

## DIASPORIC CRISIS OF DUAL IDENTITY IN JHUMPA LAHIRI'S *THE NAMESAKE*

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### ABSTRACT

In the age of globalization, the issues of diaspora, transnationalism, hybridity, cultural mongrelization, identity crisis continuously enrich the diasporic literatures of the twenty first century. Topographical shifting, cultural transaction, multiculturalism, and fluid identity form a complex framework in the field of global migration. The diasporic elements are recurrent themes in the writings of Salman Rushdie, Amitav Ghosh, V. S. Naipaul, Kiran Desai, Bharti Mukherjee, Jhumpa Lahiri and many others. Normally, diaspora fiction lingers over alienation, loneliness, rootlessness, homelessness, nostalgia, protest, assertions and the quest for identity. It also addresses issues related to amalgamation or disintegration of cultures, discriminating margins of two different social milieus, internalizing nostalgia and suffering a forced amnesia. Jhumpa Lahiri is a strong voice of Indian diaspora in America. She takes up the issue of the impact of expatriation and immigration on the complexities of life as pitched against divergent ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds. In her debut novel, *The Namesake* (2003), she handles these complexities of the immigrants' experiences in a lucid manner.

**Keywords:** Diaspora, multiculturalism, nostalgia, immigration, divergent.