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Unveiling the Nexus of Time Space and Memory in Sudha Murty's *Dollar Bahu*

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Abstract - **The aim of this paper is to investigate the connection between time, space, memory, and identity construction in Dollar *Bahu* by Sudha Murty. Current research related to the novel mainly includes diasporic experiences, conflicts, material aspirations, and gender. Little work exists that discusses the role of memory in the formation of identity in changing spaces and times. This study uses a qualitative interpretative method that combines close textual analysis and memory, diaspora, and spatial identity theories. In this case, the role of memory in identity construction, among other elements, is analyzed via the experience of the characters, their narrations, and cultural transitions in the novel. It was found that memory is an active tool used by characters to interpret past experiences, negotiate current reality, and transform their identities. The study identified three main areas: identity transformation based on memory, negotiation of space to belong culturally, and reconstruction of self-perception based on time. Gouramma's story serves as an illustration of how these imaginations about America are reconstructed into experiences to gain deeper insight into this family values and relations. The paper contributes to the literary and information knowledge perspective as it reveals how narratives keep and communicate cultural memories from generation to generation. Future research may extend this framework through comparative analyses of diasporic literature and digital humanities approaches.**

Keywords: **Memory Studies, Diaspora Literature, Identity Construction, Spatial Experience, Cultural Memory, Sudha Murty's Dollar Bahu**

I. INTRODUCTION

The relation between time, space and memory is a basic element of human experience, as both individual and collective identities are constantly constructed through the engagement of the past, the present and the future (Eichenbaum, 2017). While time and space can be seen as separate dimensions, human experiences show that travelling through geographical and cultural spaces is inherently linked with the process of remembering and constructing one's identity. The process of memory should not be viewed merely as a passive registration of past experiences but as an active practice through which people interpret, construct and negotiate the meaning of self and society (Barsalou, 2010). Memory has become a significant theoretical framework for the analysis of literary works and identity formation in autobiographies and postcolonial, diasporic and immigrant literature in which displaced people commonly negotiate their memories of homeland and present spaces. In this work, Neumann underlines that literary narratives of memory illustrate how people's and communities' experiences are constructed through narratives and form the structure of their identities (Linde, 2015; Rigney, 2018). Meanwhile, literary texts use temporal shifts, multiple viewpoints and narrative reminiscences to represent the function of memory in multiple generations (Welz, 2010; Milevski & Wetenkamp, 2022; Holm, 2025).

Indian diasporic literature is an important field for such research, as migration involves complicated negotiations of cultural heritage, geographical relocation and personal change. Sudha Murty's *Dollar Bahu* offers a significant example of literary representation of such negotiations in terms of the experiences of the Indian middle-class family faced with the social and cultural differences of India and the United States (Aayushi & Kamboj, 2024; Sharma & Chauhan, 2023). First published in Kannada as *Dollar Sose* and translated into English as *Dollar Bahu*, the novel explores issues related to changes in family organisation, economic ambitions, cultural expectations and emotional relations in the context of globalisation (Agrawal & Dwivedi, 2024). Particularly, the novel focuses on the influence of migration on people's attitudes towards wealth, social standing, familial obligations and cultural identity. Previous research of the book concentrated on such aspects as materialism, Westernisation, family relations and gender inequality (Agrawal & Dwivedi, 2024; Grace & Sivapurapu, 2026; Vasanthan et al., 2025). However, psychological and

temporal processes of identity reconstruction through memories of different spaces remain largely unexplored.

The representation of space in *Dollar Bahu* goes far beyond the concept of geographical space and becomes strongly associated with emotion and memory. Moving from India to America brings up constant dialogue between tradition and memories on one hand and present-time experiences on the other. Spatial theories by studies that places become meaningful because of human experience, emotions, and culture (Cresswell, 2008; Tuan, 1979). Likewise, current theories of memory state that memory is socially and spatially situated in contrast to being strictly a mental phenomenon (Öztürk, 2026; Barsalou, 2010; Ekstrom & Hill, 2023). The spaces are always marked with individual, social, historical, and cultural markers influencing human consciousness. Thus, the Indian and American spaces in *Dollar Bahu* should be seen as symbolic spaces where the transformation of identity takes place.

