

# A Critical analysis of Political affiliations of Amitav Ghosh's male and female characters

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## Abstract:

*Amitav Ghosh is a renowned Indian writer who has explored a range of themes in his works, including colonialism, migration, identity, and politics. His characters are often complex and multifaceted, and their political identities are influenced by a variety of factors, including their personal experiences, social status, and historical context.*

**Key words:** *Identity, Politics, Male-Female Characters, History.*

## Introduction

Ghosh explores the lives of individuals from diverse backgrounds, often delving into the complexities of their personal relationships and the societal structures that shape them. In his debut novel, "The Circle of Reason," Ghosh introduces us to his first female protagonist, a young woman named Alu. Through her eyes, the reader experiences the struggles and triumphs of a woman in a patriarchal society, as she navigates her way through a world that seeks to limit her opportunities. In "The Shadow Lines," Ghosh features several female characters, each with their own unique perspective on the world. The novel follows

the lives of two families, one Indian and one English, and the relationships that form between them. Through the eyes of the female characters in the novel, we see the impact of political and social upheaval on their lives. Ghosh's "The Calcutta Chromosome" features a female protagonist named Antar, a scientist who is searching for a cure for malaria. Antar is a strong and independent character who challenges the traditional roles assigned to women in her society. In his most famous work, "The Sea of Poppies," Ghosh creates a world populated by a diverse range of characters from different backgrounds and nationalities, including several strong female characters.

The novel follows the lives of individuals who are bound together by their connection to the opium trade, and explores the themes of identity, oppression, and freedom. Overall, Amitav Ghosh's novels feature a range of male and female characters who challenge societal norms and expectations. Through their stories, Ghosh offers a rich and nuanced exploration of the complexities of human relationships and the impact of social and political structures on individuals.

### **Some notable female-male characters in Amitav Ghosh's books are:**

The strong-willed character Deeti from "Sea of Poppies" defies social conventions and expectations. She embarks on a risky journey to begin a new life since she is desperate to leave her oppressive and miserable life behind.

Neel Rattan Halder, a smart, independent lady who appears in "The Hungry Tide," travels to an isolated island in the Sundarbans to carry out a research study. She is eager to fight for what she believes in and is not scared to question the conventional beliefs of the locals.

The two strong women Bakul and Tehmina from "The Shadow Lines" are a part of a huge, extended family. They both adamantly reject societal norms and are fiercely independent.

Piyali Roy from "River of Smoke" is a witty and driven lady who overcomes adversity to become a prosperous businesswoman. She is not afraid to take

chances and will go to any lengths to accomplish her objectives.

Deeti in "Sea of Poppies" (2008): Deeti is a strong-willed woman who defies traditional gender roles in 19th-century India. She falls in love with a man named Kalua and joins him on a ship bound for Mauritius, where they hope to start a new life together.

In the 2004 film "The Hungry Tide," Kanai Dutt: A prosperous businessman named Kanai visits his ancestral Sunderbans home, a collection of islands in the Bay of Bengal. He enters a love triangle with Piyali and Nilima and must negotiate the intricate social dynamics of the area.

In "The Shadow Lines" from 1988, Alu: In the 1960s, Alu was a young child growing up in Calcutta. His fascination with his family's past and the stories of those around him spurs him on to pursue a career as a writer.

Balaram is a Burmese army soldier who becomes involved in the politics and social unrest of the area in the late 19th and early 20th centuries in the movie "The Glass Palace" (2000). He develops a close relationship with Rajkumar, a young boy who will eventually succeed him as his protegee.

In "The Calcutta Chromosome" (1995), Amitav says: The life and work of Sir Ronald Ross, a British scientist who established the connection between malaria and mosquitoes, become obsessions for Amitav, a computer programmer. He is drawn into a complicated conspiracy involving genetic engineering, artificial intelligence, and time travel.

## Critical Analytical approach of the male-female characters of the Amitav Ghosh

Amitav Ghosh is an Indian author known for his ability to create complex and multi-dimensional characters. His novels explore the relationships between men and women, highlighting the power dynamics and societal norms that influence these interactions. His most famous work, "The Shadow Lines", features a cast of characters who are deeply influenced by their gender roles and the expectations placed upon them by society. The male characters in the novel are often portrayed as dominant figures, with a sense of entitlement and control over the women in their lives. In contrast, the female characters in Ghosh's novels often struggle against these patriarchal norms and strive for independence and agency.

The novel "Ila" is a strong-willed woman who is determined to pursue her own ambitions, despite the constraints placed upon her by her family and society. In "Sea of Poppies" deeti, Deeti takes control of her own destiny. Ghosh's approach to gender in his writing is often critical and analytical, highlighting which can limit individuals and perpetuate inequality. His Most well known work, The Shadow Lines, explores the lives of two men—Arindam and Musa who were born on the same day in different parts of India. It is a powerful examination of gender in society and calls for greater equality and agency for all individuals, regardless of their gender.

In his novels, Ghosh often portrays female characters who challenge traditional gender roles and norms, and who actively participate in political movements. For

example, in "The Shadow Lines," the character May Price is a feminist and anti-colonial activist who works towards Indian independence. In "The Hungry Tide," the character Piya Roy is an environmental activist who fights for the protection of the endangered Irrawaddy dolphin.

Similarly, male characters in Ghosh's works also have diverse political identities. Some are actively involved in political movements, while others are more apolitical or even conservative. For example, in "The Glass Palace," the character Rajkumar is a nationalist who supports the independence movement in Burma, while the character Saya John is a conservative Christian who opposes the movement.

## Conclusion

Overall, Ghosh's characters are complex and multidimensional, and their political identities are shaped by a range of factors. While gender is an important aspect of their identity, it is not the only factor that determines their political views and actions. After independence of India female or male characters are stands for the many prospective like, politics, history, demotic stands, Indian writers are mostly focused on the every parts of the society as well as politics.

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