The Journal of University of Jammu

From the Desk of Editor........

Research : A Multidisicilinary Journal is dedicated to the dissemination of theoretical and empirical knowledge by publishing high-quality research papers across the disciplines. With this understanding the journal has a strong emphasis on multidisciplinary nature as we are conscious that many complex problems in the built environment require multidisciplinary approach.

In fact, the authors are the key drivers in establishing the reputation of a journal and I thank all the contributors of the current issue for considering and trusting Researcher as the platform for publishing their valuable work and also extending their kind co-operation during the various stages of processing of the manuscript for publication. Beside contributors, reviewers are essential for ensuring qualitative standard of any journal, and therefore the reviewers' contribution deserves sincere appreciation. Special gratitude is also due to all members of the Editorial Advisory Board for providing their valuable advice and academic guidance to develop, and publish research material of such consistent high quality. It would not be appropriate if I fail to mention the tireless efforts of the editorial Team.

Carrying the baton forward, with the objective to provide a specialized academic platform and reference for the dissemination of research, the editorial team is pleased to present the current issue of the Researcher which is divided into the four broad areas of academic disciplines including Science and Technology, Social Sciences, Business Studies and Arts and Humanities.

The first section on Science and Technology includes four research papers covering the diverse and emerging areas of scientific and technological innovations. The first article authored by Jasmeet Kour, Sanjana Kaul and Manoj K. Dhar, describes the importance of next generation sequencing for understanding and analysis of eukaryotic genomes. This is fast efficient and cost-effective solution to the genome related problems. The article by Azmit Begum deals with relevance of digital preservation of information in the current times due to huge growth of e-resources. The research paper by Leela Dhar Mangi & Amit Sharma describes the importance of application of web 3.0 based technologies in the libraries, its challenges, risks and benefits. The article by Muzaffar A. Kichloo, Asha Sohil, Parmil Kumar and Neeraj Sharma describes the Avian diversity in the new campus of Jammu University with respect to species, families, distribution, abundance and nesting behaviour. The study highlights the importance of conservation and management of birds.

The second section is a multidisciplinary compilation of four papers from social sciences. The first paper is contributed by Kavita Suri and Parveen Sharma dealing with the socio-economic conditions of Dodhi Gujjars in Suchetgarh area of Jammu District which is located very close to the border with Pakistan and seeks to identify various challenges faced by them in their growth and development. The second paper is contributed by Shashi Prabha exploring the role of women in on-farm and off-farm activities in the village Bhajmasta of Ramsu block of Ramban district of J&K. The paper examines the contribution of women in the education,

health, working conditions and decision making areas. The third paper is contributed by Ravi Prakash Vyas and Yugichha Sangroula exploring the concept of Jus Post Bellum and Human Rights by critically analysing various dimensions of it and its applicability in the reconstruction of Nepal after the armed conflict. Fourth paper is contributed by Priyambada Shah exploring dimensions of the gender behaviour in higher secondary schools in Delhi and especially highlights gender interactive behaviour in classroom.

The third section on Business Studies includes four empirical research papers. The first paper by Amisha Gupta titled 'On the Behavioural Dynamics of Investment : Empirical Research Findings' investigates the diverse behavioural patterns of investors and their consequent impact on the investment decisions. The second research paper by Ginny Dogra and Anil Gupta on 'Understanding Academic Entrepreneurial Intentions : An Application of the Theory of Planned Behaviour' focuses on factors influencing the academicians' intentions to engage in entrepreneurial activities with the Theory of Planned Behaviour as the base model. The impact of attitude, perceived behavioural control and subjective norms on academicians' entrepreneurial intentions has been analyzed. The third paper by Kulbhushan Chandel and Madhu entitled 'Significant Contributors towards Organizational Climate in SJVN Ltd'. explores the organizational climate in the context of Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd. and also determines the significant contributors of organizational climate. The fourth paper by Anish Yousaf and Varun Mehra on 'Understanding Brand Trust in Online Retail : Measurement and Comparison' aims to understand the concept and importance of brand trust in online retail and compares the brand trust of two Indian online giants : Flipkart and Snapdeal.

The last section on Arts and Humanities section is a heterogenerous mix of papers from such varied disciplines as English, Buddhist Studies, Dogri and Punjabi that bear a testimony to the vast span of Researcher because they are theoretical, based on field study, an analytical critique and a study of the medieval ideology. In the first paper, Shikha Verma studies the two acclaimed writers Jumpha Lahiri and Kiran Desai by placing them within the global paradigm of multiculturalism and contextualizing her study within the discourse of the 'self'. Sonam Zangpo has attempted an innovative field study on the Monasteries in Paldar and analysed them in the metanarrative of Bhuddist culture. Sunil Kumar has critiqued the characterization of the youth in the stories of Prof. Ramnath Shastri, a doyen of Dogri Literature. Harjinder Singh in his research paper explores the medieval ideology as reflected in literature and folk in Punjabi at the time circumscribed by the then prevalent Karma Theory.

We dream of the tremendous success of Researcher, for which I hope that the reviewers, authors, researchers, colleagues of the teaching fraternity will continue to contribute, guide and support to achieve greater heights. It is with great pride, enthusiasm, and anticipation that I invite you to read this issue.

Vinay Chauhan

RESEARCHER

A Multidisciplinary Journal

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Next Generation Sequencing for Analyzing the Plant Genomes

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ABSTRACT

Repetitive sequences make up the majority of higher plant nuclear DNA, therefore their characterization is very important to have a complete knowledge of the plant genome structure and evolution. However, the repetitive sequences are composed of numerous and diverse families of mobile elements and tandem repeats that account for up to 97% of plant nuclear DNA, therefore, the high abundance and diversity of repetitive sequences make their characterization a very tough job. The solution is the low-pass genome sequencing provided by a single 454 sequencing reaction which provides us with the information about all major repeat families. In recent years, next generation sequencing technologies have revolutioned our understanding of the plant genomes. Here, we discuss the ability of next-generation sequencing technologies to analyze eukaryotic genomes in a fast and cost-efficient manner and how it provides new opportunities for investigating biological problems that, due to their complexity, could not be addressed before.

Keywords : Repetitive Sequences, Plant Genome, Mobile elements, 454 sequencing, Next generation sequencing.

1. Introduction

Nearly half of the human genome is composed of repetitive DNA which is also abundant in a broad range of species, from bacteria to mammals. With an increase in complexity of each phylum, the minimum genome size increases. However, a wide variation has been observed in the genome size within some phyla of higher eukaryotes. 97% of the nuclear genome in plants is made of repetitive sequences which shape the plant genome evolution (Leitch and Leitch, 2008). Though repetitive sequences are largely responsible for the 2,000-fold variation in nuclear haploid genome size (1C value) in angiosperms alone (Greilhuber et al., 2006), only a few of these repetitive sequences, such as telomeric sequences and tRNA genes have well-defined functions. The variation in nuclear DNA content among plant and animal taxa has been widely documented. Losses or amplification of DNA have been found to occur mostly in the repetitive fraction of the nuclear genome (Charlesworth et al., 1994). In order to have thorough investigation of repeated genomic sequences, it is important to understand the evolutionary mechanisms that shape complex genomes of eukaryotes, (Morgante et al., 2007; Slotkin and Martienssen, 2007). This is more obvious in higher plants, where repetitive sequences contribute significantly to the extraordinary genome size variation observed between different taxa (Piegu

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et al., 2006; Neumann et al., 2006; Hawkins et al., 2006). However, repeats have always been a challenging task for sequence alignment and assembly programs, because of the presence of numerous and sequentially diverse families. Thus, approaches that are based on isolation and characterization of a single or a small group of elements only are most widely used to study the contribution of repetitive DNA to genome evolution.

These approaches have been very useful in following the fate of various repeats in a wide range of species (Macas et al., 2000; Dechyeva and Schmidt, 2006; Manetti et al., 2007). Investigators had always been fascinated by the presence of large amount of non-transcribed DNA sequences in the genome since most of the repetitive sequences are non coding. Therefore, two general conclusions about the status of repetitive sequences were made, one that they have functions and other where they are called as "junk" DNA.

Repetitive DNA sequences which are a common feature of all eukaryotic genomes were first identified by Britten and Kohne (1968) in their seminal DNA renaturation rate study. In eukaryotic genomes, the proportion of repetitive DNA sequences is highly variable; it constitutes 40-80% of the genome in amphibians and about 20-40% in primates (Britten and Davidson, 1971). Repetitive DNAs have been characterized into two organizational classes in eukaryotic genomes. One, which re-anneals at low Cot values, appears in equilibrium density centrifugation as satellite bands and is called highly repetitive DNA. These are located in the heterochromatic regions such as centromere and telomere (Manuelidis, 1976) and are highly abundant, tandemly repeated DNA components. The other reanneals at rates between single-copy genes and satellite DNAs, and is called middle repetitive DNA sequence and is located in euchromatic regions. Contrary to the relatively constant location of satellite DNAs, middle repetitive sequences are widely interspersed across the whole genome (Smit, 1999). The reason for this is that most middle repetitive DNAs, are mobile DNAs that can move within the genome through different transposition mechanisms (Eickbush, 1992).

High abundance and diversity of repetitive sequences makes the characterization of repetitive sequences a very tough job. One of the solution to this problem is low-pass genome sequencing provided by a single 454 sequencing reaction that gives information about all major repeat families. The speed and cost constraints of classical sequencing has long been limiting the genome-wide characterization of repetitive elements which can only be achieved when large volumes of sequencing data are available. Moreover Next Generation Technologies (NGS) work at unprecedented speed, sequencing up to several gigabases in a single reaction for a fraction of the cost.

2. NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING

Next-generation sequencing was first introduced during 2005 and since then this technology has had a tremendous impact on genomic research. NGS has revolutionized many areas of the

life sciences (Kircher and Kelso, 2010) as it is based on the fast and cost-efficient parallel processing of millions of templates. Upto gigabases of sequence data in a single run can be generated using NGS which has given new opportunities for the investigation of highly complex populations of repetitive elements in plant genomes (Macas et al., 2007; Wicker et al., 2008). The NGS technology has not only been used for genome sequencing and resequencing but also for novel applications which have remained unexplored by Sanger sequencing. The International Human Genome Sequencing Consortium and Celera Genomics have also used this technique to complete human genome sequencing (Lander et al., 2001, Venter et al., 2001). The cost effective sequence throughput of NGS technologies and the limitation of Sanger sequencing of requiring in vivo amplification of DNA fragments that are to be sequenced, have supplanted Sangers method. At present, there are four parallel sequencing technologies commercially available (Table 1) (Reis-Filho, 2009).

Table 1- Summary of massively parallel sequencing technologies

Method	Amplification	Read length (base pairs)	Templates per run	Data production /day	Sequence reaction
454 FLX Roche	Emulsion PCR	~400	1,000,000	400 Mb/run /7.5 to 8 hours	Pyrosequencing
Illumina (Solexa)	Bridge PCR	36 to 175	40,000,000	>17 Gb/run/ 3 to 6 days	Reverse terminator
ABI SOLiD	Emulsion PCR	~50	85,000,000	10 to 15 Gb/ run/6 days	Ligation sequencing
Helicos Heliscope	None	30 to 35	800,000,000	21 to 28 Gb/ run/8 days	Single molecule sequence by synthesis

The 454 GS20 pyrosequencing based instrument (Roche Applied Science), the Solexa 1G analyzer (Illumina, Inc.), the SOLiD instrument from Applied Biosystems, and the Heliscope from Helicos, Inc. are the four commercially available next-generation technologies. The next-generation sequencing helps in dealing with the biological problems that, due to their complexity, could not be addressed before and hence help in analyzing the eukaryotic genomes in a fast and cost-efficient manner (Ansorge, 2009; Shendure and Ji, 2008). The increasing number of groups that are now working on sequencing methods to supplant even the new technologies discussed here tells us the increase in interest in this area.

3. APPLICATIONS OF NGS

There are a number of applications of Next generation technology. It can be used for full-genome resequencing or more targeted discovery of mutations or polymorphisms. This

technology can be used to map structural rearrangements which includes copy number variation, balanced translocation breakpoints and chromosomal inversions. Next-generation sequencing has been used to assign ~86% of the estimated ~32,000 barley (Hordeum vulgare) genes to individual chromosome arms. 21,766 barley genes were assembled using a series of bioinformatically constructed genome zippers that integrate gene indices of rice (Oryza sativa), sorghum (Sorghum bicolor), and Brachypodium distachyon in a conserved synteny model (Mayer et al., 2011).

In many plants, EST libraries have been successfully constructed using 454 technology like Medicago truncatula (Cheung et al., 2006), Zea mays (Ohtsu et al., 2007), Polistes metricus (Toth et al., 2007), Arabidopsis thaliana (Weber et al., 2007). The sequencing of unique fragments found at 3′ untranslated regions (3′-UTRs) of genes using 454 is another unique approach (Eveland et al., 2008). The discovery and profiling of noncoding RNA (ncRNA) is another application of next-generation sequencing to the analysis of transcriptomes (Howell et al., 2007). It has also been used in protein coding gene annotation using transcriptome sequence data (Brent, 2008). NGS has also been useful in detection of gene fusions and other aberrant transcripts in cancers (Ruan et al., 2007).

Next-generation sequencing has been applied for the analysis of epigenetic modifications of histones and DNA (Taylor et al., 2007; Cokus et al., 2008). It has also been used for mapping histone modifications and the locations of DNA-binding proteins (Robertson et al., 2007). Next-generation sequencing technologies have been applied for mapping the positions of nucleosomes and other determinants of DNA accessibility (Schmid and Bucher, 2007). The technique has been used for resequencing of previously published reference strains, and has also allowed for the first time, the identification of all mutations in an organism at the genomic level. In 2005 drug-resistance alleles in Mycobacterium tuberculosis were identified (Andries et al., 2005). NGS was also used to identify all mutations in a 9-Mb bacterial genome taken from a strain that had evolved for 1,000 generations (Velicer et al., 2006)

Next-generation sequencing is also playing a very important role in characterizing cancers at the genomic, transcriptomic and epigenetic levels (Morozova and Marra, 2008). It is an ideal tool for characterizing cancers since it provides information about somatic rearrangements, copy number aberrations, and base pair mutations in a single experiment (Tan et al., 2007). Next-generation sequencing is already being used for sequencing of complete normal and cancer genomes within a matter of weeks. Sequence reads derived from the genomes of two individuals with lung cancer were generated using NGS. Read pairs that did not align correctly with respect to each other on the reference human genome were used to characterize 306 germ line structural variants and 103 somatic rearrangements to the base pair level of resolution (Campbell et al., 2008). NGS was also used to sequence the diploid genome of James D.

Watson, in two months and the cost was one - hundredth of the cost of traditional capillary electrophoresis methods (Wheeler et al., 2008). 3.3 million SNP's were identified out of which 10,654 cause amino acid substitution within the coding sequence. Small scale (2-40,000 base pair) insertion and deletion polymorphisms were also identified.

4. SIMILARITY BASED CLUSTERING

There are number of examples where NGS has played a major role in identification and characterization of repetitive sequences in plants. For example, the repetitive sequences present in the genome of pea (Pisum sativum) with at least 1000 copies were efficiently captured (Macas et al., 2007). The quantification of number of similarity hits to a database of the soybean (Glycine max) whole-genome 454 reads was used in identification of BAC clone regions representing soybean genomic repeats (Swaminathan et al., 2007). Also for repeat detection in barley clones Solexa/Illumina sequencing has been used (Wicker et al., 2008). In these cases the sequencing data has been used to evaluate repeat content in reference genomic sequences, but now the sequence reads can also be used to identify and quantify repeats de novo. For example, in case of soybean 41% of 717,383 genomic 454 reads were assembled into contigs using the phrap program (Swaminathan et al., 2007), but due to low genome coverage most of the contigs did not represent specific genomic loci. Therefore, another approach was used by Macas et al. (2007) for the repeat identification and quantification in case of pea by using clustering analysis. In this kind of analysis an all-to-all comparison of sequence reads was used to build clusters and these clusters represented different repetitive elements. The number of the reads within the clusters (cluster size) was used to quantify individual repeat families and these repetitive elements constituted upto 48% of the pea genome.

The similarity-based clustering has also been applied to real datasets of 454 reads from soybean (Glycine max) and pea (Pisum sativum), whose datasets have already been investigated (Macas et al., 2007; Swaminathan et al., 2007). SeqGrapheR, a newly developed program tool was used for statistical analysis and visual inspection of the topology of the cluster graphs. It was concluded that the graph representation of repeats can be extremely helpful in discovering and characterizing novel elements, in assessing the variability and evolutionary divergence of repeat families and subsequent assembly of their consensus sequences.

The similarity-based clustering of NGS reads has been used to identify B chromosome-enriched sequences, such as satellite DNA, retrotransposons, and organelle-derived sequences using RepeatExplorer pipeline, which identifies clusters of frequently overlapping reads, and interprets these as parts of repetitive elements (Novak et al., 2010). This pipeline also estimates copy numbers, based on the frequency of duplicate reads. It connects adjacent sequence clusters using paired-end sequence reads. It also performs BLAST nucleotide and protein sequence (BLASTN and BLASTX) similarity searches (Altschul et al., 1997) against

specialized databases of repetitive elements. In order to verify the presence of repetitive elements on a B chromosome, the analysis is done in a comparative mode, where a simultaneous clustering of reads from the 0B and +B samples is performed (Ruban et al., 2017). SeqGrapheR program (Novak et al., 2010) is used to investigate the structure of the clusters and this approach has been applied with some success in both rye (Martis et al., 2012) and Plantago lagopus (Kumke et al., 2016).

Conclusions

NGS has revolutionized number of areas of current life science research. The cost of DNA sequencing has reduced to two orders of magnitude by parallel DNA sequencing platforms which have become available widely over the past few years. The biological and the biomedical research have accelerated dramatically because of NGS as it enables the complete analysis of the transcriptome. Besides, highly complex population of repetitive elements in plant genome can be analyzed more efficiently. The ability of next-generation sequencing technologies to analyze eukaryotic genomes in a fast and cost-efficient manner is providing new opportunities for investigating biological problems that, due to their complexity, could not be addressed before. Compared to the conventional, clone-based Sanger sequencing approaches, the next-generation technologies work at unprecedented speed, sequencing up to several gigabases in a single reaction for a fraction of the cost. Although, this amount of sequencing data is still not sufficient to provide the coverage typically needed for whole genome assembly, it enables representative sampling of elements present in a genome in multiple copies. Here, we conclude, that NGS combined with bioinformatics is providing new ways of identifying repetitive sequences which reveals a wealth of molecular data relevant for the study of their origin and evolution. NGS is expected to shed new light on the repetitive sequences and thereby improve our knowledge of their genomic dynamics

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Relevance of Digital Preservation in the Present Era: An Insight

Azmit Begum

ABSTRACT

Digital preservation is evolving rapidly. It is the preservation of information in the digital medium. Copying the digital information into newer fresher media before the old media deteriorates. Due to huge advances of information communication technologies (ICTs), there has been an astronomical growth of e-resources, e-journals, e-books, online databases and so on. Libraries spend phenomenally on acquisition of these e-resources as these are very popularly used by the students and researchers, but now this collection is accompanied by many threats. Digital contents are fragile and not durable. Its accessibility and use by future generations depends on technology which very rapidly evolves and changes. Hence, ensuring access of e-resources for future generations of users is a big challenge for libraries. The librarians have been concerned about the digital preservation ever since the first computer was introduced and its products and services found its way into the libraries. In this backdrop the researcher in this Articled has tried to evaluate the relevance of digital information in the present era.

Keywords : Digital Preservation, Digital Technology, Digital Information, Electronic Resources, Electronic Publication

Introduction

Nowadays we are living in digital world. Digital world is concerned with Creating, sharing and using information in digital form. Preservation concern includes deciding what to digitized, format for text and image quality of images and costs. Digital preservation has raised many challenges of a fundamentally different nature which are divergent compared to the problems of preserving traditionally format materials. Some of them are in areas of planning, application of preservation method and technologies and resources allocation necessary to ensure that digital information of continuing value remains accessible and useable. The changing information requirements and changing expectations and demands of library users are forcing libraries to reassess their role in the digital era. The internet, web environment and associated sophisticated tools have given the librarian a new dynamic role to play and serve the information based society in the better way than before. World Wide Web (www) has revolutionized the way people access information and has opened up new possibilities in areas such as digital libraries, virtual libraries, scientific information retrieval and dissemination.

Now the libraries no longer refers only to physical building located in a specific geographical location but also to digital and virtual libraries that can be accessed from anywhere at any time

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and any place. With the advent of digital revolution, data and information are now being transmitted to all corners of the world. The information revolution and knowledge that is available on the web have created new challenges to these traditional professional ethics. Acquiring and providing access to electronic knowledge resources require librarians to change their role from traditional librarians to information scientists by learning and applying new skills to understand the evolving technologies to manage and provide quality on-line information services to the knowledge society.

As the information technologies are changing every day and growing at a tremendous speed, the knowledge society is becoming more complex, competitive and dependant on technological changes and information explosion. The need for e-information services to the users are also growing and becoming very essential. In this age of information technology, there have been so many opportunities for the librarian for involvement in the knowledge based society including electronic and multimedia publishing, internet based information services, global networking, web based digital resources etc.

In India libraries are facing many problems in digital preservation as shortage of funds provided to them, intellectual property issue, less interest of parent institutions and staff. In last decade the following institutions have seriously taken different steps in India towards digital preservation. The "Astronomical Research Institute", Hyderabad has taken steps to share the need of common interest for library cooperation, resource sharing and establish tools for common information retrieval. This step is known as FORSA (Formula for resource sharing in Astronomy and Astrophysics, (Hyderabad). In the same way IGCAR (Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research Kalpak am, (Tamil Nadu); CSIR; JCCC and VIC Hyderabad; UOHYD MATHS CONSORTIUM, Hyderabad; INDEST (Indian National Digital Library in Science and Technology, MHRD, New Delhi) ; UGC-INFONET (UGC Information Library Networks, Ahmadabad) SONET (Society for Networking for excellence in technical, Hyderabad have taken steps to share their resources through digital way in preservation.

Time seems right for Indian libraries to explore various options to create models for digital preservation of e-resources subscribed by them. The various consortia of the country like-INDEST (Indian National Digital Library in Engineering Science and Technology), INFLIBNET (Information Library Networks), DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organization), CSIR (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research) etc should initiate digital preservation projects which may be modeled on LOCKSS (Lots of copies keep stuff safe programme) and CLOCKSS (Controlled lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe). These consortia may negotiate with publishers to set up local server in order to meet the needs of Indian Libraries. All the libraries in developed nations have totally shifted to electronic environment and those of them in the developing countries are in the process of moving towards the new electronic environment to find

their place and fit into the changing information society with all its limitations.

Digital Preservation Meaning and Purpose

Digital Preservation is basically the preservation of information in the digital medium. It can be done by copying the digital information into newer fresher media before the old media deteriorates. According to Cornell University Library, "Digital preservation encompasses a broad range of activities designed to extend the usable life of machine readable computer files and protect them from media failure, physical loss and obsolescence". Mckemmish has defined digital preservation as a mean that "enable reliable, authentic, meaningful and accessible records to be carried forward through time within and beyond organizational boundaries for as long as they are needed for the multiple purposes they serve".

"Digital preservation is the management of digital information over time. The aim of digital preservation is long term, error free storage of digital information with the means of retrieval and interpretation for the period of time that information is required." (UKOLN 2011).

According to Jantz and Giailo, "Digital preservation encompasses activities which are necessary for long term maintenance of a byte stream including (metadata) sufficient to reproduce a suitable facsimile of the original document; and for the continued accessibility of the document contents through time and changing technology". .

Jones and Beagrie assist with their articulation of long-term, medium-term, and short-term preservation.

Long-Term Preservation: This term stands for continued access to digital materials, or at least to the information contained in them, indefinitely.

Medium-Term Preservation: Continued access to digital materials beyond changes in technology for a defined period of time but not indefinitely.

Short-Term Preservation: Access to digital materials either for a defined period of time while use is predicted but which does not extend beyond the foreseeable future and/or until it becomes inaccessible because of changes in technology.

Broader Aspects of Electronic/Digital Resources

One of the outstanding and exciting developments of 20th century is the publication of documents in electronic form. The electronic media has provided many possibilities and opportunities for providing faster and quicker access to information at the global level through communication networks thereby making the whole world a global village.

In the recent past, the libraries worldwide have increased their expenditure on e-resources (e-journals, e-books, full text (aggregated) databases, e-images etc.) phenomenally. The trend to procure and maintain e-resources have grown exponentially among the libraries. This is due to the information seeking behavior of students, researchers and faculty members. They are showing greater interest and reliance upon e-resources; and libraries and publishers cater to

their requirements by providing the same. The users are often content with the information which they locate online. This information may not be exactly what they want, but they are certainly saved from visiting the physical library. The users are highly dependent on these e-resources and this dependence will grow in future too.

The new generation users are more comfortable in online environment for information seeking. The exponential growth of web resources in both quality and quantity has necessitated both users and information professionals to preserve and manage for future generations. Digital technology, digital library and digital information resources not only facilitated easy access but with huge and variety of contents with less cost as well. Digital information resources also provided effective dissemination of information as one of the mission of an organization but preserving the same is quite another. Preservation and management of digital resources are concerned with three types of problems such as:

(a) Preservation of artefact or medium on which information is stored (e.g. tape disk, optical disk, CD-ROM/DVD) and preservation media.

(b) Preservation of software and storage formats, which can become obsolete and create access problem (technology preservation), and

(c) Preservation of the information content from being corrupted from its original form (intellectual preservation).

(d) Criteria for Selection of Electronic Documents:-

Libraries today buy licenses for an ever-increasing number of information resources from a range of different publishers and providers, and use a diverse set of technologies for information delivery. In addition, a wealth of relevant resources is freely available on the web for libraries to incorporate into their e-collections and to make them readily available to their users. Materials may be in print and/or electronic form; formally and/or informally published; and stored locally, for access via an institutions intranet, or remotely and accessible via the internet.

Strategies for Preservation of Digital Resources

While implementing the policies with regard to preservation of digital information resources, the libraries should adopt the following strategies:-

◆ Monitor the preservation implications and priorities for preservation of different information resources,

◆ Store and manage these resources to ensure high security, automated checking, archiving and backup with adequate disaster preparedness and recovery procedures,

◆ Document collection including file formats, software and hardware dependencies,

◆ Classify these resources based on its content and functionality

◆ Record preservation of metadata that facilitate effective and efficient management and

◆ Develop appropriate pathways to access these resources in conformity with its authenticity,

intellectual property rights(copying, storage, modifications and use of specific resources) and cost effective as well.

Issues and Challenges for Preservation of Digital Information Resources

Preservation and management of digital resources faced to address some conceptual issues which refer to:

Digitizing for preservation that leads to process of converting print materials (e.g. brittle books) into digital form due to every possibility of its deterioration,

Digitizing for Access that converts the art factual information (such as manuscripts, original art materials and printed materials) into digital form so that it may be viewed by a larger community and from distance,

Preserving Digital-only Information, aims at long term archiving of information that exists only in digital form such research data and e-journals with no print counterpart.

There are other related issues like:

◆ Whether anything or everything could be preserved? What to retain and which portion to be retained?

◆ Who owns the information and thus can acquire copyright protection?

◆ What about information privacy? If someone insists certain internet information not to be retained for future generations,

◆ What provision should be made in deleting information from the web?

◆ How much archived web material are valuable and what about the rest?

Challenges Faced by the Library and Information Professionals While Preserving the Digital Information

The main challenges which library and information professional faces during preservation of digital information:-

    ◆ Technical

    ◆ Legal

    ◆ Economical

    ◆ Social and Political

Besides these some other challenges faced by library and information professionals are:-

◆ Large amount of information resources to be maintained,

◆ Constant changes in the hardware, software and other technologies required for access,

◆ Frequent changes in file formats and standards,

◆ Uncertainty in maintaining the valuable and different digital resources,

◆ Complexities in addressing strategies , techniques, timely and cost effective actions,

◆ Insufficient resources,

◆ Lack of proper policy and planning,

◆ Physical condition of the material,

◆ Lack of support from the management,

◆ Lack of expertise.

Technological Obsolescence

Technological obsolescence is another major hurdle in the preservation and management of digital resources particularly for long term access. Software development problems are also serious problem because every software has different kinds of coding for which every computer needs some specific software to active the digital document.

Data storage technologies from floppy drive to CD drive to pen drive are gradually becoming obsolete and may are depending on web resources. Several options are being explored to deal with this cycle of obsolescence that falls into five main categories;

i.   **Technology preservation:**   It is the maintenance of hardware and software platforms, which support a digital resource adopted as preservation strategy. It would need to be accompanied by a regular cycle of media refreshing

ii. **Media Refreshment:**   Digital storage media have short lives and therefore have to be moved periodically to new media to ensure their survival. Refreshing is copying digital files from one storage medium to another storage medium of same type to prevent media obsolescence.

iii. **Migration:** This process is periodic transfer of digital materials from one hardware/software configuration to another and is the most current strategy for preserving electronic resources.

iv. **Normalization:** Normalization involves the translation of digital objects from a potentially wide range of formats in to single, common format for long-term preservation.

v.   **Emulation:**   Emulation is the process of recreation of the hardware and software environment required to access the resource. In other words, it involves creating computer programs that are compatible with contemporary technology.

The increasing amount of web resources that are being created and saved in digital data storage systems need to expedite the access and use of this data through different formats such as images, video, audio, tables, arrays, graphics, algorithms and procedures and documents. The data structure standards are needed so that information does not simply exist in a repository as first created but accompanied by complimentary information associated with and describing it. Some of the standards for describing, encoding, and archiving electronic data have been established to data like Dublin Core Metadata Element set, Platform for Internet content Selection (PICS), Resource Description Framework (RDF), Government Information Locator System (GILS), Text Encoding Initiative (TEI), Encoded Archival Description (EAD), and Universal Preservation Formats (UPF).

Librarianship in the Digital Era

Technology has drastically changed the way librarians define themselves and the way they think about their profession and the institutions they serve. The librarian in the digital world now acts as a guardian of information, as a consultant to the users, information broker and also a continuous learner.

The platform of Internet and WWW has helped to change the ways of accessing and locating information and thereby change the functions of an academic librarian and academic library in the modern information society. The role of librarians and the importance of libraries in this digital era are even now based on the basic principles of library science described by Dr S.R Ranganathan in his Five Laws of Library Science.

i.   Books are for use
ii. Every reader his book
iii. Every book its reader
iv. Save the time of the reader.
v.   Library is a growing organism.

Several attempts have been made to reinterpret these fundamental laws by others, but they do not encompass the whole of library and information science as achieved by Ranganathan's laws. These five laws furnish an interpretative explanation of the empirical facts of experience and technology necessary in experience in relation to library service . The biggest challenges facing the library profession today is repairing the professionals to use technology effectively. An academic library professional will be required to serve as an information service consultant with specific information technology skills. As technology has saturated all levels of library's Operations and services, the library professional in an academic institution has to anticipate the changing expectations of users, and be flexible in adapting and adopting new skills and levels of awareness. While being trained in IT skills, what every library professional chooses to ignore is the management aspect of a library. In addition to the technical and professional skills, commitment to user centered services and skills for effective oral and written communication they must have other skills, including business and management, teaching, leadership, etc.

Conclusion

Digital Library is providing access to information based on resources, including text, images, audio, video and other scholarly library materials that have been electronically converted into electronic formats. There are many different kinds of digital libraries creating, delivering and preserving digital objects from many different formats of data. It is a managed collection of digital objects, created or collected according to principles of collection development. A digital library provides instant access to digitized information and offers a solution to the problems of storage

and maintenance. It can provide access to simultaneous users from multiple locations.

Preservation links the past with future. Digital preservation is a complex issue and requires a long term strategy and appropriate technology adoption. The 21st century is still confronting with the problem of Universally accepted technology for preserving our digital heritage but institutions world over are seeking out the best paths to long term preservation of digital resources. All stakeholders, Librarians, Publishers, Administrators, Policy makers, and funding bodies should get together to initiate and develop a strategy for preserving electronics, scholarly journals, content for future generations. Libraries should take measures for ensuring the safety, longevity, and accessibility of collections and should be least dependant on vendors and external service providers.

To summarize it can be said that the digitalization in library system is appearing fast due to application of ICT and different other tools supporting to information gathering. The libraries are shifting from traditional libraries to library web 2.0 and library professionals as Librarian 2.0. The different opinions have also been given by different authors while describing the future of libraries. The opinions are digital era, digital resources, ICT applications, web and net usage networks are growing fast and users are familiar of its use. The future libraries though have same functions but its nature of service might be different. Moreover, digitalization in libraries is visualized as different tools are used for dissemination of information like web tools, mobile teaching, SMS services, remote messaging etc. though it is positive step towards the knowledge transformation but it needs especially trained staff to manage it, because it is far different from traditional library system. Therefore, staff must be familiar to the latest technology and use technology for better functioning of the library

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Prolegomena to Library 3.0: Harmonizing the Risks and Payback to Exploit the Dividends

Leela Dhar Mangi* & Amit Sharma**

ABSTRACT

This research provides a number of examples of how Web 3.0 technologies and approaches (Library 3.0) are being used within the library sector. The purpose of this study is to define Web 3.0 and discuss the underlying technologies, identifying new opportunities and potential challenges that are associated with the evolution to Web 3.0 technologies. The study describes different types of risks involved and suggest risk management approach which is being developed to minimize the dangers while allowing the benefits of Library 3.0. A non-empirical study reviewing papers published in accredited research journals, articles and white papers and websites was conducted. The findings of the study indicates that use of Library 3.0 approaches is becoming embedded across many Libraries which seek to exploit the benefits which such technologies can provide. The need to ensure that the associated risks are identified and appropriate mechanisms implemented to minimize such risks are beginning to be appreciated.

Keywords : Web 3.0, Library 3.0, Library 2.0, Web 2.0, Risk Evaluation, Risk Organization, Digital preservation.

Introduction

The paper describes a framework that is being developed aiming to ensure that institutions have considered the risks associated with use of Web 3.0 technologies and services and have identified strategies for dealing with potential risks in order to achieve the goal of balancing the risks and benefits to maximise the dividends to be gained by use of 'Library 3.0'. Many organisations were caught off guard by the evolution of the Web to Web 2.0. Organisations, and in particular anyone in the data and information management industry, need to be ready and acquire knowledge about the opportunities and challenges arising from Web 3.0 technologies including University libraries.

Web 3.0

The Web 3.0 term has now been widely accepted as a description of a new pattern of ways in which the Web is being used. We have progressed from the publishing paradigm which characterised what is now sometimes referred to as Web 2.0 whereas the modern technologies used for providing Library Services fall under Library 2.0 (Kwanya, Stilwell & Underwood 2013), in which small numbers of content creators made use of tools ranging from desktop HTML

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authoring tools through to enterprise Content Management Systems (CMS) and corresponding editorial and quality assurance processes to produce content for passive consumption by end users. In a Web 3.0 environment large numbers of users are creating content using a seemingly ever-increasing variety of tools and devices, this content is made available via a wide variety of commercial Web 3.0 services including photographic sharing services such as Flickr, video sharing services such as YouTube, and social networking services such as My Space and Facebook, remote access such as Open Athens, Ezy-proxy, etc. Web 3.0 entails an integrated Web experience where the machine will be able to understand and catalogue data in a manner similar to humans. This will facilitate a world wide data warehouse where any format of data can be shared and understood by any device over any network. The evolution of the Web will bring forth new opportunities and challenges. Opportunities identified can mainly be characterised as the autonomous integration of data and services which increase the pre-existing capabilities of Web services, as well as the creation of new functionalities. The challenges mainly concern unauthorised access and manipulation of data, autonomous initiation of actions and the development of harmful scripts and languages.

Library 3.0

The impact of the Web 3.0 term can be seen by the subsequent popularity of the '3.0 meme' in other sectors. Terms such as e-Learning 3.0, Library 3.0 and Enterprise 3.0 have been coined with definitions provided in Wikipedia (http://wikipedia.com). These terms have clear links with the Web 3.0 term, describing the application of Web 3.0 principles and use of Web 3.0 technologies within the content of e-learning, library and enterprise uses. Let us explore the ways in which Web 3.0 is being used in various library contexts.

The Risks

Identifying the risks

Indian libraries aim to inform practice and influence policy in the areas of digital libraries, information systems, bibliographic management, and web technologies. It has been providing a number of workshops aimed at the higher education and cultural heritage sectors, which aim to provide an understanding of the potential of Web 3.0 and also to identify potential barriers to the effective deployment and use of such services and explore ways in which such barriers can be addressed. Feedback is available from several workshops. This information, which has been provided by practitioners within the sectors, has informed the ideas described in this paper.

Sustainability risks

Commenting on a recent Google Apps outage, John Proffitt, IT Services Director at Alaska Public Telecommunications Inc (APTI) was quoted by (Perez, 2008) as saying:

"It was constant troubleshooting, testing, research, posting to the Google Apps forums and so on. Plus there's the emotional strain of wondering whether you completely screwed up by

moving everyone to Google Apps as our sole e-mail system. That's what freaked me out: Did Google just make me look like an idiot?"

We are currently seeing much debate on whether or not institutions should be embracing the software-as-a-service (SaaS) model and, in particular, making use of remote Web 3.0 services. Why run local services, when you can simply find a remote service free to provide for your needs?

Perhaps this is a model for the future but is it the right model for the present? There is growing evidence that we are entering a global recession. Is this a good moment for Indian universities to begin a brave experiment for outsourcing services to remote companies?

Google is clearly not a fly-by-night company its size makes it likely that it will survive an economic downturn. But the vast majority of Web 3.0 companies are a fraction of the size of Google. As it is, many Web 3.0 services appear to exist with no visible means of support, other than venture capital. We can imagine that venture capital can become harder to find in a period of economic down-turn. Much Web 3.0 service delivery is supported through an advertising model, relying on a revenue stream coming from a small percentage of advertisements 'clicked' on. Again, perhaps people are less likely to respond to advertisements in a recession?

Chris Adie, who spoke on Managing the Risks of Web 3.0 (Adie, 2008) at the Eduserv Foundation Symposium, made the related point that Web 3.0 services which rely on a global scale in terms of numbers of users and/or on social networks will become decreasingly useful if the number of users drops. Essentially, the network effect works both ways. Chris Adie also referred to the University of Edinburgh Guidelines for Using External Web 3.0 Services (Edinburgh, 2007) and spoke of the risks involved in the institution's use of remote Web 3.0 services, especially in terms of compliance with the Information Technology Act and Digital Millennium Copyright Act.

Once we got past the recession at the end of the dot-com bubble in the first decade of this century, the notion of an open source operating system had reached a level of sufficient maturity for it to enter the mainstream. Web 3.0 services and SaaS as a viable, mainstream approach will likely reach similar levels of maturity in time. But perhaps now, more than ever, institutions need to make sober appraisals of their options for service delivery or procurement. Failures in the services provided by Web 3.0 companies are happening.

Digital preservation risks

Are we in danger of living in the digital dark ages, as some have suggested, with web-based resources disappearing as organisational policies and priorities change and technologies change?

The human factors

It would be a mistake to believe that the risks in providing services based on use of

externally-hosted services are only concerned with the sustainability of the services themselves. There is a need to appreciate the risks associated with the human element. This might include the initial adopters and enthusiasts losing interest in services such as blogs and wikis, resulting in blogs which are not longer being regularly updated, wikis which fail to be maintained and inappropriate comments or automated comment spam failing to be removed from services. The wiki containing a directory of Library blogs includes details of a number of blogs which have not been updated for some time … and may be defunct".

Accessibility issues

Many public sector organisations around the world, such as libraries, universities and other educational institutions, will have both legal and ethical requirements to ensure that their resources and services can be accessed by people with disabilities. The Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) developed by the W3C Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) play an important role in documenting approaches which can help to ensure that web resources can be rendered by web browsers and assistive technologies to users with a range of disabilities in UK.

It is sometimes felt that all web resources must conform with certain guidelines, and that this requirement will rule out the deployment of many Web 3.0 services, which may be dependent on technologies which are deprecated in the light of guidelines.

Maximising the Dividends

We have already summarised some of the benefits to a diverse range of user communities which Library 3.0 and Web 3.0 seeks to deliver, have provided examples of the risks associated with such approaches and have touched on some of the possible ways in which such risks are being addressed. In this section we summarise some of the broad approaches which can help to ensure that institutions maximise the potential dividends which Web 3.0 seeks to provide.

Advocacy

Although awareness of Web 3.0 is widespread in many circles in India, there is still a need for advocacy of the benefits to be gained which needs to be provided, especially to senior managers and organisations which may traditionally be resistant to change.

Listening

Advocacy activities need to be complemented by listening activities, which help to provide a better understanding of both specific requirements within organisations and the various concerns which may be expressed.

Indian workshops, including those on Exploiting the Potential of Wikis and Exploiting the Potential of Blogs and Social Networks, together with a number of more recent workshops aimed at museums, libraries and archives described above, have featured use of wikis as a mechanism for gaining feedback on both potential use of Web 3.0 services and for documenting concerns

and barriers encountered or expected by practitioners in the sector. The Web Focus blog provides both a dissemination and communications forum for discussion and debate on best practices for use of Web 3.0 services.

Training, education, staff development and new media literacy

The library community has a tradition of providing training and support for library users. Libraries are beginning to take a lead in providing training and awareness in Web 3.0 concepts and tools. In some cases such training may be focused at staff within the library.

Web 3.0 services themselves have rich potential in the delivery of training and staff development. In 2015, SKUAST-Jammu library began experimenting in the use of video-conferencing technologies to provide access to a remote audience. The success of this experiment is gaining momentum. (Self Study Report, SKUAST-Jammu 2017)

Improved conferences

A debate on the potential distractions caused by use of networked technologies in a conference environment has been commented on the Ed Techie (Weller, 2008) and UK Web Focus blogs (Kelly, 2008). The debate has parallels with discussions on changes in the physical library space, from a quiet environment for individual reading to a social space for community activities. We are seeing developments of approaches which seek to address the concerns of the two camps, ranging from use of the physical space, with separate areas for those who wish to use their PCs and those who prefer a quieter environment, through to, perhaps, the development of hardware solutions which minimise noise made when typing.

The issues of data protection and privacy may be more complex to address. Many people are happy to be included in photographs and videos and for these to be made available online. However as Andy Powell has described (Powell, 2007) sometimes individuals may object to this, which can possibly result in such images being removed from public websites and the effort of any associated processing of the resources having to be written off. It may be argued that an approach to addressing such matters may be based on human sensitivities to such issues and flexibility rather than imposing blanket bans. However the need for Acceptable Use Policies in such cases has been described.

The library sector may have a responsibility for ensuring its users have an understanding of the potential of networked technologies, having the confidence to make use of such technologies, the sensitivity to be aware of other's concerns and the ability to be responsive to concerns and difficulties. At one stage the library's responsibility may have been concerned with information literacy: ensuring that the users were comfortable in making use of networked technologies such as search engines, and could evaluate the information they accessed. However, in a Web 3.0 environment, the responsibilities towards the user community may be much broader, including supporting the user as a content creator and the associated ethical

dimensions to this (e.g. plagiarism, copyright, etc.). Trans-literacy may be a better term to describe the educational services that librarians may need to provide to support their users in making effective use of the Library 3.0 environment.

Preservation in a Web 3.0 environment

Govt. of India is still finalising guidelines on advice for web preservation, which includes advice on use of Web 3.0 services. As described in a presentation on this subject (Shashi Prabha, 2017) the use of syndication technologies (such as RSS) and the ease by which content can be made available in a wider of locations can help to address preservation and sustainability concerns.

The ease of content creation and the huge diversity of ways in which Web 3.0 services are being used can mean that the disposal of resources is more relevant than in an environment in which the creation of digital data was a time-consuming and resource-intensive task. Organisations may well decide that the preservation of digital resources such as Twitter posts or Skype telephone calls and instant message chats is not required.

Individual, Departmental, Institutional, National or Global Responsibilities?

Generally, responsibility for preservation was taken by the blog owner, but who more generally should take responsibility for ensuring that use of Web 3.0 in its broadest sense provides the expected dividends to the users, to the institution and, indeed, to society?

In a rapidly changing environment we will continue to see early adopters and enthusiasts making use of emerging technologies before institutions are in a position to provide a safe, secure and managed provision of such services. The example described previously in which motivated individuals were prepared to take responsibility for the migration of their resources may apply in a number of situations, but this is not a scaleable solution.

If we accept that a simple banning of use of such services is not an appropriate response, with significant risks to not engaging with a Web 3.0 environment, we will then need to identify appropriate strategies for assessing and managing the risks of use of services.

There will be a need for individuals to understand and manage such risks as increasingly individuals are using Web 3.0 services to support social activities. Institutions may have a responsibility in their new media literacy strategies to ensure that members of staff and students are made aware of possible risks. The corresponding risk management approaches may be relevant for use of services used by individuals but in a work context.

The institution may choose to develop its own policies in risk assessment and risk management, although in large institutions and developed organisations the implementation may be left to departments or even individuals. This approach could require departments to develop approaches which are relevant to the department's particular interests a new media research department, is likely to wish to exploit networked services in ways which are not

appropriate for the payroll department.

This leads to the question of the institution's role in a Web 3.0 environment. Is it as a provider of services, a gateway to services, an aggregator of data hosted remotely, a provider of education and training, a quality assurance and risks management assessor, or perhaps some other role?

A Culture of Openness

The provision of training and staff development courses is helped by the availability of resources with Creative Commons licences, which allow for their reuse, perhaps for non-commercial use. There is likelihood that Library 3.0 advocates will have embraced Web 3.0's culture of openness and have a willingness to allow their resources to be reused by others within the framework of copyright legislations.

Indian Libraries has recently released a number of briefing documents covering a variety of Web 3.0 areas which are available with a Creative Commons licence. The decision to provide the resources under this licence was made in order to maximise the organisation's impact within the higher and further education and cultural heritage sectors. This decision also reflects an organisational culture of openness in which slides used in many presentations have made use of Creative Commons licences and access to the resources maximised through use of popular sharing services such as Slideshare.

Web 3.0 during Recession

How should institutions respond in their uses of Web 3.0 services at a time of a global recession? Let us consider the economic risks to various stakeholder communities which may undermine the services provided by libraries:

♦ Externally-hosted Web 3.0 providers
♦ Our institutions
♦ Our national services
♦ Our information providers
♦ Our funding organisations
♦ Our user communities

It should be clear that to dismiss externally-hosted services at a time of economic turmoil would be too simplistic an approach. Rather, there is a need to develop risk assessment and risk management approaches across a wide range of scenarios.

Risk Evaluation and Risk Organization

An approach being developed to document significant use of externally-hosted Web 3.0 services, to include a description of why the service is being used, a statement on the perceived risks and details of how such risks would be addressed. Elaborating and discussing the matter S Prabha (2017), apprised:

♦ Support Indian Libraries' role

♦ Advise communities
♦ Provide richer experiences to users
♦ Minimise resource efforts
♦ Provide a test bed
♦ Gain experience prior to service deployment
♦ Maximising impact

Accessibility Issues

A holistic framework for web accessibility in which accessibility guidelines are treated as useful guidelines, to be used when their use is appropriate, and not as formal standards whose use is mandated. This approach is particularly suited to a Web 3.0 environment in which content may be surfaced in a variety of environments (use of syndication technologies such as RSS, JavaScript widgets, etc.). This loom is based on the belief that universal accessibility is a false goal, as accessibility is dependent on complex issues such as the context and intended purpose of use, and not just the technical aspects of the Web resource itself. Rather than seeking universal access, the view is one based on widening participation and social inclusion which seeks to ensure that the purpose of a service can be provided to the target audience.

Shielding Youth

The use of Library 3.0 to deliver services to young people, whether in the context of use in schools or colleges or the services provided by public libraries for young people, presents a set of additional challenges which tend not to be of significant concern in higher education. These specific risks include legal and ethical requirements to protect youth from inappropriate content and threatening or dangerous online encounters.

Conclusions

This paper has given examples of ways in which Web 3.0 and Library 3.0 technologies and approaches are being used. The paper acknowledges that there are risks associated with use of third-party services, in providing greater autonomy to users, in providing access to such services to users with disabilities and to young people. The authors, however, feel that there are risks, potentially greater risks, in failing to engage with a rapidly changing environment. The paper describes various approaches which can be taken to minimise such risks in order to maximise the dividends which Library 3.0 seeks to provide

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Avian Diversity at New Campus of University of Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir

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ABSTRACT

We recorded 93 species of birds belonging to 71 genera in 41 families and 13 orders during the avifaunal surveys conducted in the new University Campus of University of Jammu in the span of three years ending 2017. Passeriformes dominated the list with 52 species belonging to 25 families. The seasonal distribution and abundance of birds was recorded individually along with their feeding and habitat guilds. 68% of the birds preferred dense vegetation as their favoured habitats in top and sub-canopies, understory, hedges and bushes. The feeding guild was dominated by Insectivores followed by omnivores, carnivores and frugivores. Significantly large number of birds (n=68, 73%) were found to be residents and rest the migrants. Study on the nesting behaviour revealed the presence of 37 active nests as holes, cavities on trees and built-up structures belonging to eleven bird species, mostly the residents. The information generated during the present surveys will serve as an important baseline to help devising effective strategies for the conservation and management of birds and their habitats in the campus and its vicinity.

Keywords : Avifauna, abundance, diversity, habitat guilds, nesting behaviour, University of Jammu, vegetative cover.

1. Introduction

Birds are regarded as the important indicators of environmental health (Collar and Andrew, 1988) and their diversity is directly related with the environmental conditions of the area. Although the study of urban birds has a fairly long history, urban ecosystems have largely been ignored throughout many decades of ecological research (Miller and Hobbs, 2002; Collins *et al.,* 2000). The major factors determining the existence of birds with human settlements include the presence of remnant vegetation, competition among the species and structural and floral attributes of existing vegetation (Chace and Walsh, 2006). At spatial scales their distribution however is regulated by the quantity and quality of food available, perching, roosting and nesting sites. The urbanization has a pronounced effect on the avian biodiversity and such surveys are critical in determining its effects on bird communities, both positive and negative. Baseline information is pre-requisite for the conservation endeavors for any ecosystem and to understand the consequences of habitat destruction and deterioration as well as the effects of climate

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change (Llanos *et al.,* 2011). Bird surveys provide useful information for basic and applied ecology, and are useful for identifying priority areas for conservation (Daniels *et al.,* 1991; Peterson et al., 2000). Though a number of avian studies have been conducted in the urban landscapes across India including many on the campuses and allied establishments, the information on the avian diversity for different institutes from the state of Jammu and Kashmir is scanty. The University campuses established over the years in the state are now widely recognized green islands and preferred micro-habitats for unique and diverse biodiversity elements within the hustling city limits. New University Campus Jammu was identified as one of study sites under our intensive avian survey programme in the mosaic landscapes of Jammu and its surroundings. The campus provides a rich array of habitats conducive to avian biodiversity. Despite its recognition as a rich vegetational hotspot in Jammu, the campus has remained poorly explored in terms of bird richness and diversity. Earlier during the year 2013, Anthal *et al.,* (2014) however have recorded 57 species of birds from new University campus. The present investigations attempt to provide a comprehensive checklist of the birds, their abundance, habitat and feeding preferences and migratory status based on the seasonal surveys carried out during the period of three years.

