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**A Study of Postmodern Perspectives in The Short Stories of  
Madhulika Liddle**

**Saira Siddiqui**

Research Scholar, Department of English, Mansarovar Global University, Sehore, M.P., India.

**ABSTRACT**

Madhulika Liddle's short stories offer a rich canvas for exploring postmodern perspectives in contemporary Indian literature. Her narratives often subvert traditional linear storytelling, embracing fragmented structures, shifting viewpoints, and open-ended conclusions that challenge conventional notions of plot and resolution. Through her characters, Liddle interrogates the instability of identity, reflecting postmodern concerns with selfhood as fluid, multiple, and socially constructed. Urban spaces, historical backdrops, and cultural dislocations in her stories often become sites of ambiguity, highlighting the tension between memory and history, reality and imagination. She frequently blurs the boundaries between fact and fiction, incorporating metafictional techniques that draw attention to the act of storytelling itself, thus questioning the authority of the narrator. Liddle's language is layered, often ironic or playful, which reinforces the postmodern sensibility of skepticism toward grand narratives and absolute truths. Additionally, her stories engage with themes of cultural hybridity, displacement, and the negotiation of modernity and tradition, offering subtle critiques of social, political, and gender hierarchies. By combining intricate narrative experimentation with deeply human concerns, Madhulika Liddle's short fiction embodies postmodernism not merely as a stylistic choice but as a philosophical engagement with the complexities and contradictions of contemporary life.