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Caste Hierarchy and its Representation in Mulk Raj Anand's Fiction

Rakesh Kujur¹ and Dr. Udita Rajput²

¹Research Scholar, Department of English ²Assistant Professor, Department of English Sunrise University, Alwar, Rajasthan, India

Abstract: This paper critically examines the representation of caste hierarchy in the works of Mulk Raj Anand, one of the foremost Indian English novelists of the twentieth century. Anand's fiction, particularly novels such as Untouchable (1935), Coolie (1936), and The Big Heart (1945), exposes the brutal realities of caste oppression, social inequality, and human suffering in colonial India. Through his humanistic vision, Anand not only critiques the social structure but also provides a voice to the marginalized, making his works both literary and socio-political documents. Mulk Raj Anand, one of the pioneering figures of Indian English literature, occupies a crucial place in the discourse on social realism through his unflinching portrayal of caste hierarchy and its oppressive mechanisms

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