past, the deafening feture, interpreting the nuances of various shades of assessment, in an exciting and absorbing manner, which makes this study of special relevance.

On the development of Indian English literary and textual practice over a period of seven decades

In 1932, Nurullah, a teacher aged twenty-three, comes to the city of Akbarabad. He teaches literature to first-years at the university and encounters a non-violent resistance movement against British rule. It seems to him a bizarre way for an occupied country to confront an empire in a violent unequal world - one more wrong turn, among others, that Indian history has taken.During the ten years from 1932 that he lives with a non-violent family in the 'national monument' that their doomed mansion has become, Akbarabad educates him in varied ways, leaving him stubbornly resistant to non-violence. The book ends in 1968 with a look-back and a reconsideration by the man Nurullah has now become.

'Seldom does one get a chance to become acquainted with India's great leaders through a young woman so intimately associated with them.'-New York Times Book

ReviewA dramatic portrait of the spirit of sacrifice that carried India through the years of the struggle for independence, this evocative memoir of an unusual childhood ends with the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi in 1948.Nayantara Sahgal describes what it was like growing up in Anand Bhavan, Allahabad, the home of her parents shared with her maternal uncle, Jawarlal Nehru, during the years when Gandhi was leading the movement for independence. It describes in loving detail the lives of a family for whom the country's fight for freedom was more important than anything else, certainly coming before comfort and riches.The book is particularly delightful for its picture of Nehru who springs from these pages as a man of friendly humanity and a joy in life that made him a beloved uncle, yet with an inborn greatness that inspired awe and admiration in the little girl who played with him.'She is brilliant...complex and questioning.' - Pearl S. Buck Rich Like UsHarper Collins

The Book Studies The Indian English Novelist`S Involvement With History. It Is Based On The Assumption That History-Fiction Connection Is Fascinating As Well As Culturally Significant.The First Two Chapters Discuss Theoretical, Methodological And Historical Issues Related To The History-Fiction Interface. Later Chapters Provide A Detailed Analysis Of The Novels Of M.R.Anand, Nayantara Sahgal, Salman Rushdie, Shashi Tharoor And O.V. Vijayan, To Illustrate The Whole Range Of The Variety In The Novelist`S Use Of History. Contributed essays.

On a train journey home to north India after long months of travel abroad, the playboy Bhushan Singh, son of the Raja of Vijaygarh, is arrested and thrown into jail. Charged with treason, Bhushan finds himself in a filthy prison cell surrounded by elderly trade unionists as innocent of any political crime, and a jittery government sees sedition under every stone. As they wait for the trial that never seems to come, Bhushan takes up the role of Scheherazade, enthralling his cell-mates with stories from his colourful past. He tells them of his boyhood affair with a beautiful Muslim girl that sparked off two murderous riots and led to his banishment abroad. He tells them of his life in the America of the Roaring twenties, of basking beside a turquoise swimming pool, learning the Turkey Trot and turning down the chance of a career as a movie star. Obsessed with his childhood love, unable to make any plans for his life except to find her again, Bhushan returns to India to become an exile nearer home in Mumbai. He becomes the friend and lover of Syllvia, a vibrant and modern Parsi girl, but even her energy and devotion are not enough to heal his wound. As news of violent world events penetrates the prison wall - civil was in Turkey, the rise of Mussoloni, Gandhi's salt March, mass arrests, the death of hunger-strikers in Lahore - Bhushan reaches the climax of his story: the monstrous trick he discovers fate has played on him, and the crime he can never forget. Full of mystery and gentle humour, Mistaken Identity is a story of love and obsession that brilliantly summons up the turmoil of India in the twilight years of empire

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About the Book : - Written by Nayantara Sahgal, prize-winning novelist and

political commentator, Jawaharlal Nehru presents an intimate view of the influences, encounters and defining historical moments that forged the vision of India s first prime minister. Drawing from the Nehru and the Vijayalakshmi Pandit Papers, and from Nehru s letters to Sahgal, his niece, this book combines history with personal recollections to show how Nehru helped navigate India s transition from a colony to an influential, modern nation. Discussing the significant issue of independent India s foreign policy characterized by the non-alignment principle and the establishment of relations with the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union and China Sahgal reveals much about Nehru s political astuteness, realism and aversion to rigid economic doctrines, as well as the profound impact India s non-aligned policy had on the world of the time. Perceptive, original and stimulating, Jawaharlal Nehru draws much-needed attention back to the man and his unmatched ability to engineer a consensus among seemingly irreconcilable sides. About the Author : - Nayantara Sahgal is the author of nine novels, five non-fiction works and wide-ranging literary and political commentary. She has received the Sahitya Akademi Award, the Sinclair Prize and the Commonwealth Writers Prize for Eurasia. She is a Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and has held fellowships in the United States at the Bunting Institute, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the National Humanities Center. A resident of Dehradun, she has been awarded the Doon Ratna, and has also received the Distinguished Alumna Award from Wellesley College, Massachusetts, in 2003 and from Woodstock School, Mussoorie, in 2004.

