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**CONTENTS**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Paper Title</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
1	A Report on Scenario of Vegetation <b>Dr. Aparna S. Khursel</b>	1-2
2	Use of Social Media for College Libraries in India <b>Mr. Vaibhav Sahebrao Phatangre, Mrs. Jyoti Vaibhav Phatangre</b>	3-4
3	A Critical Analysis On Status Of Dalit Women In India <b>Dr Sangya Tripathi, Vikram Singh Bhadoriya</b>	5-8
4	Mahatma Gandhi's thought of Democracy and Its Impact in Contemporary Voting Behavior: An Analysis <b>Mr. Anshul Pandey, Dr.Ramsiya Charmkar</b>	9-12
5	Comparative Study of Best Practices of Human Resource In Selected Startup Companies in Maharashtra <b>Dr. S. V. Shinde, Ashwini. N. Rathod</b>	13-16
6	Human Resource Accounting- Methods And Practices In India <b>Dr. S.V.Shinde, Ashwini. N.Rathod</b>	17-20
7	A study of Understanding Property and Casualty Insurance in India <b>Dr. S.B. Singh, Pankaj Kumar Patwa</b>	21-24
8	A Comprehensive Study of Digital Transformation of Insurance in India <b>Dr. S.B. Singh, Pankaj Kumar Patwa</b>	25-28
9	A Study of Importance of Motor Vehicle Insurance in India <b>Pankaj Kumar Patwa, Madhu Patwa, Sandeep Kumar Yadav, Mohd Ubaid</b>	29-32
10	A Study on Operation and Claim Procedure of Moter Vehicle Insurance in India <b>Pankaj Kumar Patwa, Mohd. Abubakar Ansari, Ritesh Kumar, Mohd. Shadan</b>	33-36
11	A Study of Change in Consumer Behaviour in Purchasing of Life Insurance Products <b>Pankaj Kumar Patwa, Manali Sharma, Sarita Yadav, Anjali Verma, Vandana Tripathi</b>	37-41
12	Issues Challenges and Opportunities of Whole Life Insurance a Comprehensive Study <b>Pankaj Kumar Patwa, Kaushkee Tiwari, Nisha Yadav, Anchal Gupta</b>	42-47
13	The Role of Social Media on Buying Behaviour in Life Insurance Industry <b>Pankaj Kumar Patwa, Pallavi Chaturvedi, Iqra Fatima, Kavita Verma</b>	48-50
14	A Study of Emerging Trends and Innovations of The Voyage Insurance Industry in India <b>Pankaj Kumar Patwa, Anushika Saini, Neha Yadav,Avantika Jaiswal</b>	51-54
15	A comparative study of customer expectation and satisfaction of Life Insurance in India <b>Pankaj Kumar Patwa, Anjali Verma, Muskan Singh, Ananya Verma</b>	55-59
16	A study of Health Insurance policy and Healthcare Access system in India <b>Pankaj Kumar Patwa, Anjali Yadav, Neha Devi, Ankita Bharti</b>	60-63
17	The Impact and Significance of Digital Libraries <b>Mr. Kamalakar Madhukar Sawant</b>	64-65
18	Impact Assessment of irrigation on Land use in Osmanabad District <b>Dr. D. S. Itle, Mr. Pandurang Sudhakar Pawar</b>	66-68
19	Phytochemical screening and green synthesis of silver nanoparticles from cinnamomum verum crude bark extract: evaluation of cell cytotoxicity and wound healing activity by in-vitro methods <b>Gulappagouda Ramanagouda, M.B Sulochana, Prabhurajeshwar, Ganesh Nayak, Nagarjuna Dalbanjan, Sachin B.H</b>	69-81
20	The Visionary Work of Savitribai Phule: Transforming Indian Society <b>Pawan Kumar, Babli</b>	82-85
21	A Comparative Study of Emotional Intelligence In Relation To Gender at Secondary Level <b>Dr. Vandana Verma</b>	86-91
22	Change Management Practices in Mindtree Limited Bangalore <b>Vishwanath R Havalappagol, Divya M</b>	92-100
23	A Study on Customer Loyalty and Satisfaction towards Products and Service of Sequoia Pvt Ltd <b>Vishwanath R Havalappagol, Sahana</b>	101-109
24	The Impact of Sustainable Hrm Practices At Alorica India Pvt Ltd <b>Vishwanath R Havalappagol, Likhitha D N</b>	110-120
25	AI in E-commerce: Applications, Implications and Challenges in Indian Marketing <b>Dr.Vinod Kadubal Narayan</b>	121-124

26	A Study of Freshwater Macroinvertebrates as Bio-Indicator in Lotic Water Body of Pandharpur Tehsil, Solapur M.S.India <b>Supriya Nanaso chougule, Prof. Dr.Abdar M.R</b>	125-130
27	Representation of the Transgender Community in Kashmir's Print Media: A Study <b>Amir Ali Bhat, Dr. Rabia Noor</b>	131-139
28	Biochemistry of Environment and Health <b>Dr.Swanand Shrinivasrao Mukhedkar</b>	140-143
29	The Impact of Global Warming on Ecosystems: A Comprehensive Review <b>Vinay Kumar Singh</b>	144-148
30	Spatial Dynamics of Family Systems and Marriage-Related Challenges: A Geographical Study of Amravati District <b>Mr. Aniket Virendra Wankhade, Dr. Vijay Keshevrao Tompe</b>	149-152
31	Jacinta Kerketta: Championing the Voices of Jharkhand's Marginalized Tribes <b>Ritu Rani, Dr. Sumit Kr. Dey</b>	153-155
32	Environmental Impact and Sustainability of Nanotechnology in Renewable Energy <b>Mrs Sunita Avinash Thorat, Dr. Mahendra D.Shinde</b>	156-158
33	Cultural Influence on Agriculture Farming In Kashmir Valley <b>Aijaz Ahmad Sofi, Dr. Archana Sen</b>	159-164
34	Report on the Sorghum sp. rhizospere mycoflora from Barshi tahashil area, Pimpri (Pan.) <b>Kashid J. K.</b>	165-167
35	Work Place Stress among Employees <b>R. Ramkumar, Dr. R. Bhuvaneshwari</b>	168-170
36	Nature and Identity: An Eco-Critical Study of Tribal Narratives in Narayan's Kocharethi and Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar's Rupi Baskey <b>Mayyadah Hashim Ahmed, Dr. Rupal Patel</b>	171-173
37	The Role of Educational Institutions in Sustainable Development <b>Dr. S. Mariadoss</b>	174-177
38	Institutional Development and Innovation Ecosystems <b>Ms. A. Sarlin Venotha</b>	178- 180
39	Cultural Plurality and Literary Convergences and Divergences in the Works of Jhumpa Lahiri <b>Abdul Amin</b>	181-184
40	Economics and Managerial Aspects: Interdependencies and Strategic Approaches in Modern Business Practices <b>Mrs. Madhuri R.Umekar, Miss. Priti B. Kakade</b>	185-188
41	Investigating the Effects of Relationship Marketing and Technological Integration on Customer Loyalty within the Banking Industry <b>Dr.P.Preeti, K.Naga Sujana</b>	189- 192
42	Role of Women in Decision Making in India <b>Dr.Ayodhya Pawal</b>	193- 194
43	Nutrition and Weight Management Practices Among Indian Wrestling Athletes: Balancing Performance and Health <b>Prof. Raju M Maheshwadagi</b>	195-206
44	Investment Trends in Sustainability and Net-Zero Goals: Implications for the Stock Market in 2024 <b>Manjunath Dhanamaru</b>	207-216
45	A Study on Physical Education in Special Education: Adapting PE for Diverse Needs <b>Dr. Jagadish S Gasti</b>	217- 229
46	A Study on the Marriage System of the Ahoms in Assam <b>Dinamoni Gogoi</b>	230-232
47	Navigating the Gig Economy: A Comprehensive Analysis of Workforce Transformation in India <b>Jyoti Yadav, Dr. Ram Naresh Yadav</b>	233-238
48	Exploring How Characters' Challenges and Triumphs in Literature Enhance Our Understanding of Human Emotions and Identity <b>Mohammed Jassam Salim, Dr. Bharti Girish Dave</b>	239-243
49	अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र- छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक, समाजिक एवं शैक्षिक समायोजन का तुलनात्मक अध्ययन <b>डॉ आशिया खातून</b>	244-249

50	विजयदेव नारायण साही की सांस्कृतिक दृष्टि जया रमेशलाल बजाज	250-260
51	गर्भावस्था के दौरान शारीरिक और मानसिक तनाव: एक मनोवैज्ञानिक विश्लेषण मुकेश कुमार	261-265
52	बालकांच्या वाढ व विकासावर परिणाम करणाऱ्या घटकांचे अध्ययन संगिता गंगाराम मेश्राम, डॉ. लता बा. हिवसे	266-268
53	भारत में सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्योगों के विकास में जोखिम को कम करने में बीमा कंपनियों की भूमिका का अध्ययन। Pankaj Kumar Patwa, Shivani Verma, Simran Gautam, Prachi Singh, Sneha Gupta	269-271
54	राष्ट्रीय-स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना से गरीबों को होने वाले लाभों का अध्ययन Pankaj Kumar Patwa, Rubee Ansari, Shilpi Yadav, Priyanka yadav, Nidhi Gupta	272-275
55	स्वास्थ्य बीमा से होने वाले लाभों का समीक्षात्मक अध्ययन Pankaj Kumar Patwa, Mahvish, Shalini Singh, Manvi Singh, Nitesh Tripathi	276-279
56	हवामानातील बदलामुळे शेती व्यवसायावर होणारे परिणाम - एक समाजशास्त्रीय अभ्यास प्रा. लक्ष्मण बापुराव नैताम	280-282
57	गवताळ परिसंस्थेचा भौगोलिक अभ्यास प्रा.डॉ. राजाराम महादेव थोरात	283-287
58	मराठवाड्यातील ग्रामीण कथात्म साहित्याची भाषा व अभिवृत्ती पूजा संजय मोरे	288-291
59	महिलांचा राजकीय सहभाग व सबलीकरणाचे वास्तव विशेष संदर्भ वाशिम जिल्हा प्राचार्य डॉ. सुभाष गवई, जया श्रीराम राठोड	292-299
60	भारत में श्रम संबंधी कानून डॉ. रश्मि	300-302
61	ईट भट्टों पर कार्य करने वाले झज्जर जिले के श्रमिक परिवारों का समाजशास्त्रीय अध्ययन Dr. Rakesh Rana, Pardeep	303-311
62	सिल्ली राज का ऐतिहासिक अध्ययन (1400 ई. से 1947 ई. तक) कुमारी पुष्पांजली	312-319
63	झारखण्ड में भूमि समस्या और विरसा आन्दोलन (1830-1900 ई.) आदित्य कुमार	320-323
64	सोनभद्र का उद्गम से पलामू (जपला) तक का सफर का ऐतिहासिक अध्ययन ममता कुमारी	324-327
65	1857 के विद्रोह में नीलाम्बर- पीताम्बर के योगदान का खरवार जनजाति पर प्रभाव Shalini Kumari	328-331
66	निबन्धकार आचार्य रामचन्द्र शुक्ल : एक मूल्यांकन रेणुका रानी	332-335
67	मुगलकालीन भारत में प्रशासनिक शहर Shashi Shekhar	336-339
68	बोद्ध धर्म में वज्रयान बोद्ध प्रतीक के स्वरूप डॉ. कलिंदी कुमारी, पुष्पा कुमारी	340-341
69	पूर्व वैदिक काळातील सामाजिक इतिहास प्रा. डॉ. चित्रा सुकदेव पाटील	342-343

70	आदिवासींच्या आर्थिक विकासात शासनाच्या योजनांची भूमिका - एक अभ्यास प्रा. अनिल कुंडलिक पठाडे, डॉ. दीपक पंढरीनाथ सोनटक्के	344-348
71	ठाकर आदिवासी स्त्रियांची ओवीगीते प्रा.डॉ. माहेश्वरी वीरसिंग गावित	349-354
72	अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील अनुसूचित जमातींचे लोकसंख्याशास्त्रीय गुणवैशिष्ट्ये - एक भौगोलिक विश्लेषण डॉ. प्रविण म. माटोडे	355-358
73	मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ की कहानियों में आदिवासी स्त्री जीवन कु.मधु गोपीकिशन गुप्ता	359-363
74	'पार' उपन्यास में अभिव्यक्त आदिवासी समाज की सांस्कृतिक चेतना डॉ.विक्रम बालकृष्ण वारंग	364-366
75	भारतीय लोकतंत्र में 18वीं लोकसभा चुनाव का एक विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन विक्रम दास	367-370
76	शेतमजूर स्त्रियांचे प्रश्न : एक दृष्टीक्षेप प्रा. मंगेश भुताडे	371-374
77	ಜನಪದ ಆಹಾರ ಸಂಬಂಧಿ ವಿಧಿ ನಿಷೇಧಗಳು ಡಾ. ಸುರೇಖಾ ಬಿರಾದಾರ	375-376
78	ಆದ್ಯ ವಚನಕಾರ ವೈದ್ಯ ಸಂಗಣ್ಣ ಡಾ. ಸುರೇಖಾ ಬಿರಾದಾರ	377-378



## A Report on Scenario of Vegetation

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### Abstract:

Paleovegetation & Paleoclimate refers to the study of past vegetation & past climate on earth. Presence of Fossils & its study gives us idea to understand environmental changes over different time scale. Thus a complete picture can be able to establish with respect to the Evolutionary Trend & Events that has been took placed in Geological past.

**Keywords:** Paleovegetation & Paleoclimate of Deccan Trap.

### Introduction:

The vegetation of Deccan traps of India is vast and versatile. It deals with the study of environmental and ecological conditions of the geological past. Environment is the surrounding condition by which contemporaneous plant and animal are influenced and subjected to modification in their growth and development. Hence, vegetation of particular region is thus controlled by its surrounding environment.

### Content:

There are several factors to be considered to reconstruct the paleovegetation of particular region. The possibility of reconstructing past vegetation depends on the accurate identifications of diverse fossil assemblage. In order to know the vegetation of Deccan traps a critical analysis of the flora of Deccan traps has been made. (Prakash, 1973) His attention is confined to **Spermatophytes** including **Gymnosperms** and **Angiosperms**. Other mega and micro fossil have also been taken into consideration. The botanical components of the fossil flora have been classified into:-

- Extant genera.
- Exotic genera.
- Those, which are not assigned to any living genus and can be regarded as extinct or botanically unidentified.

Out of the three categories of generic groups, the exotic genera are more significant than the other two with respect to floral changes and the plant migration during the geological time.

Our present knowledge of fossil plant is incomplete and any of these are yet to be recognized in term of modern genera and species. Therefore, the present interpretation are only generalized and would be supported by further investigation.

From, the fossil studies done so far it seems that the flora of India during **Tertiary** was

predominant. Considering the flora of Deccan Intertrappean series, it has been noticed that only some of the fossil have reliably been assigned to modern genera, while other are described without any proper generic affinities. The modern distributions of the living comparable form of the Deccan Intertrappean flora, wherever possible would indicate a different picture of environment than what we see today in the region of the trap from where most of the petrified flowering plants are known.

Deccan Intertrappean exposures have revealed a number of **Fungi**, that grew luxuriantly. Some fossil **Algae** and **Fungi** are also described from the Deccan Intertrappean beds of India. From the study of fossil algae, it seems that the semi-tropical rain forest type of climate was prevailing at that time in the Deccan Trap areas.