MATERIAL AND METHODS:

Study area

New campus of University of Jammu lies at $32^0 42' 50''$ N to $32^0 43' 27''$ N and $74^0 51' 43''$ E to $74^0 52' 27''$ at an elevation of 320 m. The beautiful campus is spread over an area of 118 acres with a vast green cover in the form of avenue plantations, hedges and palms and well maintained botanical and cactus gardens. The dominant native plant species in the study area include *Acacia modesta, Melia azedarach, Acacia arabica, Dalbergia sissoo, Ficus benghalensis, F. religiosa, Mangifera indica, Albizzia lebbeck, Bombax ceiba, Putranjiva roxburgii, Cassia fistula,* etc. Exotic plant species in the campus include species like *Eucalyptus lanceolatus, Grevillea robusta, Alastonia scholaris, Sterculia alata, Erythrina variegata, Jacaranda mimosifolia, Casuarina equisetifolia, Kigelia pinnata, Neolamarckia cadamba,* etc. The area experiences a warm (42^0C) humid climate during the summers and chilly foggy winters (5^0C) with mean annual rainfall of 900 mm most of which is received during July and August.

Data Collection:

With a broader objective to highlight the avian richness and abundance, comprehensive field surveys were conducted within the premises of University of Jammu (New campus) during the years 2015, 2016 and 2017. The adjacent outer limits *i.e.,* Left bank of river Tawi along the botanical garden, small section of Tawi canal eastwards and the deep drain from Gate-1 to J and K Bank were also included for opportunistic sightings. Most of the surveys were conducted during morning hours, besides some incidental sightings during day time and evening hours.

Sampling was carried out by using Line transect method (Verner, 1985) by walking through fixed routes. 10 transects of varying lengths (300 m to 500 m) were laid to cover whole of the study area. These included 8 along the main campus road viz., main gate to fountain plaza, fountain plaza to guest house, guest house to Department of Environmental Sciences, Department of Environmental Sciences to Department of Sociology and Education, Directorate of Physical Education to Post Office, Examination block to exit gate, gate number one to girls hostel, Health Centre to Zorawar Singh Auditorium besides 1 in Botanical garden and 1 diagonal transect from Department of MCA to VC Office. The bird calls were confirmed using Grimmet *et al.* (2013) e-book and Xeno-Canto bird call database (Xeno Canto, 2017). The field photographs were thoroughly cross checked with the images available at online database (Birdlife International 2017; www.orientalbirdimages.org) with subsequent confirmation from Ali and Ripley (2001); Rasmussen and Anderton (2012); Grimmet *et al.* (2011) and Grewal *et al.* (2016). For the taxonomy and nomenclature, we have followed Clements *et al.* (2017) in the present communication.

Status and Abundance

On the basis of frequency of sightings in different study sites, abundance of birds was categorized following (MacKinnon and Phillipps, 1993). Besides this, the relative abundance of the birds was also calculated using formula as number of individuals of one species / total number of individuals of all species * 100. The migratory status assigned to the birds was partly based on the visual observations which were then confirmed with the available literature (Grimmet *et al.,* 2011). The birds were grouped into four classes viz., Resident birds (R), Summer Visitors (SV), Winter Visitors (WV) and Passage Migrant (PM).

Feeding and Habitat Guilds

Based on the type of food, the birds used to feed on, the feeding guilds were defined for the present study. Six major classes of feeding guilds were identified viz. Carnivorous, Insectivorous, Frugivorous, Grainivorous, Nectarivorous and Omnivorous.

Habitat-use guilds were defined from the field observations following Diaz *et al.* (2005). A bird species was included in a given habitat-use guild based on its primary use of forest (plantation in this context) structure for nesting, resting and /or feeding. Based on the information of habitat use, four principal habitat-use guilds were categorized as Understory-birds, Large-tree users, Vertical-profile generalists and Shrub-users (Diaz *et al.* 2005), while another guild 'Open ground generalists' was identified as special category in the present context (Sharma and Kichloo, 2015).

Results and Discussion:

During our surveys, spanning almost three years, a total of 93 species of birds distributed in 71 genera, 41 families and 13 orders were recorded. The systematic list of birds along with their

abundance, feeding and habitat guilds, migratory status and conservation status is presented in Table-1. Highest number of birds was found in the order Passeriformes with 52 species belonging to 25 families, followed by Accipitriformes (7 species in 1 family i.e. Accipitridae) and Piciformes and Cuculiformes (5 species each in two and one family respectively). The studies conducted by different researchers in Jammu and Kashmir state also reveal similar findings. These includes the investigations of Ahmed and Sahi (2005), Kumar and Sahi (2006), Kichloo (2011), Motup (2013), Singh *et al.* (2013) Kait *et al.* (2014), Kichloo (2014) who reported the predominance of Passeriformes over other orders. Anthal *et al.* (2014) also reported the highest number of Passerine birds (50.8%) from Jammu University Campus.

Of the total birds reported, 68 (73%) species were found to be residents, 16 (17.2%) summer migrants, 7(7.5%) winter migrants and 2 species viz. Common Rosefinch and Red-breasted Flycatcher as passage migrants, respectively. The earlier studies for the state also reveal that the resident birds always outnumber the migrants. The summer migrants flock in larger numbers than their winter counterparts. Anthal *et al.* (2014) in their study in Jammu University campus also reported significantly higher number of resident birds. Pandotra and Sahi (2014) observed 72% resident birds, 27% winter migrants and 1 % summer migrants. Similarly, Kait *et al.* (2014) on the avifauna of Srinagar city reported 46 % bird species as resident, 31.4 % summer visitors and 22.2% winter migrants. Motup (2013), Singh *et al.* (2013), Kait *et al.* (2014), Wani and Sahi (2007) also revealed the similar observations with the percent trend of summer / winter migrant as 39.8% / 0.75%; 80% / 20%; 4.4% / 8% and 51.8% / 0%, respectively.

In terms of abundance and the encounter rate, Jungle babbler (RA=7.08) was noted to be fairly common and frequently seen species followed by Common Myna (RA=6.80) and House Crow (RA=4.04). In terms of visual abundance, 23 birds were found to be very common, 6 common, 24 uncommon and 40 as rare in the study area.

As regards their feeding preferences, insectivores dominated the area (n=27) followed by omnivorous (n=26), carnivorous (n=18), frugivorous (n=10) and grainivorous (n=7), respectively. Only 2 birds were observed as nectarivorous. The remaining 3 species viz. Ashy Prinia, Common Tailorbird and Hair-crested Drongo revealed more than one feeding guild. Hippargi *et al.* (2012), Manjunath and Joshi (2012) and Dey *et al.* (2013) in their studies in different parts of India reported the predominance of Insectivores amongst the other feeding guilds. Several studies conducted in Jammu and Kashmir also revealed similar results (Ahmed and Sahi 2005, Wani *et al.* 2008, Aggarwal *et al.* 2008, Kait 2011, Singh *et al.* 2013, Motup 2013 and Sharma and Kichloo 2015).

Based on the information of habitat use described by Diaz *et al.* (2005) and our own observations, we identified five principal habitat-use guilds. The first category, 'Understory-birds' included the species frequently observed seeking refuge, nesting and feeding under the dense

understory vegetation. 15 (16.12%) birds were observed occupying this guild. The 'Large-tree users' comprised of the species primarily feeding and nesting in tall trees or snags and 11 (11.82%) species were recorded in this guild. The third guild, 'Vertical-profile generalists', were species using the entire vertical profile of the standing vegetation (including canopy and sub-canopy vegetation) and 29 (31.18%) bird species were included in this guild. The fourth 'Shrub-users' guild comprised of the species primarily shrub dwellers, but occasionally occur on trees too. 9 species (9.67%) were seen harbouring this guild. The 'Open-ground generalists' included birds preferring bare ground, open gardens, buildings, walls, river bank etc. It comprised of 29 species (31.18%) of birds. Diaz *et al.* (2005) in their study observed 5 bird species belonged to understory dwellers, 6 species to large tree user guild, 9 species as vertical profile generalists and 4 bird species as shrub users. Similarly Sharma and Kichloo (2015) in their guild studies reported 25 species as Understory-birds, 11 species as Large-tree users, 9 birds Vertical-profile generalists, 17 birds as Shrub-users and 11 birds were found Open ground generalists. Of the 93 species, two species viz. Egyptian Vulture and Steppe Eagle fall in 'Endangered' threat category while Himalayan Griffon and Alexandrine Parakeet figures out as 'Near Threatened'. All others belonged to Least Concern category (IUCN, 2017). It is worth to mention that raptors mostly vultures and eagles have been recorded hovering over the campus, while Black kites and spotted owls have established nesting sites mostly near the botanical garden.

Since adequate tree cover provides ample nesting space to a number of birds in the premises, studies on the nesting behaviour of many bird species was also conducted. 37 active nests as holes, cavities on trees and built-up structures belonging to 11 bird species were recorded (Table-2). Maximum number of nests belonged to Common Myna (10 nests) followed by Rose-ringed Parakeet (7 nests). Most of the birds were observed feeding, mating or roosting within or close to their nests. The most preferred plant species for nesting was found to be *Melia azedarach* which supported a total 17 nests of 5 bird species at different locations. Other preferred tree species for nesting was *Jacaranda mimosifolia* which supported 6 nests of three species and Grevillea robusta housing 4 nests of three species. Most of these trees provide ideal habitats for bird nesting with adequate natural cavities being used by parakeets and mynas besides the dense canopy cover for roosting and a vertical escape from the aerial predators. The present study provides an account of spatial distribution of the nests and potential nesting sites required to be preserved henceforth. It will be way forward in generating more information on breeding ecology and reproductive potential of the resident species within the campus.

Acclaimed as one the best and green campuses across the state, the new University Campus, Jammu over the past few years has recorded an unprecedented increment in the vehicular traffic and associated noise, construction activities and allied happenings which have a profound impact on the birds and their distribution. Though rich in bird diversity, the current study

highlights the dominance of the commoners which are well accustomed to live in disturbed environments. This does not rule out the presence of sensitive species, their sighting frequency and abundance however is on a declining note. The young and gregarious stands of vegetation across the campus are ideal for the birds to visit, stay and even breed therein. The birds similarly are the best indicators of the health of an ecosystem. Both compliment each other at the moment but it will be short lived. Effective management strategies thus need to be developed and adhered to safeguard the existing biodiversity and its components as they are fundamentally interlinked.

Table 1. Checklist of bird species with reference to their abundance, feeding / habitat guilds, migratory and conservation status.

S.No	Family/ Common Name	Scientific Name	VA	RA	FG	HG	MS	CS
	Order: Accipitriformes **Accipitridae**							
1.	Black eared Kite	*Milvus migrans lineatus*	VC	1.80	C	LTU	R	LC
2.	Black kite	*Milvus migrans*	C	2.21	C	LTU	R	LC
3.	Booted Eagle	*Hieraaetus pennatus*	R	0.17	C	LTU	R	LC
4.	Egyptian Vulture	*Neophron percnopterus*	R	0.85	C	OGG	R	EN
5.	Himalayan Griffon	*Gyps himalayensis*	R	1.19	C	LTU	R	NT
6.	Shikra	*Accipiter badius*	R	0.17	C	LTU	R	LC
7.	Steppe Eagle	*Aquila nipalensis*	R	0.17	C	OGG	WV	EN
	Order: Bucerotiformes **Family: Bucerotidae**							
8.	Indian Gray Hornbill	*Ocyceros birostris*	VC	2.21	O	LTU	R	LC
	Family: Upupidae							
9.	Eurasian Hoopoe	*Upupa epops*	VC	1.19	O	OGG	R	LC
	Order: Charadriiformes **Charadriidae**							
10.	Red-wattled Lapwing	*Vanellus indicus*	VC	1.70	I	OGG	R	LC
	Family: Scolopacidae							
11.	Common Sandpiper	*Actitis hypoleucos*	UC	0.17	I	OGG	R	LC
	Order: Columbiformes **Family: Columbidae**							
12.	Eurasian Collared-Dove	*Streptopelia decaocto*	VC	1.87	G	OGG	R	LC
13.	Laughing Dove	*Streptopelia senegalensis*	C	1.36	G	OGG	R	LC
14.	Rock Pigeon	*Columba livia*	VC	3.80	G	OGG	R	LC
15.	Spotted Dove	*Streptopelia chinensis*	VC	2.72	G	OGG	R	LC
	Order: Coraciiformes **Family: Alcedinidae**							
16.	Common Kingfisher	*Alcedo atthis*	UC	0.17	C	OGG	R	LC
17.	Pied Kingfisher	*Ceryle rudis*	UC	0.17	C	OGG	R	LC
18.	White-throated Kingfisher	*Halcyon smyrnensis*	VC	0.68	C	OGG	R	LC
	Family: Meropidae							
19.	Green Bee-eater	*Merops orientalis*	UC	0.85	I	VPG	R	LC

	Order: Cuculiformes Family: Cuculidae							
20.	Asian Koel	*Eudynamys scolopaceus*	VC	3.40	O	LTU	R	LC
21.	Common Hawk-cuckoo	*Hierococcyx varius*	UC	0.17	O	VPG	R	LC
22.	Common Cuckoo	*Cuculus canorus*	UC	0.34	O	VPG	R	LC
23.	Greater Coucal	*Centropus sinensis*	R	0.34	O	OGG	R	LC
24.	Pied Cuckoo	*Clamator jacobinus*	R	0.17	O	VPG	SV	LC
	Order: Gruiformes Family: Rallidae							
25.	Eurasian Coot	*Fulica atra*	R	0.34		OGG	SV	LC
26.	White-breasted Waterhen	*Amaurornis phoenicurus*	UC	1.19	O	OGG	R	LC
	Order: Passeriformes Family: Campephagidae							
27.	Long-tailed Minivet	*Pericrocotus ethologus*	R	0.17	O	LTU	SV	LC
28.	Small Minivet	*Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*	R	0.68	O	LTU	SV	LC
	Family: Certhiidae							
29.	Bar-tailed Treecreeper	*Certhia himalayana*	R	0.17	I	VPG	R	LC
	Family: Cisticolidae							
30.	Ashy Prinia	*Prinia socialis*	C	0.85	I/N	SHU	R	LC
31.	Common Tailorbird	*Orthotomus sutorius*	C	1.02	I/N	SHU	R	LC
	Family: Corvidae							
32.	Gray Treepie	*Dendrocitta formosae*	R	0.17	O	VPG	R	LC
33.	House Crow	*Corvus splendens*	VC	4.04	O	VPG	R	LC
34.	Large-billed Crow	*Corvus macrorhynchos*	R	0.17	O	VPG	R	LC
35.	Rufous Treepie	*Dendrocitta vagabunda*	C	1.19	F	VPG	R	LC
	Family: Dicruridae							
36.	Ashy Drongo	*Dicrurus leucophaeus*	R	0.34	I	VPG	SV	LC
37.	Black Drongo	*Dicrurus macrocercus*	VC	3.06	I	VPG	R	LC
38.	Hair-crested Drongo	*Dicrurus hottentottus*	R	1.19	I/N	LTU	WV	LC
	Family: Estrildidae							
39.	Indian Silverbill	*Euodice malabarica*	UC	1.19	G	VPG	R	LC
40.	Scaly-breasted Munia	*Lonchura punctulata*	R	1.02	G	VPG	R	LC
	Family: Fringillidae							
41.	Common Rosefinch	*Carpodacus erythrinus*	UC	0.68	F	USB	PM	LC
	Family: Hirundinidae							
42.	Wire-tailed Swallow	*Hirundo smithii*	R	0.51	I	OGG	SV	LC
	Family: Laniidae							
43.	Long-tailed Shrike	*Lanius schach*	UC	0.51	C	USB	SV	LC
	Family: Leiothrichidae							
44.	Jungle Babbler	*Turdoides striata*	VC	7.08	O	VPG	R	LC
	Family: Monarchidae							
45.	Indian Paradise-Flycatcher	*Terpsiphone paradisi*	R	0.34	I	USB	SV	LC
	Family: Motacillidae							
46.	Gray Wagtail	*Motacilla cinerea*	R	0.17	I	OGG	SV	LC
47.	White Wagtail	*Motacilla alba*	R	0.34	I	OGG	SV	LC

	Family: Muscicapidae							
48.	Black Redstart	*Phoenicurus ochruros*	UC	0.51	I	OGG	W	LC
49.	Blue-capped Redstart	*Phoenicurus coeruleocephala*	R	0.17	I	OGG	SV	LC
50.	Blue Whistling-thrush	*Myophonus caeruleus*	UC	0.51	I	OGG	R	LC
51.	Gray Bushchat	*Saxicola ferreus*	UC	0.34	I	VPG	SV	LC
52.	Indian Chat	*Cercomela fusca*	VC	1.19	I	VPG	R	LC
53.	Indian Robin	*Copsychus fulicatus*	UC	0.85	I	VPG	R	LC
54.	Oriental Magpie-Robin	*Copsychus saularis*	VC	2.01	I	VPG	R	LC
55.	Red-breasted Flycatcher	*Ficedula parva*	R	0.17	I	VPG	PM	LC
56.	White-capped Redstart	*Phoenicurus leucocephalus*	R	0.17	I	OGG	R	LC
	Family: Nectariniidae							
57.	Crimson Sunbird	*Aethopyga siparaja*	C	0.51	N	VPG	R	LC
58.	Purple Sunbird	*Cinnyris asiaticus*	VC	1.36	N	VPG	R	LC
	Family: Oriolidae							
59.	Indian Golden Oriole	*Oriolus kundoo*	R	0.34	F	USB	SV	LC
	Family: Paridae							
60.	Cinereous Tit	*Parus cinereus*	UC	0.51	O	SHU	R	LC
	Family: Passeridae							
61.	House Sparrow	*Passer domesticus*	R	0.34	G	OGG	R	LC
	Family: Phylloscopidae							
62.	Common Chiffchaff	*Phylloscopus collybita*	R	0.51	I	SHU	WV	LC
63.	Gray-hooded Warbler	*Phylloscopus xanthoschistos*	R	0.17	I	SHU	SV	LC
64.	Pale-rumped Warbler (Lemon-rumped Warbler)	*Phylloscopus chloronotus*	UC	0.17	I	SHU	SV	LC
	Family: Pycnonotidae							
65.	Black Bulbul	*Hypsipetes leucocephalus*	R	0.51	O	LTU	R	LC
66.	Himalayan Bulbul	*Pycnonotus leucogenys*	VC	2.04	O	VPG	R	LC
67.	Red-vented Bulbul	*Pycnonotus cafer*	VC	3.06	O	USB	R	LC
	Family: Rhipiduridae							
68.	White-throated Fantail	*Rhipidura albicollis*	R	0.17	I	SHU	R	LC
	Family: Sturnidae							
69.	Asian Pied Starling	*Gracupica contra*	UC	1.53	O	VPG	R	LC
70.	Bank Myna	*Acridotheres ginginianus*	R	2.04	O	OGG	R	LC
71.	Brahminy Starling	*Sturnia pagodarum*	UC	1.36	O	VPG	R	LC
72.	European Starling	*Sturnus vulgaris*	UC	1.02	O	VPG	R	LC
73.	Chestnut-tailed Starling	*Sturnia malabarica*	R	0.51	O	VPG	R	LC
74.	Common Myna	*Acridotheres tristis*	VC	6.80	O	VPG	R	LC
	Family: Turdidae							
75.	Black-throated Thrush	*Turdus atrogularis*	R	0.17	O	USB	WV	LC
	Family: Stenostiridae							
76.	Yellow-bellied Fairy-fantail	*Chelidorhynx hypoxantha*	R	0.17	I	SHU	SV	LC
	Family: Sylviidae							
77.	Lesser Whitethroat	*Sylvia curruca*	UC	0.68	I	USB	WV	LC

	Family: Zosteropidae							
78.	Oriental White-eye	*Zosterops palpebrosus*	UC	1.02	I	SHU	R	LC
	Order: Pelecaniformes **Family: Ardeidae**							
79.	Cattle Egret	*Bubulcus ibis*	R	0.51	C	OGG	R	LC
80.	Indian Pond-heron	*Ardeola grayii*	UC	0.85	C	OGG	R	LC
81.	Great Egret	*Ardea alba*	R	1.87	C	OGG	R	LC
	Order: Piciformes **Family: Megalaimidae**							
82.	Blue-throated Barbet	*Psilopogon asiaticus*	R	0.17	F	USB	R	LC
83.	Brown-headed Barbet	*Psilopogon zeylanicus*	VC	2.04	F	USB	R	LC
84.	Coppersmith Barbet	*Psilopogon haemacephalus*	VC	1.40	F	USB	R	LC
85.	Great Barbet	*Psilopogon virens*	R	0.34	F	VPG	R	LC
	Family: Picidae							
86.	Black-rumped Flameback	*Dinopium benghalense*	VC	1.53	I	VPG	R	LC
	Order: Psittaciformes **Family: Psittaculidae**							
87.	Alexandrine Parakeet	*Psittacula eupatria*	R	0.51	F	USB	R	NT
88.	Plum-headed Parakeet	*Psittacula cyanocephala*	R	0.17	F	USB	R	LC
89.	Rose-ringed Parakeet	*Psittacula krameri*	VC	2.21	F	USB	R	LC
	Order: Strigiformes **Family: Strigidae**							
90.	Spotted Owlet	*Athene brama*	VC	1.36	C	USB	R	LC
91.	Asian barred Owlet	*Glaucidium cuculoides*	UC	0.17	C	USB	R	LC
	Order: Suliformes **Family: Phalacrocoracidae**							
92.	Great Cormorant	*Phalacrocorax carbo*	R	0.17	C	OGG	WV	LC
93.	Little Cormorant	*Microcarbo niger*	UC	0.34	C	OGG	R	LC

Visual Abundance (VA) : VC - Very Common; C-Common; UC-Uncommon; R- Rare, Relative abundance (RA), Feeding Guild (FG) : O-Omnivore; C-Carnivore; I-Insectivore; N-Nectarivore; G-Grainivore; F-Frugivore, Habitat Guild (HG): LTU-Large Tree Users; USB- Understory Birds; SHU- Shrub Users; VPG- Vertical Profile generalists; OGG- Open Ground Generalists, Migration Status (MS): R- Resident; WV -Winter Visitor; SV -Summer Visitor; PM- Passage Migrant, Conservation Status (CS, IUCN): LC- Least Concern; EN Endangered; NT- Near Threatened.

Table 2. Nesting birds and their spatial attributes observed in the Campus

S.No	Name of the Bird species	Number	Nesting Site	Location	Type of Nest	Activity observed
1.	Common Myna	07	*Melia azedarach*	CHM, ADM, EXM, DLL, ENV, TLS, DSS	Makeover from straws mostly on tree forks.	Feeding and roosting
		02	*Jacaranda mimosifolia*	CHM, GPC		
		01	*Grevillea robusta*	DST		
2.	Rose-ringed Parakeet	04	*Melia azedarach*	DIN, ENV, ENG, DSS	Holes, natural cavities	Feeding, mating and roosting
		02	*Grevillea robusta*	TBG, DST		
		01	*Albizia lebbeck*	ADM		
3.	Spotted Owlet	03	*Melia azedarach*	TBG, ADM, TDL	Tree / concrete wall cavities	Roosting and feeding
4.	Brown-headed Barbet	02	*Melia azedarach*	PHE, VCS	Hole	Making loud calls
		02	*Jacaranda mimosifolia*	DIN, TBG		
		01	*Grevillea robusta*	DLL		
5.	Copper smith Barbet	01	*Melia azedarach*	DSS	Hole	Feeding and roosting
		02	*Jacaranda mimosifolia*	DIN, DST		
6.	Asian-Pied Starling	01	*Erythrina variegata*	TBG	Makeover from straws and leaves on tree forks	Feeding and roosting
7.	Oriental-Magpie Robin	01	*Albizia lebbeck*	RSA	Hole / cavities	Making loud calls, playing
8.	Black Kite	01	*Eucalyptus lanceolatus*	TBG	Makeover from twigs	Roosting
9.	Rock Pigeon	04	Wall crevices, Buildings	RSA, THC, GEO, DSS	Make over from straws	Feeding, mating and roosting
10.	Eurasian collared Dove	01	*Citrus lemon*	TBG	Makeover from straws	Roosting
11.	Wire-tailed Swallow	01	Walls, underneath roofs	TLS	Mud and straw	Nest building

CHM- Department of Chemistry; ADM- Administrative Block; EXM-Examination Block; ENV-Department of Environmental Sciences; TLS-The Law School; DSS-Department of Social Sciences; GPC-Gas Plant Complex; DST- Department of Statistics; DIN-Department of Instrumentation; ENG-Department of English; TBG-The Botanical Garden; TDL- The Danvantri Library; PHE-Directorate of Physical Education; VCS-Vice Chancellor's Block; DLL-Department

of Life Long Learning; RSA-Brig. Rajinder Singh Auditorium; THC-The Health Centre; GEO-Department of Geology.

Acknowledgements

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Socio-Economic Conditions of Dodhi Gujjars in Suchetgarh Border Area of Jammu District

Kavita Suri* & Parveen Sharma**

ABSTRACT

The state of Jammu and Kashmir has twelve tribal communities whose total population, as per the Census 2011, is 1,493,299. This constitutes 11.9% of the total population of the state and about 1.43% of the total tribal population of the country. Gujjars and Bakkarwal tribes are the most populous tribes among all the tribes found in all the three regions of the state of Jammu and Kashmir including Jammu province (Jammu, Kathua, Samba, Udhampur, Reasi, Poonch, Rajouri, Doda, Ramban and Kishtwar districts), Kashmir valley (Srinagar, Budgam, Baramulla, Kupwara, Pulwama, Kulgam, Shopian Ganderbal, Bandipora, and Anantnag etc.) and Ladakh (Leh and Kargil). The Gujjar and Bakkarwal tribes have been nomadic tribes which have become sedentarized or semi-sedentarized over the years. Gujjars in Jammu and Kashmir are primarily of two types - Zamindar Gujjars and Dodhi Gujjars. Zamindar Gujjars are the ones whose primary occupation is agriculture and animal husbandry. The Dodhi Gujjars are the ones who rear buffalos and live mainly on the sale of milk and its allied products. The socio-economic condition of Dodhi Gujjars is not very good. They lag behind in various areas including educational facilities, health, banking etc.

The present research study aims to assess the socio-economic status of Dodhi Gujjars of Suchetgarh area which is located close to the International Border with Pakistan. The proposed research seeks to explore if the Dodhi Gujjars have access to educational facilities, health, banking, and other such facilities and what are the challenges in their growth and development. The study would also try to suggest some measures to improve their socio-economic conditions.

Keywords : Dodhi Gujjars, Education, Income, Women etc

Introduction

Jammu and Kashmir is home to a big number of tribal groups who have settled down in almost all parts of the state. As per the census 2011, the total population of the Scheduled Tribes in the state is 1,493,299, comprising 11.9% of the total population of the state and about 1.43% of the total tribal population of the country. Out of the twelve Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities, Gujjars and Bakkarwals which are known as the twin tribes, have the largest number among the STs in the state.

Gujjars in Jammu and Kashmir are primarily of two types - Zamindar Gujjars and Dodhi Gujjars. Zamindar Gujjars are the ones whose primary occupation is agriculture and animal husbandry. Dodhi Gujjars live mainly on the sale of milk and its allied products. Agriculture is also

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taken up by them as a secondary occupation. The Zamindar Gujjars possess considerable size of land than the Dodhi Gujjars. In Jammu District, Dodhi Gujjars are exclusively engaged in milk production. They generally do not own large landholdings. Their socio-economic conditions are not very good and they even lack basic facilities of life like education and shelter.

BRIEF PROFILE OF THE AREA: SUCHETGARH

Suchetgarh is a border area of Ranbir Singh Pura block in Jammu District which is situated close to the International Border with Pakistan. The total area of Suchetgarh village is 454.10 hectares and its total population of Suchetgarh village is 931 living in 190 households. The male population of Suchetgarh is 484 while the female population is 447.

RATIONALE OF THE STUDY

The socio-economic study of Dodhi Gujjars of Suchetgarh which is situated very close to the border is very significant keeping in view the fact that the overall condition of Scheduled tribes especially Gujjars is not very good.They lag behind in various sectors including education, healthcare etc. Therefore, it is important to explore that the Dodhi Gujjars who supply milk to main part of Jammu district, have access to education, healthcare etc. or not and whether there has been any change in their lives in terms of socio-economic development or not.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To assess the socio-economic status of Dodhi Gujjars

2. To understand if the Dodhi Gujjars have access to educational facilities, health, housing, sanitation, banking and other such facilities.

3. To suggest some measures to improve their socio-economic conditions.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Available literature on socio-economic status of Dodhi Gujjars in Jammu reiterates that their status is not satisfactory as compared to others section of the tribal societies.

Suri (2014) shows in her study that socio-economic and educational status of Gujjars is not satisfactory as compared to other sections of society. She further states that educational backwardness amongst Gujjars is one of the key factors for their poverty, ignorance and overall backwardness.

S.M. Dubey (1972) conducted a study on education, social change and political consciousness among tribal community of North-East India and concluded that tribes are backward, illiterate and there is a need of creating political consciousness among them.

R.P. Khatana (1976) who studied on marriages and kinship among Gujjars in Jammu observed that these scheduled tribes marry within the community and within the clan strictly. He also studied some aspects of transhumance in mountainous traits.

K.S.Chalam (1993) studied the educational policy for human resource development and stated that there is a need of educational reforms for the development of scheduled tribes.

P.C. Mehta (2000) observed that socio-economic and educational status of tribals is not

satisfactory and they lag behind in each and every aspects of social life.

Suri (2014) observed that the educational level among the Gujjars is too low as compared to other inhabitants of the state. These tribal communities are already lagging behind the rest of the tribes and population of the trouble region. Some of the challenges in the provision of educational services to transhumant areas are similar to those faced by other rural and marginalized households in the region, although often more severe. These include Nomadism, militancy, lack of teachers willing to work in the conflict situations found in these areas, poor infrastructure as well as poorly motivated teachers, a household economy dependent on livestock, with children spending long periods away from their homes and schools and transhumant mobility. .

Tufail (2014) studied the level of literacy among the Gujjars is low particularly for young Girls. He observed that the Gujjars in the prosperous conditions of Punjab and Haryana and Delhi have entry to government advancement plans for better wellbeing, power, watering system, drinking water and bank credits. A few segments of the Gujjars are receptive to family welfare and family arranging projects. Be that as it may, the Nomadic Gujjars ofJammu doesn't have fundamental offices.

Kundal (2014) researched that the bulk of the Gujjars rear cattle for a variety of purposes but when people breed and rear cattle for commercial purpose and makes it the source of livelihood, they may be said to be living under pastoral economy.

Ruhi (2014) stated that the Gujjars residing mostly in Jammu, deal in milk production. She found out that both central and state government launched various income generating programmes for the rural and tribal people. The programmes are planned keeping consonance with the existing income level of the beneficiaries. The programmes are designed in such a manner that they provide a constant source of income to the beneficiaries.

Singh (2012) studied that a major proportion of the Gujjars of Jammu depend on animal husbandry for their livelihood in lower, middle and the higher mountain regions. Animals like sheep, cow, and goat are kept for commercial purposes.

Dr Javaid Rahi (2011) revealed the origin of Gujjar tribe, their tribal identity, and history of Gujjar community. Political empowerment of Gujjars in J&K is also analyzed by the author.

Anita Sharma (2009) explored the community life of Bakkarwals, their religion, their power and reciprocity, knowledge, tradition, language, art, craft, music and dance in a detailed way, also a brief summary about the valley of Kashmir is given.

Aparna Mitra (2008) studied on the status of women among scheduled tribes in India and concluded that tribal women are less educated comparatively and gender equality among tribal group is a complex phenomenon.

D.K.Behera (1999) made a study entitled "contemporary societies, tribal societies" studies on various social concepts about the tribes and concluded that tribals are socially and

educationally backward.

M. Dubey (1972) carried a study on education, social change and political consciousness among tribes of North east India and concluded that tribes are illiterate and backward, and there is a need of creating political awareness among them.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present research study entitled "A Study of Socio-Economic Conditions of Dodhi Gujjars in Suchetgarh Border Area of Jammu District" was conducted in village Chakroi, Gulabgarh in Suchetgarh area of Block Ranbir Singh Pura of district Jammu.

Sampling technique: Simple random technique was used to select the villages for the present study where Gujjars are living during winter. The respondents were selected randomly for gathering information. Qualitative method of data collection was used.

The sample size for the present study was 50 respondents from 50 households (Deras).Both men and women were included in the samples. The sample comprised of 50 people who are above 15 years.

Tools for data collection: The research tools of questionnaire, interviews, and case study was used for data collection. First of all, a well- structured questionnaire was prepared for the data collection after conducting a preliminary field survey first (before the commencement of the study) which comprised of background information of the respondents, questions regarding their education of children; their socio-economic conditions, their life style etc. The questionnaire used for data collection was divided into different sections to collect the required information.

Data collection: The data was collected in the month of July 2016 from the selected areas mentioned above. Several visits were made to these areas and data was collected by using questionnaire, interviews, and case studies besides Focused Group Discussions (FGD). A rapport was built with the respondents and the purpose of the study was explained to them. Two types of data was collected from the selected areas by adopting simple random sampling method- one was primary data which included first-hand information from the Gujjars of these villages while the other one was secondary data. The secondary data was collected from books, journals, websites, research papers etc. The research tools were administrated as per the convenience of the Dodhi Gujjars which included time available with them and in the language they could understand. Local language was used for the administration of the tools.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data was collected from four villages of R.S. Pura. These are Suchetgarh, Dangrein, Chakroi and Satrayian. The data was collected from 50 Deras (families); one person each was taken from the Dera. Out of 50, 12 (24%) were females and 38 (76%) were males. The data of 35 deras was taken from village Suchetgarh, 5 deras from village Chakroi, 5 deras from village Dangrein and 5 Deras from village Satrayian. Out of 50 households 33(66%) households were

practicing Joint family system and 17(34%) lived in Nuclear family system.

TABLE No. 1 : Income status of Dodhi Gujjars of R.S. Pura

S. No.	Less than Rs 5000	Less than Rs 10,000	Rs 10,000 and above
1.	27(54%)	13(26%)	10 (20%)

Table No.1 shows that the income levels of respondents is very low. All the respondents live in very poor conditions. They have no houses and live in temporary houses made of mud. Out of the 50 Deras, 27 (54%) deras are those whose income is less than Rs. 5000 and 13 (26%) deras have income around Rs 10, 000. A total of 10 (20%) deras have income above Rs 10,000. This clearly shows that the income of these people is not adequate for a good living. They are not able to make their both ends meet with their limited income which also results in their lagging behind in the process of development.

TABLE No. 2: Educational status of Dodhi Gujjars of R.S. Pura

S. No.	Primary	Matric	Higher secondary	Graduation & above
1.	48(96%)	1(2%)	1(2%)	0

Table No. 2 shows that the educational status of Dodhi Gujjars is very low. The respondents are illiterate and they have no interest in education too. They also do not have any understanding about the importance and value of education. Out of 50 household, only 48 (96%) Dodhi Gujjars are educated up to primary level, only 1(2%) is matric pass and only 1 (2%) is educated up to higher secondary.

TABLE No. 3: Preference of education for Dodhi Gujjar boys/girls

S. No.	Girls	Boys
1.	15(30%)	35(70%)

Table No. 3 shows that the Dodhi Gujjars who live in a highly patriarchal society discriminate between their boys and girls. They give preference to boys than girls and this is the reason that the education of girls in not on their agenda. The data shows that 70 % of the boys are sent to school while only 30% girls are given education in Dodhi Gujjar community.

As such, the literacy rate among Gujjars in Jammu and Kashmir is very low and female literacy levels are pathetic. Poverty is also one the reasons due to which the parents find it difficult to send their daughters to school. Girls are send for rearing cattle. In spite of the fact that state

government bears all expenses of education of the children, parents cannot bear some running expenses related education of girl child. It is due to this reason that dropout rate is much higher in theses tribes. Even if the girls attend the schools, they leave the school at some point or much before they can complete high school education or even primary education. Besides, even if girls attend the schools, their family environment is not conducive to education. They are kept busy in rearing cattle and in household chores and are married young too. Imparting proper education to tribal girl is distant dream among Dodhi Gujjar tribes.

In Jammu, many tribes have managed to impart education to their girls and many girls are seen pursuing university education and even are doing research but the situation is grim for Dodhi children who belong to economically poor families and are not able to pursue their education.

Another important reason for the Gujjars girls not getting education is that they are married at a very young age. Mostly, the marriage age of girls in this tribe in between 15-18 years because the elders of the tribe think that their girls are not safe and if something wrong happens with them, nobody will marry their girls. Resulting this, the girls are married at very young stage. The average marriage age of boys is between 18-24 years.

TABLE No. 4: Custom of dowry for Dodhi Gujjar boys/girls

S.No.	Yes	No
1.	10 (20%)	40(80%)

It is clear from Table No.4 that the custom of dowry is not much prevalent among this tribe. A total of 40 (80%) respondents said that they don't take dowry while 10 (20%) were in favor of giving dowry in marriage. Thus the custom of dowry is not much prevalent in the tribes in Jammu district. There is instead a system of bride price (Meher) in these tribes which has to be paid by bridegroom to the parents of girl. The respondents said that bride price (Meher) is given in the form of both cash and kind. Equal amount is paid in the form of animals to the parents of girl.

TABLE No. 5: Property rights for Dodhi Gujjar men and women

S.No.	Boys/Men	Girls/Women
1.	45 (90%)	5 (10%)

Table No. 5 shows that Dodhi Gujjars mostly give their property to their male child only. Majority of them, 45 (90%), said that they give their property to their male child and only 5 (10%) respondents said that they gave their property to theirs girls also. The custom of giving property is performed at the time of the marriage of their children. Thus, patriarchy is clearly playing its role in this tribe also and the culture of excluding girls from property rights prevails very much here also

like most of the people and communities living in this part of the world.

TABLE No. 6: Government initiatives

Over the years, the government has undertaken many initiatives for the improvement of socio-economic conditions of tribes of Jammu and Kashmir which includes provision of special residential schools known as Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidhyalya (KGBV) for the tribal girls under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan. There are also tribal fellowships under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. However, despite so many such initiatives, the members of the Dodhi Gujjar community do not have much information or awareness about such schemes.

S. No.	Government initiatives	Yes	No.
1.	Awareness about government schemes	7(14%)	43(86%)
2.	Bank Account	30(60%)	20(40%)

Table No. 6 depicts that 86% respondents are not aware of Government Schemes and 14% respondents said that they have information about the Govt schemes being run to benefit them. This is also indicative of the fact that several schemes started by various departments of both Central and state governments do not reach the members of these tribes who need them the most. They hardly have any awareness about such schemes.

However, 60% of the respondents said that they have bank accounts in various banks while 40% respondents didn't have any bank account for saving their money.

TABLE No. 7: Type of House

Type of house	No.of Respondents	Percentage
Pacca	2	4 %
Semi-Pacca	5	10 %
Katcha	43	86 %
Total	50	100 %

This Table No. 7 reveals that 2 (4%) of the respondents live in pacca house, 5(10%) live in Semi-pacca houses and 43 (86%) live in katcha house. This means that that they don't have proper housing facilities; they are mostly poor and are not able to afford a pacca house.

Table No. 8: Decision making among Gujjar males/females

S.No.	Gujjar Males	Gujjar Females	Both
1.	25 (50%)	5 (10%)	20 (40%)

Table No. 8 shows that the various decisions in their family including the decision as how to spend money is taken solely by male members of the family. A total of 50 % males tsake such decision themselves, 10 % of the females are allowed to take decisions while 40 % of both men and women jointly take various decisions.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Dodhi Gujjar community of Suchetgarh area is very poor .They are highly backward in every sphere of life. They have no agricultural land. Their income largely depends upon their livestock. The literacy rate among them is also too low as compared to others section of society who reside in city. They have no adequate understanding about the importance of education in their lives. Their children mostly do not to go to school. Even government efforts in improving their socio-economic conditions have not yielded any much desirable results.

Most of the Dodhi Gujjars' health conditions are not good. They have high infant mortality rate. Most of them do not go to allopathic doctors for treatment and most of the Dodhi Gujjars believe in home treatment from some local herbs/plants and use them as medicines. They occasionally go to the hospital for check up.

Dodhi Gujjars community has also not much awareness about the importance of sanitation. Almost every household lacks sanitation facilities and they go outside in the open field for defecation. They do not understand health issues like open defecation.

Most of the Dodhi Gujjars do not avail banking facilities. They do not have bank accounts and do not go to banks for loan facilities also. Most of them save money by keeping it in their own houses or give to the money lenders. From money lenders they take back their money when they need it.

A majority of the Dodhi Gujjars do not have pacca houses. They live in mud houses which have thatched roofs. But of late, they have started constructing semi-pacca and pacca houses. However, as compared to othercommunities or households, they have less pacca houses.

Keeping in view their socio-economic conditions, various steps need to be initiated to improve the socio-economic conditions of Dodhi Gujjars. Availability of water, electricity and other basic facilities to their families is strongly recommended. Construction of houses and roads for Gujjars families at the earliest should be made. Centres should be established for the sale of wool, dairy and mutton products with an aim of strengthening their economic conditions. New empowerment schemes can be started for them which should be made accessible to each one of them. Besides strengthening educational opportunities for them, the adult Gujjars and

Bakkarwals can be imparted adult literacy and arrangements can be made for those who are interested in the same.

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Role of Women in On-Farm and Off-Farm Activities : A Case Study of Village Bhajmasta of Ramsu Block of Ramban District of J&K

Shashi Prabha

ABSTRACT

Agriculture is the backbone of the nation's economy. India being an agrarian economy has 68.84% of its population living in the rural area. There are at least 1.6 billion women in the world who live in rural areas and depend on agriculture for their livelihood. Women farmers produce more than half of all the food that is grown in the world, specifically, up to 80 percent in Africa and 60 percent in Asia .In India, the role of women in different farm activities varies from region to region. Generally, the females are engaged in helping the males to carry out simple farm operations, particularly at the sowing and harvesting time and attending to cattle. Females are actively engaged in farm activities related to food production (land preparation, cleaning fields, sowing, dabbling, planting, transplanting, tilling, hoeing, weeding, fertilizer application, plant protection, irrigating, harvesting, threshing), processing (hulling, winnowing, cleaning), storage, feeding cattle, looking after poultry and kitchen Gardening. A number of studies revealed that development has had adverse consequences on women in third world countries with accelerated development, women's work load has increased which has resulted high stress on the mental and physical health of the women in the agriculture field. The gender inequality is also witnessed in the farming sector where women are contributing immensely but they are not getting their share financially, socially and physically. The state of J&K is an agrarian state. Agriculture occupies an important place in the economy of the state. The women in the state are having their great support in agriculture sector but unfortunately the status of rural women is not satisfactory. The given study tries to examine the role of women in the study area and the attribute selected to study the problem are the education, health, number of working hours and freedom for decision making.

Keywords : Livelihood, on farm, off-farm, agriculture, rural women, economy.

Introduction

Rural women constitute the most important productive work force in the Indian economy. Agriculture in India contributes about 18% GDP and is predominantly a female activity. About 18% of the economically active women are engaged in Agriculture sector in the country. In dairying and animal husbandry, women far outnumber the men and this sector of agriculture is wholly dependent upon the women workforce. Almost all the rural women in India can be considered as farmers in some senses as almost all of these are directly or indirectly engaged in some agricultural activity such as agriculture labour, working in the family, farm land holding,

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dairying and animal husbandry etc   Decision making is a basic process that underlies all functions of family resource management. Rural women in our country share abundant responsibilities and perform a wide spectrum of duties in running the family, maintaining the households, attending to farm labour, tending domestic animals and extending a help hand in rural artisanship and handicrafts. In spite of discharging all these duties her involvement in decision making process specially related to money matters is low (Raju, V.T. and Rani, S. 1991). Women play an important role in initiation, control and supervision of farm production, horticulture, livestock and in productive work (Census, 2011). Despite women's critical contribution to the family income through productive activities, no recognition is given to them as an important contributor and their contribution is not recorded. The overview of some of the studies conducted in India showed considerable variation in women's involvement in decision-making process in different parts of the country especially in rural societies. The states like Punjab and Haryana show positive role of women in decision making process in most of the families. But in primitive societies the pattern of participation on decision is traditional where the head of the family or male members make all the decision. In rural families type and size of the family, caste, size of land holding, socio-economic status of the families, education level of rural women, their employment status and rational position effects her involvement in decision-making. Besides this, women's role becomes negligible where the decisions increase in complexity in rural families due to illiteracy of women (Husain et al.,1988; Islam, Maziful and Ahmed, 1988). Since, women play a key role in production, they should be the first person's to take decisions and make plans. Keeping these in mind, the present study has been undertaken in Jammu district of Jammu division to find out the extent of women's involvement in decision-making related to household, farm, livestock and income-generating activities.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM :

Women status in a society is a reflection of the level of social justice in that society. A women's status is often described in terms of her level of income, employment and health. The issue of women's work and health, the type of work women do in the rural areas, the limited options available to them, their striving towards making the most of whatever support exists and the effects of these on their family and heath are themes which is being considered here.

The topic "Role of Women in on Farm and off Farm Activities" was selected for assessing the status of women's work and health in the village Bhajmasta of Ramban district. This study is basically for assessing the extent of participation of women which contribute to the livelihood. The purpose of study is to examine how work affects women's health and vice-versa and also to present and discuss the problems women face in the process of balancing their work and family life. In addition to it, women not only receive lower wage than men labour but also their opportunity for education, skill formation are very low. In short, low educational statuses etc. compel women workers to take lower wage job as compared to men. We fail to acknowledge the

importance of women's multiple contributions to rural survival.

The statistical data present is very limited. Particularly on village level, our knowledge is still very limited. Therefore, basic research on the role of women in agriculture &intra-family decision making can contribute substantially to our knowledge & help avoid mistakes in planning for the future.

STUDY AREA

Ramban is one of the 22 districts in the state of Jammu and Kashmir, India. Ramban is located in the lap of Pir Panjal range of the mighty Himalayas. Ramban district was carved out from erstwhile Doda district by detaching Ramban and Banihal tehsils. Further, 18 villages of Gool Gulab Garh tehsil of Udhampur district were added to Ramban tehsil. Besides, 13 Villages were newly created within Ramban tehsil. District Ramban started functioning as independent unit on April 1, 2007. Ramban town is the district headquarters. The town is located midway between Jammu and Srinagar along the Chenab river, on National Highway-44, (originally National Highway 1A (India), approximately 150 km from Jammu and Srinagar. District Ramban shares its boundary with Reasi, Udhampur, Doda, Anantnag and Kulgam.

11.215 Km Pirpanchal Railways Tunnel (longest in India) provides rail connectivity between Banihal, (district Ramban) and Kashmir valley. Also another newly constructed tunnel i.e Chenani Nashri tunnel links Ramban with Udhampur district and it the longest road tunnel in India. The valley is connected to Ramban district via earlier longest road tunnel i.e Jawahar tunnel which connects Banihal tehsil of Ramban district with Anantnag district of valley.

Baglihar Dam is built on Chenab River in the Chanderkote about 8 kms from the Ramban district of Jammu & Kashmir. The
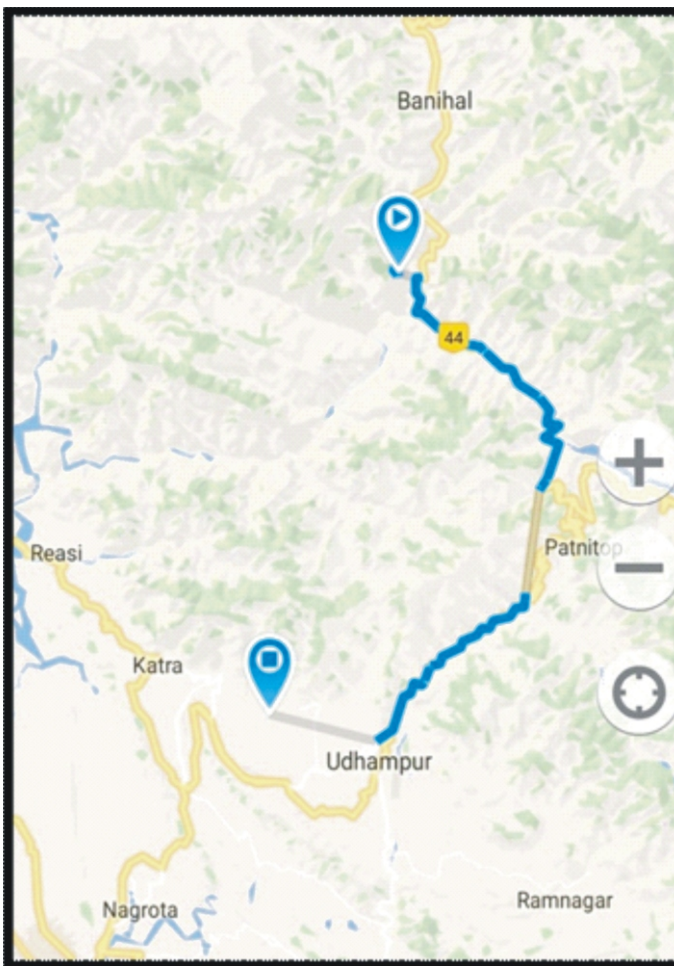
hydro power project 'Baglihar Hydroelectric Power Project', is a run-of-the-river power project on the Chenab River. This project was conceived in 1992, approved in 1996 and construction began in 1999. The main reason for this 450 (3 X 150 mw) MW project to be in news are the objections raised by Pakistan claimed that, the dam is a gross violations of the Indus Water Treaty. India reduced the water flow to fill up the Baglihar dam lake in Jammu and Kashmir, causing a loss of agriculture for farmers in Pakistan.

