

# *Generation 14: A Postnational Dystopia*

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## **Abstract**

Most Indian dystopian fiction written in English focuses on the idea of the Indian nation (directly or metaphorically) and various forms of postcolonial identity politics associated with it. However, works like Priya Sarukkai Chabria's *Generation 14* (2008) and Shiv Ramdas's *Domechild* (2014), although still engaging in power and identity politics of the above kind, marks a movement beyond the discourses of the nation. This essay argues that *Generation 14* explicitly deploys postnationalist strategies to attack the ideology of domination at a much wider scale, while still inspired by Indian culture and history. Avoiding the East/West discourses dominant in the dystopian fiction preceding it, *Generation 14* suggests that oppression has been a major human quality throughout history, and so has been resistance. Mapping the novel on Althusser's concepts of Ideology and subject formation and Adorno's theory of genocide as complete integration of the Other, this essay presents *Generation 14* as a statement against ideologies of oppression not contained within the borders of the nation.