The main issue under investigation in this study is that previous research on *Dollar Bahu* pays attention to cultural conflicts, economic differences, and gender relations but leaves no place for the interaction of memory, space, and time in terms of identity formation (Aayushi & Kamboj, 2024). A whole tends to see migration as an opposition between homeland and host country and ignore the dynamic processes of remembrance and reconstruction that occur in the mind of an immigrant when their adapts to a new environment. Characters of the novel do not just go through cultural displacement; they are constantly reconstructing their identities through remembering, forgetting, and re-evaluating their experiences in different spaces and times. The transformation of identity in Gouramma is a positive example of the interplay of imagined memories about America, traditional values, and personal experience of immigration.

This study seeks to investigate the role played by temporal and spatial memories in the process of identity formation in the case of Sudha Murty's *Dollar Bahu*. The study is restricted to an analysis of the major characters and events from the text in terms of migration, cultural negotiation, family ties, and memory formation. This study does not cover the entire range of diasporic writings or sociological patterns of migration; rather, it is concerned with literary memory as a means of comprehending personal transformation through the chosen novel.

The importance of this study lies in its development of literary readings of *Dollar Bahu* using memory theories. With the use of cultural memory, spatial identities, and temporal narration, this study aims to provide insights into the ways in which individuals negotiate their identities through shifting cultural milieus.

The major contributions of this study are summarized as follows:

- A memory-focused critical framework is provided in order to analyse *Dollar Bahu* outside the typical debates about diaspora, gender, and cultural conflict through the interrelation of time, space, and memory.
- The research offers a more profound analysis of the characters' development in the novel, especially the case of Gouramma and this change from the ideal vision of America to a more complicated understanding of family and relationships.
- The interconnection between spatial dislocation and the formation of psychological identity is shown in this study through the influence of remembered Indian spaces and experienced American spaces on the characters' identity formation.
- The research adds to modern memory and diaspora scholarship since it demonstrates how identity is constructed through remembering and rethinking in literary texts.

Research Questions

Based on the identified research gap, this study addresses the following research questions:

RQ1: How does memory function as a mechanism for identity construction and transformation among the characters in Sudha Murty's *Dollar Bahu*?

RQ2: How do spatial experiences and geographical movements between India and America influence cultural belonging and identity negotiation in the novel?

RQ3: How do temporal transitions, including interactions between past memories, present experiences, and future expectations, contribute to character development and self-perception?

RQ4: How does *Dollar Bahu* represent migration as a process of cultural knowledge exchange, adaptation, and reconstruction of personal and collective identities?

This paper is structured as follows. In Section II, the Literature Review section will be presented through a critical review of classical and contemporary studies on diaspora literature, memory studies, spatial identity, and identity formation before the research gap is identified. The theoretical framework and methodology that are employed for textual analysis will be presented in Section III. In Section IV, the discussion on time, space, and memory interplay in *Dollar Bahu* will be analysed based on characters. Section V concludes the study by summarising the major findings, contributions, limitations, and possible future research directions.

II. Literature Review

2.1 Memory Studies and Literary Identity Construction

Memory has become a notable theoretical concern in literary studies due to its frequent representation in narratives where there is an interaction between memory and identity

construction (Milevski & Wetenkamp, 2022). Classical theories of memory stress the close link of individual memories with collective and cultural experiences. Collective memory has played an important role in the formation of cultural identity since individuals form their identities within a specific historical and social context (Snow & Corrigall-Brown, 2015). Moreover, stresses that memory is socially constructed in the sense that individual memories are shaped by collective contexts and cultural relations.

