



# NARRATIVES OF DIASPORA

Voices of Marginality and  
Visions of Exile

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# **Narratives of Diaspora: Voices of Marginality and Visions of Exile**

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## Homes in Transit : Examining Unhousement As A Trope of Diasporic Belonging in Jhumpa Lahiri's 'Hema and Kaushik'

Dr. Basudhara Roy\*

Home, as a concept, is largely assumptive, and this taken-for-granted nature of its acknowledgement often interferes with its effective academic theorization. The meaning and significance of home, as many writers and scholars from the field of diaspora studies have rightly argued, can be best understood in association with the notion of displacement and homelessness. The physiological and psychological state of being unhomed does not merely draw attention to its own crises, but throws into relief all the significations of home as a location of being in the world as well. While home is often objectively identified as adequate physical housing, its meanings justifiably foray far beyond this. Home, in common parlance, has several connotations. It is synonymous with places of dwelling; with origins, roots, final destinations; with a sense of ease, peace, comfort, acceptance, and security. Homes may be physical, imaginary, and even, mythical. Some people may feel

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