

PREFACE

My research is an attempt to compare the fictional world of eminent Bengali author, Mahasweta Devi and Indian novelist in English language, Arundhati Roy, in connection with ramming their works from subaltern perspective. Both the writers have some common characteristics in their portrayal of the issues of contemporary concerns. This thesis has four chapters apart from the 'Introduction' and the 'Conclusion'.

The 'Introduction' discusses the process of commencement of Indian writings dealing with subaltern consciousness, from the colonial period up to the present times. The 'First Chapter' cites the literary contribution and the details of social activism of Mahasweta Devi and Arundhati Roy. 'The Second Chapter' reveals the marginalization of subalterns as reflected in the major works of the writers. The 'Third Chapter' focuses on the subjugation of the gendered subalterns in the select novels of Mahasweta Devi and Arundhati Roy. In the 'Fourth Chapter', an effort has been made to delineate the presence of class difference in the fictional world of the two writers. The 'Conclusion' shows the various aspects of human rights violation of the subalterns in the works of Mahasweta Devi and Arundhati Roy.

An exhaustive 'Bibliography' appears at the end of the thesis indicating primary sources, secondary sources, miscellaneous sources and film sources on Mahasweta Devi's and Arundhati Roy's novels and other writings.