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The Living Greens: The Use and Influence of Forests in Shakespeare's Plays

Manali Choudhury Department of English

Renaissance literature saw a marked amalgamation of the variant aspects of nature juxtaposed with human existence. Very aptly did Shakespeare speak of one of nature's aspects, that is, the forests, both blatantly as well as subtly throughout his works. Away from the hustle of the renaissance court, the forest provided a perfect ethos for the dropping of masks and changing of perspectives. Through his portrayal of both the tame and the wild, Shakespeare gave to the forests a more elevated status than one of a mere 'setting'. Shakespeare has made a prominent use of the forests in atleast six of his plays, namely, Timon of Athens, The Two Gentlemen of Verona, Titus Andronicus, A Midsummer Night's Dream, As You Like It and Henry IV Part II. The nature of the forests differed from one play to another. Sometimes they were the reflections of the various social constructs and at other times, they were everything that the renaissance society was not. Nevertheless, it is a matter of interpretation whether Shakespeare's treatment of these forests was from an eco-critical perspective. The present term paper thus, has two aims. First, to identify any intended pattern in the presentation of these forests. And second, to explore the possibilities of these presentations being from the eco-critical point of view.

This is no flattery: these are counselors That feelingly persuade me what I am.

(Complete Shakespeare, 260)

These fine words by Duke Senior in As You Like It do not speak of the any association with mankind, but speak of the relentless power of the natural world on the human persona. The Renaissance brought about in England a new spirit, the spirit to explore the unknown. William Shakespeare's drama did all to enhance this thirst and in doing so, one of the aspects that he did highlight was the forest. To the Elizabethans, the forests were emblematic of the uncertain and the fearful. Shakespeare however, journeyed his audience deep into the woods to show how they could mould the course of human lives.

It is of utmost importance to note the ongoing affairs of the times when Shakespeare was penning his drama to actually explore the implications of the aforesaid statement. His writing career spanned over the reigns mainly of Queen Elizabeth I and King James I. England was, at this time, undergoing radical changes due to the onset of the Renaissance. The court was full of hustle, wanted and unwanted. London was the hub of all activities. Trade and commerce also increased with the rise in strength of the English fleet, especially after the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588. Population increased which also led to the rise in pollution in the city areas. So much activity was too much for many and it became mandatory for them to break away from the noise of city life and withdraw into the tranquil woods time and again. The Queen herself notably preferred to go into the woods for recreation. May Day was celebrated by people taking walks in the woods.

Now, in this scenario, it will not be difficult for one to justify the repeated withdraw! of Shakespeare's characters into the woods. However, Shakespeare had other designs in mind, perhaps, than just lending an escape route. He was perhaps trying to explore the possibilities of these unknown realms of possessing powers to influence the lives of people. However, whether they could actually control or manipulate them directly is a matter of examination. If we take into account, some of his plays where a proper use of the forests is made, we may eventually come to some concrete resolution of this conflict.

James Turner, in his *The Politics Of Landscape* mentions, "A landscape embodies its owner; the same structure is discovered in both." Shakespeare's *Titus Androniciis* does nothing to defy this claim. It is a gory tragedy of a whole kingdom where individual interests rose above the state. The use of the woods here is a complete manifestation of the total absence of the ideas of virtue, justice, humanity, integrity and most of all, of order. The chaotic disintegration of the community due to the emotions of revenge, lust, greed, envy and faithlessness are all manifested in their entirety in the forests which to Titus initially seemed to be a good ground for hunting. The repeated references to the 'pit' and the 'hole' as Paul J. Willis rightly points out reflect the idea of the forests being hellish. The nature of the forests thus is synonymous with the nature of the people who inhabit them. The woods seemingly justify Aaron's claim of the forests having been "[fitted by kind for rape and villainy." (Complete Shakespeare, 811).

For Timon of Timon Of Athens, the forests provide a more tranquil ethos, mainly for the purpose of contemplation. Most exposures of characters are held outside the premises of the forests. However, with the change of fortune, in Timon, comes about a change of nature. He become

previously knew him, are unable to recognize him. He is full of revenge and the woods are cally place where he finds both shelter as well as solace. There can be passing reference which be made of *Macbeth*, where the Birnim was used as a prop in order to not only to defy and defeat Macbeth but also to disorient him. For Prince John of *Henry IV part* the forest provides the perfect address for the resolution of the problems of his father. The Gaultree forests provide him excellent opportunity to trick the rebels into believing that he was ready for a negotiation. No somer do they do so, that captures them and eventually executes them in order to render the terone fit to be occupied by his elder brother Hal.,

In the comedies, one may observe a more definite purpose of the woods. Exposure does not lead to the helplessness of characters as in the tragedies. Here, exposure leads to change which in turn gives way to resolution of crises. As is seen in *The Two Gentlemen Of Verona*. In the woods the words of the court finally become action. The verbal challenges so far meted out by Thurio and Valentine take shape here which lead to the revealing of Thurio's cowardice, Proteas's misgivings, Sebastian's actual identity and most important of all, Valentine's nobility. Exposures of somewhat same mature also take place in *A Mid Summer Night's Dream*. Here, the woods are of fantastical nature directly participate in building up of the chaos among the various groups of people present within them. The glade is one place which remains static to shape the dynamics of the confusions created among people. This play too is not free of exposure. Bottom, the self-claimed actor is revealed here as being an ass, literally. However, it is the same place where resolution of all misunderstandings takes shape with the traditional fashioning of the nuptials of the various lovers.

The most important of all 'forest plays' of Shakespeare is As You Like It. Here, the forests some alive with a kind of vibrance as is never seen in any of Shakespeare's plays. Adopted from he original source of Lodge's Rosalynd, the play is dominated not by any character but by the prest which acts as a machinery contributing actively to the development of the plot. There is no ildness in the negative sense of the term here. The opening lines of this paper are enough to oplain what the characters themselves feel about the forests. The forests offer a place where one in see, "tongues in trees, books in...brooks," "sermons in stones" and so on and so forth. The rests tame the wild like Oliver, reveal the hidden like Ganymede, unite lovers like Orlando and isalind make people fall in love like Oliver and Celia, change fortunes like of Duke Senior,

convert the strayed like Frederick and so on. The Arden, akin to the nameshake of Warwickshire, comes alive in Shakespeare.

Aristotle in his discourse *Poetics*, has given to setting a status far below that of character and plot. However, it is an established fact that Shakespeare was no advocate of the same idea and he did his best to digress from the normative provided by the early master. He manipulates his setting in such a way that it metamorphoses into character. In this context, Willis suggests:

...in Shakespeare, the Aristotlian thought is turned on its head. Forest as natural agent at moments becomes character. (Willis, 2)

However, the extent to which the forests are responsible directly in the shaping of characters and development of plots is a matter of contemplation. One might argue that most important events in the plays where the forests occur take place within them. But are the forests directly responsible for the events that are important. To say this possibly would be exaggeration. The forests no doubt are the venue and also sometimes take on the attributes of the character of the people themselves. This is perhaps done by Skakespeare to heighten the drama.

Moreover, to completely negate the idea of the participation of forests would be an oversimplification of Shakespeare's art. The forests provide various tests and trials for lovers and misanthropes like Frederick, Thurio, Proteas and so on. They also provide props for the various needs of those who inhabit them like the pits, the holes, the hanging tree and so on. They provide a vantage point for the likes of Timon and Marcus to measure the flaws of the self and the society. Sometimes, they mirror the attributes that characterize the court and at most times, they provide a relief from the flaws of the same. Most of all, it provides a shelter to all those who seek it which brings us to the next half of the discussion.

Shakespeare's recurrent use of the forests has become an effective concern for those who view the man-nature relationship as a definite theoretical discourse. From the present idea of ecocriticism; one may view Shakespeare's green machinery as his conscious effort to lend a sort of latent worth to the forests, time and again in his works. This modern discourse encompasses not only the natural elements but other aspects that naturally inhabit these green realms and their influence on the mankind. The kind of influence that the forests exercise over human endeavours has been established in the first half of the paper. So, with this thought in mind, one might partially deduce

that it is possible to approach Shakespeare's attempt to somewhat glorify this aspect offsetting'
from the ecocritical perspective.

Nevertheless, it must be kept in mind that the ecocritical approach is an essentially modern approach. Shakespeare, despite his inclinations for the same, cannot be canonized with the modern exponents of the discourse. However, we may note a growing tendency of scholars to believe that Shakespeare had also a tendency to feminize his idea of nature. This idea of nature as a feminine figure has been the highlight of Kate Soper 's discourse on ecofeminism in her Naturalized Woman and Feminized Nature where she says:

...we may associate a tendency to feminize nature viewed simply as landscape-trees, woodland, hills, rivers, streams, etc. are frequently personified as female or figure in similes comparing them to parts of the female body (Soper, 141)

This aspect of the modern discourse has found ample reference in the plays of Shakespeare where nature, in this case the forest, is the "skirt[s] of the wildwood" and a "fringe upon a petticoat". A later comment made by Soper is more interesting where she says:

Nature as a physical territory is also presented is a source of erotic delight, and sometimes of overwhelming provocation of masculine voyeur-violator. (Soper, 141)

This too has ample references in the plays, especially in the tragedies, of Shakespeare. In *Titus Andronicus*, the ravaging of Lavinia forms a great example of this type. In the comedies, this aspect of the forest works in a more interesting manner. It leads to several exposures like that of Proteas who in turn undergoes retribution and thus the resolution of the plot. This is a further highlight on the role of the forest as a contributor to the development of the plot.

Thus, one might observe from the above discussion that the forests are like members of the crew in the plays of Shakespeare. They, as if belonging to the dramatis personae of the plays get involved in the action lending a helping hand to the other figments of the plays to mould and shape the plots. Indeed, it may be an exaggeration to attribute to Shakespeare things which come centuries after his time. However, there is no doubt after the above examination that Shakespeare's treatment of the dark realms of uncertainty is a very modern aspect of his art which will remain eternally contemporary.

Spin Angular Momentum: A simple approach

Swayambhoo Mitra Department of Physics

Abstract

Angular momentum formalisms generally involve involvement of Dirac notations and Heisenberg matrix formalism to represent Pauli spin matrices. This article tries to present spin angular momentum in a simpler and comprehensive approach which eliminates complicated notations.

1 Unitary transformations induced by rotations of coordinate system

The change of representation induced by a rotation of the coordinate-axes, from S (unprimed OXYZ) to S'(primed OX'Y'Z') is first considered. To represent rotation through an angle θ about OZ. A point \mathcal{P} whose coordinates in S are \vec{r} , will have coordinates \vec{r} with respect to S', where

$$x' = x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta$$

$$y' = -x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta$$

$$z' = z$$
(1)

For a given state $\Psi(\vec{r})$, the wave function at \mathcal{P} has a definite value independent of the orientation of coordinate axes ¹. Hence the forms of the wave function in two reference frame must be identical i.e., $\Psi_P(\vec{r}) = \Psi_P'(\vec{r})$.

Arfken Weber

On substituting for \vec{r} from (1) and taking θ to be infinitesimal, one gets $\Psi'(x+y\theta,y-x\theta,z)=\Psi(x,y,z)$. The equation may be written as³

$$\Psi'(x,y,z) = \Psi(x-y\theta,y+x\theta,z)$$

$$= \Psi(x,y,z) + \theta \left[-y\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + x\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right] \Psi(x,y,z) + \mathcal{O}(2)$$
 (2)

The differential operator appearing in (2) is the operator for the z-component of angular momentum, L_z , apart from a multiplicative constant. The equation (2) reduces to

$$\Psi'(\vec{r}) = \left[1 + i\theta L_x/\hbar\right]\Psi(\vec{r})$$
 (3)

Thus (L_z/\hbar) acts as the generator of infinitesimal rotations about z axis. If the rotation is about any arbitrary axis along with the unit vector \vec{n} , we have

$$\Psi'(\vec{r}) = \left[1 + i\theta \vec{n} \cdot \vec{L}/\hbar\right] \Psi(\vec{r}) \tag{4}$$

For a rotation through a finite angle θ , by considering it as the limit $\aleph \to \infty$ of a combination of \aleph infinitesimal rotations, each through angle (θ/\aleph) , one obtains

$$Ψ'(\vec{r}) = e^{i\theta\vec{n}\cdot\vec{L}/\hbar}Ψ(\vec{r})$$
 (5)

For an n-particle system, the generators of rotations about the x-, y-, and z-axes are given by (L_x/\hbar) , (L_y/\hbar) , (L_x/\hbar) , where \vec{L} is now the sum of the angular momentum operators of the individual particles $\vec{L} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{n} \vec{L}_{\alpha}$.

Algebra of rotation generators

The rotation operators have a specific form (\vec{L}/\hbar) only when $\Psi_P(\vec{r}) = \Psi_P'(\vec{r'})$ is valid 5. The form of the commutation relations of the generators, shows

$$\left[\frac{L_x}{\hbar}, \frac{L_y}{\hbar}\right] = i\frac{L_z}{\hbar}, \left[\frac{L_y}{\hbar}, \frac{L_z}{\hbar}\right] = i\frac{L_x}{\hbar}, \left[\frac{L_z}{\hbar}, \frac{L_z}{\hbar}\right] = i\frac{L_y}{\hbar}. \tag{6}$$

²As θ becomes infinitesimally small, $\sin \theta \approx \theta$ and $\cos \theta \approx 1$.

²using Taylor's series up to first order.O(2) denotes terms of order two or higher.

Since the hermitian operation involving \vec{L} lies in the phase hence it must be unitary.

[₽] is a scalar field.

To understand the effect of infinitesimal rotation by angle θ about z- axis, on components of a vector (say \vec{A}) 6 (A_x, A_y, A_z), the transformation equation can be written as same form as (1).

$$\begin{pmatrix} A'_x \\ A'_y \\ A'_z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \theta & 0 \\ -\theta & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \\ A_z \end{pmatrix} = (1 + i\theta \Im_z) \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \\ A_z \end{pmatrix}^7 \tag{7}$$

Similarly, the rotation generators along x-, y- and z-axis can be tabulated as

$$\mathfrak{I}_{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathfrak{I}_{y} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -i & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathfrak{I}_{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^{8} \tag{8}$$

The commutators of these matrices can be easily calculated, this yields

$$[\Im_x, \Im_y] = i\Im_x, [\Im_y, \Im_x] = i\Im_x, [\Im_x, \Im_x] = i\Im_y^9$$
 (9)

The spin matrix 10 has the form

$$S_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -i\hbar \\ 0 & i\hbar & 0 \end{pmatrix}, S_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & i\hbar \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -i\hbar & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, S_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i\hbar & 0 \\ i\hbar & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 (10)

Taking θ to be infinitesimal, $\vec{A}'(\vec{r}) = \Re_{\vec{r}}(\theta)\vec{A}(\vec{r})$

$$\vec{A}'(x,y,z) = (1+i\theta\Im_x)\vec{A}(x-y\theta,y+x\theta,z)$$

$$= (1+i\theta\Im_x)[\vec{A}(x,y,z)+i\theta(L_x/\hbar)\vec{A}(x,y,z)]$$

$$= \left[1+\frac{i\theta}{\hbar}(L_x+S_x)\right]\vec{A}(x,y,z)^{11} \qquad (11)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \theta & 0 \\ -\theta & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = 1 + i\theta \Im_x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + i\theta \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

⁶in general a vector field

⁷1 stands for unit matrix and the rotation generator about z- axis \Im_z , is the coefficient of $i\theta$.

this is precisely of the same form as (6)

¹⁰spin at this point has no physical significance other than a vector which is related to rotation operators $\vec{S} = \hbar \vec{S}$

Since $S_z \equiv \hbar \Im_z$ is a matrix whose elements are independent of \vec{r} , it commutes with L_z ; the differential operator L_z acts on each component of \vec{A} independently. More generally, all components of \vec{S} commutes with those of \vec{L} , i.e., $|\vec{S} \cdot \vec{L}| = 0$.

3 Spin Angular Momentum

Considering the spin alone, one expects that spin must obey the general commutation relations

$$[S_x, S_y] = i\hbar S_z, [S_y, S_z] = i\hbar S_x, [S_z, S_x] = i\hbar S_y$$
 (12)

and hence there exists a simultaneous eigenstates | $s m_s > \text{of } \vec{S}^2$ and S_z . 12

$$\vec{S}^2 |s \, m_s> = s(s+1)\hbar^2 |s \, m_s>, \, S_z |s \, m_s> = m_s \hbar |s \, m_s> \, m_s = s, s-1, \dots, -s.$$
(13)

At this point one important difference between the orbital angular and spin angular momenta may be noted: while any particle can have arbitrary values $l\hbar$ $(l=0,1,2,\ldots)$; for the spins of any given kind of particle have a fixed value. Electrons, μ — mesons, neutrinos, neutrons, etc have $s=\frac{1}{2}$; π —mesons have s=0 and other stable and short-lived particles have definite values $(s=1, s=\frac{3}{2} \text{ etc.})$. Therefore, for a particular particle, only m_s can vary, i.e., it can take any of the (2s+1) values $s,s-1,\ldots,-s$.

Thus the (2s+1) states of $|s|m_s >$ form a complete set for the spin states of the particle; any arbitrary spin state |s| > can be written as

$$\left|s\right\rangle = \sum_{m_{s}=-s}^{s} \left|s \, m_{s}\right\rangle \left\langle s \, m_{s} \right| s \right\rangle$$
 (14)

The totality of such states constitutes the *spin space* of a particle of spin s. The set of (2s+1) coefficients $\langle s m_s | s \rangle$, considering as a function of m_s , is the *spin wave function* representing the spin state |s>. It can be written in the matrix formalism as a column whose elements are labeled by the values of m_s in decreasing order starting with $m_s=s$ at the top. If |s> itself is one of the basis states, say $|s m_{s'}>$, the only non-vanishing element of the wave function (column) is that with $m_s=m_{s'}$.

¹²Similar to J^2 and J_x .

4 Electrons and other spin ½ particles

The wave function for the basis states $|\frac{1}{2}| \frac{1}{2} >$ and $|\frac{1}{2}| - \frac{1}{2} >$ are

$$\alpha \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $\beta \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ respectively. (15)

 α is the wave function for the $m_s=\frac{1}{2}$ or spin up state, where the spin vector is visualized as pointing in the positive z- direction which is pictured as 'up'. While, β stands for the $m_s=-\frac{1}{2}$ or spin down wave function. General spin state $|s>=a \ \alpha+b \ \beta; \ \langle s|s>=s^{\dagger} \ s=1 \Longrightarrow |a|^2+|b|^2=1$. Since total probability must be unity thus the normalization condition is satisfied. The matrices σ_s must have α and β as the eigenvector, then the matrices σ (called Pauli matrices) must have the form

$$\sigma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \sigma_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \Longrightarrow \Sigma = \frac{1}{2}\hbar\sigma.$$
 (16)

Similarly one can define raising $(\Sigma_+ = \Sigma_x + i\Sigma_y)$ and lowering operators $(\Sigma_- = \Sigma_x - i\Sigma_y)$ having the following form

$$\Sigma_{+} = \frac{\hbar}{2}\sigma_{+} = \hbar \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Sigma_{-} = \frac{\hbar}{2}\sigma_{-} = \hbar \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 (17)

and having properties

$$\Sigma_{+}\beta = \hbar\alpha$$
, $\Sigma_{-}\alpha = \hbar\beta$ and $\Sigma_{+}\alpha = \Sigma_{-}\beta = 0$ (18)

Physically Σ_{-} flips spin from 'up' to 'down' and Σ_{+} does the opposite; and they annihilate the states with the lowest and highest values of m_{s} respectively.

5 Spin wave function for a system of two Spin ¹/₂ particles

Considering total spin s of a two-electron¹³ system, it can have two values of s=1 (i.e, $\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}$) and s=0 (i.e, $\frac{1}{2}+-\frac{1}{2}$). The three wave functions for

[&]quot; electron as the representative of all spin half particles.

s=1 (m=1,0,-1) are given in terms of spin functions $\alpha(1)$, $\beta(1)$ of the first electron and $\alpha(2)$, $\beta(2)$ of the second electron, by

$$s|1, 1 > = \alpha(1)\alpha(2)$$

 $s|1, 0 > = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\alpha(1)\beta(2) + \beta(1)\alpha(2)]$
 $s|1, -1 > = \beta(1)\beta(2)$ (19)

The first and last of these are trivial, since only way m=1 can be obtained is having spin 'up' for both the electrons $(m_1=m_2=\frac{1}{2})$, and similarly for m=-1. Both these wave functions are *symmetric* under interchange of two electrons (i.e., label 1 and 2), and the same property is expected for s|1,0> too, since it differs from the other two only in the direction of the angular momentum vector. The set of wave functions for which total spin is 1 is collectively referred to as the *triplet* state (denoted as s) of the two electron system. Here the two spins are visualized to be *parallel*.

Similarly, one may obtain for s = 0, $s|0,0> = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\alpha(1)\beta(2) - \beta(1)\alpha(2)]$. This wave function is deduced directly from the fact that it is orthogonal to s|1,0> besides having $m=m_1+m_2=0$. This state is called the *singlet* state (denoted by ¹s) of the two electron system. Here the two spins are presumed to be *anti-parallel*.

6 Conclusions

The article tries to simplify mathematically rigorous methodology adopted in many of the text books by a physically understandable picture of spin angular momentum. It assumes understanding of advanced classical mechanics (specifically Poisson's brackets in reference to commutation relations in $\vec{r} \times \vec{p}$ systems). Concepts of basic quantum mechanics is capable of making reader gain fairly clear understanding of complex two half spin systems without detailed coupling mechanisms, CG coefficients and detailed operator formalisms.

7 Reading list

Arfken, et al., Mathematical Methods for Physicists, 6 ed., Elsevier.

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'Om Īs'āvāsyamidam sarvam yatkinca jagatyām jagat'

-Is'ā Upanisad 1.1

This world and everything in it is constantly changing. But that which sustains it is never changing. It is always the same. That is the Truth.

