

A world map with a light beige background and dark grey outlines of continents. A thick orange arrow curves from the European continent to the Indian subcontinent, indicating a focus on India.

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**Robert Bosch Engineering India:  
Plotting a Growth Strategy**

A world map with a light beige background and dark grey outlines of continents. A thick orange arrow curves from the European continent towards the Indian subcontinent. The Indian subcontinent is highlighted with a semi-transparent orange overlay and contains several small, colorful icons representing various industries or sectors.

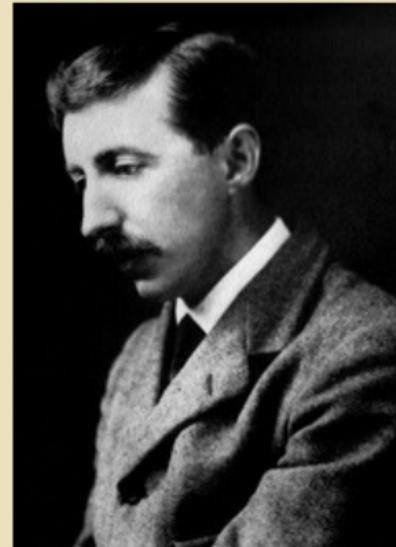
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# E.M. Forster

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- Born on January 1, 1879 to Edward Llewellyn and Alice Forster in London, England
- His dad would die around when Forster was at the age of 2; leaving his mother and his great-aunt, Marianne Thornton, to care for him
- Inherited a large sum of money (roughly £8000) which would begin his writing career
- Attended the University of Cambridge, King's College
- Traveled to many places around Europe and other nations external to such
  - He was considered a humane and sympathetic man
- Served as a private secretary to Maharaja (Sanskrit: "high king") Tukoji Rao III in Dewas, India
- After his arrival back to London, he would write A Passage to India and publish it in 1924, which would be his last novel published in his lifetime
- Died on June 7, 1970 in Coventry, United Kingdom



### Medals and Awards

- Tukoji Rao Gold Medal
- Ferozsha-Vinayakam-Prize (A Passage to India)
- James Tait Black Memorial Prize (A Passage to India)
- Order of Merit awarded by Queen Elizabeth II (1959)
- He was given the opportunity to be a knight, as royalty exists in Britain up to this day, although he declined the offer

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# Brief Plot Summary

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- novel opens with description of Chandrapore, India
- Dr. Aziz is sent away from dinner with his friends by Major Callendar (his superior at the hospital)
- Dr. Aziz visits the local mosque where he meets Mrs. Moore
- Adela announces at the club that she would like to see the "real" India. Mrs. Turton sets up a Bridge Party.
- at the party the British and the Indian guests are separated except for Mr. Fielding (principal of the local Government College)
- Fielding invites Miss Quested to a tea party with his Indian friends
- There she meets Professor Godbole and Dr. Aziz where she is invited with Mrs. Moore to accompany them on a trip to the Marabar Caves
- Ronny Heaslop (Mrs. Moore's son) interrupts tea and is furious when he finds Adela alone with an Indian
- Adela breaks off the engagement between her and Ronny until they bond during a car accident shortly after with the Nawab Bahadur
- Aziz fakes an illness and skips work, but he is visited by his friends as well as Fielding who then becomes one of his closest friends
- Aziz opens up to Fielding and shows him a picture of his dead wife as a gesture of friendship
- Aziz finally coordinates a trip to the caves for Mrs. Moore and Adela, but unfortunately Fielding and Godbole miss the train in which they all took to get there
- Mrs. Moore gets sick while touring the first cave, and is deeply troubled by the echo of the cave
- She stays behind while Aziz, Adela, and a guide continues the tour
- Adela offends Aziz along the way by commenting on his marital status as an Indian, and he steps into a cave to calm down and gather himself
- Adela also walks into a cave and is harassed by "someone"

es the tour  
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one"

