

Chapter 50

Indian Women Novelists

Indian women novelists have given a new dimension to the Indian literature. Indian English literature has developed over a period of time and writing in English did not start in a day. Indian literature is not only about novels, it is also about poetries and short stories.

Read the description and identify the novelist, write the corresponding number in space given along the picture.

1. **Sarojini Naidu :** She was the first Indian woman to become the President of the Indian National Congress and the first woman to become the governor of a state in India. Her collection of poetry was published in 1905 under the title "Golden Threshold". She published two other collections, "The Bird of Time", and "The Broken Wings". Afterwards, "The Magic Tree", "The Wizard Mask", and "A Treasury of Poems" were published. In most of her poems she induces the spirit of nationalism.
2. **Arundhati Roy :** Arundhati Roy is one of the most celebrated authors of India, best known for her novel 'The God of Small Things'. The novel won the 1997 Booker Prize for fiction and it was one of the best selling books at that time. She was awarded with the 'Sahitya Akademy Award' in 2006, for her collection of essays, 'The Algebra of Infinite Justice' but she refused to accept it.
3. **Jhumpa Lahiri :** She has achieved international applause for her writing which mainly deals with Non-resident Indian characters, refugee issues and problems people face in overseas lands. Mira Nair directed a film based on her first novel 'The Namesake' in 2006. Her book 'The Lowland' was a nominee for the 2013 Man Booker Prize and the National Book Award for Fiction.
4. **Kamala Das :** She is considered as the mother of contemporary Indian English Poetry. Her first book of poetry; 'Summer in Calcutta' was famous in Indian English poetry. She was nominated and shortlisted for the Nobel Prize in 1984. She was awarded with the 'Sahitya Akademy Award', 'Kerala Sahitya Akademy Award', 'Kent Award' for English Writing from Asian Countries' and many more.
5. **Anita Desai :** She is one of the most reputed writers of India and was nominated for the Booker Prize at least three times. She was awarded with the esteemed Sahitya Academy Award in 1978 for her novel 'Fire on the Mountain' and the Padma Bhushan in 2014 for her contribution to Indian Literature.'
6. **Shobha Rajadhyaksha :** Also known as Shobhaa De, she is an Indian columnist and novelist. She has come to be celebrated as the 'Jackie Collins of India". She mostly deals with the issues concerning contemporary society. She also focuses on the different faces of the metropolitan Indian society.
7. **Indira Goswami :** She was honoured with the 'Jnanpith Award', which is the highest literary honour. Her work focuses on women and different aspects of Assamese society. Her most famous works are 'Pages Stained with Blood' and 'The Moth Eaten Howdah of Tusker'.
8. **Kiran Desai :** The second Indian to win a Booker Prize in 2006, for her book "The Inheritance of Loss", Kiran Desai also won enthusiastic reviews for her debut novel, "Hullabaloo in the Guava Richard." She is the daughter of Anita Desai and her work is motivated by globalization.

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9. **Shashi Deshpande :** She is an award winning Indian novelist best known for her book 'That Long Silence'. She won the 'Sahitya Akademi Award' for the novel 'That Long Silence' in 1990 and the Padma Shri award in 2009.

(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)



(e)



(f)



(g)



(h)



(i)



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