According to Census 2011 information the location code or village code of Bhajmasta village is 004551. Bhajmasta village is located in Ramban Tehsil of Ramban district in Jammu & Kashmir, India. It is situated 10km away from Ramban, which is both district & sub-district headquarter of Bhajmasta village. As per 2009 stats, Bhajmasta is the gram panchayat of Bhajmasta village. The total geographical area of village is 1299.1 hectares. The Bhajmasta village has population of 1366 of which 668 are males while 698 are females as per Population Census 2011. In Bhajmasta village
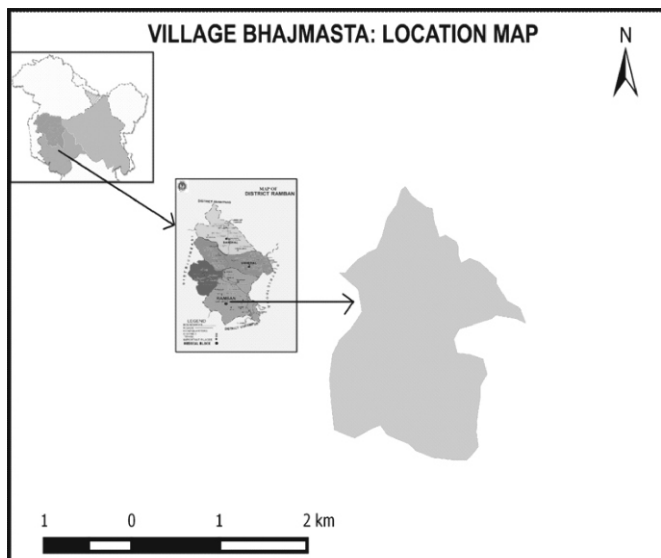
population of children with age 0-6 is 243 which makes up 17.79 % of total population of village. Average Sex Ratio of Bhajmasta village is 1045 which is higher than Jammu and Kashmir state average of 889. Child Sex Ratio for the Bhajmasta as per census is 944, higher than Jammu and Kashmir average of 862. Bhajmasta village has lower literacy rate compared to Jammu and Kashmir. In 2011, literacy rate of Bhajmasta village was 39.63 % compared to 67.16 % of Jammu and Kashmir. In Bhajmasta Male literacy stands at 50.28 % while female literacy rate was 29.66%.

OBJECTIVES

The study was conducted in the village Bhajmasta of Ramban district in Jammu province with the following specific objectives of the study:

1. To assess the extent of participation of women in on farm and off farm activities in the study area.
2. To examine the problems of women respondents.
3. To enlist the various farming and non farming income generated activities performed by the women of the study area.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The present study is falling under the domain of agricultural geography and many geographer's work on women and agriculture has been consulted and is mentioned below.

Govind Kalker (1985) ,finds that marginality and low wages are prevalent among rural women in the regions of the Green Revolution. Women do most of the manual and non-technological work, while men operate the new agricultural machines and control the inputs as well as the produce. In his view women are not recognised for their productive role in the economy.

S.B. Danagat and D.B. Yadav (1985) ,conducted a study in Ahmednagar district in Maharashtra to see the role played by women in crop production. The study revealed that the female labour constituted 34 per cent of the total human labour utilization on the farms..

S.C. Patnaik and Sailabala Debi (1986) ,conducted a study on women's economic contribution to the farm sector in Orissa. They conclude that women labour contribute more in terms of time, output and income and they need a fair deal both in socio-economic planning and in decision-making.

Ashok Khurana and Roshan Lal (2011), in his analysis of gender division of labour revealed that failure to acknowledge the importance of women's multiple contributions to rural survival. Women don't enter into the labour market on equal terms when compared to men. Their occupational Choices are also limited due to social and cultural constraints, gender bias in labour market and lack of supportive facilities such as child care, transport and accommodation in formal sector of the formal labour market.

Swarna S. Vipa (2005), in her paper 'Feminization of Agriculture and Marginalization of their Economic Stake', examines the declining economic stake of women in agriculture and the increasing contribution of women to agriculture. But unfortunately women labour not only receive lower wage than men labour but also their opportunities for education, skill formation are low.

Tahir Mir (2010), in his paper 'Role of women in Agricultural Development and their Constraints', highlighted the fact that rural women along with men play an important role in agricultural sector like crop production, livestock production. But they have incomplete access to resources, agricultural extension, education services and newest technical knowledge and information sources.

According to ILO (2010), rural women are constrained by the unequal access to productive resources & services & inadequate or inaccessible infrastructure. The limitations rural women face in turn impose huge social, economic & environmental costs on society as a whole & rural development in particular including lags in agricultural productivity.

According to FAO (2010), rural women are crucial in translating agricultural production into food & nutrition security for the well-being of their families, their communities & their nations. According to Thresia (2004) ,tedious manual activities such as, transplanting, weeding, harvesting, transporting harvest, threshing, drying of hay, etc. are wholly or mainly done by

women, while men's work includes the making of field boundaries and setting up of barriers in the field.

METHODOLOGY

Bhajmasta Village of Ramsoo Block of Ramban district is selected for the given study. The reason behind the selection of this area is that majority of the population in this village is dependent upon primary sector for its livelihood. The women of the village actively participate in the on-farm and off- farm activities. So, their role in agricultural and non-agricultural sector can be easily assessed. In addition to it, the other reason for selecting this particular village for the concerned research is; all the objectives regarding particular research could be easily fulfilled in this village. The data was collected by interviewing the rural women respondents using a questionnaire which was developed by consulting the relevant literatures, discussions and by concerning some other questionnaires of related topics.

Sampling Procedure: For the purpose of selecting the sample, stratified random sampling designs were adopted. The first stage consisted of selection of a village from Ramban district. In the second stage, the rural women respondents, which formed the ultimate sampling units, were then selected from selected village. For this, stratified random sampling was used and women respondents belonging to different categories (religion, caste, age, work, etc.) were selected randomly. The total sample size consisted of 100 women respondents.

Data Collection: Interview schedule (questionnaire) was used as a research instrument to collect information about the extent of participation of women in on farm and off farm activities.

The required information about the concerned topic is gathered with the help of Interview Schedule method as majority of the women masses are illiterate there. Then after staying there for the couple of days, the participation of women in different activities was observed. In addition to it, the other sources which helped in data collection including GPS, Internet, journals etc.

Data Tabulation :

Tabulation of data is principle method of presenting data. The data is presented in the shape of rows & columns. Then the tabulated data is shown with the help of bar graphs, bar diagrams, pie charts, etc in order to understand the trends and to do the comparative analysis of the extent of participation of women in different on farm and off farm activities.

Data Interpretation :

Data interpretation was conducted to highlight the main findings relating to the objectives set forth for this study. Efforts were made to emphasize those findings which are significant & prominent.

ANALYSIS

The socio economic characteristics of the sampled respondent include age, educational status, tenancy status; incomes of the respondents are presented in the following table-

TABLE 1.1 SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARECTERISTICS OF BAJASMATA VILLAGE OF RAMSOO BLOCK OF RAMBAN DISTRICT OF J&K.

Variable/Attributes	Participatory Category	Number	Percentage (%)
Age	18-30	35	35
	30-50	55	55
	50-60	10	10
Educational Qualification	Below 10th	10	10
	Up to 10th	10	10
	Up to 12th	7	7
	Graduate	3	3
	None	70	70
Income	<5000	70	70
	5000-10000	14	14
	>10000	16	16
Family Type	Joint	80	80
	Nuclear	20	20
Marital Status	Married	80	80
	Unmarried	20	20
Religion	Hindu	78	78
	Muslim	22	22

Source: Field study , 2017

Bhajmasta Village : Age Of Respondents (2017)
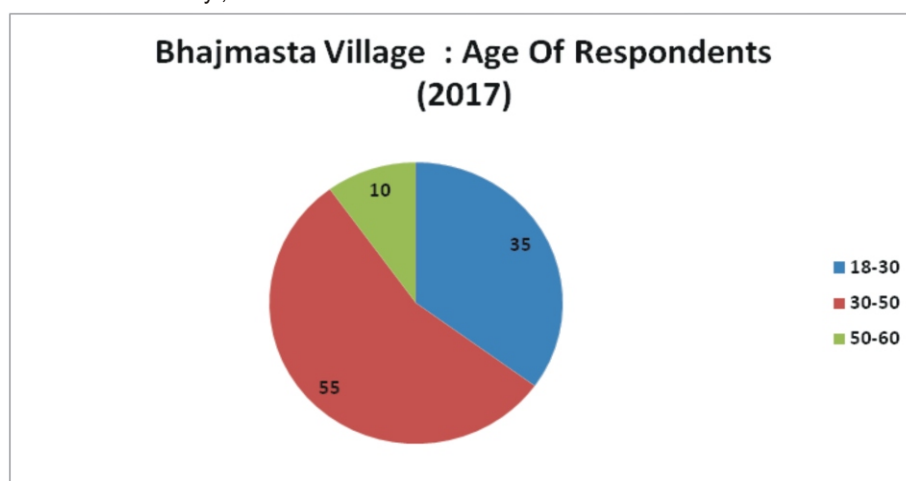
The above table 1.1 shows the socio-economic composition of the respondent in the study area. Since, the study tries to focus the role of women in on farm and off farm activities. The different socio-economic attributes are responsible for various agricultural activities are important to be examined. As for as the above figure is concerned it is evident that maximum women respondents are from the age group 18-30 and 30-50. The can be revealed that the maximum respondent are from the young age groups and are actively contributing in various farm activities.

DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENT IN VARIOUS AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Participation of women in agriculture is referred to the era of beginning of agriculture and domestication of animals right at the start of human civilization. Over the centuries the role of women in agriculture carried forward from generation to generations and today the success of agriculture as an enterprise is because of the support from the women to handle and manage different agricultural activities very efficiently and effectively. In relation to the above fact an attempt has been made in the following table to understand the magnitude of participation women respondent in various activities in the study area.

TABLE 1.2 DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENT IN VARIOUS AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Only women	Only men	Mostly men	Mostly women	All
Ploughing	0	100	0	0	0
Cleaning fields	40	0	4	27	29
Levelling	0	53	47	0	0
Transplanting	23	16	13	24	39
Tilling	5	24	24	13	34
Hoeing	17	43	11	12	17
Manuering	3	30	47	11	9
Pesticide spraying	9	43	26	9	13
Weeding	57	4	26	5	8
KhudaiAnd Bandhai	26	3	3	10	58

Field study 2017

The table1.2 shows the participation women in the study area in various activities such as ploughing, cleaning the fields, leveling, transplanting, tilling, hoeing, manuring, purchase of inputs, spray of pesticides, weeding and khudai etc. AS far as the participation of women respondent in the above mentioned agricultural activities are concerned women are having negligible participation in ploughing but the operations like cleaning fields, transplanting, hoeing, weeding are very well performed by the women and the percentage recorded 40%, 23%, 17%,57%, respectively. However, On the other hand the operations such as purchase of inputs,

pesticide spraying, leveling etc are mainly performed by the male members of the family. The work of khudai and bandhai, transplanting, tilling, hoeing is done by all the members of the family and contributing collectively in various agricultural activities.

TABLE.1.3. DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENT ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF HOURS SPENT DAILY IN FIELD DURING PRE-HARVESTING SEASON.

Crop	< 4 hours	4- 8 hours	>8 hours
Wheat	67	33	0
Maize	12	61	17
Mustard	73	27	0
Peas	77	23	0
Jowar	83	17	0
Pulses	97	3	0

Source : Field Survey, 2017

The above table shows the time devoted by the farming women during the cropping season at pre-harvesting time. There are 67% of the respondents devoting less than 4 hours per day to wheat crop at the sowing season, 33% of the women responded are devoting 4-8 hours per day during the sowing of wheat crop. The cultivation of pulses requires less time and therefore, 97% of women work for less than 4 hour in the pulses cultivation. The major pulses grown in the study area includes Rajmash, beans, Kolth, etc. The cultivation of maize requires a lot of hard work and therefore, 61% respondents stated that they devote 4 to 8 hours per day for the cultivation of maize in sowing season. Thus, the crops like mustard, peas, jowar, pulses require little care and hard work in comparison to maize and wheat. The table above gives a important project of time required by different crops in the pre- harvest time in the study area and it is interesting to note that cultivation of pulses requires the minimum time and pulses are the value added crops which have good market return in terms of money and for generating better livelihood diversification of the crops in the best option for the farmers.

TABLE 1.4 DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENT ACCORDING TO NO. OF HOURS DAILY SPENT IN THE FIELD DURING HARVESTING SEASON.

Crops	< 4 hours	4- 8 hours	>8 hours
Wheat	13	61	26
Maize	57	37	5
Mustard	82	14	4
Peas	77	14	9
Jowar	27	57	5
Pulses	91	9	0

From the above Table 1.4 the duration of time spent by the women respondent can be examined in the study area. This can be concluded from the above table that maximum numbers of hours spent by the women in the fields are falling in the category of 4-8 hours in a day. It is

interesting to note the food crops such as wheat maize jowar are more time demanding crops whereas the cultivation of pulses requires less time where maximum 91 women respondent are spending lees than 4hous in the cultivation of pulses. This can also be said that pulses are the value added crops having good market value in comparison to wheat or other food crops and cultivation of pulses   requires the minimum time and if this can be promoted it would result good return to the farmers.

TABLE .1.5 DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENT ACCORDING TO TYPE OF WORK IN POST HARVESTING SEASON.

Activity	Men	Women	Mostly Women	Both
Harvesting	6	18	33	43
Threshing	44	22	16	18
Storage	70	13	3	14
Carrying grain to home	12	5	36	47
Carrying bhusaa to home	11	41	16	33

Source: Field Survey, 2017

The distribution of the respondent according to the type of work in the fields in the post harvest season is shown in the above table. The agricultural work has been categories in different types of agricultural activities which are mostly carried in the post harvest season such as harvesting, threshing, carrying grains to home etc. This can be stated from the above information that women are actively participating in all types of field activities as the male members are doing. Moreover, it is evident that the different farming activities are mostly done by both the male and female members.

TABLE1.6. MAGNITUDE OF PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN VARIOUS LIVESTOCK REARING ACTIVITIES

Activity	Very High	High	Low	Very Low	No
Site Preparation	30	22	33	15	0
	70	21	6	3	0
Watering	80	20	0	0	0
Grazing Cattle	33	27	30	4	6
Mulching	100	0	0	0	0
fodder	47	33	13	7	0
Conversion Of Milk To Milk Products	57	24	11	8	0
Pre And Post Delivery Care	73	23	2	2	0
Selling Milk Products	13	17	30	10	30
Site Maintenance	31	26	18	14	11

Source : Field Survey, 2017

In the following discussion gives detailed information regarding the participation of women in the various activities involved in dairy farming. In order to record the magnitude of women in the different livestock activities, a number of livestock actives were considered under the study such as site preparation, watering, grazing, mulching, fodder, preparation of dairy products, pre and post delivery care of cattle, selling milk products and site maintenance. In the study out of the total 100 respondents, all are actively involved in dairy farming. The very first activity related to the dairy farming was found to be site preparation. As it clear from the table 1.6 that 30% of the respondents are having a high level of participation in the site preparation or cattle shed. This may be attributed to the fact that site preparation generally involved the use of cow dung, handled mostly by women in the rural area.

Village Bhajmasta: Analysis Of Participation Of Women In Dairy Activities (2017)
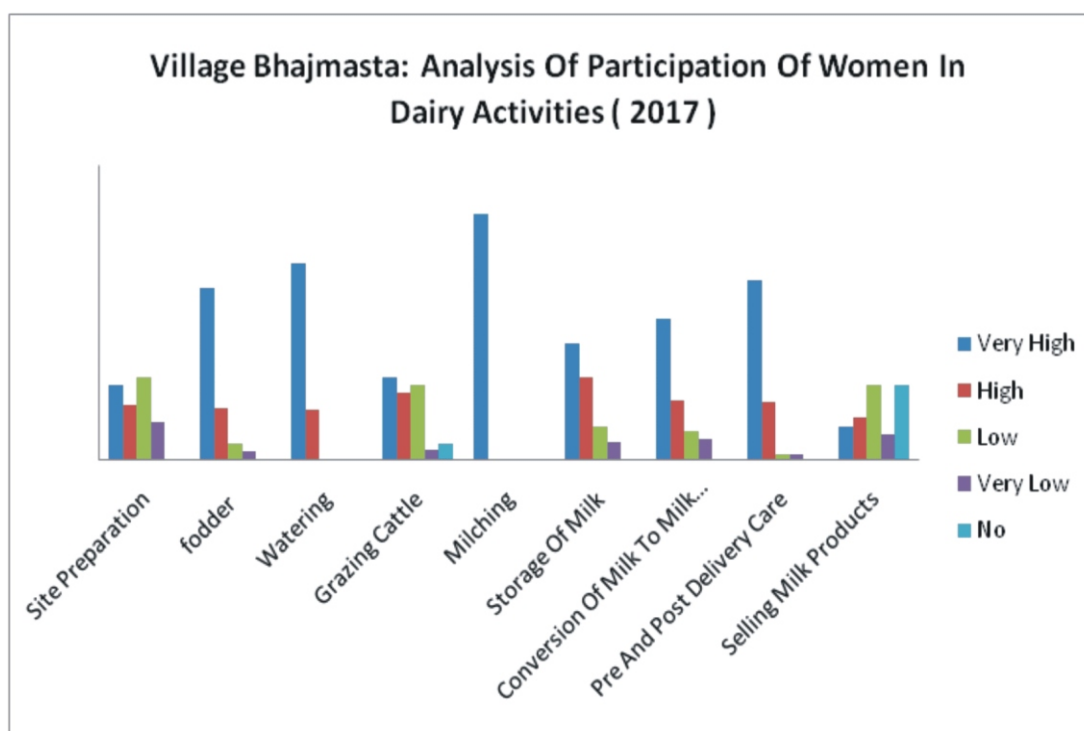
Further, regarding the participation of women in feeding fodder to the cattle, 70 % of the respondents were found to have a very high level of participation. The rest of around 3 % of the respondents were found not to have much of a participation in the activity which again may be due to the job being done by the children and/or good financial condition of their families. Regarding making arrangements of drinking water for the cattle a similar high participation of women has been recorded. Therefore, if we will have a look on the above table we could easily relate the fact that in our rural areas the livestock rearing been an important off farm activity, mostly run by the women and their contribution in income generation is immense in the rural areas.

1.7 DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS AS PER EXTEND OF PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN HORTICULTURE

Activity	Very High	High	Low	Very Low	No
Picking And Collecting Fruits	52	16	19	11	2
Cleaning	70	22	8	0	0
Packing	11	17	16	22	44
Marketing	0	0	0	10	90

Source: Field Survey, 2017
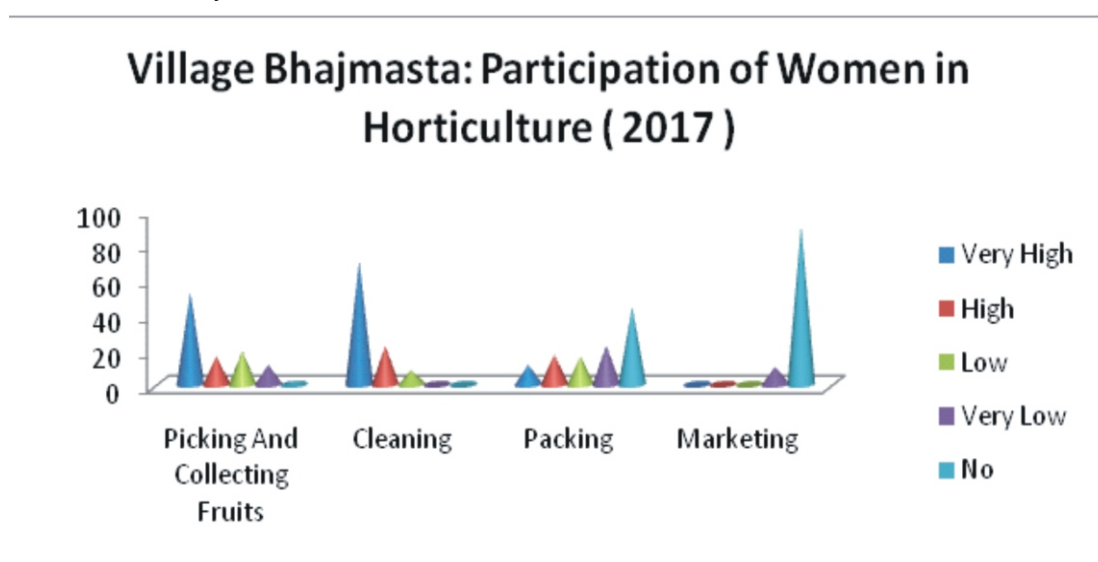
The participation of women in horticulture is shown in the above table. The geographical location of the study village under Ramban district having all the conducive conditions for the cultivation of various fruits. Fruits like apple, pear, peach, walnut, etc are grown in the study area and in various horticultural activities women are participating.. As evident from the table 52% and 16% of the women have very high and high participation in the process of picking and collection of fruits. Further, it is clear that 70% of the women have very high participation in cleaning of fruits especially separation of walnut from its covering. But as far as the marketing parts of the fruits are concerned women are having no participation in this and it is mainly done by the male in the study area.

TABLE 1.8 PROBLEMS FACED BY WOMEN IN AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

S.No.	Problems in Agricultural Fields	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Lack of Training	10	10
2.	Lack of extension services	14	14
3.	Cultural Constraints	10	10
4.	Financial Problems	35	35
5.	Lack of Extension services and financial Problems	31	31

Source : field study 2017

Village Bhajmasta: Problems in Agricultural Fields (2017)

Lack of Training 10%
Lack of Extension Services 14%
Cultural Constraints 10%
Financial Problems 35%
Lack of Extension services and financial Problems 31%
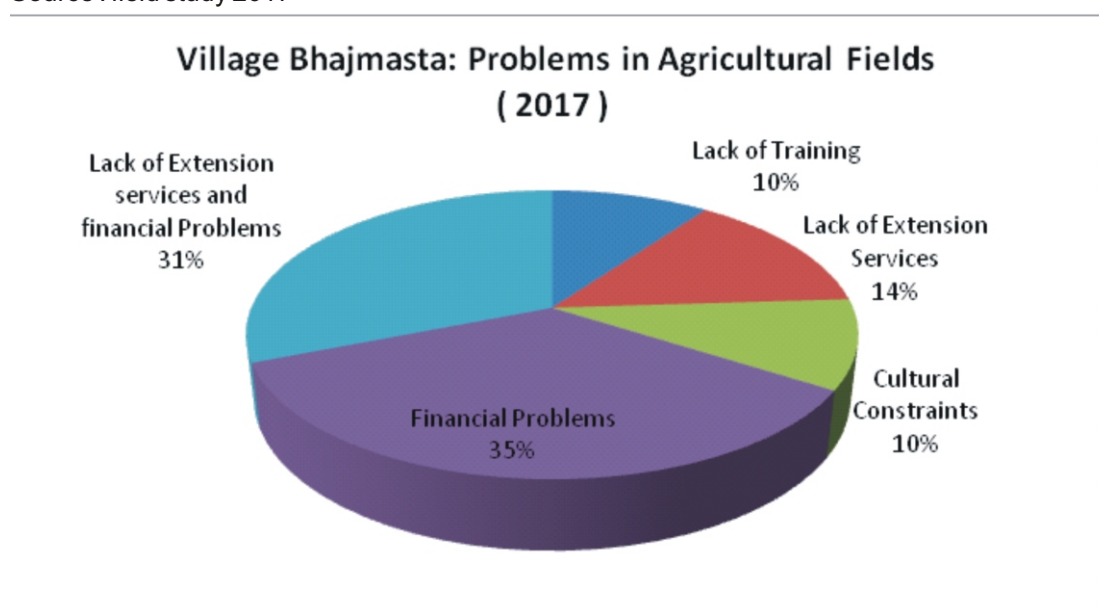
As it is quite evident from the above discussions that women are having their significant role in agricultural activities both in on farm and off-farm. There are certain problems which are faced by the rule women and if these problems can addressed properly the agrarian sector can grow in a better way. The problems such as lack of extension and financial services, lack of trainings, and cultural constraints all are taken into consideration. Table 1.8 depicts these problems in the study village where extension and financial problems are the major constraints faced by the women respondent and if these problems could addressed at a right platform the role of women in the agriculture sector would have a better and effective contribution.

Conclusions

As discussed earlier, rural women are the major working forces of household in the study area. They participate in almost all agricultural activities. Rural women are capable of changing themselves, reforming the society and motivating the next generation but there are problems that limit their involvement from different socio-economic and farm management activities. The fact that women play a significant and vital role in development of agricultural and allied activities but are ignored. Women's role is invisibility in agricultural production sector and it prevails all over the world. There are Studies conducted on women's role in agriculture in the developing countries and have indicated that women contribute far more to agricultural production but has hardly been recognized or acknowledged. Women's contribution to agriculture is approximately estimated to be around 50 per cent. They contribute as cultivators and are engaged in a number of farm operations with men either independently or jointly. The participation of women varies from carrying out actual farm operations in the field to supervision, management and decision-making in different agricultural operations. In many places, the contribution of women farmers towards agriculture is more than that of men. They are responsible for the entire management of livestock, starting from cutting, collecting, carrying and chaffing of fodder. The participation of women in agricultural operations varies from region to region, crop to crop, operation to operation depending on agro climatic variations. More explicitly, it varies greatly between high participation and low participation, and between arid and semi-arid regions. Even within a region, there are marked variations in women's participation in agriculture and other allied areas. Factors which account for the variations may be diversity of crops, cropping seasons, irrigation facilities, land ownerships, work-load in the household, socio-economic status etc. Investigations conducted in some selected States in India showed that women play a significant role not only in agricultural development and allied fields including crop production, livestock production, horticulture, post-harvest operations, etc, but also in non-farm operations and house-hold activities. The fact is that women's contributions in these sectors have either been largely ignored or inadequately acknowledged. Very few empirical studies have been made to examine the actual participation of farm women in agriculture and allied fields and more specifically in backward regions. India is a vast country marked by different regions with diverse agro climatic conditions. Hence, the vital importance of conducting region specific studies to gain clearer and deeper insights into the extent of women's participation in agriculture and allied enterprises, and shifts in policy measures to be made to help them play a productive role as effective partners, along with men in the process of accelerating the pace of agricultural and rural development. The present humble attempt to make a micro-level study in Bhajmasta village of Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir State is hoped that it will throw light on the dynamics of women's participation in agricultural development and allied enterprises.

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Jus Post Bellum and Human Rights at Crossroads

Ravi Prakash Vyas , Yugichha Sangroula**

ABSTRACT

International law is marching towards a triangular legal regime of armed conflict, encompassing a body of law unfoundedly neglected, referred to as jus post bellum ("JPB") or post-conflict law, which seeks to complement the twofold just war doctrine and law of armed conflict. The ongoing efforts to delineate a set of jus post bellum rules has challenged the notion that there need not be a third limb of the just war doctrine as such rules would be subsumed within the existing norms in international law. However, the exigencies of modern days' call for a clear and compelling set of post-conflict rules balancing between justice and peace. Human Rights regime is fascinatingly expansive in scope and interpretation and has a widely recognized principle of transitional justice and has rendered the regime an indispensable guide to seek justice in aftermaths of armed conflict. However, JPB cannot be subsumed within transitional justice, especially since the field is not without imperfections itself

Keywords : International Law, Transitional Justice, Post Conflict Law (Jus Post Bellum), Human Rights, Armed Conflict.

A. Background/ Rationale

The law of the use of force is traditionally founded upon the dual distinction between the lawfulness of the recourse to force (jus ad bellum) and the law governing the conduct of hostilities (jus in bello). Beyond the traditional couplet jus in bello and jus ad bellum, it is more important than ever to recognize post-war law as a concept in its own right, due to the exigencies of the 21st century. The broader aim of this paper is present the emerging dissent to the bipolar percept of law of armed conflict and to argue that international law is developing towards a triangular relation of the law of armed conflict, encompassing a body of law unfoundedly neglected in the course of history, referred to as post-conflict law (jus post bellum).

From the perspective of public international law, the law which applies to post-conflict peace building is scattered throughout a multitude of domains including to mention only the most recurrent international humanitarian law; international human rights law and international criminal law.

The concept of jus post bellum (hereinafter JPB) is garnering much attention in the international comity. A well-grounded and well-postulated domain of jus post bellum will determine the prospect of post-conflict justice in the era to come. A succinct illustration is the post-conflict Nepal whose contour is being reconfigured. Notwithstanding the ongoing

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constitution-making process, 'the old patterns of impunity [has begun] to reemerge'. While human rights regime, most notably its transitional justice mechanism has been in foreplay to lead the nation towards a comprehensive peace, 'human rights agendas [have] disappeared down a long list of other priorities.' The deluge of issues to be settled, such as integration of ex-Maoist combatants in the national army and sidelined the necessity of a truth and reconciliation committee enshrined in the Comprehensive Peace Accord (hereinafter CPA) of 2006. The delayed truth, in turn is being capriciously justified under the popular axiom of transitional justice 'transitional justice delayed is not transitional justice denied.'

In such circumstances, it is perennial to explore what hope a robust set of post-conflict rules could bring to a developing country in transition such as Nepal towards a sustainable peace. To serve its very purpose of strong moral obligations to be heeded by the parties to the conflict, JPB needs to be in par with the established rules of jus ad bellum and jus in bello. In turn, such achievement will depend on extensive studies to determine its constituents, principles to aid in interpretation and the legal limits, thereof.

Making sense of the term Jus Post Bellum

A luminary in the subject matter, Carsten Stahn defines jus post bellum as a 'broad regulatory framework which contains substantive legal rules governing transitions from conflict to peace, as well as rules on the interplay of these substantive rules in case of conflict.' Quintessentially, JPB aims to achieve a durable peace by helping the state return to its status quo ante but it also seeds the enhancement of its level of human rights protection, accountability and good-governance. The proposition of JPB is thus influenced by thinking on transitional justice which is both backward- and forward-looking.

JPB, in this sense, means the rules to secure justice when the actions that led to an armed conflict or actions carried out during an armed conflict have undesirable consequences after the its terminations. This definition should bring a wide range of issues under its influence, from war crime trials to state reconstruction.

B. The abandonment of a third limb of just war doctrine and JPB in the making

The just war doctrine is 'a collection of concepts and values, in other words standards for moral reasoning, on waging and fighting a just war, manifested through religious writings and international law.' Although the classical just war theory encompasses jus ad bellum and jus in bello, the plea for a triangular law of armed conflict does have some precedents in international legal history, traceable in the genesis of the just war doctrine.

The first illustration of its existence comes from a surprising source. The classic day law of nations was believed to be rather state-centric, but it seems to be an overstatement since Grotius, the proponent of modern International Law believed the quintessence of international law to be people, and not the states. Putting his well-known treatise De Jure Belli Ac Pacis (1962) into the present context, Grotius apparently envisioned a people-centric third limb of the just war

doctrine, in fact placing more stress on it than its predecessors . He suggested that 'the war must be considered just on the either side, not indeed in itself…but as regards the effectus belli (effect of war)'.

Francisco Suarez, argued in favour of extending the just war categories to a third period, namely the ending of justly declared and fought wars. Similarly, Immanuel Kant expressly divided the 'right of nations in relation to the state of war' into three different categories, namely a) the right of going to war; b) right during war; and c) right after war, the object of which is to constrain the nations mutually to pass from this state.

In his Classic Just and Unjust Wars, Michael Walzer, postulates a theory on war justice. He states, ' The theory of ends in war is shaped by the same rights that justify the fighting in the first place, most importantly, by the right of nations, even of enemy nations, to continued national existence and, except in extreme circumstances, to the political prerogatives of nationality.'

These jurists are testament to the anecdote of a three-pronged just war doctrine. Just like every sensible postulation that fades into oblivion, it is natural to ponder over what went wrong. The answer is not so trivial.

First of all, nature in which the doctrine of just war evolves which depicts a decadence of the so-called international political will in recognition of just effect of war. From 335 BC to about 1800 AD, there was preponderance of the first prong of laws of war, that is, use of force. The era marks evolution of the most important tenet in use of force, that is, just cause of war. This has the effect of an absence of a set of obligation that could give JPB an analytical cohesion and endow it with a distinctive moral quality. Second, at the time when jus ad bellum and jus in bello were being chiseled by a group of scholars representing so-called civilized nations post-conflict transformation rules were not supplemented by a definite set of rules, such as envisaged in the transitional justice system at the present, so as to satisfy the 'the requisites of generality and uniformity, on the one hand, and opinio juris, on the other, necessary for the emergence of a rule of customary international law. Third, the only post-conflict rule that was existent was strictly back-looking and thus the just peace approach, or peace in its proper sense was disregarded.

The two-limbed just war theory reverberates in the statements of some modern day scholars, as well. Verdirame, for example, while not totally disowning the significant of JPB, has opined that 'proposals for jus post bellum may seem a few decades out of date. When the distinction between war and peace and the discreteness of jus in bello are called into question, what is the point of inventing a new field of international law defined by the ever more elusive notion of war?' Likewise, Ruti Tuitel has asserted JPB 'seems too limited or inappropriate today because of the unstable or undetermined boundaries between conflict and post-conflict situations.' To the latter, a discussion is devoted to the distinction between jus in bello and JPB in this paper.

However, time is not a factor, referring to William E. Murnion who describes the historical

development of just war not as an organic evolution but 'a series of paradigm shifts in response to dialectic between transformations of values and technological, political, social, and cultural innovations.' For this matter, the exigencies of post-conflict situation of distorted visions of peace, as reflected by present day Nepal, calls for another paradigm shift in form of JPB. Perhaps for this very reason, even when there are assumptions that JPB may be a too little too late, a synchronized effort has been undertaken to delineate set of JPB rules. Scholars have been grappling with the issue ever since JPB was accorded its nomenclature by a military veterinary Micheal Schuck.

The exigencies behind JPB and why JPB is not subsumed within existing norms in international law

It is crucial to bear in mind that the entire existing legal regime of armed conflict devotes itself to providing rules of legality and legitimacy of conducts either leading to an armed conflict or during such a situation and there is a scant regard to the inherent tie-up between post-conflict phase and actual the conflict since justice for the unlawful conducts carried out by either of the parties of the armed conflict is to be dispensed in the peace (more appropriately the transition to peace) time following its termination.

In absence of a recognized set of rules governing this transitional period, peace settlements are, in the present day, conceived as mutual bargaining processes among states over post-war rights and obligations whereas customary international law is more or less inconclusive and rather incongruous about the process of post-conflict reconstruction and state building. This bargaining process, particularly in Nepal has been 7 years long and the TRC has been sidelined for supposed immediate concern of Constituent Assembly reelection.

Likewise, a set of clear post-war rules, it turns out makes pacifism that UN Charter cherished and promised, plausible again. Banta has pointed out that although 'many just war scholars do indeed view world peace as utopian, but this is the very reason that justice becomes so important for them; seeking it out is the only way to strive for a close approximation to the peace that an imperfect world allows.' JPB could have a deterrent effect upon armed conflict in totality as put by Larry May as contingent pacifism which holds that 'war is so likely to involve the killing of the innocent that the moral risks of serving in any given war are normally not worth engaging in war.' Invoking the pottery barn rule again, the heavy price to be paid by reconstructing the society scarred by armed conflict would make many state and state-like actors shun it.

Withstanding the nature of obligation JPB envisages, however, abstract moral prescriptions would not be sufficient. It should have a strong compelling force upon the parties to the conflict. Jeremy Waldron views that it would be fitting for an obligation to be supported by legality, otherwise a law-imbued entity could repudiate the obligation in question. UN has reaffirmed the importance of 'international rule of law' as a key element in conflict resolution and

peace building. Thus, JPB should be moral obligations backed by legality. At this point, the paper turns towards the discussion of existing rules in international law with traces of JPB and that JPB is distinct from jus in bello.

As enumerated by Eric De Brabandere and Antonia Chayes, there is no independent legal basis for JPB. For illustration, article 41 and 42 of the UN Charter authorizes the security council without or if necessary, with force. But the provision does not concern with post-conflict responsibilities of the parties to the conflict Likewise, human rights law, while generally associated with the guarantees a state gives its citizens in peacetime, also now applies in situations of conflict along with the law of war. Moreover, the neo-human rights regime is a shift from the traditional notion that only states can be held accountable for human rights violation to inclusion of non-state actors and individuals. Two areas within the human rights regime are of particular relevance. First is International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty's Responsibility to Protect and second is the transitional justice mechanism. However, even the route of human right is fraught with difficulties in the path of post-conflict peace. The responsibility to rebuild could not gain the deserved status within the 'responsibility to protect' framework. On the other hand, transitional justice mechanism is an example of 'justice v. peace' debate in post-conflict societies. More importantly, human rights framework cannot be the substitute for JPB because lex special is derogate generalis.

In a different light, an ambiguity exists in international humanitarian that has led to the assumption that JPB should be subsumed within jus in bello. It is often pondered 'when does an armed conflict end? To which ICTY, in its landmark Tadic judgement answered 'IHL applies from the initiation of such armed conflicts (IAC or NIAC) and extends beyond the cessation of hostilities until a general conclusion of peace is reached; or in the case of internal conflicts, a peace settlement is achieved'. The confusion ensues since it is not clear when a general conclusion of peace is reached at. A rescuing answer is provided by Larry May and Hilary Charlesworth who suggest that IHL after end of hostilities is jus ad termation belli and JPB refers to the phase when 'serious questions of peace building occur…when there has been some kind of truce of peace treaty.' In this sense, while the issue of clearing of explosive remnants of war is considered part of IHL even after end of hostilities, JPB would become in operation in Nepal after the conclusion of CPA in 2006.

C. Propositions for the JPB Framework

Notwithstanding the lack of comprehensive delineation of a set of rules, scholars worldwide have endeavored to contribution to the process.

The proposal of Bellamy include: Collective responsibility; objective responsibilities based on types of armed conflict and rights vindication.

Evans has identified task within JPB: proportional determination of justice and peace; burden sharing arrangement between parties; initiatives for conflict prevention, containment and

post-conflict reconstruction and reconciliation.

Stahn has suggested organizing principles based on assessment of international practice and treaty law: procedural fairness in peace settlement; prohibition of reprisal and aggression; reasonable reparations should be humanized; mutual reconciliation excluding amnesties for war crimes and individual and group responsibility.

Orend proposes the principles to be proportionality, rights vindication, distinction (between leaders, soldiers and civilians), command responsibility, reasonable compensation and compulsory disarmament.

Lastly, Larry May suggests that six principles should be at the center of JPB namely: rebuilding, retribution, reconciliation, restitution, and reparation, as well as proportionality.

Three of the above mentioned propositions have a compelling character within conventional and customary international law which are: proportionality, command responsibility and fair trial. In this regard, JPB seeks to consolidate existing norms in international law and reinforce their value under a single logical framework.

D. Convergence and divergence between JPB and transitional justice and the ongoing transition in Nepal

Iverson conceives that 'it is precisely because JPB and transitional justice will often, but not always, be practiced simultaneously, considered concurrently, evaluated together, and often confused that the need for a clear contrast between and definition of the two terms is so strong.'In contrast, May holds that, in effect, transitional justice is a part of a much wider JPB and more scholars then naught agree with this. However, for the sake of clarity in a infant JPB, this paper treats the two dimensions as being different.

To discuss about transitional justice, in both scholarship and practice, the field has generated an increasing interest in explanatory and evaluative studies. The field was the culmination of 'a recognized need to address legacies of violence and widespread human rights violations' in times of political transition. It is also said to have facilitated the 'third wave' democratic transitions in eastern Europe and latin America. The field has developed in three phases with a fourth phase in the making which accentuates the dimension of economic justice. The contribution of transitional justice in vindicating the violation of IHL through post-conflict accountability has been momentous.

The application of transitional justice notions remains far from impeccable. The field seeks to lay down 'to a broad set of initiatives that aim to redress the abuses of a past regime while creating a new normative order founded on a respect for human rights and the rule of law.' However, politicized and sectarian nature of transitional justice has distracted the field of its original path. Its backward looking tendency and lack of control over societies fueled by vengeance has weakened its genuine efforts. Although bargains between elite groups is needed to sustain the political transition the bargaining process is stretched to the point that concerns wronged victims of war are sidelines. But transitional justice remains adamant that transitional

justice delayed is not transitional justice denied. There is an actual politicization of how the prosecutor uses his discretion to make decisions.

As a result, transitional justice practice has been marked by an absence of conceptual clarity or definitional consensus.

Nepal has been in transition into peace since 2006. The CPA mandates the transitional justice mechanism by creation of a truth and reconciliation commission. It makes human rights 18 times alongside international law and Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) The latest TRC bill has received criticism from international community including International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) and Human Rights Watch (HRW), specially for its amnesty provision.

Between 1996 and 2006, the armed conflict left over 13,000 people dead and 1,300 missing. Victims of the armed conflict have constantly expressed their discontentment towards the flawed TRC bill. The overshadowing of post-conflict justice by agendas of elections and constitution-making reflects the dichotomy between the two pillars of peace and justice. However, there has been global appeal that pursuance of peace 'must not come at the expense of victims and their rights to justice.

Moreover, the TRC has been excluded from making recommendations for the prosecution of persons whom it might find, on the basis of its inquiries, to be responsible for serious human rights violations. It has authority to even give advice or input to the government on any matter concerning prosecutions, preservation of evidence, need for police investigations. Thus proposed commission's mandated authority has been claimed insufficient to support the difficult process of establishing truth and providing justice. Nepal has recently apprised the Human Rights Council in Geneva of setting up a transitional justice mechanism in line with international standards, incorporating the provisions enshrined in the national statute and past agreements among the parties.

Nepal's current position thus reflects the necessity to balance between the necessity of justice and peace. It reflects the misappropriation of discretion to formulate a consensual model for peacebuilding. It can only be a valid conclusion that existent of a set of rules specifically designed to guide post-conflict societies would have facilitated Nepal and similar conflicts towards sustainable peace.

Concluding thoughts

Emergence of a strong JPB is perennial for Nepal. Clearly, Nepal's obscure compliance to international humanitarian law is due to the fact that there is an absence of as well defined post-conflict rules that do not deviate from the foundation of jus ad bellum and jus in bello. Silence of law is freedom; it has led to politicization of post-war accountability. In such situation, even the domestication of Geneva Convention or the ICC statute would not yield a desired outcome.

If the realm of human rights were ever enough to ensure state responsibility, the doctrine

of just war would not have survived long. Having said that, the fact remains that JPB is fortunate to have a companion in the form of transitional justice and the latter inspires the rules that the former seeks to encompass. Jus post bellum will have to treat these fundamental elements of transitional justice as its building blocks. A widespread assumption is that transitional justice will be accepted as a legitimate and (value-) neutral tool, since it is guided by and based on international norms and standards, specially the universal human rights.

The complementary role between the two is clarified by Nadeau as, JPB deals with the moral considerations' of the armed conflict, hence, is based on the supposition of certain moral values that must not be infringed. These moral values emanate from the doctrine of just war as discussed previously. On the other hand, transitional justice is 'generally considered a legitimate response to systematic violations of human rights. It does not itself represent a special form of basic rights and liberties but instead corresponds to the efforts at justice from the penal perspective or from the perspective of the equitable redistribution of resources.

In turn, JPB would provide a direction to a derailed transitional justice by instilling the notions of forward-looking peace, balance between peace and justice as well as saving its policies and concepts from the susceptibility to misuse by powerful local or international actors. However, clear set of JPB rules need to be identified.

Throughout the paper it was discussed that JPB remains a compilation of sensible opinions of intellects and there is a tendency to contribute to the academia by describing its theoretical foundations. However, there appear to be minimum efforts to put together a consensual model of jus post bellum rules. Without clearing mapping, the scope of its application, it is unlikely that states might ever form a political will to have a triangular international law of armed conflict.

JPB if ever manifests into a recognized international law, would have a very ambitious scope. It would be a challenging task to identify the rules of JPB from those of transitional justice. Therefore, the former needs to be developed not deviating from the moral grounds on which both jus ad bellum and jus in bello are based. One possible model would be devising specific post bellum solutions to the specific breaches explained in existing rules of armed conflict. On the other hand, most of the jus post bellum principles would be derived or inspired from the existing ones.

Foot Notes:

Carsten Stahn, 'Jus ad bellum, Jus in bello, Jus post bellum?: Towards a Tripartite Conception of Armed Conflict' (2007) 17 (5) The European Journal of International Law 921, 921.

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Ibid, 183.

It should be noted that the accord states 'both sides agree to set up a High-level Truth and Reconciliation Commission through mutual agreement in order to investigate truth about people seriously violating human rights and involved in crimes against humanity, and to create an environment of reconciliations in the society'. The mandate of the TRC is thus to investigate violations of human rights and not humanitarian law.Interim Constitution of Nepal 2007 (2063), Annex: Comprehensive Peace Accord (signed 22 November 2006) para. 5.2.5.

Zachary D. Kaufman, 'Transitional Justice Delayed Is Not Transitional Justice Denied: Contemporary Confrontation of Japanese Human Experimentation During World War II Through a People's Tribunal' (2008) 26 Yale Law and Policy Review 645, 655.

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Ruti Teitel, 'Rethinking Jus Post Bellum in an Age of Global Transitional Justice: Engaging with Michael Walzer and Larry May' (2013) 24(1) European Journal of International Law 335, 335.

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Immanual Kant, 'The Science of Right (1790)' (Marxist.org 2003) para 58
<http://www.marxists.org/reference/subject/ethics/kant/morals/ch04.htm> accessed 26 March 2013.

Michael Walzer, Just and Unjust Wars: A Moral Argument with Historical Illustrations (3rd edn, Basicbooks 2000) 123.

'History of the law of war' (American Civil Liberties Union, 2004) 9
<http://www.aclu.org/files/projects/foiasearch/pdf/DOD004280.pdf> accessed 27 March 2013.

Guglielmo Verdirame, What to Make of Jus Post Bellum: A Response to Antonia Chayes (2013) 24(1) European Journal of International Law 307, 309.

Verdirame (n 19) 308; The post WWII phase saw a focus in the ex post facto problems during the prosecution of the war crimes. but the legitimacy of the war crime trials did not come from a set of post-armed conflict rules.

There was a conviction that post-war justice ought to be limited to war crimes trials and that

justice in the aftermath of war should solely be concerned with the trial and punishment of those who have violated the laws and norms of jus ad bellum and jus in bello. Stahn and Kleffner (n 14) 53.

Verdirame (n 19) 307; See Cf. Greenwood, 'The Concept of War in Modern International Law' (1987) 36 International and Comparitive Law Quarterly 283.

Teitel (n 10) 339.

William E. Murnion, 'A Postmodern View of Just War' in Steven P. Lee (ed.), Intervention, Terrorism, and Torture: Contemporary Challenges to Just War Theory (Springer 2007) 23.

He conceived it 'as a start' and proposed three principles 'repentance, honorable surrender and restoration. Camilla Bosanquet, 'Refining Jus Post Bellum' (2007) International Society for Military Ethics <http://isme.tamu.edu/ISME07/Bosanquet07.html> accessed 27 March 2013.

Stahn (n 1) 921.

Larry May, 'Jus Post Bellum Proportionality and the Fog of War' (2013) 24 (1) European Journal of International 315, 315.

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See Jeremy Waldron, 'The Rule of International Law' (2006) 30(1) Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy 15, 22.

United Nations General Assembly, Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels (30 November 2012) UN Doc. A/Res/67/1, para 18.

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A thorough discussion has been devoted to the interplay between JPB and transitional justice later in the paper.

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Gender Behavior in Higher Secondary Classroom : An Exploratory Study in Delhi

Priyambada Shah

ABSTRACT

The article attempts to understand the gendered behavior of individuals in an educational institution. The experiences of girls and boys in school and particularly classroom, on one hand, are influenced by the society at large, while on the other hand, impact on their 'future behavior and life outcomes'. The study was conducted in Delhi, where 50 students studying in class XI were identified. The students from the three streams- science, commerce, and arts (humanities) constituting 22 girls and 28 boys were selected. The study showed that through various activities gender mediate classroom interactions and behavior. The students were asked on varied aspects to get an overview on whether gender segregation is promoted within the classroom and in school. Further, the aspects of gender segregation, gendered construction of streams and subjects, teacher- student interaction were interrogated.

Keywords : Gender behavior, higher secondary classroom, gender segregation, construction of streams, teacher- student interaction, classroom

Introduction

Gender and classroom interaction affects student's educational and social experience. This has consequences for their future behavior and life outcomes (Francis 2004). There is a 'common sense assumption' that as girls and boys are biologically different so they have to behave in different ways. It follows that girls' and boys' different behavior in classroom are 'natural' and 'inevitable expressions' of sex difference (ibid). Davies (1989) discusses that children realize from a young age that the world is separated into male and female and gender has a vital role in their social identity. So, from young age children involve in 'gender category maintenance work' (Davies 1989). It consists of behaving in stereotypical manner, i.e., social roles that is appropriate to their sex, and patrolling other children to behave in such stereotypical manner. This results in gendered classroom behavior and interaction among children.

The dominant gender ideology of the wider society is reflected by school and further produces gender divisions. The school environment represents the society's sex-role socialization of children (Marshall and Reinhartz 1997). As Marshall and Reinhartz (1997) stated "classroom is microcosms of society, mirroring its strength and ills alike, it follows that the normal socialization patterns of young children that often lead to distorted perceptions of gender roles are reflected in classrooms" (334). Gendered classroom as Liu (2006) mentioned is characterized by male domination whereby boys dominate the classroom. Feminists' research explored that femininity and

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females are denigrated and marginalized in classroom because of its gendered environment. This suggest that "despite improvement in girl's relative academic success at the school leaving level, and despite suggestions in the press that boys are the new underachievers, girls remain second-class citizens in education and beyond" (Liu 434).

There are two inter-related aspects of everyday life of classrooms: first, classroom activities and second, teacher-student interactions. Social relations between teachers and students are filled with a range of formal and informal gendered significance. Schools teach boys and girls that they are different. This happens both through the 'official curriculum' and the 'hidden curriculum' (Nambissan 2005). Teacher's formal and informal instruction to students as mentioned by Nambissan (2005) is referred to as 'hidden curriculum' and it has a major impact on the achievement and future success of both boys and girls. Teachers believe that boys and girls have different attributes, interests, and needs. Therefore, it is through teachers and students that masculinities and femininities are mediated in classroom as they engage in the reproduction of gender identities for themselves and others.

Understanding the Behavior in Classroom: Varied Factors

In exploring the gender behavior in classroom, the study recognizes that there are varied factors influencing the gendered practices and expectations within the institution of family and school (White 1983). Scholars have highlighted the aspect of 'active masculinity' and 'passive femininity', whereby boys are positioned as being 'active', 'assertive', 'mischievous' and 'disruptive in bodily ways' while girls are seen as 'calming', 'polite', 'mature', and 'more responsible' (Arnot 2006; Renold 2006).

The gender segregation is further promoted in many cases by the teachers. Liu (2006) showed that teachers usually organize the classroom activities to be performed by dividing the class into two groups: boys and girls, mainly to divert the children's interest in opposite sex and for classroom management discipline. Thus, the use of construction of boys and girls as polarized opposite are emphasized in classrooms, and crossing the 'gender boundaries' serve as a 'shaming technique' and strengthen the divide between male and female (Nambissan 2005). Therefore, gendered classroom behavior supports the 'hidden curriculum' that make children to believe that girls are of less value than boys (Francis 2004). As Sadker and Sadker (1995) pointed out "at the educational level, where the instructors are the most credentialed and the students the most capable, teaching is the most biased" (168).

