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THIRD SPACE AND CULTURAL COLLISION IN BHARATI MUKHERJEE'S *WIFE*



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ABSTRACT

The world is shrinking into global village. Migration and immigration has led to melt the differences of various communities, race, class and religion to form one entity and frame the phrase of University in Diversity. For America it is well known as Melting Pot. The postcolonial diaspora of the mid – to the late twentieth century forms an important dimension of the postcolonial engagement with the globalization of cultures. It aims to deal with hybridity and globalized culture.

With the advent of Science and Technology, people have started migrating to different countries in order to achieve their aims and ambitions. Indians in considerable numbers have migrated to the U.S. after the liberalized 1965 Immigration Act to fulfill their dreams. The post - 1965 Indian

immigrants are educated, middle class professional and have trended to develop inter-cultural and inter-racial awareness.

The Indian-born, Bengali origin, American Novelist Bharati Mukherjee's novel *Wife* is the story of a young Indian woman who experiences cultural conflict both in and out of her own culture. This paper will shed light on the inter section of Western and Indian sub continental cultures with in the third space and the impact of cultural collisions on the character. It will further explore the drastic outcome of cross cultural confrontation of Dimple's inner struggle of identity in the context of her immigrant status ultimately resulting tragic response to loneliness and alienation, non-adaptability, and non-assimilation.

KEYWORDS

Indian culture, Americanization, Alienation, Identity, Third Space