Modern literary theorists have developed these views in the sense that they have seen memory as a dynamic process rather than a static one where individual memory represent some past experiences and situations (Basseler & Birke, 2022; Milevski & Wetenkamp, 2022; Schacter et al., 1978). For instance, the idea of "fictions of memory" and says that memories in literary works are imaginatively reconstituted on the basis of present contexts, values, and expectations (Kirkegaard Thomsen et al., 2025). Memories are narrated in literary works through devices like flashbacks, time transitions, and shifts between past and present points of view (Basseler & Birke, 2022; Holm, 2025).

In connection with *Dollar Bahu*, the above-discussed theoretical approaches suggest that characters' identities are continually being constructed due to the constant interaction of memories of Indian traditions and current experience in America. Nonetheless, it should be stressed that the above-mentioned analyses do not pay much attention to the active role of memory in linking personal transformation with geographical change.

2.2 Diaspora Literature and Cultural Displacement

Themes in diaspora literature include those such as migration, identity, belonging, cultural hybridization, and transformation. Existing literature on Indian diasporic texts has been largely interested in the issues of conflict between the cultural background of immigrants and their experiences in the host country.

Most of the studies conducted on the work of Sudha Murty titled *Dollar Bahu* have focused on culture difference, economic expectations, and transformation of values in families (Aayushi & Kamboj, 2024; Wyly & Wilson, 2023). The text as the illustration of cultural values of India confronted with Western influences, whereas the gender roles in the society and the problems that women face (Kittikong, 2024; Vasanthan et al., 2025). While the existing literature helps understand the cultural and gender issues, it does so through the prism of social conflict and fails to consider the processes through which identities of the characters are reconstructed (Sharma & Chauhan, 2023; Vinayan & Raj, 2024).

This research differs from the existing works in its approach to migration, which is viewed as physical movement of people between different countries as well as a psychological journey based on memory and emotions.

2.3 Space, Place, and Identity Formation

The connection between space and identity has been studied in depth by cultural geographers and literary scholars. The humanistic theory of place by Tuan stresses that spaces gain significance based on people's experiences and emotions (Tuan, 1979). As places are cultural and social constructions rather than just physical sites.

Recent literature has also focused on the interaction between memory and spaces (Eichenbaum, 2017; Öztürk, 2026; Akdağ & Beyhan, 2024). Stress that spaces hold individual and collective memories based on cultural and historical associations. Such views are particularly important for *Dollar Bahu* because India and America are more than just geographical spaces. While India symbolizes emotional ties, continuity of family, and cultural memories, America is the land of opportunity, independence, and cultural change. Nevertheless, there is a lack of literature regarding how the contrasted spaces work with memories to affect character identity. It is exactly this gap that will be filled in by this research by studying spatial memory.

2.4 Research Gap and Present Study Contribution

The literature indicates that previous studies on *Dollar Bahu* have primarily concentrated on:

- Cultural conflicts between India and America
- Materialism and economic aspirations
- Gender roles and social expectations
- Family relationships and modernization

While these theoretical frameworks have provided insightful readings, there has been little consideration of the interrelation between time, space, and memory in the creation of identity. In studies of diaspora, the focus has often been on the external cultural contrasts while ignoring the internal psychological processes that take place via memories.

It is this research gap that the current study seeks to fill by offering a memory-based reading of *Dollar Bahu*. While past scholars have ignored it, the current research attempts to explore the process of identity formation in terms of memory, space, and time, among other factors (Snow & Corrigall-Brown, 2015).

III. METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design and Analytical Approach

The research design employed by this study to explore the connection between time, space, memory and identity construction in *Dollar Bahu* is qualitative and interpretive in nature. This research design employs the technique of textual analysis wherein narrative features, character experiences, dialogues, and spatial representation are studied using the concepts of memory studies, diaspora studies, and identity construction. The qualitative research design is the appropriate one to employ since the objective of the research

is not the quantitative analysis of the literary features of *Dollar Bahu* but its qualitative interpretation.

