



RESEARCH PAPER**The Social and Psychological Impact of Migration upon Individual Life as Portrayed by Mohsin Hamid in His Novel *Exit West***

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this research paper is to examine various social and psychological aspects of migration in Mohsin Hamid's *Exit West*. Utilizing qualitative research methods, such as thematic and narrative analysis, the study highlights the ways in which Hamid's work supersedes xenophobic stereotypes and evokes empathy instead. This paper tries to achieve the goals to explain the paradox of racism and multiculturalism in *Exit West* so that the stereotypical image of migrants may be limited; understand the loss and the attachment and detachment to new identities in the context of displacement; and to analyse the relation between multiculturalism and geo-cultural integration through molecular exchanges in cultures that have no desire to become assimilated into the hegemonic culture. It follows that Hamid does not narrowly portray migration, rather embraces multiple dimensions of it: emotional experiences accrued as part of the physical movement, with the aid of magic realism enhancing the emotional progress of the migration experience of each character.

KEYWORDS Cultural Assimilation, Displacement, Diversity, Ethnicity, Identity, Integration, Migration, Multiculturalism, Nationalism, Race, Xenophobia

Introduction

Migration has become one of the most significant trends in the modern era even touching on the normal individual and the society as a whole. Over the recent decades, one can realize that the number of individuals who are moving from one area to another has increased and this has been occasioned by several factors such as jobs, politics, the environment and social networks. In this context, the experiences of the migrants are very different and very interesting, as they tend to be both negative and positive changing their views on who they are and where they belong.

In his fiction novel *Exit West*, Mohsin Hamid explains the migration phenomenon by analysing the characters of his protagonists – Saeed and Nadia. As they try to address issues of being displaced and dislocation with regard to the raging human catastrophes, Hamid deals with how migration impacts people in their socio-emotional-psychological domains. Also, the novel is remarkable in its use of magic realism, the literary style that provides a depiction of these people in constantly changing environments due to migration.

The purpose of this study is to analyse the social and psychological aspects of migration, reflected in *Exit West*, illustrating how these aspects go beyond the story and are relevant in today's themes of multiculturalism, identity and belonging. With this in

mind, the purpose of this study is to explore the nature of migration through the experiences of curses, and its effects on self agency, cultural identity, and social institutions. In addition, the study will emphasize how Hamid's story captures the migration phenomena as it exists and tackles the negative perspectives of migration in the contemporary world, nurturing understanding even in a globalized world.

The migration movement involves various kinds of movement from one geographic location to another such as voluntary and involuntary. People have conditions that arise such as lack of employment, political wars and ecological disasters that force them to displace themselves from their habitats in search for better opportunities. Migrations have been an important feature of human development throughout history, serving to transform societies, promote cultural interactions, and add diversity to populations. Nonetheless, the issue of contemporary migration comes with several concerns. These are elements such as xenophobia, discrimination or a feeling of alienation with respect to the surroundings which many migrants encounter and live through problems of identity in new and often strange places. This rise in individual complexities calls for the better inclusion of migration as a category of analysis.

Synopsis of *Exit West*

Nadia and Saeed are young adults in love and living in a city experiencing the warning signs of an imminent war. They begin dating, but this proves to be difficult with the laws against men and women associating and the listeners mostly tense between both the state and a warring faction. Because he still lives with his parents, Saeed sometimes dresses as a woman to sneak into Nadia's residence. Their phones were once carried by all until the government called off all cell phone usage. Following Saeed's mother's death in the conflict, Nadia moves in with Saeed and his father. They have heard the rumour about the magical doors but do not give it a second thought.

The militants occupy the city and enforce incredible laws. Saeed and Nadia encounter a person who swears to help them escape through a door. As Saeed's father decides not to accompany them, Nadia resorts to the soothing prospect of staying with Saeed. They go through the door and land in a concentration camp on an island. Later on, they settle in London and afterwards experience stigma, but also some goodwill. They decide to relocate to Marin county, in California. There, they begin to transform and come to understand that they are well as good friends than romantic partners. They part ways and communications cease. After fifty years they meet again... only this time it's a little café in the same old town they grew up in. They are filled with memories and have discussions about the future unsure if it's time to say goodbye or to them, there will be more goodbyes.

