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**Representing Freedom Fighters in Indian Historical Fiction: Nationalism and Literary Imagination in *The Last Queen*, *The Great Indian Novel*, and *Sea of Poppies***

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**Abstract**

Indian historical fiction offers a distinctive way of revisiting the nation's struggle against colonial rule by combining historical events with imaginative storytelling. Through these narratives, writers reconstruct the lives of freedom fighters, exploring their sacrifices, ideological commitments, and contributions to the making of modern India. Beyond recording political history, such works reveal the emotional, social, and cultural dimensions of resistance. This paper examines the representation of freedom fighters in *The Last Queen*, *The Great Indian Novel*, and *Sea of Poppies* through the perspectives of Postcolonial Theory and New Historicism. It argues that these novels reform historical memory, reinforce national identity, and demonstrate how literary imagination enriches the understanding of India's freedom struggle.

**Keywords:** Historical Fiction, Nationalism, Freedom Fighters, Postcolonialism, New Historicism