

Humour, Horror and Story: A Study of Style in Aravind Adiga's *The White Tiger*

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Abstract:

Humour as a generic term is used pervasively to signify all that creates laughter and lends amusement. Both life and literature are marked and enriched by the element of humour in their own ways. So far as literature is concerned, humour as a means of providing pleasure has been one of its pre-requisite conditions existing along with its cognitive objectives. It is with this sense that comedy and other forms of literature with comic element prevailed. But, when humour is employed as an instrument to portray the ugliest realities of societies, and hence, the profoundest worries of people thereof, it becomes imperative to rethink of Aristotelian notion of 'mimetic art' which maintains that comedy 'consists in some defect or ugliness which is not painful or destructive. To take an obvious example, the comic mask is ugly and distorted, but does not imply pain.' In a contemporary global world marked as much by technological wonder and the so called development born thereof as the ever horrendous rich-poor divide of people, this irreverent weapon for the representation of ironic predicament of life has emerged even more potentially to bring out some of the best stories ever so. *The White Tiger*, the prestigious Booker winner debut novel by AravindAdiga is one of the best specimens of literary performances in the very first decade of the twenty first century to have employed humour as style to lend a scathing depiction of rampant corruption, hilarious beliefs and nasty practices of India as a developing country. The paper titled "**Humour, Horror and Story: A Study of Style in AravindAdiga's*The White Tiger***" delves deep into the inner recesses of society and brings out therefrom the anomalies, incongruities and discrepancies and present them through his style of humour.

Keywords:Humour, horror, style, dark, black, sardonic, irony, ambivalence, story.

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