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12th and 13th February 2019



State Level Seminar on

'Cultural Aspects in Indian Literature

Sponsored by

Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune



Organized by,

Department of English

Shri MarutraoGhulePatilShikshanSanstha's

JIJAMATA COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ARTS

At. Bhende (Bk). Tal. Newasa, Dist. Ahmednagar, Maharashtra State,

Winner of SPP University's Best Rural College Award &
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Guest Editor

Vijay Adsure

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Correlation of Society and Culture with Indian Literature

Dr. Khedkar Sandip Prabhakar

Assoc. Professor,
Arts, Commerce And Science College,
Sonai, Tal. Newasa, Dist. Ahmednagar

सांस्कृतिक घटना होय कारण सामाजिक जीवनातील ताणातणाव, विचार, भावना, संबंध, संदर्भ, अस्मिता साहित्यात मन्त्रमित होतात. " म्हणजे लेखकाचा जीवन विषयक दृष्टीकोण समाजातच तयार होत असतो आणि तो समाजाची निर्माण करतो, तिच्यामध्ये त्याने समाजातून प्रेरणा वा अनुभवलेल्या गोष्टींचेच प्रतिबिंब असते, सामाजिक साहित्य आणि समाज यांचा संबंध गंगाधर रामनाथने म्हणतात तसा अभेद्य असाच आहे.

एकदंगीत साहित्य आणि समाज यांचा परस्पर अनुबंध अतिशय अभेद्य आहे. साहित्य तथा कलाकृतीच्या निर्मितीपासून ते आकलन, आम्बादपर्यंतच्या सर्व टप्प्यावर साहित्याचा समाजाशी संबंध येत असतो म्हणूनच साहित्य आणि समाजाचे संबंध अतुट, अभेद्य असे आहेत.

संदर्भ टीपा

१. 'साहित्याचा अन्वयार्थ' - नागनाथ कोल्हापल्ले, स्वस्वतः प्रकाशन, औरंगाबाद, दु.आ. २००८, पृ. ४८.
२. 'साहित्यविचार' - अ. वा. कुलकर्णी, प्रतिमा प्रकाशन, पुणे व्दि आ १९९७ पृ. १३०.
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६. 'साहित्य शोध आणि बोध' - सपा. मनोहर जाधव, सुविद्या प्रकाशन, पुणे ३०, प. आ. २०००, पृ. ४३.



Abstract

Literature is an offshoot of society and culture. It exists in living society. It is but the replica of society. The words acquire their sense in society. Indian literature in English has acquired its uniqueness due to diversity of culture inherent in the Indian community itself. Indian literature in English due to its diversity needs to explore new words. The literature originally was in existent in vernacular languages. Most of the authors translated their works from their mother tongue to English.

Key Words: Diversity, Culture, Uniqueness, etc.

Literature is a reflection of society around. Since time immemorial, man has been intrigued by some difficult questions: How did man starting staying together? What were the benefits envisaged by the ancestors? What was the nature of society? What were the ways to make his staying together meaningful? How did he develop interest in recreation? Etc. These questions have bounced in scholarly mind again and again. Howsoever engrossed, man might have remained in his unexciting activities, He might have thought of leisure time to spend in entertainment. Later he might have thought to bind this purpose with the purpose of serious directives.

Language and literature cannot be separated from each other. However, in case of English language it can be discerned that today English language does not have one to one community as it is spoken widely all over the world which results into multiculturalism. Diverse community in the world use English language in diverse fashion. Hence, the study of English literature of a particular country means the study of that community too. While studying the languages in literature James Anderson (2012: 138) observed:

Although important studies of language continued to appear during the last decades of the twentieth century, after the 1970's the widespread interest in language as key to problems of knowledge and culture largely subsided. How exactly to account by literary critics had presupposed a relation between linguistic structures and political structures, and during the 1980's many American critics began to feel that politics could be approached more directly. (1)