There are studies on how classroom is gendered and related factors (Renold 2006, Liu 2006, Nambissan 2005). However, there is dearth of study on how gender mediates the student's classroom interaction and behavior when the students are in higher secondary education stage (class XI). The purpose of the present paper is to examine gender classroom interaction and behavior in higher secondary stage where the students enter after choosing the stream (grouping of subjects) and the complex ways in which gender intersects the student's lives. Further, the paper is an endeavor to understand students' views on different subjects, and the gendered activities in classroom.

Methodology

For the purpose of the study, Kendriya Vidyalaya (KV) School in Delhi was selected from

where 50 students were identified who were studying in class XI through convenience sampling, so that around 15-20 students in each stream could form sample of the study. The school was situated in Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Campus. KV is a co-educational school affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). Out of 50 students, 15 were in science stream, 20 in commerce stream and 15 in arts stream. There were 22 girls and 28 boys and they are referred as 'respondents' in the present study. Of these 50 respondents, 34 were first generation and 16 were second generation in their families to enter secondary education.

For the purpose of the study, these 50 respondents were interviewed. In-depth interviews were carried out. In this stage, semi-structured interview schedule was used with questions on the classroom environment, participation in classroom activities, views on different streams and subjects, and interaction between girls, boys and teachers.

Results and Discussion

Gendered Practices in Classroom

In the present study, the respondents were asked on varied aspects to get an overview on whether the gender segregation is promoted within the classroom and in school. When the respondents were asked about the sitting arrangement in classrooms, they informed that boys and girls sit separately. Teachers do not allow boys and girls to sit together in classroom, but there were instances where teachers made boys to sit with girls to punish them. As one respondent revealed, when any boy make noise and do not study in class, teacher make that boy to sit with a girl to make him study and not to make noise. And after sitting with the girl that boy do not make noise or misbehave during that class or sometimes the whole day (SG-5). However, there were cases where boys use this punishment as an opportunity and use this to sit with girls. Boys wanted to sit with girls in classroom, so they misbehave in front of teachers so that as a punishment teachers made them to sit with girls.

Moreover, respondents informed that there is gendered division of labor in classroom. The girls were usually engaged in doing 'light' work or girlish work such as making charts for the classroom, or making rangoli (design on floor) on occasions or decorating the classroom. Whereas, boys undertake the 'hard work'. For instance, lifting the table or chair for teacher, or lift the bundles of copy from classroom to staff room or vice-a-versa. And respondents find this as relevant. As the girl respondents pointed out "We are asked to do work which we can do and boys are asked to do work which they can do. Boys will not like to decorate classroom or make rangoli… and girls will not like to hold heavy things and move from one place to another" (AG-8). So, one can note that there is an acceptance for this kind of gender division of work within the school premises. Further, when classroom responsibilities are assigned, girls are burdened with the workloads that are related to domestic tasks such as cleaning the board. But in contrast, teachers assign those responsibilities to boys which are associated with 'authority', such as monitoring the classroom when teacher is not in class. Hence, it shows that teachers unconsciously perpetuate and reproduce the gender relations in schools, especially in classroom and assures that girls are aware that girls are unequal to boys.

The respondents explained that teachers assign two monitors in classroom wherein the first monitor in all classes is always the boy and second is the girl student. They further stressed that

teacher prefer boy to be the first monitor as they (boys) have the "capability to handle the classroom in their absence" (CG-5). When the teacher is not in class and students make noise then it is the responsibility of the first monitor to monitor the classroom but when first monitor is absent then it is the second monitor who ask students to behave in a disciplined manner and maintain silence in class. This clearly reveals that teacher's behaviors communicate differential expectations for male and female students.

Gendered Construction of Streams and Subjects

In India, in higher secondary class, the students have to choose any one out of the three streams offered by the school- science, commerce or arts/ humanities. However, it is important to note that within each stream, there are certain subject combinations. The subjects are ability marked where students chose different subjects according to their ability. In depth interviews with respondents revealed that streams were characterized on the basis of 'hard' and 'easy'. The science stream was regarded as 'hard', 'difficult' and 'tough'; arts stream was seen as 'less hard' or 'easy'; whereas commerce stream was regarded 'neither too hard' nor 'less hard'. This is based on the perceptions and experiences of respondents. The construction of streams as 'hard' and 'easy' lead to their being labeled as masculine and feminine. The 'hard' stream (science) is labeled as 'masculine' or 'boyish' whereas 'easy' stream (arts) as 'feminine' or 'girlish'. Science is considered as 'hard' so it is 'suitable for boys', whereas, arts is considered as 'easy' so it is 'suitable for girls', however, commerce is considered as 'not so hard' and 'not easy' so it is 'suitable for both girls and boys'.

In the same way, subjects within the streams are labeled as 'masculine' and 'feminine'. Subjects like mathematics, physics, computer science, in science stream; mathematics in commerce stream and economics in arts stream were regarded as 'masculine' subjects. Similarly, subjects like biology in science stream, Hindi and sociology in arts stream are considered 'feminine'. With regard to mathematics, boy and girl respondents have different views. On the one hand, boy respondents (science and commerce stream) stated that mathematics is an 'easy', 'interesting' and 'scoring' subject. As one boy respondent narrated "I enjoy solving the problems. There is nothing to memorize. I just have to understand basic formulas and if formulas are clear it is easy to solve the problem" (SB-8). On the other hand, the girl respondents conceived mathematics as 'difficult', tricky' and 'difficult to do well and get passing marks'. As one girl respondent (science stream) pointed out, "Even after regular practice scoring good marks in mathematics is difficult. It is difficult to understand theorems and formulas" (SG-5). On being asked why girls have difficulty in understanding mathematics, respondent suggested that boys have the 'power' due to which they can understand mathematics, physics, and computer science more easily than girls. One girl respondent stated, "Boys have some magical power which help them to understand mathematics, physics, and computer science easily and girls lack this power" (SG-5). Thus, respondents highlighted that in science stream, instead of mathematics, girls prefer to opt for biology as a subject. As one of the girl respondents said "Biology needs mugging up and there are no theorems, calculations…so it is easier than mathematics. So when I had option I took biology" (SG-6).

This trend can be further noticed in commerce stream. One girl respondent from commerce

stream stated that "I found mathematics difficult so when I had option to choose between mathematics, Hindi or information practices, I opted for Hindi as it is easier and I can easily do well without hard work. So instead of mathematics I took Commerce without Mathematics" (CG-5).

In contrast to these, five girl respondents told that they like mathematics and found it interesting and easy and informed that mathematics require 'hard work', 'study with concentration' and "when study with full concentration it becomes easy to solve the questions". One respondent revealed "I like mathematics and enjoy solving problems… it was little hard in beginning but now I have learnt all the formulas and theorems, so now I am finding it interesting to solve" (SG- 12). Another girl respondent narrated, "Many girl students find mathematics difficult… but I like solving mathematical question. I like studying mathematics, and it require study with full concentration because a slight carelessness will make a major trouble in solving the problem" (SG- 5).

Even within arts stream there is construction of subjects as 'hard' and 'easy'. One boy respondent considered economics in arts as hard and interesting subject as it has numericals (statistics) which need thinking power unlike sociology which only require mugging up. As he narrated "I had option to choose between economics and sociology. I did not take sociology because it is considered as a girlish subject as there are more girls in sociology than boys, and also there is nothing much interesting to do in it. Economics is related to calculations and need thinking. So, there is something interesting to do in it. So I opted economics" (AB-4).

However, there were 15 respondents who do not believe in gendered construction of streams and subjects. These respondents viewed that 'interest' is an important factor while choosing the streams and subjects within it. These respondents said that both girls and boys should take stream in which they are 'interested in' and stated that 'interest' in stream is important to do well. They hold the view that there is no stream for girls or boys 'it just depend on their interest' and 'both gender can do well in arts, commerce and science if they study with an interest'.

Teacher-Student Interaction

The study revealed another interesting aspects. It was found that gender mediates teachers' perception of ability of girls and boys. The teachers gave more attention to girl students in mathematics class than boy student. Respondents informed that teachers view girls as 'not good in mathematics'. In the science stream, fewer girls have opted mathematics. So due to low strength of girls in class, the male teacher repeatedly ask the girls 'have you understood or not?' Teacher call boy students to solve the problem on board and ask others to copy it. But sometimes teacher call girl students also to do the question on board.

However, in commerce stream, teachers give more attention to girls while teaching as they are regarded as more 'disciplined', 'attentive' than boys. Girls even ask question which they have not understood but boys never ask anything from the teacher. One boy respondent told "Teacher know that girls are studying but we do not pay proper attention to what they are teaching in class. Girls even ask question which they have not understood but we rarely ask anything" (CB-7). Respondents argued that in commerce girls are doing better than boys, but in mathematics boys are scoring more

than girls.

In arts, the respondents informed that girls study and pay attention to what teacher taught. But the boys divert the attention of teachers. Boys most of the time bunk the class or are engaged in fight. Further, most of the time teacher's time is spent in scolding the boys in class as they are making noise, or disturb the classroom and as a result not much study happens in classroom.

From the above discussion it is evident that teachers tend to give more attention to girls in the classroom, as they are more attentive. But in the case of arts stream, boys are more notorious and disturb the whole class and the teaching-learning process gets disturbed. So the teacher's behavior varied from stream to stream.

Conclusion

Mixed gender classrooms are gender stereotypic. These consolidate the traditional gender attitudes. This lead to consequences such as low confidence and self-esteem among girls and they think of their future career aspirations in terms of their gender. Thus, classroom practices are not only highly gendered but also hostile to girls. In contrast, boys learn about leadership role and this boost their confidence. Consequently, in classrooms the gendered social practices tend to control the teaching- learning process and hence, restrict the development of critical thinking and action. Teacher police the boys to act in a masculine way and girls in a feminine way by assigning them work in classroom. In this way, teachers police children's gender and sexual identities in school. Therefore, school act as a social site where masculinity and femininity is played out.

Differential perceptions of teachers regarding boys and girls and their differential treatment of male and female students reveal that girls are marginalized in classroom. The gendered classroom environment has consequences for student's future lives and identities. Also gendered classroom restrict the interaction between boys and girls and therefore prevent them from learning from each other. In school, students learn value systems that are gender differentiated. Hence, rather than eroding the gender bias the school helps in perpetuating it and this will affect student in future such as their choice of occupational sectors. Thus, the school reinforces the gender- related problems among students and impact in their adult lives and in the larger society, rather than opening opportunities for them. The observed pattern of gender differences between male and female in classroom is the consequence of pre-existing differences in society and school is a place where they are made to act and learn according to their gender.

However, the study revealed that some respondents were challenging the gender stereotypes wherein girls were taking mathematics subject and found it interesting against the perception that girls do not take mathematics as it is considered as a 'masculine' subject. Also, girls and boys were taking help from each other in their studies. Moreover, the study has showed that gender mediates classroom activities but students are breaking the gender norms in some cases. Hence, there is scope for studies to look into how students choose their subjects at post- compulsory level; how subcultures are formed in class after students chose a particular stream and on what basis they form their peer group and how gender mediates in these processes.

Endnote

The codes were used in study while quoting the responses. For the purpose of convenience of the study respondents were randomly put in serial order according to the stream taken. The numbers are used in codes which meant the serial order in which the respondent was categorized within a particular stream. Similarly, some codes are used in alphabets to denote the stream taken by respondent in higher secondary education. The following symbolizes the alphabets used and what it denotes: S- Science; C- Commerce; A- Arts; B- Boy; G- Girl. For instance, SG-1 means S- Science, G-Girl, 1- Serial order. This means this respondent is a girl from science stream and is first in the serial order in the study.

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On the Bahavioural Dynamics of Investment : Empirical Research Findings

Amisha Gupta*

ABSTRACT

Present research work empirically investigates into the diverse behavioural patterns of investors and their consequent impact on the investment decisions. The study reinforces the interplay of behavioural dynamics in the complex investment decision making process. The present work has attempted to develop fresh insights and understanding about the investor characteristics in prioritising their options and choices about mutual funds depending on their income and occupation pursuits. Findings of the study provide interesting evidence about the influence of the personal attributes reflected in the investor preferences for the mutual fund products. Finally, the paper has also incorporated managerial implications of investment decisions based on the behavioural attributes.

Keywords : Mutual Funds, Investor behaviour, Income- groups, Occupation-groups, Investor preferences, Investment decision.

Introduction

Liberalization and globalization phenomenon in recent times has witnessed a paradigm shift in the capital market which has triggered quantum changes in the Indian financial framework. These developments have enhanced the importance of financial intermediaries and opened up the opportunity for growth and the development of various financial services. During the late eighties, the financial services experienced significant diversified growth accompanied by a high degree of specialization to cater to the needs of the corporate sector along with multitude of investors (Mathur 1996). As per the available evidence, the range of options to select financial services and products has not been adequately catered by the banking sector, necessitating the need for an alternative intermediary. As a result financial services sector has evolved rapidly in bridging the gap in the need fulfillment of the corporate clients (Kotak 1993). Thus in the emerging environment, there has been a growing demand for various types of financial services, particularly mutual funds.

The mutual fund industry controls a sizeable stake of corporate equity and plays a fundamental role in the determination of stock prices. This explosive growth has taken place despite the fact that about 90 percent of the earning population in India is unaware of mutual

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funds (Bhardwaj 2007). It therefore is indicative of tremendous potential that can be harvested in the mutual funds industry of the country. However, present performance of mutual funds market needs to be viewed against the recent regulatory reforms, intense competition, enhanced operational transparency and an expanding savings market. As per the revelations made by. SEBI-NCAER (2000 survey), the estimated number of households owning units of mutual funds (15million) were more than the estimated number of investor households (12.8million) parking their investments in shares and debentures. However, Indian mutual funds, after an initial euphoria, have registered sluggish growth. As such, higher income groups had largest share of their investments in mutual funds compared to the lower income groups signifying that mutual funds have still not become truly the investment vehicle for small investors. These findings highlighted the untapped potential of the mutual funds and the need for the asset management companies to design appropriate products mix so as to cater to the diverse needs of the small investors.

In the global scenario, mutual funds have proved to be a safe intermediary in capital and money market essentially due to the dispersal of risks and a satisfactory yield. But in the Indian context, investors appear to have been taken for granted, as a result of which unethical practices have crept in (Bansal1996).Though regulatory measures are in place for healthy growth and protection of investors yet lack of awareness still persists. It is thus imperative that the mutual fund investors are educated about the mechanism of mutual funds (Aggarwal 1996).In this regard, SEBI has been playing a significant role to instill greater confidence among the investors and steer the industry on a structured development path (SEBI 2002).

There are increased evidences to suggest that investor confidence has assumed a significant role in the economic development of a country, so retaining common investor confidence in primary markets becomes imperative to understand behavioural dynamics of investors (Gupta 1996). Considering the prevailing investor psychology and an inadequate response of the Indian mutual fund industry, the causes and solutions need to be investigated; hence the present study has sought to explore all causative factors.

EXISTING LITERATURE REVISITED

The existing 'behavioural finance' studies offer very little information about investors' perspective, perceptions, preferences, and attitudes. All efforts in this direction are fragmented. Some researchers have attempted to measure the mutual fund concept awareness level among the potential retail investors and their perception level about future performance of mutual funds industry. An attempt has also been made to identify the demographic and financial factors which influence their awareness and perception levels. Gupta (1993) in his survey has found that there

are changing patterns of ownership of different types of financial assets by households of different income and age groups. The findings also provide deep insights into the investors' perceptions and preferences for different saving instruments from the point of view of safety, risk, return, liquidity, portfolio diversification, distribution arrangement and customer service. The findings therefore suggest that initially the main support for private sector mutual funds emanates from the upper income classes. Hence tough competition between the public sector and the private sector mutual funds is evidenced in the upper income segment of the market. The argument therefore builds up that unless public sector mutual funds adapt to the new situation in right earnest, they may become poor man's mutual funds.

Sikidar & Singh (1996) attempted to enquire into the behavioral aspects of investors of the north- eastern region towards equity and mutual funds investment portfolio. It was found that the salaried and self employed constituted the major investor group in mutual funds primarily due to tax concessions. A contradictory revelation was made by Jatana & Bosire (2003) in their study based on the opinions of 80 respondents. It indicated that 46 percent investors in the mutual funds belonged to giant businesses. Rajeshwari & Moorthy (2001) made a survey of a sample of 350 potential retail investors to identify the demographic and financial factors which influenced their awareness and perception levels. The survey found that the awareness level of potential investors was not satisfactory. Bloomfield, Libby and Nelson (2002) have indicated that less informed investors tended to be over confident in investments. Providing more information to professional investors only could harm the welfare of less informed investors if the latter were not aware of the extent of their informational disadvantage.

Barberis and Thaler (2005) extensively deliberate on the approach of Behavioral Finance to emerging financial markets. They argue that some financial phenomena can be better understood using models in which some agents are not fully rational. Further, Sinha (2015) in his study shows that information based on investors' psychological bases viz., belief and preferences contribute more in the equilibrium process.

Gilker (2002) conducted a study in the context of mutual fund product awareness among investors. The study revealed that investors gave last preference to mutual fund products in their investment portfolio as compared to various investment alternatives such as provident fund, insurance, bank deposits, etc. As far as investment in mutual fund products was concerned it was found that the investment behaviour had some linkage with the occupational background of the investors. It was also found that mutual fund investors had their preference towards the buying of 'tax saving' mutual fund products.

Singh & Chander (2003) in their study attempted to understand the expectations of

investors from mutual funds taking cognizance of their age group and occupation. The paper identified key characteristics viz. 'past record of the organisation', 'repurchase of the units' by the funds, 'easy transferability' and 'return provided on investment by the fund' important in rating because they percieved the money earned and saved too precious to compromise on the safety of their invested money apart from receiving reasonably good returns over it. The detailed review of literature has revealed that performance measures of mutual funds include fund strength, monetary benefits, growth prospects and disclosure of information. Similarly studies have focused on the factors that influence the customer preferences for a particular mutual fund and evaluated these factors vis-à-vis the demographic diversity of the investors and the impact on their investment decisions. The present study is thus an attempt in the same direction and it aims to analyse the investment preferences of mutual fund investors depending upon their income level and occupation.

CONCEPTUALISATION AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PRESENT STUDY

The objective of the study has been to identify the mutual fund characteristics that influence the investment decision making of investors besides attempting to understand the impact of demographic differences in investment behavioural patterns on the basis of the income and occupation of the investor. It would therefore be possible to generate fresh insights for policy formulation for fund houses irrespective of being in government or private sector. And from the micro view, the paper seeks to throw light on various facets of small, retail investor's profile, investment behaviour, preferences, etc.

METHODOLOGY

The present study is based on the first hand data gathered from 465 investors of mutual funds selected through convenience and purposive sampling from the lists provided by the broker houses. After consulting the experts from various institutes like FMS (Delhi University), MDI (Gurgaon), The Business School (University of Jammu), etc. and pursuing the relevant literature, a questionnaire was prepared for collecting data regarding the investors' preferences towards mutual funds depending upon their demographic profile.

Sample and Data Collection

For the purpose of the study both primary and secondary data sources have been used. All those individuals who invest and those who intend to invest in mutual funds in the near future constitute the universe of this study. Initially some share brokers LIC and UTI agents and professionals were approached to establish contact with the general investors. During the course of data collection it was found that in general, less educated mutual fund investors were found to be ignorant and were not independent in making fund investment decisions. Rather they

were easily lured and motivated to get their investment made in any recommended mutual fund. Hence to make this study meaningful the focus was shifted towards educated and informed investors. This led the researcher to contact employees working in banks, LIC, UTI and other organizations. Also, professionals were found to be easily accessible. Of the selected sample, i.e. 500 investors, 465 responses were received and considered for the study leading to the response rate of 93percent and represented 20percent of the stockbrokers' clients. By comparison some American researchers have based their study primarily on 4percent sample of stockbroker clients and demonstrated that their results were representative of the body of investors at large (Lease et al 1974).

Data collection was supplemented by secondary sources like research papers published in journals, research articles in magazines, survey reports, doctoral theses related to the topic, newspapers, manuals and publications of 'AMFI' and websites related to the topic were also considered to substantiate the study.

DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

A structured questionnaire containing the defined queries based on the objectives of the study was constructed. After proper designing of the questionnaire and finalizing the procedure of the proposed study it was considered essential to pretest the questionnaire. This helped the investigator to carry on her work with clear notion and confidence. For pre-testing, 50 active investors were selected on a purely random basis and questionnaires were distributed to them. As a result of this, some modifications were made in the questionnaire based on the suggestions of the respondents. This pre-testing helped the investigator in framing the final questionnaire to collect the requisite information and helped to make the study realistic and meaningful.

Reliability and Validity

To study the perception of investors towards mutual funds, a 17 item scale was developed by the researcher keeping in view the past studies and various factors that are considered for the present study area in the mutual fund industry. A multi-item scale should be evaluated for accuracy and applicability (Malhotra etal 2004, Borman 2001 and Greenleaf 1992).Reliability refers to the extent to which a scale produces consistent results if repeated measurements are made (Thompson 2002, Sinha 2000, Wilson1995, Perreault and Leigh 1989 and Peter 1979).The validity of a scale may be defined as the extent to which differences in the observed scale scores reflect true differences among objects on the characteristic being measured, rather than systematic or random error(Chen 2001, Mctavish 1997 and Peter 1981). To assess the reliability of the scale for the purpose of this study, the technique of Internal

Consistency Reliability was adopted focusing on the internal consistency of the set of items forming the scale. A pilot study was conducted to find out the reliability and validity of the questionnaire. The sample size of the pilot study was 50 that was obtained from 110 questionnaires distributed, thus giving a response rate of 55percent. First, the measure of split-half reliability has been used wherein the items on the scale are divided into two halves and the resulting half scores are correlated. The results of this reliability test are presented in table 3.1. The coefficient alpha values of the split halves which came out to be .808 for part one and .822 for part two depict high correlation between the two halves indicating high internal consistency.

Further, the coefficient alpha or Cronbach's alpha is used to average out all possible split-half coefficients resulting from different ways of splitting the scale items (Brown etal 2002, Peterson 1994 and Chronbach 1951). The resulting Cronbach's alpha value 0.899 further supported internal consistency reliability of data.

To test the validity, the researcher has measured the content validity of the scale. The content validity also known as face validity is a subjective but systematic evaluation of how well the content of a scale represents the measurement task at hand. The researcher in consultation with the various experts from various academic institutes and mutual fund industry and also perusing the relevant literature, examined whether the scale items adequately covered the entire domain of the construct being measured. The deliberations found that the instrument developed was adequate as it did not omit any major dimensions. Further convergent validity is also assessed. It is the extent to which the scale correlates positively with other measures of the same construct. The value of correlation ranges between 0.340 and 0.763 which shows that the scale correlates positively with other measures of the same construct.

Results of Exploratory Factor Analysis

For determining the factors that influence the decision of the investor for investing in a particular mutual fund, data reduction technique of exploratory Factor analysis has been used. This multivariate technique used through SPSS (11.5 version) is most appropriate for the present study as it involves the examination of interrelationship among variables so as to reduce large number of dimensions into few manageable and meaningful sets (Stewart 1981). The study has used R-model principal component analysis with a Varimax rotation (Kakati and Dhar, 2002) as the number of subjects was greater than the number of variables. Varimax rotation is the best orthogonal rotation procedure (Stewart 1981) as it minimizes the number of variables with high loadings on one factor, thereby enhancing the interpretability of the factors (Malhotra, 2002). For the purpose of describing the underlying factor structure, the Eigen value one criterion has been

used to determine the number of components to be extracted for further analysis (Sharma, Kaur and Gupta 2001). The test of appropriateness of a factor analysis is KMO measure of sampling adequacy where high values, i.e. between 0.5 and 1.00 indicate its relevance for further analysis. Further, Bartlett test of sphericity has been used to determine correlation among the variables (Hair et al. 1995).

Results of the Factor Analysis (Ailawadi et al 2001 and Singh 1998) performed on the 17 variables related to the preference of investors towards mutual funds summarised the 17 variables into four factors that determine the preference of investors towards mutual funds. These include "fund strength", "monetary benefits", "growth prospects" and "disclosure of adequate information".

Hypothesis Testing

The following hypothesis was framed for the purpose of the study:

H1: The investors with diverse income and occupation profile exhibit varying investment behaviour.

In order to test the above stated hypothesis, the following two null hypotheses were framed:

Ha: There is statistically no significant difference between the income and the investment behaviour of the investors.

Hb: There is statistically no significant difference between occupation and investment behaviour of the investors.

The two null hypotheses were tested using Two-way ANOVA technique. Firstly, the responses of investors regarding the factors influencing their decision for selecting mutual funds were examined on the basis of their income and occupation. Table 1 depicts the responses of investors regarding factors influencing their choice for selecting a mutual fund based on their income.

Table 1: Factors Influencing Fund Choice (Income-wise)

Responses / Factors	I1 (8000–16000)	I2 (16001–24000)	I3 (24001–40000)	I4 (above 40000)
Fund Strength	4.1202	4.0522	3.8782	4.0
Monetary Benefits	3.5433	3.2739	3.2393	3.6111
Growth Prospects	4.1165	4.1217	4.1026	3.8889
Disclosure of adequate information	3.8287	3.95	4.1282	3.3333

Income- wise analysis as shown in table 1 reveals that "fund strength" has been given maximum weight age by group I1 (MS 4.12) and group I2 (MS 4.05) followed by group I4 (MS 4). Preference for "monetary benefits" of a fund have been acknowledged most by group I4 (MS 3.61) followed by group I1 (MS 3.54) and almost equally by group I2 (MS 3.27) and I3 (MS 3.23). "Growth Prospects" however have been given almost the same weightage by group I2 (MS 4.12), group I1 (MS 4.11) and group I3 (MS 4.10). "Disclosure of adequate information" has been adequately preferred by group I3 (MS 4.13) followed by group I2 (MS 3.95) and group I1 (MS 3.83).

In order to test the null hypothesis Ha, two-way ANOVA was run to find out whether there exist any differences in the preference of investors vis-à-vis different factors and different income levels and the results are exhibited in Table 2.

Table 2 : Comparison of Mutual Fund Preference Factors on the basis of Income with Two-way ANOVA

Source of Variation	SS	Df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Rows(Between factors)	1.024003	3	0.341334	6.945313	0.010205	3.862548
Columns (Between income groups)	0.081242	3	0.027081	0.551023	0.660059	3.862548
Error	0.442314	9	0.049146			
Total	1.547559	15				

The F-value between columns i.e. income groups of table 1 is 0.5510, which is statistically insignificant at 5% level of significance. The significance level (p-value) of 0.66 also indicates that the null hypothesis should be accepted. It reveals that with regard to the means of the factors influencing investors' choice of investment in mutual funds, different income-groups gave similar importance to different factors i.e., income groups do not differ significantly on factors that influence the investment decision. The F-value within factors of this table is 6.9453, which is statistically significant at 5% level of significance. Moreover, the significance level (p-value) of 0.01 also makes the researcher reject the hypothesis. This indicates that there is significant difference in the importance rating of different factors.

Table 3 depicts the responses of investors regarding factors influencing their choice for selecting a mutual fund based on their occupation.

Table 3: Factors Influencing Fund Choice (Occupation-wise)

Responses / Factors	O1 (Salaried)	O2 (Professional)	O3 (Business)	O4 (Retired)
Fund Strength	4.0890	3.965	4.3152	4
Monetary Benefits	3.4868	3.0533	3.6812	3.6111
Growth Prospects	4.1251	4.06	4.2174	3.8889
Disclosure of Adequate information	3.9205	3.655	4.0217	3.3333

The occupation-wise analysis indicates that the investors belonging to group O1 attach the highest rating to "fund strength" (MS 4.089) followed by group O3 (MS 4.3152) and O4 (MS 4) while choosing a mutual fund. Factor of "monetary benefits" was more sought after by group O3 (MS 3.68) and group O4 (MS 3.61) as against group O1 (MS 3.48) and group O2 (MS 3.05). Group O3 (MS 4.22) duly acknowledges the factor of "growth prospects" of the mutual funds. "Disclosure of adequate information" has also been adequately rated by group O3 (MS 4.02) followed by group O1 (MS 3.92) and group O2 (MS 3.66).

Table 4 depicts the results of two-way ANOVA between columns i.e., occupation groups of table 3.

Table 4: Comparison of Mutual Fund Preference Factors on the basis of Occupation with Two-way ANOVA

Source of Variation	SS	Df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Rows (Between factors)	1.100989	3	0.366996	11.8798	0.001754	3.862548
Columns(Between occupation groups)	0.376232	3	0.125411	4.059587	0.044365	3.862548
Error	0.278032	9	0.030892			
Total	1.755253	15				

The F-value 4.0596 (3, 9) is statistically significant at 5% level of significance. The significance level (p-value) of 0.04 also indicates that the null hypothesis should be rejected. This indicates that there is statistically significant difference among occupational groups with regard to factors that influence investors' choice for making investment in mutual funds as far as mean scores is concerned. The F-value within factors of this table is 11.8798 (3, 9) which is statistically significant at 5% level of significance. Also the p-value of 0.00 makes the researcher reject the hypothesis. This again implies that there is significant difference in the importance attached to different factors by occupational groups. The ANOVA results thus indicate that regarding the mean scores, the different occupational groups attach different importance to different factors and the importance rating of different factors also differs significantly. It can thus be concluded from the analysis that for the present study, mutual fund investors exhibit similar investment behaviour with regard to income whereas they exhibit diverse investment behaviour with regard to occupation.

MANAGERIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The findings of the study suggest that significant reforms need to be initiated by the fund managers to improve their fund performance and also the perception of investors towards mutual fund investment. Mutual fund needs to reposition its portfolio in a bigger canvas as the collective investment schemes. Participants in the industry need to understand that the only way to grow is to explore the opportunities across the segments, think differently and position strategically in that opportunity zone. Present findings suggest genuine introspection by the market participants and honest communication with their investors. It is therefore recommended that the investors of mutual funds need to be considered as customers of the financial products and served the way other businesses are serving customers globally. Customer orientation needs a qualitative improvement in the financial markets including mutual funds industry in India. Players in the market need to offer the investors with a wide range of quality products to choose from and serve them with astute commitment. Driving consideration has not to be limited to quick or predatory returns but by continuously innovating and expanding the reach so as to make the vast gamut of potential investors perceive mutual funds as an instrument to augment returns on their investment.

LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTION

All possible efforts were made to maintain objectivity, validity, and reliability of the study, yet limitations of time and financial constraints along with small sample size could be a restricting factor in universal application of the present findings. The validity and genuineness of the information had to be seen in terms of the knowledge and understanding of the investors.

Despite these limitations, the study will be useful to researchers, academicians, policy makers, mutual funds investors and other concerned agencies. Future studies on the role of Asset Management Companies to improve the performance of mutual funds need to be undertaken on a comparative basis. Apart from income and occupation, the interplay of age, level of education and savings level in comprehending the expectations of investors from mutual funds should form the basis of further research

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Understanding Academic Entrepreneurial Intentions : An Application of the Theory of Planned Behaviour

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ABSTRACT

The present study aims to examine factors influencing academicians' intentions to engage in entrepreneurial activities. With the Theory of Planned Behaviour as the base model, the impact of attitude, perceived behavioural control and subjective norms on academicians' entrepreneurial intentions was analyzed. Based on the sample of 133 faculty members in University of Jammu, the hypothesized relationships of the model were empirically tested by applying Partial Least Square Method. The results indicated that all the variables of theory of planned behaviour are statistically significant in predicting the academicians' entrepreneurial intentions, of which behavioural attitude was the strongest predictor of entrepreneurial intentions. The study also attempted to identify the potential barriers inhibiting academicians to engage in entrepreneurial activities, the results of which suggest that organizational and environmental factors are the major barriers preventing individuals to engage in entrepreneurial activities.

Keywords : Entrepreneurial intentions, Theory of Planned Behaviour, Attitude.

Introduction

Higher Education Institutions, innovation and research are directly linked to a nation's economic and social progress. Universities don't work in isolation, but are embedded in deep social systems. The evolving role of knowledge has had a great impact on the way Universities function. Until recently, the role of Universities was mainly to disseminate knowledge and undertake high quality research. However, today in addition to teaching and research, universities as institutions of learning are expected to contribute to the nations' economic growth and development (Laukkannen, 2003; Chang, 2009). Etzkowitz (1998) asserted that the first revolution of higher education came during the 19th and 20th centuries when in addition to education, research became a legitimate mission of institutions. Further the translation of research into intellectual property resulting in commercialization of research came to be known as the "third mission".

Policymakers, in this endeavor, are thus trying to promote and strengthen collaborations between the universities and their industry partners. Realizing the power of innovation, The President of India declared 2010-2020 as the 'Decade of Innovation'. The former Prime Minister of India set up National Innovation Council to capture multiple innovations that are happening in

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various domains such as government, R&D labs, universities and across sectors, to give an impetus to the innovation process in the country. The mandate of National Innovation Council, among other things, also calls for encouraging universities to innovate. The present government's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) is the government of India's attempt to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship.

It is well established that research in higher education institutions has led to establishment of new industries, products and processes (Mansfield, 1998) resulting in many universities across the world turning to academic entrepreneurship for marketing their research. Thus the phenomena of academicians becoming entrepreneurs by making new products and creating their own ventures for the benefit of the society is known as Academic Entrepreneurship. (Shane 2004).

Faculty entrepreneurship involves efforts to transform individual academic expertise and research results into intellectual property, marketable commodities and economic development, thereby enhancing faculty remuneration and professional status. (education.stateuniversity.com).

Globally, entrepreneurial behaviour is not an entirely new phenomenon among researchers and university teachers (Balazs, 1996). However, the concept of Academic Entrepreneurship in higher education institutions has, over a period of time, evolved into two distinct areas. According to one view, academic entrepreneurial activities comprise of commercial outcomes (Abreu and Grinevich, 2013) where focus is on spin-offs and start-up companies (Di Gregorio and Shane, 2003; Rothaermel, Agung, and Jiang, 2007; Van Burg, Romme, Gilsing, and Reymen, 2008). Once institutionalized and formalized, these commercial activities yield huge financial benefits both to the academic entrepreneur and to the institution/university. The other form of academic entrepreneurial activity is related (Abreu and Grinevich, 2013), with university industry linkages where academicians participate in collaborations, consultations, contract research leading to knowledge exchange with the funding organizations on predetermined terms and conditions bringing monetary benefits to the university, research group, and individual faculty member (Perkmann et al., 2013). The activities which comprise of commercial aspects are considered to be more entrepreneurial in nature with a high level of risk, time and skills involved (Hughes and Kitson, 2012; Klofsten and Jones-Evans, 2000; Philpott et al., 2011). The latter concept of Academic Entrepreneurship is more common and prevalent and has been in practice in universities since long (D'Este and Patel, 2007; Hughes and Kitson, 2012; Perkmann and Walsh, 2008; Zhang, MacKenzie, Jones-Evans, and Huggins, 2016). Currently, these activities, generally informal in the context of academic entrepreneurship, reap higher financial benefits than those which yield income from activities like patenting, spin offs, licensing etc. (Perkmann et al., 2013).

However, irrespective of the type of academic entrepreneurial activity involved in, past research points out that faculty varies distinctively in their intentions to carry out an entrepreneurial activity (D'Este and Patel, 2007; Hayter, 2011; Lam, 2011; Perkmann et al., 2013; Roach and Sauermann, 2010). Factors that influence their intentions and actions may be environmental, situational (Roach and Sauermann, 2015) and peers could also have a great role in influencing them (Bercovitz and Feldman, 2008; Nicolau and Souitaris, 2016; Tartari, Perkmann, and Salter, 2014; Van Burg et al., 2008). Few studies have also stressed that the local factors i.e the local environment may impact the academician to engage or disengage in a particular type of entrepreneurial activity. (Bercovitz and Feldman, 2008; Hayter, 2011; Libaers and Wang, 2012; Stuart and Ding, 2006; Tartari et al., 2014).

Since there is a considerable amount of difference in the nature, risk, time, outcomes and financial rewards between the formal and informal entrepreneurial activities, academicians tend to vary in their intentions to undertake entrepreneurial activities. Therefore, it is important to identify all the determinants which influence the behaviour of the academicians to get associated with an entrepreneurial activity. (D'Este and Patel, 2007; Hayter, 2011; Lam, 2011; Perkmann et al., 2013)

Further, though the nature of academic entrepreneurship has been discussed (Clarysse, Tartari, and Salter 2011; Fini et al. 2011; Meoli and Vismara 2016; Siegel and Wright 2015), only a few studies focus on the determinants of academic entrepreneurial intention (AEI) (Prodan and Drnovsek 2010; D'Orazio, Monaco, and Palumbo 2011; Goethner et al. 2012; Huyghe and Knockaert 2015; Mosey, Noke, and Binks 2012; Ozgul and Kunday 2015). Additionally, despite growing literature on the various challenges of academic entrepreneurial activities, there has been less focus on the barriers which prevent academic-industry collaboration (Bruneel, D'Este, and Salter 2010). According to Wright (2014), our understanding is limited because both the complex nature of academic entrepreneurship as well as the context in which it occurs, need to be understood simultaneously.

Thus, to fill up these gaps, the present study shall aim to analyze the influential determinants of academic entrepreneurial intentions, and to examine the same, the Theory of Planned Behaviour shall be applied as base model. The present research shall also attempt to understand factors inhibiting academicians to engage in entrepreneurial behaviour.

Therefore, the significance of this study is twofold. First, it will help to fill a void in the literature. Second, this study shall hope to expand our understanding on the influential factors encouraging/inhibiting academicians to engage in entrepreneurial activities.

The study shall be organized into following sections. Section 2 shall discuss the literature review, theoretical background and hypotheses development. Section 3 shall consist of

the research methodology followed by results and findings Section 4. Last section shall include discussions, conclusions, implications and future research.

Literature Review

Recently, with the growth of entrepreneurship in higher educational institutions, the research on academic entrepreneurship has also gained momentum. Numerous studies (Djokovic and Souitaris, 2008; Halilem et al., 2017; Mars and Rios-Aguilar, 2010; Meek and Wood, 2015; Simeone et al., 2017; Yusof and Jain, 2010) related to Academic Entrepreneurship can be found in the literature. While, the earlier studies in this field emphasized on evaluating the knowledge transfer activities of higher educational institutions and assessing the usefulness of such activities (Siegel & Wright, 2015), the recent studies, however are now focusing on determining the factors influencing academicians to engage in entrepreneurial activities.

According to Bird (1988), entrepreneurial behaviour is assumed to be a kind of planned behaviour, therefore, various theories of intentions can be applied to predict the same. To understand the process of entrepreneurship, it is pertinent to understand the antecedents of intentions, since intentions are considered to be the strongest factor influencing individuals to exhibit entrepreneurial behaviour. Several models including Entrepreneurial Event Model (Shapero, 1982), the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB) (Ajzen, 1991, 2001), Entrepreneurial Potential Model (Krueger & Brazeal, 1994) have been developed to examine the factors influencing the decision to engage in entrepreneurial activities, but the theory of planned behaviour has proved to be more effective and robust than any other model (Meeks, 2009).

The Theory of Planned Behavior given by Ajzen (1991) is an extension of the theory of reasoned action which from the past two decades has been central to human behaviour research and is extensively used in almost all the disciplines related to human behaviour (Armitage and Conner, 2001) including marketing and consumer behavior, tourism, health sciences, and leisure studies (Conner and Sparks 2005; Hagger, Chatzisarantis, and Biddle 2002; Lam and Hsu 2006; Lee 2009; Quintal, Lee, and Soutar 2010) as well as in the field of entrepreneurship (Kautonen et al., 2015; Lortie and Castrogiovanni, 2015; Shirokova et al., 2015). The theory asserts that the 'intention' to perform a given behaviour is the strongest factor determining individual's behaviour. Further, behavioural intention is a function of subjective norms, attitude towards the given behaviour and perceived behavioural control (Ajzen, 1991). The Theory of Planned Behaviour differs from the Theory of Reasoned Action as it highlights the important role of perceived behaviour control which considers the situation where people might have the intention but may not have the required resources or opportunities to perform the given behaviour. The model assumes that behaviour can be better predicted when individual's intention is combined with the perceived behavior control (Ajzen, 1991).

Subjective norms and Entrepreneurial Intentions

Subjective norms can be referred to as the perceived social influence from the important

referents (family, friends and colleagues etc.) to engage in a specific behavior (Ajzen, 1991; 2001). The underlying determinant of subjective norm is the normative belief which relates to inclination of a person to behave or act as per the societal expectations (Huesmann and Guerra 1997). Entrepreneurship Sociology has revealed that peers and role models are considered as significant drivers influencing individuals' entrepreneurial activities (Thornton, 1999). Existing literature in AE has also discussed about the important role of social environment in influencing academicians' intentions to engage in entrepreneurial behavior (Goethner et al., 2012; Huyghe and Knockaert, 2015; Obschonka et al., 2012; Obschonka et al., 2015; Rasmussen, Mosey, & Wright, 2014). It is believed that a person's decision to engage in entrepreneurial activity is largely conditioned by the societal pressure and the past initiatives of other academicians to start their own ventures enables other people to believe that engaging in entrepreneurship is socially acceptable, which further leads to increased entrepreneurial intentions (Obschonka et al., 2012). *Therefore, on the basis of the above explanation, we propose the following hypothesis*

H1: Subjective norms will positively influence the academicians' Intentions to engage in entrepreneurial activities.

Perceived Behavioural Control

Perceived behavioural control is very similar to the concept of self-efficacy given by Bandura (1997), it reflects the person's belief in his/her ability to accomplish the given task successfully (Ajzen, 2006). A set of controllable factors which facilitate or inhibit the performance of a given behaviour are the determinants of Perceived Behavioural Control. Based on the Theory of Planned Behaviour, it is believed that individuals with perception of having greater control over entrepreneurial behaviour and its outcomes tend to have more positive intentions to engage in entrepreneurial activities (Ajzen, 1988). Past research in entrepreneurship highlights the significant role of Perceived Behavioural Control in overcoming the perceived legal and financial uncertainties related to establishment of a new ventures (Obschonka, Silbereisen, & Schmitt-Rodermund, 2010; Silveira-Pérez, Cabeza Pullés, & Fernández-Pérez, 2016). Extant literature has confirmed that controllability perceptions decisively affect the individual's entrepreneurial intentions (Schlaegel & Koenig, 2014). Researchers (Alonso Galicia, Fernández-Pérez, Rodríguez-Ariza, & Fuentes-Fuentes, 2015; Goethner et al., 2012; Obschonka et al., 2015), recommend to test the influence of control beliefs on the entrepreneurial intentions in academic settings, for which we posit the following hypothesis:

H2: Perceived Behavioural Control will positively influence the Academicians' Intentions to engage in entrepreneurial activities.

Attitude

Attitude refers to an individual's perceived assessment (positive or negative) of the

behavior in question (Ajzen & Fishbein, 1991). Existing psychological studies have determined various important predictors of behavioural attitudes including the past instances related to the specific behaviour, which were either experienced by the individual himself or his/her close referents. Similarly, previous literature on entrepreneurial scientists asserted that first hand learning experience in various entrepreneurial aspects including setting up a new business, patenting etc. and the information and beliefs imparted by the network ties (support and suggestions from partners and other institutions) contributes in increasing scientists awareness about the commercialization potential of their research, subsequently leading to the desire to exploit their research potential by establishing their own firm (Goethner et al., 2012; Gulbrandsen, 2005; Mosey, Lockett, & Westhead, 2006). Besides, the past experiences, researchers have also stressed on the importance of outcome expectations in forming attitude (Ajzen, 2001; Fishbein & Ajzen, 2010). The scarce literature based on the studies of entrepreneurial attitude, individuals' inclinations and motivations indicate that people prefer to engage in those activities, which they perceive will generate positive results that are professionally stimulating and lead to commercial benefits (Goethner et al., 2012; Owen-Smith & Powell, 2001). Therefore, it is believed that academicians having positive attitude towards entrepreneurial activities tend to have more willingness to establish a new venture.

Thus, we propose the following hypothesis:

H3: Attitude will positively influence the academicians' Intentions to engage in entrepreneurial activities.

Data Collection and Research Methodology

Measurement

A survey instrument based on the existing literature on entrepreneurship and related theories (determining entrepreneurial behaviour) was developed. The scale items for attitude towards the behaviour were adopted from (Goethner et al., 2012; Miranda et al., 2017; Yang, 2013), items for subjective norms and perceived behavioural control and behaviour intentions were taken from (Feola et al., 2017; Kautonen et al., 2013; Miranda et al., 2017; Sieger and Monsen, 2015) and actual behaviour was measured using the recommendation of Davis et al. (1989) and Ajzen and Fishbein (1980). Following the above procedure a set of 12 items were selected to test the model. The responses of the survey participants to each of the items were measured on a five point Likert scale, ranging from 1 ("strongly disagree") to 5 ("strongly agree"). The survey was divided into two sections, wherein the first section contained questions about the demographic profile of the respondents and the second part had questions to measure the constructs that influence academicians' behavioural intentions to engage in entrepreneurial activities.

Sample and Data collection

The data was collected from the faculty members of University of Jammu, using an

online survey. An email invitation with link to the survey was sent to all the respondents, whose email addresses were taken from Directorate of Internal Quality Assurance, University of Jammu. The survey link was shared with 250 people out of which, 150 people participated in the survey. A total of 133 valid responses were obtained, providing a response rate of 53.2%.

Table I illustrates the demographic profile of the respondents which indicates that :

Table I

Demographics of the respondents

	Characteristics	Frequency	%
Gender	Male	62	46.61%
	Female	71	53.39%
	Total	133	100%
Age	Less than 30 yrs	0	0%
	30-40	28	21.05%
	40-50	61	45.8%
	More than 50 yrs	44	33.08%
	Total	133	100%
Position	Assistant Professors	67	50.3%
	Associate Professors	15	11.2%
	Professors	51	38.4%
Faculty	Arts	16	12.03%
	Social Sciences	18	13.5%
	Mathematical Science	17	12.7%
	Sciences	38	28.5%
	Life Sciences	19	14.28%
	Business Studies	7	5.26%
	Law	16	12.03%
	Education	2	1.5%

Data Analysis

To test the research hypotheses, Partial Least Squares (PLS), a variance-based technique of Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) was used. The analysis was conducted using Smart PLS software, Version 3.0 (Ringle et al., 2015). The ability of PLS to calculate path estimates and model parameters under non-normality conditions (Hulland, 1999) and its suitability for small and medium samples (Hulland, 1999) makes it a very useful and powerful technique.

The data analysis included the development and assessment of measurement model followed by the development of full structure equation model (Gerbing & Anderson, 1988).

To ensure the accuracy of the measurement model, the reliability and validity of scale items were tested. Table II indicates the factor loadings of each construct which shows that all the factor loadings were more than the reference value of 0.7.

Similarly, the Composite Reliability (CR), Cronbach Alpha and Average variance extracted (AVE) scores of all the constructs are indicated in Table III which shows that all the values are above the desirable threshold of 0.70 and 0.50 respectively (Fornell and Larcker 1981).

Table II

Item Loadings

Scale Item	Loadings
BA1- Commercialization of research within University is a good idea	0.794
BA2- Undertaking applied research will help to build my reputation as a researcher	0.819
BA3- If I have an opportunity I will like to take my research to the industry for the benefit of the society	0.804
SN1- My peers and colleagues think that I should undertake applied research	0.708
SN2- People in my professional network will appreciate my efforts of collaborating with industry for research	0.826
SN3- My scholars / students will put me in high regard because of conducting applied research	0.860
PBC1- I have enough knowledge about the issues confronting the industry	0.721
PBC2- I have enough expertise to undertake applied research	0.945
PBC3- I don't have enough resources available with me to undertake applied research	0.871
BI1- I will surely undertake industry oriented research	0.887
BI2-I will collaborate with the industry professionals for joint work	0.851
BI3-I will encourage people in my professional network to undertake applied research	0.877

The values of AVE square root and the correlation of the constructs are presented in Table IV which suggests satisfactory discriminant validity of the measurements. All the above results supported the validity and reliability of the scales, hence these scales were further utilized to test the structural model.

Table III

Composite Reliability, AVE and Cronbach alpha coefficient

Construct	Composite Reliability	AVE	Cronbach Alpha
Behavioural Attitude (BA)	0.847	0.649	0.73
Subjective Norms (SN)	0.813	0.597	0.70
Perceived Behavioural Control (PBC)	0.843	0.652	0.71
Behavioural Intentions	0.905	0.760	0.84

Structural Model

The structural model and the hypothesized relationships were tested by using PLS analysis. The statistical significance and the path coefficients were examined by performing bootstrapping procedure with 2000 iterations and the results of the same are summarized in Figure 2.

Table IV

Discriminant validity of constructs

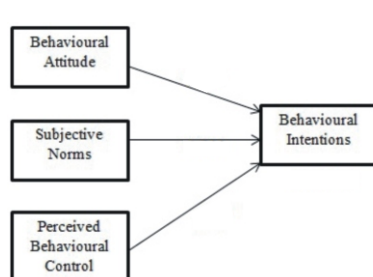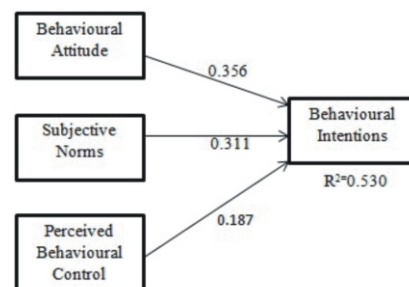|	BA	BI	PBC	SN
BA	0.806			
BI	0.641	0.872		
PBC	0.538	0.561	0.807	
SN	0.594	0.632	0.586	0.772

Figure 1 : The Theory of Planned Bahaviour

Figure 2: Results of Structural Equation Modeling

The results indicate that all the variables of theory of planned behaviour are statistically significant in predicting the academicians' entrepreneurial intentions. H1, H2 and H3 are thus supported. Moreover, the predictive power of the model is substantial, as it contributes to explain 53% of the variance of Entrepreneurial intentions. Thus, it can be inferred that academicians' behavioural intentions to engage in entrepreneurial activities are dependent upon the academician's perceived assessment (positive or negative) about the resulting outcomes, social influence exerted by academicians' referents and their perception of having greater control over entrepreneurial behaviour and its outcomes.

Discussion/Conclusion

The prime objective of the study was to understand the factors affecting academicians' behavioural intentions to engage in entrepreneurial activities and to examine the same, the Theory of Planned Behaviour was applied as the base model. Our findings empirically validate the ability of TPB to predict the Entrepreneurial Intentions of faculty in University of Jammu. The results revealed that Entrepreneurial Attitude was the strongest predictor of Academicians' Entrepreneurial Intentions followed by Subjective Norms and Perceived Behavioural Control.