The methodological framework adopted in this study has been developed according to the relationship of research objectives to theoretical concepts. In this study, memories and their influence on character identity, migration and its impact on cultural and spatial negotiations, as well as temporal experiences that help link the past and present realities, are being explored. For this reason, memory theories will be used for the analysis of recollection and identity formation; diaspora theory will serve for the analysis of cultural displacement, while the spatial theory will be used for the examination of the relationship between geographical locations and emotions of belonging.

The overall framework of analysis in this study is illustrated in fig. 1.

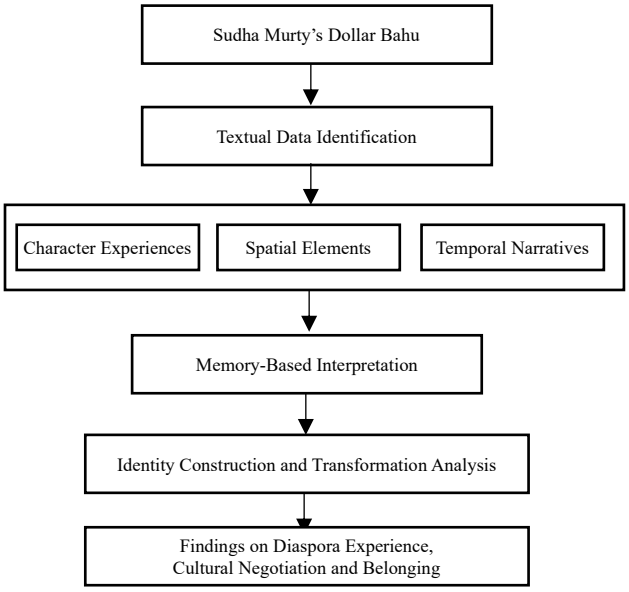


Fig. 1 Qualitative Analytical Framework for Examining Time, Space, Memory, and Identity Construction

3.2 Textual Selection and Sampling Criteria

The primary text chosen for this study is *Dollar Bahu*, written by Sudha Murty in Kannada as *Dollar Sose* and translated into English. This novel is chosen due to the significant representation of Indian diaspora experiences, culture change, family relations, and identity negotiations in both Indian and American settings. The choice was done considering the three important analytical dimensions of the text: migration between geographic places, change of identity, and importance of memories in the interpretation of past and current experiences.

The selected textual samples are narratives reflecting the interaction of memory, space, and identity (Linde, 2015; Balmes, 2020). In the text, the analysis is mainly focused on the experiences of Gouramma, Chandra Shekhar, Vinuta, Jamuna, Chitra, Asha, Shanta, and other immigrant characters demonstrating cultural assimilation, displacement, and identity negotiations. These elements consist of reflections of the characters, memories of their experiences, cultural comparisons, family relationships, migration experiences, and depictions of Indian and American landscapes. The sampling strategy is the purposive one, where the passages are selected based on their significance for the research questions instead of the random one.

3.3 Theoretical Framework

The study draws on several theoretical perspectives to explore the intricate connection between memory and identity in Dollar Bahu. The most prominent among these are the studies of memory that focus on the reconstruction of the past in relation to the present. The concepts of cultural memory developed by Assmann and the perspective of narrative memory described by Nünning will help to comprehend the connection between individual and collective cultural identities through the prism of personal experience.

In addition, spatial theories will be used to explore the influence of geographical locations on emotions and identity construction. The concepts of place and spatial experience elaborated by Tuan and Cresswell will assist in the analysis of India and America as symbolic places where cultural continuity, displacement, adaptation, and transformation take place (Cresswell, 2008). Moreover, the theory of diaspora will be employed to explain migration, negotiation, and identity experiences. All these theoretical perspectives combined will allow analysing identity as a process rather than a trait (Snow & Corrigall-Brown, 2015). This framework will help to transcend the conventional approach to cultural conflicts by exploring the inner processes of identity negotiation.