Literature Review

The Concept of Multiculturalism

Multiculturalism refers to the belief in upholding the integration of more than one culture in social settings with the aim to encourage co-existence between the various groups and their mutual understanding. It is interested in how peoples of different cultures identify without denying cultural diversity and the significance such diversity has for the people in society (Yamane, 2002). Within this framework, multiculturalism aims at explaining how people and societies cope with and interact with plural cultures in the migratory context. In Hamid's *Exit West*, the same can be envisioned from Saeed and Nadia's experience of movement between different cultural spaces and their own

contrasting self-understanding. The story illustrates the positives as well as the negatives that come with multicultural interactions as it presents the distorting and the broadening effects of culture on people.

Theoretical Perspectives on Multiculturalism

There are several approaches that have so far been advanced towards the understanding of multiculturalism which include assimilation, integration and inter-cultural-ism among others. According to Kymlicka (2010), assimilation is a process whereby the subordinate groups within a society abandon their cultural differences and comply or integrate themselves to the majority culture. This view usually regards migration as a linear process where the immigrants are the ones who need to be integrated to the new society. Alternatively, integration concentrates solely on the relative closure of a nation-state wherein several ethnic groups can be housed, all in its boundaries, with no premium on absolute ethnic assimilation. It promotes the appreciation and acknowledgement of diverse cultures.

Inter-cultural-ism, however, is meant to promote communication and interaction between cultures, whilst fostering the idea of respect of one culture to another (Bennett, 1998). This view buttresses Hamid's description of Saeed and Nadia's togetherness as they explore various cultures in the course of their adventure. The relationships formed in diverse contexts emphasize the role of cultural interaction in their transformation as migrants. Such approaches create a perspective through which Saeed and Nadia's character can be analysed especially in relation to their coping prospects during the ordeal of cultural conflict and change.

Psychological Impacts of Migration

Migration's psychological effects can be very complex with an interrelated change in the psyche due to loss, alienation and an identity crisis. Migrants often experience inter-cultural re-adjustment difficulties such as cultural shock, being ostracised, and the dilemma of preserving cultural relations (Berry, 1997). Such situations can lead to a number of psychological problems such as distress, and some dissociation linked to self.

In *Exit West*, both Saeed and Nadia find themselves in such psychological distress as they move from one location to another where there are wars to refugee camps and then to Western countries. Their movement illustrates the burden of displacement as they yearn for their own people and find it hard to assimilate into foreign societies. For example, political oppression Nadia was in at first, due to the strength she built regarding her autonomy, crumbles on her first real day at a new country, which is a theme that many migrants have to go through psychologically.

Previous Studies on *Exit West*

Most of the existing research on *Exit West* has emphasized its thematic concerns in terms of migration, identity, and multiculturalism. Critics have pointed out that Hamid uses magical realism as a tool of storytelling to dismantle boundaries and manage the intricacies of displacement thereby giving the readers emotional and intellectual interactions with the characters (Gibson, 2017). Also, the doors in the story signify social movement and the ruined lives of the characters which can be rebuilt and resurrected as well.

This, however, made it possible to associate the novel with a wider contextualization devoted to the criticism of contemporary migration politics and attitudes towards foreigners, calling for compassion in these matters (Hassan, 2018). The purpose of this study is to place *Exit West* into the larger discussion on migration and multiculturalism in order to address the issues highlighted above. The body of work already published suggests that while *Exit West* adds value on the migration debate, it remains obvious that the response to the questions of identity as well as interaction in multicultural encounters need to be further researched.

The literature review underlines that much work has been done about the psychological and social change that migration causes. However, more critically oriented studies of its literary representation are still awaited. This research focuses on Hamid's *Exit West* through the feminist lens of multiculturalism, and the psychological impacts and hopes at addressing this issue. This further illustrates the intricate relationship between migration and identity in the modern world. Such issues as displacement, identity, and culture exchange are not only relevant to the story, but they also reflect the lives of migrants, that is why this paper is particularly important in the current social and political environment.