Some of the algae were found in reproductive stage viz, **Mougeotiales deccani** and **Spirogyrites deccani** described by (Barlinge and paradkar, 1979) the fact that these fossils occurring in the reproductive stages confirms the finding of Prof. Sahni.

Occurance of Mega fossil and Micro fossil in the Deccan Intertrappean flora affiliated with modern taxa and also help in determining the possible paleoenvironmental pattern of the Deccan Trap (Ramanujan, 1974) It is therefore, clear that with well beautiful preserved material we can learn much about the vegetation of the past, as well as rates of evolution and factors regulating the appearance of major groups of plant kingdom.

Tertiary vegetation reveals that the period of vegetational recovery in the **Paleocene** exhibits a modern secondary succession extending over a long period of time. Although there is no evidence for a decrease in temperature and the amount of precipitation increased but this increase initiated the

development of tropical and par tropical rain forest in many regions. During the **Paleocene**, **Deciduous vegetation** become an important component of the **Northern Rocky Mountain** and **Great plains regions**.

The flora of these region are characterized by deciduous genera belonging to families that are important members of our extant vegetation. Among these families are the **Betulaceae** and **Juglandaceae**, which become highly diversified during the Paleocene.

Throughout the **Paleocene** and **Eocene** the flora become increasingly modern in composition. The **Middle Eocene** is characterized by **Semi-deciduous** forest. And a notable expansion of open **Grasslands** is observed during the **Miocene**. (Lakhanpal, 1970)

More recently (Crepet & Feldman, 1991) have described Compression – Impression fossil of **Grasses** from the Paleocene – Eocene. **Wilcox** formation of **Tennessee**, these megafossil exhibit a suite of characters belonging to members of the family **Poaceae** and represent the earliest known remains of **Grasses** in the fossil record.

Thus, the information from the first evidence of living organism in the **Precambrian** to the appearance of bilateral symmetry of flower in an **Eocene** of **Tertiary period** gives a detailed **Scenario of Vegetation** of geological past and the purpose of this short report is to represent a brief and concise review of **Evolutionary trends** and event that have occurred in geological records. (Stewart, 1985)

1. **Precambrian** (About 3.5 billion year):- Both unicells and filaments of cells having the size, shape and organizations of **Prokaryotic bacteria** and **Blue-green algae**.
2. **Cambrian and Ordovician** (Between 570 & 435 million year):- Multicellular organization and **spores with triradiate ornamentation**.
3. **Mid – Silurian** (About 420 million year):- The first evidence of **Vascular land plants**.
4. **Lower, Middle & Upper Devonian** (Between 395 & 345 million year):- Evolution of **Protoseteles**, Increase in plant size in some **Lycopods & Cladoxylales**. First known appearance of **Preovules** in **Cupule** structure.
5. **Carboniferous** (Between 345 & 280 million year):- It consist of **Cordites**, **Conifer** including **Leptosporangiate** and **Eusporangiate**.
6. **Permian & Triassic** (Between 280 & 195 million year):- First evidence of **Cycads** and **Cycadeoids**. **Glossopterids** and **Ginkgophytes** appear in the **Premian** and increase in the **Triassic**.
7. **Jurrassic** (Between 195 & 141 million year):- Rapid diversification of **Fern**, **Cycads**, **Cycadeoids**, **Confers & Ginkgophytes** and

**Sehenopsida** and **Lycopsida** a less conspicuous part of the flora.

8. **Cretaceous** (Between 141 & 65 million year):- Many angiosperms with characteristics of extant families and great diversification of **Angiosperm pollen** and **Leaf types**.
9. **Tertiary** (Between 65 million & Present) :- Steady evolution of **New angiosperm** type including those with bilaterally symmetrical flower, herbaceous growth habits such as grasses and a multitude of **Seeds, Fruit, Leaf and pollen type**.

#### Conclusion:

On the basis of evidence summarized above makes it clear that each major groups of vascular & non vascular plants that we recognize today and some that have become extinct originated by simple generalized forms that produced in geological past. Unicellular organism to --Multicellular organism to --Filamentous (unbranched or branched) to --Prostrate or Upright Thallus to --Hetrotrichous habit to --Vascular System plant body (herbs & shrubs) to --Highly Evolved Woody Tree.

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## Use of Social Media for College Libraries in India

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### Abstract

In the digital era, social media has transformed various domains, including the academic sector. For college libraries in India, integrating social media offers unprecedented opportunities for engagement, outreach, and knowledge dissemination. This paper explores the advantages, challenges, and best practices in using social media as a tool for library services in Indian colleges. Additionally, it addresses the potential of social media to reshape library management and accessibility, catering to the needs of the modern student demographic.

**Key words:** College Library, Social Media, Digital Era, Collaborative Learning, Library Resources, Real time communication

### Introduction

College libraries in India face evolving challenges in engaging students and faculty. The proliferation of digital resources and changes in information-seeking behavior highlight the need for libraries to innovate. Social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn provide interactive platforms that can bridge the gap between library services and users. This paper investigates the use of social media in Indian college libraries, examining how it can enhance user engagement, improve access to resources, and foster a collaborative learning environment.

### Literature Review

Previous research emphasizes social media's role in promoting library services. For example, Al-Daihani (2020) found that social media can increase user engagement by providing information on new acquisitions, services, and events. Furthermore, Bansal and Kumari (2018) highlighted that college libraries that used social media saw a notable increase in foot traffic and online inquiries. However, the authors noted that many Indian libraries still lack the resources and expertise to effectively implement social media strategies.

**Benefits of Social Media for College Libraries in India** Social media offers several benefits for college libraries in India:

1. **Increased Visibility and Engagement:** Social media can be used to announce new arrivals, special collections, and events, making the library more visible to students and faculty.
2. **Community Building and Collaborative Learning:** Platforms like Instagram and Facebook can foster a sense of community

among students, encouraging them to engage in discussions and share insights.

3. **Real-time Communication:** Social media allows for quick, efficient communication, helping libraries to address user queries and provide updates on any service changes.
4. **Outreach to Non-traditional Users:** Many Indian students come from diverse backgrounds and may be unfamiliar with library resources. Social media can reach these students effectively, providing them with tutorials and guides on accessing library resources.

**Challenges in Adopting Social Media** Despite the benefits, several challenges limit social media adoption in Indian college libraries:

1. **Resource Constraints:** Many libraries lack the funding and personnel needed to manage active social media accounts effectively.
2. **Training and Expertise:** Library staff may need training in digital literacy and social media management, which can be a significant investment for institutions.
3. **Privacy and Data Security Concerns:** Using social media platforms involves risks related to privacy and data security, a significant concern for academic institutions.
4. **Resistance to Change:** Traditional attitudes towards library management and hesitancy in adopting new technologies can slow the integration of social media in some libraries.

**Best Practices for Implementing Social Media in Libraries** To effectively leverage social media, Indian college libraries should consider the following strategies:

1. **Targeted Content Creation:** Libraries should post relevant, student-focused content,

including reading recommendations, study tips, and updates on library services.

2. **Platform Selection:** Each social media platform has unique features; libraries should choose those most popular with their student demographic.
3. **Regular Engagement and Interaction:** Responding to comments, sharing user-generated content, and regular posting can foster a more interactive and engaged online community.
4. **Data Analytics:** Libraries can use insights from social media analytics to understand user preferences, optimizing their content to better serve users.

**Conclusion:**

The use of social media in Indian college libraries offers vast potential to improve accessibility, engagement, and resource usage. By addressing challenges such as resource limitations and ensuring data privacy, libraries can successfully integrate social media into their services. Implementing best practices can further enhance this engagement, making libraries more responsive to the evolving needs of Indian students.

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## A Critical Analysis on Status of Dalit Women in India

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### Abstract:

Dalit women in India have kept quiet for decades and have done so since a very long time ago. They have watched as quiet bystanders as they were exploited, oppressed, and subjected to brutality. They are powerless over their own lives, earnings; They experience hunger, malnutrition, infections, physical and mental torture, rape, illiteracy, poor health, unemployment, insecurity, and other types of brutality, exploitation, and oppression. Their lives have been rendered a living hell by the combined forces, casteism, and patriarchy. The vast majority of them endure the most precarious living situations. They are still residing in the dark ages despite living in the contemporary and post-modern eras. Caste has been crucial in bringing up issues pertaining to women who are more marginalized, specifically Dalit women. Women from lower castes have reduced access to public forums in highly hierarchical societies, which is exacerbated by their gender. The feudal lords, the elites who are not free from caste prejudice, continue to colonize the Dalits and the marginalized.

**Keywords:** marginalized, unemployment, women, malnutrition, exploitation

### Introduction

Communities continue to be marginalized and denied rights in every nation on earth because of where they are in the social structure according to class, race, ethnicity, gender, and skin color. In India, one's caste dictates their social standing, and Dalits, also known as untouchables, continue to be the most abused and marginalized social class in the country. The exclusionary mechanism of deeply ingrained hierarchical social relations has had different effects on the Dalits, particularly the women. This is true even though the Indian Constitution contains several provisions for Dalit communities to protect and advance their socioeconomic standing in order to reintegrate them into society. They must bear the triple burden of oppression brought on by caste, gender, and poverty. Dalit women must start working as soon as possible in order to support their families. They typically receive the stigmatized and traditionally allotted menial tasks. Better paying and honorable work remain elusive for them by routinely denying them access to resources like possessions, money, assets, and other forms of productive labour. This deliberate denial process keeps them at the bottom of society as invisible citizens and further secures their exclusion from sociopolitical context.

Caste has been crucial in bringing up issues affecting the more marginalized among women. Women from lower castes have reduced access to public forums in highly hierarchical societies, which

is exacerbated by their gender. The feudal lords, the elites who are not free from caste prejudice, continue to colonize the Dalits and the marginalized. Indians have evicted the colonizers, but not the oppressors of Dalits. Dalit women are likewise compelled to suffer at the hands of the patriarchy. The double-day caste system and the sex-based labor division fall primarily on Dalit women. Dalit women are degraded and treated with contempt, and their bodies are open targets for colonization by men from other groups. Dalit women are underprivileged and at the bottom of the economic and educational ladders. They suffer from caste violence, poverty, illiteracy, sexual harassment, and exploitation. Dalit women struggle daily to survive due to double, triple, or many forms of discrimination; otherwise, simply existing overpowered by the upsurges in bigotry. Without a struggle, Dalit women would just be abandoned in hopelessness.

The caste system was nonexistent and unpopular in ancient India (3200–2500 B.C.) since even the most intelligent men were good househusbands and engaged in a variety of activities. In terms of knowledge, education, and intellect, women in ancient India were on par with males. The decision she made regarding her lifelong partner was created in accordance with her own wishes, and after reaching legal adulthood, marriage was executed as per her wish. She chose to go to events like parties, sporting events, and religious

services. Young widow's remarriage was also a popular practice (Thind, 2000).

Even the smartest men became good househusbands and participated in a variety of occupations, therefore the caste system was nonexistent and unwelcome in ancient India (3200–2500 B.C.). Women in ancient India were just as intelligent, knowledgeable, and educated as men. The selection she made for her longtime companion was conceived in accordance with her own wishes, and upon becoming a legal adult, her desire for marriage was carried out. She made the decision to attend gatherings like weddings, athletic events, and worship sessions. Remarrying young widows was also a common practice (Thind, 2000).

Throughout history, oppression has been and is now a major cause for worry in both developed and developing nations. The hierarchies and power systems of Indian society make it a prime location for learning more about oppression and the lives of the exploited. Indian is

More than half of the population is marginalized as a result of the caste system, class inequality, and patriarchy combined. Members of the lower castes and classes as well as women at all levels of the established hierarchy have historically been subjected to oppression brought on by the Indian social structure. The caste system's structure of social preference is a notable characteristic. In Indian culture, In his writings on the riddle of women, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar explains in detail how Manu has lowered women's status by limiting their freedom and equal rights. He was ready and eager to make certain adjustments to Hindu Law for the benefit of women. When he served as a Law Minister in J.L. Nehru's cabinet in 1952, he attempted to introduce a Hindu Law modification that would have let women to vote. Dr. Ambedkar was ultimately compelled to leave Nehru's Ministry.

In India, women cannot be seen as a "single" unit.. Inter sectionality between caste and gender is essential in establishing social standing, which is then preserved during one's lifespan by the practice of "caste-endogamy" (Mukherjee & Sabharwal, 2015).

### **Historical Background of Women**

Modern Indian society is overwhelmingly male-dominated and biased towards women. This leads to a variety of forms of discrimination and exploitation. It is obvious that Indian women are treated unfairly and cruelly. For instance, female infanticide and female feticide are both common, as is the Sati likewise not entirely vanished. Due to inadequate dowries, women are frequently tortured in broad daylight. Women, for their part, have been battling through a variety of organizations and movements to free themselves from the control of the social structure that is dominated by men.

### **Women's Status in the Vedic Period**

Women have access to all types of rights that are fundamental to human dignity during the Vedic era. Women had the right to access all academic fields, and they even held positions on an even footing with males.

Religious events included a significant contribution from women. After reaching puberty, the females were allowed to select their life spouses in a Swayamvara. They were qualified for Upanayana and had access to all avenues of instruction, including the study of the Vedas. They may dissolve a union, and widows could get remarried. Women were treated with dignity even in the period of Kautilya.

In all socio religious rituals and ceremonies, women participated actively and were paired with men. Polygamy was uncommon and mostly practised by the aristocracy. Only wealthy and royal families used the dowry system. A woman was viewed as the centre of the home and an essential part of the husband's household. She demonstrated that she was a loyal companion, partner, and mentor for her spouse. She had complete freedom to leave her home and travel wherever she pleased, including to fairs, festivals, Sabhas, and gatherings of scholarly people.

The home was considered to be a woman's "Stridhan" and she held complete ownership over it. Consequently, a woman was considered an equal companion, partner, and participant in the pleasures and pains endured by her husband throughout the Vedic era. She had a good deal of freedom in social, cultural, and educational activities and roughly equal privileges in religious concerns.

### **Ideology of Dalit Women's**

The Dalit woman has a societal impact, is a cultural icon, and has a long history. She is the defining characteristic of a farming society. She is the rightful creator and successor to a well-known name in industrial culture. She contributes significantly and significantly to the development and paving of roads that benefit everyone. She thwarts and involves herself in quarries, hospitals, cement plants, and textile mills. According to estimates and calculations, Dalit women perform 80% of the labor that strengthens the national economy. They provide for the family. They travel great distances by foot in order to collect fuel, food, and water. They get up ahead of the cock crows. They water the lawn in front of the house every morning and sprinkle cow manure on it. As the sun comes up, they leave to work in the fields. When they come home in the evening, they start doing their regular domestic chores. They consume relatively little food, sleep for long periods of time, and dress in patches. They have worked tirelessly to improve every aspect of society, including the family, society, and country as a whole, yet they are

now the ones who are suffering the most in India. They are putting up a lot of fights to maintain their own existence.

**Primary Problems Facing Dalit Women  
Access to Important Resources for Productivity  
For India:**

Women work at various levels of the economy all over the world. They are forest stewards, farmers, and land managers. Women play a critical role in agriculture, particularly subsistence farming, seed production, and other livelihood activities. Post-harvest management, animal care, fishing, management of natural resources, and management of energy. By taking care of needs like food, water, fuel, housing, healthcare, and social security, these initiatives help people and communities survive. The most crucial and significant factors for all types of present livelihood activities are productive resources.

**Illiteracy:**

Despite the availability of free education, many Dalit women were mistreated and educationally behind until a few years ago. The majority of Dalit women are given the opportunity to complete their primary education. When they reach the age of, they are discouraged from getting married and starting a family.