Advancement of Stem Cell Research for the Therapies of Human Diseases

Swati Roy Gangopadhyay M.Sc, PhD, Dept of Microbiology

A couple once visited the doctor's chamber for the treatment of their only child born with malassaemia. The doctor has made them understand the serious consequence of the disease and rescribed blood transfusion as well as iron chelation therapy. But with a surprise he also suggested the couple for the second baby under complete medical supervision. The couple was told that the foetus will be analysed for the β globin gene, if any mutation is detected then the pregnancy will be terminated. Fortunately after DNA testing, the foetus was found to have normal β globin gene. Ultimately the mother gave birth to a healthy son. The new born raised a new hope to the couple's life. The baby's umbilical cord blood stem cells were preserved. The cells were found to be immunologically compatible (HLA matched) with his brother and used for the treatment of thalassaemia to save his life.

This is not a story but in reality stem cell therapy seems to be very much promising now days for the treatment of many diseases like cancer, parkinson's disease, huntington's disease, cardiac failure, thalassaemia, different types of muscle disorders etc. The therapeutic strategy relies on the introduction of stem cells into the damaged tissue in order to treat disease or injury.

What are stem cells?

Stem cells are undifferentiated cells that can differentiate into particular type of cells when cultured in specific medium in vitro. Moreover these cells can undergo mitosis to produce more stem cells. Stem cells are mainly of two types. i) embryonic stem cells and ii) adult stem cells.

Embryonic stem cells:

Embryonic stem (ES) cells are undifferentiated cells that were first isolated from the inner cell mass of a blastocyst by Evans and Kaufman in 1981. They can be cultured *in vitro* by growing them in a dish coated with mouse embryonic skin cells that have been treated so they will not divide. This coating layer of cells (called a feeder layer) provides a surface to which the ES cells can attach and, in addition, releases nutrients into the culture medium. Unlike most other animal

cells, they can be maintained in culture, through successive cell divisions for long periods. ES cells in culture remain undifferentiated provided that they are grown well separated from each other. If they are allowed to clump together, they begin to differentiate spontaneously. ES cells have the potential to form all of the cell types of the mature animal (muscle, nerve, skin etc.) including the gam etes (N agy et al., 1993). In addition, systems for the specific differentiation of cultured ES cells have been developed (Keller, 1995). For example, ES cells cultured in the presence of stromal cells and various cytokines resulted in the generation of primitive erythrocytes and other haematopoietic precursor cells (Nakano, Kodama and Honjo, 1994; Kennedy et al., 1997). During mammalian development, embryonic stem cells differentiate into all specialized cells like ectoderm, endoderm and mesoderm.

Adult stem cells:

In adult, stem cells and progenitor cells participate in the repair and regeneration of damaged tissues. Haematopoiesis i,e continuous production of RBC and lymphocytes take place from haematopoietic stem cells (HSCs). There are three accessible sources of autologous adult stem cells in human. Autologous cells are obtained from individual's own body, harvesting involves the least risk and cells are immunologically compatible.

- Bone marrow, that requires extraction by harvesting or drilling into the bone like femur or iliac crest
- ii) Adipose tissue (lipid cells) requires extraction by liposuction
- iii) Blood, which requires extraction through apheresis i.e blood, is drawn from the donor, passed through a machine to extract the stem cells and return the rest portion of the blood to the donor.
- iv) From umbilical cord blood: Stem cells can also be taken from cord blood just after birth.

Properties of stem cells:

- Self renewal: Is the ability of the stem cells to undergo mitosis through numerous cell.
 cycles and thus maintaining the undifferentiated state.
- Potency: Potency is the capacity of the stem cells to undergo differentiation into distinct cell types. Depending upon the potency the stem cells may be
 - Totipotent or omnipotent: Stem cells can differentiate into embryonic as well as extra embryonic cell types. Cells produced by first few divisions of fertilized eggs are also totipotent.

- ii) Pluripotent: Pluripotent stem cells are descendants of totopotent cells and have the ability to differentiate into nearly all types of cells, as for examples cells derived from any of the three germ layers. ES cells are pluripotent that do not contribute in the formation of placenta.
- Multipotent: Stem cells can differentiate into a number of cell types but those of a closely related family of cells. Most of the adult stem cells are lineage restricted and are generally referred to by their tissue origin (mesenchymal stem cell, adipose derived stem cell, endothelial stem cell, dental pulp stem cell etc). These stem cells are found in amniotic fluid which has the potentiality to differentiate into adipogenic, osteogenic, myogenic, endothelial, hepatic and also neural cell lines.
- Oligopotent stem cell: Stem cells can differentiate into only a few cell types, such as lymphoid or myeloid stem cells.
- v) Unipotent stem cell: Unipotent cell can produce only one cell type. But have the property of cell renewal which distinguishes them from non- stem cells, as for example muscle stem cell, progenitor cell.

Adult cells can be converted into pluripotent stem cell (iPSCs):

Adult cells can be converted to pluripotent stem cells by introducing a specific set of pluripotency- associated genes, or "reprogramming factors" into a given cell type that modulate the cellular transcriptional programme. The iPSCs technology was pioneered by Shinya Yamanaka's lab in Japan and was awarded the Nobel Prize along with Sir John Gurdonin in the year 2012 for the discovery that "mature cells can be reprogrammed to become pluripotent". But the revolutionary achievement on the stem cell research came when Haruko Obokata from Harvard medical School, Boston and their colleagues published the paper in Nature, January, 2014, showing the reversion of adult cells to ES cells without nuclear manipulation or addition of any transcription factor. They exposed the haematopoietic adult cells taken from new born mice and subjected to mild acidic condition pH5.5 for just half an hour at 37°C. The stress induces the reprogramming of cells and unlike ES cells, the adult cells were found to be capable of contributing to both embryonic and placental tissue formation. This technique appears to be far easier and faster than current method of creating stem cells. It is also interesting to note that the researchers achieve the same measure of success when they repeated the experiment using various adult mice cells- brain, muscle, fat, bone marrow and lung. Although the study was conducted on mice, studies with

human cell are also on progress (bostonglobe.com, The Hindu, 30th January, 2014). These astounding results have definitely opened a new horizon in the field of regenerative medicine.

Stem cells in therapy:

Many medical researchers believe that the stem cell treatment have the potential to change the face of human disease and alleviate suffering. The stem cells can be replaced in diseased and damaged area of the body because of their self renewal ability and the potentiality to give rise to subsequent generations through cell cycle with significant degree of differentiation. This therapy has minimal risk of rejection and side effects. Although a number of stem cell therapies exist, most are at experimental stages, costly or controversial with the notable exceptions of bone marrow transplantation. Researchers anticipate that adult and embryonic stem cells will soon be able to treat Cancer, Type I Diabetes mellitus, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, Cardiac failure, Celiac disease, different types of muscle disorders etc. The list below indicates the disease and conditions where stem cell treatment is promising or emerging.

- Stroke
- Traumatic brain injury
- Learning defects
- Alzheimer's disease
- Parkinson's disease
- Missing teeth
- Wound healing
- Bone marrow transplantation (Currently established)
- Spinal cord injury
- · Osteoarthritis or Rheumatoid arthritis
- Baldness
- Blindness
- Deafness
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
- Myocardial infraction

- Muscular dystrophy
- Diabetes
- Multiple sites cancer.

In 2005 Brian J Cummings et al have shown that human CNS stem cells grown as neurospheres (hCNS-SCns) survive, migrate and express differentiation markers for neurons and oligodendrocytes after long term engraftment in spinal cord injured NOD-SCID mice. This engraftment was associated with locomotory recovery and suggests that hCNS-SCns may possess therapeutic potential for CNS injury and disease. (Brian J Cummings, 2005)

Strauer Bodo-Eckehard et al have done intracoronary bone marrow cell therapy in 191 patients with chronic heart failure due to ischemic cardiac myopathy. The control group consisted of 200 patients with comparable left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF). Over 3 to 5 months after intracoronary BMC therapy there was significant improvement in haemodynamics, exercise capacity, oxygen uptake and LV contractility. Moreover there was a significantly decrease in long term mortality in BMC treated patients compared with the control group.

Researchers have also shown that application of multipotent stem cells from cord blood in autoimmune type I diabetic patients resulted in control of autoimmunity, protection of islet of β cell mass, and overcoming the shortage of insulin producing cells. (Yong Zhao et al)

Marie-Catherine-G a have developed a culture system for Ex vivo production of mature human red blood cells from haematopoietic stem cells of diverse origins. By mimicking the marrow micro environment through the application of cytokines and co culture on stromal cells, substantial amplification of CD34+ stem cells with 100% terminal differentiation into fully mature, functional RBCs took place. These cells were found to survive in nonobese diabetic/ severe combined immunodeficient mice as do native RBCs. This pioneering work establishes an in vitro model for studying human viral or parasitic infections that target erythroid cells. Moreover development of large scale production of cultured RBCs will have implications for gene therapy, blood transfusion and tropical medicines. (Marie-Catherine-G et al)

S-S Kang reported that a 37 year old female patient suffering from spinal cord injury underwent HLA matched UC blood derived multipotent stem cell transplantation directly into the injured spinal cord site and this therapy improved her sensory perception, and movement of hips and thighs within 41 days of cell transplantation. CT and MRI results also

showed regeneration of the spinal cord at the injured site and suggested a good treatment method for SPI patients (S-S Kang et al).

Stem cell research for the development of drugs:

The ability to grow up functional adult tissues indefinitely in culture creates new opportunities in drug research. Researchers are able to grow up differentiated cell lines and then test new drugs on each cell type to examine possible interaction in vitro before performing in vivo studies.

Stem cell banking:

Stem cell banking is the preservation of baby's cord blood cells so that they can be used if required to help treatment for serious medical conditions. As the umbilical cord blood is rich in pluripotent stem cells it could be someday be used as treatment if one's child gets serious diseases in future. It might also be useful for a sick sibling or relative. Banking cord blood is a way of preserving potentially lifesaving cells that usually get thrown away after birth. This banking is just a form of "insurance" in case of one's children ever get sick.

Method for the preservation of UC cord cell

Bank sends nurse and technical person with preserving kit to the hospital where the delivery has taken place.

About 60-80 ml of cord blood is collected within 10 min after birth.

Within 48 hrs the sample has to be processed and persevered safe and secure at -196°C.

The cells can be preserved for 21 years.

Life cell is the India's largest accredited stem cell banking company that was established in the year 2004 in a technical collaboration with Cryo Cell International and introduced the concept of UC stem cell bank in India. Currently life cell has 80,000 customers in India who have preserved their baby's stem cell. Approximate cost of stem cell banking is 60000/-to 70000/-

Laws have been enacted in US to create awareness on cord blood banking and financial aid provided in country like Singapore. India lags behind world indicators significantly with extremely low public cord blood units and lack of bone marrow donors. Therefore there is a dire need a address both awareness and affordability to increase adoption of stem cell banking in order combat with the serious human diseases.

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Liquid Crystals and Its Application to Everyday Life

Dr A N Chatterjee Associate Professor of Physics (Retd.)

In 1888, an Austrian botanist Friedrich Reinitzer observed that a material known as cholesteryl benzoate had two distinct melting points. In his experiment, Reinitzer increased the temperature of a solid sample and watched that the crystal change into a hazy liquid. As he increased the temperature further, the material changed again into a clear, transparent liquid. Because of this early work, Reinitzer is often credited with discovering a new phase of matter - the *liquid crystal* phase.

What is a liquid crystal?

Liquid crystal is a distinct phase of matter observed between the crystalline (solid) and isotropic (liquid) states and has the properties common to both. Molecules in the liquid crystals tend to arrange themselves until they all point in the same specific direction so that the medium flows like a liquid. There are many types of liquid crystal states, depending upon the amount of order in the material. Nematic liquid crystal is a common type. The name comes from the Greek word for "thread" because of the thread-like formations of the material. Smectic liquid crystal has a soapy texture and retains some positional order in that the molecules concentrate in planar layers. Quite often, mixing different kinds of liquid crystal can result in a material that has more useful properties. These lytropic liquid crystal substances are extremely important in display applications.

We shall not discuss the scientific details about these phases but discuss the technological application of liquid crystals in daily life.

Electric and Magnetic Field Effects

The response of liquid crystal molecules to an electric field is utilized in industrial applications. A particular sort of nematic liquid crystal, called twisted nematics (TN), is naturally twisted. Applying an electric current to these liquid crystals will untwist them to varying degrees, depending on the voltage. The ability of the substance to align along an external field is caused by the electric nature of the molecules. In some cases, the field produces slight re-arrangement of electrons and protons in molecules such that an induced electric dipole results. The effects of magnetic fields on liquid crystal molecules are analogous to electric fields. Because magnetic fields are generated by

When a magnetic field is applied, the molecules will tend to align with or against the field.

Liquid Crystal Displays (LCD)

The most common application of liquid crystal technology is in liquid crystal displays (LCDs). From the ubiquitous wrist watch and pocket calculator to an advanced VGA computer screen, this spe of display has evolved into an important and versatile interface. Liquid crystals possess light modulating properties. They do not emit light directly. This property of the liquid crystal is used to construct liquid crystal displays. A liquid-crystal display (LCD) is a flat panel display, electronic resual display, or video display. LCDs display arbitrary images or fixed images which can be displayed or hidden. These images may be preset words, digits, and 7-segment displays as in a digital clock.

How liquid crystal display (LCD) works

LCDs use a simple grid to supply the charge to particular pixels on the display. LCDs start with two glass layers called the substrates. One substrate is given rows and the other is given the columns, made from a transparent conductive material. The liquid crystal material is sandwiched between the two glass substrates, and the polarizing film is added to the outer side of each display. To turn on a pixel, the control (integrated) circuit sends a charge down the correct column of one substrate and a ground activated on the correct row of the other. The row and column intersect at a designated pixel, and that delivers the voltage to untwist the liquid crystals at that pixel.

The construction of a simple LCD is shown in Figure 1. It has a mirror (A) in back, which makes it reflective. There is a piece of glass (B) with a polarizing film on the bottom side, and a

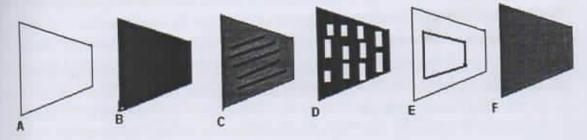


Fig 1
common electrode plane (C) made of indium-tin oxide on top. A common electrode plane covers
the entire area of the LCD. Above that is the layer of liquid crystal substance (D). Next comes
another piece of glass (E) with an electrode in the shape of the rectangle on the bottom and, on top,
another polarizing film (F), at a right angle to the first one.

In the absence of an electric field, the orientation of the liquid-crystal molecules is determine by the alignment at the surfaces of electrodes. In a twisted nematic device, the surface alignment directions at the two electrodes are perpendicular to each other, and so the molecules arrang themselves in a twisted helical structure. A rotation of the polarization of the incident light take place, and the device appears gray. If the applied voltage is increased further and when it is large enough, the liquid crystal molecules in the center of the layer are almost completely untwisted are the polarization of the incident light is not rotated as it passes through the liquid crystal layer. The light will then be mainly polarized perpendicular to the second filter, and thus be blocked and the pixel will appear black. By controlling the voltage applied across the liquid crystal layer in each pixel, light can be allowed to pass through in varying amounts thus constituting different levels gray.

Back Lit and Reflective Liquid Crystal Displays (LCD)

Liquid crystal materials emit no light of their own. Small and inexpensive LCDs are off reflective, which means if they are to display anything, they must reflect the light from exten light sources. The numbers in an LCD watch appear where the small electrodes charge the liquid crystals and make the crystals untwist so that the light is not transmitting through the polarization. Backlit LCD displays are lit with built-in fluorescent tubes above, beside and sometin behind the LCD. A white diffusion panel behind the LCD redirects and scatters the light evenly ensure a uniform display. In the reflective mode, available light is used to illuminate the disp. This is achieved by combining a reflector with the rear polarizer. It works best in an outdoor well-lighted office environment. Transmissive LCDs have a transparent rear polarizer and do reflect ambient light. They require a backlight to be visible. They work best in low-light condition with the backlight on continuously.

Applications:

There are wide ranges of applications of liquid crystal displays. They include computer monitolevisions, instrument panels, aircraft cockpit displays, and signage. They are also used in consudevices like video players, gaming devices, clocks, watches, calculators, and telephones, and as a replacement of cathode ray tube (CRT) displays in most applications. The advantage of L are that one can construct screens of larger sizes than the CRT and as phosphors are not use LCD so there is no image burn-in in LCDs. The energy efficiency of the LCD screen is more the CRT and the disposal of LCD screen is much safer than a CRT. The low electrical processing the consumption enables it to be used in battery-powered electronic equipment.

Sexual Harassment at Workplace and its Prevention

Molly Ghosh

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Barrackpore Rastraguru Surendranath College E-mail: molly.ghosh@gmail.com

Crime against women is the most common and rampant among all forms of crimes and may take myriad forms. In most of the cases they remain unreported because of gender biasness of the machinery, fear of social taboo of the victims. The data we find in reports of National Crime machinery, fear of social taboo of the victims. The data we find in reports of National Crime machinery, fear of social taboo of the victims. The data we find in reports of National Crime machinery, fear of social taboo of the victims. The data we find in reports of National Crime machinery, fear of social taboo of the iceberg. In this column I will focus on one particular crime which has also recently become very debatable—sexual harassment at workplace. The very recent megation against Tarun Tejpal of Tehelka and Justice Ashok Ganguly of West Bengal Human lights Commission is all about this sexual harassment at workplace. In both cases the victims are make said also subordinates of the convict. My purpose is to make the employees and students higher educational institutions aware of the relevant legal provision so that in their present or finare professional lives they are not victimised or they can stand by their colleagues if they face such harassment. Knowledge of laws and rights can make one better equipped to face the world. Now it's time that men and women get aware of the rights that ensure gender justice.

Sexual harassment at workplace should be understood in a broader context and not merely from the perspective of physical harassment. It is not simply harassing someone sexually but also am infringement of Fundamental Rights as enshrined under Article 14,15 and Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. Article 14 and 15 of the Indian Constitution guarantees right to equality whereby all persons are equal in the eyes of law. Article 21 guarantees Right to Life and Personal Liberty which also now include right to live life with dignity. Besides, every citizen has the right to practise any profession, occupation, trade or services and if sexually harassed at the workplace by the authority or colleagues, this right is violated. This right also includes the right to have a safe and secure environment at the workplace. All these rights are not merely Fundamental Rights but also universally recognized Human Rights according to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights2. The Convention of Elimination of Discrimination against Women(CEDAW) has laso been ratified by India and any sexual harassment of women goes against CEDAW.In workplace ,the victims of harassment are mostly the subordinates and the offender is the superior authority. In many cases the subordinates are not in a position to protest against someone in a position of power. Often it is heard in such cases that it is not harassment but an act based on mutual consent. But when the offender and the victim occupy different positions

of power, the idea of free and spontaneous consent does not work. Keeping in view these reasons the Government of India passed the Sexual Harassment at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.

The Background

The demand for making sexual harassment at workplace a punishable offence started after the case of Bhanwari Devi. Bhanwari Devi, a sathin worker of Rajasthan Government, used to campaign against child marriage as a part of her duty. Once while discharging her duty she was gangraped. When she registered a complaint the accused were arrested but later acquitted by the local court .Bhanwari Devi continued her fight for justice and appealed to higher court. A nongovernmental organization (NGO) called Visakha came forward to support the cause of Bhanwari Devi and appealed to the Supreme Court to issue some directive to prevent sexual harassment at workplace. In dealing with this particular case the Supreme Court issued the Visakha Guidelines in 1997. Since 1997 the Visakha Guidelines was the only legal safeguard to deal with sexual harassment at workplace. But since it was a guideline only and not an Act its enforceability remained questionable. Very few organizations actually took step to implement these guidelines .And guidelines cannot ensure any penalization also. On demand from various quarters this guidelines later became the basis of the Sexual Harassment at Workplace(Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. So it is no longer a guideline but a full-fledged act passed by the Parliament. The Delhi Rape case of December 2012 and the public unrest following it further aggravated the demand of a law and finally the bill got its passage through the Parliament.

What is a Workplace under this Act?

Under this act workplace includes

- Any department, organization, undertaking, enterprise, institution, office, branch or unit which
 is owned, controlled and fully or partly financed by the government, local
 authority, government company, or cooperative
- Any private sector organization, enterprise, undertaking, society, trust, NGO and service provider carrying on commercial, professional, vocational, educational, industrial, health or financial activities
- Hospitals or nursing homes
- Any sports institute
- Any place visited by the employee arising out of her employment and it also include transportation provided by the employer
- The unorganized sector, i.e., organizations providing products or services and employed less than 10 employees

In an organization, ad-hoc or contractual employees are also covered under this Act. It is these people who are more vulnerable and have little option to protest considering their insecured position. The domestic workers are also protected by this Act.

What comprises Sexual Harassment?

Sexual Harassment includes any one or more than one of the following activities, both directly and implication:

- Any physical contact or advances made towards a woman
- A demand or request for sexual favour
- Making sexually coloured remarks
- Showing pornography
- Implicit or explicit promise of preferential treatment in her employment
- Implicit or explicit promise of detrimental treatment in her employment
- Implicit or explicit threat about her present or future employment status
- Creating an offensive or hostile work environment for her
- · Humiliating treatment likely to affect her health and safety

What an aggrieved woman would do?

If a woman employee faces any one of the above mentioned actions she may file a written complaint to Internal Complaints committee under Sexual Harassment Act, 2013. This act mentions that every organization must have an Internal Complaints Committee to deal with allegations of sexual harassment. This internal committee should be presided over by a senior lady employee and must contain representatives of all sections of the employees. It is responsible for redressal of complaints. If there is any complaint It would make an enquiry based on the allegation and present its report to the employer. At least half of the members of this committee should be women. If the aggrieved woman is illiterate and cannot make a written complaint, the committee may help her. The complaint should be made within three months of the incident or in case of series of incidents within three months of the occurrence of the last incident. The committee on receiving the written complaint should make an enquiry on the issue and submit its report to employer recommending action under the respective service rule. The Act also provides for conciliation mediated by the Imemal Compliants Committee. While making the enquiry the Internal committee shall have the power as that of civil court. On the part of the employer, It is the duty of the employer to provide a safe working environment to its women workers and to organize awareness campaigns and orientation programmes to sensitize its employees on the issue.

