

# Reading the Riverine Villagescapes of Assam : A comparative Geocritical Study on Aruni Kashyap's *The House with a Thousand Stories* and Rima Das's *Village Rockstars*

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**Harsha Vincent**

*Research Scholar, Dept. of English, Mar Thoma College (Kerala)*  
(harsha.krishna91@gmail.com)

## **Abstract**

The paper attempts a comparative Geocritical study of Aruni Kashyap's novel, *The House with a Thousand Stories* (2013) and Rima Das's film, *Village Rockstars* (2017). While Kashyap's novel depicts the coming of age of a young boy, Das's movie portrays the development of a young girl. It is interesting to note that both these works, hailing from Assam, are marked by a strong geographical consciousness. It can be seen that geographical consciousness is a defining feature of different oral traditions and a majority of literature and other art forms from the region. In this context, a Geocritical study of *The House with a Thousand Stories* (2013) and *Village Rockstars* (2017) becomes important. A Geocritical approach interrogates the representation of geographical space in works of art. It focuses on how geographical regions create literature and how literature, in turn, produces and enunciates geographical spaces. Therefore, revisiting these texts generates critical insights in understanding the geographical representation and the larger questions pertaining to such representational discourses. The paper attempts to examine how the riverine villagescapes of Assam are looked at and portrayed, from two different vantage points in these texts, to understand the representation of concrete geographical realities. The article aims to analyse how the concrete geographical realities are foregrounded in these narratives and how these representational spaces become sites of enunciations for larger socio-cultural realities.

**Keywords:** Northeast Literature, Villagescape, Geocriticism, Endogenous perspective, Allogenuous perspective