3.4 Qualitative Analysis Procedure

The textual analysis was done systematically through interpretation. The novel was first scrutinized repeatedly to obtain narrative fragments relevant to migration, cultural shift, memory, and identity transformation.

The chosen textual data was then categorized based on recurring themes, which include memory reconstructions, displacement in space, cultural negotiation, generational conflicts, gender issues, and identity transformation. These recurring themes were interpreted through the lens of the theoretical framework to find out links between memory, present situation, and future possibilities (Schacter et al., 1978).

The process of thematic interpretation consisted of the examination of individual experiences of particular characters, followed by comparing experiences of various characters in different situations. For instance, Gouramma's perception of America was interpreted as a progression from the imagination of memories to real experience. The same was done for other immigrants. The final step was the synthesis of all the interpretations to explain the role played

by time, space, and memory in identity formation within the novel.

3.5 Alignment of Methodology with Research Objectives

This adopted methodology will help in achieving the goals of the study by linking theoretical ideas with text analysis. The objective of analysis of memory as an identity-forming process will be achieved using the framework of memory studies, while migration and cultural transformation will be analyzed through a diaspora perspective. In the same way, the analysis of geographical experience and emotional belonging will be conducted through spatial theories.

This helps in interpreting the novel *Dollar Bahu* in depth by considering not only cultural differences that exist externally but also the internal psychological mechanisms through which the characters form their identity in a changing environment. The qualitative method is best suited for this study due to its scope as a journal since it shows how knowledge organization, narrative structure, and cultural information are created and interpreted through literary work.

3.6 Data Source and Analytical Criteria

The main data source of the study will be Sudha Murty's *Dollar Bahu*, which will form the basis of the corpus used to analyse memory, space, time, and identity construction. The corpus includes narrative components, character experiences, dialogues, and descriptive components in relation to migration, cultural transition, family relations, and identity construction (Balmes, 2020). The selected texts have been purposively chosen to meet the research objectives.

Qualitative analytical constructs such as memory reconstruction, spatial identity negotiation, temporal transformation, cultural adaptation, and identity construction will be applied in the course of the analysis as interpretive tools. These concepts will help to classify and interpret the textual information based on the framework of memory studies, diaspora studies, and spatial theories. Statistical analysis software or any other computational techniques will not be used because the study applies the approach to literary analysis.

To ensure replicability, textual passages have been chosen on the basis of predetermined criteria of the explicit presentation of experiences in relation to geographical displacements and identity transformations.

3.7 Ethical Considerations and Analytical Validity

As the research is based on literary textual analysis, it does not include any involvement of human subjects, conducting interviews, surveys, or gathering data from individuals. Ethics in this regard include proper interpretation of the literary text and its representation as well as correct citation of theoretical and literary sources (Sharma & Chauhan, 2023). All interpretations in this study are formed through proper interaction with the novel as well as with different academic approaches (Grosz, 2005).

To maintain reliability of the analysis, the research is based on systematic identification of themes and their textual analysis, as well as on theoretical triangulation that involves using several approaches to the same literary text instead of one interpretation.

IV. Results and Discussion

4.1 Analytical Findings from Time, Space, and Memory Framework

The qualitative analysis carried out within the framework outlined in the methodology section revealed the interrelation of memory, spatial experiences, time transitions, and identity formation in Sudha Murty's *Dollar Bahu*. The chosen textual excerpts have been analysed based on the thematic approach and taking into account the way in which characters form their identities in the context of the juxtaposition of their memories about cultural experience and current social reality. The results show that memory is not a simple act of recalling something but an interpretive activity when one reflects on their experiences, reinterprets their culture, and gains new perspectives on being (Pellicer-Ortín, 2018; Kirkegaard Thomsen et al., 2025).