Sexual Harassment and Higher Educational Institutions

As it is evident from the Act, it is primarily for workplaces. But higher educational institutions have a different scenario as here the students are also involved, who are not employees but

definitely one of the stakeholders of the institution. Keeping in mind the need of students or scholars it can be said that the present act requires further modification, if it is to be made properly applicable to the HEIs. However, the University Grants Commisssion has also asked the HEIs to form an Internal Complaints committee where students as well as staff can complain and seek redressal of their grievances on this matter. Not only that the same cell would also be responsible of taking preventive measures through awareness generation in the campus. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has also made it mandatory that HEIs form this cell/committee. Yet still now very few HEIs have formed the Internal Complaints Committee in their respective institutions. What is needed is sensitization of employees and mobilization so that they pressurize the authority to form an Internal Committee. Sexual harassment is not simply a woman's problem to be dealt with by women only. Everybody needs to raise voice on the issue and take measures to ensure a harassment free environment for all employees.

There is a rightful objection on this act from different quarters as many people find it biased . It is alleged that it protects interest of women employees only keeping aside the issue of sexual harassment of male employees. There are surely instances of harassment of male employees also but that number is too negligible as compared to the instances of harassment of women employees in different guises. It is a patriarchal society where the position of power are mostly occupied by male making them often exploit their powerful position to seek pleasure through undue means. Lack of representation in decision-making forums, weak financial position, job insecurity further aggravate the situations. The Act still has several loopholes like lack of applicability to the unorganized sector, the idea of compensation to the respondent etc. In the organized sector there could be the Internal Complaints Committee but things would be tougher in the unorganized sector where there cannot be an internal committee and the workers would need to move to the Local Committee formed by the government for the purpose. Though we are having an act now but the governments in the respective states are yet to form a functional local committee at the district level to deal with these allegations. Even the organized sectors and the government undertakings have not been fully successful in the implementation of the act. What is needed is more awareness generation at all levels so that the employees themselves lobby for the implementation of the act. Misuse of the act is also another issue that is raised while arguing against such act. Framing an innocent is undoubtedly a thing to be opposed and criticized from all quarters. But at the same time keeping the onus of proving the allegation to the victim and making failure to substantiate her claim a punishable offence is also not a solution. Sensitization and awareness generation, open and free discussions on these issues, protesting any small move of unwelcome gesture can contribute a lot to prevent these offences and prevention is always better than cure.

Source: The Gazette of India, New Delhi, Tuesday, April 23, 2013

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Molecular Mechanism of the Establishment of Dengue Virus Infection

Dr. Swati Roy Gangopadhyay Department of Microbiology

Dengue is a mosquito-borne viral infection found in tropical and sub-tropical regions around the world. In recent years, transmission has increased predominantly in urban and semi-urban areas and has become a major international public health concern. Dengue virus belongs to the family of Flaviviridae. Dengue infection can manifest in three clinical forms of increased severity as classical dengue fever, dengue hemorrhagic fever and dengue shock syndrome. Classical dengue fever is associated with high fever, headache, arthralgia and myalgia. Dengue hemorrhagic fever is distinguished from classical fever by plasma leakage and thrombocytopenia. In severe cases circulatory failure, shock (dengue shock syndrome) and death can take place. Dengue hemorrhagic fever and dengue shock syndrome are most serious clinical manifestation of viral infection and proper medical care is needed to avoid complication and risk of death (1).

The four distinct, but closely related, serotypes of the virus that cause dengue infection are DEN-1, DEN-2, DEN-3 and DEN-4. Recovery from infection by one serotype provides lifelong munity against that particular serotype. However, cross-immunity to the other serotypes after recovery is only partial and temporary. Subsequent infection by other serotypes increases the risk of developing severe dengue by antibody dependent enhancement (2-4).

Structure of Dengue virus:

Dengue fever virus (DENV) is an RNA virus of the family Flaviviridae; genus Flavivirus.

Morphologically DENV is a spherical particle of appx. 50 nm in diameter and contains a scleocapsid of 30 nm surrounded by a lipid envelope. The dengue virus genome contains about 1000 nucleotide bases, which codes for the three different types of protein molecules. The sens are of structural and non structural. The structural proteins like (C, prM and E) form the particle and seven other nonstructural proteins (NS1, NS2a, NS2b, NS3, NS4a, NS4b, NS5 and found in infected host cells and are required for replication of the virus. The nucleocapsid of a highly basic protein that has a strong affinity for negatively charged viral RNA (8).

Structural proteins that is the envelop protein E and membrane protein M are inserted in the membrane (6-7). The glycoprotein E helps the viral attachment with the receptors present on the sentence of the senten

membrane by a short transmembrane segment. M protein synthesized as the precursor protein PreM and acts as chaperon for the maturation of viral particles. In the infectious form of the virus, the envelope protein lays flat on the surface of the virus, forming a smooth coat with icosahedral symmetry. However, when the virus is carried into the cell and into endosome, the acidic environment causes the protein to snap into a different shape, assembling into trimeric Spikes (Fig 1a &1b). Several hydrophobic amino acids at the tip of this spike insert into the endosomal membrane (fig1a&b) and cause the virus membrane to fuse with the endosome (5)



Fig1a:Dengue virus envelope Protein in the infectious form



Fig1b: Dengue virus envelope Protein adopts a different conformation in the acidic environment of endosome

(PDB, www.pdb.org)

Genome structure:

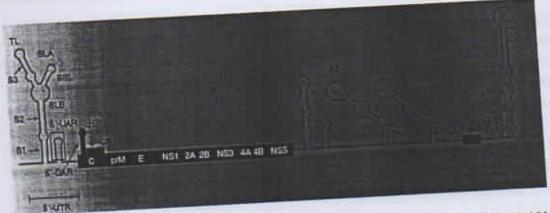


Fig2: Structure of + strand RNA genome in DENV (Rosa Maria del Angel, Future Virol. 2010)

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The viral genome is + ve strand SS RNA of appx 11kb in length. It contains a cap structure at the 5'end but lacks a poly A tail at the 3' end. The unique long open reading frame (ORF) is flanked by two untranslated region (UTR) which contains the viral structural and functional elements required for viral replication and translation.

Establishment of infection:

The establishment of DENV infection takes place in the following steps:

Entry of the virus into the cell: The first step of DENV infection is the binding of viral envelope protein E to the cellular receptors that are present mainly on the langerhans cells present on the skin. The virus enters the cells through binding between viral membrane protein and receptor protein on the Langerhans cell, specifically the C-type lectins called DC-SIGN, mannose receptor and CLEC5A. DC-SIGN, a non-specific receptor for foreign material on dendritic cells, seems to be the main point of entry (9,10,11). The dendritic cell moves to the nearest lymph node. The interaction of the viral glycoprotein with the cellular receptor induces viral internalization by receptor mediated endocytosis and subsequent fusion with the endosomal membrane. The viral RNA is then released in the viral cytoplasm.

Translation of viral proteins: As the viral genome is + stranded SS RNA it acts as messenger RNA for the translation of viral proteins. The viral genome encodes the structural proteins C, PrM, and E, followed by non structural proteins NS1, NS2A, NS2B, NS3, NS4A, NS4B, and NS5. The structural and the non structural proteins are translated as poly protein complex of nearly 375 KD which is finally cleaved by viral protease NS3 and the protease function assisted by the little chain is a portion of another viral protein, NS2B (fig2). The proteins are finally matured by post translational modification.

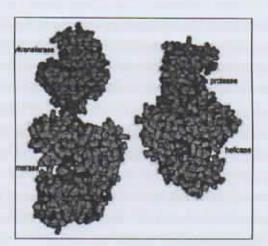


Fig2: three-dimensional structure of NS5 & NS2B3 (PDB, www.pdb.org)

NS5 contains methyltransferase and guinnynyltransferase and C terminal RNA dependent RNA polymerase mains. NS5 adds 5' cap to the 5'UTR. NS3 other than protease action also performs the helicase function genome replication. The polymerase builds new RNA strands based on the viral RNA, the helicase

ope ion ne helps to separate these strands, and the methyltransferase adds methyl groups to the end of them, protecting the RNA strands and coaxing the cell's ribosomes to create viral proteins based on them (12).

Replication of viral genome for new progeny virus: The DENV contains cis acting element at the 5' and the 3' end of the genome that acts as the regulatory elements for its genome replication.
5' UTR of DENV genome contains 6 elements that are essential for viral replication (12). These are:

Stem loop A (SLA)- non structural protein NS5 binds to the SLA region. This region is involved in replication but not in translation.

Stem loop B (SLB) -this element is also conserved among the different members of Flaviviruses and contributes to viral replication.

5' upstream AUG region (5'UAR)-5' UAR is complementary to 3' UAR sequence and is required for genome cyclization.

5' downstream AUG region (5'DAR)- The sequence CCAACG is located downstream of the AUG and designated 5' DAR, the sequence is conserved in 4 serotypes of dengue virus. The sequence is complementary to 3' DAR. DAR helps in 5'-3' genome internalization and is indispensible for -strand RNA synthesis.

5'cyclization sequences (5'CS) - 5' UTR CS is complementary to 3' UTR CS and involved in genome cyclization.

C coding region hairpin (cHP)- 14 nt long sequence is required for replication as well as initiation of translation.

In dengue virus the + ve stand RNA genome is synthesized via the replication of -ve strand RNA by the RNA dependent RNA polymerase NS5. This -ve strand RNA then acts as a template for the synthesis of +ve strand genome. It is likely that in DENV and other flaviviruses RNA capping and methylation is coupled to RNA synthesis and this gives stability to the RNA genome.

Morphogenesis of viral particles: During the translation of viral proteins, several changes occur
in the host cell like the introduction of membrane structures that provide a membrane bound micro
environment required for viral genome replication and morphogenesis. Upon DEVN infection
genomic RNA associates with ribozomes at the ER to translate viral proteins. Viral proteins are
then processed to form RC. Assembly of RC requires formation of invaginations on ER membranes.
This process is induced by NS4A and NS3 in conjunction with other cellular and viral proteins.
Viral replication takes place in ER invaginations. The interior of the vesicle connected with membranes (CMs) which are located in close proximity to ER vesicle or invagination. CMs and
derived from smooth ER membrane. The RNA assembled with C proteins and from nucleocaps.

which is associated with some lipid droplets. Budding of the virus through ER occurs. The virion travels to the distal ER and later to the golgi in secretory vesicles where virion maturation takes place (12).

Secondary infection with different serotype leads to severe dengue:

Many studies in different regions of the world have documented that individuals exposed to secondary infections are at greater risk of developing severe disease compared to individuals exposed to primary infections due to antibody dependent enhancement (ADE), which postulates the weakly neutralizing antibodies from the first infection bind to the second serotype and enhance infection of FcaR bearing myeloid cells such as monocytes and macrophages. This inhibits the interferone1 dependent JAK STAT signaling pathway that normally induces the expression of genes as well as proteins that give a resistance against vital infection. This may also cause an enhanced replication and increased number of viral progeny that ultimately leads to severe dengue.

Current status of drug and vaccine development against dengue infection:

The need for a dengue vaccine is great and several live attenuated dengue candidate vaccines are proceeding through clinical evaluation. The need to induce a balanced immune response against all four DENV serotypes with a single vaccine has been a challenge for dengue vaccine developers. A live attenuated DENV chimeric vaccine produced by Sanofi Pasteur has recently entered Phase III evaluation in numerous dengue-endemic regions of the world. Viral interference between serotypes contained in live vaccines has required up to three doses of the vaccine be given over a 12-month period of time. For this reason, novel DENV candidate vaccines are being developed with the goal of achieving a protective immune response with an immunization schedule that can be given over the course of a few months. These next-generation candidates include DNA vaccines, recombinant adenovirus vectored vaccines, alpha virus replicon and subunit protein vaccine (13). But most of these vaccines are under experimental studies. Beside the development of vaccines scientist are trying to design drugs that will target the non structural proteins of dengue virus like NS5 and NS3 to block the viral replication. Till then proper controlling of the vector is the only way to prevent the wide spread of dengue infection.

General conclusion:

The incidence of dengue has grown dramatically around the world in recent decades. Over 2.5 billion people – over 40% of the world's population – are now at risk from dengue while WHO currently estimates there may be 50–100 million dengue infections worldwide every year. The high incidence of occurrence of dengue infection and its severity demand the development of vaccine and antiviral drugs and further understanding the viral genome replication as well as the interaction of different viral and cellular factors in the coming years may provide important clues to reduce the burden of the infection in the areas of the world suffering epidemics of DENV.

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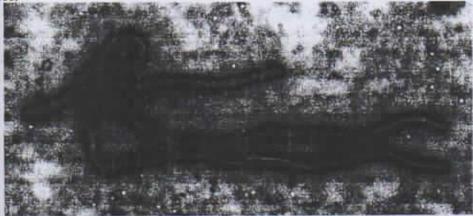
EBOLA: "The Deadliest Virus on Earth"

Arijit Chaudhuri

Assistant Professor in Microbiology Barrackpore Rastraguru Surendranath College

Introduction:

Ebola is the common term for a group of viruses belonging to genus Ebolavirus, family Filoviridae, which cause Ebola hemorrhagic fever. The virus is named after the Ebola River Valley in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (formerly Zaire), which is near the site of the first recognized outbreak (1976). Ebola is believed to be a zoonotic virus, although despite considerable effort by the World Health Organization no animal reservoir capable of sustaining the virus between outbreaks has been identified. Ebola is considered as one of the emerging viruses rapidly expanding its range of host with a corresponding increase in detectable disease mostly showing a hypothetical dead- end interaction with the human host. Ebola Virus is not extremely common. However, when there is an outbreak, it is noted as extremely deadly. It is considered one of the most infectious diseases due to it being able to spread quite easily through the transaction of body fluids (a dirty needle is a major cause, and, like AIDS, it is noted for its ability to travel via sexual intercourse. This is more famous for Ebola's twin, less deadly virus, Marburg). Ebola is perhaps not the deadliest virus due to its uncommon nature and its inability to spread as much as HIV (the virus that causes AIDS), but it is perhaps the most violent. The span of time from onset of symptom to death is usually between 7 to 14 days. In regards to what virus kills the quickest, the Ebola Virus wins first place.

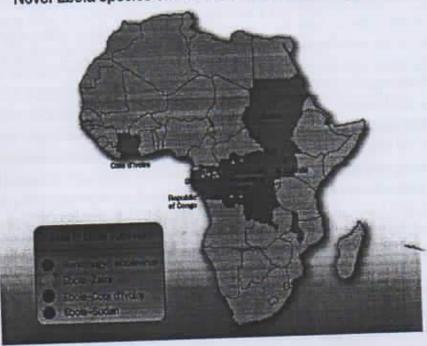


Ebola virus electron micrograph

Epidemiology:

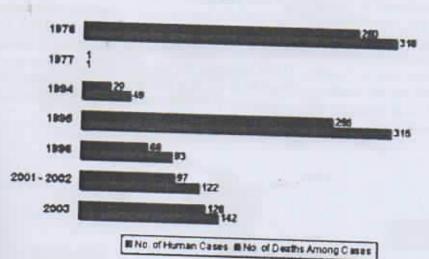
There are five identified subtypes of Ebola virus (EBOV). Four of the five have caused disease in humans: Ebola-Zaire, Ebola-Sudan, Ebola-Ivory Coast and Ebola-Bundibugyo. The fifth, Ebola-Reston, has caused disease in nonhuman primates, but not in humans. As the nomenclature implies Ebola is endemic to central Africa. The virus has caused outbreaks in Sudan, Ivory Coast, Gabon. Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Congo, and in South Africa.

Novel Ebola species caused 2007 outbreak in Uganda

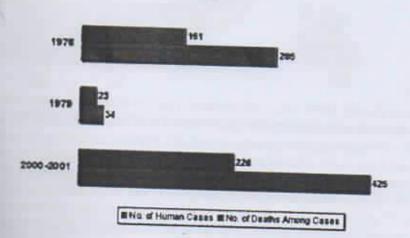


The strain of Ebola that broke out in Zaire has one of the highest case fatality rates of human pathogenic virus, roughly 90%, with case-fatality rates at 88% in 1976, 59% in 1994, 8 in 1995, 73% in 1996, 80% in 2001-2002, and 90% in 2003. The strain that broke out later Sudan has a case fatality rate of around 50%.

Cases And Deaths From the Ebola-Zaire Virus, 1976-2003

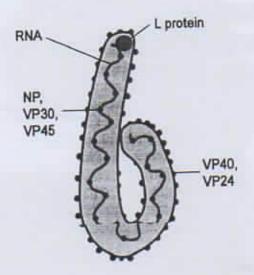


Cases And Deaths From the Ebola-Sudan Virus, 1976. 2003



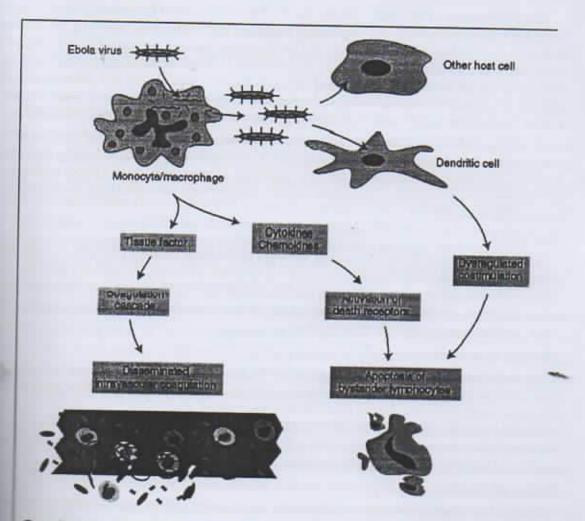
Structure:

Electron micrographs of members of *Ebolavirus* show the viral filaments are variable in shape and may appear as a "U", "6", coiled, circular, or branched shape. Virions are generally 80 nm in diameter and variable in length, they can be up to 1400 nm long. On average however, the length of a typical Ebolavirus is closer to 1000 nm. The nucleocapsid found in the center of the virions is formed by the helically wound viral genomic RNA (linear, single-stranded, negative-sense RNA, totaling 18900 nucleotides in length), complexed with the proteins NP, VP35, VP30 and L. It has a diameter of 40 – 50 nm and contains a a central channel of 20 – 30 nm in diameter. Virally encoded glycoprotein (GP) spikes 10 nm long and 10 nm apart are present on the outer viral envelope of the virion, which is derived from the host cell membrane. Between envelope and nucleocapsid, in the so called matrix space, the viral proteins VP40 and VP24 are located.



Replication:

Ebola viruses contain seven structural proteins. The nucleocapsid proteins NP, VP35, VP30 and L are involved in transcription and replication of the viral genome. NP encapsidates the genomic RNA and is a major structural component of the nucleocapsid. L, the (RNA-dependent RNA polymerase), produces mRNAs and copies the negative-sense genome first into a positive sense antigenome and then this antigenome back into negative-sense genomes, thus replicating the genomic information. VP35 serves as a cofactor for L, and VP30 is a viral transcription factor. The major matrix protein VP40 is crucial for assembly and budding of new virions. VP24, the minor matrix protein, has been shown to be involved in assembly of nucleocapsids, although VP24 itself is not part of them. Trimers of the glycoprotein (GP) form spikes at the surface of the virions, which have been shown to mediate attachment of virions to target cells as well as fusion of the virus membrane with the target cell membrane.



Paradigm showing key events in Ebola virus pathogenesis in primates

Expert Reviews in Molecular Medicine 2004 Published by Cambridge University Press

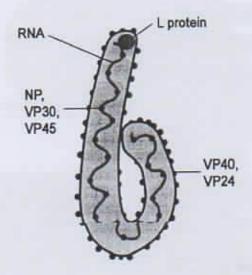
Pubogenesis:

are considered physically "drained" and suffer from vomiting of Ebola infected blood.

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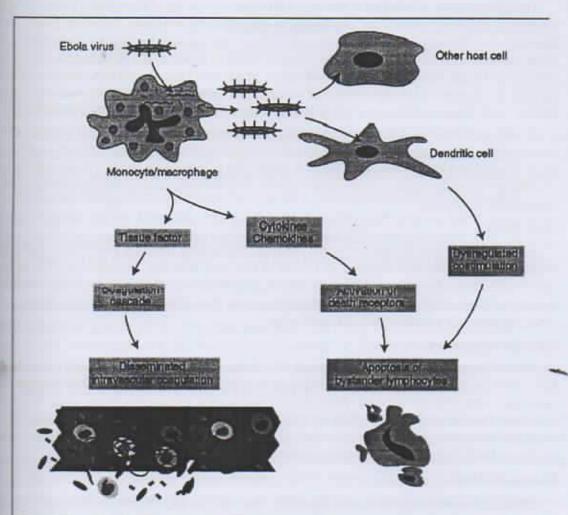
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Paradigm showing key events in Ebola virus pathogenesis in primates Expert Reviews in Molecular Medicine 2004 Published by Cambridge University Press

Pathogenesis:

Victims of Ebola suffer internal bleeding and external bleeding, severe hemorrhaging, mental damage, are considered physically "drained" and suffer from vomiting of Ebola infected blood. Their ribcage are noted for collapsing into themselves along with their flesh. It is also a point of

importance that, at least in non-human primates (specifically, African Green Monkeys) their flesh "melts" into a form similar to "soup."

The pathogenesis of infection is similar for all observed species of filoviruses. Dendritic cells, monocytes and macrophages are implicated as sites of early infection, impairing the immune response from the beginning. These infected cells not only become ineffective in combating the virus, but may also serve as vehicles to transport virus to other locations throughout the body, such as the lymph nodes, liver, lungs, and spleen. It has also been shown that infection of cells with Ebola virus inhibits the activation and expression of immunomodulatory and antiviral genes. such as MHC Class I, IRF1, and PKR, allowing infected cells to escape immune surveillance.

EBOV spreads through the blood and replicates in many organs, causing focal necrosis of the liver, kidneys, lymphatic organs, ovaries and testis. Capillary leakage, shock and acute respiratory disorders are observed in fatal cases. Patients usually die of intractable shock without evidence of an effective immune response. Even when recovery is under way, survivor do not have detectable neutralizing antibodies.

Treatment:

Treatment is primarily supportive and includes minimizing invasive procedures, balancing electrolytes, replacing lost coagulation factors to help stop bleeding, maintaining their oxygen and blood levels and treating them for any complicating infections. Despite some initial anecdotal evidence, blood serum from Ebola survivors has been shown to be ineffective in treating the virus. Interferon is also thought to be ineffective.

