

Theoretical Proposition on Understanding Autobiographical Narratives

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Abstract: *This article examines the influence of theoretical propositions on understanding autobiographical narratives, focusing on pre-colonial, colonial, and post-colonial narratives. It explores indigenous traditions, European colonization, identity issues, and cultural challenges in these literary works. Thus, understanding these periods helps understand the evolution of autobiography as a genre. This study aims to explore the importance of linguistic barriers and selection biases in autobiographical literature. As a result, by focusing on these barriers and biases, we can better understand the complete portrayal of literary genres. Autobiographical theories help us to understand how individual events impact a person's identity and personal narrative growth. This study enhances our understanding of autobiographical works by revealing their cultural significance and their impact on social thought and memory as a whole.*

Keywords: *Autobiography, Literary-genre, Renaissance, Self-reflection, Indigenous-literature, Truthful, Subjectivity, Objectivity.*

Concept and definition of Autobiography: The word ‘Autobiography’ is modernized term. The word autobiography means the biography of self or written by author themselves. In this section, we will discuss various definitions of autobiography and the concept of autobiography given by various theorists' perspectives. It is very important to understand the basic forms of autobiography and to observe their statements. The term was first mentioned in the W.P Scargill's work called ‘*Autobiography of a Dissenting Minister*’ in 1834.

The term ‘Autobiography’ have three parts viz. ‘auto’, ‘bio’, and ‘graphia’ which signifies the subgenre (*literary style*). It has different meaning like, the art of narrating one’s life by oneself (*auto*), portraying (*bios*), own story telling (*graphia*). The definition of autobiography has been given by different sources describing its nature and characteristics. According to D.G Naik the autobiography is “the details of any given life, therefore when accommodate in a story or narrative inevitably take a shape or form, which, in literature terminology, is called the form of autobiography (Naik, 1962).” The Encyclopedia Britannica proved to be successful in giving perfect definitions of autobiography (*literatures*) and convenient definitions of the genre. Brian Finney mentioned “By calling a book an autobiography a writer creates generic expectation in the mind of the reader which are different in kind from those produce by calling a book a novel or a history (Finney, 1985).”

It is right, that the author of autobiography has no other intentions to get famed or popularized, as they create their own personality and write down their feelings and emotions, to make readers understand their culture, social environments and other milieu. They tried to make history by own, which is their true evidence and based on eyewitness. They tried to encourage future generation through their writings. It has been mentioned that the author of an autobiography establish their standpoint to the reader's minds where they represent their past stories appropriately rather than other fictional works like novel.

Before the 20th century, this type of literary genre was termed as '*memoir*' or '*biography of self*.' Prior to this time, autobiographies were written by themselves in various forms. Their writing was regarded as bio-cum-autobiography or memoir. The autobiography prior to the 20th century was gradually upgraded during the Renaissance period. Autobiographies during this period gained widespread popularity and were frequently written in a standard format due to the development of various arts, literature, printing presses, new technology, and rising levels of literacy. Through this advancement, people learn to write systematically and contribute to various fields like social reform, cultural aspects, and educational information, which inspire people through their writings.

This type of writing was practiced since St. Augustine's times who wrote his own biography in a book named '*Confessions*'. The tradition followed till current ages with different techniques and new innovative way of expression in writings. The first autobiography written during the 15th century in English language was '*The Book of Margery Kempe*'. Her autobiography shows her devotion to Christianity and how she confessed her immoral youth to God. Her autobiography is mainly focused on self-confession and spirituality, regardless of other social norms. Thus, this form of autobiography was called along different titled as '*biography by self*' and '*history by self*' but largely it was traditionally considered as 'memoir' (Misch, 1950) and similarly mostly observed as "a special form of biographical literature (Paul, 1975)."

Nature of autobiography: Autobiographies are narratives that describe personal experiences, often lacking essential elements. The author often disappears during the narration, forgetting to include specific events. Many scholars view autobiographies as non-fictional, as they narrate their past through memory, neglecting important events.

Scholars define autobiographies with varying viewpoints, using various techniques and methods. The central figure is the self, who explains themselves as a character in the story. This sort of peculiar characteristic of selfhood in writing for "the hero of autobiography is the paradoxical private-person-as-public-hero (Biasing, 1977)." It is true that the characteristic of an autobiographer is to narrate their own story, and of course they stand as public heroes. It's like watching a movie; you can feel every conversation, act, movement, emotional story, tearjerker story, and

humorous story. The reader finds it fascinating to learn about the author's life experiences and to be able to relate to those experiences in their own lives. The relationship between author and reader is so strong that the reader gains much knowledge and is inspired by the author's writing.