Three thematic interpretive dimensions have been identified by means of the analysis: identity reconstruction based on memory, spatial interpretation of belonging to culture, and temporal change of self-perception. The results obtained were gained through the repeated interpretation of the characters' experience, reflection and descriptions of the Indian and American spaces in the novel.

4.2 Memory as a Mechanism of Identity Construction

These results prove that memory plays the role of an important instrument for character identity reconstruction. Memory affects not only storage of past experiences but also perception of current situations and ability to react to changes in the social environment. This idea corresponds to theoretical approaches developed by Nünning and Assmann and according to which memories are affected by the existing circumstances and cultural experiences of the community.

In the case of Gouramma's identity transformation, memory plays the most obvious role. Gouramma's perception of America was formed under the influence of the socially constructed memories about rich and luxurious life and immigrant successes. In other words, this perception of America is the result of construction and does not correspond to any personal experiences. However, the encounter with American families and parenting practices changes this perception and leads to identity transformation.

It means that Gouramma's identity transformation occurs due to both culture shock and the transformation of these memories through the prism of personal experience. Memories about relationships in Indian families were the reason for this resistance to American practices at first, but

then because of the same memories, their learned the real value of sincere relationships.

Finding 1: Memory operates as an identity reconstruction mechanism by connecting past experiences with present interpretations and future understanding.

4.3 Spatial Displacement and Cultural Identity Negotiation

In this regard, the analysis reveals that spaces in *Dollar Bahu* have cultural and emotional meaning for immigrants rather than being mere physical locations. The continuous movement between India and America implies an ongoing negotiation between memory of the homeland and the current experience of being a migrant. Thus, the analysis uncovers that character's attribute various symbolic meanings to spaces and that it impacts their perceptions of identity.

Thus, India serves as a space of family relations, cultural traditions, shared duties and obligations, and emotional involvement. On the contrary, America serves as a space of economic success, freedom, and social mobility. Yet, the analysis reveals that immigrant experiences prove that the host country also has its emotional barriers and uncertainties.

Gouramma's story provides an illustration of such change in perception. While the imagined America before immigration implied prosperity and social recognition, the real America was characterized by family structure differences and emotional communication problems. Hence, this study concludes that spatial displacement changes not only the physical environment but also perceptions of identity.

Hence, this finding broadens the understanding of the conventional diaspora interpretation by revealing that immigration involves continuous interaction between remembered spaces and experienced spaces. Hence, people do not give up their cultural identity but rather reshape it through negotiations in multiple spaces.

Finding 2: Spatial experiences influence identity formation by creating a dialogue between remembered homeland spaces and newly experienced cultural environments.

4.4 Temporal Experiences and Transformation of Self-Perception

From the outcomes of the study, it is clear that time serves as an essential element in the development of characters. In *Dollar Bahu*, the characters occupy several levels of temporal perspectives, ranging from the memory of past events to the reality of the present situation and to the hopes about the future situations. The interplay of various temporal perspectives allows the characters to reconsider their values and identity.

Gouramma's experience reflects this transformation from having an idealistic view of social success to a balanced view of emotional relationships. These past memories and hopes are gradually changed through direct confrontation with migration experiences. Just like Gouramma, immigrant characters like Chitra, Asha, and Shanta also have various relationships with time, where their past difficulties help shape their present freedom and future hope.

From the findings, it becomes clear that transitions in time do not negate past experiences but only reorganize them. Past struggles, cultural memories, and individual struggles serve as resources from which characters are able to interpret their current identity.

Finding 3: Temporal experiences contribute to identity transformation by enabling characters to reinterpret past memories according to present circumstances.