**Participation in politics and empowerment:**

Rural Dalit women are even less granted a voice in decision-making than urban Dalit women, who are already politically marginalized. In India, a quota or reservation system is in place to ensure that Dalits have seats in the town assembly or to defend their rights. However, Dalit women's roles are continuously inferior to those of their male counterparts. Male members of the dominant caste exert pressure, animosity, and sometimes violence against Dalit women who attempt to use their influence in the panchayat.

**Violence against Women, Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation**

The UN Special Rapport brought up the issue of violence against women and observed or heard that Dalit women experience very harsh targeted violence, including rape and murder attempts and executions by state actors and powerful upper caste members who use these acts to spread political lessons and put down dissent in the community. Women are subordinated and the patriarchal order is reinforced by gender inequity that is sanctified by religious and cultural traditions, which also allows for violence against them to occur in their own families and communities.

In both public and private settings, Dalit women experience verbal, physical, and sexual abuse. In the private sphere, benefit. Further, Dalit women are abused because they are unfit to be spouses, don't have enough male offspring, or don't contribute enough dowries to the union. Dalit

women experience violence at the hands of the local populace, complicit police officers, their in-laws, and their families. In contrast to female servitude norms

Given social expectations In relation to the "natural" caste system, women are regularly mistreated and exploited. Dalit females are abused because they are unfit to be spouses, don't have enough male offspring, or don't contribute enough dowries to the union. Dalit women experience violence at the hands of the local populace, complicit police officers, their in-laws, and their families. In contrast to female servitude norms

**Empowerment of Dalit Women**

One of the particular goals inherent in the Indian Constitution's preamble, fundamental rights, and guiding principles of state policy was the attainment of equality for women. Social change is a complicated process that does not affect all groups of women equally. As a result, it is difficult to define the position of women. In this nation, a few number of powerful upper caste men who believe they were created to rule have long held the monopoly on political power, which has only served to deny the oppressed or lower classes of their right to better lives while making Dalit women's plight both inconsequential and pitiable. This reflects or illustrates the level of inequality present in society. The powerful women of the upper caste have neglected the oppressed women, showed little concern for them, and haven't worked to raise their socioeconomic and political status. However, they must have been crucial in developing the social programmes and laws for the wellbeing of women. It is sad that Dalit women are disregarded while taking into account both their potential and share in active politics. In politics, men predominate in terms of organizational structure, leadership, and the distribution of power. Caste and money are significant aspects that dominate Indian politics. Women's fight against oppression depend heavily on their engagement in politics. Women's engagement in decision-making directly affects their social and economic standing. Unfortunately, all of the political parties currently in power in India preach too much about the stability and equality of women while completely ignoring the Dalit women and making it apparent that their standing in and participation in politics is meaningless and of no significance at all. The Dalit women's lack of concern for their representation in all political parties, which definitely reflects the class divide, is very sorry to state. The majority of individuals engaged in politics and power sharing are women from upper castes with political histories and wealthy families.

**Recommendations for Dalit Women Issues**

- The constitution should be amended to ensure Dalit women are represented honorably in all governmental structures.
- The new Constitution should contain provisions for Dalit reservations in all state bodies.
- Women's economic, social, cultural, civil, and political rights should be strengthened.
- With adequate respect for Dalit women's access to and control over resources, Dalit land ownership should be ensured.
- Dalit women should be eligible for scholarships and receive free technical, vocational, and academic education from the government.
- It is important to effectively enforce the publication of the clause designating the United States as an untouchable free country.
- In order to eliminate the discriminatory laws, customs, and dogmatism against Dalit women, social security should be made available for their rehabilitation.
- Dalits and Dalit women are subject to international legal duties and tools that should be coupled with their efficient implementation, monitoring, and evaluation, in practice.
- To secure and uphold women's rights, a Constitutional Dalit Commission should be established with unique support services for Dalit women.
- These Dalits should receive appropriate recompense, as well as victims of trafficking, rape, sexual exploitation, and displaced Dalits throughout the transitional phase, with adequate respect for the plight of Dalit women.
- Programmes for Dalit women's economic empowerment should be started so they can support themselves and generate revenue.
- It is important to provide Dalit women's work opportunities.
- There should be a significant increase in awareness of caste discrimination.
- In the event of caste discrimination and abuse, strict legal action should be taken. One-step There is no answer to the Dalit and Dalit women's rights problem.

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## Mahatma Gandhi's thought of Democracy and Its Impact in Contemporary Voting Behavior: An Analysis

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### Abstract

One of the most significant figures in modern history, Mahatma Gandhi, who was born Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi in 2nd Oct 1869, is particularly significant in the context of democracy and nonviolent resistance. The struggle for independence in India was profoundly influenced by Gandhi's philosophy and actions, as were democratic movements all over the world.

Mahatma Gandhi's approach to democracy was deeply rooted in his belief in Swaraj, or self-rule. Swaraj stressed personal and community self-governance in addition to political independence from colonial rule. In keeping with his belief in grassroots democracy, he envisioned a decentralized form of government in which power would be distributed among villages. For Mahatma Gandhi, true democracy meant more than just having a government elected by the people; it also meant making sure that every person could live with dignity and respect for them.

Non violence and Truth highly impacts the voter's behavior. Common people highly tend towards these two principles. In India, Mahatma Gandhi had a significant influence on voting behavior. His legacy still has an impact on how citizens approach elections, stressing the significance of moral integrity, inclusion, and active participation in the democratic process.

**Keyword:** Mahatma Gandhi, Democracy, Non-Violence, Truth and Voting Behavior.

### Introduction

In the modern world, the democratic form of governance is the most common, well-liked, and contentious type. Political theorists concur that the phrase, despite its historical ambiguity and vagueness, upholds justice, equality, civilization, and genuine public participation in public functions and decision-making. The rise of the powerful Church asserting its dominance over society and the State, feudal economies, and autocratic monarchies gave rise to western liberal democracy. In reaction, liberal democracies promoted the idea of keeping politics and religion apart. Additionally, it promoted a free market economy in which the government adopted a laissez-faire attitude. The main focus of liberal democracy is on the freedom, liberty, and rights of the individual, which has led to conflicts between those rights and the interests of the society. Democracy, as a political system, is built on the principle of popular sovereignty, where the power to govern is derived from the consent of the governed. Central to this process is voting behavior, which represents the choices and preferences of citizens as they participate in elections. Voting behavior is a complex phenomenon, influenced by a myriad of factors including political ideologies, cultural backgrounds, economic conditions, social identities,

and personal values. It reflects not only individual preferences but also the broader social and political context in which these preferences are formed. In a democracy, the act of voting is both a right and a responsibility, providing citizens with the opportunity to influence public policy, shape the direction of their government, and hold elected officials accountable.

The nature of voting behavior can significantly impact the functioning and quality of a democracy. For instance, when citizens vote based on informed, rational considerations—evaluating the policies, integrity, and competence of candidates—democracy tends to be more robust and effective. Informed voting leads to the election of leaders who are more likely to represent the true interests of the populace, contributing to good governance and the implementation of policies that address societal needs. Conversely, when voting behavior is driven by factors such as misinformation, populism, or narrow self-interest, it can lead to the election of leaders who do not genuinely serve the public good, undermining the quality of democracy.

Furthermore, voting behavior in a democracy is also a reflection of the societal values and priorities at a given time. For instance, high voter turnout often indicates a healthy democracy

where citizens are engaged and feel that their votes matter. On the other hand, low voter turnout might suggest apathy, disillusionment, or disenfranchisement, pointing to deeper issues within the political system. The patterns of voting behavior can also reveal underlying social divisions, such as those based on class, race, religion, or geography, highlighting the challenges of achieving a truly inclusive and representative democracy.

Mahatma Gandhi, who has continuously emphasized the value of democracy in advancing a free, nonviolent society that encourages tolerance and development, is equally cognizant of its risks. He contends that human institutions are inherently dangerous. Because democracy is such a wonderful institution, there is a higher likelihood of abuse. Mahatma Gandhi's commitment to nonviolence (Ahimsa) and truth (Satya) was central to his vision of democracy.

He accepted that peaceful common defiance was an incredible asset for the mistreated to challenge out of line regulations and specialists without turning to brutality. His leadership of various campaigns, such as the Salt March and the Quit India Movement, which mobilized millions of Indians for a peaceful struggle for independence, demonstrated this principle. Gandhi additionally highlighted the moral components of a majority rule government. He argued that justice, equality, and compassion must be the foundation of a democratic society. He was a vocal opponent of social inequality, including the caste system, and devoted his life to fostering unity among India's various religious and social groups.

#### **Objective of Study**

1. To understand the Gandhi's thought of Democracy.
2. To analyze the Impact of Gandhi's Thought of Democracy into contemporary Voting Behavior.

#### **Research Methodology**

This paper is descriptive and analytical in nature. The data used in it have collected from secondary sources. Necessary secondary data is collected from Journals, Reference Books, Magazines and Websites.

#### **Gandhi's thought on Democracy**

"Democracy must in essence mean as the art and science of mobilizing the entire physical, economic and spiritual resources of all the various sections of the people in the service of the common good of all (Harijan, 1939) . This definition of democracy is significantly broader than the one that came before it. Its relevance extends beyond politics and popular culture. Instead, it is occasionally materialistic, spiritual, and utilitarian with a belief in fairness, equality, and fair play. According to his definition of democracy, the strongest and the weakest should have equal opportunities. By the

above discussions we can identify few elements for democracy.

Non-Violence

Truth

Mobilizing

Equality

Good of All

**Non-Violence**

He suggested using nonviolence as a tool to achieve the aim of Democracy. For him, non-violence was a way of life, not just a guideline to follow in all conflicts with injustice. He actually made non-violence his way of life.

**Truth**

The core of Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy and manner of life was his understanding of Satya, or truth. Gandhi saw Truth as a complete philosophy that governed all facets of life, not just expressing the truth. He thought that every person's moral and spiritual growth depended on their commitment to the truth. If person practices truth in his personal and professional life he will experience change in his attitude.

**Mobilizing Resource**

Sarvodaya (the welfare of all), Swaraj (self-rule), and Ahimsa (nonviolence) were the three guiding principles of Mahatma Gandhi, and they shaped his ideas on mobilizing resources for every human being. In addition to focusing on financial resources, his strategy also addressed social, moral, and spiritual advancement.

**Equality**

He thought that all people, regardless of their color, religion, caste, gender, or social standing, are created with intrinsic dignity and equality. He had a comprehensive approach to equality, taking into account social, economic, and spiritual factors.

**Good of All**

The "Good of All" was fundamental to Mahatma Gandhi's ideology and influenced his outlook on social transformation, politics, and daily living. Gandhi thought that genuine societal advancement depended on the welfare of every person, particularly the most defenseless.

**Voting Behavior**

Voting behavior is the study and examination of how and why individuals cast their ballots in elections. It includes the ways in which voters make decisions as well as the variables—political, social, economic, and psychological—that affect those decisions. Voting behavior research aims to comprehend voting trends, the effects of campaign tactics, the media's role, the influence of social identities (e.g., class, race, religion, and gender), the significance of issues, and the qualities of candidates. How people choose to cast their votes is referred to as voting behavior. A complicated interaction between societal circumstances and the



personal attitudes of each voter shape this decision. Voter attitudes encompass several attributes such as party identification, ideological inclinations, level of contentment with the current government, inclinations towards public policies, and sentiments regarding a candidate's personal qualities. Social factors encompass several aspects such as race, gender, educational attainment, social and economic status, religion and degree of religiosity, and regional features. In psychology, an attitude refers to a set of emotions, beliefs, and behaviors toward a particular object, person, thing, or event. Attitude can also be described as the way we evaluate something or someone. For example, we tend to respond positively or negatively about certain subjects. We can summarize the main components of attitude which are a collection of our thoughts, feelings, and actions in a given scenario. They are formed as a result of our life experiences, upbringing, education, and social influences.

Voting behavior refers to how people vote in elections, which is influenced by various factors such as political beliefs, social identity, economic conditions, and personal values. The act of voting is not only a political duty, but also a moral responsibility, since it reflects a person's beliefs about what is right, honest, and beneficial to society.

The Thought of Democracy that Gandhi espoused can have a profound impact on voting behavior as follows:

**Non-Violence and Ethical Voting:** Gandhi's principle of non-violence encourages voters to reject candidates and parties that endorse or perpetuate violence, hatred, or divisiveness. It calls for a conscientious choice, supporting leaders who advocate for peace, dialogue, and reconciliation.

**The truth and honesty in politics:** The fact that Gandhi's truth is the truth suggests that voters should prioritize the sincerity and transparency of the candidates supported by voters. Political leaders who embody the truth and honesty are more likely to work for public interests and maintain democratic principles.

**Social Justice and Inclusive Voting:** Motivated by Gandhi's dedication to social justice, voters might be more likely to back laws and candidates who seek to lessen inequality, defend the rights of disadvantaged groups, and advance social welfare. By voting according to their values, people make sure that the needs of the most vulnerable people are taken into account during the democratic process. Gandhi's anti-corruption stance on simplicity can be shown in his vote against power abuse and corruption. Supporters of this philosophy may endorse politicians who lead humble lives, abstain from luxury, and put the welfare of the public ahead of their own interests.

**Community and Collective Well-Being:** Gandhi's convictions regarding unity and

community inspire voters to go beyond their personal interests and take into account the well-being of society as a whole. Voting for laws that advance social harmony, national unity, and the welfare of all citizens may result from this.

### Conclusion

Mahatma Gandhi's thought on democracy offer a moral sense that can direct voting behavior in a democracy. A just and equitable society can be created by voters making decisions that represent their ethical convictions and also advance non-violence, truth, social justice, simplicity, and community. Gandhi's legacy serves as a reminder that voting is a great duty that can impact a country's destiny and the welfare of its citizens, in addition to being a right. Adopting these principles in our voting behavior as democratic citizens is a first step toward Gandhi's dream of a world where human dignity, justice, and peace rule.

Ultimately, democracy relies on the active and informed participation of its citizens through voting. It is through this participation that the will of the people is expressed, ensuring that the government remains accountable and responsive to the needs of all. Therefore, promoting informed and thoughtful voting behavior is crucial for the health and sustainability of a democratic society, as it directly influences the legitimacy and effectiveness of its governance.

The relevance of Mahatma Gandhi's thought of Democracy can be better understood by this general election 2024 the Election Commission dedicates violence-free polls to the Father of the Nation. Mahatma Gandhi's message of non-violence inspired our commitment towards peaceful and violence-free elections: CEC Rajiv Kumar.

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20. Young India, Various Issues.



## Comparative Study of Best Practices of Human Resource In Selected Startup Companies in Maharashtra

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### Abstract

This comparative study aims to examine the best practices of human resource management in selected startup companies in Maharashtra, India. The country of Maharashtra is known for its colourful startup ecosystem, and this research makes a speciality of identifying and analysing the strategies and practices that these startups hire to effectively manage their human resources.

The study involved a selection of numerous startup companies operating in Maharashtra, representing various industries, sizes, and stages of growth. Data was collected through interviews, surveys, and a thorough review of present literature. Key HR practices such as recruitment, employee development, retention, and employee engagement were scrutinised.

The findings display that successful startups in Maharashtra prioritise agile and innovative HR techniques that are tailored to their unique organisational needs. Recruitment practices emphasise cultural fit, and employee development includes non-stop learning opportunities. Retention strategies incorporate a mix of flexible work arrangements and performance-based incentives. Moreover, these startups foster a culture of employee engagement by selling open communication, feedback mechanisms, and a shared feel of purpose.

