

Role of Myth in Shaping Contemporary Literary Imagination

Nabishathul Misheria A¹ and Dr. Ashok Kumar²

¹Research Scholar, Department of English

²Professor, Department of English
NIILM University, Kaithal, Haryana

Abstract: *Myth has remained a powerful and enduring element in literature, continuously influencing narrative structures, thematic concerns, and cultural representations. In contemporary literature, myths are not merely retold but reinterpreted to reflect modern sensibilities, socio-political realities, and psychological complexities. This review paper examines the role of myth in shaping contemporary literary imagination, focusing on its function as a narrative framework, a cultural memory system, and a tool for ideological critique. By analyzing various scholarly perspectives, the paper highlights how contemporary authors employ myth to negotiate identity, gender, power, and globalization. The study concludes that myth serves as a dynamic and transformative force that bridges the past and present, enriching literary creativity and critical discourse.*

Keywords: Literary Imagination, Retelling, Cultural Identity