One of our most courageous and eloquent storytellers, Nayantara Sahgal's superb mastery over language and history make this bold new work a compelling story that is as disturbing as it is beautifully told. Prabhakar, returning home one evening, comes upon a corpse at a crossroads, naked but for the skullcap on his head. Days later, he listens to Katrina's stark retelling of a gang rape in a village, as chilling as only the account of a victim can be. And in a macabre sequence, he finds his favourite dhaba no longer serves gular kebabs and rumali roti, while Bonjour, the fine dining restaurant run by a gay couple, has been vandalised by goons. Casting a long shadow over it all is Mirajkar, the 'Master Mind', brilliant policy maker and political theorist, who is determined to rid the country of all elements alien to its culture--as he, and his partymen, perceive it. A professor of political science, Prabhakar observes these occurrences with deepening concern. Is the theory he put forth in his book--that it is not the influence of those who preach goodness and compassion that prevails, but the matter-of-factness of cruelty--playing out before him? In the midst of all this, he meets Katrina, beautiful, half-Russian, wearing the scars of a brutal incident as a badge of honour. Together, they discover that, even in times that are grim, there is joy to be had.

The Agent in the Margin: Nayantara Sahgal’s Gandhian Fiction is a comprehensive study of the literary works of Nayantara Sahgal, daughter of Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit—the first woman

president of the United Nations General Assembly—and niece of Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first prime minister. Clara A.B. Joseph introduces Mahatma Gandhi's political and philosophical to literary analysis and utilizes non-structuralist aspects of Louis Althusser's theories of ideology to trace how characters marginalized by gender, class, race, and language in Sahgal's work assume agency, challenging poststructuralist theories of cultural and ideological determinism. She considers how gender complicates autobiography and how the roles of daughter, virgin, wife, widow, and alien serve (often ironically) to highlight human dignity.

This unusually prescient novel is set in the early post-Independence years, when a new republic eagerly looks forward to a future full of hope. Rakesh, a Foreign Service officer who had grown up at a time when young men were ardent nationalists, returns to Delhi after a six-year absence to find many changes. He meets the new Advisor on Foreign Affairs, the controversial Kalyan Sinha, and is once again drawn to the magnetic personality of the politician whose ruthless manipulations are, in a way, a precursor to the moral corruption of the years to come. Vintage Sahgal, This Time of Morning is a riveting work of fiction that captures the realities of a country in transition.

India has changed. Rehana finds her father's books on medieval history have been 'disappeared' from bookstores and libraries. Her young domestic help, Abdul, discovers it is safer to be called Morari Lal in the street, but there is no such protection from vigilante fury for his Dalit friend, Suraj. Kamlesh, a diplomat and writer, comes up against official wrath for his anti-war views. A bomb goes off at Cyrus Batliwala's gallery on the opening day of an art show. Presiding over this new world is the Director of Cultural Transformation, whose smiling affability masks a relentless agenda to create a Hindu master race. In this atmosphere, Rehana and her three book-club friends, Nandini, Aruna and Lily, meet every week to discuss a book one of them has chosen--their oasis of peace amidst the harshness of reality--even as Rehana's German friend, Franz Rohner, haunted by his country's Nazi past, warns her of what is to come. All revolutions, he wryly observes, follow the same path. But is India about to prove him wrong? In this brilliant, dystopian satire, Nayantara Sahgal draws a telling portrait of our times.

On the novels of Nayantara Sahgal (Pandit), b. 1927, Indo-English woman novelist.

Presents a comprehensive study of the literary works of Nayantara Sahgal, daughter of Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit - the first woman president of the United Nations General Assembly - and niece of Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first prime minister. This book places the literary works of Sahgal within the circle of significance of Gandhi for literary studies. This is a comprehensive study of the literary works of Nayantara Sahgal, daughter of Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit - the first woman president of the United Nations General Assembly - and niece of Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first prime minister. Clara A. B. Joseph introduces the political and philosophical thought of Mahatma Gandhi to literary analysis and investigates theories on ideology by Louis Althusser to trace how characters marginalised by gender, class, race, and language in Sahgal's work assume agency, challenging post-structuralist theories of cultural and ideological determinism. She considers how gender complicates autobiography and how the roles of daughter, virgin, wife, widow, and alien serve (often ironically) to highlight human dignity."The Agent in the Margin", through both close and symptomatic readings of literary and critical narratives, points to non-structuralist aspects of Althusser's theory of ideology that, in turn, indicate a role for agency. Joseph situates the complete literary works of Sahgal within the circle of significance of Gandhi for literary studies. This book will be relevant to readers interested in South Asian studies, gender studies, race studies, Gandhi studies, literary and cultural theory, and postcolonial studies.