Vaccine approaches:

Attempts to provide immunization against Ebola virus with conventional vaccine technologies have not been successful. Now, a research team from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute his developed what appears to be the first effective vaccination against the Ebola virus. The team immunized guinea-pigs against Ebola by intramuscular injection of a DNA vaccine made up plasmids containing Ebola virus proteins. The animals were protected from infection when challenged with the virus two and four months after immunization.

Status of Ebola:

Ebola virus infection is widely considered the "nastiest" of viral diseases and fatal in a majorisof cases, subjecting its victims to a horrible hemorrhagic disease which kills them in a matter days. The virus gained notoriety after an outbreak in Zaire in 1995 killed 244 people. Further attention came with the publication of 'The Hot Zone', a book by Richard Preston describing outbreaks of Ebola in Africa and a near outbreak in suburban Virginia. "Outbreak", a film starring Dustin Hoffman, added to the public hysteria.

Due to its' high lethality and the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is available, Effective to its' high lethality and the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is available, Effective to its' high lethality and the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is available, Effective to its' high lethality and the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is available, Effective to its' high lethality and the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is available, Effective to its' high lethality and the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is available, Effective to its' high lethality and the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is available, Effective to its interest in the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is available, and the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is available, and the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is available, and the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is available, and the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is available, and the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplication of the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplication of the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplication of the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplication of the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplication of the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplication of the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplication of the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplication of the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplication of the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplication of the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplication of the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplication of the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplication of the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplication of the fact that no approved vaccine or treatment is a supplica is classified as a biosafety level 4 organism; as well as a category A bioterrorism agent by CDC.

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Library 2.0: Web 2.0 Services in Library

Joydip Chandra Librarian, Barrackpore Rastraguru Surendranath

Instructions

Libraries, in general, are considered as the foundation, epicenter, and hub of both formal and informal education, primarily by imparting information to the right person, at the right time, in the right way. Now the world is shifting from a Library-centered to an information- centered society. Resources are shifting from paper-based documents to predominantly digital documents, i.e. using search engines, online databases, data mining, etc. Besides, warehouse of books, the primitive concepts for libraries, had shifted to automated library and then to digital library & virtual library and presently it has shifted to Library 2.0. With such changes, the structure and nature of library as well as the LIS profession have also changed in a dynamic way.

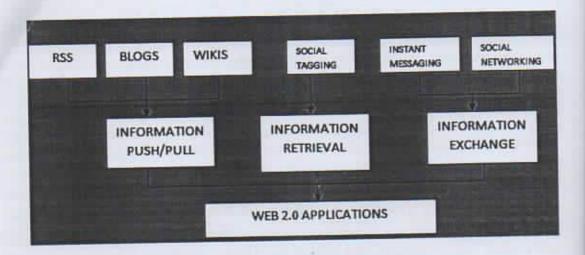
In the recent century, Internet and its advanced/improved version (Web 2.0) are playing a pivotal role in extending some of the very important library services. It is interactive, context rich and easy to use. When applied in libraries, it has the potential of promoting participatory networking where both librarians and users communicate, collaborate and co-create context of their interest.

I. WEB 2.0 AND ITS COMPONENTS

Today, libraries are using the latest technologies and trends to make their services popular and ser friendly. The concept of a library as physical place where one can visit to get information is modely changing to a social cyberspace where users access, communicate and contribute to existing weldge. This is because the modern library of the 21st century is characterized with collective weldge creation and enabling technologies; and also a movement away from the old stereotype, extentional and one directional library services to users to a more dynamic, two-way municational network environment.

Its components are divided into three broad categories such as information push/pull, information retrieval and information exchange which can be subdivided as shown in the above diagram. Web 2.0 tools tend to make a huge difference in the way we choose to collaborate with others. That is me reason why it is called "Social Media".

When web 2.0 is applied in the library context it is called "Library 2.0". In practice this smally means the library's use and/ or participation in social media platforms.



WEB 2.0 APPLICATIONS IN LIBRARIES

Library should change the pattern, mode and packaging of the services to convince the users that library still is the better alternative when compared to commercial search engines. So with the up gradation of Web 1.0 to Web 2.0, it is time for libraries to explore the versatility of this wide platform to enrich its users. In India most of the changes in library systems are initiated by the higher academic institutions like IITs (Indian Institute of Technology), ISIs (Indian Statistical Institute), NITs (National Institute of Technology), IIMs (Indian Institute of Management), CSIR Laboratories, Indian Institute of Science, etc. Here an attempt is made to explore the areas of Web 2.0 that would be beneficial for the Library & Information centres to serve its clients in an interactive way. Effort has been made to identify the use of such services by the higher academic institutions of India.

The article "The Prevalence and Use of Web 2.0 in Libraries" investigates the prevalence and use of Web 2.0 applications of 90 websites of libraries from North America, Europe and Asia. The findings reveal that all three categories of Web 2.0 applications, namely, those that support information push/pull, retrieval, and exchange, have been adopted in libraries across the three regions, with libraries in North America leading their European and Asian counterparts. The way in which individual Web 2.0 applications have been used are also detailed. The article "Social Media in Libraries: its like, Complicated" considers how some major libraries across the work are using social media platforms. The purpose of the paper by N.S. Harinarayana and N. Vasanta Raju is to explore recent trends in the application of Web 2.0 and Library 2.0 features exemplified through university library web sites around the world. However the application Web 2.0 in academic libraries of India has not been dealt with in detail so far. The study proposes

a methodological framework for employing Web 2.0 tools in academic libraries. Barsky and Purdon discuss usage of social networking sites in libraries with exemplary notes on a few libraries using SNS. A survey of the application of Web 2.0 in Australasian university libraries has been reported by Nguyen 10. It adopts a content analysis method for the home pages of 37 libraries. The survey reports that among Web 2.0 technologies utilized by Australasian university libraries, RSS was the most widely applied technology and instant messaging was the least used technology. In an earlier survey, Xu 14 surveyed 82 academic libraries of New York State and Long Island in the USA. Her study found that blogs, IM and RSS were the main Web 2.0 applications which have been used extensively compared to social bookmarking, social networking sites and podcast.

LIBRARY 2.0

The very first concept that came into being shortly after Web 2.0's popularity is Library 2.0. The concept emerged due to the varied usage and relevance of Web 2.0 tools for marketing the 21st century libraries and information organizations. The idea of Library 2.0 was first generated by Michael Casey and published in his blog, Library crunch 2006. Library 2.0 can be defined as a set of innovative technologies and services that are integrated with the library, facilitating the conflibrary resources and services, allowing library users to participate and keeping the librarians and the user. Thus one can put it in the following way:5

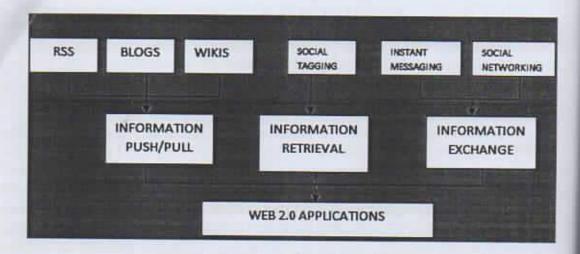
Library 2.0= Traditional Library + Web 2.0

with the advent of the digital age internet is having a complete sway over the library services.

The challenge for all organizations, particularly acute for people working in the information industry, to harness and exploit these communication channels to the best effect. The disputed and entire term Library 2.0 is open to interpretation but what is clear is that in a networked society service is likely to be increasingly virtual, participatory and collaborative with the focus on the service is likely to be increasingly virtual, participatory and collaborative with the focus on the service is likely to be increasingly virtual, participatory and collaborative with the focus on the service is likely to be increasingly virtual, participatory and collaborative with the focus on the service is likely to be increasingly virtual, participatory and collaborative with the focus on the service is likely to be increasingly virtual, participatory and collaborative with the focus on the service is likely to be increasingly virtual, participatory and collaborative with the focus on the service is likely to be increasingly virtual, participatory and collaborative with the focus on the service is likely to be increasingly virtual, participatory and collaborative with the focus on the service is likely to be increasingly virtual, participatory and collaborative with the focus on the service is likely to be increasingly virtual, participatory and collaborative with the focus on the service is likely to be increasingly virtual, participatory and collaborative with the focus on the service is likely to be increasingly virtual, participatory and collaborative with the focus of the service is likely to be increasingly virtual.

Conclusion

signs can do a whole lot of things with Web 2.0depending upon the specific requirements ging needs of the library users, patrons and staff. This paper is an effort towards the need and usage of the above mentioned social networking sites in the academic and India. Conceptually, Library 2.0 is rooted in the global Web 2.0 discussion, and the literature often links the two concepts.



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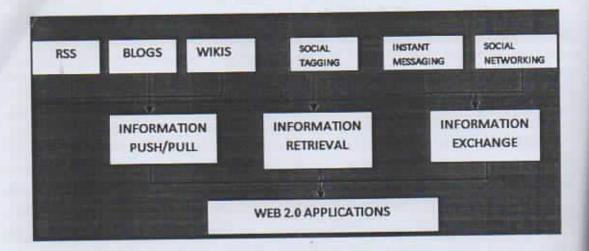
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Library 2.0= Traditional Library + Web 2.0

With the advent of the digital age internet is having a complete sway over the library services. The challenge for all organizations, particularly acute for people working in the information industry, as how to harness and exploit these communication channels to the best effect. The disputed and subjective term Library 2.0 is open to interpretation but what is clear is that in a networked society the service is likely to be increasingly virtual, participatory and collaborative with the focus on service centered change and participation. In this scenario, also termed radical trust, the library becomes ser generated. Engaging with social media is a step towards this scenario.

Conclusion

Librarians can do a whole lot of things with Web 2.0depending upon the specific requirements changing needs of the library users, patrons and staff. This paper is an effort towards ablishing the need and usage of the above mentioned social networking sites in the academic staries of India. Conceptually, Library 2.0 is rooted in the global Web 2.0 discussion, and the messional literature often links the two concepts.



WEB 2.0 APPLICATIONS IN LIBRARIES

Library should change the pattern, mode and packaging of the services to convince the users that library still is the better alternative when compared to commercial search engines. So with the up gradation of Web 1.0 to Web 2.0, it is time for libraries to explore the versatility of this wide platform to enrich its users. In India most of the changes in library systems are initiated by the higher academic institutions like IITs (Indian Institute of Technology), ISIs (Indian Statistica Institute), NITs (National Institute of Technology), IIMs (Indian Institute of Management), CSI Laboratories, Indian Institute of Science, etc. Here an attempt is made to explore the areas of Web 2.0 that would be beneficial for the Library & Information centres to serve its clients in an interaction way. Effort has been made to identify the use of such services by the higher academic institution of India.

The article "The Prevalence and Use of Web 2.0 in Libraries" investigates the prevalence use of Web 2.0 applications of 90 websites of libraries from North America, Europe and Asia. In findings reveal that all three categories of Web 2.0 applications, namely, those that supplinformation push/pull, retrieval, and exchange, have been adopted in libraries across the regions, with libraries in North America leading their European and Asian counterparts. The in which individual Web 2.0 applications have been used are also detailed. The article "Sometime in Libraries: its like, Complicated" considers how some major libraries across the are using social media platforms. The purpose of the paper by N.S. Harinarayana and N. Vassa Raju" is to explore recent trends in the application of Web 2.0 and Library 2.0 feature exemplified through university library web sites around the world. However the application of India has not been dealt with in detail so far. The study present the study present in the study present

a methodological framework for employing Web 2.0 tools in academic libraries. Barsky and Purdon discuss usage of social networking sites in libraries with exemplary notes on a few libraries using SNS. A survey of the application of Web 2.0 in Australasian university libraries has been reported by Nguyen 10. It adopts a content analysis method for the home pages of 37 libraries. The survey reports that among Web 2.0 technologies utilized by Australasian university libraries, RSS was the most widely applied technology and instant messaging was the least used technology. In an earlier survey, Xu 14 surveyed 82 academic libraries of New York State and Long Island in the USA. Her study found that blogs, IM and RSS were the main Web 2.0 applications which have been used extensively compared to social bookmarking, social networking sites and podcast.

LIBRARY 2.0

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সুভাষ-সুনীল-শঙ্খের কবিতাঃ বাঙালি নাগরিক সংস্কৃতি

ড. পৃষ্প বৈরাগ্য বাংলা বিভাগ, বারাকপুর রাষ্ট্র গুরু সুরেন্দ্রনাথ কলেজ

সাহিত্য সমাজের প্রতিচ্ছবি । কবিদের কাব্যে তার খন্ড খনড চিত্র আভাসিত হয় । সেই চিত্রকম্পের মধ্যে ধরা থাকে কবির সমসাময়িক সমাজ-সংস্কৃতি । সুভাষ মুখোপাধ্যায়, সুনীল গঙ্গোপাধ্যায় এবং শশ্ব ঘোষের কবিতায় বাঙালির নাগরিক সংস্কৃতির রুপান্ধর যেভাবে ধরা পড়েছে তার থেকে স্বাধীনতা উত্তর নাগরিক সংস্কৃতির একটি চমৎকার চিত্র পেতে পারি ।

সংস্কৃতি মূলতঃ প্রকৃতিকে ভাঙ্গিয়ে গড়িয়ে পিটিয়ে একটি রূপ দেওয়া, পরিবর্তিত সংস্করণ। প্রাকৃত ভাষাওলাকে সংস্কার করে যেভাবে ধ্রুপদী ভাষা এবং আধুনিক ভাষার জন্ম হয়ে থাকে তেমনি প্রকৃতি রাজ্যের সম্পদ সংস্কার করে সংস্কৃতি গড়ে ওঠে তথা আধুনিক সভ্যতার রূপরেখা প্রকৃতি হয়। সংস্কৃতি বহমান, তা এক জায়গায় দাঁড়িয়ে থাকে না
- ক্রুমবহমান।

২য় বিশ্বযুদ্ধের পরে যন্ত্রযুগের সূচনা হয়ে যে শিল্প বিপ্লবে এলো তার ফলে দেশে দেশে নতুন নতুন নগর সৃষ্টি হলো। সভ্যতা-সংস্কৃতির উৎকর্ষ বেড়ে গেল। ভারতবর্ষে তখন ইংরেজ শাসন। নগর সভ্যতার বিকাশ আমাদের দেশেও শুরু হয়েছিল। কিন্তু সে পরাধীন ভারত সেখানে ভারতীয় নিজস্ব সংস্কৃতির ওপর বিদেশী বন্ধন প্রবলভাবে চেপে রইলো। স্বাধীনতা লাভের সাথে-সাথে বন্ধন মোচন ঘটল। সভ্য সংস্কৃতির প্রধীন সংস্কৃতির পরিমভল উন্মোচিত হলো। ইংরেজ শাসনকালেই সূতানটি-গোবিন্দপুর কোলকাতায় পরিণত হয়েছে। সেখানকার বাবু কালচার, জমিদার বাড়ি, বাঈজি মহল, ঘোড়ায় টানা গাড়ি, পাকারান্তা, গ্যাসের আলো তখনকার শহর চিত্র - "দুরে বেতার বিহায় কোন মায়া। গ্রামের আলো জ্বালা দিন শেষ।" কিন্তু তার মধ্যেও একটা গ্রাম্য হাওয়া বইছিল। নিধুবাবুর টপ্লা, কবিগানের আসর, বৈক্ষব পদাবলী কীর্তন - তখনো এর চল ছিল - "স্থা/কলসি কাঁখে চলছি মৃদু চালে/হঠাৎ গ্রাম হাদয়ে দিল হানা। পড়ল মনে আসা জীবন সেথা।"

এই সময় কোলকাতা শহরকেন্দ্রিক নিজস্ব কোনো সংস্কৃতি গড়ে উঠেছিল বলে মনে হয় না। স্বাধীনতার পরে বাংলার ক্ষেত্রে একটা বড় ধারা। বাংলা বিভাজন/উদ্বাস্ত্র বোতে পশ্চিমবঙ্গ ভরে গেল। সঙ্গে করে নিয়ে এলো বাংলার লোকসংস্কৃতির সমৃদ্ধ ভাভার। উদ্বাস্ত্র বাঙালি ভিটে মাটি ছেড়ে এলেও মননে রিজ্ঞ ছিলো না। "শোকাশ্রু ঝরে না কারো, / উচ্চারিত হয় না বিলাপ্ত, / পাশে শুধু অট্রহাসে / লোভাতুর যন্ত্রের ক্রুকৃটি, / বাংসল্য নিহত, প্রেম পরাভূত - / দন্ত কৃটি কৃটি, / ছিন্নভিন্ন উদ্বাস্ত্র সংসার, / মঈল্পদ ও দন্ধমেদিনী।" ('স্বাক্ষর' সুভাষ মুখোঃ কবিতা সংগ্রহ (১)) গ্রামই শহর বানায় তাই নাগরিক সভ্যতার অহন্ধার মুছে গ্রাম জোরালো কঠে উচ্চারণ করছে সুভাষের স্ফুলিঙ্ক কবিতায় - "আমরা শহর বানাই, আবাদ করি ফসল/জলে নেই হাত, উপর পাওনা পঠি জুড়োয় / আমরা মিছিলে হাঁটি / জমিজমা নেই, উপবাস পেশা, কেয়ার কার ? / অগ্নিগর্ভ ভাগ আমাদের গানেরু মাটি।

স্বাধীনতার কেবলই পূর্ব মৃহর্তে সূভাষ তাঁর 'ঘোষণা' কবিতায় ঘোষণা করেছিলেন – ''এদেশে আমার গর্ব / এ মাটি আমার কাছে সোনা । / এখানে আমার পাশে / হিমাচল, / কন্যাকুমারিক /দুর্ভিক্ষ পীড়িত দেশ, / রক্তচক্ রাজার শাসনল - / শবের গলিত গন্ধ ছোটে ।..... গঙ্গার জোয়ারে এসে লাগে / ভন্ধার তীরের স্পর্শ / চোখে নব সূর্যোদয় জাগে। মুক্তি আজ বীরবাছ / শৃত্বল মেনেছে পরাভব, / দিগস্ত দিগস্তে দেখি / বিস্ফোরিত আসন্ন বিপ্লব। / প্রামেগজে শহরে বাজারে / দুর্জয় সংকল নেয় হাজারে হাজারে।"

সুনীলের 'একটি শীতের দৃশ্য' কবিতায় -

''দু-একটা বিবারকণা খুঁটে খায় শালিকের ঝাঁক / ওপরে টহল দেয় গাং চিল, যেন প্রকৃতির মোতোয়াল । / গোরুর গাড়ীটি বড় তৃপ্ত, টাপু টুপু ভরে আছে ধানে / অন্যমনা ডাহকীর মতো শ্লধ গতি / অদুরে শহর আর ক্রোশ দুইপথ / সেখানে সবাই খুব প্রতীক্ষায় আছে / দালাল, পাইকার, ফড়ে, মিল, পার্টি, নেকড়ে ও পুলিশ / হলুদ শস্যের স্থাপে পা ডুবিয়ে / ওরা মগ্ন যুদ্ধে মেতে যাবে / শোনা যাবে ঐকতান, ছিঁড়ে খাবো চুষে খাবো / ঐ লোকটিকে আমি তোমাদের আগে ছিঁড়ে খাবো । সোনালি ঘাসের বীজ আজ যেন নারীর চেয়েও গরবিনী / সহশু চোখের সামনে গারে নিচ্ছে / রোদের আদর / এখনই যে লুট হবে কিছুই জানেনা / পালক পিতাটি সেই সঙ্গে সঙ্গে যাবে / যারা অগ্নিমান্দ্যে ভোগে তারা ঐ লোকটির / রক্ত মাংস খাবে।" — শহরে গড়ে উঠেছে মিল, সুন্দর সড়ক যোগাযোগ-রেলপথ-জলপথ সমৃদ্ধ করেছে তাকে। সেখানে আছে দালাল, পাইচোর, ফড়ে, পার্টি, পার্টির বেতারা নেকড়ের মতো হামলাবাজের দল এবং পুলিশ। চাষীর কঠোর প্রমের ফসল সোনালি শস্যদানা শহরে এসে পৌঁছয়। লুঠ হয়ে যায় সেই অমূল্য ধন - ফাঁকি দিয়ে কৃষক পিতাকে। এই কবিতায় শহরের শোষক চরিত্র স্পষ্ট হয়ে গেছে।

সুভাষ মুখোপাধ্যায়ের 'স্বাগত' কবিতায় শহরের অমোঘ টানে গ্রামের নিরস্ত মানুষ শহরে অন্নের খোঁজে চাষবাস ফেলে ছুটে আসে। ক্ষিধে মেনে না তাদের। প্রান্তিক মানুষ শহরে এসে হতাশ হয়ে ফিরে যাচ্ছে আবার গ্রামে। কঠোর এসে আবার তারা ফসলে মাঠ ভরে তুলবে । শহরের আয়েষী জীবন-যাপন তাদের জন্য নয়, ও সব বাবুদের বরাদ্ধ মজুতদার, কালোবাজারীদের একচেটিয়া - (পুরো কবিতা বললে ভালো হয়)

শহরে গড়ে উঠেছে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়। বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অধীনে মহাবিদ্যালয়। উচ্চ শিক্ষার সকল আন্মোজন সেখানে পাকা। এটি শহর সংস্কৃতি শিক্ষা চিত্র। সুনীলের কবিতা 'চায়ের দোকানে' — ''লন্ডনে আছে লাস্ট বেঞ্চির ভীরু পরিমল, / রথীন এখন সাহিত্যে এক পরমহংস / দীপু তো ওনেছি খুলেছে বিরাট কাগজের স্টল / এবং পাঁচটা চায়ের বাগানে দশআনি অংশ / তদুপরি অবসর পেলে হয় স্বদেশসেবক / আড়াই ডজন আরশোলা ছেড়ে গ্রাস ভেঙ্গেছিল / পাগলা অমল / সে আজ হয়েছে মস্ত অধ্যাপক।" — অধ্যাপক হবেন শহরের মানুষ, সাহিত্যিক তিনিও শহরে মানুষ, মিলের মালিক শহরে মানুষ, জামিদারি সেও করবেন শহরে বসেই, দেশ সেবকের আঁড়ালে তাঁরাই হবেন দেশের শাসক। তাঁরা যে সকলেই মস্ত মগাজের অধিকারী তা কিন্তু নয়।এই উজ্জ্বল দিকের সাথে সাথে শহর নিয়ে এসেছে আকাশ ছোঁয়া আকাষা। ভোগের অনস্ত আলোড়ন । মানুষকে দিশেহারাও করে তোলে । কখনো কখনো বেসামাল হয়ে হয় মনোরোগের শিকার । এই কবিতায়ই দেখি – কি ভয়ংকর উস্থল ছিল সত্যশরণ / সে যেন নিজের কণ্ঠ কাটলো ঝকঝাকে ক্ষুরে / এখনো ছবিটি চোখে ভাসলেই জ্ঞাণে শিহরণ / দূরে চলে যাবে জ্ঞানতাম, তবু এতখানি দূরে ?" প্রেমের একটি ছবি নই কবি তাতেই সুনীল তুলে ধরেছেন - নজিরবিহীন এক প্রেম, হলো শহরে প্রেম। লোকটা ভোগবাদী সমাজের এ এক স্পর্ধিত উচ্চারণ - 'অব বালিকার প্রণয়ে ডুবেছি এক সাথে মিলে পঞ্চজনেই / আজ এমন কি মনে নেই সেই মেয়েটিরও নাম।"

