

## ABSTRACT

---

As India has a long history of adapting numerous literary works into diverse cultural forms for varied purposes, adaptations in the Indian context are neither unknown nor unusual. For decades, Indian filmmakers and TV directors have transcribed great number of literary works into audio-visual art forms. Whether it is for reforms, entertainment, ‘infotainment’ or it is for the sake of artistic filmmaking, literary works have been great sources of inspiration for the makers. From the Hindu scriptures, to Sanskrit epics, to myths and legends, to history, to classics, to regional languages’ literature, to the contemporary popular literature, all these have been parts of India’s culture, not only in the forms of literature, tradition and oral history but also as artworks made for popular audio-visual mediums like film and television. Moreover, India has a complex cultural history witnessing social, cultural and political upheavals; and the adaptations of the art forms such as literature, paintings, sculptures, film, dance, theatre and songs with reference to such contexts have been explored extensively. This has given ways to significant research findings but, adaptations for the popular medium of television in India still remain under explored.

This research project ‘Television Adaptation as Refraction: A Critical Study of *Malgudi Days* (1986-88), *Bharat Ek Khoj* (1988) and *Mr. Yogi* (1988)’ critically examines and analyzes the said television adaptations employing the broader framework of ‘comparative cultural studies’ as elaborated by Steven Totosy de Zepetnek (2002) and more specifically the research deploys Andre Lefevere’s idea of ‘refraction’ (2000) as a critical tool for analysis of the adaptations. The texts *Malgudi Days*, *Bharat Ek Khoj* and *Mr. Yogi* are particularly selected for a thorough analysis so that a study of the transformational processes at the core of these TV adaptation practices and the adapted products can help us enhance our understanding of the relations between adaptations and history.

**Keywords:** *Adaptation, Translation, Refraction, Media, From Print to Audio-Visual Television, Doordarshan and Manipulation.*