Material and Methods

In this part the researcher describes the research design, data collection techniques, and analysis that was done in order to understand the sociocultural and psychological aspects of migration as depicted in the novel *Exit West* by Mohsin Hamid. The structure of the methodology facilitates the achievement of the analysis of the text as per the defined research wiling and objectives.

Research Design

The study adopted qualitative research that emphasizes literary analysis as a central strategy. Such a strategy permits a critical reading of *Exit West* from the perspectives of multiculturalism, identity development and migration's psychological effects. By looking at the experience of portraying the characters, this study seeks to explore the complexities of migration and its effects on people.

Data Collection

The main data source for this investigation, Mohsin Hamid's *Exit West*, which is identified as the principal text for this study. The investigation bears some other sources of information such as articles and books that are related to migration, identity and multiculturalism which are found within the context of the novel. The steps that follow outline the data collection process of the study:

Textual Analysis

The primary data source in this research is Mohsin Hamid's *Exit West* which will be the main instituting text. Research variables were also drawn from secondary data such as articles and books, as well as articles and reviews about the themes of migration, identity, and multiculturalism involved in the novel. The following steps outline the data collection process: A systematic analysis of *Exit West* will be performed in order to isolate specific themes, character arcs, and particular narrative strategies. This part will trace how Hamid conveys the trajectories of Saeed and Nadia as they move through the stages of transnational-ism.

Literature Review

There shall be a detailed set of research on the existing knowledge that has been documented on migration, identity, and multiculturalism. This will incorporate literature some that interrogates the psychological effects of moving countries focuses on the effects of being a migrant on the individual as well as how *Exit West* has been analysed.

Theoretical Frameworks

Elements of various theories such as multiculturalism and psychological migration theories will be employed in this research so as to understand the perspectives of the findings. These frameworks will be objective in analysing the characters' encounters and even their experiences en route to their destinations, and the wider society in general.

Data Analysis

The novel "*Exit West*" will be analysed thematically as well as narratively:

Thematic Analysis

The content will focus on the main themes of migration, displacement, love and identity and how each of these themes is reinforced by a character's journey as well as their social and political environment.

Narrative Analysis

Hamid's choice of narrative form and other devices will be analysed, so as to discover their significance on the experiences encountered by the characters. This will include magical realism, which will also be seen as a narrative device used to deepening the comprehension of the nexus of migration.

Character Analysis

An account of Saeed and Nadia, the two central characters, will be presented, assessing their characters in relation to changes experienced in the course of the story. This evaluation of the characters will be in respect to the issues of displacement and identity crisis and how they relate to the changes of the characters including their relationship in the process of migration.

Limitations

Although this study attempts to be as exhaustive as possible with respect to *Exit West*, there are some limitations worth mentioning. It is essential to bring about changes that focus on factors that would correct the subjective aspect of a literary analysis. Consideration of these matters is based on the fact that there is a lot of published literature dealt with a single novel. The above limitations notwithstanding, the knowledge acquired from this study will help Niamh class and promote impacts of migrations represented in the fiction.

Ethical Considerations

This study ethically complies with the discipline's standards with regard to source citation and the analyses of different materials, which in this instance will concern *Exit*

West. Interpretations of the story will be done without contravening the aspirations of its creator and the story telling itself.

Analysis of *Exit West*

Migration and Displacement

Mohsin Hamid in *Exit West* develops the theme of migration which is further explored by the protagonists Nadia and Saeed in order to find solace abroad. In the course of the narrative there is a nameless city which is fully destroyed by war and which suits the description of the Tigris and other refugees. Through unkind facts, such as violence, war, and poverty, every conceivable reason is spelled out for why in modern societies, particularly in the third world, migration becomes a necessity. Due to such persistent turmoil it is obvious that there will always be an element of displacement as Hamid so eloquently notes “the world was how it was and it was bloody most of the time” (Hamid, 2017, p. 22).