Through the last five decades, Nayantara Sahgal has constantly responded to the changes that enveloped India and the world through her wide-ranging works of fiction and non-fiction. This book collects her writings and lectures on subjects ranging from literature and the arts to

international relations and imperialism, written through some of Indias most turbulent phases- Independence, the Emergency, globalization, terrorism. Her astute social commentary is laced with personal wisdom that comes from first-hand knowledge of Indian politics and diplomacy. Known for her refusal to compromise with attempts to subvert modern India's democratic and multicultural tradition, Sahgal has watched some of Indias most historic moments unfold in her own backyard and has always appraised the situation with a critical eye and analytical acumen. The Political Imagination draws from Sahgals rich body of work and includes letters and commendations written to her that have never been published before. Combining public history with personal reflections, Sahgal reveals the politics of her own imagination in this collection of her most culturally insightful and socially conscious writings.

&Lsquo;She Missed The Sense Of Values Shivraj Had Planted Like Roses With His Two Hands. It Was Their Fragrance, Something As Ephemeral As That, That Had Bound The Country Together In A Unity, Not Any Hidebound Principle Or Rule From A Book.&Rsquo; Shivraj Is Dead And With Him The Values With Which He Had Governed The Country For Over A Decade. While His Successors Destroy The Idealistic World He Had Built, Shivraj&Rsquo;S Circle Of Intimate Friends&Mdash;His Sister Devi, The Education Minister; Usman Ali, Vice Chancellor Of Delhi University; And Michael Calvert, An English Writer&Mdash;Struggle To Find Order In The Chaos, Even As Rishad, Devi&Rsquo;S Son, Loses Himself In It. Juxtaposing The Conflict Of Personal Relationships With The Larger Canvas Of Corrupt Politics In A Situation In New Delhi, Nayantara Sahgal Masterfully Weaves A Tale That Grips The Reader From Start To Finish. &Lsquo;A Brilliant And Provocative Piece Of Fact-Based Fiction&Rsquo;&Mdash;Financial Times &Lsquo;A Moving, Even Inspiring Novel&Rsquo;&Mdash;Sunday Times

New Delhi, one month after the declaration of the Emergency, is the setting for Nayantara Sahgal's novel Rich Like Us, an ironic, tender and exquisitely crafted study of India and its people in the aftermath of Independence. The Emergency in India meant many things to many people - profit and power for some; jail for others; mobile vasectomy clinics for thousands more. For idealistics like Sonali it meant the end of a dream, the extinguishing of a bright flame of promise for the country's future that had burned since Independence. An unmarried woman, proud of her senior ranking in the civil service, she finds herself demoted and humiliated through a corrupt deal at governmental level. For opportunists like Dev, a beneficiary of the deal, it means a chance to quite his ailing father's business and make it on his own as a leader of the New Entrepreneurs. Sonali's colleague, Ravi Kachru, once a passionate Marxist, makes himself indispensable to the "royal line". Meanwhile, the stubborn shopkeeper, Kishori Lal, bloodied survivor of Partition, lands in a filthy prison cell for a non-existent crime. Rich Like Us is many individual histories, and many voices, in one - a compelling and vivid tapestry of India's past and present. Above all it is the story of Rose the cockney memsahib, brought by the worldly Ram from London forty years before to a family that neither wants nor welcomes her. In Nayantara Sahgal's tale, with its humour and tragedy, is mirrored some of the grandeur and folly of the Indian experience itself.

A Time To Be Happy: A Novel is a story about people of the upper middle class in the India that was struggling for, achieving, and then testing independence on one level it is a charming, intimate family chronicle; on another it is a comedy of manners a Shashi Deshpande, b. 1938, Indian English novelist.

How did Indira Gandhi reach the pinnacle of Indian politics? Did India move away from

freedom under her leadership? What kind of woman was she? Indira Gandhi made unorthodox use of power and possessed a highly individual style of functioning. In this book, Nayantara Sahgal persuasively argues that authoritarianism was the inevitable outcome of Indira's personality and temperament. Her leadership marked a drastic break with the democratic tradition of her family and of Indian politics. During her regime, the political landscape of India underwent profound changes.The Emergency of 1975–77 was used to promote her son Sanjay as her ultimate successor. The entry of her elder son, Rajiv, into politics after Sanjay's death, and his immediate political prominence showcased Indira's essential belief in her family's right to rule. Nayantara Sahgal's personal knowledge of her cousin, in combination with her unparalleled access to letters exchanged between Nehru and her mother,Vijaylakshmi Pandit, makes for an unusually penetrating psychological and political portrait from an intimate family viewpoint.