বাংলার নাগরিক সংস্কৃতি যে গল্ড উঠেছে লোক সংস্কৃতির কাঠামোর উপরে তা কবিদের কবিতার মধ্যেই হদি পাওয়া যায়। 'হেতালের লাঠি' শথু ঘোষের তেমনি একটি কবিতা। এই কবিতায় চম্পকনগর, লোহার সিঁড়ি, কালরাত্তি নাগিনী পিচ্ছিল অন্ধকার, কানির চক্রান্ত - মনসা মঙ্গলের আখ্যানের রূপকে। দেশকে কড়া পাহারায় রাখার যেন ইজারা নিয়েচেন কবি চাঁদসদাগরের বেশে।

শঙ্খ যোষের 'শহর' কবিতায় শহরের চিত্র । যেখানে থাবা গেড়েছে নিষিদ্ধ নেশায় হাশিশ মারুৎয়ানত্রা, যার হাত ধরে নিতা নৈমিত্তিক ঘটনা - নারীর শ্লীলতাহানি - ''যুবতী লুটিয়ে পড়ে বাঁকানো সিড়িতে, মুখে ফেনা - / ইভা পিঙ্গলার সব নিবিড় সুড়ঙ্গরেখা বেয়ে / শহর সুষুমা ভরে নিয়েছে যশিশমারুৎয়ানা ।"

সূভাষ মুখোপাধ্যায়ের 'এখানে' কবিতায় নাগরিক জীবনের ধূসরতা কবিকে প্রান্ত করে তোলে । তাই গ্রাসে বিশ্রাম নিতে ফেরা । সেখানে তাঁর উপলব্ধি - "সেই নাগরিক ধূসর জীবন / পিছনে ফেলে, / সব থেকে দ্রুত ট্রেনে করে আজ / এখানে আসা । / আসানসোলো - সেখানেও গ্রাম্য সজীবতা আক্রান্ত "এখানে আকাশ পাহাড়ের গায়ে / পড়েছে ভেঙ্গে, / পাহাড়ের পথ সারি সারি সব / চিমান চূড়ো । ধানের জমিরা পাশাপাশি তারে / দিখিদিকে - / গ্রাম শহরে রূপান্তরিত হওয়ার ছবি - "দিনের পাহারা সন্ধ্যায় সেরে / সূর্য দেখি / অতিকায় তার ডানা মেলে আলো / পাহাড় থেকে / ক্লান্ত চোখে ।" তার বিষময় ফল হলো - "তাড়িখানা খোলা, রাস্তায় খালি / লোকের মেলা / স্ত্রী পুরুষ মেলে মুখোমুখি তথু / মুখর তাঁড়ে / আরো অসহ্য নেশা কাকে শেষ / কপর্দকত / বর্ছদিনকার ভূলে যাওয়া গ্রাম, / পুরনো ভিটে / স্মরণে নামে ।" সাংস্কৃতিক বিভাজন সৃষ্টিকারী শহর কৃষ্টি । গ্রাম সংস্কৃতির প্রষ্টাদের - প্রমিক প্রেণীর প্রতি বরুন । এবং অবমূল্যায়ন করে থাকে তারা । তারই প্রতিধ্বনি এখানে পাই - "যাদের রক্রে উড়ছে আকাশে / মিলের ধোঁয়া / মুষ্টিমেয়ের খেয়ালোল এই ভরা ভূবনে / তাদের ভোলা ।"

সুনীলের স্মৃতির শহর কবিতায় ''বাতাসে ছেঁড়া মেঘ, চাঁদের চারপাশে / সহসা দানা বেঁধে নীল সময় । এদিনে সোনাগাছি কাঁচের ঝন্ঝন্ । পেরিয়ে চলে যাই আহিরীটোলা / নতুন ঘ্রাণ মাখা শহর কেঁপে ওঠে / পূর্ব পশ্চিমে দুনিয়া খোলা ।

দুপাশে গলি খুঁজি হোঁচট লাগে পায় / পলকা সংসার এখানে কার ? দুদিকে মন্দির, গরাদে ভীমতালা / কালীর স্তনঘেরা পিঁপড়ে রাশি / প্রদীপে মৃদু আলো, সিঁড়িতে বেজে ওঠে / কুন্ঠ রোগিনীর শুকনো কাশি।.... গাঁজার বীজ ফাটে, শিবের শিয্যেরা / বৃত্তে বসে আছে ছবির প্রাঢ়।

শৃতির শহর ১০ - প্রতিটি বোতল শেষ হলে / ওয়ালিং দাম নিয়ে যায় আমাদের কাছ থেকে / সেই সঙ্গে সে দেয় আশ্চর্য বিনে পয়সার হাসি হাতই রাত রাতে ততই ওয়ালিং এর / হাসিতে ফোটে খই / চীনা মেয়েদের চেয়ে বেশ বড় তার শুনদ্বয় / হাসির সঙ্গে তাল রেখে দোলে / মধ্য কোলকাতায় বসে আমরা পৌছে যাই / সাঁওতাল প্রগণায় -

স্থৃতির শহর ২১ কবিতায় শহরের নরক আরো প্রকটভাবে ফুটে ওঠে - 'প্রথম প্রথম এই শহর আমার কাছ থেকে পুকিয়ে রেখেছিল তাঁর / শিহরণ জাগানো গোপন অঙ্গপ্রত্যঙ্গ । ক্রমশ আমি নিজেই খুঁজে বার করি গোপন সব / ছোটছোট নরক / কলাবাগানে, আয়াবাগান, পঞ্চাননতলা, রাজাবাজার / চিৎপুরের সুড়ঙ্গ, চীনে পাড়ার আলোকধাম, সোনাগছি, ওয়াটগঞ্জ, মেটেবুরুজ ওয়ালিং দ্বিতীয় বসুদ্ধরা হয়ে নাচ শুরু করে ।

সূভাষ মুখোপাধ্যায় নগরায়নের ফলে আসানসোলের শিল্পায়নের সাথে সাথে গজিয়ে ওঠা নেশার লোকানের যে চিত্র তুলে ধরেছেন, তা যদি হয় নগরায়নের বিষময় ফল তো সুনীল গঙ্গোপাধ্যায় এখানে সেই বিষ আক্র্ত্ত পান করে হয়েছেন নীলক্ষ্ঠ । আধুনিক নাগরিক ভাষাুর ব্যৱহারে সুনীল তাঁর কবিতায় শিষ্টতা - অশিষ্টতার গভি একাকার করে দিয়েছেন এখানে ।

পরিশেষে বলি, গ্রাম প্রতিদিন বিশুদ্ধ অক্সিজেন বয়ে আনে শহরে। জীবনের শ্বাস নেয় শহর। শহর উপযুক্ত মূল্য দেয়নি তার । লোক-সংস্কৃতি তাই সংস্কৃতি হয়ে ওয়ে না - শহরে সাহিত্যিক পভিত সমালোচকদের কাছে । গ্রামের মাঠ-ঘাট-নদী-নালার সুর নাগরিক সঙ্গীতের ডালি সাজিয়ে তোলে কিন্তু সে থেকে যায় লোকসঙ্গীত, সঙ্গীতের পূর্ণ মর্যাদা দেয়নি শহর তাকে। গ্রামের চারণ কবি, ফকির, বাউল তাঁরা মেঠো কবিই থেকে গেলেন, তাঁদের কবিতা কাব্য হয়ে ওঠেনি ।এ গ্রাম্য সংস্কৃতির দীনতা নয় । এতে তার সংস্কৃতির ভান্ডার শূন্য হয়নি । পরম যত্নে মমতায় লালিত হয় সেখানে - দীঘি ভরা পন্ম, ক্ষেত ভরা গাঁদা-রজনীগদ্ধা, শীতের হলুদ শস্য ক্ষেত সূঘাণে – আমোদিত হয়ে ওঠে চতুর্দিক। শহরে আসে সড়কপত-রেলপথ বেয়ে ক্ষেতের জলের সুবাস ভরা কুসুম রাশি রাশি। বিকোয় গঙ্গার ঘাটে। সে ফুল যায় ফুলদানিতে, বিয়ে বাড়িতে, জলসা ঘরে, নেতার গলায় মালা হয়, ঘর সাজায়, গাড়ী সাজায়, রূপো-জীবিনীদের আকর্ষণ বাড়ায়। কিন্তু সে তো কিছুক্ষণের জন্য । তারপর উৎসব শেষে ছুঁড়ে ফেলে নর্দমায়, রাস্তায় অথবা ফুলের বাজারে অবিক্রিত ফুল পচে দুর্গন্ধে তা ভরে যায়। এই তো নাগরিক সংস্কৃতির পরিণাম। ক্ষেতের কুসুমের সুগদ্ধ এখানে সহজ্ঞ লভ্য নয়। মেঠো পথের বাউলের উদাও কণ্ঠস্বর বালিকা বধুর মন জয় করেনা এখানে। কবি গানের আসরে বিজয় সরকারের বিচ্ছেদী ধুয়া কাঁদায় না শহরে প্রেমিক মন।

আধুনিক কবিদের কবিতা আলোচনা শেষে এইটুকু বলতে চাই যে আমাদের বাংলা ভাষার প্রাচীন নিদর্শন বলে পভিতেরা চিহ্নিত করেছেন সেই চর্যাপদ ও গীতিযোগ্য । বাংলা ভাষায় না হলেও বাঙালি সংস্কৃতি গীতগোবিন্দ সেও গীতিকাব্যে রাগতাল নির্দিষ্ট প্রতিটি কবিতাই। বৈষ্ণব পদাবলীও গীতি কবিতা। সেদিক থেকে দেখতে গেলে পৃথিবীর আদি কবিতা সবই গীতি কবিতা। যেমন ঋধেদ সংহিতা। আমাদের দেশের ভিন্ন ভিন্ন প্রদেশে কবি সম্মেলনে দেখা যায় তাঁদের কবিতায় একটা সূর-তাল-লয় আছে। তাঁরা সূর করে কবিতা পাঠ করেন। আমাদের আধুনিক কবিদের কবিতা গীতিময় নয় কেন १ নগর সংস্কৃতির কি শুষে নিয়েছে সেই সুর লালিত্য १ যাই হোক সুর যে কবিতাকে অমরত্ব দিতে পারে, মানুষের হৃদয় জয় করতে পারে তাতে কোনো সন্দেহ নেই । আমাদের গ্রাম্য কবিদের যারা কবি হয়ে উঠতে পারেননি কখনো নাগরিক মানুষের কাছে তাঁদের কবিতা কিন্তু গীতিময়তার গুণে গ্রাম্য মানুষের হৃদরে হৃদরে ফেরে। পদ্মী কঁবিজ্ঞাসিম উদ্দীন 'নক্সী কাঁথার মাঠ' লিখে বিখ্যাত হয়েছেন শহরের মানুষের কাছে। তিনি গ্রাম্য এক কবিকে বলেছিলেন - 'তুমি রাক্ষস, আমার পুরো কাব্যটাকেই গিলে ফেলেছ একটা গানের মধ্যে। মানুষের মুখে মুখে ফেরে সেই গান। পুর্ব বাংলা তথা পশ্চিম বাংলার অনেকখানি জুড়ে নক্সী কাঁথার মাঠের মমস্তদ ঘটনা - সাজু এবং রূপাই মিঞার প্রেম কথাকে জনপ্রিয় করে তুলেছেন কবি বিজয় সরকার - নন্সী কাঁথার মাঠেরে

নক্সী কাঁথার মাঠ রে -সাজুর ব্যথায় সাজো কাঁদে রূপাই মিঞার বাঁশের বাঁশী, তাদের আমায় বাসা ভেঙ্গে গেছে রে তবু যায় নি ভালোবাসাবাসি।।

কত আশা বুকে নিয়ে বেঁধেছিল ঘর কত সুখে মিশেছিল মিলন-মধ্য 'পর, হঠাৎ আসিয়া এক বৈশাখী ঝড় রে, সে সব কোথা গেল ভাসি।।

সাজুর কবরের একপাশে নক্সী কাঁথা গায় রূপাই মিঞা শুয়ে আছে মরণের শ্যায়; তারা আছে চির নীরবতায় রে— তাদের দুইটি হিয়া পাশাপাশি।।

অকরণ দারণ বিধি বিচার তোর কেমন, তোর বুঝি ভালবাসার কেউ নাহি রে এমন; তাইতে বুঝিস না তুই বিরহীন মন রে – (ওরে) কেন তাদের কালাহাসি।।

পল্লীকবি জসীমউদ্দিন বেদনার ছায়ায় —
নক্সী কাঁথা লিখেছে তার মনের মায়ায় ;
ভাবুক কবিগণ আনে কল্পনায় রে —
যত সত্য লোকের তত্তরাশি।।

নক্সী কাঁথার মাঠে লোকে আজো ওনতে পায়, সাজুর কথায় রূপাই মিঞা বাঁশরী বাজায়; পাগল বিজয় বলে পরাণে চায় রে — আমি একবার গিয়ে ওনে আসি ।।

সে তুলনায় খুব কম লোকের কাছে পৌঁছতে পেরেছে জসিমউদ্দীনের 'নক্সী কাঁথার মাঠ' কাবাগ্রন্থ।

Tagore's Red Oleanders : Tracing the Journey from Life, Death and In-between

Maumita Chaudhuri

Assistant Professor

Head of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication and Joint Co-ordinator of Department of BBA

Abstract

Red Oleanders cannot be tied down to one definite meaning. The focus in this paper will be on one of the many: the journey from life, death and in – between – a pattern, however essentially Indian, once deciphered and explained is bound to give this play a universal significance. Red Oleanders, in many ways, offers an equivalence of the discourse of the swadeshi – samaj and provides a narrative of the nation. Bohurupee still seems to remain as the definitive theatrical version of the play. The focus of this paper is again on nationalism, conflict between communities (the ruler and the common people) and womanhood.

Introduction

Rakta Karabi first appeared in Prabasi, a Bengali journal in 1924 and in the same year the translation of the play by the poet himself, named Red Oleanders, and was published in the Visvabharati Quarterly. The Western critics were prompt to label Red Oleanders as a disaster. The interconnected symbols that arose from the Indian life, philosophy and religion, and the problem of rendering them in English created a communication gap between the poet and his western readers. (Chaudhuri, 57) Times Literary Supplement came up with the following comment: 'It is frankly difficult to make anything of the symbolism...For the greater part of the time it is quite impossible to discover what is happening...' (Lal, 72 – 73). The Saturday Review of Literature of 18th September 1926 had almost a similar view: 'We confess to a steadily growing sense of baffled bewilderment as we read page after page of Red Oleanders' (Lal, 73). The Dublin Evening of 2th July 1925 considered Red Oleanders a vague drama with 'shadowy figures' meandering through the pages (Aronson, 100). Tagore's reaction to all these criticisms is recorded in the Visya—Bharati Quarterly of October, 1925. He writes:

Some few criticisms of my Red Oleanders that have appeared in the English papers have convinced me that to a considerable portion of my readers in England this play of mine seems obscure in meaning. Such a fact, I believe, usually comes as a surprise to an author, because generally a work of this nature springs from the vision that is sivid to himself and a feeling that belongs to his direct experience. It is not for me to discuss the literary qualities of this book, which, being a mere translation, can have no pretension to a permanent place as literature in a language

not the author's own. However, I think, in justice to myself, I should make it clear that it has a definite meaning which legitimately claims literary expression ('Red Oleanders: Author's Interpretation', 20).

The Play

Nandini, the emblem of Nature, impersonal love, determination, courage, rebellion, and liberation, comes to Yaksha Puri that thrives on a systematic mechanization of human resources to serve a corrupt tyranny. She acts as a catalyst for a change in a repressed society deprived of the light of freedom and resigned to its bleak lot. The King is imprisoned behind an iron curtain of his own making. The hierarchical power structure has a Governor with a band of assistants and a well – equipped army to tyrannize the diggers and thereby force them to dig out gold from the dark recesses of the earth. The other characters who play pivotal roles in the play are the Professor, Bishu—the sad musician, Chandra—the earth-bound wife of Phagulal, Gossain—who uses religion to serve the purpose of the Governor; and of course Ranjan—whose unseen presence in the background radiates an aura of completeness from the beginning till the end. Ranjan inspires fear and hope, hatred and love, insecurity and fulfillment in the hearts of all who perpetually wait for his arrival in Yakshapuri either with apprehension or expectation. (Chaudhuri, 58)

Everything in Yakshapuri is 'made-up'. As the Professor says: 'The naked is without a credential, its made-up clothes that define us' (243). Here comes Nandini who is not 'the sunlight gleaming through the forest thickets (that) surprise nobody, but the light that breaks through a cracked wall...' (242). Yakshapuri is a 'city under eclipse'. The Professor describes 'the shadow demon, which lives in the gold caves' and 'has eaten into it'. 'It is not whole itself, neither does it allow anyone else to remain whole' (245). Chandra echoes this fragmentary existence when she says '...we are closely fitted to their profits only, like husks to grains of corn – with nothing of us left over? (251). The diggers are identified only with numbers like 47V or 69Ng. The satire is stinging and we are transported to Tagore's Tasher Desh or House of Cards (a satire on the rigidity of class systems during British Raj), originally written as a short story and then expanded into a dance opera in 1933 – inspired primarily by Alice in Wonderland.

Nandini is decked with Red Oleanders - red for Nandini is the color of Ranjan's love, while for the Professor and the system of Yakshapuri red is a beauty that instills fear. Red is also the color of rebellion that liberates the spirit and shatters the imposed restrictions. All parts of the red oleander tree are extremely toxic and can prove to be lethal even when dried. The red oleander hence also stands for a deadly beauty. While Nandini adores the red oleander she also knows it for certain that she needs to remain indebted to the roots that delve deep into the darkness of the earth to draw nourishment for it so that it can enjoy the light of the world above. Nevertheless, she is not ignorant of the limitations: 'the living earth gives itself up in love and life and beauty, but when you rend its bosom and disturb the dead, you bring up with your booty the curse of the dark demon, blind and hard, cruel and envious' (247). The King has the strength to pull up blocks of stone, iron and gold

from the dark depths of the earth but lacks the power of magic that manifests itself through the growing grass and the blossoming flowers. Nandini weaves a web of magic around her. Her strength lies in her softness. The Kings rules by the exercise of brute force. Ranjan leaves Nandini free only to hold her fast. The King spends his time 'in knotting the binding rope' (249). Unfortunately 'everything else can be tied except joy' (249). If the King is a desert, 'parched, bare, and weary' Nandini is just 'a tiny blade of grass'. The flaming thirst of this desert licks up one fertile field after another, only to enlarge itself. However, 'it can never annex the life of the frailest of grasses' (249). The King desperately wants to exist without knowing the meaning of life. 'Cut off from life, he spends himself in repressing life' (265). The King projects an instance of overgrown power that 'crushes itself inwardly by its own weight' (249). In Nandini the King discovers 'the dance rhythm of the All... The rhythm that lightens the enormous weight of matter. To that rhythm the bands of stars and planets go about dancing from sky to sky...' (249).

Kenaram Gossain, the High Preacher, sent by the Governor to give moral lessons to the diggers reminds us of the 'magoj dholai' or brain – washing of the laborers in Satyajit Ray's film Hirak Rajar Deshe. And this leads us to the topsy – turvy talk of Bishu – the sad philosopher who believes 'there are sorrows, to forget which is the greatest of sorrows' (261). He distinguishes between the 'pain of desire for the near' that belongs to the animal and 'the sorrow of aspiration for the far' that belongs to man. 'That far away flame of ... eternal sorrow is revealed through Nandini' (261). If he is the music, then Nandini is the 'hollow of the flute' (267). Nandini's heart soars in his voice, her 'pain cries in his tunes' (267). He is the 'observe side of Ranjan, on which falls the shadow' (267).

And now who is Ranjan? If the King is represented by the falcon – the symbol of brute strength, Nandini by the dove – the symbol of love, the Ranjan is the Blue Throat – Nilkantha – the symbol of victory. He is the culmination of love, strength and knowledge. 'Ranjan holds an oar in each hand and ferries (Nandini) across the stormy waters; he catches wild horses by the mane and rides with her through the woods; he shoots an arrow between the eyebrows of the tiger on the spring, and scatters her fear with loud laughter.' His life is tumultuous and he can 'desperately stake his all on the game' (262). Nandini loves Ranjan 'as the rudder in the water might love the sail in the sky, answering its rhythm of wind in the rhythm of waves' (264).

The King saves a frog that had remained in a hole for 3000 years from existing forever by smashing its shelter. He thus learns the difference between living and existing – the state of death – in – life. Nandini tempts the King to move out of his secret chamber, the stone walls of which fall away – only to discover Ranjan lying dead, killed by the King's henchmen. In the climactic scene the King – a prisoner of his own oppressive regime – turns against it and joins Nandini who emerges as the stereotype of the awesome power of the eternal woman – the emblem of 'shakti'. Similarly Ranjan leaves his 'conquering call' in his death. Nandini is sure that 'He will live again, he cannot die' (295). As she cries: 'I did await his coming, and he did come. I still wait to prepare

for his coming again, and he shall come again' (295). Nandini follows Ranjan and is followed by the King, elated at his newly acquired ability to die. He cries out in joy: 'At last I found the meaning of death. I am saved!' (296). The Professor throws away his books to follow the King who in his words 'has at last had the tidings of the secret of life, and has gone off in quest of it' (297). Phagulal sees the red streak and Bishu, who prepares for his 'last lonely journey', concludes that Nandini and Ranjan have at last been united and it has been a 'red marriage' (297).