Various Dimensions of Displacement

Migration entails more than just relocation; social experience, spiritual pieces of exile and loss is always packed in the journey. Hamid demonstrates that after crossing the magic gateways, the characters do not have it easy. They experience a reverse of the journey for which they have to be remade. Greece and London are examples of such journeys that inhibit a foreword into hosts’ society. Using the story of Saeed and Nadia, Hamid addresses migration as its own socially complex activity whereby changes in space do not necessarily mean changes in society. The focus recreates the constant psychological frays and pressure acquired from needing to converge two the worlds.

Similarly, in the book *Exit West*, the migration process not only becomes a search for new experiences and a calculation of the chances of finding a new home, but it also becomes a sophisticated search for borders and the deconstruction of the concept of home.

Border Crossing

Border crossing is an important issue in *Exit West* with magical doors serving an important purpose. Magical doors evoke the ideal of mobility, but at the same time they also serve the purpose of depicting the realities of migration. The doors help Nadia and Saeed escape from war, however, they emphasize the existence of global inequalities as well as the existence of stereotypes, suggesting that it’s not very easy to just migrate and everything is going to be okay.

Symbolism of the Doors

The magical doors represent opportunity and escape from danger whereas there are many immigrants who do not get welcomed where they go. It’s as if, once again, the doors were a perfect means of getting out...of a world they had not escaped. The world might be backward, but they still hadn’t escaped out of it. Beyond the idea of freedom, migration reveals new social forces that restrains states Hamid (Omnidirection, 2017, p. 61).

Liberation vs. Limitation

Finding oneself in new borders is not limited to changing geo locations, it also brings in existential problems. Though Nadia and Saeed run away from danger, they are

confronted by more social problems in new (to them) areas, London in this case, such as racism and alienation which shows that the door was a window of opportunities, but it was locked too.

Societal Barriers

As a consequence, Hamid overthrows this assumption of migration being synonymous with a variety of opportunities such as assimilation in a matter of days and more vivid examples fought with prejudice. The magical doors contain the idea of liberty but there is still a continuation of the impediments such as 'borrowing' people's cultures and adopting certain identities.

Ethnicity and Cultural Identity

Hamid studies the cultural influences on the relationships of Nadia and Saeed in relation how they fit into new settings. For example, a hijab is a symbol of Nadia's religion and identity but at the same time places her under bias. This shows that cultural identity is not only about self but also how others see the individual.

Vulnerability to Discrimination

Especially in London, Nadia and Saeed stand out and are also made invisible at the same time due to their diversities which bring about their prejudice and struggles with the mainstream society. As Hamid states, there is a similarity with his phrase 'invisible yet hyper-visible', to being an immigrant and being recognized for differences while still seeking to fit in.

Ambivalence of Acceptance

The fortification of the "invisible but hyper-visible," is frustrating for immigrant groups such as Nadia and Saeed who are labelled outcasts but whose individual turmoil is disregarded, making matters of fitting in more challenging.

Duality of Existence

This novel also mentions issues of prejudice and social exclusion that develop on Nadia and Saeed's identity explaining the challenges of growing up in foreign countries without blindly adhering to the host nations' culture.

Identity Crises

In *Exit West*, the experience of mass migration and subsequent dislocation create identity crises as it has been noted, Nadia and Saeed go through character changes within the diaspora context. The changes in identity are mainly due to people changing their peculiar features while maintaining central ones of their personality as a result of social forces.

Fluidity of Identity

While on the move, Nadia and Saeed also critically evaluate who they are and try to reconcile the cultures they leave behind with the one they find themselves in. This contradiction brings out the fact that migrants are caught in 'in between worlds and applies to the situation whereby women accommodate new surroundings but remain incomplete with the habit.

Redefining Oneself

Family and gender relations also change in regards to migration with Nadia and Saeed, as external forces such as racism and economic, stress are impacting on their relationship. Hamid shows insight into the degradation of interpersonal relations upon migration, which also reflects the typical psychodramas of exile.

Exit West is in terms of the theme of identity crisis as well as the theme of migration as it effectively shows how displacement creates a pressure within oneself is how to go about the inner change and anchored ever since Hamid has explained how one's culture and society influences on our identities and relationships, widening the scope of immigration.