In this way, Roy Pascal rightly called this method as “*a particular standpoint*” and tells that “he (*autobiographer*) reviews his life and interprets his life from it (*standpoint*) (Pascal, 1960).” As a matter of fact, the viewpoint of autobiographer in writing plays a major role while narrating his past stories. It is not possible for writers to convince his life story without his standpoint in his autobiography. Again he argues that “actual social position of the writer, his acknowledged achievement in any field, his present philosophy; in every case it is his present position which enables him to see his life as something of a unity, something that may be reduced to order(Pascal, 1960).” It is true that along with good narrator, the author should narrate his writings with proper standpoint as it allows him to perceive his life as a whole and that can be arranged.

The author should not only tell their story but also include their point of view to provide insight into the characters' roles and emotions. This helps the reader understand the author's feelings and sentiments. However, it's crucial to avoid dominating their point of view to maintain a balanced narrative. On the other hand, Dr. Samuel assert the relationship between the historiography and autobiography, “the writer of his own life has at least the first qualification of a historian (Johnson, 2005).” He considered the writing of such literatures is foundations of historians.

Writing past stories about their lives and major events that occurred during their lifetime is similar to writing history. In many ways, life stories can provide us with information about a specific person's narrative, allowing us to analyze historical facts from the author's own witness's perspective, and sometimes they can provide us with their more personal view of the past. For example, someone writing about their experience of travelling outside their country in an autobiography gives us insight into the experiences of the author and also lets us know about the different cultures of western life. We can relate to Sunity Deveen's autobiography, which is the perfect example of her experience in England.

The importance of understanding the forms and types of autobiography: Understanding the forms and types of autobiography is crucial for aspiring autobiographers. By studying different forms and types, writers can gain understandings into the conventions and expectations of the genre. This understanding allows writers to craft their autobiographies in a way that resonates with readers and effectively conveys their experiences and emotions. Moreover, knowing the forms and types of autobiography helps writers avoid common mistakes and produce a more compelling and coherent narrative. Without this understanding, autobiographers may struggle to effectively convey their stories and connect with their audience.

Examining perspectives on what constitutes a good autobiography: The question of what constitutes a good autobiography is the subject of much debate and discussion. Some claim that a good autobiography needs to follow established rules, forms, and functions. According to them, a successful autobiography must demonstrate emotional authenticity, self-reflection, and a clear narrative flow. On the other hand, some claim that unconventional autobiography forms of literature can also be regarded as good autobiographies. They hold that a work can be considered an autobiography if it accurately captures the author's experiences and feelings. By exploring these different viewpoints and presenting arguments from both sides, readers can gain a deeper understanding of the complexities of autobiographical literature and form their own opinions on what constitutes a good autobiography.

Autobiography theory has been explored by various theorists, with E.M. Forster's '*Aspects of the Novel*' being a well-established theory. However, irregular content and lack of productivity in autobiography writing have led to asymmetrical content in articles and journals. However, Roy Pascal and Brian Finney's literary views provide a satisfactory theory.

Many theorists have offered speculation on the forms and functions of autobiography; nonetheless, the acceptable theories of Roy Pascal and Brian Finney are considered excellent books on autobiography, illustrating the basic framework of autobiography. Other theorists' invalid structures were due to lack of facts or data collection during observations, while Roy Pascal and Brian Finney developed successful theories that define and explain autobiography through in-depth analysis, thorough research, and careful data collection.

The role of autobiography in Indian literature and its significance: In Indian tradition, the writing of such novel or autobiography was unconcerned, but when we look back to the ancient history, there is many literatures known as Vedic literatures in the form of vernacular revelations. Such as '*Gambler's Lament*', around 1500 B.C.; Buddhist text like '*Therighatta*' of 6th century B.C to 3rd century B.C., which occupies earliest religious literature Indian traditions. On the other hand, Banarasidas's '*Ardhakatha*' (1641) is considered one of the earliest autobiographies during the Mughal period. In this autobiography, he discusses social life, administration, and public life during that time.

Traditional Indian literature, despite lacking self-revelation, offers a contemporary view of their lives and is crucial for remaking India's ancient history. Many people today disregard traditional Indian literature, such as Sanskrit, which can teach about the nation's history, culture, and beliefs. Therefore, the literature of ancient India is essential for preserving the culture and history of a people that would otherwise be forgotten.

