SHORT ABSTRACT

The influence of Romanticism, the largest artistic movement was felt across the countries through every artistic discipline. Having the plurality of its uses this umbrella term has its own evolution in academia. Different perspectives, necessities and new languages of Romantic studies have been evolved on the background of the perspectives of Green studies and Ecocriticism, and even due to the development of crisis in Nature. Against the background of Romantic sensibility, Bhupen Hazarika (1926-2011), the singer, lyricist, and music composer, can be seen as a significant entry into the Romantic tradition in Assamese literature. The review of literature on Bhupen Hazarika indicates that there has not been any comprehensive critical study of Romanticism in the lyrics of Bhupen Hazarika. No doubt, the songs of Hazarika have had unprecedented impact on the cultural fabric of Assam. However, being largely eulogistic in nature, the commentary on Hazarika has tended to focus on his life, philosophy, and his enduring appeal, both as a person and a creative artist. There is, therefore a clear lacuna (gap) in the existing literature on Hazarika. This interdisciplinary study of Romanticism in Hazarika’s selected lyrics on riverscapes, seasons and love has journeyed to examine his Romantic paradigm in the tradition of Assamese lyric poetry. Even this study has exemplified new language and vocabularies of Romantic sensitivities of Hazarika. This doctoral thesis discusses the issues in six chapters, namely, Chapter I: - Introduction: Romanticism, Lyric Poetry, and Assamese Romanticism; Life and Works of Bhupen Hazarika; Chapter II: - Review of Literature: From Wordsworth to Hazarika; Chapter III : - Riverscapes: Mahabahu Brahmaputra, Mahamilanar Tirtha; Chapter IV: - Imagining Seasons: Sitore Semeka Rati; Chapter V: - The Many Faces of Love: Mor Marame Maram Bichari Jai; and Chapter VI: - Conclusion: Bhupen Hazarika as a Romantic. As a Romantic he is a class by himself, or can be narrated as neo-Romantic in his own way.