These results are in line with the past research which established that scientists' decision to set up their own venture was largely dependent on attitude, social normative pressures and perceived behavioural control (Bercovitz and Feldman 2008; Fernández-Pérez et al., 2014; Feola et al., 2017;Goethner et al., 2009; Miller, 2017;Obschonka et al., 2012, 2015; Prodan & Drnovsek, 2010). Entrepreneurial Attitude has proved to be the best predictor of intentions which shows that the academicians' positive attitude towards entrepreneurial activities/behaviour will lead to greater intentions to engage in such behaviour, thus making it imperative to find strategies that facilitate and encourage academicians' to participate in collaborations, consultations and contract research with industries and convince them about the benefits and positive outcomes of doing the same. Similarly, the study highlights the important role of academicians' social and professional group in determining their entrepreneurial intent. However, these findings are inconsistent with the previous studies which suggest that only attitude and perceived behavioural control affect entrepreneurial intentions and subjective norms have no significant impact on intentions (Autio et al. 2001; Goethner et al. 2012). Further, the findings confirm a positive relationship between perceived behavioural control and entrepreneurial intentions, thus signifying that self-efficacy and controllability perceptions decisively affect the individual's entrepreneurial intentions.

The study also attempted to identify the existing barriers which inhibit academicians to engage in entrepreneurial activities. The results of the same are shown in Table V which suggests that organizational and environmental factors are the major barriers preventing individuals to engage in entrepreneurial activities. This confirms the crucial role of University/ Institution in supporting or inhibiting academicians' entrepreneurial activities (Leydesdorff and

Etzkowitz 1996). Thus, it is suggested that Universities should establish academic incubators, technology transfer offices or such like offices in order to facilitate and motivate researchers and academicians to create their own ventures on the basis of their research activities. Further, government and industrial support also play a pivotal role in encouraging/discouraging academicians to participate in entrepreneurial activities. Government should take a lead role in creating an environment that promotes academic entrepreneurial activities by formulating policies and strategies that encourage industry-academia collaboration and provide necessary support at the institutional and individual level.

Table V

Barriers of Academic Entrepreneurship

Item	Mean	SD
Individual Level Factors		
I have limited understanding of the functioning of the industry (related to my domain) and the issues that confront them	2.87	0.99
I have access to funds / facilities that can help me to undertake applied research	3.18	1.10
I do not have understanding of the rules and procedures related to intellectual property rights and filing of patents	2.52	0.98
My research interest does not need the understanding of the issues of the industry / society	2.15	0.94
Organizational Level Factors		
There is no research strategy in our University	2.70	1.07
There is generally a negative attitude towards commercial activities within our University	3.08	0.90
The bureaucratic procedures / inflexible management system does not encourage faculty members to undertake applied research	3.62	0.99
There is no policy in our University related technology transfer / commercialization of research	3.47	0.87
There are no incentives / rewards for the faculty members to undertake industry oriented research	3.58	0.92
Environmental Level Factors		
There is a communication gap between the local industry and our university	3.73	0.79
There exists a trust deficit among Industry professionals about the quality of research in our university	3.34	0.79
The political and legal environment of our region does not encourage collaboration with the industry	3.11	0.88
The state government departments does not involve University faculty in framing public policies.	3.36	1.01

Implications and Future Research

The implications of the study have both theoretical and practical implications. From a theoretical perspective, the study contributes to expand the existing literature on academic

entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial intentions. (Fini, Grimaldi, and Sobrero 2009; Fryges and Wright 2014; Ozgul and Kunday 2015). Considering the practical point of view, the study has implications at both the government and institutional level. Interventions by institutions/universities to strengthen the entrepreneurial orientation of academicians by taking a wide array of steps including having in place an incentive system, creating facilities for promoting such activities, facilitating collaboration between industry and academia etc must be made. The government can introduce financial policies that help researchers and academicians in creating new ventures. This can be done either by offering direct support through specific regional schemes or by incentivizing academic entrepreneurial activities by partnering with the Universities in equity building.

Our study has limitations which provide opportunities for future research. Firstly, the study was undertaken for the faculty members of only University of Jammu, thus future studies could assess the applicability of this theory with a sample of faculty members from various universities of the country across regions. Secondly, the existing research establishes the crucial role of culture in influencing entrepreneurial intentions, therefore, researchers could examine and draw out cross cultural comparisons with respect to academic entrepreneurial intentions. Further research could ascertain additional important factors explaining the Academic Entrepreneurial Intentions and behaviour.

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Significant Contributors towards Organizational Climate in SJVN Ltd.

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ABSTRACT

Organization can help its employees in achieving balance between work and life by implementing organizational strategies to control or reduce some of the major causes of stress. A positive and healthy employee oriented culture translates into increased job satisfaction and productivity. When satisfaction from job and work-life balance is achieved, people feel that they have attained the best possible quality of life. Organizational climate has influence on human performance through its impact on individual motivation and job satisfaction. For the development of any organization, it is necessary to make employee's feel good as employees are the key resources of an organization. Healthy work environment and organizational climate stimulates positive behavior of employees. Factor analysis has been used to identify the core factors contributing towards organizational climate. It was revealed that the organizational climate leans upon interpersonal relationship, participating management, formalization and standardization, training and development, monetary benefits, objectivity and rationality, scope for advancement, supervision at work, concern for welfare, safety and security. When the climate is employee oriented the employees will direct their behavior to attaining organizational goals.

Keywords : Organizational climate, job satisfaction, work life balance, factor analysis

Introduction

Organizational climate refers to the entire internal environment of the organization in which people of the organization work for the achievement of its goals. Organization is a structure of relationships among individual or it is collections of individual human beings for the accomplishment of certain objectives. It is the process by which the structure is created, maintained and used. Therefore, an individual is a basic unit upon which organizational interaction and climate depends. Individual is a product of hereditary and environmental factors which contributes to the overall development. Climate of an organization is just like the personality of an individual. Every individual has their own personality that makes him unique and different from other persons. Similarly, each organisation has an organizational climate that clearly distinguishes it from other organizations.

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Organizational climate is also referred to as the "situational determinants" or "environmental determinants" which have great impact on employee's behaviour. In an open and friendly organizational climate employees feel comfortable and if it is very formal, then such a comfort level may not be felt. Basically, the organizational climate reflects a person's perception of the organization to which he belongs. It is a set of unique characteristics that are perceived by the employees about their organizations which influence their behaviour. Thus, in a broad sense, organizational climate can be understood as the social setting of the organization. The work climate is not important only to the people who are wedded to the organization but equally important to those who are searching for better opportunities.

Organizations differ in their customs, traditions, in what is valued, their ideas, functions and how they operate. It is hard to make differences between organizations as we may be descriptive or evaluative in approach. Thus, there are organizational characteristics that help in understanding the organizations which strongly influences the organizational members, performance and overall effectiveness. Organizational Culture and Organizational Climate are important among them.

Some persons have used organisational culture and organisational climate interchangeably. But there are some basic differences between these two terms. Wendell et al., (2004) explains that organizational climate is people's perception and attitude about the organization - whether it is good or bad place to work, friendly or unfriendly, hardworking or easy-going, and so forth whereas the organization culture is the deep-seated assumptions, values, and beliefs that are enduring, often unconscious, and difficult to change. Climate is easy to change because it is built on employees perceptions. Thus, climate is often considered as relatively temporary, and subject to direct control.

Organizational climate represents how the employees feel about the atmosphere of an organization. Human beings are the assets of an organization and for the development of an organization it is necessary to make them feel good. Companies encourage a healthy organizational climate so that their employees feel free to innovate and outshine for their organization. Stressful climate decreases productivity of employees which directly affects growth of an organization. Sometimes, people can perform better in stressful climate, but it depends only on the attitude of the employee. So climate of an organization totally depends on feelings of the employees and feelings depend upon the attitude of individual employee.

Review of Literature

Bhowon Uma (1999) indicated that integrating and domination were the most and least

preferred styles for handling conflict. She concluded that the climate is a critical determinant of conflict handling styles. She further suggested that the changes in certain climate properties could lead to the use of effective strategies for resolving conflict (Bhowon Uma 1999). Allen, D. Tammy (2001) revealed that employees who perceived that the organization was less family-supportive experienced more workfamily conflict, less job satisfaction, less organizational commitment, and greater turnover intentions than employees who perceived that the organization was more family-supportive.It was concluded that   perception of employees regarding the extent the workplace environment is family-supportive appears to be strongly related to employee job attitudes and experiences(Allen, D. Tammy 2001). Jain et al. (2007) concluded that the attitude, feelings and emotions of employees towards organization play a vital role in determining their performance and behaviour. These in turn determine the success and growth of the organization. (Jain et al.2007). Srivastav, A.K. (2009) contributed to the formulation of a contingency model to help managers to effectively manage and develop employees for higher organizational effectiveness. It was concluded that the knowledge of organizational climate obtained in different parts of company would help better understanding, prediction, and management of employees' behavior across the constituents groups within the company (Srivastav, A.K. 2009). Zhang Jianwei, Liu Yuxin (2010) suggested that manager should pay attention to investigate and understand the perception of staff members for organizational climate and reduce or eliminate their negative perception by a large quantity of communication and expert guidance (Zhang Jianwei, Liu Yuxin 2010). Shobha et al. (2011) recommended that a change in organizational design based on the principle of distributed cognition and on team work centered structure is need. Further a change in managerial and organizational culture is also much needed (Shobha et al. 2011). Pelvin Kanten and Funda Er. Ulker (2013) concluded that employees who perceive a positive organizational climate are expected to show positive behaviour rather than counterproductive behaviours such as absenteeism, coming late, wasting organizations resource, slowing down, showing little effort, teasing colleagues, and attempting to physical abuse. Furthermore, organizational climate reflecting the psychological environment in the organization can be said to affect employee's behaviour, either positively or negatively (Pelvin Kanten and Funda Er. Ulker 2013). Apipalakula Chanya and Kummoon Dawruang (2017) suggested that the exchange of information between personnel should be planned through weekly or monthly events on the basis of creating a good climate for working. Further, to encourage loyalty and commitment towards successful endeavors, organizations should provide reward to employees who have worked successfully. These rewards could be in the

forms of monetary incentives, words of appreciation, praise or promotion (Apipalakula Chanya and Kummoon Dawruang 2017)

Significance of Research

Organizational climate refers to a set of quantifiable properties of the work environment, which are perceived by the people who live and work in it. Organizational climate has influence on human performance through its impact on individual motivation and job satisfaction. For the development of any organization, it is necessary to make employee's feel good as employees are the key resources of an organization. Healthy work environment and organizational climate stimulates positive behavior of employees. Factor analysis has been used to identify the core factors contributing towards organizational climate.

Objectives

A research objective is a clear, concise, declarative statement, which provides direction to investigate the variables. The present research aims to study the organizational climate in the context of Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd. The main objective of the study is to determine significant contributors of organizational climate.

Results and Discussions

Factor analysis is a collection of methods used to examine how underlying constructs influence the responses on a number of measured variables. Factor analysis attempts to identify underlying variables that explains the pattern of correlations within a set of observed variables. It is often used in data reduction to identify a small number of factors that explain most of the variance observed in a much larger number of manifest variables. The basic purpose of using the factor analysis was to find out the underlying constructs of the various variables which the employees found important in their organization. To make the analysis more easy and understandable, all variables related to the organizational climate were divided into two parts:

◆ Significant contributors of organizational climate

◆ Work environment as contributor of organizational climate

Significant contributors of Organizational Climate : A Factor Analysis

Factor analysis help in extracting few factors out of these 19 variables related to organizational climate. Thus, factor analysis was employed to reduce the large number variables to manageable and controllable factors. It is clear from the table(1.1) that the value of KMO is (.894) meaning that factor analysis results in reliable factors , knowing that values more than 0.8 are considered to be "very good" results. The Bartlett test appears to be highly significant with value .000 (< 0.05), and accordingly factor analysis yielded reliable findings. The results indicated that there was high correlation in these variables and fit for proceeding factor analysis.

Significant Contributors towards Organizational Climate in SJVN Ltd.

Table I - KMO and Bartlett's Test

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy		.894
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity Chi-Square	Approx.	3673.756
		171
	Df	
	Sig.	.000

Source: Data complied through questionnaire

The criteria, factor loading larger than 0.5 was employed to screen for retain the variables, and eigen value greater than 1 was used to select the factors. Consequently, five primary factors were derived from nineteen variables representing contributor factors of organizational climate (see Table II) A Scree Plot is a simple line segment plot that shows the fraction of total variance in the data. It is a plot, in descending order of magnitude, of the eigen values of a correlation matrix. Figure 1 Contains the table of loading factors restricted to only the five highest common factors. Scree plot clearly shows that only five factors have eigen value equal to or more than one and hence, can be retained. But it is difficult to know which factor is to be combined under these five factors. Therefore, varimax rotation has been used to carry out a factor analysis on the developed data. Factors loadings indicate the strength of the relationship existing between a particular factor and particular variable. Rotated matrix makes it easier to assign a number of variables with greater loading for a particular factor.

Table II - Communalities

Components	Initial	Extraction
Friendly and informal social relations	1.000	.544
High concern for each other	1.000	.688
Formal communication often passes	1.000	.683
People Communicate openly	1.000	.572
Actively involved in solving day to day problems	1.000	.698
Management always consult employees	1.000	.703
Represented various committees for decision making	1.000	.676
Higher- ups are never consulted for final decisions	1.000	.585
Encouraged new methods and creative ideas	1.000	.716
Organizational norms and policies are criterion of success	1.000	.624
Achieving goals is main concern	1.000	.692
Adequate training facilities	1.000	.678
Regularly sponsored for various need based training courses and conferences	1.000	.732
Refresher courses for updating knowledge	1.000	.738
Consideration for development	1.000	.733
Attractive salary and perquisites	1.000	.759
Short term as well as long term development	1.000	.546
Comparatively better salary and perquisites	1.000	.723
Mechanism to reward good work	1.000	.625

Extraction Method: Principle Component Analysis
Source: Data complied through questionnaire

Table III - Total Variance Explained

components	Initial Eigenvalues			Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings			Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings		
	Total	% of Variance	Total	Total	Total	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	7.529	39.627	39.627	7.529	39.627	39.627	3.669	19.310	19.310
2	1.560	8.209	47.836	1.560	8.209	47.836	2.788	14.672	33.982
3	1.457	7.669	55.505	1.457	7.669	55.505	2.258	11.884	45.866
4	1.161	6.111	61.616	1.161	6.111	61.616	2.085	10.976	56.842
5	1.008	5.303	66.919	1.008	5.303	66.919	1.915	10.077	66.919
6	.888	4.671	71.590						
7	.689	3.626	75.216						
8	.625	3.289	78.505						
9	.606	3.188	81.693						
10	.495	2.604	84.296						
11	.444	2.339	86.635						
12	.424	2.234	88.869						
13	.398	2.097	90.966						
14	.377	1.986	92.952						
15	.326	1.715	94.668						
16	.308	1.623	96.291						
17	.276	1.452	97.742						
18	.223	1.174	98.916						
19	.206	1.084	100.000						

Extraction Method : Principle Component Analysis
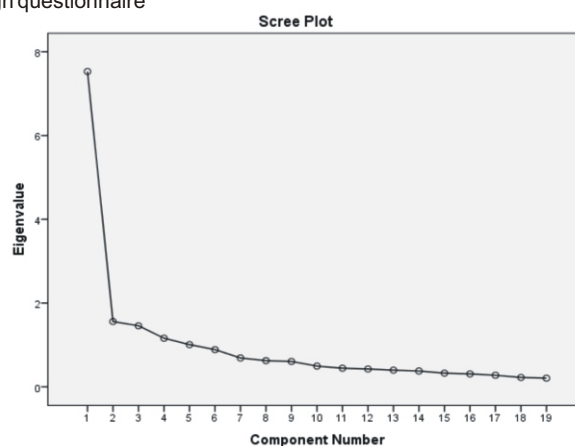
Source: Data complied through questionnaire

Figure I : Scree plot

Table IV - Significant contributors of Organizational Climate: Rotated Component Matrix

	Component				
	1	2	3	4	5
Regularly sponsored need based training courses and conferences	**.813**	.151	-.017	.201	.086
Adequate training facilities	**.775**	.225	.121	.106	-.001
Refresher courses for updating knowledge	**.734**	.275	.277	.102	.190
Development is given due Consideration	**.712**	.276	.274	.088	.259
Short term as well as long term development is cared	**.571**	.034	.307	.339	.100
Management always consult employees	.274	**.752**	.224	.095	.052
Employees are actively involved in solving day to day problems	.142	**.710**	.302	.289	-.001
new methods and creative ideas are encouraged	.448	**.678**	-.030	.045	.230
Employees represented various committees for decision making	.150	**.661**	.174	.128	.412
Attractive salary and perquisites	.075	.166	**.851**	.031	-.018
Comparatively better salary and perquisites	.273	.125	**.749**	.005	.269
Mechanism to reward good work	.354	.311	**.536**	.270	.209
Formal communication often passes	-.008	.096	.016	**.792**	.214
High concern for each other	.397	.090	.093	**.710**	.096
People Communicate openly	.310	.383	-.009	**.516**	.249
Friendly and informal social relations	.414	.329	.120	**.471**	-.170
Achieving goals is main concern	.114	.008	.261	.098	**.775**
Organizational norms and policies are criterion of success	.271	.197	.298	.263	**.595**
Higher- ups are never consulted for final decisions	.016	.379	-.268	.133	**.593**

Extraction Method : Principle Component Analysis
Rotation Method : Verimax with Kaiser Normalization
Source : Data complied through questionnaire

Table IV indicated that the first load seems to be related with training and development which includes various need based training courses and conferences, adequate training facilities, refresher courses for updating knowledge, due consideration and short term as well as long term development. This factor could be named as training and development. It conveys that proper training and counseling are equally important for the existing as well as new employees.

They need continuous and frequent trainings to upgrade their knowledge. Training and development opportunities make an organization more attractive to potential new recruits who seek to improve their skills and the opportunities associated with those new skills. It helps the employers to get increased productivity, commitment, knowledge and loyalty from their workforce. The second factor find its identification with management which includes employees' suggestions, employees' active involvement in solving day to day problems, new methods and creative ideas are encouraged and employees represent various committees for decision making could be termed as participating management. It communicates that when employees feel respected and are appreciated, they become more productive more loyal and more engaged. The employees' involvement in decision making creates positive work environment. The third load is characterized by attractive salary and perquisites, comparatively better salary and perquisites and mechanism to reward good work. These variables could be labeled as monetary benefits. It indicates that attractive and comparatively better salary; incentives for better performance improve quality of work and personal life. The variables that load heavily on the next factor seem to be relating to interpersonal relationships. These were formal communication, high concern to each other, open communicate and friendly and informal social relations. Most of the conflicts resulted due to the poor communication in organizations turn to industrial unrest. Misunderstandings and confusions lead to negativity at the workplace. So improved communication, friendly and informal relationships among employees are essential to build positive work environment. The fifth factor is loaded with achieving goals is main concern, organizational norms and policies are criterion of success, higher- ups are never consulted for final decisions. Therefore, these variables could be named as formalization and standardization. It signifies that formalization and standardization are important to increase the rationality in SJVN Ltd. The uniform and fair policies, goal oriented approach, strict adherence to rules ensures disciplined approach of employees. Thus, it can be suggested that organizational norms should be maintained in SJVN Ltd.

The factor analysis has identified training and development as the major contributor factor of organizational climate in SJVN Ltd. Continuous employee development not only leads to better productivity, but also helps to earn employees loyalty. The participative management has been considered as the next factors which significantly contributes towards organizational climate and followed by monetary benefits and inter personal relationships in SJVN Ltd. Formalization and standardization have been ranked as fifth factor. The employees tend to stay with the organizations that care for them, not only in good times, but difficult times as well. To develop and sustain motivation level and organizational commitment, training and development,

participation in decision making, adequate monetary benefits, harmonious interpersonal relationships, standardized norms and policies are deeply essential for better climate, in turn better productivity.

Work Environment as contributors of Organizational Climate: A Factor Analysis

Table V - KMO and Bartlett's Test

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.926
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	4072.823
	Df	171
	Sig.	.000

Source: Data complied through questionnaire

Factor analysis was used to construct the few factors affecting organizational climate. Bartlett's test of sphericity and the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin measure of sampling adequacy are both tests that can be used to determine the factorability of the matrix as a whole. Table 1.6 displays that the results value of Bartlett's test of sphericity is significant. In addition,the KMO value was as high as 0.926 and the chi square of Bartlett test was 4072.823 at 171 degree of freedom and was significant. Thus, based on the results, it is appropriate to proceed with Factor Analysis to examine factors that are affecting organizational climate in SJVN Ltd.

The Table VI shows communalities which indicates that how much of variance in the variables has been accounted for by the extracted factors. The communalities indicate the amount of variance in each variable that is accounted for. The initial communalities are estimates of the variance in each variable accounted for by all components or factors. The extraction communalities are estimates of the variance in each variable accounted for by the factors (or components) in the factor solution

Table VI shows the total variance explained at three stages for factors that affecting the climate of an organization. Three factors were extracted because their eigen values were greater than 1. When these factors were extracted, then 60.216 percent of the variance would be explained. The results revealed that these three dimensions were acceptable and can be employed to explain the organizational climate in SJVN Ltd.

Table VI - Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
Objectively handling of grievances and complaints	1.000	.664
Clearly defined and structured job	1.000	.642
Adherence to service rules and policies to deal personal matter	1.000	.545
Objective assessment of performance	1.000	.603
Logical and fair promotion policy	1.000	.503
Adequate advancement opportunities	1.000	.630
Planned career development	1.000	.638
Open growth opportunities to all employees	1.000	.706
Supervisors uses competence and expertise other than formal authority	1.000	.555
Supervisors help to develop individual worth and interest in work	1.000	.665
Supervisors are employee oriented	1.000	.564
Supervisors prepare juniors for taking higher responsibilities	1.000	.583
Short term and long term facilities and amenities for all	1.000	.559
Organization ensures that employees enjoy the work	1.000	.609
Comparable welfare facilities	1.000	.539
Safe and sound working environment	1.000	.594
Adequate job security	1.000	.570
Provides safety knowledge	1.000	.643
Organization take care overall well being of employees	1.000	.615

Extraction Method: Principle Component Analysis

Source: Data complied through questionnaire

Significant Contributors towards Organizational Climate in SJVN Ltd.

Table VII - Total Variance Explained

Component	Initial Eigenvalues			Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings			Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings		
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	8.647	45.509	45.509	8.647	45.509	45.509	4.612	24.273	24.273
2	1.558	8.198	53.707	1.558	8.198	53.707	3.454	18.180	42.453
3	1.222	6.430	60.138	1.222	6.430	60.138	3.360	17.684	60.138
4	.857	4.512	64.649						
5	.691	3.636	68.285						
6	.683	3.597	71.882						
7	.633	3.332	75.214						
8	.617	3.250	78.463						
9	.570	2.999	81.462						
10	.512	2.696	84.158						
11	.478	2.514	86.672						
12	.423	2.226	88.898						
13	.382	2.009	90.907						
14	.368	1.934	92.841						
15	.344	1.808	94.650						
16	.287	1.512	96.162						
17	.273	1.437	97.599						
18	.254	1.337	98.936						
19	.202	1.064	100.000						

Extraction Method: Principle Component Analysis

Source: Data complied through questionnaire

Figure 2 : Scree plot
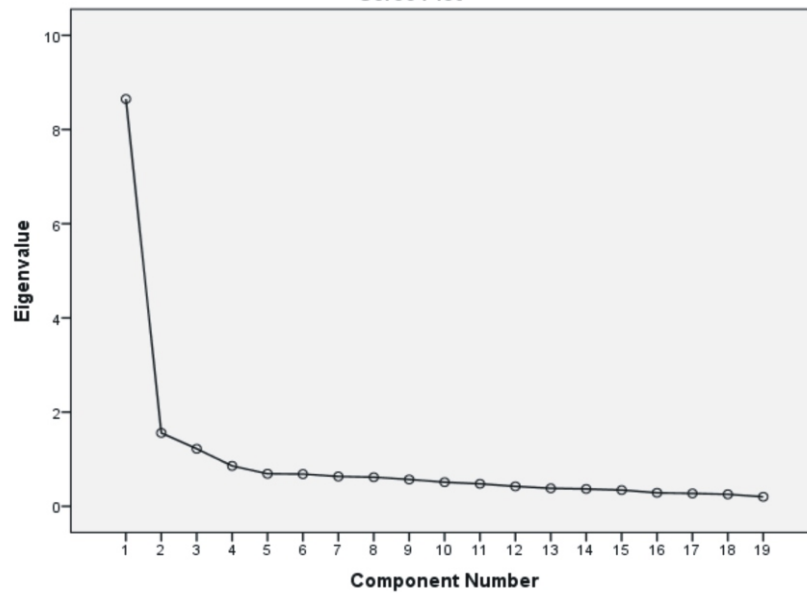
Table VIII - Work Environment as contributors of Organizational Climate: Rotated Component Matrix

	Component		
	1	2	3
Open growth opportunities to all employees	**.782**	.115	.284
Clearly defiend and structured job	**.759**	.216	.140
Planned career development	**.748**	.133	.246
Adherence to service rules and policies to deal personal matter	**.692**	.253	-.041
Objectively handling of grievances and complaints	**.686**	.356	.259
Objective assessment of performance	**.683**	.256	.265
Adequate advancement opportunities	**.614**	.278	.419
Logical and fair promotion policy	**.579**	.283	.297
Supervisors prepare juniors for taking higher responsibilities	.102	**.738**	.168
Supervisors help to develop individual worth and interest in work	.383	**.697**	.179
Supervisors are employee oriented	.270	**.690**	.123
Supervisors uses competence and expertise other than formal authority	.207	**.674**	.240
all Organization ensures that employees enjoy the work	.302	**.610**	.382
Short term and long term facilities and amenities for all	.244	**.575**	.411
Provides safety knowledge	.185	.132	**.769**
Adequate job security	.051	.212	**.723**
Safe and sound working environment	.306	.164	**.688**
Organization take care overall well being of employees	.282	.343	**.646**
Comparable welfare facilities	.319	.306	**.587**

Extraction Method: Principle Component Analysis
Rotation Method: Verimax with Kaiser Normalization
Source: Data complied through questionnaire

Significant Contributors towards Organizational Climate in SJVN Ltd.

In Figure 2 scree plot clearly shows that how many factors can be retained. Table 1.9 elucidates the rotated component matrix. The rotation sums of the squared loading represent the distribution of the variance after the varimax rotation. The varimax rotation tries to maximize the variance of each of the factor. The factor analysis has combined 19 variables under three major factors which have emerged as significant contributors. First factor seems to be related with the growth opportunities to the employees, clearly defined and structured job, planned career development, adherence to service rules and policies to deal personal matter, objectively handling of grievances and complaints, objective assessment of performance, advancement opportunities, logical and fair promotion policy. This factor could be termed as objectivity and scope for advancement. It communicates that objective and rational assessment of employees at the time of supervision, performance appraisal, handling of grievances and complaints encourage the efficient employees to perform well. Adequate advancement opportunities, logical and fair promotion policy also helps in attracting and retaining the talent in SJVN Ltd. The next load is represented by variables such as supervisors prepare juniors for taking higher responsibilities, supervisors help to develop individual worth and interest in work, supervisors are employee oriented, supervisors uses competence and expertise other than formal authority, all organization ensures that employees enjoy the work, short term and long term facilities and amenities for all. These variables could be regarded as supervision at work and concern for welfare. It points out that supervisor needs to be empathic and polite while dealing with workers. They should be fair and impartial in their decisions. It develops confidence of employees and raises their satisfaction level. The supportive behavior of supervisors and organizations concern for welfare of employees creates a pleasant working environment. The third factor finds its identification with variables like provides safety knowledge, adequate job security, safe and sound working environment, organization take care overall well being of employees, comparable welfare facilities. As these factors promote employee's safety and his family's welfare, so these could be regarded as safety, security and overall wellbeing. It conveys that SJVN Ltd. through secured jobs and adequate safety arrangements can facilitate employee's work- life integration. By taking care of overall well being of employees and providing welfare facilities SJVN Ltd. can promote the efficiency of employees and contribution to the higher productivity.

The organizational climate leans upon interpersonal relationship, participating management, formalization and standardization, training and development, monetrary benefits, objectivity and rationality, scope for advancement, supervision at work, concern for welfare, safety and security.

Positive working conditions such as proper motivation, warm environment, performance based reward system, cordial relations among co-workers, job variety, opportunity for growth and development, supportive monitoring and belonging to a team influence the employees perceptions. The leadership styles create supportive spirit, positive interpersonal relationship and supportive work environment. When the climate is employee oriented the employees will direct their behavior to attaining organizational goals.

Summary and Conclusions

Initially, the analysis has identified training and development as a major contributor of organizational climate. Continuous employee development not only leads to better productivity, but also helps to earn employees loyalty. Participative management has also been considered as a significant factor which contributes towards organizational climate. This is followed by monetary benefits and interpersonal relationships. Formalization and standardization have been ranked as fifth factor. Employees tend to stay with the SJVN Ltd. because it cares for them, not only in good times, but difficult times as well. To develop and sustain motivation level and organizational commitment, training and development, participation in decision making, adequate monetary benefits, harmonious interpersonal relationships, standardized norms and policies are deeply essential for better climate, in turn better productivity. Furthermore, while identifying work environment as a contributor of organizational climate, objectivity and scope for advancement is considered as the most important contributors towards organizational climate. It communicates that objective and rational assessment of employees at the time of supervision, performance appraisal, handling of grievances and complaints encourage the efficient employees to perform well. Adequate advancement opportunities, logical and fair promotion policy also helps in attracting and retaining the talent. The supervision at work and concern for welfare are also of prime concern. It points out that supervisor needs to be empathic and polite while dealing with workers. They should be fair and impartial in their decisions. It will develop confidence of employees and raise their satisfaction level. Supportive behavior of supervisors and organizations concern for welfare of employees creates a pleasant working environment. Organizations concern for Safety, security and overall wellbeing conveys that organizations through secured jobs and adequate safety arrangements can facilitate employee's work- life integration. By taking care of overall well being of employees and providing welfare facilities, SJVN Ltd. can promote the efficiency of employees and contribution to the higher productivity.

The organizational climate leans upon interpersonal relationship, participating management, formalization and standardization, training and development, monetary benefits,

objectivity and rationality, scope for advancement, supervision at work, concern for welfare, safety and security. Positive working conditions such as proper motivation, warm environment, performance based reward system, cordial relations among co-workers, job variety, opportunity for growth and development, supportive monitoring and belonging to a team influence the employees perceptions. The leadership styles create supportive spirit, positive interpersonal relationship and supportive work environment. When the climate is employee oriented the employees will direct their behavior to attaining organizational goals.

Fields Requiring Future Research

The scope of organizational climate is very broad and with the fast changing environment the expectations of employees from employers are also changing very fast. Many new areas of interest and importance can be explored today in this regard.

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Understanding Brand Trust in Online Retail : Measurement and Comparison

Anish Yousaf*, Varun Mehra**

ABSTRACT

Current study aims at: (i) to understand the concept and importance of brand trust in online retail and (ii) to measure and compare the brand trust of two Indian online giants: Flipkart and Snapdeal. Data was collected from 280 respondents using a structured questionnaire, pre-tested initially consisting of 28 items. Reliability checks were applied before data analysis revealing interesting findings. Flipkart (market leader) was found to be rated high as compared to Snapdeal (market challenger) in terms of dimensions on Reputation, Site Quality, and Service Quality whereas Snapdeal is trusted more on the dimensions of Size, Brand Trust, Purchase Intentions and Risk Aversion. At the end, directions for future studies and limitations are also discussed.

Introduction

Modern age is the age of online shopping. In 2017, global retail sales rose 23.2% to $2.29 trillion and are forecasted to grow to $22.73 trillion by the end of 2021 (eMarketer, 2017).Online retail industry in India has also grown at a swift pace in the last 5 years from around a market size of $204 billion in 2000 to $641 billion in 2016 with a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 10% and is expected to grow to $1.6 trillion by 2026 (IBEF Report, 2017).Lured by deals and discounts, young generation is finding themselves hooked on to online shopping (Alavinasab and Kamal, 2015; SivaKumar and Gunasekaran, 2017) discovering a new market open, 24x7 bundled with ease and convenience of doorstep delivery (Frasquet, Descals and Ruiz-Molina, 2017).On the other side of the coin, online marketing is a blessing in disguise for marketers that pose many challenges too. Primary reason being the trust towards companies in an online set-up that has the potential to impact customer buying behavior, customer loyalty and customer satisfaction that goes beyond the functional performance of the product and its attributes (Frasquet, Descals and Ruiz-Molina, 2017; Idrees et al., 2015). Past research has also

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shown brand trust as a decision variable to conserve long lasting relationship with customers (Frasquet, Descals and Ruiz-Molina, 2017; Idrees et al., 2015).

Out of this clutter, two questions can be asked: (i) what constitute brand trust for consumers in online retail? and (ii) does consumer trust towards online retailers differs across different dimensions of brand trust? These questions seems logical since Indian online retail industry has few companies able to make it to the evoke set of consumers despite being flooded with competitors. Therefore, exploring brand trust towards online retailers and doing a brand trust comparison could result into significant, and interesting, offerings. Findings of the study can be used by marketing managers of these companies to position their brands by improving the dimensions on which they are rated low by customers. The recommendations can be used by online retail companies to enhance customer trust which will lead to a positive purchase intention which can be helpful in futuristic growth of online retailers.

Objectives of the research

Focusing on research questions as discussed above, researchers in the current study have made an attempt to: (i) understand the concept and importance of brand trust in online retail and (ii) measure and compare the brand trust of two online giants in the Indian context: Flipkart (founded by Bansal brothers, funding of $560 million and market valuation of $11.6 billion in April 2017) and Snapdeal (founded by Mr. Kunal Bahl and Rohil Bansal, having a funding of $237 million and current market valuation of $6.5 billion in 2017).

Review of Literature & Hypothesis Development

Lee and Turban (2001) define consumer trust in internet shoppingas "the consumers' willingness to be vulnerable to the actions of an internet vendor in an online shopping transaction" which forms the basis of customers participating in electronic commerce (Frasquet, Descals and Ruiz-Molina, 2017; Pan, Ratchford, and Shanker, 2002). Online trust can also be defined as an internet user's psychological state of risk acceptance, based upon the positive expectations of the intentions or behaviors of an online merchant (Molinillo, Japutra, Nguyen and Chen, 2017; Rousseau et al., 1998). Brand trust helps to reduce customers' perceived complexity and uncertainty in the online context (Frasquet, Descals and Ruiz-Molina, 2017; Doney and Cannon, 1997), encourages consumers' activities on Internet (Idrees et al., 2015), helps in developing competitive advantage and increased customer satisfaction (Liao, 2015; Ratnasingam and Pavlou, 2003; Ribbink et al., 2004), helps in building relationships with customers and increase customer loyalty (Frasquet, Descals and Ruiz-Molina, 2017; Molinillo, Japutra, Nguyen and Chen, 2017; Reast, 2005), and result in increased website traffic (Pan,

Ratchford, and Shanker, 2002).

In the online retail context, there are several factors considered as predictors of trust in online vendors as proposed by previous researchers. Factors like consumer characteristics, past experience, risk perception, trustworthiness, reputation, website quality, perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, training, trusted seal, experts, peers, legislation and non-government association has significant effect on online trust (Salo and Karjaluoto, 2007). Banerjee and Banerjee (2012) shortlisted six most important determinants of online brand trust with respect to the Indian context, such as integrity, security and privacy, useful information about the product, convenience in use, web design and word of mouth.

Hypotheses Development

Based on the previous literature, brand trust in the current study has been studied as a function of company's reputation, perceived service quality, perceived site quality, risk aversion, perceived brand trust and size of company.

Customer's perceptions of a company's profile include reputation and size of the company which affects trust in the process of Internet shopping (Alam and Yasin, 2010; Jarvenpaa and Trantinsky, 1999). For example, larger companies are more likely to be around longer and more reputable ones might be more trusted by customers. Recent study conducted by Alavinasab and Kamal (2015) highlighted brand reputation and word of mouth as an important determinants of online trust. Grazioli and Jarvenpaa (2000) also viewed reputation and size as important factors forming consumer trust (Kim, Xu, and Koh, 2004; Koufaris and Hampton-Sosa, 2004). Lumsden and Mackay (2006) stated that factors like branding and size of the company and third party assurance mechanisms are important to assess consumers' online trust as postulated by Chen and Li (2009) that perceived reputation and perceived system assurance were significant to the level of consumer trust.

Customers' perceptions of a company's service quality affect trust in online shopping (Daignault, 2001). It seems to be the most significant factor of maintaining trust and building e-retailer - customer relationships (Kim and Tadisina, 2007; Dayal et al., 1999). A high level of service quality is likely to cause a high level of customer satisfaction which will lead to a customer's positive experience and understanding of the company (Kim and Tadisina, 2007; Molinillo, Japutra, Nguyen and Chen, 2017; Anderson and Fornell, 1994).The perceived service quality is related to gaining consumer trust and building long-term customer relationship by providing high-quality services (Grefen, 2002; Liao, 2015; Kim, Xu, and Koh, 2004), including guarantees (Grefen, Karahanna, and Straub, 2003), warranties (Grazioli and Jarvenpaa, 2000;

Pennington, Wilcox, and Grover, 2003), and customized services (Doneyand Cannon, 1997). A high level of perceived service quality enables customers to have more trust in the Internet vendor and hence a commitment for long lasting relationship with the company. Based on above discussions the following hypothesis were drafted:

H_1: There is a significant difference between population means for reputation dimension across Flipkart and Snapdeal.

H_2: There is a significant difference between population means for perceived service quality dimension across Flipkart and Snapdeal.

A high level of perceived site quality implicates that customers find it easy and convenient to find the information they need while making a transaction on the particular website. People tend to have a high level of trust in the online shopping portal when they perceive the website easy to use and of high quality.Perceived website quality also plays an important role in determining consumer trust in online shopping (Mohammadian and Ghanbar, 2014); McKnight, Choudhury, andKacmar, 2002;Kim, Xu, andKoh, 2004). Websites that are perceived as easy to use and of good quality, are more likely to build a high level of trust with consumers (Wakefield, Stocks, and Wilder, 2004).Based on above discussions the following hypothesis was drafted:

H_3: There is a significant difference between population means for perceived site quality dimension across Flipkart and Snapdeal.

Hofstede and Bond (1984) define risk aversion as "the extent to which people feel threatened by ambiguous situations, and have created beliefs and institutions that try to avoid these". Bao, Zhou and Su (2003) and Shimp and Bearden (1982) found that highly risk-averse customers are likely to search for more information regarding product quality when they make purchasing decisions and its' impact consumer buying behavior and decision making (SivaKumar and Gunasekaran, 2017). Seenkamp, Hofstede and Wedel (1999) found that people with a low risk aversion feel less threatened by ambiguous and novel circumstances and tend to feel excited by the purchase of new and innovative products. Recently, Ranaweera, Bansal and McDougall (2008) examined the effect of risk aversion as one of consumer characteristics on the purchase intention on the Internet and focused on the effect of risk aversion on the relationship between website satisfaction of consumers and their purchase intention (Bao, Zhou, and Su, 2003; SivaKumar and Gunasekaran, 2017).Based on above discussions the following hypothesis was drafted:

H_4: There is a significant difference between population means for risk aversion dimension across Flipkart and Snapdeal.

The perceived brand trust is defined as the extent to which consumers believe a selling company is honest and concerned about its customers (Doneyand Cannon, 1997). A company with a good trust indicates that long-term investments of resources, effort, and attention to customer relationship building have been taken into great concern by that company. Consumers tend to favor companies with a good trust in the electronic commerce as they perceive lower risk and uncertainty and know where to seek for help from the public if something really goes wrong.Lee and Turban (2001) state that the trustworthiness of internet merchant, the trustworthiness of shopping medium and contextual factors are important determinants for online brand trust (Gautam and Trikha, 2014).

Similar to trust, customers' perceived size of a company plays an important role in forming their trust toward Internet shopping. Large size is a signal to buyers that the company is successful and capable to compensate its customers even if there's a transaction failure (Alam and Yasin, 2010; Jarvenpaa, Tractinsky, and Vitale, 2000). In addition, companies with large size are believed to have more resources which enhance the level of trust in consumers.Based on above discussions the following hypothesis were drafted:

H_5: There is a significant difference between population means for brand trust dimension across Flipkart and Snapdeal.

H_6: There isa significant difference between population means for size of company dimension across Flipkart and Snapdeal.

Studying online purchase intention of consumers helps in determining consumers' intention to undertake a purchasing behaviour specific to internet. Moreover, reasoned action theory suggests that consumer behaviour may be predicted through intentions that are perceived in terms of actions, objectives and the context of this behaviour. Purchasing intention may be defined as a component of a consumer's cognitive behaviour revealing the way an individual intends to purchase a specific brand. Online purchasing intention is the context to which a customer shows readiness to undertake online transactions. Intention is often considered as a mediating variable between attitudes and behaviour. It is the individual's self-instructions to behave in certain way. It represents desires, wishes or willingness to behave. Childers et al. (2000) define intention to purchase online in terms of a threshold from which the consumer is likely to purchase a product or a service from a specific web site. Purchase intention may determine real purchasing behavior.

H_7: There is a significant difference between population means for purchase intentions dimension across Flipkart and Snapdeal.

Research Methodology

Selection of Online Retailers

In the current study, we focused on two online e-retailers named Flipkart and Snapdeal. The selection of these two companies was based on a small pre-test in which respondents were asked to recall (un-aided recall) any three e-retail companies in India. Data was collected from 55 respondents (aged between 18-30 years from a large private university). These respondents were familiar with e-retail and were frequent online buyers. The results of the first pre-test for measuring the unaided recall are as discussed in Table 1.

Table 1: Pre-test 1 - Measuring Unaided Recall of E-retailers

Name of the e-retail Company	Measured Recall Percentage	Rank (in terms of Unaided Recall)
Flipkart	**35%**	**1**
Snapdeal	**30%**	**2**
Amazon	15%	3
Paytm	9%	4
Jabong.com	6%	5
Other e-retailers	5%	6

It was observed that Flipkart was having the highest unaided recall of 35% followed by Snapdeal which was having an unaided recall of 30%, Amazon.com (15%), Paytm (9%), Jabong.com (6%) and other e-retailers (5%). Also, results of the pre-test 1 showed similarities in term of the market share of these companies. The select e-retailers are also the market leaders in Indian e-retail industry. As per Economic Times (2015), Flipkart has a market share of 45% (Gross Merchandise Value = INR 4 billion) and Snapdeal has a market share of 26% (Gross Merchandise Value = INR 2 billion). Therefore, findings of the first pre-test and secondary data related to the market leader position held by these two select companies give us a reasonable justification for their selection and these top two companies were kept for further detailed investigation.

Sampling Procedure

Units for the study

Units for the current study were defined as individuals familiar with online retail, the

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select companies and have made online shopping recently. For the same purpose, filler questions were asked to the respondents regarding their awareness of online retail, frequency of buying and reasons for buying online.

Sampling technique & data collection procedure

Data was collected from 280 respondents using the mall intercept method. Convenience sampling technique was used to select the respondents in the mall and every fifth customer entering the mall was approach and handed over the questionnaire only after making sure that they are familiar with online retail and had visited the online websites of the select online retailers recently. After removing outliers and half-filled questionnaires, 250 were kept further for data analysis.

Instrumentation

For measuring brand trust towards the select companies, a structured questionnaire was used consisting of 28 items on a Five point Likert scale anchored as Strongly Disagree (1) and Strongly Agree (5). The questionnaire was divided into two sections: A and B. Section A was designed to measure the demographic characteristics of the respondents, including two filler questions. Section B consists of items for measuring the brand trust towards the select companies which was defined as consisting of seven variables: Reputation (*3 items*), Size (*3 items*), Perceived Service Quality (*5 items*), Perceived Site Quality (*5 items*), Brand Trust (*6 items*), Risk Aversion (*3 items*) and Purchase intention(*3 items*). The items are as shown in Table 2. The questionnaire was initially pre-tested for errors or mistakes with a small sample of 15 respondents before the main data collection (see Annexure 1). Suggestions acquired via pre-testing were then incorporated into the questionnaire.

Table 2: Brand Trust Measurement

Variable	No. of Items	Taken From
Reputation	3	Jarvenpaa,Tractinsky and Vitale(2000)
Size	3	Doney and Cannon(1997)
Perceived Service Quality	5	Grefen, Karahanna and Straub(2003)
Perceived Site Quality	5	McKnight, Choudhury and Kacmar(2002)
Brand Trust	6	McKnight, Choudhury and Kacmar(2002)
Risk Aversion	3	Raju (1980)
Purchase Intention	3	McKnight, Choudhury and Kacmar (2002)

Source: Author(s)as above

Data Analysis and Findings

Respondent Demographics

The demographic section revealed that 60% of respondents were males, whereas 40% were females. The age group analysis revealed that 46% respondents fall into the age category of 21-25 years, followed by 15-20 years (32%) and above 25 years (22%). The monthly household income of the respondents was evenly distributed among the respondents. 35% respondents have a monthly household income of INR 20.000-50,000 whereas 33% have a monthly household income of an INR above 50,000 and 32% having an INR less than 20,000. All the respondents were familiar with online shopping and have heard the name of Flipkart and Snapdeal. Analysis of filler question regarding frequency of buying online revealed that 35% respondents do online shopping once month whereas 21% do shopping once in a week. There could be plenty of reasons for the respondents to shop online, however, respondents agree for 'availability of wide range of products' as the main reason by respondents to shop online (52%).

Reliability Check

Before proceeding ahead with measurement of brand trust, the reliability of each variable was individually measured using the Cronbach's alpha coefficient. The Cronbach's alpha value for each variable was above the cut off value of 0.7 (Nunnally, 1978). The Cronbach's alpha value for Reputation was $\alpha = 0.86$, size ($\alpha = 0.71$), perceived service quality ($\alpha = 0.75$), perceived site quality ($\alpha = 0.77$), brand trust ($\alpha = 0.74$), risk aversion ($\alpha = 0.80$), and Purchase intention ($\alpha = 0.71$). The values are as shown in Table 3.

Brand Trust Measurement and Comparison

Data analysis revealed that the mean for reputation (Mean = 4.07, S.D = 0.7) was highest amongst all the dimensions of brand trust for the combined sample followed by perceived site quality (Mean = 3.69, S.D = 0.6), purchase intentions (Mean = 3.63, S.D = 0.7), the size of company (Mean = 3.55, S.D = 0.6), perceived service quality (Mean = 3.49, S.D = 0.7), risk aversion (Mean = 3.43, S.D = 0.7) and brand trust (Mean = 3.37, S.D = 0.6). However, the comparison of brand trust for the two select companies yields significantly different results

(Table-3).

Table 3: Measuring Descriptive Statistics And Reliability

Variables	Combined Sample Mean (SD)	FLIPKART		SNAPDEAL		Sig (Two Tailed)	Cronbach Alpha (α)
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
Reputation	4.07 (0.7)	4.18	0.84	4.00	0.75	0.01	0.86
Size	3.55 (0.6)	3.61	0.66	3.31	0.73	0.00	0.71
Perceived Service Quality	3.49 (0.7)	3.57	0.70	3.53	0.62	0.61	0.75
Perceived Site Quality	3.69 (0.6)	3.75	0.64	3.67	0.63	0.27	0.77
Brand Trust	3.37 (0.6)	3.26	0.63	3.44	0.63	0.02	0.74
Risk Aversion	3.43 (0.7)	3.29	0.77	3.53	0.72	0.01	0.80
Purchase Intention	3.63 (0.7)	3.58	0.77	3.66	0,76	0.03	0.71

These two select companies differ significantly on the dimensions of brand trust. It was explored that online consumers place Flipkart more on the reputation (Mean = 4.18, S.D = 0.84) and size (Mean = 3.61, S.D = 0.66) dimensions of brand trust in comparison with Snapdeal's reputation (Mean = 4.00, S.D = 0.75) and size dimensions (Mean = 3.31, S.D = 0.73). Results of independent sample t-test revealed that thedifference between these two dimensions between the select companies was statistically significant (for both p<0.05). On the other hand, Snapdeal was placed high in brand trust variables as risk aversion (Mean = 3.53, S.D = 0.72), brand trust(Mean = 3.44, S.D = 0.63) and purchase intentions ((Mean = 3.66, S.D = 0.76) as compared to Flipkart's risk aversion (Mean = 3.43, S.D = 0.70), brand trust(Mean = 3.26, S.D = 0.63), and purchase intentions (Mean = 3.58, S.D = 0.77). It meant that customers are ready to share their private information with Snapdeal with greater ease as compared to Flipkart, which gives Snapdeal an edge over Flipkart. The intention of the customers to revisit and buy from Snapdeal was higher than Flipkart thereby indicating that loyalty for Snapdeal is higher than Flipkart.Also, the results of independent sample t-test revealed that the difference between these three

dimensions between the select companies was statistically significant (for all, p<0.05). In addition, it was also revealed that for both the online retailers there is no significant difference between perceived service quality and perceived site quality dimensions of brand trust. The summary of the result of hypothesis testing is as shown in Table No. 4.

Table No. 4.: Summary of Hypotheses testing

Alternate Hypotheses	Variable	Accepted / Rejected
H$_1$: There is a significant difference between population means for reputation across Flipkart and Snapdeal.	Reputation*	Accepted
H$_2$: There is a significant difference between population means for perceived service quality across Flipkart and Snapdeal.	Perceived Service Quality	Rejected
H$_3$: There is a significant difference between population means for perceived site quality across Flipkart and Snapdeal.	Perceived Site Quality	Rejected
H$_4$: There is a significant difference between population means for risk aversion across Flipkart and Snapdeal.	Risk Aversion*	Accepted
H$_5$: There is a significant difference between population means for brand trust across Flipkart and Snapdeal.	Brand Trust*	Accepted
H$_6$: There is a significant difference between population means for size of company across Flipkart and Snapdeal.	Size*	Accepted
H$_7$: There is a significant difference between population means for purchase intentions across Flipkart and Snapdeal.	Purchase Intention*	Accepted
Source: Independent sample t-test using IBM SPSS 21 * - the p-values are found statistically significant at 0.05.		