Tagore had an enlightening conversation with Pandit Khitimohan Sen Shastri a few days before his death on the subject matter of Rakta Karabi. On this occasion he had quoted from the Upanishads which preaches the indestructibility of life. He recollected an incident that had inspired the play. A red oleander tree had been accidentally crushed by pieces of discarded iron. But suddenly one day the poet saw a beautiful red oleander branch tearing through the lifeless debris carrying a red oleander on its breast—as if it was trying to win the world with love. The flower created, it seemed from the blood of its cruelly pierced breast, questioned the world's ability to efface it from the surface of the earth. We are immediately reminded of Kishore who at the beginning of the play describes the one and only red oleander tree, 'discovered after days of search, nearly hidden away behind a rubbish heap' (241).

Tagore wrote a speech introducing the play, never delivered because the play could not be staged during his life time:

There is an antinomy between men as individuals and men as members of a class...My play is about an individual man as a member of a class...Rakta Karabi depicts a woman named Nandini. See her emerge as an individual in the middle of the oppression that surrounds her. See the tears and the laughter which rises upwards like a gurgling fountain forced to rise by the constraint at the point of issue. If you look at the whole picture, you will find enjoyment in it. Or else you can search for meanings hidden under the petals of the red oleander and if that causes a problem the responsibility is not mine (Bhattacharya, 159).

And we have an interesting diary entry of 1924 on this play:

When the joyful life – force that is in woman, fails to inspire Man's endeavors, then the mechanical element dominates the creative. That is when the machine man creates hurts human beings. This is the thought that had found expression in my play Rakta Karabi. In Yakshapuri, Man delves deep into the earth to bring out gold with relentless exertion of force. The lust for unremitting acquisition is such that there is no room for what is beauteous in life. There enters woman, enters Nandini, and thus the mechanical encounters life – force... (Bhattacharya, 161).

Sombhu Mitra traces a sense of decay and waste in the last few words of the song that ends the play: 'The earth's mantle of dust is filled with ripe corn!' He notices a definite change of

tone when compared with the line sung earlier: "Her (autumn's) basket is heaped with corn'. To quote Sombhu Mitra:

If a faulty organization was not forced on the society, if youth was allowed a free play in its area of activity, so much of the ripe harvest would not have been scattered to the dust...there would not have been such a waste of the basketful of ripe harvest (Ghosh, 77).

In the Bengali version the line 'dala je tor bhoreche aaj paka phasale' changes to 'dhular anchal bhoreche aaj paka phasale'. The renowned poet Sankha Ghosh contradicts Sombhu Mitra focusing on the words 'anchal' (mantle) and 'bhoreche' (filled) as indicative of abundance and fulfillment. He traces an indestructible optimism in the ending lines of the play:

'The marks of blood', 'red oleanders' and 'ripe harvest' all mingle and combine into a sense of collection – not in any metaphysical sense, not in any supernatural sense but just in this sense that some deaths may be unavoidable in conflicts during social transition but they can never silence us, they can serve as our inspiration for the next line of action – and so we hear his 'deathless voice', his unwasted life (Ghosh, 77).

Conclusion

The name 'Nandini' in Bengali means 'a giver of joy' and it is the joy that arises out the death of mere existence and the celebration of life as it should be lived that sums up the final impression of this richly allegorical play – the stage worthiness of which has often been questioned. (Chaudhuri, 61) The play has been written and executed marvelously as like Tagore's other works which are again unquestionable.

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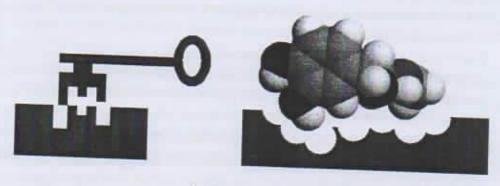
An Introduction to Supramolecular Chemistry: Competitor of Nature

Nilay Karchaudhuri

Asstt. Professor, Deptartment of Chemistry

The field of Supramolecular Chemistry has been defined as "Chemistry beyond the molecule". It is an investigation of new molecular systems. The most important feature of this new molecular system is that individual covalently bonded molecular binding blocks are held together reversibly by intermolecular forces (Supramolecular glue) and not by covalent bonds. As biological systems provide inspiration, organic and inorganic chemistry are required for the syntheses of pre-designed supramolecular components, physical chemistry to understand their properties - these certainly indicate the multidisciplinary nature of Supramolecular Chemistry.

The most important concept of Supramolecular Chemistry is the idea of complementarity which Emil Fischer (1894) described as the "Lock and Key principle". The arrangement of binding sites in the host (Lock) is complementary to the guest (Key) both sterically and electronically. For this particular configuration an enzyme may catalyze a single reaction with high or total specificity-the active site of the enzyme being complementary to the transition state of the catalyzed reaction. Perhaps the most important example of complementarity is the base pairing in the DNA double helix structure where adenine complements thymine and guanine complements cytosine.



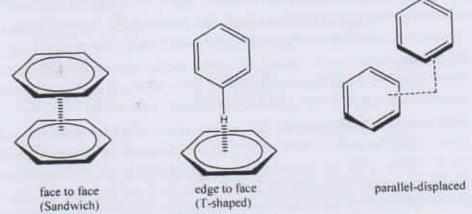
Lock and Key Model

DNA DOUBLE HELIX FLATTENED

Now, what is that very special supramolecular glue? It is combination of followed weak non covalent interactions. They include:

- Electrostatic interactions (ion-ion, ion-dipole, dipole-dipole) based on the coulombic attraction between opposite charges. Ion-ion interactions are non directional whilst for ion-dipole interactions, these are typically directional for optimal binding efficiency. The strength of such interactions is around a 250 KJ/mol where as the bond energy of typical single covalent bond is around 350 KJ/mol to 942 KJ/mol.
- Arrays of hydrogen bonds (bond energy of a typical hydrogen bond is 20 KJ/mol) are employed in the DNA double helix. The directional nature of hydrogen bonds combined with a precision with which the individual components led into molecular systems make it a very special supramolecular glue.
- 3. π-π stacking interactions, can also be used as Supramolecular glue, occur in a 'face to

face (sandwich)', 'edge to face (T-shaped)', and parallel-displaced manner.



This attractive force is electrostatic in nature where as gas phase calculation shows that dispersion forces are considered to be the principal contributor to the overall interaction. Origin of electrostatic interaction may primarily result from through space interactions with the substituents for the majority of stacking configurations.

- 4. Dispersion forces or induced dipole-induced dipole interactions are attractive forces between molecules that occur when instantaneous dipoles around each molecule interact favourably. These van der Waals forces are believed to provide additional enthalpic stabilization to the coordination of a hydrophobic guest into a hydrophobic cavity.
- 5. Hydrophobic effect: the specific driving force for the association of apolar binding partness in aqueous solution is the origin of hydrophobic effect. This is due to the guest complexation inside of a hydrophobic pocket of a receptor with a release of ordered water molecules resulting a favourable increase in entropy. This incidence also provides an enthalpic force for apolar guest coordination through maximizing hydrogen bonding among the disorded water molecules.
- Classical coordination chemistry with steric interaction also play a key role in determining the selectivity of a receptor species for a particular substrate and the stability of a specific complex.

These type of interactions can be used individually or in concert to maximize the selectivity and tunability of Supramolecular molecules.

The accurate characterization of Supramolecular complexes is a large and very complex field. The dynamic and reversible nature of the non covalent interactions that contribute to formation of these network structures give these supramolecules the intrinsic ability to response to external stimuli such as Nuclear Magnetic Resonance spectroscopy, X-Ray techniques, microscopy techniques, computational techniques, dynamic light scattering etc. etc.

- Crystallography: A crystal structure of the host-guest complex is the most convincing
 evidence of a Supramolecular interaction. It clearly shows the binding sites and gives
 information about the interactions that hold the guest in place. However, it has got a small
 limitation; it is valid for solid state only, still inapplicable to liquid or gas state.
- NMR: Many atomic nuclei (and not all!) posses nuclear spin and thus detectable by NMR spectroscopy. As the electronic environment of the nucleus is monitored by NMR, it is a sensitive technique to have a guidance of molecular interactions.
- 3. NMR titration: NMR spectrum of a solution of the receptor is measured and then the guest is added in small proportions. The NMR resonances are of the host are monitored and if binding occurs the protons which from hydrogen bonds to the guest are strongly affected. Structural information about the supramolecule are thus obtained. This technique may be performed by any NMR active nucleus provided the electronic environment of that particular nucleus is perturbed during molecular recognition. The geometry and coordination between host and guest can be exactly specified by the use NOESY(Nuclear Overhauser Effect Spectroscopy: correlating nmr resonances that are physically close) technique.
- Electrospray mass spectrometry(ES-MS) is also used for characterization of supramolecules as it provides a mild solution phase method of ionization.
- UV-Visible spectroscopy: As their spectra are sensitive to complex formation can also be effective for characterization of supramolecules.
- 6. Size-exclusion gel can be useful for finding the aggregate mass.
 Is it hopeless for a chemist to try to design super-molecules?

"It will be many years before our understanding of molecular structure becomes great enough to encompass in detail such substances as the proteins, but the attack on these substances by the methods of modern structural chemistry can be begun now, and it is my belief that this attack will ultimately be successful".

Linus Pauling, 1939

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Child Prostitution : Global Health Burden, Research Needs and Interventions

Rahul Shaw B.A., 1st Year

Introduction

About one quarter of India's population comprises of girl childen up to the age of 19 years. However, they are discriminated socially, psychologically, economically and sexually. This gender discrimination is socially defined and continues from cradle to grave. One of the India's most striking characteristics is it's material poverty. An estimated 40% of the India's population lives in poverty. In a patriarchal set up, most sections of society that are affected is women and girl children. Violence against women, assault and rape of women are not individual sexual or physical crimes. Description seems to characterize the lives of India's poor. This desparate poverty is often cited as the root of India's growing prostitution problem.

The Problem of Child Prostitution

Some eye-opening facts in this regard

- The average age of girls supplied to the brothels in the last two years has decreased from 14 to 16 years to 10 and 14 years. A girl between 10 and 12 years fetches the highest price.
- There is a myth that a man can rid himself of sexually transmitted diseases if he sleeps with a virgin hence the fear of HIV/AIDS has increased the demand for virgins and children.
- Trafficking is another problem which India focus About 7,000 sexworkers cross over Nepal into India every year. 66% of the girls from families where the annual Income is about Rs. 15000. These may be hold by their parents deliverd with premises of marriage or a lucrative job and sold to brothel owners. Between 40%-50% are believed to be under 18 years which is the age of consent in India, some are as young as 9 to 10 years old.
- Child sex workers are not confined to big cities. A survey in Bihar revealed that roadside brothels for truck drivers in the Aurangabad and Sasaram district offered workers aged between 6 to 18 years.

 Everyday about 200 girls and women in India enter prostitution and 80% of them against their will. At the current rate of growth by 2005, one of every five Indian girl children will be a child prostitute.

Child Prostitution and the Law

Indian constitution has guaranteed fundamental Right to save and protect the human life under Article 21 and also Article 23(1) provides that trafficking in human beings is prohibited and any contravention of these provisions shall be an offence. Besides the Fundamental Rights the following directive principles also have relevance (Article 39(a), 39(b), 39(F), 42, 46 and 47 etc.). Under these provisions of the Indian Evidence Act 1872, Section 114(a) and 151 are relevant in the context of trafficking. Also section 51(2), 53(2), 98, 160, 327(2) of the CrPC have relevance in this context. Provisions made also in the IPC to deal with sexual offences. Sections, 372, 373, 354, 366, 497 and 498 give the power and strength to women. The immoral trafficking Prevention ACT, 1956 (PITA) passed by both house of parliament came into force from monday 26th January 1987, is the main statute dealing with sex workers in India does not criminalize prostitution or prostitutes per se, but mostly acts by third parties facilitating prostitution like brothel keeping, living off earnings and procuring, even whose sex work is not worked. The PITA also contains a provision for presumption of suilt on the part of a person uncertain circumstances when the victim is a child who has been sexually abused. The current laws in India that legislate sex workers are fairly ambiguous. The primary law dealing with the statue of sex workers in the 1956 law suffered to as the immoral traffic (supression) Act or SITA. The punishment for procuring, inducing or taking away persons for prostitution has been enhanced to a minimum of three years and maximum of seven years of rigorous imprisonment. Fesible detention for the purpose of prostitution can also be punished with seven years to life term. In addition the law provides for special police officers, non official advisory body and police officers specifically assigned to stop trafficking to be appointed by Central Government; as well as special courts to deal with cases under the Act. It ridge for the safeguards to these reserved girls who can also stay these for a maximum also provides for the safeguards to these reserved girls who can also stay these for a maximum period of 3 years.

Steps that should be taken to fight child prostitution

Formal Education should be made available to those victims who are still within the school going age. The Central and State Government in partnership with NGO's should provide gender sensitive market driven vocational training to all those rescued victims who are not intrested in education.

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There should be Rehabilitation and reintegration of rescued victims being a long term recruitment of adequate no. of trained councillors and social workers in Institutions/homes run by the Government independently or in collaboration with NGO's.

Awarness generation and legal literacy on economic Rights, particularly for women and innoscent girls should be taken up.

Adequate publicity through print and electronic media including child lines and women helplines about the problem of those who had been forced into prostitution.

Conclusion

Our society has not only turned a blind eye to minor girls being entired into prostitution but also is directly responsible for the confirmance in growth of Child prostitution. First the demand for virgin prostitutes and secondly it abets child prostitution by falling to provide adequate facilities for orphan and destitute children. Unless the so called respectable sections of the society rise in scroll against sexual exploitation of minors, the future of younger generation looks blank. We have to take due congnigance of their past and rahabilitate them. The Government should severely punish the people connected with this inhuman practice for the good of the future citizens of our country.

The law has many loopholes and inadequacies. It does not, punish the client and it does not make any provision for the rehabilitation of women and children who are rescued from brothels. There is no single legal entity which over sees its implementation. The defination of prostitution is vague and fonds to punish women and minor girls who are the victims rather than those who live off their earnings. While minor girls are sometimes rounded up during raids and detained to remand homes the pimps, kothamalkeens (women who own brothels) and clients go shot free. Usually those who are arrested manage to secure bail and continues running their business and exploiting the minor girls.

The elimination of child prostitution reguires immediate redressal measure. Education and economic independence of women will counter their valuerability and lead to the recognition and respect of women's and the "girls child's dignity".

অর্থ-সামাজিক অবক্ষয়ের জন্মদাতা ঃ ভোগবাদ

Sayani Biswas Sociology, 1st Year

কলেজ ম্যাগাজিনে কী লিখব তা নিয়ে আমার কোন্ পূর্ব পরিকল্পনা ছিল না। কিন্তু লিখব বলে মনস্থির করেছি যখন, তখন topic নিয়ে বেশি মাখা ঘামিয়ে আর লাভ নেই। এই ভেবেই হঠাৎ একদিন মাথায় এল, সম্প্রতি ভারতবর্ষের তখন topic নিয়ে বেশি মাখা ঘামিয়ে আর লাভ নেই। এই ভেবেই হঠাৎ একদিন মাথায় এল, সম্প্রতি ভারতবর্ষের খ্যাতনামা অর্থনীতিবিদ্ শ্রী অম্পান দন্ত মহাশয় প্রয়াত হয়েছেন। 'অম্পান দন্ত ছ এই অসামান্য ব্যক্তিত্ব সম্পর্কে যতই বলা হোক হয়তো কম হবে। ইনি তাঁর সুদীর্ঘ কর্মজীবনে বহু বিষয়ের উপর নিজস্ব অভিমত ব্যক্ত করে গোছেন।

'Ends and Means' তাঁর একটি অভিনব সৃষ্টি। পুঁজিবাদ, ভোগবাদ, সাম্রাজ্যবাদ থেকে শুরু করে বহু বিতর্কমূলক অর্থনৈতিক বিষয় তাঁর লেখনির স্ফুলিঙ্গ বিস্ফোরিত হয়েছে। এগুলির মধ্যে থেকে ভোগবাদকে নিয়েই মূলত আমি আমার লেখা শুরু করতে চলেছি। আমার এই সামান্য আন্তরিক প্রয়াসকে তাঁর অনির্বাণ স্মৃতি শিখায় শ্রজার্ঘ্যস্বরূপ নিবেদন কর্ছি।

আজ এই বিশায়নের যুগে তৃতীয় বিশ্বের দেশ ভারতে যদি প্রশ্ন তোলা হয় — আমাদের 'প্রধান সমস্যা কী ং' উত্তরে অনেকেই হয়তো বলবেন 'দারিদ্রাই প্রধান সমস্যা'। তাই দারিদ্রা দুরীকরণ হওয়া উচিত, বতমানের প্রধান কর্মসূচী। কিন্তু এই 'দারিদ্র দুরীকরণের উপায় কী ং' অধিকাংশ মানুষের কঠে শোনা যাবে 'শিল্পায়ন', ক্রত শিল্পায়নই হল এই সমস্যার এই 'দারিদ্র দুরীকরণের উপায় কী ং' অধিকাংশ মানুষের কঠে শোনা যাবে 'শিল্পায়ন', ক্রত শিল্পায়নই হল এই সমস্যার এই 'দারিদ্র দুরীকরণের উপায় কী ং' ভাররের নেপথ্যে নিহিত রয়েছে পশ্চিমি দেশগুলির — 'So called development'-এর লোভনীয় দুষ্টাত্ত।

পশ্চিমি জগতের এই আকাশচুস্বী উন্নয়ন এসেছে ক্রন্ত শিল্পায়নের হাত ধরে। শিল্পান্ধয়নের অধ্যায়টি ইতিহাসে 'শিল্পবিল্পব'
নামে পরিচিত। ইংল্যান্ডে এর সূচনাকাল প্রায় আঠারো শতক এবং অন্যান্য পশ্চিমি দেশগুলিতে এর বিস্তার ঘটেছিল
উনিশ শতকের কাছাকাছি সময়ে। আদি শিল্পায়নের নেতিবাচক ফলস্বরূপ পশ্চিমি দুনিয়া থেকে ক্রমান্ধয়ে সমগু বিশ্বে ছেরে
উনিশ শতকের কাছাকাছি সময়ে। আদি শিল্পায়নের নেতিবাচক ফলস্বরূপ পশ্চিমি দুনিয়া থেকে ক্রমান্ধয়ে সমগু বিশ্বে ছেরে
গৈছে ভোগবাদের অন্ত হীন চললিহান স্পৃহা। তাই বলা হয় পুঁজিবাদই হল ভোগবাদের জনক।
গেছে ভোগবাদের অন্ত হীন চললিহান স্পৃহা। তাই বলা হয় পুঁজিবাদই হল ভোগবাদের জনক।
গুঁজিবাদ' শলটি অর্থনীতির সকে অঙ্গাঙ্গিভাবে জড়িত। যে রাষ্ট্রের অর্থনীতির পরিকাঠামো কোনো ব্যক্তি মালিকানার
পরিচালিত, যেখানে মুনাফা সর্বাধিকরণ করা সর্বোন্তম প্রয়াস, সামাজিক কল্যাণ সাধন ক্রমাগত ক্ষয়িকু সম্পন হিসাবে
পরিচালিত, যেখানে মুনাফা সর্বাধিকরণ করা সর্বোভ্রম প্রয়াস, সেই সকল রাষ্ট্র ধনতান্ত্রিক রাষ্ট্র বা পুঁজিপতি রাষ্ট্র
বিদ্যানন দেশে আয় ও সম্পন বৈষম্য সৃষ্টি যাদের স্বার্থাছেমী প্রয়াস, সেই সকল রাষ্ট্র ধনতান্ত্রিক ক্রায়্ট্র বা পুঁজিপতি রাষ্ট্র
হিসাবে নামান্তিত। এই অর্থ ব্যবস্থার অনিবার্য ফলস্বরূপ দেশের বুকে সৃষ্টি হয় বেকারত্ব। মুদ্রাব্যবস্থার ক্রমণতন। কালোবাজারি,
হুসাকোবাজি, শ্রেণি বৈষম্যের মতো কতগুলি সামাজিক ব্যাধি।