Neurosis Reminds Us Of The Fact That There Is A Seamy Side To Our Civilization. Society Compels Every Individual To Repress Instinctual Urges And The Desire For The Free Exercise Of Will, All In The Name Of Upholding Its Ideals And Expectations Which Are Very Often Oppressive And Anti-Human. If The Individual Is Too Ill-Equipped To Oppose The Societal Sanctions Openly He Or She Will Find An Alternative In Neurosis Because It Is A Form Of Protest Among Other Things. Neurosis Is Thus Invested With Profound Psychological And Social Significance. It Is Basically Subversive.Indian Society Continues To Be Rigid And Conservative And The Repression One Has To Put Up With Is Often Very Severe. Women Especially Bear The Brunt Of It As The Social Norms And Moral Codes Are Heavily Loaded Against Them.It Is Against This Background That Some Of The Indian Women Novelists In English Have Fictionally Treated The Neurotic Suffering Of Susceptible Characters. Through This Fictional Endeavour They Seem To Underscore The Need For Subverting The Present Oppressive Value System In Order To Make Way For A Humane Social Order.This Book Proposes To Discuss The Neurotic Characters Of The Indian Women Novelists In The Light Of Freudian And Post-Freudian Psychoanalysis Which Has Equipped The Modern Literary Critic With Remarkable Knowledge Of The Inner Struggles Of Literary Characters And Other Aspects Of The Literary Product. The Novels Studied Here Are: Anita Desai S Cry, The Peacock And Where Shall We Go This Summer?, Bharati Mukherjee S Wife, Kamala Markandaya S A Silence Of Desire, Shashi Deshpande S That Long Silence, Ruth Prawer Jhabvala S Get Ready For Battle, Nergis Dalal S The Inner Door And Nayantara Sahgal S The Day In Shadow. Apart From This, The Book Contains A Chapter And An Appendix Which Prespectivise And Discuss In Detail Freudian Psychoanalysis, Characters And Neurosis, And Indian Women Novelists In English.Psychoanalytic Critical Study Of Literary Works Is Limited To A Few Stray Articles In India. This Book Is, In Fact, The First Full-Length Psychoanalytic Critical Study Of Indian Fiction In English.

In this exchange of letters dating from an extremely turbulent period of their lives, Nayantara Sahgal and E.N. Mangat Rai, two very public figures who had remained at the same time intensely private, broke their self-imposed silence for the first time.When Relationship was first published in 1994, it was received with varying degrees of shock and appreciation. This newly revised edition includes all of the correspondence carried in the previous one, with a short but significant addition: Diary from Chandigarh is an

honest and often emotionally wrenching account of Nayantara's life with her husband and children before the break-up.Both the diary and the letters highlight one woman's endeavour to remain true to herself, her writing, her ideals and relationships, both outside and within marriage. They speak of a growing and passionate involvement, of the author's joy and pain at discovering an intellectual companionship while recognizing the difficulties of keeping such a relationship alive. They reflect too, on the dilemmas and compulsions that bind men and women into particular relationships, and the exigencies of public life and its implications for the private sphere.A mirror of the times when a kind of idealism and commitment still seemed possible, Relationship gives the reader an insight into the life and thoughts of one of India's most successful writers, and one of the most distinguished civil servants of his generation

&Lsquo;India, Once A Uniform Piece Of Territory To Administer, Was Now A Welter Of Separate, Sensitive Identities, Resurrected After Independence.&Rsquo; As The Quarrel Over Boundaries, Water And Electric Power Between Punjab And The Newly Created Haryana Intensifies, Gyan Singh, The Chief Minister Of Punjab, Threatens To Launch A Crippling Strike That Will Affect Both States. With The Chief Minister Of Haryana, Harpal Singh, Refusing To Concede Any Advantages, The Stage Is Set For A Confrontation. It Is At This Point That Vishal Dubey, The Centre&Rsquo;S Most Able Bureaucrat, Is Sent To Chandigarh To Alleviate The Situation. As He Tries To Resolve The Chaos In The Common Capital, Vishal Finds Himself Drawn Into The Lives Of Two Couples&Mdash;Jit And Mara And Inder And Saroj&Mdash;And The Small Dramas And Casual Betrayals That Are A Universal Feature Of Human Relationships. Storm In Chandigarh Demonstrates Nayantara Sahgal&Rsquo;S Keen Understanding Of Individual Relationships And Her Remarkable Ability To Tell Stories That Continue To Enthrall Readers Over The Years.

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