4.5 Comparative Interpretation with Existing Literary Approaches

Existing analysis of the novel *Dollar Bahu* has focused on cultural conflict, materialistic desire, and gender questions (Agrawal & Dwivedi, 2024). Even though these analysis methods have contributed to understanding of the social constructs portrayed in the novel, they offer a very narrow understanding of how the characters construct their identities in the process. This research will add to the existing analysis methods by using memory as a connection point between cultural experiences and space movements (Ekstrom & Hill, 2023; Akdağ & Beyhan, 2024; Cui et al., 2020). Table I shows the comparative analysis between existing analysis methods and the one used in this research.

TABLE I COMPARATIVE INTERPRETATION OF EXISTING APPROACHES AND PRESENT MEMORY-BASED ANALYSIS

Analytical Approach	Primary Focus	Research Limitation	Contribution of Present Study
Cultural conflict approach	Examines differences between Indian traditions and Western lifestyles	Mainly explains external cultural differences without exploring psychological transformation	Demonstrates how memories influence cultural negotiation and identity reconstruction
Gender-based approach	Analyses women's experiences and social restrictions	Gives limited attention to memory-driven changes in self-perception	Explores how remembered experiences contribute to women's identity development
Materialism approach	Focuses on wealth, status, and economic aspirations	Does not fully explain emotional and psychological transformation	Connects material expectations with changing perceptions of belonging
Present memory-based approach	Examines interaction between time, space, memory, and identity	Integrates multiple theoretical dimensions	Explains identity as a continuous process of remembering and reinterpretation

According to table I, the current study diverges from previous studies in that it focuses on the aspect of internal identity rather than external culture. Cultural adaptation is not only a social process but a psychological one as well.

4.6 Analytical Indicators for Qualitative Evaluation

Since the current research employs a qualitative literary research approach, the assessment of results relies on interpretive indicators rather than performance measures, which are numerical in nature. The following interpretive indicators were extracted from the theoretical framework and applied during the thematic analysis of how characters undergo identity transformation.

The indicators that were applied to evaluate the relationship between memory, migration, and identity formation are provided in table II below.

TABLE II ANALYTICAL INDICATORS USED FOR EVALUATING IDENTITY TRANSFORMATION IN DOLLAR BAHU

Analytical Indicator	**Interpretation within the Study**
Memory reconstruction	Examines how characters reinterpret previous experiences according to present situations
Spatial identity negotiation	Analyses how movement between India and America influences cultural belonging
Temporal transformation	Evaluates how past, present, and future experiences shape character development
Cultural adaptation	Examines responses to changing social and cultural environments
Identity reconstruction	Determines how migration experiences reshape self-understanding

The indicators in table II create a systematic link between the methodology and results. It shows that the analysis was done through systematically categorized themes and not subjectively.

4.7 Representation of Character Transformation Through Memory and Migration

The case of Gouramma is the key result of this study since the case shows the connection between memory, migration, and identity formation. This connection is illustrated by fig. 2 that shows how this identity formation evolves from having an ideal vision of America to a much more complicated one.

As shown in fig. 2, Gouramma's metamorphosis takes place through the interplay of expectations and experience. Migration acts as a trigger for introspection, which enables this to reassess some of these earlier perceptions of wealth, family, and status.

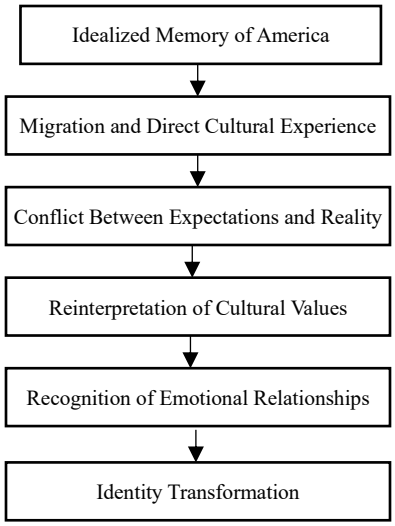


Fig. 2 Transformation of Gouramma's Identity Through Memory and Migration Experiences

4.8 Discussion

Findings suggest that *Dollar Bahu* portrays identity formation as an ongoing process that involves memory, space, and time interactions. While previous works mainly focused on cultural conflicts, materialistic desires, and gender relations in the novel, this research underscores the inner workings that shape the way characters reinterpret their experiences and transform their identities (Grace & Sivapurapu, 2026; Vinayan & Raj, 2024). Memory is found to be a processual type of cultural knowledge that allows characters to connect their past with the present and the future (Pellicer-Ortín, 2018).