এই অর্থনীতির অধীনস্থ রাষ্ট্রগুলিতে মুনাফা অর্জনের উদ্দেশ্যে উৎপাদক বা মালিক শ্রেণির সমাজের পক্ষে ক্ষতিকর দ্রব্য যেমন মদ, গাঁজা, সিগারেট, ড্রাঞ্চইত্যাদি নেশাজাতীয় সামগ্রীর লেন দেন। সামাজিক পতনমূলক কাজ যেমন জুয়াখেলা, নিম্নস্তরের ফাটকা কারবার, মজুতদারি ইত্যাদি তো নিত্যনৈমিন্তিক খেলায় পরিণত হয়েছে। দেশের উৎপাদক শ্রেণি যখন নিজের একচেটিয়া আধিপত্য বিস্তারের অহমসর্বস্থতার খেলায় মেতে ওঠে, তখন সে প্রত্যক্ষ ও পরোক্ষভাবে ইচ্ছা মতো সমাজের নিম্নন্তরের মানুষ তথা সাধারণ মানুষদের শোষণ করতে থাকে। এই শোষিত ও মুনাফাভিত্তিক উদ্বতকে কার্ল মাৰ্কস বলেছেন : 'Production of surplus value is the absolute law of the mode of production.' শোষণসীমা লক্ষিত হবার পর যখন শোষিতরা প্রতিরোধ ও প্রতিবাদ করে, তখনই সৃষ্টি হয় সংঘাত। অচিরেই পুঁজিবাদী পরিকাঠামোয় নির্মিত রাষ্ট্রের ইমারতটি তাসের ঘরের মতো খান খান হয়ে যায়। অদ্যাবধি বারংবার ইতিহাস এই দুর্দমনীয় সত্যের সহিত আমাদের পরিচয় ঘটিয়েছে। মার্কিন যুক্তরাষ্ট্র, ব্রিটেন, ফ্রান্স, জার্মানি, ইরাক, ইরান, সৌদি আরব, দক্ষিণ কোরিয়া ইত্যাদি রাষ্টগুলি সম্পূর্ণরাপে পুঁজিবাদের ছাঁচে গড়া অর্থব্যবস্থা সম্পন্ন প্রভূত্মশালী দেশ। পুঁজিবাদের প্রতিবাদী হোমকুন্ডই সাম্যবাদের জন্মদাতা। পুঁজিবাদের সম্পূর্ণ বিপরীত মতাদর্শ সাম্যবাদের চলার পাথেয়। সাম্যবাদ হল এমন এক অর্থব্যবস্থা যেখানে সামগ্রিক উৎপাদন ব্যবস্থা সামাজিক মালিকানাধীন, যেখানে উৎপাদন ও বন্টন কার্যের প্রধান উদ্দেশ্য মুনাফা সর্বাধিকরণ করা নয়, সমাজ ও রাষ্ট্রের কল্যাণসাধন। এবং এখানে কেন্দ্রীয় কর্তৃপক্ষই রাষ্ট্রের যাবতীয় অর্থনীতিক সমস্যা সমাধানে প্রযুক্ত। এই অর্থব্যবস্থা দামব্যবস্থা বা বাজারব্যবস্থার সম্পূর্ণ প্রভাবমুক্ত। এখানে কোনো অর্থনীতিক বানিজ্যচক্রের প্রভাব নেই বলে রাষ্ট্রে মুদ্রাক্ষীতি। বেকারত্ব বা অন্যান্য কোনো ভয়াবহ অর্থসংক্রান্ত সমস্যা প্রকটিত হয় না। লোকসান হলেও এই অর্থনীতিতে দ্রব্য সামগ্রীর উৎপাদন ও বন্টন বজায় থাকে। সাম্যবাদী অর্থব্যবস্থার উৎপাদন সংক্রান্ত বিষয়গুলিতে সামাজিক মালিকানা থাকে বলে আয় ও সম্পদের বৈষম্য পরিলক্ষিত হয় না, সৃষ্ঠু ও সামাজিক ন্যায়বিচার দেখা যায়, প্রতিটি নাগরিক তার সামর্থ্য অনুযায়ী কাজ করে। এবং উপযুক্ত পারিশ্রমিক পায়, সমাজে শ্রমিক শ্রেণি বা পুঁজিপতি শ্রেণী বলে পৃথকীকৃত কোনো শ্রেণি বৈষম্য নেই বলে এখানে কোন সংঘাত বা সংঘর্ষ সৃষ্টি হয় না। দেশের প্রতিটি নাগরিক সমান সুযোগ-সুবিধা, সমান অধিকার, সমান মর্যাদা, সমান মৌলিক স্থাধীনতা ভোগ করে। সমানাধিকার প্রতিষ্ঠা এই অর্থব্যবস্থার প্রধান বৈশিষ্ট্য বালেই এর নাম সাম্যবাদী-অর্থনীতি। চিন, ভিয়েতনাম, কিউবা, রাশিয়া, ব্রাঞ্জিল, চেকোঝোভাকিয়া, হাঙ্গেরি, পোলাডি ইত্যাদি রাষ্ট্রন্তলি সাম্যবাদের পথে অগ্রগামী। এতো গেল পূঁজিবাদ ও সাম্যবাদের কথা। এবার আসল বিষয় ভোগবাদ সম্পর্কে আলোচনা শুরু করা যাক। মূলতঃ পুঁজিবাদ বা ধনতান্ত্রিক অর্থনীতিই বিশ্ববাসীকে এই ভোগবাদের গরল-গহুরে ঠোলে দিচ্ছে। বর্তমানে ইহা রাষ্ট্রীয় উল্লয়নের সর্বাপেক্ষা কলক্ষময় দিক বলে বিবেচিত।

ভোগবাদ কী ? এই প্রশ্নের উত্তরে আক্ষরিকভাবে বলা যায় যে, আত্মসুখ, মোহ ও ক্লবর্ধমান লালসা — এই ত্রিবেণী সংগমের সন্মিলিত রূপ হল ভোগবাদ। কোনো ব্যক্তিবিশেষ তার মানসিক ও জৈবিক মোহময় সুখ চরিতার্থতার জন্য সর্বপ্রকার ত্যাগাব্রতী ভাবনা ব্যত্তীত যে পার্থিব সুখ সম্ভোগের খেলায় মেতে ওঠে, তার নামই হল ভোগবাদ। ভোগবাদে থাকে না কোনো ত্যাগামন্ত্র, থাকে তো কেবলই আত্মসন্তুষ্টি তথা আত্মতৃত্তির যথাসন্তব প্রয়াস। কিন্তু প্রয়োজনীয় অর্থের সংস্থান না থাকলে মানুষ তার ভোগবাদী মনোভাবকে বান্তবায়িত করতে পারে না। আর এই কারণেই মানুষ অমিত ঐশ্বর্যের অধিকারী হবার প্রয়াসে নির্দ্ধিয়া কেড়ে খায় 'আশি কোটি মুখের গ্রাস', নিজের সাধের উদ্যামকে দৈর্ঘ্য-প্রস্তুদ্ধ সমতা প্রদানের জন্য কত শত উপেনকে করে ঘর ছাড়া। ভোগ উপচারের প্রাচুর্য, রাজস্বের পরিমাণ বৃদ্ধি, মুষ্টিমেয় ধনীদের হাতে কুক্ষিগত ধন, বাহ্যিক বিলাস-বৈভব, আড়ম্বরপূর্ণ জীবন-যাপন, দৃষ্টলুক্কারী আকর্ষণ – চাকচিক্য কখনোই রাষ্ট্রের উন্নয়নের সূচক হতে পারে না। যেখানে শিক্ষা, স্বাস্থ্য, খাদ্য, সুম্পর্ক্তে দৃশ্যমান হচ্ছে চরম অবহেলা, উন্নয়নের নামে সমাজে আসছে 'A stage of growth or advancement' — যে সুফল ভোগ করতে পারে শুরুই ধনী, উর্কতন কর্তৃপক্ষ সেই রাষ্ট্রে

প্রজ্ঞাসাধারণের দৃঃখ কটের লাঘব হয় না, বরং ধনীরা হয় আরো ধনী; মধ্যবিত্তেরা হয় চির দৃশ্চিন্তায় মগ্ন এবং দরিদ্ররা হয় দরিদ্রতর। ভোগবাদী রট্টগুলির আরেকটি ঘৃণ্য দিক হল যে, এরা নিজেরা যে সর্বনাশের পথে অগ্রগামী হয়েছে, অপর দেশগুলিকেও সেই ভোগবিলাসে প্রলুক্তকরে ভোগবাদী মতাদর্শে দীছিত হবার প্ররোচনা দেয়। ফলে বিশ্বের প্রভুত্ব সম্পদ্র রট্টেগুলিই যদি ভোগবাদের এই আত্মসুখের সন্মোহন খেলায় মেতে ওঠে, তবে অন্যান্য তুলনামূলক দুর্বল রাষ্ট্রগুলি যে তাদের হাতের পুতুল এ পরিণত হতে বেশিদিন সময় নেবে না — এ বিষয়ে কোনো সন্দেহের অবকাশ থাকে না। ইউরোপীয় ভোগতপ্ত জীবনযাত্রার বাঁশি শুনে অন্যান্য দেশগুলি শ্রীরাধিকার মতো যেভাবে অস্থির হয়ে উঠেছে তাতে যেন শায়নে-স্বপনে-জাগরণে অবকাশ পেলেই সেই দেশগুলির উপচার সমূহের সন্মোহনে ছুটে চলেছে এবং তারফলে তার জীবনে নেমে আসছে নানান দুর্গতি, যতদিন যাবে এই মাত্রা আরো বাড়বে। ইংরেজিতে যার নাম 'success' তার রুণের নামই হল 'দ্রুত নৈপুণ্য' পাপকর্মের মধ্যে দিয়েও সেই নৈপুণ্য অর্জনলীলা আজ প্রায় সকলের কাছে উপাদেয় হয়ে উঠেছে।

Success -এর ঘোড়দৌড়ে জুয়াখেলার উত্তেজনা পশ্চিম-প্রান্তের কেবলই ঘূর্ণি হাওয়া বইয়ে দিছে। সং কিংবা অসং যেটাকেই পাথেয় করা হোক না কেন, যে একটু মাত্র এগিয়ে যেতে পারে, তারই উপর নির্ভর করছে হার জিত। চিরটাকাল ভোগের মধ্যে দিয়েই মানুষ ছুটে চলেছে, 'খাব', 'পরব', 'সঞ্চয় করব', 'উপভোগ করব', এই অভীষ্টপূরলে। আর লালসাপূর্ণ ভোগের উদগার নিয়ে পৃথিবীকে লুষ্ঠন করে চলাই যেন বর্তমানে হয়ে উঠেছে প্রকৃত মানবধর্ম। দিবালোকের আলোচ্ছট্টর অপর পাশে যেমন তামস রজনী বিরজ করে ঠিক তেমনি এ যেন প্রাচুর্যের পাশে অভাব অনটনের বাধ্যতামূলক উপস্থিতিরই নামান্তরমাত্র। প্রবল প্রতাপান্বিত কন্ধর লোকেরা সভ্যতার দৃষ্টিসম্পদকে ভোগের উপচারে বয়ে করেছে। 'আমানিককে ধনদাসত্বের দারিক্রে দীক্ষিত করিয়াছে', আগে কখনও ধন উপার্জন সমাজের প্রায় সকল ব্যক্তির চিন্তাকে এমন করে আকর্ষণ করেনি, ''আহার, পরিচ্ছদ, গাড়ি-জুড়ি-আসবাবপত্রের ছারা'' — লক্ষ্যে-অলক্ষ্যে প্রতিযোগিতা বাড়িয়ে 'সামাজিক মন'কে ভোগ বাসনার সংকীর্ণ পরিমন্তলে আবদ্ধ করে রাখেনি। ইংরেজ শাসনের কালিমালিপ্ত কার্যাবলি এই ক্রণের দৃষিত আবহাওয়া সৃষ্টি করেছে যা দেশের সীমানা পেরিয়ে অচিরেই সমগ্র ভু-মন্তলে বিস্তৃত হয়েছে। তাই তো সেদিন রবীন্দ্রনাথও নির্দ্ধিধায় ইুশিয়ারি দিয়েছিলেন মানব সমাজের এই মূল্য ব্যাধি সম্পর্কে হ' পৃথিবীতে নিজের এবং পরের পনেরো আনা দুরখের কারণ ইহাই — কেবল চাই চাই করিয়া বেড়ানো।'

বলা হয় 'ব্যক্তি স্বাধীনতা' চলতি জীবনের সর্বাপেক্ষা মহার্ঘ প্রাপ্তি হিসাবে বিবেচিত; কিন্তু অসম জীবনলোতের প্রাবহে যেসব মানুষ আছে, যারা মানুষ হয়েও মানুষ নয়, চলমান জীবনের পাশে যারা নেমে গেছে সমাজের নিমন্তরের ধূলিমলিনতার। আনন্দ, সুখ যাদের প্রতি চির বিমর্য, দারিদ্র যাদের আজন্ম সঙ্গী তারা কি তথাকথিত এই উন্নয়নের দৌড়ে নিজেদের সামিল করতে পারেবে। ব্যক্তি স্বাধীনতা প্রশ্নটি তাদেরই আসে যারা ব্যক্তিসন্তা প্রতিষ্ঠার সেই ভূমিতলটি পেয়েছে। এই নিমন্তরের মানুযদের জীবনে 'স্বাধীনতা' শব্দটির দূর-দূরান্ত পর্যন্ত কোনো স্বাভাবিক সম্পক নেই। কারণঃ পরাধীনতার শৃঙ্খলে জর্জরিত হয়ে আত্মমর্যাদা। আত্মসন্মানবাধ ধূলিসাৎ করে আমৃত্যু অভিজ্ঞাত বা মালিক শ্রেণির দাসত্ব করাই এদের নিম্করণ ভাগ্যলিপির নিষ্ঠুর পরিহাস। আর এই শোষক শাসক ব্যক্তিত্বের মানুষ যারা আজীবন নিজেদের অন্তঃসারশূন্য ভোগসাধনার পঙ্কশয্যায় সৃপ্তিমগ্ন, তাদের মানসিক উৎকর্ষ তথা মুক্তির পথ কথনই উল্মোচিত হবে না, তা থেকে যাবে চিরক্তম।

বিজ্ঞানবৃদ্ধি ও যান্ত্রিক কুশলতা অতিদক্ষতায় সভ্যতার গতিতে যে বেগ আনছে, ভবিষ্যতে আরো আনবে এ বিষয়ে আস্থাশীল হয়ে ও এই প্রশ্ন যেন উঠেই আসে যে, প্রতিনিয়ত নতুন প্রবৃত্তির চাহিদা ও আকাখার বিকাশ ঘটিয়ে তামসিক — রাজসিকতার যে রাজপুরী ক্রমাগত বিস্তৃত হয়ে চলেছে তাতে সভ্যতা কি সত্যিই দৃঢ় পদক্ষেপে অভীষ্ট লক্ষ্যে পৌছতে পারবেং কালের বিচার তো এখনও বাকি।

মানবসভ্যতার মৌল সমস্যা কতথানি মীমাংসিত হবে ইত্যাদি বিষয়ে স্বয়ং রবীন্দ্রনাথও তার 'ইউরোপীয়-যাত্রীর ডায়েরি' তে প্রশ্ন তুলে গেছেন। একাধারে যেমন ফরাসি দার্শনিক দেকার্ত, প্রাক্তন মার্কিন রাষ্ট্রপতি উদ্রো উইলসন, মাৎসিনি, গ্যারিবন্ডি, অ্যাভলফহের হিটলার, লাইবোনিভা প্রমুখরা ভোগবাদকে উগ্রভাবে সমর্থন জানাচ্ছেন, তেমনি অপরদিকে কার্ল মার্কস, ফ্রেডারিক এঙ্গেলস, লেনিন্ হো-চি-মিন, লিউ-শাউচি (চিনের বিখ্যাত কমিউনিস্ট নেতা)। শান-ইয়াৎ শেন (চিনের মুক্তিসূর্য) প্রমুখরা গেয়েছেন সাম্যবাদের জয়গান। শুধু শিল্লায়নকে নয়, কৃষিকেও সমান মর্যাদার আসনে অধিষ্ঠান করিয়ে উৎয়ের মিলিত প্রবাহ এ সমাজ-সভ্যতা ও রাষ্ট্রকে সঞ্জীবিত করে তুলতে হবে। যাতে শহরে সুযোগ সুবিধার লভ্যতা প্রামে পুনুকজীবিত করে প্রাম থেকে শহরে আসার প্রবণতা কমানো যায় —

মানব সম্পদের যথাসম্ভব ব্যবহারের মাধ্যমে মানুষকে দায়িত্বশীল করে তোলা যায়। এইভাবে সুস্থ উপলব্ধি এনে রাষ্ট্রকে সাম্যবাদী ভাবনায় পরিচালনা করতে হবে। দেশের উচ্ছুঙ্খল জীবনধারার পরিবর্তে শান্তিময় ও সুষ্ঠু জীবনশ্রোত প্রাহিত করতে হবে। অন্যথায় দেশকাল পরিস্থিতি ভূলে অন্ধভাবে অণুকরনেই মানুষ নিজেদের নিয়োজিত করবে আর গোটা দেশ হয়ে যাবে 'ক্ষৃধিত পাষান'।

'সমস্ত শরীরকে প্রতারণা করিয়ে কেবল মুখেই যদি রক্ত সঞ্চার হয় তবে তাহাকে স্বাস্থ্য বলা যায় না'। ধনসম্পদের ব্যয় উদ্দেশ্য হওয়া উচিত বৃহত্তর মঙ্গলসাধন, ব্যক্তি বা গোষ্ঠীর বিলাসনিবৃত্তিকরণ নয়। তাই সামাজিক বা ঐকত্রিক-সম্পদ সৃষ্টিতে বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তিকে আয়ুধ করে ধনসম্পদের উপকারিতা উত্তরোত্তর সঞ্চালিত হয়ে সামাজিক সম্পদ সৃষ্টি করে চলুক। সভ্যতা এই সম্পদেই পৃষ্ট হবে। উয়য়নের জন্য পৃথিবী তোলপাড় করে দিশা খুঁজে ভারতের মাটিতে প্রয়োগ করে কর্মোদাগী হইতে হবে আগামী প্রজন্মকে। অন্যথায় তাদের অলক্ষ্যে বা লক্ষ্যে প্রভুত্তকামী রাষ্ট্রগুলি পুনরায় ভোগবাদের করাল থাবা বসিয়ে দেবে আমাদের দেশের উপর। দারিদ্রকে, অগক্ষমকে, অভুক্তকে — 'দরিদ্রনারায়ণ' বলে সেবা করার মানসিকতা পরিত্যাগ করে তাদের জীবনোয়য়নের প্রকৃত মান বাড়াতেই হবে, মেলবদ্ধন ঘটাতে হবে কৃষির সাথে শিল্পের। যায়া এতদিন ধরে কাজ করে সভ্যতাকে স্বছল ও সচল রেখেছে তাদের কর্ম উদাম বজায় রাখার জন্য নব প্রজন্মকে হতে হবে যাতে ব্যক্তি ভোগ সামাজিক চেহারা পায়। উয়য়ন যাতে হয়ে ওঠে সর্বকল্যাণমুখী। ত্যাগের মধ্যেই সুপ্ত থাকে মুক্তির প্রকৃত বীজ। সৌভাগ্যক্রমে অর্জিত মানবজন্মকে কেবলই নিজের ভোগবাদের পিছুনে বায় না করে দেশের ও দশের তরে মঙ্গল করে নিম্নুক্ত করলে সেই মানবজন্মকৈ কেবলই নিজের ভোগবাদের পিছুনে বায় না করে দেশের ও দশের তরে মঙ্গল করে নিমুক্ত করলে সেই মানবজন্মই হবে সার্থক, সেই মানুই পাবে চিরমুক্তির তথা পরম অমরত্বের অমৃত আস্বানন।

রেনেসাঁস ও তৎপরবর্তী যুগ

ড. দীপক চৌধুরী বাংলা বিভাগ, বারাকপুর রাষ্ট্রগুরু সুরেন্দ্রনাথ কলেজ

Renaissance প্রথম হয় ইতালিতে। তারপর তার প্রভাব সমগ্র ইউরোপে ছড়িয়ে পড়ে। শিশ্ব-সাহিত্য-সংস্কৃত ক্ষেত্রে একটি বিস্ময়কর উদ্বোধন বা পুনরুজ্জীবন পরিলক্ষিত হয়। মূলত ঐতিহ্যের পুনরুজ্জারের সূত্রে মানবিকতার আবিস্কার-শিল্পে সাহিত্য যে পুনরুজ্জীবন তাই রেনেসাঁস নামে খ্যাত।

ইউরোপে এলিজাবেথের যুগে উইলিয়াম শেক্সপীয়রের আবির্ভাবের সঙ্গে সঙ্গে মানবিকতার মূল্যবোধও পরিবর্তিত হয়। Hamlet Sercrity-র যুগে To be or not to be - উত্তরনের যে চিহ্ন বহন করতে তাই-ই গ্রীক উপজ্ঞাতির অদৃষ্ট বা নিয়তি-তাড়িত মানবভাগ্যের পরিণতি নির্ধারণের নতুন দিকচিহ্ন রূপে উদ্ভাসিত হয়।

সার্বিক বিকাশেরহ ধারায় মানবভাগ্যের উল্লাসময় ট্রাজিক পরিণতিও মানবসভ্যতার নতুন দিকচিত্তের সংবেষ স্বরূপ পরিগণিত হয় ।

পরিগণিত হয়। অবিমিশ্রভাবে Tragig Impression বা Comedy theory মানুষের জীবনযাত্রার ক্ষেত্রে নতুন প্রয়াস রূপে সুচিহিত্ত হয়।

হয়।

ইংরেজী সাহিত্যে মূলতঃ এলিজাবেথীয় যুগেই মানবভাগ্য নির্ধারণ ও উত্তরণের দুর্ধর্য প্রয়াস শিল্পে-সাহিত্যে যুগান্তর
আনে। এই যুগই রোমান্টিক যুগ নামে খ্যাত। রোমান্টিক যুগের সঙ্গে Romantin Revival বা রোমান্টিক পুনরুজ্জীবন
যুগের মধ্যে কোনও যোগসূত্র সেভাবে নেই।

সেক কবিগোষ্ঠীর বিদ্রোহী মনোভাব ক্লাসিক্যাল যুগের অভিঘাতে কখনও প্রকৃতিপ্রীতি, মানবপ্রীতি, মরমিয়া দৃষ্টিভঙ্গী বা আধ্যাশ্বিক চেতনার সূত্রে গ্রীসীয় মূল্যবোধের নতুন আবিস্কার, সৌন্দর্যচেতনার বিকাশ সুন্দরকেই সত্য বলে গণ্য করল। রোমান্টিকতার অভিঘাতে আবার ক্লাসিকতার পরিমন্ডলে প্রবেশ না করে একধরণের কাব্য সৌন্দর্য কৌশলপর Puri-

tan কবিসন্তার উদ্বোধন হল । তারপর বিভিন্ন যুগসঙ্কট, বিশ্বজানতিক কোলাহল মুখরতায় শিল্পীসাহিত্যিকরা কখনও জীবিকার্জনের প্রয়াসরূপে কখনও বা শুধুমাত্র কবিতার জন্য বা শিল্পের জন্য শিল্প রচনার প্রয়াসে যুগ ও জগতের উদার প্রাঙ্গনে প্রতিস্থাপিত হলেন ।

আধুনিক শিল্পী বা কবিরা কখনও বললেন The hyacinth hair, The Classic face - কখনও বললেন Seeming is not like the Seeming.