Broader Implications

In *Exit West*, Moisham Hamid targets the socio-political systems and ideology by focusing on universal human traits such as kindness and the intricacies of migration. Violence is depicted as something that can be avoided through the use of mystical doors, and the author respects the immigrant while also presenting them as stories rather than threats to society, thus fighting against the soullessness of migration and advocating against the societal exposure to bigotry and racism.

Critique of Socio-Political Structures

Culturally, Hamid emphasizes the commonality of humanity in that people irrespective of their cultural settings can relate on the basis of common problems. Therefore, these ideas inform counterarguments to the portrayal of migrants as a burden.

Shared Humanity and Empathy

Hamid also addresses racism and xenophobia, therefore showing the cruel conditions under which most migrants live in. In particular, Nadia and Saeed's experiences further reveal the emotional and psychological complexities brought about by being displaced and show that, migration is not only for the sake of leaving a society but rather a war for one's standing in the society.

Intersection of Racism and Multiculturalism

Prejudice and stereotyping are challenges that Nadia and Saeed face which hinders their sense of belonging in the society. Hamid helps the reader appreciate the immigrant in a more complex way than simple assimilation in the host nation but the immigrants' struggles and belonging.

Emotional and Psychological Burdens

The book offers insight into the self-inflicted discrimination that in most cases faces the migrants and society as well. Mekdes Nazari says she is glad immigration is video gaming in that every migrant will find wondrous life. Gordon, Jones, and their liked reporters globalization is all overseas and more – and the same amount fails.

De-constructing Xenophobia

In a similar way, Hamid uses magical doors, as if so called for and found, that facilitates crossing over barriers such as nationality and encourages tolerance towards immigration. Tardito's 'doors' in every historic epic are figurative, not only in the sense of defining trans-location but also understanding and blending of various cultures.

The Magical Doors as Metaphor

Through the magical doors, Hamid proves that people are capable of uniting over similar fears and wishes despite the barriers created by their culture. He viewed migration warmly, challenging the negative assumptions and more depicting the strengths of multi-cultural societies.

Complexities of Identity in Diaspora Situations

Hamid tries to understand how the characters Nadia and Saeed's self-identification changes as they are welcomed and rejected by other societies. This brings out the dynamism of identity in diaspora, held out by relations and how people perceive the diasporas.

Reflection on Personal and Collective Biases

Hamid urges one to think of prejudices those individuals or groups hold and present in order to become sensitive to other cultures, as mere partition is not enough. When the relationship between Nadia and Saeed changes, the need for understanding and communication in bridging the cultural gap change is emphasized.

Multiculturalism Beyond Tolerance

In examining the multiculturalism that is so often embraced but only superficially tolerated, Hamid argues against the fear or encouraging of multiculturalism. What the novel opines is that there cannot be multiculturalism without involvement, without purposeful telling of the story of the culture in a bridging way and this provides hope of a world where differences are used to bring people closer rather than keeping them apart.

Exit West presents a mode of multi nationality which is not just about the suppression of differences but calls for compassion, fight and equal opportunities to put an end to the barriers of hatred for a world in which all people live harmoniously few.

Reflection of Broader Socio-political Context and the Personal Ramifications of Loss, Belonging, and Alienation

Exit West is a novel about migration, exile, and identity as demonstrated through the characters Nadia and Saeed's experiences which Hamid conceptualizes. Their journey through magic doors is a metaphor for the emotional, social, and geographical aspects of migratory movement. The novel raises the issue of the transformation of identity arising from migration and the internalization of loss, for having left the former life behind. The centroid of Hamid's works remains just criticism on socio-political problems of any kind such as nationalism and hatred to foreigners, focusing rather on the disadvantages of being unaccustomed to the vibes of the bar, compliance is heavy to be bearing. The development of the relationship between Nadia and Saeed is transformed just as any one would expect due to dislocation, that of course is dependent on their ability to adjust to a new surroundings, in which connection with ones dearly loved is a challenge for many who have migrated.