The writer or author during Muslim period was mainly Court poet, (*the official*) Muslim rulers and the courtiers (*ruler companions*) who exposed themselves along with their social administration and other cultural perspective or the literature that represent Islam.

The composition of writing autobiography did exist since ancient period till the Mughal period in different methods and use of literary literatures. As the centuries proceed, there was multifarious collections of autobiography. The extreme advancement of such literature during the 20th century is regarded as '*The Age of Autobiography*'. There was a huge number of biography or autobiography, which was being published in Britain more than 1300 books each year. Thus, Peter Abbs mentions "Quite simply autobiography thrives (Abbs, 1984)."

The introduction of autobiography in the 15th century marked a significant shift in medieval period literature. Despite the absence of modern literary methods, medieval period literature was filled with individual accounts, contributing to the reconstruction of Mughal ruler history. These writings, while lacking self-expression, provide valuable insights into political, economic, cultural, and social systems. They vividly represent the personalities and influences of rulers, highlighting their significant role in shaping history.

Dull autobiographies with ethical readership: Since the ages of 20th century, till the modern times there is greatest collections of autobiographical work written by different fields of people, expressing their life-stories along with their cultural aspects including other contemporary milieu. Many writers grew and published their literatures from different professions such as politicians, lawyers, teachers, doctors, businessmen and other common people both men and women. They expressed their life stories of their survival and important events that occurred in their times. Therefore, William Mathews observed, "the genre (*autobiography*) is now a vox populi (Matthews, 2021)." The autobiography writing can be written by anyone from every fields of classes, it does not really need to be fully literate at some point regardless its basic concepts of form and functions of autobiography. A person who narrate his or her life experience and important events in the form of literature can be accepted as autobiography. Such type of literary genre are basically written to understand their existence and cultural hegemony. As "Nobody ever wrote a dull autobiography. If one may make such a dull, the very dullness would be interesting (Stephen, 1919)." Autobiographies, despite appearing dull or uninteresting, can be engaging and fascinating for readers. Authors can share personal growth moments and relatable moments, making them relatable and providing a sense of connection. The author's writing style and unique perspective can make daily events or experiences come alive, transforming seemingly ordinary lives into extraordinary stories by highlighting universal human experiences and emotions.

A true autobiography is a very interesting book for readers to explore their experiences and feelings that deal with their true livelihood. Reading such a book enables us to learn from and be inspired by the author's experiences, feelings, and worldviews. It also captures many events, such as those in the form of episodes, which enhances the reader's experience. Autobiographies are written so well that they explain both the author's positive and negative sides. Even the most boring autobiographies are interesting to read because the authors have many memories of themselves and others and share their thoughts on some of them. Many people find inspiration in reading autobiographies, as they can learn from the experiences of others and apply those lessons to their own lives.

Arguments on traditional form of Literature: There is many arguments and discussion regarding the traditional form of writing to be considered as autobiography. This form of writings are not accepted by many scholars for its absence of adequate significance of their existence and self-revelations. Besides, this form of writing is considered as fictional literary. Harold Nicolson stated, "I foresee a great future for English autobiography, but I do not pretend that it had a great past (Nicolson, 1933)." Though, regardless it's acclaimed, many literary genre are being neglected by England scholars and they claimed that the literary genre of autobiography was not particular important. It was viewed as a supplemental or additional genre. Likewise, Lee T. Lemon had placed literary work into the category without clear ideas (Lemon, 1971).

It has been attempt by many scholars to discuss the autobiographical work after 1960 particularly by the American philosophers like James Olney, William Spengemann and other scholars. However, yet no "truly seminal book on the genre has been written (Abbs, 1984)." According to Peter Abbs, he thinks that there hasn't been a really definite book written on the genre or category.

Therefore, from the above theory given by the theorist and my observation while discussing the traditional literature, it can be assumed that they might lack the ability to write a proper autobiography, but through their writing, many scholars found it genuine work. It contains their times and periods of history. Even if they only discussed religious culture, they are still committed to making history. It is acceptable because it provides their remarkable history of times through Vedic and other religious literatures that tell their story to future generations. If coins, pillars, and architecture can help, then why does this form of literature have such issues to accept? As a result, this genre of literature has historically been largely ignored due to its unconventional nature.