একধরণের অসহায়তা, সঙ্কটময় শিল্পসন্তার Romasntic agony- মিস্টিকতার ও আধ্যাত্মিক বিপন্নতার সমাহারে নতুন কালের নতুন শিল্প রচনা করলেন।

'কবিরে পায় না তার জীবন চরিতে' - অথচ সেই কবিরাই হয়ে উঠলেন কমবেশি আখ্যজৈবনিক। আমাদের দেশে উপনিবেশিক সাম্রাজ্যবাদের ছত্রছায়ায় Renaissance-এর প্রথম প্রতিভূকণে আবির্ভৃত হয়েছিলেন রাজা রামমোহন রায়। সামাজিক সংস্কার, ধর্মীয় উদারতা, বাঙালীর গ্রহিষ্ণুতা, গদভাষার লিখিত আবির্ভাবে, মুদ্রনযন্ত্রের প্রয়োগে পুনরুজীবনের জন্মচিহ্ন প্রকট হলেও তার অনুবর্তন কতটা ঘটেছে পরবর্তীকালে সে বিষয়ে সন্দেহের অবকাশ আছে ।

পরবর্তী সময়ে মহামান্য জিরাজিও ও তাঁর ইয়ং বেঙ্গল শিষ্যমন্তলী তদানীন্তন কলকাতার বুদ্ধিজীবীমহলের চিস্তা-চেতনার জগতে যুগান্তকারী প্রভার বিস্তার করেছিলেন।

দয়ার সাগর বিদ্যাসাগর শুধুমাত্র বাংলা গদ্যভাষাকেই সাহিত্য নির্মাণের উপযোগী করে তুললেন তাই নয় জীবনসংগ্রামের চিত্র যেমন প্রতিভাত হয়েছে তাঁর জীবনে ও সাহিত্য তেমনই সমাজ সংস্কার বিবেক-চেতনার জাগরণের মধ্য দিয়ে এই পর্ব নতুন Milestone-রূপে চিহ্নিত হল ।

ঈশ্বর চন্দ্র শুপ্ত ও তাঁর 'সংবাদ প্রভাকর' - শিল্পসাহিত্য পৃষ্ঠপোষকতার ক্ষেত্রে নতুন দিগন্তের উন্মোচন অবারিত করে দিল।

বাংলার রেনেসাঁসের প্রাণপুরুষের মাইকেল মধুসূদন দত্ত ও বৃদ্ধিমচন্দ্র চট্টোপাধ্যায়। সাহিত্যিক মহাকাব্য 'মেঘনাদবধে' নব্য মানবতাবাদের প্রতিভূস্বরূপ রাবণ ও প্রমীলা চরিত্র; স্বদেশগ্রীতি, স্বাধীনতাচেতনার প্রবক্তারূপে আমরা যেমন মধুসূদনকে পাই - তেমনই নারীর সৌন্দর্যের প্রতি অমোঘ, মোহময় আকর্ষণের চিত্ররূপায়নে ও নিঃসঙ্গ নায়কের বিপদ্নতায়, মনস্তাত্ত্বিক বিশ্লেষণে অর্ডছন্দ্র নির্মাণে শিল্লকৌশলের নতুন দিগস্ত আমাদের আজও মুগ্ধ করে।

ইউরোপীয় রেনেসাঁসের সঙ্গে তুলনায় বাংলার রেনেসাঁর ব্যাপ্তি ও গভীরতা তেমন উল্লেখযোগ্য না হলেও সমসাময়িক কালের নিরিখে তা অবশ্যই উল্লেখযোগ্য । এর অনুবর্তন ও প্রেরণা কি তৎকালিক সময়ের নিরিখে বিচার্য না কি আধুনিকতার আশ্চর্য উদ্ভাবনে একধরণের বিস্ময়বিমুগ্ধ বিপন্ন সাপেক্ষ সামাজিকের আপেক্ষিক Posterity-রূপে তা চিহ্নিত ?

কারণ এই প্রেরণা ও ভাবনার অনুকারী অনেকেই ছিলেন। কিন্তু তাঁদের মৌলিক কবিপ্রতিভা ছিল না। নব্য মানবতাবাদী চেতনার Modulation হল এইভাবে যে ধর্মের জয় ও অধর্মের পরাজয়। মৌলিক প্রেরণার অভাবে একটি নক্ষত্রের জগতে তাঁরা ধূলিকণা ছাড়া আর কিছুই নন।

Lyric বা গীতিকবিতা বিহারীলাল চক্রবর্তী যার নির্জন সাধক তার মাধ্যমেই কি বাংলা কাব্যজগতে নতুন দিগত উন্মোচিত হল।

রবীন্দ্রনাথ ঠাকুর তাঁর শিল্পসাহিত্যে রোমান্টিকতা, মরমিয়া দৃষ্টিভঙ্গি, আধ্যাত্মিক চেতনা ও মানবমুখিন বাস্তব দৃষ্টিভঙ্গির সমন্বয়ে বাঙালির আপেক্ষিক বিপদ্মতাকে এক পরম ও চিরায়ত মাত্রায় পৌঁছে দিলেন ।

নবজন্ম বা পূর্নজন্ম নতুনতর মাত্রায় ভিত্তিভূমি পেল । আজও তাতে পলিসঞ্চার করে তাকেই সুজলা স্ফল সকলে করে গড়ে তুলবার প্রয়াস পাই আমরা ।

উত্তর আধুনিক যুগে শিল্পীসাহিত্যিকদের নিরবিচ্ছিন্ন জীবন সংগ্রামের মধ্যে আমরা বাস্থিক প্রক্রিয়াক ক্রমের ক্রমের ক্রমের প্রক্রিয়াক করি।

স্বামী বিবেকানন্দের চেতনায় শিক্ষা

সূতপা ঘোষ সমাজতত্ত্ব বিভাগ

অজ্ঞানতার অন্ধকার ভেদ করে অরুনালোক উল্লাসিত হয়ে উল্লুল জ্যোতিছের মত আবির্ভৃত হয়ে সমাজে সংস্থার ও শিক্ষার আলাকে চতুর্দিক প্রজ্জ্বলিত করেছিলেন যে মহামানব, তিনিই আমাদের বীর সন্ন্যাসী বিবেকানন্দ। পাশ্চাতার সভ্যতার উন্নাসিকতার সম্মুখে তিনি দীপামান হয়ে আধ্যাত্মবাদের বানী শুনিয়েছিলেন। যুব মানসের প্রতীক রূপে তরুণ হৃদরে জাগিয়েছিলেন দেশাশ্ববোধের আগে। জাত ব্যবস্থায় বিভেকামী সমাজকে শুনিয়েছিলেন মিলনের বাণী।

স্বামী বিবেকানন্দ (১৮৬৩-১৯০২) শিক্ষার গুরুত্ব উপলব্ধি করেছিলেন যা তার কাছে 'মানুয পড়ার' তাৎপর্যবাহী এবং জীবনের অন্যতম কর্তব্য বলে মনে করতেন। আলোচ্য নিবন্ধে বিবেকানন্দের শিক্ষা সংক্রান্ত দৃষ্টিভঙ্গী বিশ্লেষণের সঙ্গে তাঁর দর্শন অর্থাৎ বিশ্বের অধ্যাত্মবাদের ঐক্যকে উপলব্ধি করার চিন্তনকৈ আলোকপাত করার ক্ষেত্রে শিক্ষার ভূমিকাও আলোচনা করা হয়েছে। শিক্ষার লক্ষ্য বা পদ্ধতিগত দৃষ্টি-ভঙ্গী কিংবা তার সমস্ত অংশই হোক না কেন, তাঁর সমস্ত চিস্তন দর্শন থেকে উদ্ভুত যা বেদান্তর মূলে নিহিত রয়েছে।

বিবেকানন্দ অনুভব করেছিলেন যে মানুষ এক গভীর সংকটের মধ্য দিয়ে জীবন অতিবাহিত করছে। বিজ্ঞানসম্মত চেতনার প্রতি অত্যাধিক জোর এবং যান্ত্রিকভাবে জীবনযাপন খুব দ্রুত মানুষকে যন্ত্রে পরিণত করছে। নৈতিক ও ধর্মীয় মূল্যবোধের ঘটছে অবনমন। সভ্যতার মূল নীতি অবহেলিত। আদর্শ, আচার-আচরণ ও অভ্যাসের মধ্যেকার নিত্য নৈমিত্তিক হৃদ্ধ আকাশ-বাতাসকে ভারী করে তুলেছে। যা কিছু পুরানো প্রাচীন তা অস্বীকার করাই ফ্যাশাস হয়ে দাঁড়িয়েছে। শিক্ষার মধ্য দিয়েই বিবেকানন্দ সামাজিক ও জাগতিক অন্তভ শক্তিশুলি দূর করার পথ অন্তেষণে লিপ্ত ছিলেন। ফ্রিনি মনে করতেন যে মানুষের অর্জনিহিত আত্মকে জাগ্রত করাই শিক্ষার মূল উদ্দেশ্য।

বিবেকানন্দ উপলব্ধি করেছিলেন যে আজকের দিনের শিক্ষার কোন নির্দিষ্ট লক্ষ্য বা উদ্দেশ্য নেই। একজন ভাস্কর পরিষ্কার ধারণা থাকে পাথরে খোদিত ভাস্কর্য সম্পর্কে, একইভাবে চিত্রশিল্পী জানেন তিনি কি অন্ধন করবেন, কিন্তু একজন শিক্ষক, তিনি বলেছেন, তাঁর শিক্ষার লক্ষ্য সম্পর্কে কোন পরিদ্ধার ধারণা নেই। স্বামীজী তাঁর ভাষা ও কর্মের মধ্য দি প্রতিষ্ঠা করার চেষ্টা করেছিলেন যে সমস্ত শিক্ষার লক্ষ্যই হল মানুষ গড়া। বেদান্তর দর্শন উপলব্ধির আলোকে তিনি মানু গড়ার শিক্ষার পরিকল্পনা করেন। বেদান্ত অনুসারে মানবান্ধার মধ্যেই তার অন্তিত্ব রয়েছে, যা সে তার দেহ ও মন ছাড়া উপলব্ধি করে, এই দর্শন অনুসরণ করেই স্বামীজী শিক্ষা সম্বন্ধে বলেছেন, 'the menifestation of the perfection already in man.' শিক্ষার লক্ষ্য হল আমাদের জীবনে যথার্থতার সৃজন, যা আমাদের অন্তনিহিত আত্মর প্রকৃতি। অর্থ শক্তির উপলব্ধির মধ্যেই এই যথার্থতার অন্তিত্ব নিহিত রয়েছে যা জাগতিক সমস্ত কিছু এবং সর্বত্ত বর্তমান, সচেত্রনত আশীর্বানস্বরূপ মানুষের জীবনে বর্ষিত হয়। এই যথার্থতার প্রয়োজনীয় প্রকৃতির সম্যক উপলব্ভির মধ্য নিয়েই আমর্বাআ মধ্যে তার অন্তিত্ব উপলব্ধি করব এবং তা অর্জন করার জন্য মানুষকে তার অহং (ego), অজ্ঞতা ও অন্যান্য প্রাপ্ত বিষয়গুলি বিসর্জন করতে হবে কারণ এঞ্জল জীবনের পথ চলায় বিঘু ঘটায়। নৈতিক গুদ্ধতা ও সত্যর প্রতি নিষ্ঠার ধ্যান মানু সহায়তা করবে দেহকে অতিক্রম করে অনাদি আত্মার প্রতি নিমগ্রতায়। ঐইভাবে সে তার অমর আধ্যাত্মিক সন্তাকে উপ

করে নিজের মধ্যে অসীম জ্ঞান, সত্য, আশীর্বাদ ও অন্তিতকে দর্শাবে।

এই স্তরে মানুষ স্বীয় সন্তাকে জাগতিক সন্তার সঙ্গে একাশ্ব করবে অর্থাৎ একই সন্তার বর্ধিত রূপ হল বিভিন্ন বৈচিত্রাময় সন্তা, বিবেকানন্দের চেতনায় শিক্ষা একজনকে বুঝতে সাহায্য করবে যে সমস্ত কিছুর মধ্যেই তার সন্তা নিহিত। সমগ্র বিশ্বের ঐক্য উপলব্ধি করার মাধ্যম হল শিক্ষা। অর্থাৎ বিবেকানন্দের চেতনায় শিক্ষা হল মানুষের প্রকৃত সন্তার আত্মউপলব্ধি। শিক্ষার দেহ ও মন থেকে বিচ্ছিন্ন আত্মর বিকাশ নয়। এক্ষেত্রে স্বামীজীর অন্তৈতাবাদের দর্শন প্রণিধানযোগ্য।
সূতরাং, তাঁর কাছে মানুষ পড়ার অর্থ হল দেহ, মন ও আত্মার সুসংহত বিকাশ।

শিক্ষার পরিকল্পনাকালে স্বামী বিবেকানন্দ শারীরিক সৃস্থতার উপর জোর দিয়েছেন কারণ সৃস্থ দেহে সুন্দর মনের নিবাস। তিনি প্রায়শই উপনিষধের বাণী শোনাতেন 'নয়খাখা বলহীননেনা লভাাঃ' অর্থশৎ সঅস্থ শরীরে আঝোপলজি ঘটতে পারে না। দৈহিক চর্চার সঙ্গে তিনি মননের উপর বিশেষ মনোযোগ আরোপ করেছেন। তাঁর মতে, শিক্ষার্থীর মনকে খানে, মনোযোগ ও গুজতার চর্চার মাধ্যমে প্রশিক্ষিত ও নিয়ন্তুণ করতে হবে, যে কোন কাজের সাফলাই নির্ভর করে আখানিবেশের উপর। উদাহরণ হিসাবে তিনি গবেষণাগারে রসায়নবিদের কার্য উল্লেখ করেছেন, যেখানে গবেষক মনের সমন্ত শক্তি প্রয়োজন করে উপাদান বিশ্লেষণ করে অর্জনিহিত সত্য উপলব্ধি করেন। এই আখানিবেশ বা মনোসংযোগ সমন্ত বাহ্যিক বিষয়কে থেকে বিচ্ছিন্ন করে, যা ব্রহ্মচর্যের অংশ। বিবেকানন্দর শিক্ষাবোধে ব্রহ্মচর্য মৃল উপজীব্য। সংক্রেপে, ব্রহ্মচর্য আবেগকে সুসংহত কর আখানিয়ত্বণ চর্চাকে বোঝায়, তাঁর শিক্ষা দর্শনে তিনি বলেছেন যে শিক্ষা কেবলমাত্র তথ্য আহরণ নয় বরঞ্জ জীবন সংক্রান্ত বোধগম্য শিক্ষণ। তাঁর অভিমত, "Education is not the amount of information that is put into your brain and runs riats there undigested, all your life." তাঁর কাছে শিক্ষা এমন এক প্রক্রিয়া যার মাধ্যমে চরিত্র গঠন, মানসিক উৎকর্ষতা বৃদ্ধি এবং বৃদ্ধিমন্তা তীক্ষ্ম হয় যার পরিণতিতে মানুষ নিজের পায়ে মাথা উচু করে গাঁড়ায়।

পদ্ধতি ঃ

শিক্ষার লক্ষ্য বিশ্লেষণের পরেই যে প্রশ্নটির উদ্ভব হয় তা শিক্ষা অনুশীলনের পদ্ধতি সম্বন্ধে। ব্রেছে অনুসারী স্বামীজীর মত হল জ্ঞান প্রতিটির মানুষের আশ্বার উত্তরাধিকার। আমরা বলতে চাই যে স্বীয় সন্তার হারা যা 'আবিষ্কার' করে তাই সে 'জানে'। আমাদের মনোযোগ আকর্ষণ করে তার বক্তব্য হল শিক্ষকের কাজ হল শিশুর সন্মুখের বাঁধাণ্ডলিকে অপসারিত করে তার মধ্যে জ্ঞান-চেতনা জাগ্রত করা। বেদান্ত বলে যে প্রতিটি মানুষ এমনকি শিশুর মধ্যেও জ্ঞান নিহিত্রয়েছে, শিক্ষকের কাজ হল তা জাগ্রত করা। বিবেকানন্দর শিক্ষা চেতনা আধুনিক শিক্ষাবিদ কর্তৃক পদ্ধতির ক্ষেত্রেও প্রাসঙ্গিক। এই পদ্ধতিতে শিক্ষক ছাত্রের অনুসন্ধিৎসা জাগ্রত করবে নিরপেক্ষভাবে হওয়ার উদ্দেশ্য হল মানুষ নিজের মধ্যে সত্য, সুলরকে জাগ্রত করবে। অর্থাৎ ধর্ম ও শিক্ষা একই উদ্দেশ্য সম্পাদন করে।

প্রায়শই বিবেকানন্দের শিক্ষা দর্শন আলোচনায় এই প্রান্ত ধারণার অবতারণা করা হয় যে তিনি আশ্বাহ্যবাদের উপর জার দিতে গিয়ে বস্তুগত দিকটিকে অস্থীকার করেছেন। কিন্তু বিবেকানন্দ ভারত পুনর্গঠন প্রসভেগ বারংবার প্রতিক্র বেকারশ্ব ও অজ্ঞতার মত বিষয়গুলিকে দুরীকরণের কথা বলেছেন। তিনি মনে করতেন পাশ্চাত্য সভ্যতার ভাল বিক্তালিকে। গ্রহণ করতে হবে, কিন্তু একইসঙ্গে ভারতীয় সভ্যতা ও সংস্কৃতির মহান দিকগুলিকেও অস্থীকার করা যাবে না।

নারী শিক্ষার পরিকল্পনায় তিনি ওরুত্বপূর্ণ অবদান রেখে গেছেন। তিনি উপলব্ধি করেছিলেন যে যদি অক্রান্তর্গ নেশের নারীরা সঠিক শিক্ষা পায়, তবে তারা নিজেরাই নিজেদের সমস্যার সমাধান করতে পারবে। তিনি ক্রেইছেল তা যদিও পুরুষ ও নারী উভয়েই শিক্ষাক্ষেত্রে সমান পারদর্শী, তবুও কিছু ক্ষেত্রে মহিলারা বিশেষ পারদর্শী, যেন ক্রিছেল বাড়ীর রক্ষণাবেক্ষণের ক্ষেত্রে। তাই তিনি সুচীশিল্প, নাসির্ধ, হোম সায়েন্স প্রভৃতির কথা বলেছিলেন যা উত্ত ক্রিছ

একটি শিশুর সঠিক বিকাশেণ জন্য বিবেকানন্দ বাড়ি ও বিদ্যালয় উভয় পরিবেশের উপর গুরুত্ব আরু স্ব

অভিভাবক ও শিক্ষক শিশুদের অনুপ্রাণিত করবেন জীবন চালনার ক্ষেত্রে। এপ্রসঙ্গে তিনি গুরুকুল প্রথার উল্লেখ করেছেন। এই ব্যবস্থয় একজন আদর্শ শিক্ষক সামনে রেখে ছাত্ররা নিজেদের গঠন করত।

যদিও স্বামীজী সামাজিক ও গণশিক্ষার মাধ্যমে হিসাবে মাতৃভাষার গুরুত্বর কথা বললেও তিনি ইংরাজী ও সংস্কৃত অধ্যয়নের কথা বলেছেন। ইংরাজী যেমন পাশ্চত্য বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তির জন্য প্রয়োজনীয়, তেমনি সংস্কৃত সনাতন ভারতের জ্ঞানভাভারের গভীরতা উপলব্ধির সহায়ক। এর তাৎপর্য হল যদি জনগণের ক্ষুদ্র সংখ্যার মধ্যে ভাষা সীমিত না থাকে তবে সামাজিক ঐক্য ও সংহতির পথও প্রশন্ত হবে।

শিক্ষা পরিকল্পনয় বিবেকানন্দ সেইসব বিষয়গুলিকে অর্জভুক্ত করার কথা বলেছেন যেগুলি ব্যক্তির দেহ, মন ও আত্মার সামগ্রিক বিকাশের জন্য প্রয়োজনীয় স্বামীজীর মতানুসারে, দেশের সাংস্কৃতিক মূল্যবোধ শিক্ষার পাঠক্রমের গুরুত্বপূর্ণ অবদান।ভারতীয় সংস্কৃতির মূল নহিত রয়েছে আত্মাত্মিক মূল্যবোধের উপর। রামায়ণ, মহাভারত, গীতা, বেদ ও উপনিষদের মত সন্তানত গ্রন্থাবলীতে এই মূল্যাবোধই পরিলক্ষিত হয়।

তিনি মনে করতেন শিক্ষার অর্ন্তনিহিত তাৎপর্য্য হল ধর্ম। যদিও তিনি কোন নির্দিষ্ট ধর্মের কথা বলেননি, কিন্তু সব ধর্মের মৌলিক বার্তাই হল 'জীবে প্রেম'। ধর্মীয় উপসংহারে বলা যায় বিবেকানন্দ শিক্ষা পরিকল্পনা সূদৃঢ়, বাস্তবসন্মত ও বোধগম্যতার আলোকে সমৃদ্ধ। তিনি বুঝেছিলেন যে শিক্ষার মাধ্যমেই জনগণের উন্নয়ন সম্ভব। পাশ্চাত্য বিভিন্ন নগরে দরিত্র জনগণকে পর্যবেক্ষণ করে তিনি লক্ষ্য করেছিলেন যে শিক্ষাই আমাদের জনসাধারণকে পিছিয়ে দেয়।

যেহেতু ব্যক্তি সমাজের অবিচ্ছেদ্য অঙ্গ, তাই সকলের মধ্যে শিক্ষার প্রসার একান্ত আবশ্যক। মানুষ যখন তার অর্জনিহিত আন্থার বিকাশ ঘটাতে পারে তথন তার মধ্যে মূল্যবোধ জাগ্রত হয়— শিক্ষার উদ্দেশ্য তাই। পাশ্চাত্যর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তির সঙ্গে ভারতীয় ঐতিহ্যের মেলবদ্ধনে যে শিক্ষা গড়ে ওঠার প্রতিই তিনি আলোকপাত করেছেন।

তাঁর শিক্ষা পরিকল্পনার মধ্য দিয়ে তিনি জাতি, ধর্ম নির্বিশেষে নৈতিক ও আত্মাত্মিক মঙ্গলবোধের মধ্য দিয়ে মানুষের উত্তরণের পথ প্রশস্ত করার কথা বলেছেন। যদিও তাঁর এই চিন্তা এখনও রূপ লাভ করেনি। এটাই সময় যখন তাঁর দেড়শো বংসর উদ্যাপিত হচ্ছে, তখন তাঁর শিক্ষা চিন্তনকে ফলপ্রসূভারে রূপদান করার।