This study provides precious insights for startup companies looking to enhance their human resource management practices and for policymakers looking to support the growth of the startup environment in Maharashtra. It underscores the importance of adaptive HR strategies and employee-centric approaches for startups to thrive in a dynamic and competitive business environment.

**Keywords:** Human Resource, startup companies, Maharashtra, Innovation and Technology

### Introduction:

The country of Maharashtra, located in western India, has witnessed a burgeoning startup ecosystem in recent years. As these startups have gained prominence and scale, the role of effective Human Resource (HR) management has become increasingly crucial in making sure their success. This comparative study aims to explore and examine the best practices in HR management within a selection of startup companies based in Maharashtra.

Startups are unique entities characterised by innovation, rapid growth, and a dynamic work environment. Their HR practices often differ from those of established corporations, and understanding these differences is crucial for both academics and professionals in the field of human resources. By examining the practices of selected startups in Maharashtra, this study seeks to provide insights into how HR can adapt to the specific needs and challenges of startups.

### Importance of the Study

A comparative study of best practices in human resources (HR) within selected startup companies in Maharashtra is important for several reasons:

**Benchmarking and Learning:** It helps other startups and businesses in Maharashtra understand what successful HR practices are and how they can implement them.

**Tailored Solutions:** By analyzing HR practices in different startups, the study can reveal which practices work best in various contexts, allowing companies to adopt or adapt them to their specific needs.

**Talent Attraction and Retention:** Identifying effective HR practices can aid in attracting and retaining top talent, a critical factor for startups' success.

**Employee Satisfaction and Productivity:** Good HR practices often lead to higher employee satisfaction and productivity, which can directly impact a startup's growth.

**Compliance and Legalities:** Understanding how successful startups handle HR can also shed light on compliance with labour laws and regulations.

**Investor and Stakeholder Confidence:** For startups seeking funding or partnerships, a strong HR framework can instill confidence in investors and stakeholders.

**Innovation and Growth:** By examining HR practices in innovative startups, the study can uncover methods for fostering creativity and growth.

**Regional Development:** Focusing on Maharashtra specifically can contribute to the development of the startup ecosystem in the region.

In summary, this study is crucial for improving HR practices, enhancing startup performance, and contributing to the overall economic and business landscape in Maharashtra.

### Objectives of the Study

#### Primary Objectives:

1. Assess the effectiveness of human resource management practices in selected startup companies in Maharashtra.
2. Identify the key HR practices that contribute to the success and growth of these startups.
3. Compare and contrast the HR practices across different startup companies to determine commonalities and variations.
4. Evaluate the impact of HR practices on employee satisfaction, retention, and overall organizational performance.

### Background of the Study

#### Introduction of startups

**"Big Business starts small"**

-By Richard Branson  
(British Business Magnate)

Startups play a pivotal role in the economic landscape of Maharashtra, contributing to innovation, job creation, and economic growth. Human resource management is a critical aspect of their success. This study aims to analyze and compare the best practices in HR management among selected startup companies in Maharashtra.

#### Difference between a Startup and a Small Business

S.No	Startup	Small Business
1	Innovative and unique product or service	Does not claim uniqueness
2	No limits decided to do business	Limited scope of business
3	Rate of growth is very fast	Growth exists but not that fast
4	Objective is to create customers	Objective is to create profits
5	Based on financial borrowings from angel investors or venture capitalists	Self- financed or loans from family, friends or banks.
6	Use of latest technologies	No special technologies required
7	92% of the startups fail in the first 3 years	32% of the small businesses fail in the first 3 years
8	Talented employees are required	Average employees are hired
9	More risk, more profit	Less risk, less profit
10	Moves next stage by big deal sale or IPO	Exits either by selling or by making it a family business

#### Overview of Startup Ecosystem in Maharashtra:

Maharashtra, with cities like Mumbai and Pune, has emerged as a vibrant hub for startups. The state's diverse economy, access to talent, and supportive infrastructure have nurtured a thriving startup ecosystem. Startups in Maharashtra span various industries, including technology, healthcare, e-commerce, and fintech.

#### Importance of Human Resource Management:

Human resource management is the cornerstone of startup success. Attracting, retaining, and nurturing talent is essential for these companies to remain competitive and innovative. Effective HR practices

**Dr. S. V. Shinde, Ashwini. N. Rathod**

### Secondary Objectives:

1. Examine the recruitment and selection processes within these startups to understand how they attract and hire talent.
2. Analyse the onboarding and orientation procedures to ensure new employees integrate seamlessly into the company culture.
3. Investigate the training and development programs in place to enhance employee skills and competencies.
4. Study the performance appraisal and feedback mechanisms used to motivate and assess employees' performance.
5. Explore the compensation and benefits structures offered to employees, including any innovative approaches.
6. Assess the work-life balance and well-being initiatives undertaken by the startups.
7. Investigate the HR technology and systems employed for efficient HR management.
8. Understand the role of HR in fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion within these organisations.

in startups can lead to higher productivity, employee satisfaction, and overall business growth.

#### Research Methodology:

This study will select a sample of startup companies across different sectors in Maharashtra. It will employ a mixed-method research approach, incorporating surveys, interviews, and data analysis. The findings will be compared, and best practices in HR management will be identified.

#### Sectors Nurturing Startups in Maharashtra

#### Geographic Distribution:

Maharashtra is a beautiful state. Maharashtra is a state in the western sea coastline of

India. It is surrounded by Goa and Karnataka states in south, Andhra Pradesh in southeast, Gujarat, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Madhya Pradesh in

north, Chhattisgarh in east, and the Arabian Sea in west.



**Figure 1. Maharashtra state and division**

Maharashtra is the third-largest state of India, both in area and population. Its coastline is 330 miles (530 km) long along the Arabian Sea. Rice is the dominant crop of the state, but cashews, mangoes, vegetable cotton, oilseeds, and tobacco are also important.

The state has 36 Districts which are further grouped into 6 Divisions as shown in figure 4.2 are listed in table.

**Table 2 Divisions and Districts of Maharashtra**

S.No	Divisions	Districts
1	Amravati	Amravati,yavatmal,Akola,Washim, Buldhana
2	Aurangabad	Aurangabad,Jalna,Beed,latur,Osmamabad,Parbhani, Hingoli,Nanded
3	Konkan	Palghar,Thane,Raigad,Ratnagiri,Sindhudurg, Mumbai city,Mumbai Suburban
4	Nagpur	Nagpur,Bhandara,Gondia,wardha,Chandrapur, Gadchiroli
5	Nashik	Nashik,Ahmadnager,Dhule,Jalgaon, Nandurbar
6	Pune	Pune,Solapur, Kolhapur, sagali, Satara

**Startup Scene within Maharashtra**

Besides Mumbai, some other prominent cities are emerging as start-up hubs. While Pune is a key region for the automotive and electronics

sectors, Nashik has witnessed growth in healthcare firms, with Nagpur emerging as an ideal location for renewable energy, and Aurangabad attracting agribusiness Companies.



## Challenges

### 1.Lack of Innovation

Replication of business models from already established global start-ups is a major reason why start-ups fail to receive follow-up funding in India. Inability to develop market relevant product/services further leads to customer churn. Moreover, some start-ups also fail as they focus more on innovation rather than driving value.

### 2.Lack of Skilled Manpower

According to a study by IBM “Entrepreneurial India”, 70 per cent of VCs highlight talent acquisition as a significant challenge for Indian start-ups. Moreover, there is a shortage of skilled manpower especially in the case of advanced-tech start-ups, and many experts in IT prefer moving to other global markets for better opportunities. Limited access to necessary skills cripples the growth of start-ups.

### 3. Inadequate Infrastructure

The Indian government had launched the “Digital India” programme, with one of its major goals to assist entrepreneurs establish online businesses. However, inadequate digital infrastructure such as internet connectivity issues, in the country has impeded the growth of such start-ups. Inadequate infrastructure (such as online portal) for critical business requirements, for example: obtaining registrations and licenses, further acts as a hurdle for start-ups to flourish.

### 4. Lack of Legal Support

Despite developing a market relevant business model, some start-ups fail due to lack of legal guidance leading to non-compliance issues. As the business grows of a start-up, it tends to get exposed to more number of laws and regulations. Non-compliance to regulations leads to imposition of heavy fines and penalties, which might result in failure of the start-up.

### Scope of The Study

Human resource management is not just limited to manage and optimally exploit human intellect; it also focuses on managing physical and emotional capital of employees. Considering the intricacies involved, the scope of HRM is widening with every passing day. It covers but is not limited to HR planning, hiring, training and development, payroll management, rewards and recognition, industrial relations, grievance handling, legal procedures etc. In other words we can say it's about developing and managing harmonious relationships at work place and striking a balance between organisational goals and individual goals.

Human resource management is almost same in most of the organizations, but it is only the innovative practices that make the organization different from others. Effective HR practices gives motivation and encouragement to its people to work in an excellent manner. It is the human resource

policies which form the framework for the culture in an organization helps the employees to achieve business objectives in a standard ethical way.

Indian startups have come to know that it is the quality of manpower we employ, which makes the difference. In the last few years, HR has become an important aspect of strategic decision maker of any business.

The study has a wide scope covering all the aspects of human resource management. It will not only help improve the working environment of startups, but will also boost up the morale of the employees to work with complete dedication and loyalty since their well-being has been taken care of by the employers. Moreover, the study will help the startups to focus more on making their way in the national and international market as a strong satisfied team.

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## Human Resource Accounting- Methods And Practices In India

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### Abstract

The idea of human resource valuation and reporting existed for more than half a century. The concept continues to be debated by economic, accounting, and psychology theoreticians universally. The main thrust of Human Resource Accounting (HRA) is to identify, quantify and report investments made on human resources of an organization that are not presently accounted for under conventional accounting practice. This study assesses the concept of HRA in order to unveil its strengths and weaknesses. The study adopted an expository approach and uses secondary data collected through documented texts, journal articles, and other publications. Descriptive and content analyses were used in collecting and collating the necessary information on HRA. The study revealed that the conceptualization of HRA, the ideas incorporated therein, and supporting arguments are good for the accounting profession and corporate financial reporting.

This inference was drawn considering the quantity, quality, and superiority of the arguments in support of its application. It was also revealed that the application of HRA will boost the quality of the information contents of corporate financial reports and provide users with more useful information in making their decisions. The study, however, recommends that more interest should be accorded to the concept of HRA by both accounting theoreticians and practitioners in order to stimulate more comprehensive researches aimed at simplifying the concept and boosting its applicability. Also, the existing models and methods proffered under the HRA should be adequately reviewed and objectively criticized so that more comprehensive and easy-to-apply methods/models could be invented

**Keywords:** Human Resource, Human Resources Accounting Human Resource Accounting Methods

### Introduction:

- Since the beginning of globalization of business and services. The resources are becoming more important and decisional input for the success of any corporate enterprise.
- Human resource accounting (HRA) involves accounting for expenditures related to human resources as assets.
- All the processes of the organization are operated by human resources, thereby the changes in the HR cost and benefits must be considered.
- Though it has been accepted that HR is capital resource, the valuation of this resource is very necessary and information about the valuation should be given to the investors, the management and others through financial statements.
- The concept of human resource accounting has been defined by the committee on Human Resource Accounting of the American Accounting Association as " the process of identifying and measuring data about human resources and communication this information to interested parties.
- Human beings are the active agents and economic growth is the consequence of the

progress in the areas of human resource. Thus human resource accounting consists of valuation of human resources and recording it in the books of accounts and presenting the information in the financial statement for communication.

- Human resources accounting is basically an information system that tells management what changes are occurring over time to the human resources of the business.
- Human resources accounting (HRA) is one of the latest concept adopted by few corporations in our country.
- Most of the corporations have realized that human resources are their most precious resources.
- So it is required to taken some measures to develop their human resources but also taken measures to accelerate their values.
- Flamholtz has specifically underlined the primary role of human resource accounting as that of providing information essential for management to perform the functions of acquiring, developing, allocating, conserving, utilizing, evaluating and rewarding human resources.

**Definition:**

Stephen Knauf:- HRA is the measurement and quantification of human organizational inputs such as recruiting, training, experience, and commitment”.

The American Association of Accountants (AAA):- ‘HRA is a process of identifying and measuring data about human resources and communicating this information to interested parties’.

**Methods of Human Resource Accounting**

Compounding and deciding the valuation of human resources took many assessments and methods. The models for evaluation of human resources can be classified into two major groups;

**1. Cost-Based Model**

This method measures the organization’s investment in employees using the five parameters: recruiting, acquisition; formal training and familiarization; informal training, Informal familiarization; experience; and development. The following methods are further classified in this major classification.

**a) Historical Cost Model**

This model of human resource management has been suggested by William C Pyle and others in the year 1967. According to this method, the actual costs incurred on employee-aid are capitalized and those will be written off on the anticipated life of human resources. This method is an extension of the concept of matching the cost and revenue”.  $HRV = AC - L + R$

**b) Replacement Cost Method**

This method was developed by Rensis Likert and Eric G. Flamholtz in 1973. The model concentrated the valuation of human resources on current costs under this method human resources of an organization are to be valued on assumptions of the estimated cost of replacement of existing human resource with other of equivalent talent and experience.

**c) Opportunity Cost Method**

This model of HRA has been suggested by Hekimian and Jones'. In this approach value of the human resource is compounded based on an employee’s value in alternative uses. This method links the basic relationship between “scarcity and choice”. The opportunity cost of an employee or a group of employees in one department is calculated based on the offers by other departments for these employees.

**d) Standard Cost Method**

This model has been suggested by David Watson. Instead of historical cost or replacement costs, the model uses standard costs which are associated with the recruiting, hiring, training, and development per grade of an employee or determined annually.

**2. Value-Based Models:** This method links HRM with the money aspect involved in it and the amount of money that can be saved using it.

**a) The Lev and Schwartz Model Present Value of Future**

The model was proposed by Branch Lev and Aba Schwartz in 1971. They suggested that “the valuation of human capital embodies in a person of age X is the Present Value of his remaining earnings from employment” as such division of the organization’s labour force is considerable depends upon homogeneous groups such as skilled, unskilled, semi-skilled, technical staff, managerial staff, etc. and following different classes and age groups. The following is the formula  $VX = \sum \{1(T) \div 1+R\} 1-X$

**b) Flamholtz Stochastic Rewards Valuation Model**

The model was propounded by Eric Flamholtz in 1971. The model advocates that an employee generates value for an organization as he occupies and performs different roles and renders services to the organization. The model suggests a five-step approach to assess the value of an individual to the organization, which are:

- Employees expected service life position he might occupy.
- Service status of an occupied position.
- Probability of periodicity in which he will stay into a particular role.
- Probability of occupying each possible mutually exclusive service state at specified future times.
- Discounting the expected service rewards to his present value.

**c) Giles and Robinson's Human Assets Multiplier Model**

In 1972, Giles and Robinson's suggested valuation of human resources should be made in as same as other physical and financial resources in a going concern approach. The employees will be classified into grades then their valuation of each grade will be totalized that totalized value will be recorded.

**d) Morse's Net Benefit Model**

Morse (1973) has introduced this net benefit model. The value of a human resource is evaluated equivalent to a present value of net benefits by the organization from the services of its employees. The following are 4 steps

- Gross Value services rendered in the future.
- Determination of direct and indirect future payments.
- Difference of value of Human resources and value of future payments determined.
- Present value of the net benefits is determined by applying a pre-determined discount rate.

**e) Jaggi and Lau Human Resource Valuation**

The model was suggested by Jaggi and Lau in the year 1974 and it concentrated on the valuation of human resources as groups rather than individuals.