In fact it was intensely heartfelt need to express his wonder of the world in words that here out of the deal to express the literature was born. Later ancient literature almost was formulated along with the formulation of ideas of religion. Human mind perceived religion and simultaneously pursued literary taste. It happened in all communities across the world. Especially Indian communities discerned the proximity in religion and literature. Ramayana and Mahabharata are supposed to be the oldest literature in the world which was penned down by the known author(s). The literature was transmitted from one generation to other generation through oral tradition. Later the invention of printing it was stored on the pages. Though it is doubtful that in the past of time some discrepancies might have crept into the original, it cannot be doubted that literature originated out of the well-focused social need of community. Maya Pandit (2004: 1312) while

attempting on Indian society and Indian literature observes

Two problems, however, can be raised here. First, most of this work is based on written work. It does not deal with the tradition of oral literature, which existed particularly in the pre-colonial period in India. The oral tradition was remained to access in the dominance of print culture but a boon in the process of otherisation operative in the pre-independence world of the Indian polity. They – the nomads, the tribals, agricultural labourers, bonded labourers, peasant women, etc. – living on the periphery of the civilized "developed" society – have become the "other" of the dominant industrialised, urban cultures. Basically oral tradition had been continuous, closer to people and particularly women, till the 19th century, but after the advent of print culture in the colonial period, this tradition was lost. (2)

Literature has its sources in the society in which the author resides. Literature is but the replica of society. Whenever a word gets originated, it comes out of some concrete setting. It is very difficult to imagine a word that absolutely originated without any visible source.

Indian literature mostly developed through translation. The presence of Indian mind can be felt at the every expression in Indian literature.

Although, Henry Derozio has been supposed to be the first Indian author in Indian English literature, the seeds of writing in English proliferated after the start of English education in India. It paved the way to articulate their Indian struggles. In most important communities becoming an act.

Nasim Ezekiel, Anuradha Ghosh, G. Datt, Adyashankar and many more were part of Indian society from different perspectives. Indian sensibility was present at every word that they penned down. The typical use of English and the author's struggle to cope with the foreign tongue has been clearly marked in the Indian

literature. It has been praiseworthy efforts of Indian authors in English that they have claimed many prestigious awards in literature at national and international levels. As a result that today many words have been accepted in Oxford and Cambridge University Dictionary, latest instance of the word 'Narishakti'

Nissim Ezekiel's poem, 'The Night of the Scorpion', dramatizes the action in a rural home in India when the mother in the family has been stung by a scorpion. The last line of the poem 'Thank God, the Scorpion picked on me and spared my children' is evocative of the role of Indian mother. Krishna Kant Singh (2006: 68) bases the following observations on Nissim Ezekiel:

'Nissim Ezekiel does not only take interest in cosmopolitan culture, he is also interested in the presentation of Indian rural, cultural and traditional outlook in his poems. Particularly his one remarkable poem 'Night of the Scorpion' is authentic in representing the village culture with all its superstitious and traditional beliefs. Even though the poem is always remembered for its pictorial images, the dramatic beauty cannot be overlooked. The poem has been composed to show the pain and suffering of the mother of the poet who was studying by a scorpion in one rainy night.' (3)

Arun Kolatkar's 'An Old Woman', presents a graphic picture of beggar woman and reinforces alienation. Horse shoe shrine, plate glass clatter, a fifty paise coin and many other expressions typically describe the holy places and its refuge for unidentified faces. Krishna Kant Singh (2006: 306) bases the following observation on Arun Kolatkar:

'In his poems, the poet has tried to present a picture of different types of people living in different strata of society. For instance, in his poem 'An Old Woman', the poet's experiences are painful but realistic in tone and temper. The picture of an old woman is typical and authentic.' (4)

