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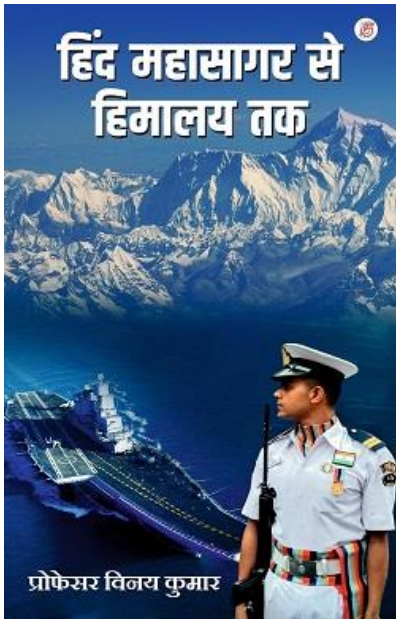
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Book Review on Vinay Kumar's Hindmahasagar Se Himalaya Tak by Nishant

This novel by the novelist Vinay Kumar tells the life story of an Indian Navy soldier from Himachal Pradesh. Vinay Kumar is a former Petty Officer in the Indian Navy and currently serves as an Assistant Professor of Hindi at Government College Bhoranj, Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh.

In the preface to the novel, the author writes that he was inspired to write this novel by the work

'Dashakumaracharitam' composed by the great poet Dandi. In the Navy, young people from all states of the country live together like a family. The armed forces truly embody the statement "unity in diversity" in our country. The main theme of Vinay Kumar's novels has been military life. 'Hindmahasagar Se Himalaya Tak' is an epic saga of a soldier's life. In this novel, he has depicted the life of a soldier with great subtlety and from every angle. The author's objective is to give the Indian soldier the place he deserves in Indian



society. Many novelists have made military life the subject matter of their novels.

In '[Hindmahasagar Se Himalaya Tak](#)', the helplessness, loneliness, internal struggles, mental conflicts, and changing mindset of the new generation of soldiers are depicted. The Indian soldier is searching for his social identity and striving for independent selfhood. Whenever we hear the word soldier, an image of a strong and powerful man comes to mind. A man who is strong and has fought many battles. In villages,

the word "Fauji" (soldier) reminds family members of ATM cards and relatives of cheap bottles of liquor available at the defence canteen.

Every year, many soldiers commit suicide in the army. But society turns a blind eye to this issue. In the eyes of society, a soldier's life and his hardships hold no value. If a soldier is depicted in Hindi literature and cinema, he is usually a colonel or a general. As for the ordinary soldiers, it's simply said that nine out of ten soldiers are fools. The novel 'Hindmahasagar

'Se Himalaya Tak' is the first work of fiction to address the soldier's perspective. This work by the young writer Vinay Kumar is crafted in the form of a novella – neither a long story nor a short novel, but a form in between, known as a novella in English and upanyasika in Hindi. It was published by B.F.C. Publications, Lucknow, in 2024. This is the author's first work, yet it is comprehensive and well-researched. In India, becoming an officer in the army is a matter of pride. An army officer and his family live a life of luxury. But becoming a soldier in the army is the opposite. A poor child who isn't good at studies is often told that he will grow up to be a soldier. A boy from a poor family has to join the army as a soldier at the age of seventeen or eighteen to earn a livelihood. There, he has to perform menial tasks like a servant (butman) at the officer's house. He has to polish the officer's shoes and even wash the clothes of his family members. In a way, he lives the life of an indentured laborer at the officer's house. He is harassed at every turn. Because he leaves home at a young age, his family's affection for him diminishes. They see him only as a source of income. Villagers and relatives only care about him for the cheap liquor he can get from the defence canteen. His words are given no importance among four people because he is a soldier. He is mocked for being a soldier.

Vinay Kumar himself was a soldier. He has lived the life of a soldier. He has firsthand experience of military life. In his novel 'Hindmahasagar Se Himalaya Tak', he has tried to glorify the Indian soldier. In the novel 'Hindmahasagar Se Himalaya Tak', Vinay Kumar emerges as a representative of Indian soldiers. Until lions have their own historians, the stories of the hunt will always glorify the hunter. A soldier fulfills his duty to his family and country, and this is beautifully depicted in the novel. Despite going through hellish circumstances, a soldier maintains his awareness. He remains conscious of his surroundings. He faces difficulties with courage.

At the end of the novel, the Indian soldier emerges as a hero. The author of 'Hindmahasagar Se Himalaya Tak' has crafted the soldier's character on a psychological basis. He has expressed the helplessness, misery, and limitations of a soldier's life through this novel. In fact, he has portrayed Jagannik as a soldier of the modern age. The one who is a hero also becomes a villain according to the needs of the time. 'Hindmahasagar Se Himalaya Tak' depicts the helplessness, loneliness, inner struggle, mental conflict, and changing mindset of the new generation of soldiers. The novel 'Hindmahasagar Se Himalaya Tak' has successfully highlighted the struggles of a soldier's life. Considering the author's effort and the publication quality of the book, it will undoubtedly prove to be interesting and worth collecting for readers.

Title: [Hindmahasagar Se Himalaya Tak](#)

Author: Vinay Kumar

Available: [Amazon](#)

Nishant

Nishant is an Assistant Professor of English at Government College Bhoranj, Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh, India. He has over 20 years of teaching experience in the field of English language and literature. He has extensive experience in compiling and editing textbooks for undergraduate students and has also contributed to the preparation of several books designed for competitive examinations, particularly PGT and SET in English. His academic interests include English literature, language studies, Hindi Literature, teaching methodologies, and competitive examination-oriented English studies. Alongside his teaching and academic pursuits, he is also a writer and has contributed to literary and academic writing. His extensive teaching experience and engagement with academic publishing reflect his commitment to higher education, literary studies, and the development of quality learning resources for students.

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