Discussion of Findings

Current study aimed at measuring the brand trust towards two online giants in Indian e-retail context i.e. Flipkart and Snapdeal and doing a comparison thereof. It was found that both the companies differ in terms of different dimensions of brand trust on which they need to focus. It was found that Flipkart is rated high on dimensions such as reputation and size when compared with Snapdeal indicating that customers perceive Flipkart as a more reputed and a bigger company than Snapdeal whereas on the other hand Snapdeal was rated high by customers on dimensions of risk aversion, perceived brand trust, and purchase intentions. This is an important finding that could help Snapdeal to build more positive relationship with their customers since brand trust is already there and the purchase intentions are high as compared to Flipkart.

The findings are general and can be used by marketing managers of online retailers in

any context to devise strategies to penetrate the online consumer segment by working on the weak areas outlined in the study. For example, Flipkart need to work on building more trust among their customers for removing the risk aversion complexity among customers. This signifies that the consumers place a low average trust towards Flipkart and both companies need to reinvent their strategies to improve its brand trust. Snapdeal and Flipkart can enhance their Brand Image and Perceived service quality by providing better after sales services and ensuring that their vendors honor their guarantee and warranty obligations.

Another major area of concern for Indians is their trust on online transactions and the issue of sharing their personal information online. Online retailers can include measures to increase the safety of their online transactions. The low mean for the variable perceived brand trust was attributed to two items in the instrument revealing that customers are highly adamant to share their personal preferences and details along with credit card details while using online payment options. Companies should work on these issues to win over the customer trust. The research offers online retailers not only an insight into what efforts should be made to build up trust in internet shoppers, but also directions to enhance future purchase intentions.

Conclusion

Current study aimed at measuring the brand trust of online retailers in the Indian context with focus on Flipkart and Snapdeal. Comparisons of brand trust dimensions of these companies were made thereof. Findings revealed significant differences in brand trust dimensions across select companies which can be generalized to online retailers in the Indian context and managers can make strategies to increase brand trust of consumers which ultimately will translate into enhanced purchase intentions and finally sales. The means of reputation, perceived service, site quality, and purchase intentions for the combined sample revealed that online retailers need to gain customers faith and confidence by delivering undamaged products on time according to the specifications mentioned and sending error free bills. The virtual world marketers can enhance perceived service quality by providing the facility to track shipment online, easy and quick ways of placing orders and flexible payment options. In addition a well defined return policy, transparent shipment cost details, virtual chat rooms to interact with other customers, posting genuine users testimonials, an effective feedback and grievance redressal mechanism can help to increase the online trust of the consumers which will ultimately help the company in long-run. Perceived site quality can be enhanced by easy navigation experience and a simple non complex website.

Limitations and Directions For Future Research

Like all studies, this research too suffer from few limitations discussion related to which is very important with the readers. The first limitation of the current study is the concern regarding the age group of the respondents, majority of who belong to a particular age category of 21-25 years. Though youths are important for online retailers, there are other respondents also from a wider age category who do their online shopping from different websites. Future researches can explore this variable also to explore the impact of age groups on brand trust towards online companies. Also, the gender differences across different dimensions of brand trust are not explored. Future researches can focus on exploring whether gender of respondents has a significant impact on the different brand trust dimensions.

In Indian online retail industry, there are plenty of companies that do their business and which could have been taken for study. In the current study, only two companies have been taken for measuring brand trust which is highly familiar brands. Future studies can do a wider research involving large number of companies having varying familiarity. Such a comparison will help marketers in understanding whether brand familiarity and brand-equity mediates brand trust or not? This will be a contribution to managers that will help them to explore antecedents and mediating variables that can influence brand trust. Also, current study only seeks to explore the brand trust comparison between two online companies and no consequence variable has been studied. Though high brand trust can result into a large number of consequences in favor of marketers, such an attempt should have been made by us. Future researches can investigate the impact of high brand trust on variables such as word-of-mouth, brand loyalty, brand attachment and many other related variables.

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Multiculturalism and Quest for the Self in *The Namesake* and *The Inheritance of Loss*

Shikha Verma

ABSTRACT

Multiculturalism is the outcome of Pluralistic societies. The human society has continuously been in a state of transition but nobody ever gave much thought to it. Various human races and different ethnic groups with distinct identities have been living together in different geographical regions of the world. But never before writers and intellectuals ever felt the need of discussing or writing about multiculturalism. The reason was very simple. Different races of men and different ethnic groups living together never ever faced the physical and psychological pressures in the past as they are facing now.

The intellectuals in the modern times realized that people now are more mobile, in search of greener pastures outside their homeland than they were ever before. And this has given rise to problems never faced by man in the past. The convergence of people with different cultural backgrounds in one particular geographical area has led to the emergence of multicultural societies. It is difficult to predict whether it is going to create a utopian world or be a retrograde movement in the history of the human civilization. Post-colonial India has witnessed migration of many educated Indians to the lucrative life of the west perhaps also as an escape from economic and communal chaos prevalent in the home country. This has created many diasporic communities all across the west with its own set of issues and concerns. Amongst all the concerns, the problem of 'exile' and 'home' has emerged as the most engaging for a diasporic individual.

This dilemma often finds expression in literature of South Asian writers living away from their homeland. The paper aims to explore how these writers have effectively dwelt on the problems of Indian diaspora in their works leading to the development of multicultural complexities, identity crises, rootlessness, sense of exile and alienation.

Keywords : Multicultralism, pluralistic, exile, diaspora

Introduction

The term multiculturalism denotes the emergence of a new culture which is the direct outcome of interaction and interplay of cultures coming together in a particular geographical region of the world. It has been observed that different races of men and different ethnic groups for economic or political reasons have come to live together and gradually given rise to new culture termed as multi-culture, yet retaining their own distinct cultural identities.

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India for instance, has been a multicultural and multilingual society for centuries. Though, there have been occasional quarrels and conflicts among its people but still by and large people have been living together in peace and harmony and India has been said to have unity in diversity. What happened in India in the past has come to happen now in the western world. This has necessitated the need to go global in all spheres of human activity.

The coming up of the multicultural societies in the western world has brought the question of identity as a major problem of the present century. Identity is being taken up as a project of analysis in a variety of social, scientific and humanistic disciplines. It is becoming a concept that needs to be concretized. The disturbing changes in the major spheres of life due to globalization have made it mandatory for every individual to think about this issue. At the same time, the question of identity is evasive and defies formulations and categorization, whenever it has been tried by theorists, critics and scholars. Further dissection of the issue of identity and the term multiculturalism necessitates the proper understanding of the term multiculturalism because it is in the context of multiculturalism that the question of identity is to be viewed. In a multicultural society people are forced to mix because of the constraints of space but they do not necessarily combine as they like to retain and cling to their own religion, culture, habits, language and, of course, identity. But the pressure and presence of people of various cultures and societies creates a sort of confusion in which individual identity has a tendency either to get lost or suffer a change which is painful. In the novels of Jhumpa Lahiri and Kiran Desai, we come across many characters who in their own unique ways deal with intercultural, bicultural and multicultural identities. These authors remain on the list of obvious figures of South Asian English Language Writing who have won recognition and fame in the International Literary Circle.

Lahiri's writing is characterized by her plain language and her characters are often Indian Immigrants to America who must navigate between the cultural values of their homeland and their adopted home. In her wonderfully crafted first novel Lahiri explores- the life and experiences of the people freed from geographical and national peculiarities and fixity of culture, interaction between various cultures, the subtle ways that result in people's alienation and the feeling of being the other in an alien land. A film adaptation *The Namesake* directed by Mira Nair was released in March 2007.

The Namesake (2003) spans over thirty years of life of Ganguli family. The Calcutta born parents emigrated as young adults to the U.S where their children Gogol and Sonia were born and grew up experiencing a constant gap with their parents. S. Prasanarajan in his review calls this novel, "an enlarged variation of the same existential trauma of the culturally displaced that animates her Interpreter of Maladies" (Prasanarajan: 60).

The people inhabiting Lahiri's fictional world are different from their cultural stereotypes. It shows interactive forms of life and the impact of emerging forms of life on human experience. It not only enlarges the scope of her fictional world but also matches contemporary reality in which life no longer remains limited to traditional patterns marking regional boundaries but has a tendency to spill over to different nations and cultures. Jaydeep Sarangi has remarked,

"Jhumpa Lahiri's stories are the gateways into the large submerged territory of crossculturalism. It is a metaphor to share culture…something that will allow them/us to share instead of dividing, what is on the either side."

"The Namesake" revolves around an immigrant storyline. While highlighting the interaction between various cultures, Jhumpa Lahiri brings to the fore, the interaction between Bengali and American culture and the desperate attempt of the characters to adjust themselves to the new culture. And the attempt becomes all the more poignant as they find it extremely difficult to snap their ties with their roots. However, with the passage of time the characters learn to adjust with the alien culture. The transformation becomes complete with the adulthood of the next generation for whom the alien culture is real and their own and the culture of their parents and their forefathers is an alien culture. But they gradually realise that both Indian and American culture embellish their true identity. They no longer feel ashamed of how they had lived their past but feel proud to be what they exactly are!

Newlywed Ashoke and Ashima leave India for Boston shortly after their traditionally arranged marriage. Ashima who flies alone for the first time had never imagined that she would ever leave her family to live in some distant land. When they leave she is instructed by her family members- "not to eat beef or wear skirts or cut of their hair and forget the family the moment she landed in Boston."(37) Ashoke who is still a student is ready to be a part of American culture but Ashima often sulks alone in three room apartment which is too hot in summers and too cold in winter, far removed from the descriptions of houses in English novels she has read. She remains lost in memories of her own and feels emotionally dislocated. "Home" is "a mythic place for desire." (Brah: 192) in an immigrant's imagination. She waits eagerly for her parents' letters which she keeps collecting in a white bag and rereads them often. Nothing appears normal to Ashima when she becomes pregnant and reflects on her fate in a foreign land. "It's not so much the pain, which she knows, somehow she will survive. It's the consequence: motherhood in the foreign land."(6) After her son Gogol's birth she decides to stay for Ashoke's sake and brings up her baby in the Bengali ways. She takes pride in rearing up her child alone in a foreign land. She starts interacting with the Americans, thus growing confident. They invite their American neighbours to join the celebrations of their son's rice ceremony.

Ashoke and Ashima decide to raise their children by providing them with the best of both the cultures. She tries to impart them her Bengali ethics but at the same time she also desires that they should learn to adjust to the American way of life. Both display extraordinary qualities of concern for their families and a remarkable capacity to make sacrifices for them. Though unsettled by the weird and American way of life they do not lament over their lost roots but find new ways to cope with their marginalized immigrant status. Though they do not enjoy the celebration of American festivals like Christmas and Thanks giving but celebrate it with progressively increasing fun fare for the sake of their children. They adopt certain American ways, yet all their friends are Bengali. They develop ties with other Bengali expatriates forming lifelong friendships that help preserve old ways n a new country.

The second generations immigrants especially their son Gogol however finds it hard to maintain his ties with his roots. Born and brought up in America, he assimilates himself in the American culture, makes American friends, goes to the parties, starts dating, thus becoming thoroughly Americanized. Though he makes a conscious effort to be different from his parents and intends to live in a word free from Bengali culture but being sensitive, is caught in a cultural dilemma and encounters the enigma of identity crisis. After Ashoke's sudden death Gogol realises his responsibility as a son and performs all his duties while staying with his mother. In the death of his father he finds a beginning, an awareness and understanding of the community, and the place of individual within family and society.

His wife Moushmi, however, with whom he has an arranged marriage, is a believer in western norms, a woman with a will of her own, a will that is different from that of her parents. In her conjugal relationship she is solitary individual striving for self- assertion. She refuses to be gagged in a family life of pungent atmosphere where she has no identity, no choice whatsoever. To keep her identity intact and restore equanimity, she betrays her husband.

How the first generation migrants overcome their cultural dilemmas and sense of displacement and bring change by refashioning and mobilizing received ideas from the home culture and the host culture has been shown by Lahiri through Ashima's character who paints the Christmas cards with "an Elephant decked with red and green jewels, glued on the silver paper", the replica of the drawing he father had done for Gogol over twenty seven years ago, in the margins of aerogramme instead of choosing the Marry Christmas cards with angels and nativity scenes. Tejinder Kaur calls this act of Ashima as a "process of formation" and "transformation" in which a new "hybrid"(Hall:392-304) cultural identity gets created which in Tejinder Kaur's own words, may be called as "Bengalo-merican".(Kaur:47)

Jhumpa Lahiri seems to suggest that the salvation in the disquiet journey in an alien land lies in adopting the assimilationist approach, in unearthing the realities of the American way of life while maintaining bonds with his homeland to replenish his emotional bankruptcy that has to be his lot.

The study of Kiran Desai's award winning novel *The Inheritance of Loss* explores how multiculturalism leads to change in pluralistic societies and the meeting of east and west does not necessarily lead to progress. This new trend of crisscross movement of groups of individuals may not be in the ultimate good of the immigrants who despite the migration tenaciously cling to their roots and their culture. The novel meditates on loss as an emotional location, a sentiment shared by a set of characters continually torn and fragmented by their encounters with the western world.

Desai is very personally attached to the themes and issues of her novel, given her own dual Indian-American upbringing. She notes that the characters of her story are entirely fictional, but these journeys (of her grandparents) as well as her own provided insight into what it means to travel between east and west and it is this what she wanted to capture. She describes *The Inheritance of Loss* as a book that tries to capture what it means to live between east and west and what it means to be an immigrant, and what happens when a western element is introduced in a country that is not of the west. She attempts to describe, " What happens when you take people from a poor country, and place them in a wealthy one. How does the imbalance between these two worlds change a person's thinking and feeling? How do these changes manifest themselves in a personal sphere, a political sphere over time.

The novel opens in the town of Kalimpong, located on the Indian side of the Himalayas. Sai, the orphaned teenage girl is living with her grandfather, a retired judge educated in the west whose story comprises of ruthlessly compressed memories. His journey to the racist England follows the agonising process by which he becomes alien even to himself. On his return to India he finds himself despising his culture, family and inadvertently attempting to colonise his traditionally backward wife.

The narrative is foiled by that of Biju (the son of judge's cook), an illegal immigrant who lives a scant existence a part of New York's shadow class moving from one shady job to another desperately seeking the green card. The "Occidentals" have a pre- conceived notion of the inferiority of the "Orientals"(Said: 1985), a prejudice formed by the former by the latter. This becomes evident when the restaurant owner's wife, where Biju is employed, complains- "He smells… I think I'm allergic to his hair oil."(48)

The thing that trouble Biju most is the cooking of beef in American restaurants because as a Hindu he believes- "one should not give up one's religion, the principles of one's parents and their parents before them. No, no matter what."(136)

He is immensely surprised to find that there is whole new world in the basement kitchens of New York. People of every nationality, race and ethnicity can be found there. He keeps changing restaurants in search for a better job but the competition is fierce.

Desai takes a sceptical view of the west's consumer-driven multiculturalism, noting the "sanitized elegance" of Lola's daughter's British-accented voice, which is triumphant over any horrors the world might thrust upon others"(47). In fact, her novel seems to argue that such multiculturalism, confined to the western Metropolis and academe, doesn't being to address the causes of extremism and violence in the modern world. Nor, it suggests economic globalisation become a route to prosperity for the down trodden. "Profit" Desai observes at one point," could only be harvested in the gap between nations, working one against the other." This leaves most people in the postcolonial world with only the promise of shabby modernity, as Desai puts it, "in its meanest form, brand-new one day, in ruin the next". No wonder, half educated uprooted men like Gyan(Sai's young tutor with whom she gets romantically involved) gravitate to the first available cause in their search for a better life. His joins GNLF, an ethnic nationalist movement and considers that the cause of his poverty is the lavish lifestyle of people like Sai and her grandfather.

Thus the novel is an exploration of how the change caused by meeting of the east and west can't always be deemed as progressive and wholesome. Almost all of Desai's characters are stunned by their encounters with the west. Transitions between continents and eras consist of the natural connections among the characters.

Both Lahri and Desai, have effectively dealt with the issues like multiculturalism, globalization and search for identity and created ripples in the present day literary circles.

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Buddhist Culture and Monasteries in Paldar (Paddar): A Study

Sonam Zangpo

ABSTRACT

Buddhism is one of the ancient Dharma of India and the world. Buddhist community and culture prevails in many states and parts of the country. Hence, Paldar (Paddar) is also a Buddhist land and politically a Tehsil of district Kishtwar, Jammu and Kishmir (J&K) state. But ethnically, it is connected with Zanskar, Ladakh and other Buddhist regions of north-western Himalaya for many centuries. It is a Sapphire Land of the state. The Buddhist communities are found in sparsely populated small villages particularly high up in the valleys from Atholi and Gulabgarh.

A small Buddhist community is seen in district Kishtwar, the land of saffron. The Buddhist of the region are the followers of Mahāyāna Buddhism and specially the Tibetan Buddhism. Buddhist people of the valley have preserved their old culture and custom for centuries. That culture needs more protection and care in the present era of science and technology. On the other hand, it is the identity of all Buddhist who are minority in the district today

Keywords : Paldar (Paddar), Gonpas (Monasteries), Tibetan Mahāyāna Buddhism, Buddhist Culture, Buddhist Festivals, Buddhist Masters

Introduction

Paldar (Paddar) is famous for its precious treasure known as sapphire mine. Thus, it is also called as Sapphire Land today. Politically, it is an integral part of Jammu and Kashmir State of India. It is a full-fledged Tehsil of Kishtwar district in Jammu division. The valleys are very narrow and spotted with small villages which are settled far hither and thither in different interior parts of the region. Mostly, they are seen in Gulabgarh and beyond valleys of the region. All Buddhist population is divided into three valleys and Gulabgarh as well. Nevertheless, all the communities of the region are living with peace and unity.

Paldar region is connected with many regions like Zanskar and Kargil (Ladakh) in the north-east, Pangi-Killard of district Chamba in the south-east, Doda district in the south and Anantnag district in the west. The valleys which are geographically and ethnically conjoined with Zanskar (Ladakh) are the only Buddhist villages having with sparse of Buddhist population. Due to that close connections, Buddhist culture exists there till today. Therefore, Buddhist culture, religious practices and social customs had influenced the land and its people from the prolong history of monarchy in Ladakh and Western Tibet as well. Hence, it remained a part of Zanskar,

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Ladakh for long time both culturally and administratively. Today, it is not a part of Zanskar yet some extend linked with it by cultural and spiritual concerns. However, the area is blessed by many Buddhist saints, scholars, masters and travelers in the past and present too.

Up to 2005 this area was a part of the district Doda as a Block. Later, in 2006, it was formed as an independent Tehsil of district Kishtwar by the then J&K Government. At present, Atholi (Paddar) is the Headquarter of this Tehsil. It is sharing same importance with Gulabgarh located on the other bank of River Chinab. Besides Hindus and Muslims, there are also Buddhist in Paddar. Moreover, many Buddhist families from the region are settled in Kishtwar and Jammu also. Some of the important interests of Buddhist places of this area are: Gulabgarh, Hallo (Haloti), Losan (Losaini), Kaban (Kabbun) and Tun (Genar/Gandhari).

Early History of Paldar

The early history of Paddar is not available clearly and seems not very old also. However, it is believed that the area was vacant and no human inhabitation existed there before 8th century. Later, the people from adjacent areas like Zanskar, Ladakh, Lhahoul, Kinnaur, Ngari (Western Tibet), Kishtwar and Bhaderwah had begun to use different parts of Paldar for trekking, trade and other affairs of their life. Besides, they were spending life of wanderers with their life stocks. In other words, they were living a kind of nomadic life. They moved very long distances in search of grazing fields, grassy meadows and pasture lands for their cattle. Thus, they used to come here for short span of time of the year with their cattle to graze them. This practice continued for a long time. But no settlement was there due its harsh climate and weather. Nevertheless, with the passage of time, they started to settle there from lower parts of the hills to the upper parts of the valley permanently. In this way, the settlement in the valleys and villages developed. Thus, the history begins from 10th century.

It is said that Paddar was indirectly under Guge (a Province of Western Tibet) and directly under Ladakh rulers since 10th century and remained under their rule till 15th century. From 16th century, it was separated from the rule of Buddhist rulers. Afterward, the area was divided into smaller parts and was ruled by Hindu Ranas and Thakurs from Chamba, and Kishtwar. Lastly, it was merged under the rule of Maharaja Gulab Singh in 19th century and remained his estate up-to the independence of India in 1947. Currently, there are many villages in Paldar. As per government sources, Paddar consists of 32 villages. They are: Afani, Atholi, Batwas, Chashoti, Cheto, Chug, Garh-Paddar, Gulabgarh, Hamori, Hangu, Ishtiyari, Ishtahari, Jar, Kaban, Kadial, Kidru, Kundal, Layee, Leoundi, Ligri, Losain, Luder, Machail, Massu, Mati, Muthal, Ongayee, Palali, Pandail, Sazar, Sohal, Tun, and Tyari. While there is much more names

of small villages than the present record. Perhaps they are included into one bigger village at the time of documentations like censes.

Geographical Features

The Headquarter of Paldar lies in the east of Kishtwar. This area is inhabited mainly across the famous Chinab (Chandra Bhaga) River up-to the Gulabgarh. The Buddhist valleys of Paddar are found between Chinab River and Bhota or Machail Nalla, the stream. Both of the rivers are flowing with other important tributaries and streams of the region. So, the earlier mentioned rivers are less useful to all inhabitants of the valleys in Paddar. From Gulabgarh, this area is bifurcated into two greater valleys viz. Bhota Nalla and Chinab River. Bhota Nalla falls in a deep gorge where many villages of Hindu and Buddhist can found across the Bhota or Machail Nalla, the big stream of the valley. On the other hand, Chinab River side is also bifurcated into two valleys namely Kaban (Kabbun) and Gandhari (Tun, Genar). All the villages in the Kaban valley are Buddhist, while three Hindu and three Buddhist villages are found in the Gandhari valley.

Paldar lies in the Himalayan region and because of the topography there are small size villages with thin population all across the narrow valleys in the region. The terrace fields of the villagers up and above the valleys look very beautiful during summer. The slope and flat areas of the villages seem almost in the lap of the sky touching mountains. The entire region is surrounded by high snow-capped mountains and dense forest with different kinds of plants and trees. The pasture lands in the up valleys are fascinating. The beautiful waterfalls, hot spring water, clean and noisy streams, calmly flowing rivers etc., gives life to the land and its people. The small temples and Gonpas (Buddhist monasteries) in this remote region are attractive and worth-visiting. The heavy snowfall with chilled weather in winters is a great challenge to man. The showering in the rainy season is pleasing and painful too. The life of local people depends on domestic cattle and agriculture. By nature people are honest, innocent and righteous. These are some qualities of the land and its people. Here, one can see and feel the changes of four phases of the season. Indeed, the area is gifted with many natural resources and beauties. Altogether, this is worth visiting as well as an unexplored area in the district and state today. Many research works and projects are needed today to pursue the different cultures of the region. That will help to develop the region and also benefit to the people to come extent.

Paldar is a vast area but most of the area is covered by awesome mountains, dense forest and uncultivated lands due to severe cold and high altitude. As it is in the lap of Himalayan range it is mainly covered with many mountain ranges like; Zanskar Mountain range, Pir Panjal Mountain range and Great Himalaya. The crown of all these mountain ranges are beautified with

crystal clear ice and snow, that's the source of drinking water. As much nice and pleasant is the summer season in the valley, so much harsh and severe is the winter seasons. During the winter, there falls heavy snow which may cause. Most of the houses in villages are found very close to each other. Sometimes, the roofs of two to three houses are interconnected. All the houses in the villages are built closely to each other and have narrow lanes to pass here and there. At present, the new houses are being built away from the crowed houses of the villages. The houses in the villages are built with stone slabs and thick wooden blocks. Because of the easy availability and accessibility of woods, they use it for both burning as a fuel and constructing the houses. So, all village houses are well furnished with wooden planks, timbers and thick beams.

Meaning of Paldar (Paddar)

This area is called Paldar by the local Buddhist and other Buddhist of the country. But in the official records and other documents it is written as Paddar, Padar or Padder. Both the above names, i.e., Paddar and Paldar are popular among the Buddhist inhabitants of the region today. As per local people, the interpretation of Paddar is 'a place where someone feels afraid just to step the foot' and another is 'a place hosting a heap of the mountains'. The above mentioned interpretations are required to understand the geographical features of the area. On the other hand, Paldar is a word of Bhoti (Tibetan) Language and the dialects spoken among the Buddhist communities there. Paldar is formed of two words 'pal' means wealth, prosperous, power etc., and 'dar' means spread out, extended or prevailed. Hence, it means an area which is filled with wealth, prosperity and power. This meaning refers to none other than the existence of Sapphire Mine in the region. Another hypothesis is that the name Paldar may be difficult to pronounce accurately by the non-Buddhist and foreign visitors. Therefore, with some mispronunciations they have called it Pader or Paddar in place of Paldar. It is a fact, because both in plain and hills, the Bhoti (Tibetan) names cannot be pronounced properly by most of the people of other communities even today.

In Bhota Nalla or Machail Valley the first Buddhist village is Hango (Hangu) and the last one is Sumcham. The sapphire mine lies in this valley up in the snow mountain between Jashal and Sumcham. This route has been used by the trekkers via Omasi La (5400 meters high from the sea level) to Zanskar region in past and often today also. Likewise, the first Buddhist village is Kushta and the last one is Kaban in Sohal valley. In the similar way, first Buddhist village is Khajroni (Khoni) and the last one is Tun in the Gandhari valley of the Paldar region. All the Buddhist valleys are not liked by any motor-able road even today. So, they have to walk long distance to reach their own villages while carrying loads of their daily needed goods along with

other baggage. The walking paths are also full of up and downs and many hilly zigzag traces can be seen there. They are really tiresome as well as awesome to walk on. It seems that they are neglected even in this age of globalization, modernization and digitalization.

Paldar Gonpas (Monasteries): At a Glance

Gonpa or gompa (Wyl. dgon-pa) is a word of Bhoti (Tibetan) Language. Generally, it is used to designate Buddhist Monasteries or temples. The concept of gonpa is similar to a Buddhist hermitage, Vihāra in Pāli and Sanskrit. Gonpa is the name of entire building while shrines and inside rooms and halls are called by different names and sometime dedicated to a particular image of the Buddha, Bodhisattva, and other tantric deities. The cultural history of Buddhist monasteries, culture and Buddhism in Paldar is not very ancient as mentioned earlier and the history can be demarcated within 3-4 hundred years. Most of the gonpas in the region were found in the later half of the 18th century. But they are neither properly developed nor as prosperous as that of the Buddhist monasteries in Zanskar, Leh, Lhahoul, Tibet and so on. Perhaps the reason is lack of monks' community and small and scattered villages. Moreover, there is no monastic institution and residential system for monks in all six gonpas of the Paldar. Somehow their existence in future seems very bleak today. It is due to the raising number of migrations among locals which threatens to decline the Buddhist culture, heritage and other traditions in the region.

Gulabgarh

Gulabgarh is one of the main historical places in the Tehsil of Paddar. It is situated at 6,360 feet above the sea level. It is at the distance of 3 km from Atholi, 65 km from district Kishtwar and almost 200 km from Jammu to north-east direction. It is surrounded by high hills and forests with full of green herbs, shrubs, pines, plants and other trees. At present, Gulabgarh is one of the important places of Paldar. The actual inhabitants of this place belong to Hindu faith while many Buddhist are also settled there. Many important government offices, buildings, schools, bank etc. are also there. It is a center of education, business, shopping, official affairs, tour and travel etc., to all people from Paddar valleys and adjacent areas. Besides all of them, the Hindu temples and Buddhist monasteries are also there for the visit and worship. This place got its present name from Maharaja Gulab Singh, Dogra ruler from Jammu. Under the leadership of Zorawar Singh (1786-1841) who was a powerful minister of Maharaja Gulab Singh, Dogra army invaded Ladakh via this area. He constructed a fort as a mark of Maharaja's sovereignty in the region. But, no ruins of the fort can be see there today. Of course, the place is identified with the help of local populace at the confluence point of Chinab and Bhota Nalla River.

There are two Buddhist schools, i.e., Himalayan Buddhist Cultural School and Paldar Gonpa School. The first one is running under the aegis of Himalayan Buddhist Cultural Association and the latter under the aegis of Central Institute of Buddhist Studies (now Deemed University), Choglamsar, Leh. Today, these schools are playing important role in imparting modern and Buddhist traditional educations to the Buddhist children and youngsters of the region.

Gulabgarh Gonpa

Gulabgarh Gonpa is almost 50 years old. The His Excellency 4th incarnated Stakna Rinpoche, Ngawang Tonyod Dorjee (1920-2010) has consecrated the gonpa. He was the spiritual head Lama Rinpoche of Stakna Gonpa in Leh-Ladakh. He visited this region and gonpa several times during his life. This gonpa is concerned with Drukpa Kagyu School of Tibetan Buddhism. The gonpa is beautiful and near the newly built Phodrang (the abode of spiritual one) building. The Phodrang is a special residence offered to the H.H. the 14th Dalai Lama, who visited this place and preached dharma teachings to all devotees of the region in the year 2006. It is a three storied beautiful building and an attraction of Gulabgarh today.

There is a stūpa, stone mani-wall and grand mani-wheel on the way to the gonpa and Phodrang. All Buddhist inhabitants who are living there come to visit and circumambulate the gonpa, phodrang, turning grand mani wheel and stūpa early morning and evening. In this way, they accumulate merits for peace, prosperity and security for life. A Gonpa School and a hostel are also running smoothly there. Many prayer flags and five colored banners are hoisted around the gonpa premises. The front yard of the gonpa is quite spacious.

The Gulabgarh gonpa possesses a single big room like a hall. It is generally called Dukhang (assembly hall) by Buddhist. The main entrance of the gonpa opens to the south, toward Atholi. The gonpa is well roofed with painted sheets over it. The front and floor of the gonpa is made of concrete. On both sides of entrance wall, there are windows. A room is reserved for residence of a monk and some time used as store. A monk looks after the gonpa and performs all daily, monthly and yearly prayers there. He also goes to perform some rituals and practices in Buddhist houses at Gulabgarh. The care taker monk comes from Bardan Gonpa, Zanskar usually for three years.

There are many valuable and religious objects that can be seen inside the gonpa. For instance; Śākyamuni Buddha along with his two core disciples (Śāripūtra and Maudgalyāyana) at the right and left side of him respectively is the principal image of the gonpa. The other images are: Guru Rinpoche, Mañjusrī, White Tārā, four armed Avalokiteśvara and so forth. A Bodhi-

stūpa is also there. Similarly, two high thrones are reserved for Rinpoches and other Head Lamas. Besides that, the cushion matted rows are arranged at both sides of the thrones for monks and devotees. There is no fresco and wall painting but some thankas are hung on the side walls in the gonpa dukhang. The thankas are dedicated to Guru Rinpoche, Śākyamuni Buddha, Arya Mañjusrī, Avalokiteśvara, etc. The Holy Scriptures known as Kagyur and Tengyur are also available there.

Cultural Relationship with Buddhist Masters

Zanskar Tehsil of Kargil district in Ladakh has remained a hub of Buddhist culture, Buddhist heritage, learning and studies since the inception of Buddhism there. Many spiritual Buddhist masters from this region and other parts of Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh had come to visit Paldar area and spread Tibetan based Mahāyāna Buddhism. Some of them are: Drubchen Dewa Gyatsho (1590-1640) in 16th century, Drubchen Ngawang Tsering (1717-1793) in 18th century, Lama Tashi Tanphel (1811-1875) in 19th century, first Bakula Rinpoche Losang Yeshe Tanpey Gyaltsen (1880-1917) in 19th century, 6th Khamtrul Rinpoche Tanpey Nyima (1849-1907) in 19th century, Apho Rinpoche Ngawang Yeshe Rangdol (1922-1974) in 20th century, 9th Shabdrung Rinpoche in 20th century, 4th Stakna Rinpoche (1920-2010) in 21st century, H.H. the 14th Dalai Lama Ngawang Tenzin Gyatsho (born 1935-) in 21st century, Sey Rinpoche (born 1960-), the elder son of Apho Rinpoche and the grandson of Tibetan saint Drubwang Shakya Shri (1853-1919) and so on.

Losan Village and Gonpa

The Losan village is about 45 km. from the Gulabgarh to the north-east in the Bhota Nalla or Macheil valley. There are few Buddhist villages in this valley and among them this village is the largest one which is situated on the left bank of Bhota Nalla River. Losan is Bhoti word which means who attracts the heart or mind and heart touching one. There are two small gonpas in the village. One is quite old and another is new. Generally, both are known as Losan gonpa. But they hold different significance and belong to separate Rinpoches. They follow the practices of different Schools of Tibetan Buddhism.

The old Losan Gonpa is situated in the middle of the village. The gonpa is believed to be the oldest among all gonpas in Palder region. It is more than 200 years old. It comes under the Bardan Gonpa, Zanskar as a branch gonpa. So, it follows the tradition of Drukpa Kaygu School of Tibetan Buddhism. Bardan Gonpa is almost 15 km away in south-east of Padum, the Headquarter of Zanskar Tehsil of Kargil district in Ladakh. It was founded on grand rock hill by Saint Barawa Gyaltsen Palsang from Tibet in the 14th century. Thus, the gonpa derives his name

as Bardan Gonpa. However, the actual name of the Gonpa is Bardan Sangnag Choling. In the16th century the gonpa estates were offered to the Spiritual head and a leading ruler of Bhutan, Shabdrung Ngawang Namgyal (1534-1596) by the great King of Ladakh Sengye Namgyal (1595-1616). Because of religious links, the care taker monk comes from Bardan Gonpa alternatively for the tenure of 3 years in Losan Gonpa. The care taker monk not only looks after the gonpa but also performs prayers and rituals in the house of villagers from time to time.

There is a big prayer flag in the courtyard of the gonpa. This old Gonpa is a two storied building. The main dukhang (assembly hall) is on the first floor and the entrance opens to the north side. The floor is fully made of wooden planks. The ground floor consists of a big turning mani-wheel. It is called 'mani tung chur' in Bhoti (Tibetan) language. Mani means mantra (dhāraṇī) in Sanskrit and retention in English. Tung chur means ten crores or ten million. It is turned to the right, i.e., clock-wise. It is turned again and again as much as one can to accumulate merits and reduce ones impression of evil actions of the present and past lives. But sometimes for auspicious purpose it is turned either three or seven times at the time of one's visit to the gonpa. By circumambulating the building of gonpas and the turning prayer wheels one can also purify the imprints of one's physical unwholesome actions. This is one of the practices of purification of the three doors viz. the body, speech and mind.

The Gonpa consists of four pillars having an assembly hall. The throne (high seat) in the gonpa is dedicated to the 4th incarnated Stakna Rinpoche; Ngawang Tonyod Dorjee from Leh-Ladakh. The significant images of the gonpa are: Avaloketiśvara having the Eleven Headed and thousand Arms and Eyes, Ācārya Padmasambhava, Five Tathāgatas, Śākyamuni Buddha along with Śāripūtra and Maudgalyāyana, Four Armed Avaloketiśvara, Uṣṇīsvijayā etc. They are fully made of clay and some are of metal too. Some clay-made statues are little damaged and need to be restored. Most of the metal made images look brand new. All the Holy Scriptures and statues are placed in well furnished wooden niche and racks. The statues may be measured as five-six feet in height. They are well maintained and look beautiful. There is no wall painting found in Buddhist monasteries of Ladakh and other parts of Himalaya.

In spite of that, on the side walls of the gonpa many visit worthy thank as are hung on. For instance, on the entrance wall, the thanka of three spiritual masters of Kagyu School of Tibetan Buddhism can be seen. In a short form, they are named as marmi-dwag-gsum. It refers to Lotsawa Marpa Choskyi Lodoe (1012-1097), great saint Milarespa (1040-1123) and Dwagpo Lhaje or Gampopa (1079-1153). They are lineage masters of Kagyu School of Buddhism in Tibet. Besides that, the other thanka portraits of the gonpa are Buddha, Shadrung Rinpoche, Vajrakīla,

Green Tārā, Vajrasattva and so on.

In the small wooden niche many metal made new statues are nicely placed. Among them tse-lha-nam-gsum is very significant. It refers to Lha Tsepak-med, Dolkar and Namgyal-ma and so forth. Below that wooden niche many different offerings to the tantric deities are kept beautifully. This is called chod-pa in Bhoti language. Nearby the windows of the Dukhang a long sitting arrangement for the monks and devotees can be seen. Due to no Saṅgha Community and facility of residence, the care taker monk lives in the village. He comes to the gonpa to perform all daily prayers and other ritual practices.

Losan Gonpa Soma (New)

This gonpa is situated at a few minutes walking distance from the previous village gonpa. The gonpa is founded on a ridge and named as Drubgyud Phelgyas Ling. There are forest and huge rocks in the surrounding of the gonpa. This is a small and single storied gonpa which is well covered with iron sheets. The entrance opens to south and big windows face to the east. The cement plastered floor is neat and clean having four columns. This is a single gonpa belonging to Nyingma School of Tibetan Buddhism in the entire region. It has been affiliated to the Bhandhuri Gonpa in Chamba, Himachal Pradesh since its foundation. The interested young children from the village went there from time to time to study Buddhism in past. Besides, the gonpa care taker was also sent from Bhandhuri Gonpa. All these traditions have now stopped due to degradation of monkhood and monastic system in Bhandhuri Gonpa itself.

Therefore, some dedicated and interested villagers have been looking after the gonpa at present since long. They also observe the important religious activities in the gonpa from time to time without the help of monks. There are many valuable statues and other things to be visited inside the gonpa. The Eleven Headed and thousand Arms and Eyes Avaloketiśvara made of clay is the principal idol of the gonpa. It is placed in wooden niche. Some of other statues are: Ācārya Padmasambhava, Śākyamuni Buddha, Four Armed Avaloketiśvara, Green Tārā etc. They are made of both clay and metals and were enshrined in the decorated niche. Some clay molded statues are damaged and in critical condition. They need special attention and restoration. The religious objects and other materials are orderly offered in front of the statues and on the alter. The Holy Scripture is also available in the gonpa and kept in wooden racks.

In front of statues in the gonpa-assembly hall, a reserved throne is also there for the respected Dharma teacher. Lining both sides of the throne, there is a row of long cushion for monks. There is no wall painting but many thankas hang on pegs fixed to pillars and walls too. Śākyamuni Buddha, Guru Rinpoche, four Cardinal Kings, Avaloketiśvara, Dharma Proctors etc.,

are some thankas to see there.

Hallo (Haloti) village and Gonpa

Hallo refers to a beautiful flower in Bhoti (Tibetan) Language. This village lies in the north-east of Gulabgarh at a distance of 25 km. up in the Macheil Valley. The gonpa building is not very far from the village and located across the Buzon stream. The village as well as the gonpa are really very beautiful and indicate all the qualities of its name just by the surrounding scenery. Many popolar trees, stūpas, a room for mani-tung-chur, stone mani-walls are there on the way to the gonpa.

Hallo Gonpa

Hallo Gonpa is two storied high and was founded by Kham Rinpoche (probably 6th Khamtrul Tanpey Nyima Rinpoche 1880-1907) from Tibet. The ground floor is kept as store room and the first floor is the main dukhang of the gonpa. There is a wooden staircase to reach up the dukhang. The roof of the gonpa is covered with sheets. The gonpa belongs to Drukpa Kagyud School of Tibetan Buddhism and was considered a branch of Bardan Gonpa, Zanskar in the beginning. But at present, it is taken care of by the monks of Spitti Rinpoche and belongs to Sakyapa School of Tibetan Buddhism. It is only a Sakyapa School's tradition practicing gonpa in the region. There are two rooms for the care taker monks as called 'Konyer' (Wyl. dkong-nyer) by local Buddhist.

The entrance of the gonpa is toward the eastern direction. The floor is fully wooden and neat and clean. The gonpa is supported by six pillars and many valuable images, scriptures, stūpas etc., can be seen there in the dukhang. The main image of the gonpa is Eleven Headed and thousand Arms and Eyes Avaloketiśvara. Besides this, the others are: Ācārya Padmasambhava, Ārya Mañjusrī, Śākyamuni, Amitābh Buddha, Green and White Tārā and so on. They were installed in the wooden racks and are made of both metal and clay. In front of the statues, there are Holy Scriptures known as Kagyur and Tengyur. Similar to other gonpas, a special throne for the high ranked Lamas and Rinpoches is there in the gonpa. Both sides of have two sitting rows arranged for monks and devotees. Many religious and precious objects are kept on an altar.

There are beautiful wall paintings similar to thanka paintings in other gonpas in the region. The gonpa wall paintings are dedicated to Guru tshan-gyad (Eight embodiment of Guru Rinpoche), Amitāyu Buddha along with attendants, Amitābha Buddha, Avaloketiśvara Buddha, Wheel of Life, Ācārya Padmasambhava, Usṇīsvijayā, Kālcakra, Dharma Proctors and so forth. Many thankas also hang on the pillars and walls of the gonpa. In thanka arts, there are:

Śākyamuni Buddha along with his two core disciples, Four Armed Avaloketiśvara, Mañjusrī, sixteen Sthavīras etc., can be seen there.

Tun, Genar (Gandhari)

Tun, Genar (Gandhari) is another important Buddhist places in Paldar Tehsil of district Kishtwar in J&K state. This valley lies at the border of H.P. and J&K and is connected to Pangi-Killard sub-division of district Chamba, H.P. It is 50 km. away and in the east of Gulabgarh and north of Chamba. There is no proper road up to the villages of the valley. The place where transportation road between J&K and H.P. meet together is called as Sansari Nalla. There is an iron bridge over the stream flowing down from Gandhari and it merges with Chenab River flowing ahead. The first turning point of Sansari Nalla from where the trek route starts to the Gandhari valley is called as Sansari More by the local people. The up route is zigzag, bit tiresome and goes through the pine forest. The valley begins with narrow gorge and widens as it approaches the valley. Another way to approach the Gandhari valley is from Pangi, Himachal Pradesh. That walking track is very steep and goes through the narrow gorge from either sides with steep deep down and steep up. It is not only adventurous journey but also one has to cross a pass called Shopo-La. Both the routes are still use by the local inhabitants of the region.

Genar Gonpa

The Genar Gonpa is situated in the upside of Ayeler village on the slope ridge. The gonpa is almost 38 years old. Before this, there was another gonpa at Mulche Lung, between Khoni and Ayeler village. That gonpa was destroyed by avalanche in the year 1979. The ruined gonpa building is still seen at the walking distance of 100 meters from the present foot track. Indeed, that gonpa of Genar was founded by Lama Chodpa Kushok from Kham, Tibet. He was a Lama Yogi and came there from Bandhuri, Chamba. He passed away there and his relics and ashes were put into a stūpa built there which was destructed by the snow storm. All the ruined and remained valuable statues and other objects of the destructed gonpa were later shifted to newly built Ayeler Gonpa in year 1982. It was also taken care of by another Tibetan Lama from Tibet who was called Gegan by the local villagers. The present villagers had less information about both of the Tibetan Lamas making it difficult to trace about background.

The gonpa remained without monks for long. Then it was taken care of by dedicated and devoted villagers and lastly, offered to Sey Rinpoche, the elder son of Apho Rinpoche Ngawang Yeshe Rangdol. Venerable Sey Rinpoche was recognized as an incarnation of great Yogi Tripon Pema Chogyal (1878-1959) from Ladakh. While Apho Rinpoche himself was recognized as an emanation of Milarepa, 11th centurion great saint of Tibet. The statue of gonpa founder Lama

Chodpa Kushok can be seen in Ayeler gonpa. He is shown with heavy matted hairs and long moustaches which show his yogic gesture and a retreat practice in such remote valley.

The name of Genar Gonpa is Sangngag Chosling. There is a 'Lha-tho', the site of village guardian behind the gonpa building. Ayeler village is in the front and bit below side of the gonpa. Villages like Tun and Khoni are in east and west of the gonpa respectively. There is a big prayer flag in the front yard of gonpa. This is called dar-chen in Tibetan language. The mani-dung chur is close to gonpa. There was a gonpa kitchen which was demolished in 2013 and it was planned to construct a new kitchen there and Zemchung for the concerned Rinpoche in future.

There is a cave just behind to the gonpa. In past, it was used as meditation cave by many villagers and other devotees. Unfortunately, many things are kept in it as a store house today. All the things are needed to move as soon as possible from the cave in view of its past importance. And of course, it should be constructed properly for the future dharma practitioners.

The entrance of the gonpa opens eastwards. The gonpa building is big and single storied. But all the statues enshrined inside gonpa are facing towards window in the south. The floor is wooden plank and has four wooden pillars as well. There are many valuable statues, stūpas, Holy Scriptures, thankas etc., to be visited inside the gonpa. The principal statue of the gonpa is clay-made Guru Rinpoche with a big size among all. Besides, there are many other statues like Śākyamuni Buddha, Vajrasattva, damaged image of Vajrapāṇi, Amitābha Buddha, Zachen Rāhul, Durdag, Khadro Yeshe Tshogyal, Lhacham Mandarava, Guru Rinpoche, Guru Drakpo, Green Tārā, Eleven Headed and thousand Arms and Eyes Avaloketiśvara, Je Tsongkhapa, 9th Shabdrung Rincpoche, the Proctor Tsan-Lha, Chodpa Kushok, the founder of previous Genar Gonpa and so forth. Most of the statues were taken from the previous destroyed Mulche Lung gonpa. All the metal and clay made statues are visit-worthy. There is less number of metal made statues as compared to Kaban, Hallo, Gulabgarh and Losan Gonpas of Paldar. A wooden made Bodhi-stūpa is also there. Some statues were offered to gonpa by villagers in the past to protect the Buddhist heritage.

There are complete set of Kagyur volumes that are kept in wooden racks. There is no wall painting inside the gonpa. In place of wall paintings there are thankas hanging on walls. Among them, Buddha, 35 Confessional Buddhas, Shi-thro (Peace and Wrathful Deities), Eight Manifestation of Guru Rinpoche, White Mahākāla, Four Cardinal Kings, Eighty Four Mahasiddhas etc., are some notable and visit worthy. There is one high seat reserved for 9th Shabdrung Ngawang Namgyal. In the left to the window, a single row seat is arranged for monks, care taker and other devotees. There are seven dra-ba (householder monks) altogether in three

villages of Genar. One of them is appointed as care-taker of the gonpa for three years and the turn goes over to others also. They are also invited to do any religious performances in the nearby all village houses. They do not wear monk's robe normally but in some auspicious occasions they put on the monk's robe. Some young monks from these villages are presently studying in Bodhgaya and other parts of India in Buddhist monastic institutions. It is hoped that they will come back in the village and help to develop the gonpa and pure practices of Buddhism in future.

At present, another new gonpa was established by His Excellency Sey Rincpoche from Manali nearby the previous Gonpa. The newly built gonpa of Sey Rinpoche follows the Drukpa Kagyu tradition. It is beautiful and comprises of single dukhang (assembly hall) along with few new copper gilt statues. It is almost 12 years old. Venerable Sey Rinpoche has more plans to develop the gonpa and pure practices of Buddhism in gonpa and villages as well. The front panorama of the gonpa is wonderful. The surrounding mountains and fields of villages look marvelous in summer. There are many stone mani-walls on the way to gonpa from Khoni and Tun.

Kaban Village and Gonpa

Kaban is approximately 90 km. far from district Kishtwar and 30 km. from Gulabgarh to the north-east direction. Kaban valley is in the up side valley from the Sohal village and there is no road up to the Buddhist villages. The trek route to Kaban goes from left side along with the stream flowing downward the valley. The trek route is zig-zag as well as one needs almost 3-4 hours walk toward the up valley. The actual village is 15 km. far from village Sohal. The route passes through forest and narrow gorge. There are six Buddhist villages in the valley. Only Kaban is a big village and the rest villages are small. There are some stone mani-walls and a stūpa on the way sides to the Kaban, the last village of the valley.

Kaban Gonpa

The Gonpa is situated little high up from Kaban village. The gonpa is three storied and the roof is covered with iron sheets. There is another house attached to the present gonpa and that one is the old gonpa of Kaban which is 160 years old. The new gonpa is bigger and attractive. The local people correlate the foundation of gonpa by a Buddhist scholar, traveler and incarnated Lama Tashi Tanphel (1811-1875) from Leh, Ladakh. Although, it is not clear from his biography yet it is clear that he traveled many parts of Paldar and established a few monasteries in Himachal Pradesh. Another scholar and yogi Drubchen Ngawang Tsering (1717-1794) had also travelled in Kaban and other parts of Paldar region. These are clear from their biographies. They

had attempted to flourish practice of Mahāyāna Buddhism there and got success in their noble endeavors.

The old Kaban gonpa was established in 1857. There are many precious and beautiful wall paintings. They are still alive with the significance of Tibetan Buddhist art and its aesthetics. At the same time, some paintings are badly damaged and washed out due to heavy snow in winter and leakage of rain water during rainy days from the roof in the past. This old shrine is ignored even today. But, there are some visit-worthy wall paintings. They are dedicated to the lineage masters of Kagyu School of Mahāyāna Buddhism, Dharma Proctors, Mahākāla with consort, Buddha along with core disciples, 16 Sthavīras, Chakrasaṁvara, Green Tārā, and so on. There is no statue at all there today. All were shifted to the new gonpa attached to it.

The old gonpa-dukhang is fully dark today. So, only a torch and the light coming from the door make the wall paintings inside a little visible. Indeed, the old gonpa needs renovation. It is the real heritage of the village and Buddhist of the entire region as well. It a single storied gonpa and lies behind the newly established gonpa. In the past, many Lamas and Rinpoches had visited it. And obviously, they have given teachings and initiations to the villagers as well.

The new Kaban gonpa was established in 1957 and it is almost 60 years old. This gonpa is quite big in terms of the three storied building. The two rooms on ground floor are allotted to care taker monk and the rest used for gonpa store. The dukhang of the gonpa is on the first floor and the Zemchug is on the second floor. Two big prayer flags are hoisted in front of gonpa building. The door of dukhang opens towards east. The gonpa follows the tradition of the Drukpa Kagyu School of Tibetan Buddhism. This is a branch gonpa of Bardan Gonpa, Zanskar. Hence, all successive Stakna Rinpoches, who are the lineage incarnation of Lama Tashi Tanphel will be Head Lama Rinpoche of this gonpa.

There are many valuable statues to be visited in the gonpa and they are: Śākyamuni Buddha, Guru Rinpoche, Vajrasattva, Eleven Headed and thousand Arms and Eyes Avaloketiśvara, Tārā, Amitābh Buddha, Four Armed Mahākāla, Vajrapāṇi, Shabdrung Ngawang Namgyal etc. There are also copper-gilt molded statues and they are of the Buddha, Mañjusrī, Amitāyu, Akṣobhya Buddha, Vajrapāṇi, four armed Avaloketiśvara and so on.