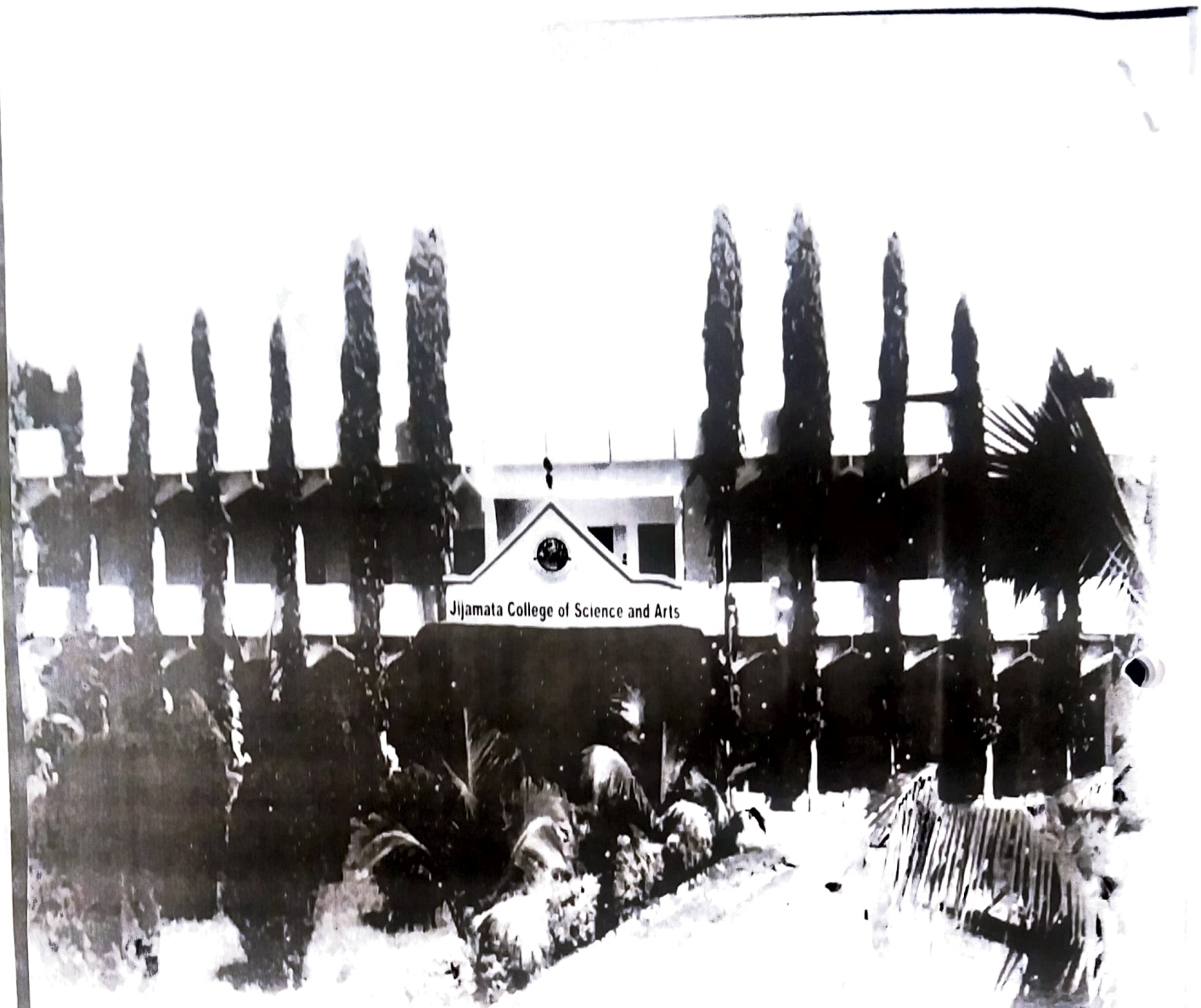
Conclusion:

Society, Culture and Literature coexist and Indian literature in English embodies diverse cultures in literature due to its inherent diversity in cultures.

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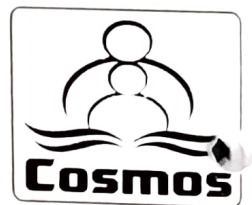




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