The analysis additionally shows that the notion of migration in the novel goes beyond the geographical dimension and involves psychological and cultural dimensions as well (Cresswell, 2008). Contrasting representations of India and America demonstrate how spatial experiences play a role in shaping perceptions about belongingness, family, and social values. Transformation of Gouramma provides an example of how imaginary memories of America are changed with the help of real experiences.

At last, results make contributions to information and knowledge perspectives by highlighting the ways how narratives transmit cultural memories (Rigney, 2018). The thematic categories of memory reconstruction, spatial negotiation, and identity transformation provide insight into the organization of cultural knowledge in literary works. Therefore, this paper extends previous literary interpretations by showing how identity formation is a result of ongoing interaction between remembered experiences and changing environments.

4.9 Practical Implications and Analytical Significance

The results have practical implications in information management, digital humanities, and cultural information services in terms of how literary narratives maintain and

organize cultural knowledge through memory, space, and representations of identity. The themes of memory reconstruction, spatial negotiation, temporal transformation, and identity formation emphasize the necessity of contextual understanding in cultural information resource management.

The research objectives are addressed by the findings through the analysis of how characters reconstruct identities from past experiences and their changing environment. The study makes a contribution to the practice of knowledge organization by underscoring the need for social, cultural, and historical contexts in the representation of literary and cultural information.

4.10 Limitations of the Study

Although there is a thorough analysis of memory, space, and identity formation in *Dollar Bahu*, some limitations of this research should be mentioned. First, the analysis is limited only to one piece of literature and cannot show the full spectrum of Indian diaspora experiences. Second, the methodology of the research is based on qualitative interpretive methods; therefore, the results of the research are based on interpretation, not empirical measures or reader-response method.

Finally, the analysis is limited to certain characters and narrative aspects associated with memory and migration. Economic, political, and other historical factors of migration are outside the scope of this research. Further research in this field can include comparative analysis of various diasporic literature, cross-cultural research, or interdisciplinary research combining literary criticism and migration/cultural studies.

V. Conclusion

In this study, the connection between time, space, memory, and identity construction in Sudha Murty's *Dollar Bahu* was explored using a qualitative interpretive approach drawn from memory studies, perspectives on diaspora, and theories on spatial identity. Three major findings emerged during this analysis: identity reconstruction through memory; negotiation of spatial identity and cultural belonging; and change of self-perception in relation to temporality. These findings confirm that memory is an active process through which individuals reconstruct their experiences, organise cultural knowledge, and negotiate their identities in various social and geographical environments. The analysis of the transformation of Gouramma showed that migration is a process of physical and psychological movement, which involves the reconstruction of beliefs, values, and relations of a person. During the thematic evaluation, memory reconstruction, spatial identity negotiation, cultural adaptation, and identity transformation were recognised as the main analytical markers of character development. These findings add value to the perspective on information and knowledge management through showing the role of narrative in the preservation, organisation, and transmission of cultural experience. This study highlights the significance of personal memories and collective cultural knowledge in the identity representation in literary and social information systems. Studies and practitioners engaged in the field of knowledge organisation and cultural information management should pay attention to such aspects as emotional context, history, and space in the representation of human experience. The limitation of this study is its narrow focus on a literary work and qualitative interpretation. Possible directions of future research include comparative analysis of diasporic literature; multilingual literary studies; and the use of computational methods of narrative analysis in digital humanities.

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