Transformative Potential of Cultural Exchange and Systemic Barriers to Integration

Like Hamid's use of magical doors that represent both an option of social escape from and a possibility of cultural transformation. Migration, as illustrated through

characters' experiences, is both a benefit and a challenge. There exist certain impediments to their integration like legal and economic but Hamid stresses the possibility of multiculturalism that people respect through understanding one another. He portrays the complexities and merits of migration and therefore argues for a better appreciation of the immigrant condition even as one accepts that inclusion is always incomplete due to structural obstacles.

Perception of Belonging in Response to Racism and Multiculturalism

The focus on the immigrant experience further develops the villains of the narrativization of the realities of pluralism – an alienation and an exclusion, deepening the so-called double vision of “being both ‘invisible and hyper-visible’” (Hamid, 2017, p. 120) in a new environment. This takes place as they face cultural dislocation and racism, disturbing their self and emotional ties. New technologies enhance the processes of migration and change human relationships at the focus in the text and explain that the identity reconstructs and is in the process of reconstruction in multi-ethnic and even racist societies.

The Themes of Global Migration and Cultural Conflict

Hamid analyses the international factors responsible for the movement of people as not only individual but also social. Such magical doors refer to the possibilities and the constraints of migration since there are societal constraints like xenophobia that Nadia and Saeed encounter. This, along with cultural conflict, makes their assimilation even more difficult. However, the book also depicts various experiences of migrants as a unifying factor, and how this explains their association with other people who underwent similar suffering.

The Theme of Interconnectivity of Migration and Identity

Hamid investigates the relationship between migration and identity and how these two ideas are often in conflict with each other and with individual agency. A social construct formed through their experiences, which can continue to change throughout their lives, the couple's identity is also transformed with every new shelter they get into.

Cultural Heritage and Belonging

Nadia and Saeed possess a heritage that they incorporate into their being and defines how they relate to others. The cultural legacy offers reassurance but will also create problems of adaptation to foreign contexts. Hamid is concerned with the contribution of culture to the sense of self and the possibilities as well as the issues immigrants encounter.

Systemic Barriers to Integration

They both experience obstacles such as discrimination, lack of employment opportunities, and oppressive constraints on personal freedom. These problems make them to be more accompanied with, and feel within, the state of up-rootedness. Hamid argues against these phenomena showing how they advance oppression and stand in the way of immigrants' efforts at self-determination and the need to work in changing the society to make it more welcoming.

Hamid argues that immigrants' identities are formed by their own will as well as various external barriers. Although Hamid speaks about the losses and hardships immigrants endure, he encourages the public to get involved and reform the society to

eliminate the obstacles making it difficult for immigrants to adjust into the multi-ethnic societies.

Literary Techniques to Illuminate the Tensions in Multiculturalism and the Immigrant Experience

Mohsin Hamid's *Exit West* is an intricate exploration of the concepts of multiculturalism and the migrant experience using a rich range of literary devices. Apart from the offensive nativization, by narrative style, by symbolism, by characterization, and magical realism, Hamid further explores identity, belonging and agency.

Narrative Style

Nadia and Saeed's emotional and socio-political conflicts are vivid conveyed through an engaging blend of personal and impersonal aspects of the story by Hamid's smooth flowing narrative style. The second-person narration also engages readers especially when they are returned back to the first-person account in order to make the audience comprehend the more complex problems; issues like displacement and xenophobia. For example, in the second person, one is able to say "You could see the sky was darker As it should have been", this demonstrates empathy (Hamid, 2017, p. 18).

Symbolism of the Doors

These doors define the essence of migration, they are the source of decision and the cause of many problems. While they provide an avenue for Nadia and Saeed to escape, they also embody the emotional and psychological traumas that accompany displacement. About this issue, Hamid has said: "The doors were not merely a means of going out; they were also a means of enlarging the prison" (Hamid, 2017, p. 61), which depicts one of the essence of migration applies beyond the conventional definition of moving to another society.

Characterization

Hamid uses Nadia's courage and independence against Saeed's longing to be rooted suggesting their delicate positioning against displacement. While for Nadia the hijab is a sign of rebellion and cultural being for Saeed, it is a source of conflict. The line "They were still together, but they were not the same" (Hamid, 2017, p. 173) depicts the impact of migration which affects both nature and people.

