

# Some Notes towards the Redefinition of Development

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Despite recent revisionist studies of rereading and rewriting the literary history of *Bildungsroman* from the viewpoint of feminism, postcolonialism, and globalisation, the conceptions of *Bildung* and “development” remain crucial to the study and teaching of “English Literature” in general, and English *Bildungsroman* in particular. My aim here is try to redefine some ideas of development beyond the framework of modern nation state and its national culture by reexamining critically and historically literary and cultural definitions of development in connection with definitions of economic and political development in the global media space. My tentative attempt at redefining development explores its myriad and intricately interconnected terms or representations, thereby disclosing the various forms of antinomies, generated and reproduced by each Utopian/ideological resolution.

In the first section of this paper, I trace the genealogy of humanist tradition of the development of mind in literary and educational studies. The second section of this paper analyses some of the debates on economic development versus democracy in developing countries by paying special attention to the case of Africa. The third section shows the rift between Japan’s “growth strategies,” such as *Abenomics*, and the process of globalisation. In other words, the strategy of economic development proposed and discussed within the framework of modern nation state, my paper suggests, is put into question by the globalised new empire in which transnational corporations with finance capital are the main players in the present capitalist world.