As we come to know that autobiographical writings have different forms and it has made important to differentiate its elements and functions. To define the differences between the autobiographical works, the following has been mentioned such as:

1. Biography and Autobiography

2. Diary and Autobiography
3. Confession and Autobiography
4. Memoir, Reminiscence and Autobiography.

Biography and autobiography: A person who portrays about another person life stories in his book is regarded as biography. Similarly, when one person shares his life experience through writing his own in the form of recollection is regarded as autobiography. These two literatures varies in nature, as biography is written by individual describing other person's details and characteristic, who represented themselves as author or '*biography by self*'. Thus, Andre Morious says that "autobiography is a distinct form from biography (Maurois, 1929)." Similarly, Roy Pascal also commented, "The two forms are distinct in purpose as well as- in form (Pascal, 1960)." Comparably, there is a difference between biography and autobiography as observer or eye-witness. The main motive of biographer is "the desire to celebrate the dead (Nicolson, 1933)."

Both work biography and autobiography are similar in contrast, but they are narrated by different authors. Biography is written by the participant or second-hand, whereas autobiography is written by self-observation. Another distinction is that one writes the history of a specific person's life from infancy to death. The other narrates from their childhood to the present. Although autobiography and biography share many similarities, there is a significant distinction that makes them distinct. Thus, both work itself is important as it creates the history of some renowned persons and reawaken their audacious events through reading their diary, notes, memoirs, accounts, etc.

Waldo H. Dunn on biography stated that "the organic completeness" (Dunn, 1916) as since biography tells about deceased person's insight from their early life, achievements, and their social, political system till his death. And so forth, autobiography is self-written paper with proper chronological dates and events described by author himself as 'subject' and 'object' of autobiography who relates his past stories in the form of recollections.

Diary and Autobiography: Diary is one of the important literary sources to write history of someone. It is also called autobiography because it is hand written words by someone about himself. But diary is personal notebook written especially important events on a daily basis. It played important role in literary for it provides accurate event, dates that occurs during their times.

Encyclopedia Britannica defined diary as "The book in which are preserved the daily memorandums regarding events and actions which come under the writer's personal observation or related to him by others."¹ In the other hand, Modern

¹ *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, VOL-7, P.365 (1964).

Reference Encyclopedia adds “A day by day chronicles of events usually of a personal and intimate nature kept by an individual.”² In the same way, Cassell’s Encyclopedia of Literatures defined that diary is maintained up-to-date “they have preserved, with a wealth of detail, the picture of a section of society or of a period (Steinberg, 1953).”

Diaries are valuable for scholars to understand a writer's history, but they often lack details and are handwritten notes. Understanding a person's characteristics through a diary can be complex, but it is considered an autobiographical work due to its unsystematic presentation and lack of precise contents. Harry Shaw identified diary as “A diary is a day-to-day or week-to-week chronicle of events and is thus closely related to a journal, the diary is usually more intimate than a journal and more deliberately chronological than autobiography (Shaw, 1972).” The diary provides information on major happenings like their happiness, sad parts, important occasions, etc., which are provided in short descriptions. The diary can be helpful in understanding the diarist's daily activities and the society they lived in. In terms of autobiography, autobiography represents itself systematically and in the form of a story. However, when we examine these observations closely, we see that both played significant roles in their respective fields and represented self-reflection.

Memoirs. Reminiscence and autobiography: Memoir and reminiscence are predominantly considered as identical or the same thing. Yet, the term ‘Memoir’ means ‘memory’ and another term ‘Reminiscence’ means ‘to remember.’ In literary writing, when auto biographer communicate life events in the form of memory is called memoir. Similarly, reminiscence are authored by materializing his past experience by remembering or through recalling own past.

There are some scholars who defined the reminiscence and memoir are interrelated to each other. According to J.T Shipley, “Autobiography and memoirs though the terms are often used as if inter changeable are properly distinguished by the relative emphasis placed on character and on external events. Memoirs customarily give some prominence to personalities and actions other than the writer’s own; some are hardly more than accounts of historical occurrences...(Shipley, 2008)” On the other hand, according to Roy Pascal, autobiographies of statesmen and politicians are almost memoir; for their narration from childhood to youth is autobiographical but with writers’ career in politics the narration turns to the memoir form(Pascal, 1960). To Roy Pascal, he considered that statesmen and politicians who write autobiography are memoir. They shares their life experiences from early childhood till his present times which is autobiographical work, while the authors’ career in politics take shape into memoirs literature.