A group implies homogeneous employees who may or may not belong to the same department or division, that group is assessed the roles that each of those people may occupy during service life in the organization.

$TV = (N)r^t (T)^v$

**f) Organ's Discounted Certainly Equivalent Net Benefit Model**

Pekin ogan (1976) has propounded the model and it is an extension of the net benefit model given by Morse. The approach the certainty with which the net benefits in the future will occur should also be taken into consideration while determining the value of Human resources.

**g) Chakraborty's Aggregate Payment Approach**

S K Chakraborty (1976) is the first Indian to suggest a model for the value of Human resources of an organization. According to this model, the group of employees has to assess rather than individuals in the valuation of human resources. The following are steps to calculation

- Group of HR are classified as managerial and nonmanagerial employees.
- The average tenure of employment is evaluated on experience.
- The average remuneration of the group is determined on basis of the wage and salary structure adopted by that firm.
- The value of Human resources X average salary of that group with an average tenure of the employees.

**h) Dasgupta's Total Cost Concept Model**

N. Dasgupta (1978) he proposed that value of Human Resource of a nation is to be determined which consists of employed and unemployed persons within it. Also he suggested that the total cost incurred by an individual in bringing him up to that position in the organization should be taken as the value of a person on the day he starts serving the organization. However, he acquires the value of the new roles tends to be increasing. Assessments of individuals or groups are expectable.

**i) Dave's Modified Present Value Model**

Shivkumar Dave (1987) incorporates in its indicators to effect of five factors that often affect the contribution of employees to the organization and thereby, the calculated value of human resources. The five factors are reflected of experience, efficiency, labour turnover, labour unrest, and output per employee which often contributes to employees in the organization.

**j) Maheswari, Rana And Krishnamoorthy Differential Matrix Utility Model (2002-2003)**

Maheshwari, Rana, and Krishnamoorthy have proposed the model. The basic data for this model will come from the job title or job responsibilities of that position. Identify the basic critical factors relevant to the firm's profitability, success, and

market share, etc. related to the individual job title or position. Develop a differential matrix of the individual for those factors. The differential matrix is based on a 1:1 ratio for an equally effective candidate for replacement.

**Review of Literature**

**M.Nazrul Islam**

prepared an article on "A Survey of Human Resource Accounting". Though the theory of human resource accounting was developed much earlier, no universally accepted method of human resource valuation is hitherto developed. In India Some public sector companies report the value in the Annual Report as supplementary information but not in the Balance Sheet. In Bangladesh no such reporting is made yet. The cost and value of people should be shown in the published financial statements. Research on human resource accounting is still in infancy. No universally accepted method of human resource valuation is hitherto developed. More research is, therefore, needed in this area for searching a method which would be universally acceptable. In spite of the limitations both in statute and method of valuation, some of the Indian Companies have begun to provide information of human resource accounting on the annual reports at the end supplementary statements. Bangladesh in the light of the Indian experience can also start showing the cost and value of people on the published financial statements.

**Pandurangarao, Basha and Rajasekhar (2013)**

Carried out a study to examine the methods and models followed by the Indian firms/ companies for the Human Resource Accounting. The study shows that a few firms follow the proper methods of the Human Resource Accounting.

**Rao (2013)** conducted a study to know how much the Indian firms are disclosing the human resource related aspect in their financial reports. All also study the method they used for that purpose.

**Avazzadeh Afth (2011)**

In this paper author explores whether investment decisions are affected by Human Resource Accounting Information Disclosed in the financial statements or not? The results indicate that Human Resource Accounting Information disclosure in financial statement is relevant and effect on the optimal investment decisions.

**Kirfi and Abdullahi (2012)**

the paper aims at assessing possibilities for domestication of HRA practices in Nigeria. This paper discovered that, existing accounting practices lack regard to human resource as an asset and have significantly discovered the use of any combination of measurement techniques in quantifying Human resource let alone reporting it in Nigeria, it also established that HRA practices practice will enhance the completeness and quality of financial reporting in Nigeria by providing more information on real

value of companies to investor and other stakeholders for rational decision making.

**Suggestions:**

The following are some suggestions

1. The Indian Act 1956 has to make provisions for evaluation and disclosure of human resources in every organization.
2. In India more companies have to adopt human resource accounting as considering them as an asset of their firm.

**Conclusion:**

Human resources accounting is a new branch of accounting. More than a half-century has lapsed by practicing it worldwide. The study found that many research methods have to be developed in the future as to universal acceptance of human resources as a one and soul.

India is a developing, labour intensive country. For many decades the country has been practicing the traditional method of accounting. The adoption of a new method i.e., human resource accounting is yet a developing stage in India. A study reveals that most public sector organizations are accepted and practicing the methods which are acceptable and convenient to them. But on contrary to this few numbers of private-based organizations are not adopted, which may lead to the wrong assumption of HRA. To overcome these cons and pros the Indian universities have to urge more research on developing human resources.

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## A study of Understanding Property and Casualty Insurance in India

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### Abstract:

Property and casualty insurance, commonly referred to as P&C insurance, forms a crucial component of the broader insurance industry. This form of insurance provides financial protection to individuals, businesses, and other entities against the risk of property damage and liability for injuries or damage caused to others. This abstract aims to provide a concise overview of property and casualty insurance, covering its key components, functions, and significance in the modern economy.

Property insurance primarily safeguards tangible assets such as homes, automobiles, and businesses against perils like fire, theft, vandalism, and natural disasters. It typically involves policies that cover the cost of repairing or replacing damaged property, ensuring financial stability and continuity for policyholders in the event of unforeseen losses.

In conclusion, property and casualty insurance plays a pivotal role in safeguarding individuals and businesses against unforeseen financial losses and liabilities. By providing protection against a wide array of risks, P&C insurance fosters economic stability, facilitates investment, and promotes resilience in the face of adversity. Understanding the fundamentals of property and casualty insurance is essential for individuals and organizations seeking to mitigate risks and protect their financial well-being in an uncertain world.

**Keywords:** Property and casualty insurance, risks, financial stability.

### Introduction:

Property and casualty insurance, often abbreviated as P&C insurance, serves as a cornerstone of financial protection for individuals, businesses, and organizations worldwide. In an unpredictable world fraught with various risks ranging from natural disasters to liability lawsuits, P&C insurance provides a safety net, shielding policyholders from financial devastation.

**At its core, property insurance guards tangible assets**

ranging from homes to commercial properties and vehicles—against an assortment of perils, including fire, theft, and weather-related damages. Meanwhile, casualty insurance focuses on mitigating the financial fallout from legal liabilities arising from injuries or property damage caused to others. Together, these insurance types offer comprehensive coverage, encompassing a wide spectrum of risks that individuals and businesses face in their daily lives and operations.

This introduction sets the stage for a deeper exploration of property and casualty insurance, delving into its key components, functions, and the critical role it plays in promoting financial stability and resilience. By understanding the fundamentals of P&C insurance, individuals and businesses can make informed decisions to protect their assets and

mitigate potential liabilities, ensuring peace of mind in an uncertain world.

### The objective of study:

The objectives of studying property and casualty insurance are multifaceted, encompassing both academic and practical considerations. Here are some key objectives:

**Understanding Risk Management:** Property and casualty insurance is fundamentally about managing risks. Studying P&C insurance helps individuals and businesses comprehend various types of risks they face, from property damage to liability exposures. This understanding is crucial for developing effective risk management strategies to mitigate potential losses.

**Knowledge of Insurance Products and Services:** By studying P&C insurance, individuals gain insights into the diverse array of insurance products and services available in the market. They learn about different policy types, coverage options, and exclusions, enabling them to make informed decisions when selecting insurance policies tailored to their specific needs.

**Financial Planning and Protection:** Property and casualty insurance plays a vital role in financial planning by providing a safety net against unforeseen losses. Studying P&C insurance helps individuals and businesses assess their insurance needs, understand the financial implications of

various coverage options, and ensure adequate protection for their assets and liabilities.

**Legal and Regulatory Compliance:** Property and casualty insurance is subject to complex legal and regulatory frameworks designed to protect policyholders and ensure the solvency of insurers. Studying P&C insurance familiarizes individuals with relevant laws, regulations, and industry standards, helping them navigate legal requirements and compliance obligations.

**Risk Assessment and Underwriting:** Insurance companies rely on risk assessment and underwriting processes to determine premiums and assess the insurability of applicants. Studying P&C insurance provides insights into the factors insurers consider when evaluating risks, such as property values, loss history, and geographic location. This knowledge is valuable for both insurance professionals and policyholders.

#### **Hypotheses:**

One hypothesis regarding property and casualty insurance is that advancements in technology and data analytics will lead to more accurate risk assessment and pricing. With the rise of Internet of Things (IoT) devices and the ability to gather vast amounts of data, insurance companies can better understand and mitigate risks associated with property damage and liability.

Additionally, there's a hypothesis that climate change will significantly impact property and casualty insurance. As extreme weather events become more frequent and severe, insurers may face increased claims related to property damage from storms, floods, and wildfires. This could lead to higher premiums in high-risk areas and a reevaluation of insurance strategies and coverage options.

Furthermore, there's a hypothesis that shifts in demographics and societal trends will influence the property and casualty insurance market. For example, as urbanization continues, there may be increased demand for insurance products tailored to city living, such as coverage for apartment renters or protection against cyber risks associated with smart home technology.

Another hypothesis is that regulatory changes and legal developments will shape the landscape of property and casualty insurance. This could include reforms in liability laws, changes in building codes and regulations, or shifts in government policies related to disaster response and recovery.

Overall, these hypotheses suggest that property and casualty insurance will continue to evolve in response to technological, environmental, social, and regulatory factors, presenting both challenges and opportunities for insurers to innovate and adapt.

#### **Delimitation:**

In the realm of property and casualty insurance, delimitation refers to the clear definition or boundary of coverage provided by an insurance policy. This delineation is crucial for both the insurer and the insured to understand the extent of protection offered by the policy.

Here are some key aspects of delimitation in property and casualty insurance:

**1. Covered Perils:** Insurance policies specify the types of perils or events that are covered. For property insurance, this might include fire, theft, vandalism, and natural disasters like hurricanes or earthquakes. In casualty insurance, it could involve liability for bodily injury or property damage resulting from negligence.

**2. Exclusions:** Delimitation also involves outlining what the insurance policy does not cover. Common exclusions in property and casualty insurance might include intentional acts, war, nuclear hazards, or wear and tear.

**3. Coverage Limits:** Policies typically set limits on the amount of coverage provided for different perils. For example, a property insurance policy may have a maximum payout for fire damage or a liability insurance policy may have a limit on the amount it will pay for legal defense costs.

**4. Geographic Limitations:** Some policies may have geographical limitations, specifying where coverage applies. For instance, a property insurance policy might cover damages only within a certain region or exclude coverage for properties located in flood-prone areas.

**5. Policy Conditions:** Delimitation extends to the conditions that must be met for coverage to apply. For instance, a property insurance policy might require the insured to take reasonable precautions to prevent losses, such as installing smoke detectors or maintaining fire extinguishers.

**6. Sub-limits and Deductibles:** Within the overall coverage limits, policies may have sub-limits for specific types of losses or deductibles that the insured must pay before the insurance coverage kicks in.

Clear delimitation helps both parties understand their rights and responsibilities under the policy, reducing the likelihood of disputes in the event of a claim. Insurers use delimitation to manage risk effectively and price policies accordingly, while insured parties rely on it to ensure they have adequate coverage for their needs.

#### **Research Objectives:**

1. To explore the factors influencing customers' decision-making processes when purchasing property and casualty insurance.
2. To understand customers' experiences with insurance claims processes, including communication, transparency, and satisfaction levels.

- To identify customers' expectations and preferences regarding coverage options, pricing, and customer service in property and casualty insurance.

#### **Methodology:**

**Participant Selection:** Purposive sampling will be used to select participants who have firsthand experience with property and casualty insurance, including homeowners, renters, and business owners. Participants will be recruited from diverse demographic backgrounds to ensure a broad range of perspectives.

**Data Collection:** Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with participants to explore their perceptions, experiences, and attitudes towards property and casualty insurance. Interviews will be audio-recorded with participants' consent and transcribed verbatim for analysis.

**Data Analysis:** Thematic analysis will be employed to identify patterns, themes, and recurring ideas within the interview transcripts. The analysis will involve coding the data, generating initial themes, and iteratively refining them to capture the richness and depth of participants' narratives.

#### **Expected Outcomes:**

- Insights into the factors influencing customers' decision-making processes when purchasing property and casualty insurance, including risk perceptions, affordability, and trust in insurers.
- Understanding of customers' experiences with insurance claims processes, including satisfaction levels, perceived fairness, and communication effectiveness.
- Identification of customers' expectations and preferences regarding coverage options, pricing transparency, and customer service quality in property and casualty insurance.

#### **Implications:**

The findings of this research will have implications for insurers, policymakers, and consumer advocates in the property and casualty insurance sector. By gaining a deeper understanding of customers' perspectives and experiences, insurers can tailor their products, services, and communication strategies to better meet the needs and expectations of their clientele. Policymakers can use these insights to inform regulations aimed at enhancing consumer protection and promoting transparency in the insurance industry.

Frequency analysis in property and casualty insurance involves examining the frequency of insurance claims within a given time period or across specific segments of insured properties or individuals. This analysis helps insurers understand the likelihood of certain types of events occurring and allows them to set appropriate premiums, allocate reserves, and develop risk management strategies. Here's how frequency analysis is typically conducted in property and casualty insurance:

**1. Data Collection:** Insurers gather historical data on insurance claims within their portfolio. This data includes information on the type of claim, the insured property or individual, the date of the claim, and the amount paid out.

**2. Data Preparation:** The collected data is cleaned and prepared for analysis. This may involve removing outliers, correcting errors, and formatting the data for statistical analysis.

**3. Frequency Calculation:** Insurers calculate the frequency of claims by dividing the number of claims by the total exposure or the number of insured units (such as properties or individuals) within a specified time period. This provides an estimate of the average number of claims per unit of exposure.

**4. Segmentation Analysis:** Insurers may analyze claim frequency across different segments of their portfolio to identify patterns and trends. Segments may be based on factors such as geographic location, property type, policyholder demographics, or risk characteristics.

**5. Trend Analysis:** Insurers examine historical claim frequency trends over time to identify any changes or patterns that may impact future claims experience. This analysis helps insurers anticipate emerging risks and adjust their underwriting and pricing strategies accordingly.

**6. Comparative Analysis:** Insurers may compare their claim frequency experience with industry benchmarks or historical norms to assess their performance and identify areas for improvement.

**7. Predictive Modeling:** Frequency analysis forms the basis for predictive modeling techniques, where insurers use statistical models to forecast future claim frequency based on historical data and predictive variables. These models help insurers estimate the likelihood of future claims and set reserves and premiums accordingly.

**8. Risk Management:** Frequency analysis informs insurers' risk management strategies by identifying high-frequency areas or segments within their portfolio. Insurers may implement risk mitigation measures such as loss prevention programs, policy changes, or reinsurance arrangements to manage exposure to frequent claims.

By conducting frequency analysis, property and casualty insurers can better understand their claims experience, anticipate future losses, and make informed decisions to effectively manage risk and ensure the financial stability of their operations.

#### **Conclusion:**

This qualitative research seeks to explore customer perceptions and experiences in property and casualty insurance, providing valuable insights into the factors influencing consumer decision-making, satisfaction levels, and expectations. By amplifying the voices of insurance customers, this study contributes to a more nuanced understanding

of the dynamics shaping the property and casualty insurance landscape, ultimately facilitating improvements in insurance offerings and customer experiences.

