

Conceptualizing “De-territorialization” via Selected Literary Texts of Shyam Selvadurai and Nayomi Munaweera

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The study associates a passage of communication of the genre of Sri Lankan Literature in English and it examines the causes and effects of the process of “de-territorialization” with reference to the literary works of Shyam Selvadurai and Nayomi Munaweera. The selected works of the two iconic immigrant authors: “Funny Boy” by Shyam Selvadurai and “Island of A Thousand Mirrors” by Nayomi Munaweera will be analyzed by focusing on the concept of “de-territorialization” “Re-territorialization” through the lens of Cultural Studies emphasizing Homi K Bhabha s’ “Location of Culture”(1994). This addresses the literary presence of the liminal spaces within the land block of Sri Lanka. Collectively the sample articulates the causes and effects of de-territorialization through the qualitative approach to reach the research conclusions. The study was primarily conducted through a desk review of the two novels, supported by other theoretical and supplementary works. Major findings of the research were supported by the results of a questionnaire survey conducted by focusing the English reading community as the sample of the data collection plus the interviews conducted by the researcher. The political enigma, ethnic conflict and identity crisis which are the main rationale to the de-territorialization will be discussed through the interpretative tools of Cultural Studies and Anthropology. Ultimately the study envisions that it is always better to live with coexistence, respecting the liminal identities and differences with a broad mindset than seeking territorial shift as the sole option.

Keywords: *Co-existence, De-territorialization, Identity Crisis, Liminal Spaces, Territorial Shift*