

Narrativity in Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Interpreter of Maladies*

Amitha P Mani

Assistant professor

Department of English

MES Asmabi College, P Vemballur

Abstract

Indian Writing in English which began during the reign of the British now flourished into its full fledged form and has developed an independent nature. The fact that these literatures are being read and enjoyed not only by the native Indians, but also by the foreigners as well is an evidence for this. Modern Indian writers are vigilant to portray Indian experience of the new predicaments, besides the reflection of Indian culture, tradition and social values. Most of the female Indian writers are known for their bold views that are reflected in their works. Jhumpa Lahiri is a prominent Indian writer in English who won accolades all over the world. Narrativity is a major aspect of narratology which became more effective because of the protean quality it upholds. In Jhumpa Lahiri's *Interpreter of Maladies* the stories address sensitive dilemmas in the lives of Indians, especially Indian immigrants, with themes such as marital difficulties and the difference between first and second generation United States immigrants. The three stories *When Mr Pirzada Came to Dine*, *Mrs. Sen* and *The Third and Final Continent*, out of the nine in the short stories collection *Interpreter of Maladies* are taken into account to consider the narrativity.

Indian Women writers have given a new dimension to Indian English literature. Women writers brought a distinct pattern in the whole context of Indian writing. *Interpreter of Maladies (IM)* sold more than fifty thousand copies and received the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. Lahiri's writing is often characterized by the Indian immigrants in America who have to encounter the cultural values of their homeland and their new land.

Immigration to the United States, a society in which male and female roles are more fluidly defined traditional social values under stress. It follows that this development has affected