Gayatri Devi's autobiography is an excellent example of the differences between memoirs and autobiographies. Her story begins with her early childhood memories

² *Modern Reference Encyclopaedia*, Vol. IX, p. 77.

and progresses through her family history, married life, and political career. The main draw of her autobiography is the political scenario in which she achieved great success while also suffering significant losses. Her autobiography, titled "*A Princess Remember: Memoirs of Maharani*," is more of a memoir than an autobiography. Autobiography, which is in the form of recollections of past lives, and memoirs, in which the same stories turn into political scenarios with a moral lesson, are popular genres of writing among readers. Another finest example is M.K Gandhi's autobiography called '*The Story of My Experiment with Truth*' is perfect work which have both forms and elements of memoir and autobiography.

Likewise, from the above observation on memoir, reminiscence and autobiography, we find many similarities and dissimilarities. They both have customary features of self-revelations as a character of a narration. Memoir and reminiscence are almost same things, they do not differ at certain limits. Whereas autobiography are self-centered and more subjective exposing self rather than narrating ones thinking.

Transmission of truth in autobiography: The idea of communicate narrative about his own life experience should not consider artistic idea. The writer of an autobiography should be true to life or naturalistic in nature and honesty in his writing which reflects his indigenous personality which is the major principle of writing a good autobiography. Thus, in this regard Susie Tharu stated that "the defining feature of the genre: a pact between the reader and the writer one committed to tell the truth, the other authorized to take the text as truth, not fiction (Tharu, 1986)." The truthfulness of their narration in their self-expression leads to a proper autobiography. It is true that authors should write naturally. However, authors must also consider the goal of their writing and stick to a certain structure. According to Roy Pascal, "To give the truth about oneself has always been the aim of true autobiography (Pascal, 1960)." The writer of an autobiography should be truthful sharing his life events.

For example, Allahabad Prasashti of Samundragupta, inscribed by Harisena in Sanskrit, it is one of the contentious issues; it contains only the King's praises and credits. Instead of only giving political and military conquests, this inscription failed to produce significant other defeat battles. However, it remained evident because it was written by Samundragupta's court poet. Thus, it cannot be justified, for it showed only the merits of a particular person's life history. It would be better if they included at least some of the errors of life.

In this regard, Roy Pascal says, "The most frequent cause of failure in autobiography is an untruthfulness which arises from the desire to appear admirable, especially when the standard set is conventional propriety (Pascal, 1960)." On the other hand, M.C Chagla views the transmission of truth in autobiography as "I think the author must tell the truth and but truth, but he cannot and should not tell the whole of the truth (Chagla, 1974)." Autobiography is based on remembering one's past and thus it could be imaginary or in the form of memory

solely. For the most part, an autobiographer represent only achievements or creditable sides of themselves, disregarding his personal error deliberately. Hence, the truth in autobiography is difficult to accept. Therefore, from the above discussion for the truth in autobiography, it can be analyzed that the author of autobiography should maintain truthful account.

Subjectivity and Objectivity approach: The blend of subjective and objective approach plays dominant role in autobiography. Largely, autobiography is subjective in nature as it describe self as a character of a text from beginning till the end of narration. The combination of subjectivity and objectivity in an autobiography is essential part to jot down a perfect autobiography.

Brian Finney has identified as “Autobiography is potentially the most subjective, because...true autobiographer has absorbed by his own nature, its genesis, its evolution, its conflicts (Finney, 1985).” He considers that the autobiography is almost subjective genre. Comparably Roy Pascal also observed “Autobiography is only one from among many in which writer speaks of himself and the incidents if his personal experience (Pascal, 1960).” Therefore, it is considered that the author of an autobiography express his feelings and the most important events from his own life can be completed in autobiography. Moreover, it is very important for author to analyze self, and however, from a third person perspective. The author is both subject and objective simultaneously. Brian Finney stated, “Implicitly he (*autobiographer*) assumes that subjective experience underlies and conditions objective observation (Finney, 1985).”

After examining these controversial theories, it is clear that subjectivity and objectivity are essential components of autobiography, which give their writings an extra dimension. Furthermore, it aids researchers in understanding authors as well as their social systems. Not only should autobiography be concerned with himself, but it should also shape his writings by incorporating both elements.

Self-centered approach: Following the combination of subjectivity and objectivity, it is quiet crucial to understand the ‘Self-centered’ approach. From the above lines, as it is known that autobiography is both subjective and objective in nature. Yet, autobiography is self-centered literary genre because its main character focus on self as a character and gives information by themselves relating with ‘self’ in the work. From the beginning till the conclusion portion of book, authors perspectives on life and other work falls back on themselves. Still different role are depicted in their writing such as social milieu but nearly all the details are presented in a way that author is the central character of the story.

