



Music: A Fundamental Component in Amit Chaudhuri's *The Immortals*

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Abstract

Indian popular art culture is blending ragas with soul to quench the thirst of divine discipline. Music has been accepted with a purity of heart that cannot be found in any other culture other than our own. Amit Chaudhuri's intention in expressing such a valuable subject in his own artistic way makes us realise the true value of ragas and, ultimately, the true values of our lives. The ability of the writer here grows to a higher level. It is due to his knowledge of music as well as his ability to perceive minute details about life and music. This paper analyses how he juxtaposes the elite-class and the middle-class lives in order to show their life style.

Key Words: music, culture, tradition, mortal, classic.

Amit Chaudhuri is not just a novelist but also a classical singer, academic and critic; he is one of the India's most characteristic fictional figures. While lesser writers obsess over the heat and dust, he charts the by-ways of the Indian soul. *The Immortals* is an important novel of Amit Chaudhuri. Shyam Lal is a notable music teacher, trained by his father in the classical music but merrily engaged in teaching the popular songs for modern woman. Sixteen-year-old Nirmalya Sengupta is the romantically rebellious implant of a rich family who wants to study Indian classical music only. When Nirmalya's mother requested a lot Shyam agrees to accept Nirmalya as his student. The novel is set in Bombay during the 1970s and early 1980s. It highlights the history of two families, one is covered in corporate riches and the other existing on its musical tradition. Mallika Sengupta, married to a highly executive, has never followed a career in music but her musical interests are more than the casual hobby of a rich woman. As the novel give details of, we see how the families of Nirmalya and Sham come to challenge and change each other, and how student and teacher slowly mesh their differing visions of the world and what place music have taken in the novel *The Immortals* explains

about an incandescent representation of the religious and emotional force of a revered Indian tradition and culture of two basically dissimilar but intricately entangled families, and of a society choosing between the old and the new.

In this novel, we may find the flavour of values mixed with Bengali sensitivity. Music has always been a fundamental part of human culture—not only Bengali culture, but all of our traditions—ever since man first became conscious. It is the first language that came into being out of the heart and expressed itself through the tongue; it touches the listener's heart and acts as a channel for communication between two hearts and souls. It takes us to the spiritual world and connects us to God. The heavenly can be easily accessed with the help of music. Amit Chaudhuri seeks to make sense of this and makes a connection to the complexity of contemporary life. Our classical music has an eternal quality that is quite enticing, and a solution can be found.

Two families from two different social classes are shown in *The Immortals*. The first is a very affluent segment of modern business, while the second is a typical, traditional family with a musical background. It's a well-known fact that music connects everything in the world, and this story is no exception. Fresh experiments and the rise of new trends in many sectors of Indian life occurred in Bombay during the 1970s and 1980s. The main character of the novel, Bengali and bourgeois Mallika Sengupta, is the wife of a significant man from Rajasthan.

The music industry's psychology can be evaluated by Chaudhuri because he is a musician. He can therefore both determine people's genuine thoughts about music and measure their partial interest in it. Nirmalya Sengupta is a significant figure who underscores Nirmalya Sengupta's importance and supports Chaudhuri's main point. The preference of a young boy of a corporate father is to experience music on his own terms. Classical music is his favourite. He appreciates music for the sake of genuine art and opposes his mother Mallika's use of art for profit. "Nirmalaya has never known want; and so he couldn't understand those who said, or implied, they couldn't do without what they already had" (45).

The controlled negotiation in "*The Immortals*" explores the relationship between art and commerce. The article provides readers with plenty of opportunities to debate the real relationship between these two traits. It provides a lovely analysis of music and what is frequently referred to as an observation of daily life. The theme is centred on Nirmalya's convictions because she has a keen eye for the authentic study of art. In order to produce a harmonious theme flow and convey his deep love for music, Chaudhuri tries to limit Young Nirmalya's inflexible mindset.

A character named Guru Shyamji, a Brahmin teacher who makes a fortune by instructing affluent students and giving music lessons, appears in this thinking. He was regarded as a skilled classical musician. Shyamaji is well aware of the importance of music in society, but he also thinks about how to endure in a hostile atmosphere. People are attracted to the world of the muse by the success of hand music, the Hollywood film business, and classical gatherings where music is a fashionable element. Shyamji had to limit his artistic prowess due of the public's emotional response to movie songs.

The story causes Shyamji switch between his interests in music and fashion. Mallika, who has a beautiful voice, is on one side and Nirmalaya, her son, is on the other, both of them arguing for a special bond with music. Chaudhuri's interest in showing is elevated by concentrating on the space between these diversions.

As Mallika seeks fame and Nirmalaya seeks entry into the unique world of music, it makes us think about the connection between art and beginnings. Music is entirely a matter of reputation for Mallika. She aspires to maintain the status that comes with being the successful executive's wife. The piece we want to get for an exhibition has a lot of small, fragmented defects like this. Shyam Lal is one of the many professors who teaches Mallika music.

Shyamji deals in the musical currency of the day the songs with which middle class faithful, hardworking husbands and vacuous housewife expressed its dreams Classical music, he gently points out, cant he practiced on an empty stomach (88).

Guru Shyamji is perplexed by Nirmalya's perspective when he wants her to teach classical music. Despite his best efforts, Shyamji is unable to alter the young man's perception of the little boy who wanders the streets of Bombay in a torn kurta, carrying a well-read copy of Will Durant's *Story of Philosophy*, and reflecting on the principles of art.

This novel examines the connections between ability, initiative, ambition, success, failure, and dissatisfaction against the backdrop of the fading world of classical Indian music. It describes the lavish lifestyle of the business class as well as a talented music teacher moving between Bombay apartments. Despite being a highly successful professional vocalist and musician, Chaudhuri has little desire when it comes to writing in English. We find a man who doesn't want to have courage to face serious issues in real life in Shyamaji. Additionally, Chaudhuri tries to relate the novel's premise to current affairs. Those Who Last, or He talks a lot about the clash between the east and the west and the integrity of art.

The main character, Nirmalya, is obsessed with music and disapproves of how art ought to relate to contemporary culture. He turns to studying philosophy after learning that the master of music is no longer alive and that his philosophical strategy has not been able to address the causes of his mounting worries. He travels to England to get a degree in philosophy but declines to pick up either rock or fusion music, leaving him without a career in the area he adores. He criticises the practises of his mother and his teacher Shyamji, who have a mechanistic perspective of music.

Thus, Chaudhuri is correct in asserting the views of Heraclitus, "The mortals become immortals; the immortls become mortals". Aiming for the purity of music in the exquisite Indian art and culture, the novel is important for adopting the broader themes, exploring numerous topics, the status of contemporary life, living from both a middle class and commercial class perspective.

Work Cited

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