In conclusion, property and casualty insurance are indispensable components of financial planning and risk management for individuals and businesses alike. By providing protection against unforeseen events and liabilities, P&C insurance helps safeguard assets and promote financial stability. However, it's essential for policyholders to understand their coverage needs, shop around for suitable policies, and stay informed about industry trends and developments.

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## A Comprehensive Study of Digital Transformation of Insurance in India

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### Abstract

The insurance sector is currently witnessing a profound shift driven by digital technologies. This research paper aims to delve into the multifaceted realm of digital transformation within the insurance industry, focusing on the hurdles, openings, and forthcoming avenues associated with this transformative journey. The research initiates by investigating the catalysts propelling digital transformation in insurance, including the evolving demands of customers, technological advancements, regulatory mandates, and the burgeoning presence of Insure Tech startups. It illuminates how these factors are reshaping various facets of the insurance value chain, spanning product development, distribution channels, underwriting processes, and claims management. A detailed examination of the challenges encountered by insurers during their digital metamorphosis is presented, encompassing issues such as legacy system integration, data security and privacy considerations, talent acquisition and development, and organizational inertia. Moreover, the paper discusses the intricacies of regulatory compliance in the digital age, stressing the significance of harmonizing innovation efforts with regulatory requirements.

**Keywords:** Digital Insurance, Insurance Industry, Customer behaviour, AI

### Introduction

The insurance industry is undergoing a profound transformation fuelled by digital technologies. This essay explores the intricacies of this transformation, focusing on its significance, drivers, challenges, and transformative impact. In exploring the potential opportunities engendered by digital transformation, the paper underscores the prospects for heightened customer engagement and personalized experiences through leveraging data analytics, artificial intelligence, and machine learning. It elucidates how digital technologies empower insurers to glean deeper insights into customer behaviours, customize products and services, and streamline operations to enhance efficiency and cost-effectiveness. Furthermore, the research scrutinizes emerging trends and innovative strategies within the digital insurance landscape, such as usage-based insurance, on-demand insurance models, blockchain-enabled smart contracts, and the integration of Internet of Things (IoT) devices for risk mitigation and prevention. Additionally, it analyses the role of platforms and ecosystems in fostering collaboration among insurers, Insurtech firms, and other stakeholders to spur innovation and value creation in the digital ecosystem.

### Significance of Digital Transformation in Insurance:

Digital transformation holds immense significance for the insurance sector. Traditionally conservative, insurers now have the opportunity to

modernize operations, enhance customer engagement, and tap into new revenue streams. Customer expectations are evolving in the digital age, demanding seamless experiences. By embracing digital transformation, insurers can leverage data insights to tailor products and services, fostering loyalty and retention. Additionally, automation and advanced analytics drive operational efficiency, cost reduction, and proactive risk management, addressing challenges such as climate change and cyber threats.

### Key Drivers of Digital Transformation:

Technological advancements, changing customer expectations, regulatory pressures, and a competitive landscape are key drivers. Emerging technologies like AI and IoT offer opportunities to digitize operations and meet evolving customer needs. Regulatory mandates drive insurers to adopt robust data governance and cybersecurity measures. Competition from Insurtech startups prompts incumbents to innovate and differentiate themselves through digital transformation.

### Challenges in Implementing Digital Transformation:

Implementing digital transformation faces challenges such as legacy systems, data privacy, cultural resistance, and talent shortages. Outdated IT infrastructure impedes agility and integration with new solutions. Ensuring data privacy and cybersecurity compliance is essential. Cultural inertia and organizational silos hinder adoption of digital technologies. Addressing the talent gap in

areas like data science and cybersecurity is crucial for successful transformation.

### **Transformative Impact of Digital Transformation:**

Digital transformation has a transformative impact across insurance operations. It enables product innovation tailored to customer segments, enhances customer experience through digital channels, and improves underwriting accuracy and risk management. Streamlining claims processing and leveraging digital distribution channels optimize efficiency and customer satisfaction.

### **Objectives of Study**

- **To Analyse the Current State of Digital Transformation in the Insurance Sector:**
  - **Key Digital Technologies:** The insurance industry is rapidly integrating various digital tools such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), data analytics, blockchain, and the Internet of Things (IoT).
  - **Adoption Across Segments:** While larger insurance firms typically exhibit more advanced digital capabilities, digital transformation is becoming widespread across the sector, with even smaller companies investing in digital initiatives.
- **Drivers of Digital Transformation in the Insurance Industry:**
  - **Factors Driving Adoption:** Adoption is primarily fuelled by evolving customer expectations, the imperative for cost reduction and operational efficiency, competition from Insurtech startups, and regulatory changes.
  - **Role of Regulatory Changes:** Regulations such as GDPR and other data protection laws have necessitated digitalization for compliance purposes.
- **Challenges Faced by the Insurance Sector in Implementing Digital Transformation:**
  - **Key Challenges:** Challenges include dealing with legacy IT systems, addressing data security concerns, bridging talent shortages in digital skills, and ensuring regulatory compliance.
  - **Strategies to Overcome Challenges:** To address these challenges, insurance companies are investing in upskilling their workforce, forging partnerships with Insurtech startups, and gradually modernizing their IT infrastructure through phased digital transformation initiatives.
- **Future Trends of Digital Transformation in the Insurance Sector:**
  - **Emerging Technologies:** Future trends in digital transformation within the insurance sector include the adoption of emerging technologies such as augmented reality (AR), etc.
  - **Impact on Business Models:** These emerging technologies are expected to disrupt traditional

insurance business models by enabling the development of new insurance products and services.

### **Hypothesis**

#### **Introduction**

The insurance sector, much like various other industries, is presently undergoing significant changes due to digital technologies. Insurers are increasingly utilizing these technologies to enhance customer experiences, streamline operations, and remain competitive. This paper puts forward hypotheses to explore the impact of digital transformation in the insurance sector, specifically focusing on customer engagement, operational efficiency, risk management, market competitiveness, and regulatory compliance.

#### **Hypothesis 1: Digital Transformation Enhances Customer Engagement**

H1: Digital transformation initiatives positively impact customer engagement within the insurance industry.

**Justification:** Digital transformation allows insurers to provide personalized services, engage customers through digital channels, and offer real-time support. These efforts are expected to result in increased customer satisfaction, heightened loyalty, and improved retention rates.

#### **Hypothesis 2: Digital Transformation Improves Operational Efficiency**

H2: Digital transformation initiatives lead to improved operational efficiency for insurance companies.

**Justification:** Automation of processes, digitization of documentation, and the implementation of AI-driven solutions are anticipated to streamline operations, reduce manual efforts, and enhance overall efficiency. Consequently, these enhancements should lead to cost savings and faster service delivery.

#### **Hypothesis 3: Digital Transformation Enhances Risk Management**

H3: Digital transformation initiatives contribute to more effective risk management practices within the insurance sector.

**Justification:** By harnessing data analytics, AI, and machine learning, insurers can better assess risks, identify fraudulent activities, and tailor insurance products to meet customer needs. This hypothesis suggests that enhanced risk management will lead to better underwriting decisions and reduced claim losses.

### **Conclusion**

Digital transformation is fundamentally reshaping the insurance industry, offering opportunities for growth, efficiency, and improved customer satisfaction. The hypotheses presented in this paper provide a framework for further research to assess the impact of digital transformation across various facets of the insurance sector. As insurers



continue to invest in digital technologies, understanding the implications of these transformations is crucial for their long-term success in an evolving industry landscape.

#### Delimitations

- **Geographical Scope:** This study focuses on digital transformation in the insurance sector within India. While global trends may be referenced for context, the specific challenges and opportunities within the Indian market will be the main focus.
- **Company Size:** The study focuses on medium to large-sized insurance companies in India. While small insurers are important, their digital transformation journey may differ significantly from larger insurers due to resource constraints and other factors.
- **Technology Focus:** The study focuses on key digital technologies reshaping the insurance industry, including artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), Internet of Things (IoT), blockchain, and digital platforms. Other technologies may be referenced as relevant, but the primary focus is on these key technologies.
- **Customer Segments:** The study focuses on digital transformation strategies aimed at individual customers (retail segment) rather than corporate or institutional clients. The dynamics of digital transformation may vary significantly between these segments.
- **Regulatory Environment:** The study considers the impact of regulatory changes on digital transformation in the insurance sector. However, the focus is on how insurers adapt to these changes rather than a detailed analysis of regulatory frameworks.
- **Research Methodology:** The study relies on a qualitative research approach, including interviews with industry experts, case studies of successful digital transformation initiatives, and analysis of secondary data from industry reports and academic sources. Quantitative data may be used to support qualitative findings but is not the primary focus.

#### Research Process

- **Research Method:**
  - **Research Design:** This study will utilize a mixed-methods approach, incorporating both qualitative and quantitative methodologies.
  - **Qualitative Method:** The qualitative component will involve conducting in-depth interviews with key stakeholders in the insurance industry, such as executives, IT professionals, and industry experts.
  - **Quantitative Method:** The quantitative aspect will entail distributing surveys to a sample of insurance professionals.

- **Sample**
  - **Population:** The target population for this study comprises professionals employed within the insurance sector in India.
  - **Sampling Technique:** A combined approach of convenience and purposive sampling will be employed.
  - **Sample Size:** The anticipated sample size is approximately 200 participants, including executives, IT professionals, and industry experts.
- **Tools**
  - **Interview Guide:** An interview guide will be developed to ensure consistency and relevance across interviews.
  - **Survey Questionnaire:** The survey questionnaire will gather quantitative data.
  - **Data Analysis Software:** Statistical software such as SPSS or R will be utilized for data analysis.
- **Variables**
  - **Independent Variables:** These include the adoption of digital technologies, investment in digital transformation, and the use of data analytics in the insurance sector.
  - **Dependent Variables:** These include the impact of digital transformation on operational efficiency, customer experience, and innovation in the insurance sector.
  - **Control Variables:** Control variables such as company size, industry experience, and geographical location will be considered to ensure unbiased results.

#### Statistical Operations

##### Introduction:

Digital transformation involves integrating digital technologies across all aspects of business, fundamentally altering organizational functions and customer value propositions. In insurance, this transformation is driven by evolving customer expectations, technological advancements, and regulatory demands. This paper explores the profound impact of digitalization on the insurance industry, employing statistical operations to analyse key trends and challenges.

##### Literature Review:

Various studies have explored the effects of digital transformation on insurance. According to McKinsey, insurers can see a 20-30% increase in operational efficiency through digitalization, while Accenture reports that 83% of insurance executives consider it essential for success.

##### Methodology:

This study adopts a mixed-method approach, integrating qualitative and quantitative analyses. Data is sourced from industry reports, surveys, and interviews with insurance professionals. Statistical techniques like regression

analysis, data visualization, and descriptive statistics are applied to analyse the data.

### Conclusion

The insurance sector is currently experiencing a profound transformation driven by the widespread adoption of digital technologies. This transformation is not transient but rather marks a fundamental change in how insurance services are conceived, delivered, and experienced. Various factors contribute to this shift, including evolving customer expectations, technological advancements, and the imperatives of efficiency and profitability. Our research has explored the diverse aspects of this digital evolution in the insurance industry. We have identified key drivers behind this change, such as evolving customer behaviours, the rise of innovative Insurtech companies, and the necessity for operational excellence and financial sustainability. Additionally, we have examined the challenges insurers face in their digital journey, from outdated legacy systems to regulatory compliance issues and cybersecurity risks.

### Suggestions

- **Customer-Centric Approach:** Insurers should prioritize a customer-centric approach throughout their digital transformation endeavours. This involves leveraging data analytics to gain profound insights into customer needs and preferences.
- **Digital Channels:** Embracing digital channels such as mobile apps, chatbots, and websites can significantly elevate the customer experience. These platforms offer customers convenient access to information, policy management tools, and claims processing services.
- **Data Analytics and AI:** Data analytics and artificial intelligence (AI) are pivotal in enhancing operational efficiency and decision-making within the insurance industry. Insurers can harness these technologies to analyse extensive data sets for risk assessment, underwriting, and fraud detection.
- **Internet of Things (IoT):** The Internet of Things (IoT) presents insurers with opportunities to gather real-time data and refine risk assessment. For example, IoT devices such as telematics in automobiles furnish insurers with valuable driving behaviour data, enabling personalized premiums and usage-based insurance.
- **Cyber security Measures:** With the escalating reliance on digital technologies, cybersecurity assumes paramount importance for insurers.

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## A Study of Importance of Motor Vehicle Insurance in India

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### Abstract:

The primary purpose of vehicle insurance is to cover the vehicle against damage, personal injury, and third-party liability. In addition to this, some insurance companies also provide value-added services such as roadside assistance and other services in return of the amount called as premium which attracts a large number of customers. However, our study shows that vehicle owners give maximum importance to the cost of insurance in terms of the annual premium. Primary data has been collected through questionnaire and analyzed to ascertain about the factors responsible for taking out vehicle insurance, choice between private and public sector insurance companies, preferred insurance companies among the major players in the field, factors that play a role in the customer's choice of a particular insurance company, customer's opinion about the affordability of the premium to be paid, customer's satisfaction with their chosen company, whether customers consider fast and efficient service as a deciding factor, and whether the brand value of the company plays a role in the customers' choice.

**Keywords:** Motor Vehicle Insurance, Claim, Motor Protection, Engine Protection, commercial vehicles.

### Introduction:

Vehicle insurance, also known as auto insurance or car insurance, is a critical component of financial planning and risk management for vehicle owners. It provides financial protection against physical damage or bodily injury resulting from traffic collisions and against liability that could also arise from incidents involving a vehicle. Vehicle insurance can also offer protection against theft, vandalism, and damage caused by events beyond the driver's control, such as natural disasters. The importance of vehicle insurance cannot be overstated. It not only protects individuals from significant financial losses but also ensures that they comply with legal requirements. In most jurisdictions, having a minimum level of vehicle insurance is mandatory to operate a vehicle on public roads.

This requirement is designed to protect all road users by ensuring that, in the event of an accident, there is a mechanism in place to cover the costs of damages and injuries. This paper aims to explore the various aspects of vehicle insurance, including its historical development, the different types of coverage available, and the factors that

influence insurance costs. Additionally, it will examine the role of technology in transforming the vehicle insurance industry, the regulatory environment governing insurance policies, and consumer behavior in choosing insurance providers. The paper will also discuss current challenges in the industry and potential future trends that could shape the landscape of vehicle insurance. Understanding the complexities of vehicle insurance is essential for consumers, insurers, and policymakers alike. By delving into these topics, this paper seeks to provide a comprehensive overview of vehicle insurance, highlighting its significance and the ongoing developments within the field. Motor Insurance includes Private cars, /motorized Two wheelers and commercial vehicles excluding vehicles running on rails.

### Definitions

Motor insurance is also mandatory by the law. It is a legal requirement in India to have insured a minimum level of insurance protection before driving any motor vehicle. Normal motor insurance policy provides coverage for the following damages.

## Motor Insurance

Minimum entry age 18 years

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Own -damage cover

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Third Party Liability cover

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Personal Accident cover

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No-claim bonus



Easy transfer of policy

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On accidental death, compensation to family

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Option of add-on or additional coverage

### Types of Motor Insurance

- Car Insurance
- Two Wheeler Insurance
- Commercial Vehicle Insurance

## Car Insurance

### Types of Car Insurance plans

- Comprehensive Car Insurance
- Co-passenger Protection Coverage
- Third Party Liability Insurance
- Personal Risk Coverage

**Covers damage caused to vehicle/owner-driver due to**

- ▶ Accident
- ▶ Natural disasters
- ▶ Third-party liabilities
- ▶ Loss or theft



### Types of Vehicle Insurance Policies

**Car Insurance:** Car insurance is the most common type of vehicle insurance. It offers protection for cars against damages due to accidents, theft, natural disasters and vandalism. Comprehensive car insurance provides coverage for both third-party liability and damages to your own vehicle. When you choose Liberty General Insurance (LGI) for your car insurance, you get more than basic protection. You receive comprehensive coverage that protects against damages to your vehicle and third-party liabilities as required by law.