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- Aziz is arrested upon arriving to Chandrapore for attacking Adela and Fielding does all he can to prove his innocence
- Fielding joins forces with the Indians
- Adela was sent to McBryde's to recover and then greets an unhappy Mrs. Moore
- Mrs. Moore leaves to sail back to England
- Adela ends up recanting her claim at the trial, setting Dr. Aziz free
- Fielding saves Adela from the dangerous crowd and takes care of her
- Ronny and Adela break off the engagement and she returns to England
- Godbole directs the Gokul Ashtami festivities while Aziz tends to the dying ruler of Mau
- Aziz spots Fielding and Ralph being chased out of a temple by bees
- Aziz realizes he was mistaken to assume Fielding married Adela when he married Stella instead
- Aziz takes Ralph out on a Mau tank to view the party, and their boat collides with Fielding and Stella's
- Fielding and Aziz rekindle their friendship for a short time , until they realize that their circumstances prevent them from maintaining their friendship (the world isn't ready for the two cultures to come together)

# Socio-historical Context

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- Both the novel, *A Passage to India*, and the author, E. M. Forster reside within the same time period of history.
- Born into the imperialist kingdom of Britain's history, Forster's novel models the control of India by British rule (August 2, 1858 - August 15, 1947).
- India at this time was known as the British Raj, an imperial colony under, in all aspects, the maintenance of the English
- Like many English of the time, the "white man" was considered to be the model human being, considering all others as inferior brothers that were to be "saved" by the Europeans.
- In India, tensions between the dominant English culture and the majority Indian natives existed; sporadic in-fighting between Muslims and Hindus occurred as another tension in the Indian state.



# Assimilation & Acculturation

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Assimilation refers to the process by which one cultural groups language and/or culture comes to resemble that of another culture. In "A Passage To India" by E.M. Forster assimilation is never achieved by the two cultural groups; Indian and British. The racial prejudice that is present throughout the story leaves most people in both groups willing to emulate the other. Except for the rare characters such as Mr. Fielding, or Adela who both make efforts to learn and receive their Indian counterparts.

Acculturation explains the process of cultural and psychological change that results from meetings between two cultures. Though there were characters in our book that attempted to change the majority, such as Mr. Fielding or Adela, they ended up having little impact on the rest of their culture. In fact, the trial of Aziz due to Adela's allegations actually had perverse effects on any progress she was attempting to make with Indian Culture. The Court case polarized the two sides even more so then they were before. In the end, acculturation was never fully achieved in our book. Both sides remained true to their cultures and made no real effort to assume their neighbors culture.





# Literary Criticisms

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Joel Motley, in the Harvard Advocate c 1974 by The Harvard Advocate; reprinted by permission Vol. CVII, No. 4 Literary Criticism of E.M. Forster; From Contemporary Literary Criticism Vol. 4

E.M. Forster was so distrustful of the system of all matters of art, as in matters of the heart and conduct, that he could not enter into the frame of mind of artists to whom system mattered. He could never get his mind around Henry James novels, writing him off as a futile cobweb spinner; and within a short time picking up one of his novels to marvel in its marvelous power and solidity. Forster's limitations as a critic define his virtues, which also reflected his virtues as a writer and thinker in general. Forster was known to be a master of angle. As all his friends remarked, nobody came at things from a queerer angle than Forster. It was not whimsicality; it arose from his seeing things more concretely than other people. One of the most powerful effects of reading E.M. Forster is to feel a bit ashamed...at one's own obtuseness at not being able to see things-important things about relationships, about society, about the condition of being human-as he saw them: with lucidity, sympathy and absolutely in the round...

### Literary Criticism Continued...

Frank Kermode, "The One Orderly Product (E.M. Forster)" (1958), in his *Puzzles and Epiphanies: Essays and Reviews, 1958-1961*  
Literary Criticism of E.M. Forster; From Contemporary Literary Criticism  
Vol. 10

Forster believed that all art must fuse differentiation into unity, in order to provide meaning we can experience: art is "the one orderly product that our muddling race has produced." The only unity and therefore the only meaning. To break down how E.M. Forster embodies this once can start at the opening chapter, indeed the opening sentence. "Except for the Marabar Caves and they are twenty miles off the city of Chandrapore presents nothing extraordinary." Easy, colloquial, if with a touch of the guidebook, the words set a scene. But they will reach out and shape the organic as a whole. We continue to have our illusions of order, and clever faking; but this book reminds us how vast the effort for totality must be; nothing is excepted, the extraordinary is essential to order. The cities of middle, the echoes of disorder, the accepting and the excepted are all to be made be made meaningful in being made one. This will not happen without the truth of imagination which Mr. Forster calls "love"; love cheats, and middle turns into mystery into art, our one orderly product.