In this regard, Brian Finney observed that, “What is unique to the genre (*autobiography*) is that all the portraits of other people in autobiographies contribute to the central self-portrait (Finney, 1985).” It has been observed that autobiographer usually add another person details but still self-identity makes it

different from other works in the genre. Despite the fact, self-representation should maintain in such a way that his character are equally concerned with another person details too. Therefore, “In the autobiography proper, attention is focused on the self (Pascal, 1960).”

Characterization of the modern milieu: Autobiography is a unique form of storytelling that involves narrating one's life in the context of their contemporary environment. It is essential to accurately record events, their location, reasons, and causes, as these details are crucial in today's society. Autobiography authors must not neglect their social surroundings, as they are always involved with a social system. This self-revelation helps the historiographer understand the importance of their reign and discover their socio-cultural systems.

Considering this point, Roy Pascal says, “Now I know that autobiographies are written and read for the sake of information they provide, information about the author and his time (Pascal, 1960).” Autobiographies thus, played significant role in historiography which occupies important place in reconstructing the history, for it provides us major events apart from self-revelation such as including their socio-cultural background, important occasions, political situations and other contemporary milieu. Likewise, another scholar like D.G. Naik views, “They say that certain autobiographies enable us to know the history of certain periods in for better than the actual books of history (Naik, 1962).” Hence, it is evident that doubtless autobiography contribute to write down the history of their times. For historiographer, autobiography are considered as true documentation than the other form of writing such as books or novels. This, this form of literary are considered as genuine and authentic.

Double standpoint: A successful autobiography: The finest way to accomplish appreciable outcome in autobiography is the balance between the ‘self’ and the ‘Contemporary milieu’. A successful autobiography depends upon on how one’s present them as subjective and contemporary environment as objective. The main objective of autobiographer is to narrate his experiences along with social happenings. Thus, the approach of applying both outcome is regarded as a successful autobiography. On the other hand, there are many authors who focus basically on objectives rather than subjective. For example, they concentrates on more socio-cultural and other characters, which failed to present themselves on narration. They are unable to create self-identity while jotting down an autobiography. They failed to represent selfhood in a large scale which resulted in unsuccessful autobiography. Considering the elements of double perspective, Roy Pascal remarked, “The autobiography is a story, the story of a life, of the person and society (Pascal, 1960).” Thus, self-expose accompanying contemporary background is the key criterion for successful autobiography.

A successful autobiography lies on bilateral way viz. Personal existence (*Self*) and the documentation of social background (*milieu*). By displaying both elements in

autobiography makes a good writing. On the one hand, self-expose makes one's personal identities and on the other, self is exposed to the social activities that serves the general or objective. There are numerous accounts concerned about self and other contemporary's ethos like in "A Princess Remember", by Gayatri Devi we can find both elements of presenting self and other socio-cultural background. Her writing provide a glance at social, cultural and political systems along with self-revelations. Another finest example of successful autobiography is in Jawaharlal Nehru's autobiography called '*An Autobiography*' also named as '*Towards Freedom*' (1936). Nehru's autobiography is one of the perfect combination of self and social life where he showed his life and other social pictures during his times. M.K. Naik also agreed and says "an unforgettable picture of both man and his milieu (Naik, 1982)"

Conclusion and Findings: The analysis of theoretical propositions in autobiographical works highlights the complex relationship between the self, the development of identity, and the creation of narratives, which sheds light on the understanding of autobiographical texts and their cultural significance. Autobiographical works provide individuals with an opportunity to delve into their own lives, helping them to better understand and shape their identities through the act of storytelling. This analysis also highlights different forms and functions of autobiography, including successful autobiography and the relationship between the self and others. These findings enhance the field of autobiography studies by offering fresh perspectives into how authors shape their identities and memories through their narratives, expanding our understanding of this genre. One limitation of the proposition is that, without including indigenous literature and addressing language barriers, the examination of individual events in autobiographies may be limited and incomplete. Indigenous literature, such as traditional stories, myths, and oral histories, provides distinct perspectives and cultural understandings that may significantly contribute to a deeper understanding of diverse individual experiences. Furthermore, by tackling language barriers, the proposition may ensure that autobiographies from various backgrounds and languages are more widely available, thus promoting ethnic diversity and equity. For instance, translating autobiographies into different languages or offering translation assistance for authors who may not be fluent in the dominant language may help overcome linguistic barriers and make these autobiographies reachable to a wider audience.

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