The dukhang is well maintained and beautiful. The Holy Scriptures are nicely placed and preserved in the wooden racks. A Bodhi-stūpa is also there inside the gonpa. Likewise, many thanka paintings can also be seen there. In thanka paintings, Buddha, Four Cardinal Kings, Amitābha Buddha, Mañjusrī, 16 Sthavīras, Chakrasaṁvara, Marpa, Milarepa, Gampopa are there. The Proctor of the gonpa is Four Armed Mahākāla. In the middle (centre), just front of the

statues, there is a high cushion dedicated to Shabdrung Rinpoche. Close to it a long sitting row is arranged for monks and other devotees. There are many religious objects in the gonpa. And some are placed orderly on the altar. Some of them are maṇḍala offering, conch-shell, trumpet, big drum, cymbals, bells, Vajra, seven bowls for offering water, incense trey, butter lamps and so on.

Buddhist Festivals and Celebrations

There are many Buddhist socio-religious fairs, and festivals. The social festivals are celebrated in the villages whereas the religious festivals are observed in the Gonpas. Villages involve in both the celebrations to preserve and maintain the culture in all respects. The celebrations are grand moment of their life and they eagerly look forward to it. Some such festivals and celebrations are: Buddha Purnima or Jayanti, Gong-zok (death anniversary), Buddha's descend from Tuşita Heaven, 6th July, the birthday of H.H. 14th Dalai Lama, Bum-kor (circumambulation with carrying holy scriptures in the surrounding fields of the villages), tse-chu (dedicated to Padmasambhava), Shi-thro (prayer offered to peace and wrathful deities), Nyen-nas (Upovās) and Nyung-nas (Upösatha; fasting), Losar (New Year) and so on. All the villagers take part in those auspicious socio-religious festivals with great faith, religious motives and enthusiasm.

Conclusion

This is a brief history of Buddhist culture and monasteries in the remote areas of the Paldar region. Today, they are playing vital role in practice of Tibetan Buddhism, Buddhist culture and propagation of Buddhism. Those Buddhist heritages in such remote part of district Kishtwar, need help from government as well as from generous private organizations to renovate and conserve the old gonpas and their sacred treasures as well as culture. In this way, Buddhism and Buddhist culture will safely survive in the region and can spread peace and harmony in the region and the world.

The Central Govt. as well as the State govt. had ignored development and did not provided basic facilities to those backward and remote areas, especially the Buddhist valleys. The people are still unaware of their constitutional privileges. There are no proper roads, well equipped schools, electricity, proper health centers with competent and permanent staffs, proper sanitation etc., in all Buddhist valleys. The Buddhist culture needs more support and protection as they are a minority in the district.

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प्रो. रामनाथ शास्त्री हुंदे क्हानी संग्रैह् च चित्रित युवा—वर्गः इक अध्ययन

सुनील कुमार

सारांश

प्रस्तुत शोध-पत्र च प्रो. रामनाथ शास्त्री हुंदे क्हानी संग्रैह् ’बदनामी दी छां’ च आए दे युवा चरित्रें दी खोज पड़ताल कीती गेदी ऐ। युवा-पात्रें गी लेइयै क्हानीकार दी सोच किस चाल्ली दी ऐ, इस तत्थ दा विश्लेशन करदे होई इस क्हानी संग्रैह् दे युवा-पात्रें दी मानसिकता दा विश्लेशन करियै अपनी राए स्थापित कीती गेदी ऐ, जे कि’यां अज्ज दा युवा-वर्ग रूढ़ीवादी विचारधारा गी पिच्छें छोड़ियै अग्गें बधना चांह्दा ऐ। ते केईं बारी अग्गें बधने दी होड़ च ओह् गल्त रस्ता बी अपनाई लैंदा ऐ।

बीज शब्द :– सग्गोसारी, मूजब, खुड़वो-खुड़वी, गियासन, चर्ज

यफवा-वर्ग कुसै बी समाज दे तरक्की-बाद्धे आस्तै नींह्-पत्थर दा कम्म करदा ऐ। अज्ज इक्कीमीं सदी च उ’आं बी भारतवर्श गी युवाएं दा देश मन्निये इसदे उच्च शिखर पर पुज्जने दियें संभावनाए बारै मता सोचेआ-विचारेआ जा करदा ऐ। एह् वर्ग समाज दा मजबूत वर्ग होंदा ऐ। इं’दी तरक्की समाज दी तरक्की मन्नी जंदी ऐ।

अज्ज बदलोंदे समें च युवाएं दी स्थिति बी बदला करदी ऐ। पश्चिमीकरण दे कारण उं’दे रैह्न-सैह्न ते सोच च बी फर्क आवा दा ऐ। डुग्गर समाज च युवाएं दी केह् स्थिति ऐ? इस दी जानकारी डोगरी साहित्य दे हवाले कन्नै उं’दी स्थिति दा जायजा लेइयै होई सकदी ऐ। की जे इक साहित्यकार समाज च जेकिश होंदा-बीतदा जिन्नी शिद्धत कन्नै दिक्खदा-सुनदा ते मसूसदा ऐ, उन्नी गै शिद्धत कन्नै उसी अभिव्यक्त बी करदा ऐ।

डोगरी दे मन्ने दे साहित्यकार ‘प्रो. रामनाथ शास्त्री’ होरें बी अपनियें क्हानियें च युवाएं दी बक्ख-बक्ख स्थितियें गी उजागर कीते दा ऐ।

शास्त्री हुंदा इक्को-इक क्हानी संग्रैह् ‘बदनामी दी छां’ ऐ, जेह्ड़ा सन् 1976 च छपेआ। इस संग्रैह् च कुल छे क्हानियां न। इ’नें सारियें क्हानियें दे कथानक बड़े गै रोचक ते मनै गी छूने आह्ले न। पर संग्रैह् दे सिरलेख आह्ली क्हानी (बदनामी दी छां) अपने आप च इक बक्खरी किसमा दी क्हानी ऐ। क्हानी च सीता नांऽ दी युवा पात्र ऐ। जेह्ड़ी लोकें दे कपड़े सियै अपना गजारा करदी ऐ। ग्रांऽ दियां सारियां जनानियां उसदे चरित्र पर उंगली चुकदे होई उसी बदनाम करदियां न। पर सीता उंदियें गल्लें दी परवाह् नेई करदी। की जे इ’यै बदनामी उस आस्तै इक ठण्डी छां बनी जंदी ऐ।

‘बदनामी दी छां’ क्हानी संग्रैह् दा अध्ययन करने परैंत युवाएं दी जेह्ड़ियां बक्ख-बक्ख स्थितियां सामनै औंदियां न उं’दा विश्लेशन इस लेख च प्रस्तुत कीता जा करदा ऐ। इ’नें स्थितियें गी अध्ययन दी सुविधा आस्तै इ’नें वर्गें दे तैह्त वर्गीकृत कीता जाई सकदा ऐ।

’शोधकर्ता, डोगरी विभाग, जम्मू युनिवर्सिटी, जम्मू।

Arts and Humanities

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युवाएं दी रीति-रवाज प्रति अनास्था

रीति-रवाज साढ़ी संस्कृति दे इक अभिन्न अंग न। साढ़ा डुग्गर समाज रीति-रवाजें पर बड़ी आस्था रक्खदा ऐ। पर अज्ज दा युवा इ'नें रीति-रवाजें गी तर्क दी कसोटी पर परखने दी कोशिश करदा ऐ। इस्सै चाल्ली दी क्हानी ऐ-'होर केह् करदी'। क्हानी दी मुक्ख युवा-पात्र 'उमा' ऐ। ओह् हर गल्ला गी तर्क दी नज़रियै कन्नै दिक्खदी ऐ। उसदा मन्नना ऐ जे अगर मर्द त्रै-त्रै ब्याह् करी सकदे न तां जनानियां की नेईं करी सकदियां। उं'दे बारै की इ'न्ना चर्ज बुझ्झेआ जंदा ऐ। उमां परम्परागत तरीके कन्नै लोकें दे घरा गियासन लेइयै खाने दा बी विरोध करदी ऐ। ओह् अपने बापू गी आखदी ऐ-

''एदे कोला भिक्ख मंगी दी चंगी बापू। इ'यां लोकें दे घरे दियां ए बरसोदां खाइयै जड़े बंदगन-मठोंगन उन्दे च ईन-मान कुत्थों औग ?''[1]

नारी पात्र दे संवाद अपने पिता दे अंदर स्भाविमान दी भावना जगाने आह्ले न। ओह् चांह्दी ऐ जे ओह् लोक बी अपने दम पर समाज च जीन तां जे उं'दा समाज च इक बक्खरा रुतवा होए।

युवाएं दी धर्म दे प्रति अनास्था

साढ़े बजुर्ग म्हेशां धर्म गी मनदे आए न। उ'नें कदें बी धर्म दा विरोध नेईं कीता। पर अज्ज, युवा धर्म पर अंधविश्वास नेईं करदे होई उसी स्हेई ते गल्त दी कसोटी पर दिक्खदे होई अपनांदा ऐ। धर्म दे ऐसे केई पक्ख न जि'नेंगी अज्ज दा युवा मन्ना नेईं करदा। इं'दे च इक ऐ सनातन-परम्परा। 'होर केह् करदी' क्हानी दी पात्र 'उमा' बी इस सनातन-परम्परा दा विरोध करदी ऐ। ओह् सनातन-परम्परा दे खिलाफ बोलदे होई आखदी ऐः-

''बापू, इक सनातन-परम्परा गी बधाने दी चिंता इस सारै देसै च थुआड़े जनेह् लाचार हठी लोकें पर गै की आई पेई ऐ? इस्सै सनातन-परम्परा दी ममता ने इस घरा च कदें सग्गोसारी दी रौंस नेईं औन दिती। कोठें दी हालत दिक्खै करदे ओ? मनुक्ख जून इस चाल्ली बरवाद करने आस्तै ते नेईं होंदी बापू। टल्ला, रुट्टी ते भरोसे दा छप्पर ए त्रै चीजां बी जड़ी सनातन-परम्परा नेईं देई सकै, उसी बांदरी दे मोए दे बच्चे आला लेखा कोई किन्ना क चिर छाती कन्नै लाई फिरग।''[2]

अज्जै दा युवा-वर्ग आपूं ते अतीत कन्नै बज्झियै नेईं रौह्ना चांह्दा बल्कि अपने अभिभावकें गी बी इस दिशा च प्रेरणा दिंदा लब्भदा ऐ।

मुल्लें ब्याह् दा शिकार युवा

डुग्गर समाज च मुल्लें ब्याह् दी समस्या रेही ऐ। इस परम्परा दे मताबक कुसै कुड़ी दा मुल्ल देइयै उस कुड़ी कन्नै ब्याह् कीता जंदा ऐ। एह् मुल्लें ब्याह् दी कुरीति कुड़ियें आस्तै बड़ी बड्डी समस्या रेही ऐ। इस दे कारण कुड़ियें गी अपने शा दूनी उमरी आह्ले मर्दें कन्नै ब्याह् करना पौंदा ऐ। इस्सै समस्या गी उजागर करदी क्हानी ऐ 'गजदे बदल-मिलकदी बिजली'। क्हानी च 'सोमा' नांऽ दी पात्र मुल्लें ब्याह् दी शकार होई दी ऐ। उसदे प्यो ने पैसें दे लालच च

आइयै उसदा ब्याह् बुड्डे बदलू सूबेदार कन्नै कराई दिता। सोमां गी नेईं चांह्दे होई बी एह्ह् ब्याह् करना पौंदा ऐ। बुड्डा सूबेदार आर्थिक तौरा पर ते मजबूत ऐ पर शारीरक तौरा पर कमजोर होने कारण ओह् सोमा गी पति दा सुख नेईं देई सकदा। सोमां ने कदें बी सूबेदार गी हिरखा दी नज़री कन्नै नेईं दिक्खेआ ते नां गै उसी अपने आप गी अपनी त्रीमत आक्खने दा हक्क दिता। सूबेदार उसी अपनी घ्रिस्ती साम्बने आस्तै आखदा ऐ पर सोमा अपने मनें दी भड़ास कड्डदे होई उसी आखदी ऐ जे-

''तेरा घर-घृह्स्थ साम्बां। तूं मेरे बब्बै दा हानी, औं तेरी धी नेईं ? गाई सकना ए चन्न मेरे कन्नै ? बजाई सकना ए उयै नेईं बौंसरी ? मेरी जिन्दु दा मुल्ल देइयै लेई आंदा ए तां मिगी कामा बनाइयै रक्ख, पर ए निं कुसै गी आखेआं जे सोमा बदलू दी त्रीमत ऐ।''[3]

मुल्लें ब्याह् आह्ली समस्या मूजब बी दुग्गर दे युवा-वर्ग गी समस्याएं दा सामना करना पेआ ऐ। इस चाल्ली दी स्थिति च युवा-वर्ग खास करिये नारी अपने आपै गी सुरक्षित नेईं समझदी ते अपनी स्थिति दा विरोध करदी लब्भदी ऐ।

बेमेल ब्याह् दा शकार युवा

बेमेल ब्याह् बी समाज दी बड़ी बड्डी समस्या रेई ऐ। बेमेल सिर्फ उमरी दा गै नेईं बल्कि विचारें दा बी होंदा। केईं बारी कुड़ी-मुड्डे दे विचारें च तालमेल नेईं होंदा, जिसदे कारण उं'दे घृस्थ जीवन च खुड़बो-खुड़बी लग्गी रौंह्दी ऐ। इसदे अलावा उमरी तौरा पर बेमेल होने कारण बी कुड़ियें गी केईं चाल्ली दियें समस्याएं दा सामना करना पौंदा ऐ, ते इक सुखी जीवन दे थाह्र घुट्टन भरोची जिंदगी जीनी पौंदी ऐ। पर एह्ह् गल्ल जरूरी नेईं जे उमरी दे बेमेल होने कारण पति-पत्नी इक दूए गी हिरख नेईं करन। केईं बारी उमरी तौरा पर बेमेल होने दे बावजूद बी उं'दे परिवार च हिरख दी कमी नेईं औंदी। ओह् अपने पति-पत्नी आह्ले सारे धर्म नभांदे न। इस उदाहरण गी प्रस्तुत करदी क्हानी ऐ- 'पति दा भाईवाल'। क्हानी च मोहिनी नांऽ दी युवा पात्र दा ब्याह् हरिशंकर कन्नै होंदा ऐ। हरिशंकर दा एह्ह् दूआ ब्याह् ऐ। इस करी उं'दी दौनी दी उमरी च बड़ा फर्क ऐ। जिस कारण मोहिनी गी ता उमर केईं चाल्ली दी समस्याएं दा सामना करना पौंदा ऐ। इत्थुं तगर जे जिसलै क्हानी दी नायिका मसां जोआनी दी दहलीज च पैर रखदी ऐ तां उसदा पति सुर्गवासी होई जंदा ऐ। उसदी इस दशा दे बारे च क्हानीकार होरने पात्रें दे मुहां खोआंदे होई आखदा ऐ-

''हां, इस गल्ला कोला कोई बी इन्कार कियां करग, जे मोहिनी ते हरिशंकर, इक बेमेल जोड़ी ही। ब्याह् दे मोकै हरिशंकर दी उमर चाली कोला उप्पर होनी ऐ। मोहिनी ओदे मरने दे दसें बरें बाद बी अजें त्रियें बरें दी नेईं ही होई।''[4]

बेमेल ब्याह् बी युवा-वर्ग आस्तै इक बड्डी समस्या दा मूजब रेही ऐ। जिस कारण इसदी शकार नारी गी म्हेशां अंधकार युक्त जीवन गै दिक्खने गी मिलदा रेहा ऐ।

गल्त रस्ते पर चलदा युवा

कुसै बी देश दी तरक्की युवाएं पर निर्भर करदी ऐ। पर जिसलै युवा-वर्ग गल्त रस्तै पर चलना शुरू करी दिए तां ओह् देश किन्नी गै तरक्की करी सकग ? केईं बारी किश युवा मजबूरी च आइयै गल्त रस्तै पर चलने आस्तै मजबूर

होई जंदे न। पर केईं बार सब किश होंदे होई बी होर मता पाने दी लालसा कारण बी युवा गल्त रस्तै पर चली पौंदे न। 'त्रिया अखंड पाठ' क्हानी दा युवा पात्र 'दलीप सिंह' इस्सै चाल्ली दा युवा ऐ। उस कोल सब किश ऐ। पैसा, ऐशो-आराम, उसी किसै बी चिजै दी कमी नेईं ऐ। पर फ्ही बी ओह्ह होर मता पैसा कमाना चांह्दा ऐ। जिस आस्तै ओह्ह बार्डर पर दो नम्बर दा कम्म शुरु करी दिंदा ऐ। इस गल्ला दा खुलासा दलीप सिंह दा बब्ब उसदी मौत्ती दे बाद जज दे सामनै करदा ऐ।

''ए दलीप दी पास बुक। ओह्ह समगलर हा जज साह्ब। काला धन्धा करदा हा। ओदी मौत उत्थै गै होई ही जित्थें डोगरा जमादार ते ओदा पुत्तर आखदे न। मिगी उस दिन पता लग्गी गेया हा जे ओ उस काले धन्धे आस्तै साथियें कन्नै बार्डर पर गेआ ऐ।''[5]

अज्ज दा युवा-वर्ग थोह्ड़ी च संतुश्ट होंदा नेईं लभदा ऐ। बल्कि अपनी इच्छाएं दी खातिर अनैतिक रस्ते पर प्रवृत ऐ जिस दी समाज च आलोचना गै होंदी ऐ।

आर्थिक स्थिति

हर मनुक्खै दे जीवन च उसदी आर्थिक स्थिति बड़ी मायने रक्खदी ऐ। सुखी जीवन जीने आस्तै आर्थिक तौरा पर सग्गोसार होना जरुरी ऐ। जेह्ड़ा आर्थिक तौरा पर कमजोर होए उसी जीवन च बड़ा संघर्श करना पौंदा ऐ। 'बदनामी दी छां' क्हानी दी युवर पात्र सीता बी आर्थिक तौरा पर संघर्श करदी नजरी औंदी ऐ। उसदा घरेआह्ला कोई कम्म-काज नेईं करदा। इस करी सीता गै दिन-रात मैह्नत करियै अपने परिवार दा पालन-पोशन करदी ऐ-

''ए वचारी जुआन, मैह्नती जनानी ऐ। लोकें दे टल्ले सियै अपना, अपने सिब्ढड़ घरेआह्ले दा ते अपने इक्कै-इक जागतै दा गजारा चला करदी ऐ।''[6]

अज्ज दी युवा नारी अपने दम पर सब किश हासल करने दी समर्थ रखदी ऐ। ओह्ह दूएं पर भार बनियै नेईं रौह्ना चांहदी।

युवाएं दी बदलदी सोच

अज्ज जि'यां-जि'यां साढ़ा देश तरक्की करदा जा'रदा ऐ उ'आं-उ'आं युवाएं दी सोच च बी बदलाऽ आवा करदा ऐ। अज्ज दा युवा ऊंच-नीच ते जात-पात गी नेईं मनदा। 'नमें मसाफर पराने रस्ते' क्हानी बी युवाएं दी बदलदी सोच पर अधारत क्हानी ऐ। इस क्हानी दी मुक्ख युवा पात्र 'सुशमा' राजेश नांऽ दे जागतै कन्नै ब्याह्ह करना चांहदी। पर उसदे पिता इस रिश्ते आस्तै नेईं मनदे। सुशमा दे अंकल उसी समझांदे न जे उसदे पिता ने दुनिया दिक्खी दी ऐ ते ओह्ह तेरा भला गै चांह्दे न। ओह्ह अज्ज दे मनु न। पर सुशमा पराने रीति-रवाज ते रूढ़ीवादी सोच गी नेईं मनदी। ओह्ह पिता ते बदलोंदे समाज दे बारै च गल्ल करदे होई अपने अंकल गी आखदी ऐ जे-

''एदा मतलब ऐ जे ओ कदें गल्त गल्ल सोची गै नेईं सकदे ? गल्त कम्म करी नेईं सकदे ? अज्ज तुन्दे उस प्राचीन मनु दी गै किन्नी मानता ऐ अंकल ? जदूं मनु ने अपनी ओ स्मृति लिखी ही, अदूं कोला अज्जै तकर ए दुनिया

किन्नी बदली गेई ? जीवन-धारा दी गति गी कोई मनु अपने बनाए दे नियम-कनूनें च अज्जै तगर बन्नी नेईं सकेआ।"[7]

समें दे कन्नै-कन्नै अज्जै दी युवा-पीढ़ी अपनी सोच च इक बदला आह्ननने दी हिमायती ऐ। ओह् अतीत दा मोह् त्यागियै अग्गें बधने आस्तै सभनें गी प्रेरित करदी लब्भदी ऐ।

प्रो. रामनाथ शास्त्री हुंदी क्हानियें दे अध्ययन परैंत अस एह् आखी सकने आं जे शास्त्री होरें अपने क्हानी संग्रैह् च युवाएं दे बक्ख-बक्ख रुपें गी उजागर कीते दा ऐ-जेह्ड़े रुढ़ीवादी सोच गी नकारदे नज़री औंदे न।

संदर्भ

1. प्रो. रामनाथ शास्त्री बदनामी दी छां, सफा – 13

2. प्रो. रामनाथ शास्त्री बदनामी दी छां, सफा – 14

3. प्रो. रामनाथ शास्त्री बदनामी दी छां, सफा – 33

4. प्रो. रामनाथ शास्त्री बदनामी दी छां, सफा – 48

5. प्रो. रामनाथ शास्त्री बदनामी दी छां, सफा – 82

6. प्रो. रामनाथ शास्त्री बदनामी दी छां, सफा – 105

7. प्रो. रामनाथ शास्त्री बदनामी दी छां, सफा – 87

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ : ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾਈ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰਜ

ਹਰਜਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ

ਸਾਰ

ਮੁੱਢਲੀ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਮੱਧਕਾਲ ਦੇ ਸ਼੍ਰੇਣੀ-ਬੱਧ ਸਮਾਜ ਦੇ ਸਮੇਂ ਦੀ ਉਪਜ ਹੈ।ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਦੇ ਅਨੇਕ ਖੋਜੀ-ਚਿੰਤਕਾਂ ਨੇ ਇਸ ਦੇ ਉਦਗਮ ਦਾ ਸਮਾਂ ਸੋਲ੍ਹਵੀਂ ਸਦੀ ਦਾ ਆਖਰੀ ਦਹਾਕਾ ਜਾਂ ਸਤਾਰਵੀਂ ਸਦੀ ਦਾ ਪਹਿਲਾ ਦਾਹਕਾ ਹੀ ਮਿਥਿਆ ਹੈ।ਵਾਰਤਕ ਇਕ ਵਸ਼ਿਸ਼ਟ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਰੂਪ ਹੈ।ਇਸ ਵਸ਼ਿਸ਼ਟ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਰੂਪ ਦੀ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਤੋਂ ਪਹਿਲਾਂ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਸੰਸਕ੍ਰਿਤ, ਪਾਲੀ, ਉਰਦੂ-ਫ਼ਾਰਸੀ ਆਦਿ ਵਿਚ ਇਕ ਸਮ੍ਰਿਧ ਅਤੇ ਸਿਰਮੌਰ ਪਰੰਪਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਚੱਲਤ ਸੀ। ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਲੋਕ-ਸਾਹਿਤ ਦੀ ਅਮੀਰ ਪਰੰਪਰਾ ਦੇ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਰੂਪ ਲੋਕ-ਕਥਾ ਵਿਚੋਂ ਆਪਣਾ ਮੂੰਹ-ਮੁਹਾਂਦਰਾ ਸਿਰਜਦੀ-ਸਵਾਰਦੀ ਹੈ।ਇਸ ਖੋਜ-ਪੱਤਰ ਦਾ ਮਨੋਰਥ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਦੇ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾਈ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰਜ ਨੂੰ ਪੜਚੋਲਣਾ ਹੈ।

ਮੂਲ ਸ਼ਬਦ: ਮਿਥ, ਦ੍ਰਿਬ-ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀ, ਕਰਾਮਾਤ, ਧਰਾਤਲ, ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਪਰੰਪਰਾ, ਪੌਰਾਣਿਕ ਕਥਾਵਾਂ, ਇਤਿਹਾਸਿਕ ਬਿੰਬ, ਮੁਕਤੀ।

(1)

ਮੱਧਕਾਲੀ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਵਿਚ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਨੂੰ ਵਿਸ਼ੇਸ਼ ਸਥਾਨ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੈ।ਇਸ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਰੂਪ ਦੀ ਇਤਿਹਾਸਕ ਅਤੇ ਸਾਹਿਤਕ ਖੋਜ-ਅਧਿਐਨ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਬੰਧਤ ਅਨੇਕ ਖੋਜੀ-ਵਿਦਵਾਨਾਂ, ਸਮੀਖਿਅਕਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਇਤਿਹਾਸਕਾਰਾਂ ਨੇ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਨੂੰ ਹੀ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਦਾ ਮੁੱਢਲਾ ਜਾਂ ਪੁਰਾਤਨ, ਵਿਕਸਤ ਅਤੇ ਪ੍ਰਮਾਣਿਕ ਰੂਪ ਸਵੀਕਾਰ ਕੀਤਾ ਹੈ।[1] ਇਸ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਜੀ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਮਹਾਂ-ਪੁਰਸ਼ਾਂ ਦੇ ਜੀਵਨ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਬੰਧਤ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕ ਰਚਨਾਵਾਂ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੁੰਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ।ਭਾਵੇਂ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਵਿਚ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਅਤੇ ਕਵਿਤਾ ਦਾ ਸਾਂਝਾ ਸਰੂਪ ਰੂਪਮਾਨ ਹੁੰਦਾ ਹੈ ਪਰੰਤੂ ਕੇਂਦਰੀ/ਮੂਲ ਪ੍ਰਾਥਮਕਤਾ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਨੂੰ ਹੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੈ।ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰਾਂ ਨੇ ਕਵਿਤਾ (ਬਾਣੀ) ਨੂੰ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਦੇ ਸੰਚਾਰ-ਨਿਭਾਉ ਲਈ ਸਹਾਇਕ ਸਾਧਨ ਵਜੋਂ ਉਪਯੋਗਤਾ ਵਿਚ ਲਿਆਂਦਾ ਹੈ।ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਦੇ ਪਾਠਗਤ ਜੁੱਸੇ ਵਿਚ ਸੱਚੀ ਅਤੇ ਕੱਚੀ ਬਾਣੀ ਦੇ ਹਵਾਲੇ ਮਿਲਦੇ ਹਨ। ਇਸ ਪ੍ਰਸੰਗ ਵਿਚ ਮਿਥ ਵਿਗਿਆਨੀ ਡਾ. ਮਨਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਦਾ ਵਿਚਾਰ ਗੌਲਣਯੋਗ ਹੈ :

> ਸਿੱਖ ਸੰਪਰਦਾਇ ਦਾ ਮੂਲ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਈ-ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਗੁਰਬਾਣੀ ਹੈ।ਗੁਰਬਾਣੀ ਦੇ ਸ਼ਾਸਤ੍ਰੀਮੂਲਕ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਦੇ ਸੰਚਾਰ ਨੂੰ ਲੋਕ-ਬੁਧ ਤਕ ਪਹੁੰਚਾਉਣ ਦਾ ਕਾਰਜ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਸਾਖੀਆਂ ਦੀ ਸਿਰਜਨਾ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਹੋਇਆ ਹੈ।[2]

ਇਸ ਵਿਚਾਰ ਅਧੀਨ ਧਾਰਨਾ ਨੂੰ ਅਗਰ ਜ਼ਰਾ ਗੋਹ ਨਾਲ ਵਾਚੀਏ ਤਾਂ ਇਹ ਅਨੁਮਾਨ ਸਹਿਜੇ ਹੀ ਲਗਾਇਆ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਭਾਰਤੀ ਸਨਾਤਨੀ ਚਿੰਤਨ ਪਰੰਪਰਾ ਆਮ ਲੋਕਾਈ ਨੂੰ ਅੱਖਰ ਜਾਂ ਸ਼ਬਦ-ਗਿਆਨ ਤੋਂ ਵਾਂਝਾ ਰੱਖਦੀ

ਐਸਿਸਟੈਂਟ ਪ੍ਰੋਫੈਸਰ, ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਿਭਾਗ, ਜੰਮੂ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ

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ਸੀ।ਪਰ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਇਸ ਪਰੰਪਰਕ ਸੀਮਾ ਨੂੰ ਖੰਡਿਤ ਕਰਕੇ ਆਮ ਲੋਕਾਈ ਨੂੰ ਸ਼ਬਦ-ਗਿਆਨ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰ ਦਾ ਹਿੱਸਾ ਬਣਾਉਂਦਾ ਹੈ। ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ ਸ਼ਬਦ-ਗਿਆਨ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰ ਦੇ ਪਸਾਰ ਲਈ ਪਰੰਪਰਕ ਤੌਰ 'ਤੇ ਰੂੜ੍ਹ ਹੋ ਚੁੱਕੀ ਸ਼ਾਸਤਰੀਮੂਲਕ ਜਾਂ ਸੰਕਲਪੀ ਸ਼ਬਦਾਵਲੀ ਤੋਂ ਕਿਨਾਰਾ ਹੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਕਰਦਾ, ਸਗੋਂ ਉਹ ਵਿਚਾਰਾਂ ਦੇ ਸੰਚਾਰ ਲਈ ਆਮ ਲੋਕ-ਜੀਵਨ ਦੇ ਵਰਤ-ਵਿਹਾਰ ਦੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਜਾਂ ਬੋਲੀ ਨੂੰ ਤਰਜੀਹ ਵੀ ਦਿੰਦਾ ਹੈ।ਇਸ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ, ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਪਰੰਪਰਾ ਦੀ ਵਿਚਾਰਾਤਮਕ ਚੇਤਨਾ ਦੀ ਨਵੀਂ ਪੁੰਗਰ ਰਹੀ ਸੰਕਲਪੀ ਸ਼ਬਦਾਵਲੀ ਲੋਕ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਰੂਪਾਂਤਰਤ ਹੋ ਕੇ ਵਿਆਖਿਆਤਮਕ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਸੰਚਾਰ ਦਾ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰਜ ਨਿਭਾਉਂਦੀ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸ ਨੂੰ ਆਮ ਜਨ-ਸਮੂਹ ਨੇ ਸ਼ਬਦ-ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰ ਵਜੋਂ ਆਤਮਸਾਤ ਕੀਤਾ।[3] ਡਾ. ਤਰਲੋਕ ਸਿੰਘ ਕੰਵਰ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ :

ਸ਼ਬਦ ਦਾ ਸਬੰਧ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਇ ਦੇ ਅੰਤਰਗਤ ਕੰਮ ਕਰਦੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਈ ਸਮਰੱਥਾ ਨਾਲ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰ ਦਾ ਸਬੰਧ ਏਸੇ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਈ ਅਰਥਾਂ ਦੀ ਨਿਸ਼ਪਾਦਨ ਪਏਰਫੋਰਮਏਨਚਏ ਪ੍ਰਕ੍ਰਿਆ ਵਿਚੋਂ ਉਪਜਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਭਿੰਨ ਭਿੰਨ ਸਾਰਥਕ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰਜਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਹੈ।[4]

ਇਸ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ, ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਹੀ ਸ਼ਬਦ-ਵਿਹਾਰ ਤੋਂ ਵਸਤ-ਵਿਹਾਰ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤੀ ਵੱਲ ਨੂੰ ਮੁੱਖ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ। ਵਸਤ-ਵਿਹਾਰ ਹੀ ਅਸਲ ਵਿਚ ਯਥਾਰਥ ਹੈ। ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਉਸ ਨੂੰ ਕਲਪਿਤ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ। ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਵਿਚ ਪਸਰੇ ਸ਼ਬਦ-ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰ ਦਾ ਜਿਥੇ ਇਕ ਮਕਸਦ ਸਮਾਜ-ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰ ਵਿਚਲੇ ਬਹੁਗਿਣਤੀ ਤਬਕੇ ਨੂੰ ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਇ ਦੀ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾ ਅਤੇ ਕਾਰ-ਵਿਹਾਰ ਨਾਲ ਜੋੜਨਾ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸ ਦੇ ਸਮਰਥਨ ਅਤੇ ਸਹਿਯੋਗ ਤੋਂ ਬਿਨਾਂ ਨਵੀਂ ਉਭਰ ਰਹੀ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਇਕ ਚੇਤਨਾ ਦਾ ਵਿਕਸਤ ਅਤੇ ਸਥਾਪਤ ਹੋਣਾ ਕਠਨ ਸੀ, ਉਥੇ ਦੂਜਾ ਸਮਾਜਕ ਅਤੇ ਮਾਨਸਕ ਤੌਰ 'ਤੇ ਪੀੜਤ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੇ ਕਲੇਵਰ ਵਿਚ ਲੈ ਕੇ ਰਾਹਤ ਪ੍ਰਦਾਨ ਕਰਨਾ ਵੀ ਸੀ। ਇਥੇ ਇਹ ਗੱਲ ਵੀ ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਣ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਜਿਥੇ ਪੁਰਵਲੀਆਂ ਬ੍ਰਾਹਮਣਵਾਦੀ ਚਿੰਤਨ ਪਰੰਪਰਾਵਾਂ ਸਥਾਪਤੀ ਦੀਆਂ ਭਾਈਵਾਲ ਸਨ, ਉਥੇ ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਪਰੰਪਰਾ ਦੇ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾਈ ਸਰੋਕਾਰ ਯਥਾਰਥਕ ਤੌਰ 'ਤੇ ਮਨੁੱਖ ਕੇਂਦਰਤ ਸਨ।ਇਉਂ, ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਦੇ ਪਾਠਗਤ ਜੁੱਸੇ ਵਿਚ ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਇ ਦਾ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾਈ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਈ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰ ਆਪਣੀਆਂ ਭਵਿੱਖਤ ਇੱਛਾਵਾਂ ਦੀ ਪੂਰਤੀ ਲਈ ਹੋਂਦ ਵਿਸਥਾਰਦਾ ਹੈ।

ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਇਕ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਰੂਪ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਰੂਪ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਤੀ ਨੂੰ ਉਪਜਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਮਿਥ ਜਾਂ ਪੌਰਾਣਿਕ-ਕਥਾਵਾਂ, ਲੋਕ-ਕਥਾਵਾਂ, ਬਾਣੀ, ਕਰਾਮਾਤ, ਦਿੱਬ-ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀ ਅਤੇ ਪ੍ਰਾਕਿਰਤੀ ਸਹਿਯੋਗ ਜਿਹੇ ਤੱਤ ਅਤੇ ਤੱਥ ਸਮੱਗਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਕਾਰਜਸ਼ੀਲ ਹਨ। ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦਾ ਸਾਰਾ ਵਾਯੂ-ਮੰਡਲ ਅਵਤਾਰਾਂ, ਪੈਗੰਬਰਾਂ, ਗੁਰੂਆਂ, ਪੀਰਾਂ-ਫ਼ਕੀਰਾਂ, ਸੰਤਾਂ, ਮਹਾਂਪੁਰਸ਼ਾਂ, ਦੇਵੀ-ਦੇਵਤਿਆਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਧਾਰਮਕ ਆਗੂਆਂ ਦੁਆਲੇ ਪਸਰਿਆ ਹੋਇਆ ਹੈ। ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਦੇ ਸਿਰਜਣ-ਪਿਛੋਕੜ ਵਿਚ ਭਾਰਤੀ ਪੌਰਾਣਿਕ ਕਥਾਵਾਂ ਦੀਆਂ ਮੂਲ ਕਥਾ ਰੂੜ੍ਹੀਆਂ, ਸਾਮੀ ਮੂਲ ਦੀਆਂ ਕਥਾ ਰੂੜ੍ਹੀਆਂ ਅਤੇ ਬੁੱਧ ਜਾਤਕ ਕਥਾਵਾਂ ਸੰਜੋਈਆਂ ਹੋਈਆਂ ਹਨ।ਡਾ. ਸੁਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਦੇ ਸ਼ਬਦਾਂ ਵਿਚ :

ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਵਿਚ ਵੱਖੋ-ਵੱਖਰੇ ਲੋਕ-ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕ ਸਰੋਤਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਆਈਆਂ ਘਟਨਾਵੀਂ ਰੂੜ੍ਹੀਆਂ ਦਾ ਆਪਣਾ ਵਿਸ਼ੇਸ਼ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾਈ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰਜ ਹੈ।ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਸਿਰਫ਼ ਰੂੜ੍ਹੀਆਂ ਦਾ ਸੰਯੋਜਨ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੋਇਆ ਅਲੱਗ-ਅਲੱਗ ਸੰਸਕ੍ਰਿਤੀਆਂ ਅਤੇ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾਵਾਂ ਦਾ ਸੰਯੋਜਨ ਵੀ ਹੋਇਆ ਹੈ।ਇਸੇ ਕਾਰਣ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦਾ ਜੋ ਬਿੰਬ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀਆਂ ਵਿਚੋਂ ਉੱਸਰਦਾ ਹੈ ਉਹ ਨਾ ਤਾਂ ਹਿੰਦੂ ਮੱਤ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਨਿਰੋਲ ਅਵਤਾਰ

ਵਾਲਾ ਹੈ, ਨਾ ਇਸਲਾਮ ਮੁਤਾਬਕ ਪੈਗੰਬਰ ਵਾਲਾ ਅਤੇ ਨਾ ਹੀ ਬੁੱਧ ਮੱਤ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਅਣਈਸ਼ਵਰਵਾਦੀ ਧਾਰਮਿਕ ਆਗੂ ਵਾਲਾ।ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਪਰੰਪਰਾ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਸਾਰੀਆਂ ਪਰੰਪਰਾਵਾਂ ਦਾ ਸੰਯੋਜਨ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੋਈ ਗੁਰੂ ਦਾ ਇਕ ਨਿਵੇਕਲਾ ਬਿੰਬ ਘੜਦੀ ਹੈ।⁵

ਇਸ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰ,"ਮੱਧਕਾਲ ਦਾ ਸਮਾਂ ਵਿਭਿੰਨ ਸੰਸਕ੍ਰਿਤੀਆਂ ਦੇ ਪ੍ਰਸਪਰ ਸਾਂਸਕ੍ਰਿਤਕ ਸੰਸਲੇਸ਼ਣ ਦਾ ਸਮਾਂ ਹੈ। ...ਮੱਧਕਾਲੀ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਵਿਚ ਇਹ ਸਾਰਾ ਕੁਝ ਪਸਰਿਆ ਪਿਆ ਹੈ।'⁶ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਤੀ ਨੂੰ ਮਿਥ, ਕਰਾਮਾਤ, ਦਿੱਬ-ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀ ਅਤੇ ਪ੍ਰਾਕਿਰਤੀ ਸਹਿਯੋਗ ਜਿਹੇ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕ ਲੱਛਣ ਸੰਚਾਲਿਤ ਕਰਦੇ ਹਨ।ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀਆਂ ਦੇ ਪਾਠਗਤ ਜੁੱਸੇ ਵਿਚ ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕ ਲੱਛਣਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਕਥਾਨਕ ਰੂੜੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਢਾਲਦਾ ਹੈ।ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ ਜਨਮ ਸਮੇਂ ਦੇ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਤੋਂ ਹੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇ ਮਾਨਵੀ-ਇਤਿਹਾਸਕ ਬਿੰਬ ਨੂੰ ਦੈਵੀ-ਸ਼ਖਸੀਅਤ ਵਿਚ ਰੂਪਾਂਤਰਤ ਕਰ ਦਿੰਦਾ ਹੈ।⁷ ਇਸ ਪ੍ਰਸੰਗ ਵਿਚ ਸ. ਸ. ਵਣਜਾਰਾ ਬੇਦੀ ਦਾ ਵਿਚਾਰ ਵਿਸ਼ੇਸ਼ ਅਰਥ ਰੱਖਦਾ ਹੈ :

ਲੋਕ-ਮਨ ਨੇ ਦੇਵ ਪੁਰਸ਼ਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਬੰਧਿਤ ਅਨੇਕਾਂ ਪੌਰਾਣਿਕ ਰੂੜੀਆਂ, ਮਹਾਂਪੁਰਖਾਂ ਦਾ ਗੌਰਵ ਦਰਸਾਣ ਲਈ ਅਤੇ ਉਹਨਾਂ ਦੀ ਸ਼ਖਸੀਅਤ ਦਾ ਦੈਵੀਕਰਣ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਉਹਨਾਂ ਦੇ ਭੌਤਿਕ ਜੀਵਨ ਵਿਚ ਸਮਿਲਤ ਕਰਨੀਆਂ ਸ਼ੁਰੂ ਕੀਤੀਆਂ।⁸

ਇਸ ਵਿਚਾਰ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਮਨੁੱਖ ਆਦਿਕਾਲੀਨ ਅਵਸਥਾ ਵਿਚ ਅਮੂਰਤ ਦਾ ਦੈਵੀਕਰਨ ਕਰਦਾ ਸੀ। ਮੱਧਕਾਲ ਵਿਚ ਉਸ ਨੇ ਨਵੀਂ ਯੁਗ-ਚੇਤਨਾ ਦੇ ਅੰਤਰਗਤ ਸਮੂਰਤ ਦਾ ਦੈਵੀਕਰਨ ਕਰਨਾ ਸ਼ੁਰੂ ਕਰ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਕਿਉਂਕਿ ਮਨੁੱਖ ਆਪਣੇ ਆਦਿਮ ਅਵਸਥਾ ਵਾਲੇ ਪਰਾਭੌਤਿਕ ਜਗਤ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਭੌਤਿਕ ਜਗਤ ਵੱਲ ਰੁਚਿਤ ਹੋ ਰਿਹਾ ਸੀ। ਇਉਂ, ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੀ ਮਾਨਵੀ-ਇਤਿਹਾਸਕ ਸ਼ਖਸੀਅਤ ਨੂੰ ਅਵਤਾਰ ਧਾਰਨ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਿਆ ਦੇ ਅੰਤਰਗਤ ਮਿਥਕ ਘਟਨਾ ਦੇ ਤੌਰ 'ਤੇ ਚਿਤਰਿਆ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ। ਮਿੱਥ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਤੀ ਦੇ ਸੰਦਰਭ ਵਿਚ ਡਾ. ਅਮਰ ਕੋਮਲ ਲਿਖਦੇ ਹਨ:

ਮਿਥਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਆਦਿ ਮਨੁੱਖ ਦੇ ਅਵਚੇਤਨਮਨ ਵਿਚ ਅਧੂਰੇ ਸੁਪਨਿਆਂ ਦੇ ਦਰਸ਼ਨ ਵੀ ਕੀਤੇ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਨ।ਜੋ ਮਿਥਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਸਰਵ-ਵਿਆਪੇ ਮਾਨਵ-ਮਨ ਦੇ ਸੰਕਲਪੇ ਚਿੱਤਰਾਂ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਪਰੋਖ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਅਭਿਵਿਅਕਤ ਹੁੰਦੇ ਹਨ।ਇੰਜ ਮਨੁੱਖੀ ਫਿਤਰਤ ਦੀ ਮੁਢਲੀ ਅਵਸਥਾ ਹੌਲੇ ਹੌਲੇ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਿਆ ਵਿਚ ਪੈ ਕੇ ਸਮੂਹਿਕ ਮਾਨਵੀ ਸੰਕਲਪ ਦਾ ਰੂਪ ਧਾਰਣ ਕਰਦੀ ਨਜ਼ਰ ਆਉਂਦੀ ਹੈ।⁹

ਇੰਝ, ਮਿਥ ਤੱਤਕਾਲੀਨ ਦੌਰ ਦੇ ਕਾਲਪਨਿਕ-ਯਥਾਰਥ ਨੂੰ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਵਿਚ ਚਿਤਰਦੀ ਹੈ।ਇਸ ਕਾਲਪਨਿਕ-ਯਥਾਰਥ ਵਿਚ ਕਿਸੇ ਸਮੂਹ ਜਾਂ ਸਮੁਦਾਇ ਦੀਆਂ ਚਾਹਤਾਂ, ਸਧਰਾਂ, ਉਮੰਗਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਹਕੀਕਤਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਪ੍ਰਚਾਰਿਆ ਅਤੇ ਪਸਾਰਿਆ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰ, ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਵਿਚ "...ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਦੇ ਨਾਇਕ ਦਾ ਦੈਵੀਕਰਨ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਮਨ ਅੰਦਰ ਉਤਪੰਨ ਹੋ ਰਹੀ ਸੱਤਾ ਦੀ ਚਾਹਤ ਦਾ ਰੂਪਾਂਤਰਣ ਹੈ। ਦੈਵੀਕਤਾ ਸੱਤਾ ਦਾ ਹੀ ਇਕ ਰੂਪ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਦੈਵੀਕਰਨ ਸੱਤਾ ਦੀ ਚਾਹਤ ਦਾ ਬਦਲਿਆ ਹੋਇਆ ਰੂਪ ਹੈ। ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇ ਵਿਅਕਤਿਤਵ ਅਤੇ ਬਾਣੀ ਦੇ ਕ੍ਰਾਂਤੀਕਾਰੀ ਰੂਪ ਨੇ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਬੰਦੇ ਦੇ ਮਨ-ਮਸਤਕ ਵਿਚ ਸੱਤਾ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤੀ ਦੇ ਇਕ ਸੁਪਨੇ ਅਤੇ ਇਕ ਸੰਭਾਵਨਾ ਦਾ ਸੰਚਾਰ ਕੀਤਾ।'¹⁰ ਇਸ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ, ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੀ ਮਾਨਵੀ-ਇਤਿਹਾਸਕ ਸ਼ਖਸੀਅਤ ਨੂੰ ਦੈਵੀ-ਸ਼ਖਸੀਅਤ ਵਜੋਂ ਸਥਾਪਤ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸ ਦੀ ਮੱਧਕਾਲੀ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਸਮਾਜ ਦੇ ਇਕ ਖਾਸ ਚੇਤੰਨ/ਬੌਧਿਕ ਵਰਗ ਨੂੰ ਲੋੜ ਸੀ। ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਕਥਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਦੈਵੀ-ਸ਼ਖਸੀਅਤ ਦੇ ਰੱਬ, ਜਗਤ ਜਾਂ ਆਤਮਾ ਬਾਰੇ ਕਹੇ ਵਿਚਾਰ ਠੀਕ ਸਾਬਤ ਹੁੰਦੇ ਹਨ ਅਤੇ ਹਰੇਕ

ਕਿਸਮ ਦੀਆਂ ਗੁੰਝਲਾਂ-ਮੁਸ਼ਕਲਾਂ ਵਿਚੋਂ ਉਹ ਸੰਵਾਦਾਤਮਕ ਵਿਚਾਰਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਵਿਜੈ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ। ਅਸਲ ਵਿਚ, ਇਹ ਵਿਚਾਰ ਸਿੱਖ ਮਤ ਦੇ ਸਿਧਾਂਤ ਹੀ ਹਨ ਅਤੇ ਦੈਵੀ-ਸ਼ਖਸੀਅਤ ਦੀ ਨਿੱਜੀ ਜਿੱਤ ਪੂਰੇ ਸਿੱਖ ਸਮੁਦਾਇ ਦੀ ਜਿੱਤ ਦਾ ਪ੍ਰਤੀਕ ਹੈ।[11] ਉਸ ਦੀਆਂ ਸ਼ਕਤੀਆਂ ਅਸੀਮਤ ਅਤੇ ਅਬਦਲ ਹਨ, ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਤੀ ਸ਼ਾਹੀ ਹੁਕਮ ਵਰਗੀ ਹੈ ਜਿਸ ਬਾਰੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਸੰਦੇਹ ਦੀ ਗੁੰਜਾਇਸ ਨਹੀਂ। ਇੰਝ, ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਵਿਚਾਰਾਂ ਦੀ ਅਭਿਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਲਈ ਧਰਮ ਨੂੰ ਪੁਨਰ-ਪਰਿਭਾਸ਼ਤ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਪ੍ਰਚਾਰ-ਸੰਚਾਰ ਸਾਧਨ ਵਜੋਂ ਚੁਣਦਾ ਹੈ,"...ਜਿਸਦਾ ਇਕ ਮਨੋਰਥ ਜਿੱਥੇ ਮਹਾਨਤਾ ਦਾ ਪ੍ਰਮਾਣ ਮੰਨੀਆਂ ਜਾਣ ਵਾਲੀਆਂ ਸ਼ਕਤੀਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੇ ਈਸ਼ਟ ਨਾਲ ਜੋੜਕੇ ਉਸਦੀ ਪਰਾਲੌਕਿਕ ਸ਼ਖਸੀਅਤ ਦਾ ਬਿੰਬ ਪੈਦਾ ਕਰਨਾ ਹੈ ਉੱਥੇ ਦੂਜਾ ਮਨੋਰਥ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਰੂੜੀਆਂ ਦੇ ਸੰਯੋਜਨ ਨਾਲ ਇਕ ਨਵੇਂ ਸਾਂਸਕ੍ਰਿਤਕ ਬਦਲ ਵਜੋਂ ਗੁਰੂ ਅਤੇ ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਦੇ ਮਹੱਤਵ ਨੂੰ ਸਥਾਪਤ ਅਤੇ ਦ੍ਰਿੜ ਕਰਨਾ ਵੀ ਸੀ।"[12] ਇਉਂ, ਭਾਵੇਂ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਦੇ ਸਿਰਜਣ-ਪਿਛੋਕੜ ਵਿਚ ਹਿੰਦੂ ਅਤੇ ਸਾਮੀ ਮਿਥਿਹਾਸ ਤੋਂ ਲੈ ਕੇ ਬੁੱਧ ਜਾਤਕ ਕਥਾਵਾਂ ਕਾਰਜਸ਼ੀਲ ਹਨ ਪਰੰਤੂ 'ਗੁਰੂ' ਦਾ ਬਿੰਬ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਇਕ ਨਿਵੇਕਲੀ ਅਤੇ ਤਨਾਉ ਰਹਿਤ ਸਰਬਸਾਂਝੀ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਹਸਤੀ ਵਜੋਂ ਉਭਰਦਾ ਹੈ।[13]

ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਦੇ ਸਿਰਜਨਾਤਮਕ ਅਮਲ ਵਿਚ ਇਕ ਹੋਰ ਅਹਿਮ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾਈ ਪਹਿਲੂ 'ਮੁਕਤੀ' ਦਾ ਸੰਕਲਪ ਹੈ। ਇਹ ਪਹਿਲੂ ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਦਰਸ਼ਨ ਦੀ ਅਧਿਆਮਕ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਤੀ ਦਾ ਮਸਲਾ ਹੈ। ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਅਵਤਾਰ ਤਾਂ ਧਾਰਦੇ ਹਨ ਪਰ ਮਾਨਵ ਮੁਕਤੀ ਲਈ ਸੰਘਾਰ ਦੀ ਬਿਰਤੀ ਨੂੰ ਨਹੀਂ ਅਪਣਾਉਂਦੇ।[14] ਉਹ ਗੁਰਬਾਣੀ ਵਿਚਾਰ ਅਤੇ ਧਰਾਤਲੀ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਜੀਵਨ-ਮੁੱਲਾਂ ਦੇ ਵਿਵੇਕਸ਼ੀਲ ਸੰਬਾਦ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਕੁਰਾਹੇ ਪਏ ਹੋਏ ਮਨੁੱਖ ਦੇ ਜੀਵਨ-ਮਾਰਗ ਦਾ ਰਾਹ ਰੁਸ਼ਨਾਉਂਦੇ ਹਨ। ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ ਦੀ ਰਚਨਾ ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਵਿਚਲੇ ਅਨੇਕ ਸਧਾਰਣ ਅਤੇ ਰਾਜਸੀ ਹਿੱਤਾਂ ਵਾਲੇ ਪਾਤਰਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਸੰਕਲਪ ਜ਼ਰੀਏ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਇ ਦੀ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾ ਨਾਲ ਹੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਜੋੜਦੀ, ਸਗੋਂ ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਕੰਮ-ਕਾਜੀ ਵਿਵਸਥਾ ਨੂੰ ਵੀ ਪੁਨਰ-ਨਿਰਧਾਰਤ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ ਜਿਸ ਨਾਲ ਉਹ ਪੂਰਵਲੇ ਅਤੇ ਅਗਲੇਰੇ ਜਨਮ ਦੇ ਕਰਮਾਂ ਉੱਤੇ ਸਫਲਤਾ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕਰ ਸਕਣ। ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਦੇ ਵਿਆਪਕ ਪ੍ਰਕਰਣ ਵਿਚ ਪਸਰੇ ਇਸ 'ਮੁਕਤੀ' ਦੇ ਸੰਕਲਪ ਸੰਬੰਧੀ ਡਾ. ਮਨਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਦੀ ਰਾਏ ਮੰਨਣਯੋਗ ਹੈ :

ਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ 'ਚੋਂ ਵਿਕਸਿਤ ਹੋਣ ਵਾਲੀ ਇਸ ਮਿਥ ਨੂੰ 'ਮੁਕਤੀ ਦੀ ਮਿਥ' ਦਾ ਨਾਂ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਆਦਿ ਗ੍ਰੰਥ ਵਿਚ ਦਰਜ ਗੁਰਬਾਣੀ ਦਾ ਮੂਲ ਸੰਦੇਸ਼ ਵੀ ਮਨੁੱਖ ਮਾਤਰ ਦੀ ਮੁਕਤੀ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਬੰਧਤ ਹੈ। ਇਉਂ, ਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਗੁਰਬਾਣੀ ਦੇ ਮੂਲ ਆਸ਼ੇ ਦੇ ਅਨੁਕੂਲ ਹੀ ਆਪਣਾ ਮੁਕਤੀ ਦਾ ਸੰਦੇਸ਼ ਸੰਚਾਰਿਤ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ। ਭਾਵੇਂ ਸੰਚਾਰ ਵਿਧੀਆਂ ਦੋਹਾਂ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਾਂ ਦੀਆਂ ਭਿੰਨ ਹਨ, ਪਰ ਮੂਲ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਤੀ ਵਿਚ ਦੋਵੇਂ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਮਿਥਿਕ ਹੀ ਹਨ।[15]

ਇਸ ਰਾਏ ਵਿਚਲੇ 'ਮੂਲ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਤੀ ਵਿਚ ਦੋਵੇਂ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਮਿਥਿਕ ਹੀ ਹਨ' ਵਾਕੰਸ਼ ਦਾ ਭਾਵ ਇਹ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਗੁਰਬਾਣੀ-ਪ੍ਰਵਚਨ ਅਤੇ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਦੋ ਵੱਖ-ਵੱਖ ਧਰਾਤਲਾਂ ਦੀ ਵੱਖਰੀ ਹੋਂਦ ਦਾ ਮਿਥਕੀ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਉਸਾਰਦੇ ਹਨ। ਇਹ ਦੋ ਧਰਾਤਲ ਹਨ ਇਹਲੌਕਿਕ ਜਗਤ ਅਤੇ ਪਰਾਲੌਕਿਕ ਜਗਤ ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਭੂਮੀ ਕਰਮ ਸਿਧਾਂਤ ਹੈ। "ਇਸੇ ਕਰਕੇ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਬੰਦੇ ਦੇ ਮਨ ਵਿਚ ਦੇਵ-ਜਗਤ [ਪਰਾਲੌਕਿਕ] ਦੇ ਮੁਕਾਬਲੇ ਧਰਤੀ ਦੀ ਦੂਜੈਲੀ ਹੋਂਦ ਦਾ ਵਿਸ਼ਵਾਸ ਦ੍ਰਿੜ...ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਉਹ ਕਰਮ ਸਿਧਾਂਤ ਵਿਚ ਨਿਸਚਾ ਰੱਖਦਾ ਹੈ। ਕਿਸਮਤ ਦਾ ਪਹਿਲਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਹੀ ਨਿਸਚਿਤ ਹੋਣਾ ਅਤੇ ਉਸਦੇ ਸਮੁੱਚੇ ਕਾਰਜਾਂ ਦਾ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੈਵੀ ਸ਼ਕਤੀ ਦੇ ਕੰਟਰੋਲ 'ਚ ਹੋਣਾ ਅਜਿਹੇ ਹੀ ਵਿਸ਼ਵਾਸ ਹਨ ਜਿਹੜੇ ਕਥਾ [ਮਿਥ]

ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਦੁਆਰਾ ਉਪਜਾਏ ਤੇ ਦ੍ਰਿੜ ਕੀਤੇ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ। "¹⁶ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਵਿਚਲੀ ਮੁਕਤੀ ਦੀ ਮਿਥ ਦਾ ਸੰਕਲਪ ਮੱਧਕਾਲੀ ਮਾਨਵ ਲਈ ਇਕ ਸੰਕਟ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਸੰਕਟ ਦੀ ਨਿਵਿਰਤੀ ਲਈ ਕਿਸੇ ਕੁਲਗੁਰੂ ਦਾ ਹੋਣਾ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਲਈ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਦੇ ਸਮੁੱਚੇ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕ ਪ੍ਰਵਚਨ ਵਿਚ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦਾ ਬਿੰਬ ਮੁਕਤੀਦਾਤਾ ਦੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਉਭਰਦਾ ਹੈ। ਇਥੇ ਇਕ ਗੱਲ ਹੋਰ ਵੀ ਵਿਚਾਰਨਯੋਗ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਮੁਕਤੀ ਪ੍ਰਦਾਨ ਕਰਨ ਦੇ ਨਾਲ-ਨਾਲ ਪ੍ਰਚਾਰਕ ਅਤੇ ਪ੍ਰਚਾਰ ਕੇਂਦਰਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਸਥਾਪਤ ਕਰਦੇ ਵੀ ਨਜ਼ਰ ਆਉਂਦੇ ਹਨ,¹⁷ ਜਿਹੜਾ ਕਿਸੇ ਦਰਸ਼ਨ ਦੀ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾ ਦੇ ਸੰਸਥਾਮੂਲਕ ਤੌਰ 'ਤੇ ਸੰਗਠਤ ਹੋਣ ਵੱਲ ਇਸ਼ਾਰਾ ਹੈ।

ਕਰਾਮਾਤੀ ਰੂੜ੍ਹੀਆਂ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਦੇ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾਈ ਪਹਿਲੂਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਉਸਾਰਨ ਵਿਚ ਵਿਸ਼ੇਸ਼ ਭੂਮਿਕਾ ਅਦਾ ਕਰਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਅਵਤਾਰ-ਪੁਰਸ਼ ਵਿਸ਼ੇਸ਼ ਗੁਣਾਂ ਦਾ ਧਾਰਨੀ ਹੁੰਦਾ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਲਈ ਇਹ ਪਰਾਭੌਤਿਕ ਸ਼ਕਤੀਆਂ ਅਵਤਾਰ-ਪੁਰਸ਼ ਦੀ ਸ਼ਖਸੀਅਤ ਦਾ ਇਕ ਅਹਿਮ ਅਤੇ ਸਹਿਜ ਅੰਗ ਹੁੰਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਇਸ ਦੇ ਸਮਾਨਾਂਤਰ ਹੋਰ ਸ਼ਖਸੀਅਤ ਇਸ ਨੂੰ ਕਠਿਨ ਤਪੱਸਿਆ ਦੇ ਫਲ ਵਜੋਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੈਵੀ-ਸ਼ਖਸੀਅਤ ਵਲੋਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਵਰਦਾਨ ਦੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ। ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਵਿਚ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਇਕ ਕਰਾਮਾਤੀ ਹਸਤੀ ਵਜੋਂ ਹਾਜ਼ਰ ਹੈ। ਉਸ ਦੀ ਕਰਾਮਾਤੀ ਕਲਾ-ਕੁਸ਼ਲਤਾ ਦੇ ਸਮਾਨਾਂਤਰ ਕੋਈ ਹੋਰ ਬਦਲ ਨਹੀਂ ਸਿਰਜਿਆ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ। ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਵਿਚ ਸਿਰਜਤ ਕਰਾਮਾਤ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਤੀ ਬਾਰੇ ਡਾ. ਮਨਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਦਾ ਵਿਚਾਰ ਹੈ :

ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੀ ਦਿੱਬਤਾ ਦੋ ਰੂੜ੍ਹੀਆਂ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਪੇਸ਼ ਹੁੰਦੀ ਹੈ ਉਹ ਜਾਂ ਤਾਂ ਪਰਾ-ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਤਕ ਕਰਾਮਾਤਾਂ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਪੇਸ਼ ਹੁੰਦੀ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਜਾਂ ਬਾਣੀ ਉਚਾਰਣ ਰਾਹੀਂ।¹⁸

ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੀ ਕਰਾਮਾਤੀ ਦਿੱਬ-ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀ ਦੀ ਇਕ ਖਾਸੀਅਤ ਇਹ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਉਹ ਕਿਸੇ ਨਿੱਜੀ ਲਾਭ ਜਾਂ ਹੋਰ ਦੇ ਨੁਕਸਾਨ ਲਈ ਨਹੀਂ ਵਰਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ, ਸਗੋਂ ਸਰਬੱਤ ਦੇ ਭਲੇ ਲਈ ਵਰਤੋਂਯੋਗਤਾ ਵਿਚ ਲਿਆਂਦੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ। ਇਹ ਸਰਬੱਤ ਦੇ ਭਲੇ ਦਾ ਸੰਕਲਪ ਅਸਲ ਵਿਚ ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਸਿਧਾਂਤ ਦਾ ਸੰਦੇਸ਼ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸ ਨੂੰ ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ ਵਿਭਿੰਨ ਕਥਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਸਿਰਜਦਾ ਅਤੇ ਵਿਖਿਆਉਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਦੂਜੀ ਇਹ ਕਿ ਮੱਧਕਾਲੀ ਸਮਾਜ ਵਿਚਲੀਆਂ ਪਰਿਸਥਿਤੀਆਂ ਕਬੀਲਾ ਸਮਾਜ ਤੋਂ ਸਾਮੰਤੀ ਸਮਾਜ ਵੱਲ ਨੂੰ ਮੁੱਖ ਕਰਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਇਸ ਸਮਾਜਕ ਤਬਦੀਲੀ ਕਾਰਨ ਪੈਦਾਵਾਰੀ ਸਾਧਨਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਪਰਿਵਰਤਨ ਆਉਣਾ ਵੀ ਸੁਭਾਵਕ ਸੀ। ਇਉਂ, ਇਸ ਦੌਰ ਵਿਚ ਵਿਕਸਿਤ ਹੋ ਰਹੀ ਕਿਸਾਨੀ ਅਤੇ ਵਪਾਰੀ ਜਮਾਤ ਦੇ ਹਿੱਤਾਂ ਦੀ ਰਾਖੀ ਕਰਨਾ ਅਤੇ ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੇ ਨਾਲ ਜੋੜਨਾ ਅਤਿ ਅਵੱਸ਼ਕ ਸੀ ਕਿਉਂਕਿ ਸਾਰਾ ਅਰਥਚਾਰਾ ਖੇਤੀ ਅਤੇ ਵਪਾਰ ਕੇਂਦਰਤ ਹੋ ਰਿਹਾ ਸੀ। ਅਜਿਹੀਆਂ ਬਦਲਦੀਆਂ ਆਰਥਕ ਅਤੇ ਸਮਾਜਕ ਪਰਿਸਥਿਤੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੀ ਅਪਾਰ-ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀ ਜ਼ਰੀਏ ਕਿਸਾਨੀ ਅਤੇ ਵਪਾਰ ਨੂੰ ਡੁੱਬਣ ਨਹੀਂ ਦਿੰਦਾ, ਸਗੋਂ ਕਰਾਮਾਤੀ ਯੋਜਨਾਵਾਂ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਬਚਾਉਂਦਾ ਅਤੇ ਪ੍ਰਫੁਲਿਤ ਕਰਦਾ ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀਗੋਚਰ ਹੁੰਦਾ ਹੈ।

(2)

ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ ਦੀ ਰਚਨਾ ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀ ਵਿਚਲੀ ਬਿਰਤੀ ਦਾ ਇਕ ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਣ ਨੁਕਤਾ ਧਰਾਤਲੀ/ਸਥਾਨਕ ਅਤੇ ਘਰੇਲੂ/ਲੋਕ-ਜੀਵਨ ਮੁੱਲਾਂ ਦੀ ਪੇਸ਼ਕਾਰੀ ਦੇ ਅੰਤਰਗਤ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਜੀਵਨ ਮੁੱਲਾਂ ਦੀ ਪੁਨਰ-ਉਸਾਰੀ ਕਰਨਾ ਪ੍ਰਤੀਤ ਹੁੰਦਾ ਹੈ, ਕਿਉਂਕਿ ਕਿਸੇ ਸਮਾਜ-ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰ ਵਿਚਲੇ ਲੋਕ ਮਨ ਦੀ ਵੱਡੀ ਟੇਕ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ 'ਤੇ ਆਸ਼ਰਿਤ ਹੁੰਦੀ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਕਾਰਜ ਦੀ ਨਿਪੁੰਨਤਾ ਲਈ ਉਹ ਲੋਕਧਾਰਾ ਨੂੰ ਇਕ ਉਪਯੋਗੀ ਉਪਕਰਣ ਵਜੋਂ ਚੁਣਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿਉਂਕਿ, "ਹਰ ਲੋਕਧਾਰਾਈ ਸਿਰਜਣਾ ਸੰਬੰਧਿਤ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰ ਦੇ ਅੰਤਰਗਤ ਆਪਣੇ ਵਿਸ਼ੇਸ਼ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰਜ ਕਾਰਨ ਹੀ ਸਾਰਥਕਤਾ ਹਾਸਲ

ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ।ਮਨੁੱਖ ਆਪਣੀਆਂ ਬਹੁਭਿੰਨ ਲੋੜਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਕਾਮਨਾਵਾਂ ਦੀ ਪੂਰਤੀ ਕਰਦਿਆਂ ਅਜਿਹੀਆਂ ਸੰਸਥਾਵਾਂ, ਮਰਿਆਦਾਵਾਂ, ਪ੍ਰਤਿਮਾਨਾਂ, ਕੀਮਤਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਵਸਤਾਂ ਦੀ ਸਿਰਜਣਾ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੈ ਜਿਹੜੀਆਂ ਲਗਾਤਾਰ ਮਨੁੱਖੀ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਦੌਰਾਨ ਰੂਪ ਬਦਲਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ''[19] ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀਆਂ ਦਾ ਮੂਲ ਪ੍ਰਗਟਾ-ਮਾਧਿਅਮ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸ ਵਿਚ ਮੱਧਕਾਲੀ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਸਮਾਜ ਦੀ ਉਤਪੰਨ ਹੋ ਰਹੀ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਕ ਚੇਤਨਾ ਬਦਲਦੀਆਂ ਪਰਿਸਥਿਤੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਸ਼ਾਸਤਰੀ ਨੇਮਾਂ ਦੇ ਗਲੇਫਣ ਤੋਂ ਮੁਕਤ ਹੋ ਕੇ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਅਤੇ ਲੋਕਧਾਰਾਈ ਧਰਾਤਲ 'ਤੇ ਵਿਆਖਿਆਤਮਕ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਵਿਚਰਨ ਦਾ ਹੀਆ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ। ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਵਿਚ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਕ ਚੇਤਨਾ ਦਾ ਇਹ ਵਿਹਾਰ ਬਹੁਭਿੰਨ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਪਸਰਿਆ ਹੋਇਆ ਹੈ।

ਕਿਸੇ ਰਚਨਾ ਵਿਚ ਵੱਖ-ਵੱਖ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਵਾਂ ਦਾ ਜ਼ਿਕਰ ਅਤੀਤ ਦੇ ਸੁਹਜਾਤਮਕ ਯਥਾਰਥ ਦੀ ਪੁਨਰ-ਸਿਰਜਨਾ ਹੁੰਦਾ ਹੈ। ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਦੀ ਸਿਰਜਣ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਿਆ ਵਿਚ ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਵਿਭਿੰਨ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਵਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਵਾਂ ਦੇ ਪ੍ਰਵਕਤਾਵਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇ ਚਿੰਤਨੀ-ਸੰਬਾਦ ਵਿਚ ਅਪ-ਸ਼ਬਦਾਵਲੀ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਬੋਧਿਤ ਨਹੀਂ ਕਰਦਾ ਅਤੇ ਨਾ ਹੀ ਅਪਮਾਨਿਤ ਹੋਣ ਦਿੰਦਾ ਹੈ, ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਸਿਧਾਂਤਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਵਿਹਾਰਾਂ ਦਾ ਇਕ ਲੰਮੇ ਅਰਸੇ ਤੋਂ ਲੋਕ ਮਨ ਉੱਤੇ ਡੂੰਘਾ ਪ੍ਰਭਾਵ ਸੀ।[20] ਭਾਵੇਂ ਸਾਖੀਆਂ ਵਿਚਲੀਆਂ ਸੰਬਾਦਕੀ ਸੁਰਾਂ ਅਤੀਤ, ਵਰਤਮਾਨ ਅਤੇ ਭਵਿੱਖ ਦਾ ਪੈਂਡਾ ਤੈਅ ਕਰਦੀਆਂ ਕਾਵਿਕ-ਨਿਆਂ ਦੀ ਸਿਖ਼ਰ 'ਤੇ ਪਹੁੰਚਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ ਪਰੰਤੂ ਉਹ ਆਪਣੀਆਂ ਆਦਰ-ਸਤਿਕਾਰ ਵਾਲੀਆਂ ਮਰਿਆਦਾਵਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਬਰਕਰਾਰ ਵੀ ਰੱਖਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ।ਇਸ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ, ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੀ ਸ਼ਖਸੀਅਤ ਨੂੰ ਲੋਕ ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀ ਦੀ ਪੱਧਰ 'ਤੇ ਪੂਰਵ ਸਥਾਪਤ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਵਾਂ ਦੇ ਪ੍ਰਵਕਤਾਵਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਸਰਵਉੱਚ ਸਥਾਪਤ ਕਰਦਾ ਨਜ਼ਰ ਆਉਂਦਾ ਹੈ। ਇਥੇ ਇਕ ਹੋਰ ਨੁਕਤੇ 'ਤੇ ਵਿਚਾਰ ਕਰਨਾ ਵੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਭਾਸਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਇਸ ਦੌਰ ਵਿਚ ਭਗਤੀ ਲਹਿਰ ਦਾ ਵੀ ਕਾਫ਼ੀ ਜ਼ੋਰ ਸੀ। ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਨੂੰ ਵੀ ਇਸ ਮੁਹਿੰਮ ਦੀ ਛੋਹ ਤੋਂ ਵਾਂਝਿਆ ਨਹੀਂ ਰੱਖਦਾ ਕਿਉਂਕਿ ਲੋਕ ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀ ਵਿਚ ਸ਼ਕਤੀ ਦੇ ਨਾਲ-ਨਾਲ ਭਗਤੀ ਨੂੰ ਵੀ ਆਦਰ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਸੀ।ਇਸ ਮਾਮਲੇ ਵਿਚ ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੀ ਭਗਤੀ ਪ੍ਰੇਰਨਾ ਨੂੰ ਬਾਹਰੀ ਤੌਰ 'ਤੇ ਤਾਂ ਭਾਵੇਂ ਸਰਗੁਣ ਸਰੂਪ ਵਾਲੀ ਚਿਤਰਦਾ ਹੈ ਪਰੰਤੂ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਕ ਤੌਰ 'ਤੇ ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਆਸ਼ਿਆਂ ਦੇ ਅਨੁਕੂਲ ਨਿਰਗੁਣ ਸਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਹੀ ਚਿਤਰਦਾ ਹੈ।

ਕਿਸੇ ਸਮਾਜ-ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰ ਵਿਚ ਕੁਝ ਰਹਿਤਾਂ-ਮਰਿਆਦਾਵਾਂ, ਮਨਾਹੀਆਂ-ਵਰਜਨਾਵਾਂ, ਨੈਤਿਕ ਕਦਰਾਂ-ਕੀਮਤਾਂ ਆਦਿ ਸਮਾਜ-ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਵਿਹਾਰ ਦੇ ਨੇਮਾਂ ਵਜੋਂ ਕਾਰਜਸ਼ੀਲ ਹੁੰਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ, ਜਿਹੜੀਆਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਯੁਗ ਬੋਧ ਦੀ ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀ ਵਿਚੋਂ ਹੋਂਦ ਗ੍ਰਹਿਣ ਕਰਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਸਮਕਾਲੀਨ ਸਾਹਿਤਕਾਰ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਸਿਰਜਣਾਤਮਕ ਵਸਤੂ ਦੇ ਸੁਹਜ ਵਿਚ ਬੁਣਦਾ ਅਤੇ ਰੂਪਾਂਤਰਤ ਕਰਦਾ ਰਹਿੰਦਾ ਹੈ। ਅਗੋਂ ਇਹ ਸੁਹਜਾਤਮਕ ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾ ਦੀ ਸੰਵਾਹਕ ਬਣ ਕੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਵਿਵੇਕ ਨਾਲ ਜੁੜ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ। ਡਾ. ਜਗਦੀਸ਼ ਕੌਰ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ :

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਦੀਆਂ ਬਹੁਤੀਆਂ ਰੂੜ੍ਹ ਰੀਤੀਆਂ ਅਤੇ ਅਨੁਸ਼ਠਾਨਾਂ ਦੇ ਪਿੱਛੇ ਕਥਾ ਦਾ ਮੌਜੂਦ ਹੋਣਾ ਇਕ ਅਹਿਮ ਪ੍ਰਮਾਣ ਹੈ ਜਿਸ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਸਮਝਿਆ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਕਥਾ ਕਿਵੇਂ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ [ਸਮਾਜ] ਨੂੰ ਸਥਾਪਿਤ ਮਰਿਆਦਾ ਦੇ ਦਾਇਰੇ ਵਿਚ ਲਿਆਉਂਦੀ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਉਸਨੂੰ ਵਿਵੇਕੀ ਬਣਾਉਣ ਦੀ ਥਾਂ ਸ਼ਰਧਾ ਦੀ ਪਕੜ ਵਿਚ ਰੱਖਣ ਦਾ ਜੁਗਾੜ ਸਿਰਜਦੀ ਹੈ।[21]

ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ 'ਮੁਹਰਾ ਦੇ ਕੋਲੇ' ਸਾਖੀ ਵਿਚਲੇ ਲਘੂ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਤਾਉਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਪਰਾਈ ਔਰਤ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਭੋਗ ਕਰਨ ਨਾਲ ਹਟਵਾਣੀਏ ਦੇ ਪਿਛਲੇ ਜਨਮਾਂ-ਕਰਮਾਂ ਦੀ ਇਕੱਤ੍ਰਿਤ ਕੀਤੀ ਹੋਈ ਕਮਾਈ ਮੁਹਰਾਂ

ਤੋਂ ਕੌਲਿਆ ਤਬਦੀਲ ਹੋ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਜਿਹੜਾ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਦੀ ਸ਼ਰਣ ਵਿਚ ਆ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਉਸ ਦੇ ਕਰਮਾਂ ਵਿਚਲੀ ਸੂਲੀ ਸੂਲ ਵਿਚ ਤਬਦੀਲ ਹੋ ਗਈ ਹੈ। ਇਥੇ ਇਹ ਗੱਲ ਸਮਝਣਯੋਗ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕਾਰ ਪਰਾਈ ਔਰਤ ਨਾਲ ਨਜਾਇਜ਼ ਸਰੀਰਕ ਸੰਬੰਧਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਇਕ ਘ੍ਰਿਣਤ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਵਰਜਨਾ ਵਜੋਂ ਬਿਆਨਦਾ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਇਸ ਦੇ ਸਮਾਨੰਤਰ ਉਹ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਦੁਸ਼ਵਾਰੀਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਗੌਣ ਮੰਨਦਾ ਹੋਇਆ ਕਥਾ ਵਿਚ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਦੁਸ਼ਵਾਰੀ ਦੇ ਵਿਸਤਾਰ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਮਹਿਸੂਸ ਨਹੀਂ ਕਰਦਾ। ਇਸ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰ, ਉਹ ਗੁਰੂ ਸ਼ਰਣ ਅਤੇ ਗੁਰੂ ਦੇ ਪ੍ਰਤੱਖਣੀ ਬਿੰਬ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਸੰਦੇਸ਼ ਦਿੰਦਾ ਹੋਇਆ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਬੰਦੇ ਨੂੰ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਮਰਿਆਦਾਵਾਂ ਦੇ ਦਾਇਰੇ ਵਿਚ ਰਹਿਣ ਲਈ ਪ੍ਰੇਰਦਾ ਹੈ। ਇਸੇ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ 'ਮਲਕ ਭਾਗੋ' ਸਾਖੀ ਵਿਚਲੇ ਕਥਾ ਪ੍ਰਸੰਗ ਵਿਚ ਲਾਲੋ ਦੇ ਹੱਕ ਹਲਾਲ ਦੀ ਕੋਧਰੇ ਦੀ ਰੋਟੀ ਵਿਚੋਂ ਦੁੱਧ ਤੇ ਮਲਕ ਭਾਗੋ ਦੀ ਹਰਾਮ ਦੀ ਕਮਾਈ ਦੀਆਂ ਪੂੜੀਆਂ ਵਿਚੋਂ ਲਹੂ ਦੀਆਂ ਧਾਰਾਂ ਸਿੰਮਦੀਆਂ ਦਾ ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟਾਂਤਕ ਚਿਤਰ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੈ। ਇਹੋ-ਜਿਹੀਆਂ "...ਕਥਾਨਕ ਰੂੜੀਆਂ ਸੰਸਾਰ ਦੇ ਕਥਾ-ਇਤਿਹਾਸ ਵਿਚ ਵਿਲੱਖਣ ਅਦਭੁੱਤ ਤੇ ਰਹੱਸਮਈ ਹਨ। 'ਦੁੱਧ-ਲਹੂ' ਦੀ ਰੂੜੀ ਨੇ ਤਾਂ ਪੰਜਾਬੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਨਵੀਂ ਸਮਾਜਿਕ ਚੇਤਨਤਾ ਉਜਾਗਰ ਕੀਤੀ ਅਤੇ ਅਣ-ਕਮਾਈ ਦੌਲਤ ਜਾ ਗਰੀਬਾਂ ਦਾ ਲਹੂ ਚੂਸ ਕੇ ਇਕੱਠੇ ਕੀਤੇ ਧਨ ਪ੍ਰਤੀ ਨਫਰਤ ਦੀਆਂ ਭਾਵਨਾਵਾਂ ਉਜਾਗਰ ਕੀਤੀਆਂ।"[22] ਇੰਝ, ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕਾਰ ਯਥਾਰਥਕ ਪਰਿਸਤਿਤੀਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਭਾਪਦਾ ਹੋਇਆ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇ ਨਿਆਂ-ਕਰਤਾ ਦੇ ਬਿੰਬ ਜ਼ਰੀਏ ਸੱਚੀ-ਸੁੱਚੀ ਕਿਰਤ ਦੇ ਸੰਕਲਪ ਨੂੰ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਕਥਾ-ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਦੀਆਂ ਮੌਲਿਕ ਕਥਾਨਕ ਰੂੜੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਚਿਤਰਦਾ ਹੈ। ਅਸਲ ਵਿਚ ਇਹ ਸੰਕਲਪ ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਸਿਧਾਂਤਾਂ ਦੀ ਕਥਾਤਮਕ-ਵਿਹਾਰਕਤਾ ਪ੍ਰਸਤੁਤ ਕਰਦੇ ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀਗੋਚਰ ਹੁੰਦੇ ਹਨ। ਇੰਝ ਹੀ ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ ਸਬਰ-ਸੰਤੋਖ, ਭਾਣਾ ਮੰਨਣਾ, ਨੈਤਿਕਤਾ ਆਦਿ ਅਜਿਹੀਆਂ ਅਨੇਕ ਸਰਬਵਿਆਪੀ ਆਦਰਸ਼ਕ ਅਤੇ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਮਨੁੱਖੀ ਕਦਰਾਂ-ਕੀਮਤਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਕਾਲਗਤ ਚੇਤਨਾ ਦੀ ਸ਼ਰਨ ਵਿਚ ਸਮਾਜਕ ਜੀਵਨ ਦੀ ਸੇਧ, ਬੇਹਤਰੀ ਅਤੇ ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਇ ਦੇ ਹਿੱਤਾਂ ਲਈ ਮੱਧਕਾਲੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕ ਰਚਨਾਵਾਂ ਦੇ ਪਾਠਗਤ ਜੁੱਸੇ ਵਿਚ ਸੰਜੋਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਉਹ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਖੋਲਣ ਜਾਂ ਵਿਸਥਾਰਨ (decode) ਲਈ ਅਨੇਕ ਸਾਰਥਕ ਕਥਾ ਪ੍ਰਸੰਗਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਵਿਹਾਰਕ-ਆਦਰਸ਼ਕ ਅਤੇ ਗੁਰਬਾਣੀ-ਪ੍ਰਵਚਨ ਨੂੰ ਚੁਣਦਾ ਹੈ। ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਵਿਚ ਅਜਿਹੇ ਅਨੇਕ ਵਿਹਾਰਕ ਨੇਮ ਪਰੰਪਰਕ ਤੇ ਮੌਲਿਕ ਕਥਾਨਕ-ਰੂੜੀਆਂ ਅਤੇ ਵਿਭਿੰਨ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕ ਲੋਕ-ਸਾਹਿਤ ਵੰਨਗੀਆਂ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾਈ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰਜ ਨਿਭਾਉਂਦੇ ਰੂਪਮਾਨ ਹੁੰਦੇ ਹਨ।[23] ਇਸ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ, ਮੱਧਕਾਲੀ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਵਿਚਲੇ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕ-ਪ੍ਰਵਚਨ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਤੀ ਗਿਆਨਮੂਲਕ, ਵਿਗਿਆਨਮੂਲਕ, ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਅਤੇ ਲੋਕਧਾਰਾਈ ਪਰਿਪੇਖ ਵਿਚ ਵਿਚਰਦੀ ਹੋਈ ਆਪਣਾ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਕ ਮੁਹਾਂਦਰਾ ਸਿਰਜਦੀ ਹੈ।

(3)

ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ-ਸਿਰਜਨਾ ਨੂੰ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾਈ ਪੱਖ ਤੋਂ ਇਤਿਹਾਸਕ ਚੇਤਨਾ ਦੇ ਕਾਲ-ਕ੍ਰਮਕਤਾ ਵਿਚ ਰੱਖ ਕੇ ਪੜਚੋਲਦਿਆਂ ਕੁਝ ਹੋਰ ਅਹਿਮ ਨੁਕਤੇ ਵੀ ਉਭਰ ਕੇ ਸਾਹਮਣੇ ਆਉਂਦੇ ਹਨ, ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਬਾਰੇ ਚਰਚਾ ਕਰਨੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਭਾਸਦੀ ਹੈ। ਪਹਿਲਾ ਨੁਕਤਾ ਇਹ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਜਿਥੇ ਅਰੰਭਕ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀਆਂ ਗੁਰੂ ਤੋਂ ਪਰਮਾਤਮਾ ਵੱਲ ਦਾ ਸਫਰ ਤੈਅ ਕਰਦੀਆਂ ਸਨ, ਉਥੇ ਅਗਲੇਰੇ ਪੜਾਵਾਂ ਵਾਲੀਆਂ ਰਚਨਾਵਾਂ ਪਰਮਾਤਮਾ ਤੋਂ ਗੁਰੂ ਵੱਲ ਆਪਣਾ ਮੁਖ ਕਰਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ ਕਿਉਂਕਿ ਸਭ ਕੁਝ ਗੁਰੂ ਕੇਂਦਰਤ ਹੋਣਾ ਸ਼ੁਰੂ ਹੋ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ।[24] ਗੁਰੂ ਦਾ ਕਿਹਾ ਹਰ ਪ੍ਰਵਚਨ ਪਰਮਾਤਮਾ ਦਾ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਗੁਰਬਾਣੀ ਨੂੰ ਪੰਜਵੇਂ ਵੇਦ ਵਜੋਂ ਪ੍ਰਚਾਰਿਆ ਜਾਣਾ ਸ਼ੁਰੂ ਹੋ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ। ਵਾਹਿਗੁਰੂ ਸ਼ਬਦ ਦੀ ਅੱਖਰ ਘਾੜਤ ਨੂੰ ਵੀ ਵੱਖ-ਵੱਖ ਅਵਤਾਰਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਜੋੜ ਕੇ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ।[25] ਸਾਖੀਕਾਰ ਨੇ ਸਿੱਖ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਇ ਦੀ ਮਹੱਤਤਾ ਨੂੰ ਦਰਸਾਉਂਦਿਆਂ ਭਾਵਕਤਾ ਦੇ ਵਹਿਣ ਵਿਚ ਵਹਿੰਦਿਆਂ ਇਸ ਸ਼ਬਦ ਦੇ 'ਗ' ਅੱਖਰ ਨੂੰ ਦਸਵੇਂ ਗੁਰੂ ਗੋਬਿੰਦ ਸਿੰਘ ਜੀ ਨਾਲ ਜੋੜ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਹੈ

ਅਤੇ ਗੁਰੂ ਜੀ ਨੂੰ ਅਵਤਾਰ ਦੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਚਿਤਰਿਆ ਹੈ ; ਦੂਜਾ ਨੁਕਤਾ ਇਹ ਕਿ ਇਤਿਹਾਸਕ ਪ੍ਰਸੰਗ ਵਿਚ ਵਿਚਰਦੀ ਹੋਈ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਇ ਦੀ ਦਾਰਸ਼ਨਿਕ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾ ਵਿਚਲੀ ਅਧਿਆਤਮਕ ਕੋਡਿੰਗ ਨੂੰ ਤਿਆਗ ਦਿੰਦੀ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਖਾਲਸੇ ਦੇ ਰਾਜ ਦੀ ਸਥਾਪਤੀ ਦਾ ਰਾਜਨੀਤਕ ਨਾਅਰੇ ਦੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਐਲਾਨ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ[26] ; ਤੀਜਾ ਇਹ ਕਿ ਜਿਥੇ ਅਰੰਭਕ ਰਚਨਾਵਾਂ ਸਿੱਖ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਇ ਦੇ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਕ ਸੰਗਠਨ ਨੂੰ ਪੈਦਾ ਕਰਨ ਵਲ ਰੁਚਿਤ ਸਨ ਅਤੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਇ ਦੇ ਸੰਸਥਾਮੂਲਕ ਸ਼ੋਸ਼ਣੀ, ਗੈਰ-ਤਾਰਕਿਕ ਅਤੇ ਸਥਾਪਤੀ ਨਿਯਮਾਂ ਦੇ ਵਿਰੋਧ ਵਿਚ ਸਨ, ਉਥੇ ਅਗਲੇਰੀਆਂ ਰਚਨਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਸਿੱਖ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਇ ਖੁਦ ਨਿਰੋਲ ਸੰਸਥਾਮੂਲਕ ਵਿਵਸਥਾ ਦੀ ਸਥਾਪਤੀ ਦਾ ਰਾਹ ਅਖਤਿਆਰ ਕਰਦੀ ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀਗੋਚਰ ਹੁੰਦੀ ਹੈ[27] ਅਤੇ ਚੌਥਾ ਇਹ ਕਿ ਹੋਰ ਮਹਾਂ-ਪੁਰਸ਼ਾਂ ਦੇ ਜੀਵਨ ਆਧਾਰਤ ਲਿਖੀਆਂ ਗਈਆਂ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀਆਂ ਦਾ ਪੈਟਰਨ ਵੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਜੀਵਨ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਬੰਧਤ ਲਿਖੀਆਂ ਗਈਆਂ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀਆਂ ਵਾਲਾ ਹੀ ਹੈ।[28]

ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਚਾਰ-ਵਿਮਰਸ਼ ਉਪਰੰਤ ਕਿਹਾ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਵਿਚ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਦੀ ਇਕ ਸਿਰਮੌਰ ਅਤੇ ਸਮ੍ਰਿੱਧ ਪਰੰਪਰਾ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਦਾ ਮੁੱਢਲਾ ਅਤੇ ਪ੍ਰਮਾਣਿਕ ਰੂਪ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਹੈ। ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਪਰੰਪਰਾ ਦੇ ਨਿਰਮਾਤਾ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਜੀ ਅਤੇ ਕੁਝ ਹੋਰ ਚੋਣਵੇਂ ਮਹਾਂ-ਪੁਰਸ਼ਾਂ ਦੇ ਜੀਵਨ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਬੰਧਤ ਕਲਪਨਿਕ ਘਟਨਾਵਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਦਰਸ਼ਨ-ਚਿੰਤਨ ਦੁਆਲੇ ਸਿਰਜੀਆਂ ਭਿੰਨ-ਭਿੰਨ ਸਾਖੀਆਂ ਦਾ ਮੁਜੱਸਮਾ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ, ਇਹ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤ ਅਤੇ ਕਵਿਤਾ (ਬਾਣੀ) ਦੇ ਸੁਮੇਲ ਦੀਆਂ ਰਚਨਾਵਾਂ ਹਨ। ਕਵਿਤਾ ਵਿਚਲੀ ਵਿਹਾਰਕਤਾ ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਸਿਧਾਂਤਾਂ ਦੀ ਵਿਆਖਿਆ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਕਥਾ-ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਵਿਚਲੀ ਮਿਥ, ਕਰਮਾਤ ਅਤੇ ਦਿੱਬ-ਦ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਟੀ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕ ਵਾਯੂ-ਮੰਡਲ ਨੂੰ ਉਸਾਰਦੀ ਹੋਈ 'ਗੁਰੂ' ਬਿੰਬ ਦੀ ਨਿਵੇਕਲੀ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਹਸਤੀ ਨੂੰ ਉਜਾਗਰ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰ, ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਦਾ ਮੁੱਖ ਮਨੋਰਥ ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਅਤੇ ਗੁਰੂ ਪਰੰਪਰਾ ਦਾ ਪ੍ਰਚਾਰ ਅਤੇ ਪਸਾਰ ਕਰਨਾ ਜਾਪਦਾ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਪ੍ਰਯੋਜਨ ਦੀ ਸਫਲਤਾ ਲਈ ਬਿਰਤਾਂਤਕਾਰ ਸਾਮੀ, ਭਾਰਤੀ, ਬੋਧ ਜਾਤਕ ਕਥਾਵਾਂ, ਗੁਰਬਾਣੀ-ਪ੍ਰਵਚਨ ਅਤੇ ਧਰਾਤਲੀ ਸਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਸੰਕਲਪਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਅਮਲ ਵਿਚ ਲਿਆਉਂਦਾ ਹੈ।

ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਦੇ ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾਈ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰਜ ਲਈ ਆਧਾਰਤ ਪੁਸਤਕਾਂ ਦੀ ਸੂਚੀ :–

ਜਸਬੀਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਸਾਬਰ, ਗਿਆਨ ਰਤਨਾਵਲੀ : ਸੰਪਾਦਨ ਅਤੇ ਪਾਠ ਆਲੋਚਨਾ, ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ, 1993

ਨਰਿੰਦਰ ਕੌਰ ਭਾਟੀਆ, ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਭਗਤ ਕਬੀਰ ਜੀ ਕੀ (ਮੂਲਪਾਠ ਤੇ ਵਿਵੇਚਨ), ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ, ਜਨਵਰੀ–1995

ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ ਸਿੰਘ (ਸੰਪਾ.), ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਜੀ, ਦੂਜੀ ਸੈਂਚੀ, ਖਾਲਸਾ ਕਾਲਜ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ, 1969

ਪਿਆਰ ਸਿੰਘ (ਸੰਪਾ.), ਸੰਭੂ ਨਾਥ ਵਾਲੀ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਬਾਬੇ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਜੀ ਕੀ ਪ੍ਰਸਿੱਧ ਨਾਂ ਆਦਿ ਸਾਖੀਆਂ, ਨਿਊ ਬੁਕ ਕੰਪਨੀ, ਜਲੰਧਰ, ਅਕਤੂਬਰ–1969

ਪਿਆਰ ਸਿੰਘ (ਸੰਪਾ.), ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਜੀ, ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ, ਨਵੰਬਰ–1974

ਕਿਰਪਾਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ (ਸੰਪਾ.), ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਜੀ ਲਿਖਿਤ ਮਿਹਰਵਾਨ ਜੀ ਸੋਢੀ, ਸਿੱਖ ਹਿਸਟਰੀ ਰਿਸਰਚ ਡਿਪਾਰਟਮੈਂਟ, ਖਾਲਸਾ ਕਾਲਜ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ, 1962

ਭਾਈ ਵੀਰ ਸਿੰਘ (ਸੰਪਾ.), ਪੁਰਾਤਨ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ, ਖਾਲਸਾ ਸਮਾਚਾਰ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ, 1955

ਸੁਰਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਕੋਹਲੀ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ (ਸੰਪਾ.), ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਭਾਈ ਬਾਲਾ, ਪੰਜਾਬ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ, ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ, ਤੀਜੀ ਐਡੀਸ਼ਨ, 2010

ਗੁਰਬਚਨ ਕੌਰ, ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਭਾਈ ਬਾਲਾ ਦਾ ਪਾਠ-ਪ੍ਰਮਾਣੀਕਰਨ ਤੇ ਆਲੋਚਨਾਤਮਕ ਸੰਪਾਦਨ, ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਭਾਗ, ਪੰਜਾਬ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ, 1986

ਸੇਵਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਸੇਵਕ (ਸੰਪਾ.), ਪ੍ਰਾਚੀਨ ਜਨਮ ਸਾਖੀ, ਨਿਊ ਬੁੱਕ ਕੰਪਨੀ, ਜਲੰਧਰ, 1969

ਸ਼ਮਸ਼ੇਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਅਸ਼ੋਕ (ਸੰਪਾ.), ਪੁਰਾਤਨ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਜੀ, ਸ਼੍ਰੋਮਣੀ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ, ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ, 1969

ਸਹਾਇਕ ਪੁਸਤਕਾਂ ਦੀ ਸੂਚੀ :-

ਅਮਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਕਾਂਗ, ਮੱਧਕਾਲੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਚਿੰਤਨ, ਨਾਨਕ ਪੁਸਤਕ ਮਾਲਾ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ, ਮਿਤੀਹੀਣ

ਸ. ਸ. ਵਣਜਾਰਾ ਬੇਦੀ, ਮਧਕਾਲੀਨ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਕਥਾ : ਰੂਪ ਤੇ ਪਰੰਪਰਾ, ਪਰੰਪਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ, ਨਵੀਂ ਦਿੱਲੀ, ਦਸੰਬਰ– 1977

ਹਰਿਭਜਨ ਸਿੰਘ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ (ਸੰਪਾ.), ਸਾਖੀ-ਸੁਰਤਿ, ਫਕੀਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਐਂਡ ਸੰਨਜ਼, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ, 1982

ਕਮਲਜੀਤ ਗਰੋਵਰ, ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਜੀ ਦੀਆਂ ਜਨਮ-ਸਾਖੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਕਥਾਨਕ ਰੂੜੀਆਂ, ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ, ਮਿਤੀਹੀਣ

ਕਰਨਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ, ਪੁਰਾਤਨ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਦਾ ਇਤਿਹਾਸ, ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਅਕਾਦਮੀ, ਦਿੱਲੀ, 2004

ਜਗਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ, ਗੱਦ ਤੇ ਗੱਦ ਸ਼ੈਲੀ, ਪੈਪਸੂ ਬੁਕ ਡਿਪੂ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ, ਜਨਵਰੀ–1982

ਜਗਦੀਸ਼ ਕੌਰ, ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਲੋਕ-ਕਹਾਣੀ ਵਿਹਾਰ ਤੇ ਸੰਕਲਪ, ਚੇਤਨਾ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ, ਲੁਧਿਆਣਾ, 2007

ਮਨਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ, ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ/ਮਿਥ-ਵਿਗਿਆਨ, ਰਚਨਾ ਪਬਲਿਸ਼ਰਜ਼, ਦਿੱਲੀ, 2005

ਰਤਨ ਸਿੰਘ ਜੱਗੀ, ਪੁਰਾਤਨ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਅਤੇ ਵਿਸ਼ਲੇਸ਼ਣ, ਪੰਜਾਬ ਸਟੇਟ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ ਟੈਕਸਟ ਬੁਕ ਬੋਰਡ, ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ, 1988

ਰਾਜਿੰਦਰ ਪਾਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ (ਸੰਪਾ.), ਲੋਕਧਾਰਾ ਅਤੇ ਆਧੁਨਿਕਤਾ ਰੁਪਾਂਤਰਣ ਅਤੇ ਪੁਨਰ-ਮੁਲਾਂਕਣ, ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ, 2011

ਖੋਜ ਪੱਤ੍ਰਿਕਾਵਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਰਸਾਲੇ :-

ਸਾਹਿੱਤ ਸਮਾਚਾਰ (ਵਾਰਤਕ ਅੰਕ), ਲਾਹੌਰ ਬੁਕ ਸ਼ਾਪ, ਲੁਧਿਆਣਾ, ਮਿਤੀਹੀਣ

ਖੋਜ ਦਰਪਣ, ਅੰਕ–2, ਜੁਲਾਈ–1984, ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ

ਖੋਜ ਪੱਤ੍ਰਿਕਾ (ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਵਿਸ਼ੇਸ਼ ਅੰਕ), ਅੰਕ–, ਨਵੰਬਰ–1969, ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ

ਖੋਜ ਪੱਤ੍ਰਿਕਾ (ਪੁਰਾਤਨ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਵਿਸ਼ੇਸ਼ ਅਮਕ), ਅੰਕ–21, ਮਾਰਚ–1983, ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ : ਵਿਚਾਰਧਾਰਾਈ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰਜ

ਪ੍ਰਵਚਨ, ਪ੍ਰਸਤਕ ਲੜੀ : 51, ਅਪ੍ਰੈਲ-ਜੂਨ 2013, ਜਲੰਧਰ।

ਹਵਾਲੇ ਅਤੇ ਟਿੱਪਣੀਆਂ:

1.(ੳ) "ਸਾਹਿਤਕ ਖੇਤਰ ਵਿਚ...ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀਆਂ ਦਾ ਬਹੁਤ ਮਹੱਤਵ ਹੈ।ਪੁਰਾਤਨ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਦਾ ਆਰੰਭ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਹੀ ਹੁੰਦਾ ਹੈ। ...ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀਆਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਆਪ ਵਿਚ ਪੂਰਣ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਹਨ, ਕਿਉਂਕਿ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਅਨੇਕ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਜਾਂ ਵਿਧਾਵਾਂ ਦਾ ਮੁੱਢ ਬੱਝਦਾ ਹੈ।"-ਪ੍ਰੋ: ਰਤਨ ਸਿੰਘ ਜੱਗੀ, ਪੁਰਾਤਨ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਅਤੇ ਵਿਸ਼ਲੇਸ਼ਣ, ਪੰਨੇ 15-16

(ਅ) "'ਪੁਰਾਤਨ ਜਨਮ ਸਾਖੀ' ਪੁਰਾਤਨ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਦੀ ਅਤਿਅੰਤ ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਰਚਨਾ ਹੈ।" –ਕਰਨਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ, ਪੁਰਾਤਨ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਦਾ ਇਤਿਹਾਸ, ਪੰਨਾ 28

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4.'ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ : ਚਿਹਨ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ', ਸਾਖੀ-ਸੁਰਤਿ, ਪੰਨਾ 149

5. ਡਾ. ਸੁਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ, 'ਮੱਧਕਾਲੀ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਵਿਚ ਲੋਕ-ਕਥਾ ਦਾ ਰੂਪਾਂਤਰਣ', ਲੋਕਧਾਰਾ ਅਤੇ ਆਧੁਨਿਕਤਾ ਰੂਪਾਂਤਰਣ ਅਤੇ ਪੁਨਰ-ਮੁਲਾਂਕਣ, ਪੰਨਾ 95

6. ਅਮਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਕਾਂਗ, ਮੱਧਕਾਲੀ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਚਿੰਤਨ, ਪੰਨੇ 9-11

7. ਵਧੇਰੇ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਲਈ ਦੇਖੋ :-ਡਾ. ਪਰਮਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਸਿੱਧੂ, 'ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਮਿੱਥ ਦਾ ਸੀਮੀਓਲੌਜੀਕਲ ਅਧਿਐਨ', ਖੋਜ-ਪਤ੍ਰਿਕਾ (ਪੁਰਾਤਨ ਵਾਰਤਕ ਵਿਸ਼ੇਸ਼ ਅੰਕ), ਪੰਨੇ 78-82

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14. ਵਧੇਰੇ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਲਈ ਦੇਖੋ–ਡਾ. ਮਨਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ, ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ/ਮਿਥ-ਵਿਗਿਆਨ, ਪੰਨੇ 140-41

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28. ਨਰਿੰਦਰ ਕੌਰ ਭਾਟੀਆ, ਜਨਮਸਾਖੀ ਭਗਤ ਕਬੀਰ ਜੀ ਕੀ (ਮੂਲਪਾਠ ਤੇ ਵਿਵੇਚਨ), ਪੰਨਾ 55

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