**Two-Wheeler Insurance:** Two-wheeler insurance, also known as bike insurance, is designed specifically for motorcycles, scooters and other two-wheeled vehicles. Similar to car insurance, it provides coverage for accidents, theft, third-party

liability and damages to your own vehicle. Liberty General Insurance provides two types of two-wheeler insurance policies: a standard annual policy and a multi-year plan. You can buy bike insurance online on our website. With our options, you can choose the coverage that best suits your needs. For more details, read—What are the types of Bike insurance in India.

#### **Benefits of Vehicle Insurance Policies**

**Financial Protection:** The primary benefit of vehicle insurance is financial security. In the event of an accident, insurance coverage can help cover repair costs, medical expenses or even legal liabilities, depending on the policy.

**Third-Party Liability Coverage:** Vehicle insurance policies include coverage for damages

caused to third parties. This means that if you are involved in an accident that causes injury or property damage to someone else, your insurance will cover the costs, protecting you from potential legal consequences.

**Peace of Mind:** Having vehicle insurance provides peace of mind, knowing that you are financially protected against unforeseen circumstances. It allows you to drive or ride with confidence, knowing that you have coverage in case of accidents, theft or damages.

#### **How to Choose the Right Vehicle Insurance Policy?**

**Assess Your Needs:** Consider your vehicle type, usage and personal requirements. Evaluate whether you need comprehensive coverage or third-party liability insurance.

**Research and Compare:** Research different insurance providers and policies. Compare their coverage options, premiums, deductibles, claim settlement process, customer reviews and overall reputation.

**Evaluate Add-Ons:** Many vehicle insurance policies offer additional add-ons or riders that provide extra coverage for specific situations. Examples include zero depreciation cover, roadside assistance, engine protection and personal accident cover.

**Consider Online Purchase:** Buying car or bike insurance online offers convenience and often provides competitive prices. Skip the hassle of visiting a branch and purchase your vehicle insurance online with Liberty General Insurance. Read our blog on How to Save Time & Money buying car insurance online.

**Read the Policy Document:** Before finalizing your decision, carefully read the policy document to understand the coverage, terms and conditions. Do check our blog on Things You Must Know Before Renewing Your Vehicle Insurance Policy to make an informed decision.

#### **Hypothesis**

**Premium Determinants Hypothesis:** The hypothesis is that the cost of motor vehicle insurance premiums is primarily determined by a combination of the driver's demographic factors (age, gender, and driving history), the type and age of the vehicle, and geographic location.

**Telematics Impact Hypothesis:** The hypothesis is that the implementation of telematics and usage-based insurance models leads to a significant reduction in insurance premiums for drivers who exhibit safe driving behaviors.

**Consumer Awareness Hypothesis:** The hypothesis is that higher consumer awareness and understanding of vehicle insurance policies result in more informed decision-making and increased satisfaction with insurance coverage.

**Regulatory Influence Hypothesis:** The hypothesis is that stricter regulatory environments and mandatory insurance laws lead to higher overall compliance rates and reduced instances of uninsured drivers.

#### **Delimitations:**

**Geographic Scope:** This study will focus on motor vehicle insurance practices within a specific region or country, such as the India, to ensure depth and relevance in the analysis. International comparisons may be briefly mentioned but are not the primary focus.

**Type of Vehicles:** The research will concentrate on personal passenger vehicles. Commercial vehicles, motorcycles, and other specialized vehicles are beyond the scope of this study.

**Time Frame:** The study will primarily consider data and trends from the past decade (2010-2020) to ensure the relevance and applicability of findings to current practices and technologies.

**Insurance Products:** The analysis will be limited to standard motor vehicle insurance products, such as liability, collision, comprehensive, personal injury protection, and uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage. Specialized insurance products, such as gap insurance or rental reimbursement, will not be examined in detail.

**Technological Focus:** While the study will discuss the impact of technologies like telematics and autonomous vehicles on insurance, it will not delve into the technical details of these technologies themselves. The focus will be on their influence on insurance premiums and policies.

**Regulatory Analysis:** The paper will examine the regulatory environment within the selected geographic scope but will not provide an exhaustive review of regulations in every jurisdiction. It will highlight key regulations that significantly impact motor vehicle insurance.

**Consumer Behavior:** The study will investigate consumer behavior related to motor vehicle insurance within the defined geographic scope. Broader psychological or sociological aspects of consumer behavior beyond insurance choices will not be covered.

**Fraud Analysis:** The discussion on fraud will be limited to common types of motor vehicle insurance fraud and the impact of anti-fraud technologies and measures within the defined time frame and geographic scope.

#### **Variable**

Motor vehicle insurance variables can include several factors that affect the premium and coverage. These variables typically include:

**Driver's Age and Gender:** Younger and older drivers often have higher premiums.

**Driving History:** A record of accidents or traffic violations can increase premiums.

**Vehicle Type and Value:** More expensive or high-performance vehicles usually cost more to insure.

**Usage:** How often and for what purposes the vehicle is used (e.g., personal, commercial) affects premiums.

**Location:** Areas with higher crime rates or accident frequencies can lead to higher premiums.

**Coverage Amount:** Higher coverage limits and additional options (e.g., comprehensive, collision) increase the cost.

**Credit Score:** In some regions, a better credit score can lead to lower premiums.

**Deductible:** Higher deductibles typically result in lower premiums.

**Annual Mileage:** Lower annual mileage can reduce the premium.

**Safety Features:** Vehicles equipped with advanced safety features can qualify for discounts.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, motor vehicle insurance is an essential component of responsible vehicle ownership, providing vital protection against financial losses resulting from accidents, theft, or damage. Understanding the various coverage options—such as liability, collision, comprehensive, and uninsured motorist protection—enables policyholders to make informed decisions tailored to their needs. Factors influencing insurance premiums, including driving history, vehicle type, and geographic location, should also be carefully considered. By selecting appropriate coverage and maintaining a clean driving record, drivers can ensure both compliance with legal requirements and peace of mind on the road.

### Suggestion

When choosing motor vehicle insurance, consider the following suggestions:

**Determine Coverage Needs:** Assess the coverage you need, such as liability, collision, comprehensive, uninsured motorist, and personal injury protection.

**Compare Quotes:** Shop around and compare quotes from multiple insurance providers to find the best rates and coverage options.

**Check Discounts:** Look for available discounts such as good driver, multi-policy, multi-car, and safety feature discounts.

**Consider Deductibles:** Choose a deductible that balances your budget with how much you can afford to pay out-of-pocket in case of a claim.

**Review Policy Terms:** Understand the terms and conditions, including coverage limits, exclusions, and claim processes.

**Evaluate Insurer Reputation:** Research the reputation and financial stability of the insurance companies you're considering. Check customer reviews and ratings.

**Ask for Recommendations:** Seek advice from friends, family, or online forums for reputable

insurance providers. By carefully considering these factors, you can choose a motor vehicle insurance policy that best meets your needs and budget.

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## A Study on Operation and Claim Procedure of Motor Vehicle Insurance in India

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### Abstract

This study delves into the intricate operational mechanisms and claim procedures within the motor vehicle insurance industry. With a focus on providing clarity and insights, the research explores the various stages involved in both obtaining insurance coverage and processing claims. Through a combination of qualitative and quantitative methodologies, including interviews, surveys, and data analysis, the study aims to elucidate the challenges, inefficiencies, and potential areas for improvement within the current system. By gaining a deeper understanding of these processes, stakeholders, including insurers, policyholders, and regulatory bodies, can work towards enhancing the overall efficiency, transparency, and customer satisfaction within the motor vehicle insurance sector.

**Keywords:** Motor Vehicle Insurance, Claim, Motor Protection, Engine Protection, commercial vehicles.

### Motor Vehicle Protection

Motor Vehicle protections (moreover known as car protections, engine protections or auto protections) is protections for cars, trucks, cruisers, and other street vehicles. It's essential utilize is to give budgetary assurance against physical harm or substantial damage coming about from activity collisions and against risk that seem moreover emerge from episodes in a vehicle. Vehicle protections may also offer monetary security against burglary of the vehicle, and against harm to the vehicle supported from occasions other than activity collisions, such as keying, climate or common calamities and harm maintained by colliding with stationary objects. The particular terms of vehicle protections shift with lawful controls in each region. Motor Vehicle protections or vehicle protections is a sort of protections cover particularly planned for four wheelers, cars, two wheelers, commercial vehicles, bikes, bicycle, tractors, trucks etc. Motor protection serves as a vital security net, advertising budgetary security to vehicle proprietors against potential dangers and vulnerabilities on the street such as mishaps or any other characteristic calamities. A engine protections too gives security against third party liabilities. An engine protections approach is an obligatory approach issued by an protections company as portion of avoidance of open risk to secure the common open from any mischance that might take put on the street. The law orders that each proprietor of an engine vehicle must have one engine protections policy. Motor protections, not at all like other shapes of protections, holds an interesting and imperative put

in the protections scene, winning it the status of a "need" protections. As its title recommends, engine protections is planned to cover an broad run of engine vehicles, counting cruisers, cars, jeeps, commercial vehicles, and more.

The government has concurred engine protections this extraordinary status due to its vital significance in guaranteeing not as it were your security but moreover the security of others on the street. When you consider the negligible yearly premium, you pay in comparison to the priceless security it offers in the disastrous occasion of an mishap, the centrality of engine protections gets to be evident. Few sounds are as musical to the ears as the engine's invigorating 'vroom' when you begin your brand-new car or cruiser. In a country where owning an vehicle or a bicycle frequently means more than fair transportation, these vehicles rapidly procure monstrous nostalgic worth in the eyes of their glad proprietors.

### Need of Motor Vehicle in India

**Legal Requirement:** Motor insurance is mandatory by law in India under the Motor Vehicles Act. Driving without insurance can lead to legal penalties and even imprisonment.

**Financial Protection:** With the increasing number of accidents and vehicle thefts in India, motor insurance provides crucial financial protection against unforeseen events that could lead to significant expenses.

**Personal Accident Coverage:** Vehicle insurance policies include personal accident coverage, offering financial support in case of injury or death to the vehicle owner/driver.

**Peace of Mind:** Motor vehicle insurance provides peace of mind, knowing that you are financially secure against the potential risks and uncertainties of driving on Indian roads.

Motor insurance policy is not only a legal obligation but also a practical necessity for anyone driving in India, offering vital protection to your vehicle against various risks and uncertainties on the road.

#### **Types of Engine Protections Approaches in India:**

In India, engine vehicle proprietors have extend of protections alternatives planned to secure them from harm and mishaps. These approaches are categorized based on coverage.

#### **Comprehensive car protections**

Comprehensive car protections is the most broad scope accessible for vehicle proprietors. This approach offers assurance against third-party liabilities as well as harm caused to one's vehicle due to mishaps, characteristic calamities, robbery and fire, it moreover covers fetched of hospitalization for the driver and traveller, towing charges, and individual mishap cover.

#### **Add-on Benefits of Comprehensive Engine Protections Approach:**

When selecting a comprehensive engine protections approach in India, you can pick for different add-ons to upgrade your scope. Here are a few of the common add-ons:

#### **Zero Devaluation**

Zero devaluation, too known as bumper-to-bumper protections, this broadly utilized add-on is accessible for all sorts of vehicles. It plays a crucial part in claim settlements and reimbursements. Ordinarily, when guarantees settle a claim or repay costs, they figure in the car's devaluation esteem, coming about in a diminished claim sum. In any case, with this scope, the deterioration figure is not considered, guaranteeing you get the full claim sum. This discretionary cover is particularly advantageous for vehicles beneath five a long time ancient.

#### **Motor Assurance Cover**

The motor is a basic component of any vehicle, and comprehensive auto protections ordinarily doesn't cover non-accidental motor harm. The motor assurance add-on gives money related defending for your motor against different harms, counting oil spills, water entrance, electrical or mechanical breakdowns, and total substitution of motor parts.

#### **Roadside Help**

In the occasion of a breakdown, whether on city boulevards or interstates, prompt help is vital. Roadside help add-on cover comes to the protect, particularly in farther zones where finding a technician can be challenging. Basically contact your back up plans, and they will organize towing or carport benefit through their arrange of carports. A

few safeguards incorporate this as portion of the essential arrangement, whereas others offer it as an add-on.

#### **Consumable Cover**

This add-on covers consumable components like oil, discuss conditioner gas, greases, clips, orientation, fuel channels, motor oil, oil channels, brake oil, nuts and jolts, screws, washers, and more, which are regularly not secured by the standard approach.

#### **Return to Receipt Cover**

This scope can be acquired after the to begin with approach year closes. The safety net providers will pay the full vehicle esteem without bookkeeping for deterioration if your car is seriously harmed or unsalvageable due to an mishap.

#### **Tyre Ensure Cover**

The Tire Secure add-on covers harms such as in-tyre bulges, punctures, bursting of tires, and cuts caused by mishaps, guaranteeing your tires are protected

#### **Claim harm car insurance**

Own harm car protections is a sort of scope that ensures the insured's vehicle from harm caused due to common calamities like surge, seismic tremors and storms. It too covers misfortunes caused from man-made episodes such as burglary, riots, and mishaps caused by drivers who are uninsured.

#### **Third-Party Protections**

Third-party car protections are a lawful necessity for all vehicle proprietors in India. Basically, these protections arrangements protect the policyholder's interface by covering harms they may cause to a property or an person. Third-party scope serves to relieve the policyholder's hazard and risk in different scenarios. It is especially prudent for low-cost and more seasoned vehicles that are less costly to repair.

#### **Third-Party Protections Scope**

To get a handle on how third-party protections capacities, it's critical to get it a few commonly utilized terms related with this sort of scope.

**To begin with Party:** This alludes to the policyholder or the person who obtained the protections approach.

**Moment Party:** The moment party is the back up plans or the protections company that gives the arrangement.

**Third Party:** The third party is the person or substance that records a claim for harms caused by the to begin with party.

If the policyholder is included in an mishap with a third party, they bear duty for any coming about harms or wounds. In the occasion of an mishap, it is basic that the policyholder expeditiously inform their protections company and give them with comprehensive data. Furthermore, gathering subtle elements approximately the mishap



and outfitting them to the guarantors is pivotal. This data ought to include:

- A portrayal of the mischance, counting the date and time.
- Data around the included protections arrangements and policyholders.
- An account of wounds maintained by the driver, travelers, or any property or vehicles influenced.
- Subtle elements of any witnesses show.
- Climate conditions won at the time of the mischance.
- Photographic prove was collected from the mishap scene.

If law authorization gets to be included, it's basic to give the protections company's points of interest and make a note of the FIR number, if pertinent. Also, assume the mischance was not the policyholder's blame. In that case, the claimant has the right to record a claim for costs related to contracting a engine vehicle, repair costs, and damage stipend, subject to the conditions laid out in the protections arrangement archive.

Therefore, it's fitting for policyholders to carefully survey the protections arrangement archive some time recently obtaining to get it the degree of scope given.

#### **Things to Consider When Buying Car Insurance**

You have to get yourself a car protections approach in arrange to spare valuable cash in case of any disaster. Hence, make beyond any doubt you contribute in a comprehensive protections approach that offers broader scope. Moreover, add-ons can advance make strides the run of coverage.