Use of Magical Realism

Magical doors portray the very fabric of migration that Hamid seeks to account for, the emotional and psychological strain of exodus. "The doors were a means of escape; it was not just to the outside world that the doors led, but those there were walls, and beyond those there were other people" (Hamid, 2017, p. 61). The tenant of magical realism in these narratives is that it captures a travel performed with migration. Migration brings the child-women one in search for betterment but there is an ugly face of struggling to bring oneself into the new society.

Hamid's artistic choices in *Exit West* including the narrative style, symbols, characterization, and even magical realism travel through out the immigrant's experience showing the breakdown of identities, belongings, and several issues that comes with migration or living in multi ethnic countries.

Conclusion

Exit West is, in a way, a novel concerning the themes of migration, identity, and multiculturalism all the while relating the negative effects of such a phenomenon as displacement. In particular through the travels of Saeed and Nadia, the story takes the reader into the depths of migration. Such understanding, however, exposes not simply the external facets of migration such as discrimination, cultures clash, and political factors, but also those of the inner nature like self-identity and emotional challenges. Also, the doors embody an important symbolism of that which migrants seek to escape along with the realities of migration itself, which makes it clear that movement in space doesn't necessarily lead to movement in one's social position.

This study reveals the increasing need of such initiatives to counter xenophobic discourses regarding migrants. Looking at the migration from Hamid's standpoint, one cannot forget the human behind the numbers- every migrant has a story and each in its own way adds to diversity. Therefore, *Exit West* is an important book in today's debates on migration and encourages a reform in how society and policies regard immigrants and machine learning in general. Finally, this paper stresses the value of literature in revealing the emotional issues of migration and putting forward a more humane view of the migrants' lives.

Recommendations

Comparative Analysis of Migration Narratives

In the same line of thinking, future studies could take some of the literary works that have some relevance to migration into comparison with migration memoirs. This could uncover different ways in which through migration people experience and negotiate identity, multiculturalism and belonging in different contexts.

Impact of Policy on Migrant Experiences

It could be examined how literature emphasizes the psychological situation as well as the social adjustment of migrants, depending on the policies of the country of residence. This could require investigating narratives of those who have emigrated and managed to settle in countries with either welcoming or hostile policies towards immigrants.

Long-term Psychological Effects of Displacement

Based on the psychological aspects analysed in *Exit West* studies, it would be possible to focus on longitudinal migration. There would be a focus on qualitative interviews with migrants in order to gather information on the progressive identities and experiences of migrants in the course of integration or acceptance.

Role of Magical Realism in Migration Literature

The outline suggests that the components and plots of magical realism in migration literature need to be revealed through analysis. The research could, for example, focus on how this particular literary device has been employed in several pieces of literature to tackle the rationalized nonsense of migration, change of self, and the psychological suffering of immigrants just as Hamid does in *Exit West*.

Intersectionality in Migration Experiences

Future research may proceed to the next level of analysis of migration by introducing the concept of intersectionality in its various forms. One such dimension would be understanding how these intersecting dimensions impact on the characters in Hamid's work as well as in other migration stories.

Cultural Identity and Belonging in Diaspora Communities

Such research would be concerned with how the issue of cultural identity is understood and practiced within migrant communities. How do these communities recreate, embody and represent their cultural properties and remain connected to them amid new settings?

Narratives of Hope and Resilience

More work could also be geared towards the theme of hope and resilience in migration accounts. This could mean exploring and evaluating other literary pieces where migrants' experiences of hardship and victory are encouraged whilst projecting their growing capacity to change individually and collectively in adverse circumstances.

Educational Applications of Migration Literature

More research along these lines can include inter alia, looking at how *Exit West* as a migration literary text can fit within a school syllabus in order to help learners appreciate issues of migration, and thus, engender sensitivity towards these issues. This might be done in such a way that literary criticism would serve as a tool for teaching the culture of tolerance, as well as the culture of equity.

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