

**FEMINISTIC APPROACH IN MANJU KAPUR'S NOVEL WITH  
COMPARISON TO TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE**

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**Abstract**

This essay gives information on the history of travel and adventure in contrast to the female views of the characters in a few Manju Kapur books. Here, various facets of the feminine perspective are described. Solo travel is related to self-discovery and identity, while ecotourism is compared to the responsibility of the individual in maintaining their individuality and self-care. In contrast to financial independence and expenses associated with traveling to other locations, the third form of tourism focuses on women entrepreneurs in the travel industry.

**Keywords:** adventure, feminine, self discovery, responsibility, women entrepreneurs.

Due to their passion for travel and new experiences, female entrepreneurs start successful travel businesses. The company's female founder only selects female employees to work alongside them. They assemble female groups from various locations for the various positions in their business. This demonstrates the holistic viewpoints of female founders who wanted to

empower women in their line of work. To accommodate the needs of the travelers, the travel agency organizes vacations exclusively for ladies.

According to a few studies Prameela cited, Prameela's perplexing opinion about the undervalued position of women in the travel and adventure genre stems from the fact that women are still marginalized in society. the steps taken by female business owners to advance women's lives and improve expeditions led by women. (Prameela) During their vacation trip period, Astha in Manju Kapur's book *A Married Woman* needs this kind of situational improvement.

Astha feels burdened by the money she spent on her favorite souvenir, and she questions why she made the purchase. Astha is not permitted to pursue her holiday plans or make the purchase of the item she adored. Astha is not the only woman in this circumstance; many other women who are subjected to patriarchal rules also experience it. Not just in terms of fundamental identity, but also in terms of an adventurous lifestyle for better social norms, women's empowerment is essential.

The travel agencies managed by women serve as the first illustration of these exciting advantages. The travel agency cited by Parmeela, Earth's Edge, is credited with leading the first ever all-female expedition to Mount Kilimanjaro. Following the climb of Kilimanjaro in 2022, the other journey is entirely planned and managed by women, including the porters and guides. With visitors from an all-women group, a trip to Tanzania was organized just for girls. (Prameela)

The promises made by the travel agency to individuals who are traveling and those who want to travel are intended to inspire. They contrast the voyage, the mountains as the difficulties, and the storms as the challenges of the ladies. The travel agency prefers that ladies conquer all of the obstacles in their way, such as mountains and storms, in order to live happy lives. They believe that diverse categories of age, language, and living style of women can explore the world in distinctive ways (qtd. in Prameela).

Then a tour agency appears, proclaiming itself to be "of the mountains, by the mountains, and for the mountains" in the words of Abraham Lincoln. (Prameela) The travel lifestyle is seen as a lifesaving procedure by Bohemian Adventures. They consider the mountain to be their destined home so that they can create wonderful memories there. Every mountain hike and

journey includes a glimpse of the mountain house where they spend their leisure time and a favorable economic situation. They pick locals to be their tour guides so they can explore more effectively and stay in their homes while traveling. (Prameela)

With the aid of a team of all-female employees at their travel agency in Vietnam, Sapa Sisters are specialized with their familiar course of routes on hill highways. In the travel agency, the opposing team operates under sound guidelines. Ladakhi Women's Travel Company opens up opportunities for tourists to experience the native cuisine and culture. The travel agency enjoys a good reputation for its commitment to protecting local wildlife and flora while also ensuring the safety of tourists. (Prameela)

Sharma shows solitary travelers the way by encouraging them to explore both their travel routes and their own life positions as they go. Solo travelers encounter obstacles, self-discovery, and life-changing events. The journey triggers a display of feelings that the person eventually forgets. The play begins with a range of emotions before contrasting them with uplifting moments. (Sharma)

Nina serves as the protagonist of the plot in Manju Kapur's book *The Immigrant*. When she loses everything that is closest to her emotions, she initially experiences loneliness on the voyage. Because of her boyfriend's rape, she no longer has faith in him. The loss of Nina's mother has greatly contributed to her feeling out of place in the world. The third incident involving the revelation of Nina's husband's extramarital affair emotionally destroys Nina. Her emotions are brought on by the voyage that follows the incident.

This originally illustrates how lonely she felt when traveling alone. Later, Nina is aware of the challenges the traditional way of life presents to her. She is more inclined to lead a traditional lifestyle thanks to her mother, and she views it as an unnecessary burden. Her emotional conflict is slightly exacerbated by the betrayal of both her spouse and her boyfriend. Nina began to feel helpless as a result of relying on males to uphold customary conventions.

In the third order, the positive part of the emotion manifests, which causes Nina to become even more powerful. Nina encourages herself to be fearless and rejects her husband's usual tie in favor of a solo trip. The self-discovery she experiences when traveling alone gives

her emotional strength, which helps her make better job decisions. Making the individual's private time helps them assess their initial stage of development.

With the help of the International Ecotourism Society, Patnaik defines ecotourism as responsible tourism. According to him, the goal of ecotourism is to bring together conservatives who value the environment and feel accountable for their actions. He also makes reference to the World Tourism Organization's (UNTWO) position on ecotourism as a kind of travel. The purpose of ecotourism is to appreciate and observe nature, according to Patnaik's source. They also refer to fostering the residents' natural ecosystems as their uniqueness. (Patnaik)

The other goal of ecotourism is to show how economic arrangements might be made in a different way to increase communities' prospects for employment. "responsible travel that conserves the environment and improves the well being of local people" (Patnaik) Ecotourism plays a crucial role in raising awareness of the need to safeguard natural resources among both residents and visitors. Because Patnaik thinks that protecting the natural habitat improves the quality of their existence. (Patnaik)

The individual In Manju Kapur's novel *Custody*, Shagun feels as though her existence is being drained away in the name of patriarchal standards. Shagun believes that following her natural instincts in terms of her job is just as vital as showing compassion for others. Shagun understands that it is her obligation to advance her career. She wants to be knowledgeable about the chances to advance her career. Shagun thought that protecting her natural feelings and living a life outside of the norm would lead to happiness in her life.

Many different types of travel and adventure uncover a wide range of feelings from a feminist perspective. The journey and adventure are beautifully matched with Manju Kapur's characters. Women's entrepreneurship in the tourism industry is influenced by Astha's profession and financial decisions in Manju Kapur's novel *A Married Woman*. In Manju Kapur's novel *The Immigrant*, Nina experiences a period of self-discovery while traveling alone in a space. Shagun discovers the importance of taking care of oneself, protecting one's inherent impulses, and maintaining one's identity in Manju Kapur's novel *Custody*.

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