

CALL FOR PAPERS

A full-length novel written by a citizen of the Commonwealth, the Republic of Ireland or Zimbabwe is eligible for the Booker Prize. The reputation of the prize is sure to transform the fortunes of the author who receives it. This prestigious prize has been won by four Indians: Salman Rushdie (*Midnight's Children*, 1981), Arundhati Roy (*The God of Small Things*, 1997), Kiran Desai (*The Inheritance of Loss*, 2006) and Aravind Adiga (*The White Tiger*, 2008). With these awards Indian Writing in English (IWE) has become a force to be reckoned with. The present anthology of critical essays proposes to analyze the above Booker-winning novels and the general subject of the Booker and India. The title of the anthology will be *The Booker Prize and India*.

Previously unpublished research papers are invited from scholars. The following will be considered as falling within the scope of this project:

- papers on any of the four novels;
- comparative studies involving these novels with other works by their authors or works by other IWE writers;
- papers on other IWE works that were longlisted or shortlisted for the Booker;
- general studies on the subject of “the Booker and India.”

Papers should be marked by sharp critical acumen and analyze the novels in the light of contemporary critical thought.

The deadline for the submission of papers is August 31, 2009.

Papers may be sent to Dr. Nilanshu Kumar Agarwal—Senior Lecturer in English, Feroze Gandhi College, Rae Bareilly (U.P.), India—at the following email address: nilanshu1973@yahoo.com

Children of Midnight: Indian English Novelists of 1981 and After

The publication of Rushdie's *Midnight's Children* in 1981 assertively changed the fate of Indian English fiction. It has now become a force to count with. New explorations in the narrative technique in addition to a great variety of themes have made it sure that this creativity has left its indelible impression on the world literary map. The novelists since *Midnight's Children* have struck diverse notes in their novels. There is a greater deciphering of the individual's alienated soul in the world. Marooned colonized/feminine/weak/Dalit/queer individual struggling against the colonial/patriarchal/powerful/Brahmin/white/orthodox market forces is the favourite subject of the fiction-writers. The masters of Post-1981 Indian English fiction have exerted themselves to present the inner emotional ripples of their characters. It is not that the earlier novelists' voice was mute to the interior struggles of the individual. Nevertheless, contemporary voices are more vocal in expressing the inner torments of the marginalized and their murmurings are taken more seriously the world over. The novel has moved from homogeneity of themes and techniques to heterogeneity of subjects and methodology. There is an evolution from the simple to the complex.

The present anthology of critical research papers which will be entitled *Children of Midnight: Indian English Novelists of 1981 and After* seeks to explore the works of major Indian English fiction writers published since 1981. Previously unpublished research papers on the subject are invited. Please follow the latest edition of the MLA stylesheet for citation purposes, with references given in parenthetical form in the text and a *Works cited* at the end. Papers should be marked by a sharp critical acumen and analyze the novels in the light of contemporary critical thought.

Papers together with a brief bioprofile should be sent to Dr. Nilanshu Kumar Agarwal {Feroze Gandhi College Rae Bareilly U.P., India, nilanshu1973@yahoo.com) and/or to Dr. Ludmila Volna (Charles University Prague, Czech Republic, <ludmila.volna@free.fr>) before 31 October 2009.