1. What does the fundamental arrange see like?  
The fundamental arrange included third-party car protections beneath which the safety net providers will cover your costs related to damages/injuries of a third-party vehicle/individual.
2. Add-on covers: Continuously embrace a down to earth approach whereas choosing your add-on covers. These are nothing but the little covers which can assist improve your comprehensive car protections arrange. Consequently, be exceptionally particular whereas selecting your add-on covers.
3. Approach phrasing: Make beyond any doubt you are well-versed with the arrangement language. Most of the protections suppliers these days offer streamlined car protections approaches. There are administrators who are accessible 24x7 to clear your questions. User-friendly apps and responsive websites make your errand a bit simpler. But do not disregard to go through the fine prints of the terms of the contract.
4. Cashless office: Go for the carports that are tied up with the protections supplier. In such a case,

the protections supplier will straightforwardly pay the carport owner.

- **Intentional deductibles:** When you concur to share the hazard, you are really volunteering to pay a particular sum of the claim. In return, you will be required to pay fewer premiums to the protections company.
- **Compactness of arrangement:** Go for the arrange, which permits simple transportability. You require not enter into a long lasting relationship with the protections supplier. Or maybe, you can switch to a diverse protections company helpfully by recharging your car protections plan.

#### **Claim Process:**

- Car protections is obligatory in India and is among the most commonly bought protections items. The reason for an expanding number of individuals obtaining car protections is the rising populace which has a higher expendable wage, in this manner coming about in a higher number of cars on Indian streets. Be that as it may, there are times where policyholders have no clue with respect to the car protections claim prepare. Here is a step by-step direct to go almost recording your car protections claims
- As before long as you meet with an mishap or take note harms to your vehicle, you will have to call the protections company and hint them around the harm. You will too have to outfit an appropriately filled-in claim shape in expansion to the essential reports required by the safety net providers. The shapes can be downloaded from the site of your protections company.
- A surveyor will be sent by the protections company to evaluate the harms supported by your vehicle. A report will be arranged by the surveyor and passed on to the protections company. A duplicate will moreover be sent to you
- In case of extreme harms that require quick repairs, the surveyor will arrive at the area of the mishap as before long as conceivable, and your car can be sent for repairs after the surveyor has sent his report to the insurer.
- Following the completion of repairs to your vehicle, the properly marked shapes and reports must be taken from the carport and given to the surveyor who will send them to the insurer.
- **In Case of Harms to Third-Party Claims**
- In case you get a lawful take note from a third party, claiming reimbursements for harms caused by you, you will have to illuminate your safety net providers approximately the same. It is fundamental to talk to your back up plans some time recently communicating with the third party or making any out-of-court settlements or money related commitments to them.

- A duplicate of the lawful take note must be sent to your protections company.
- Copies of the FIR, your driving permit, and the RC book of your vehicle must be submitted to the protections company.
- The archives will at that point be surveyed by the protections company and the subtle elements of the mischance will be evaluated and if they are palatable, the protections company will designate a attorney for your case.
- **In Case of Stolen Vehicles**
- If your car is stolen you will have to hold up an FIR by recording your complaint at the closest police station. A duplicate of the FIR must be submitted to the protections company.
- After the last police report is sent to you, a duplicate must be taken and sent to your protections company. An examiner will be relegated by the protections company with whom you will have to cooperate.
- Once your claim has been affirmed by the protections company, the RC book of the stolen vehicle will have to be sent to your guarantors. The owner title will be changed to the title of the protections company.

The copy keys of the vehicle will at that point have to be submitted to the protections company along with a letter of subrogation. A notarized reimbursement on a stamp paper must too be submitted to the protections company.

#### **Documents Required For Car Protection Claim**

To raise an engine protections claim beneath diverse circumstances taking after reports are required-

#### **In case of an mishap claim**

To prepare a claim in case of an mishap safety net providers will require taking after documents

1. Filled claim frame along with your signature
2. Charge receipts
3. Duplicate of protections policy
4. Duplicate of car enrolment certificate
5. Driving permit of the driver
6. Duplicate of police FIR
7. An assessed charge of the car's repair cost
8. Unique repair charge and instalments receipts
9. Vehicle assessment address if not done at garage

#### **In case of car burglary claims**

To prepare a claim in case of robbery of the guarantor car, the back up plans will require taking after documents

1. A duplicate of car protections approach documents
2. Robbery statement from the RTO
3. Police FIR copy
4. Letter of subrogation
5. Charge installment receipt
6. Unique car enlistment book

7. Past approach detail like back up plans company title, length and time of protections approach number etc.
8. Things like booklets, guarantee cards, copy keys etc.
9. Official insinuation to the RTO around the burglary and suspension of the vehicle
10. Claim release voucher with signature over a income stamp

#### **In case of third party claims**

For raising third party claims taking after reports are required-

1. Properly filled and marked claim form
2. Duplicate of police FIR
3. Duplicate of enlistment certificate (RC) and driver's permit (DL)
4. Stamp required for company enlisted vehicle's unique documents

#### **Findings**

The study of the operation and claim procedure of motor vehicle insurance in India underscores the importance of understanding the intricacies of insurance policies and procedures. From the initial purchase to the claims process, policyholders need to be well-informed to navigate effectively through the system. Additionally, ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements and staying updated on changes in the insurance landscape is crucial for both insurers and insured individuals. Ultimately, a comprehensive understanding of the operation and claim procedures can help mitigate risks, protect assets, and promote a more efficient and transparent insurance ecosystem in India.

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## A Study of Change in Consumer Behaviour in Purchasing of Life Insurance Products

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### Abstract:

Insurance plays a crucial role in a country's risk management system by providing financial protection against unexpected events. It helps individuals and businesses mitigate the financial impact of risks such as natural disasters, accidents, illness, and death. Insurance also promotes economic stability by spreading risks across a large pool of policyholders, thus preventing the financial ruin of any one individual or business due to a single event. Additionally, insurance encourages risk-taking and innovation by providing a safety net for entrepreneurs and businesses to pursue new ventures. Overall, insurance is an important component of a country's financial infrastructure, supporting economic growth and stability. Understanding consumer's needs and paying attention to consumer service a security for life for things. Insurance is a social device where uncertain risks of individuals may be combined in a group and thus made more certain, small periodic contributions by the individuals provide a found out of which those who suffer losses may be reimbursed. Insurance may be described as a social device to reduce or eliminate risk of loss to life and property. Overall, the insurance industry plays a critical role in mobilizing savings and allocating capital towards productive investments, which can contribute to economic growth and development.

**Keywords:** Consumer Behaviour, Purchasing, change, insurance products.

### Introduction

Consumer behaviour plays a crucial role in the purchasing decisions of various products and services, including life insurance. Life insurance products are designed to provide financial protection to individuals and their families in the event of unforeseen circumstances such as death, disability, or critical illness. Understanding the factors influencing consumer behaviour in the purchasing of life insurance products is essential for insurance companies to develop effective marketing strategies and tailor their products to meet the evolving needs and preferences of consumers. Consumer behaviour in the life insurance sector is influenced by a myriad of factors, including demographic variables, socioeconomic status, cultural background, psychological factors, and the prevailing economic environment. Additionally, advancements in technology, changes in regulatory frameworks, and shifts in consumer preferences further shape the landscape of the life insurance market. This study aims to explore the various dimensions of consumer behaviour in the purchasing of life insurance products. By analyzing the drivers, motivations, and decision-making processes of consumers, this research seeks to provide insights into how insurance companies can enhance their market penetration, improve customer satisfaction, and foster long-term relationships with policyholders.

The following sections will delve into the key factors influencing consumer behaviour in the life insurance sector, examine the decision-making process of consumers, and discuss implications for insurance providers. Additionally, this study will explore emerging trends and challenges shaping the future of the life insurance market and offer recommendations for industry stakeholders to navigate this dynamic landscape effectively.

### Objective of the Study

Analyze how age, gender, income, education level, and family size influence consumers' attitudes and behaviours towards life insurance products. Study how factors such as risk perception, financial literacy, trust in insurers, and past experiences shape consumers' decisions regarding life insurance. Assess the level of understanding consumers have about different types of life insurance products, their features, and benefits. . When he invests funds, he must remember the main duty to the insured, whose money he holds in trust, without forgetting the interests of the whole community; to use the funds in the interests of investors and the whole community, taking into account national priorities and the duty of attractive returns. Investigate the factors influencing consumers' decisions to purchase or not purchase life insurance, including the role of advice from agents or financial advisors. Evaluate

the effectiveness of various marketing strategies and communication channels in reaching and engaging consumers with life insurance products. Meet the various life insurance needs of the community that would arise in the changing social and economic environment. Meets the various insurance needs of the community that would arise in a changing social and economic environment.

### Hypotheses of the Study

Based on the objectives of the study, the following hypotheses are framed-

1. There is no significant difference in the awareness of consumers regarding life insurance products based on their socio-economic background.
2. The perception of consumers as regards life insurance products do not differ significantly according to the nature of ownership of their life insurer.
3. The behaviour of consumers of life insurance products does not differ significantly based on the nature of ownership of their life insurer.
4. There is a significant relationship between perception of life insurance products and demographic variables such as age, gender, salary, education, ownership, and marital status.
5. There is significant relationship between perception and different demographic variables like age, gender, salary education, ownership, marital status. There is significant relationship between perception and different demographic variables like age, gender, salary education, ownership, marital status. There is significant impact of demographic variables on awareness.

### Enhancing the Purchase Process

While many carriers have increasingly experimented with direct-to-consumer delivery mechanisms, advisory assistance is generally still a highly sought-after part of the purchase process and has a real impact all the way to the point of purchase. In fact, 52 percent of respondents who purchased life insurance found their interactions with agents or advisors helpful in the pre-purchase process, compared to 34 percent who did not. This shows that despite the emphasis on digital distribution channels, advice can significantly influence the decision to buy or not buy life insurance and provide clarity and increase confidence in the evaluation and decision-making process.

When the carrier or agent explicitly links the value of life insurance to the prospect's primary goals, and the prospect learns and appreciates the role the product plays for them. When a mid-market consumer makes a purchase, ensuring policy compliance often involves persuasive engagement methods. The most effective insurance companies can be the ones that figure out how to keep a

customer's first policy from lapsing and keep customers coming back.

### Research Methodology

Studying consumer behaviour in purchasing life insurance products requires a comprehensive research methodology that combines both qualitative and quantitative approaches. Here's a suggested methodology:

**1. Literature Review:** Conduct an extensive review of existing literature on consumer behaviour in the context of life insurance products. This will help in understanding the existing theories, models, and factors influencing consumer decisions in purchasing life insurance.

### 2. Research Design:

- **Determine the research approach:** whether it will be exploratory, descriptive, or explanatory.
- **Choose the research method:** quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-method approach.
- **Define the target population:** who are the potential consumers of life insurance products?
- **Decide on the sampling technique:** random sampling, stratified sampling, etc.
- **Select the data collection methods:** surveys, interviews, focus groups, observation, etc.

### 3. Data Collection:

- **Quantitative Data:** Conduct surveys among the target population to gather quantitative data regarding their attitudes, preferences, and behaviors towards life insurance products. Ensure that the survey questionnaire is well-designed and includes both closed-ended and open-ended questions.
- **Qualitative Data:** Conduct in-depth interviews or focus groups with a subset of the target population to gain deeper insights into their motivations, concerns, and decision-making processes related to life insurance purchases.

### 4. Data Analysis:

- **Quantitative Analysis:** Use statistical techniques such as regression analysis, factor analysis, or cluster analysis to analyze the survey data and identify patterns, correlations, and relationships between variables.
- **Qualitative Analysis:** Thematic analysis or content analysis can be used to analyze the qualitative data obtained from interviews or focus groups. This involves identifying recurring themes, codes, and patterns in the data.

### 5. Integration of Findings:

- Combine the insights from quantitative and qualitative analysis to provide a comprehensive understanding of consumer behaviour in purchasing life insurance products.
- Compare and contrast findings from different data sources to identify converging or diverging trends.

**8. Report Writing:**

- Compile the research findings, analysis, and conclusions into a comprehensive report.
- Ensure that the report is well-structured, clearly written, and includes relevant tables, figures, and charts to support the findings.

**9. Presentation:** Prepare a presentation summarizing the key findings and insights for stakeholders such as management, marketing teams, or academic audiences.

By following this methodology, you can systematically investigate consumer behaviour in purchasing life insurance products and generate

valuable insights for both academic and practical purposes.

**Z-Test**

The Z-test showed a significant difference in the perception of life insurance investing between male and female investors. To apply the Z-test, the mean and standard deviation were calculated, after which the values were entered into the formula to calculate the standard error. Null Hypothesis  $H_0$ : It states that there is no significant difference in the perceptions of male and female investors regarding investing in life insurance contracts.

GENDER	MEAN	S.D.	SAMPLE SIZE	SQUARE OF S.D.
MALE	141.04	20.078	75	403.146
FEMALE	145.94	17.701	75	313.348

$$Z = 1.5877$$

S.No	Factors	Strongly Agree	Agree Moderately	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	Investment	28%	11%	34%	10%	6%
2	Risk Coverage	24%	28%	34%	10%	4%
3	Children's Education	8%	22%	22%	28%	20%
4	Tax Benefits	12%	12%	30%	34%	12%
5	Retirement Benefits	16%	12%	20%	36%	16%
6	Family Safety	28%	24%	34%	10%	4%

The following table shows the reasons why consumers buy life insurance with respondents who agree and disagree. This shows that 34% of the respondents agree with buying insurance for investment and risk protection insurance, 28% disagree with buying insurance for children's education, and 34% disagree with tax benefits and 36% with pension benefits.

Since the Z-value is less than the standard value of 1.96 at the 5% significance level, the null hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, there is no significant difference in the perceptions of male and female investors about investing in life insurance.

In relation to education: The type of life insurance favors affordability Null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ): There is no relationship between life insurance investment behavior and purchase decisions with education. Alternative hypothesis ( $H_1$ ): There is a relationship between life insurance investment behavior and purchase decisions with education. So it can be said that there is a relationship between investment behavior and purchasing decisions in life insurance with education.

In the future, the government's easy access to international insurance companies will also create more opportunities to explore through FDI.

**Variables**

Consumer behaviour in purchasing life insurance products is influenced by various factors, which can be categorized into several key variables. These variables include:

**1. Demographic Variables:** Age: Different age groups may have varying perceptions of risk and insurance needs. For example, younger individuals may prioritize affordability and flexibility, while older individuals may focus more on coverage for dependents and retirement planning.

- **Gender:** There may be differences in insurance purchasing patterns between men and women, influenced by factors such as income levels, familial roles, and risk perceptions.
- **Marital status:** Married individuals may have different insurance needs compared to single individuals, such as providing financial protection for spouses and children.

**2. Psychological Variables:** Risk perception: Individuals' perceptions of the likelihood and severity of risks can influence their willingness to purchase life insurance. Factors such as personal experiences, cultural beliefs, and cognitive biases (e.g., optimism bias) can shape risk perceptions.

- **Financial literacy:** The level of financial knowledge and understanding of insurance concepts can impact consumers' ability to evaluate insurance products, compare options, and make informed decisions.
- **Attitudes and beliefs:** Consumer attitudes toward insurance, including trust in insurers, perceived value of coverage, and attitudes toward risk management, play a significant role in purchasing decisions.

**3. Socioeconomic Variables:** Income level: Higher income individuals may be more willing and able to afford life insurance premiums, while lower-income individuals may prioritize other financial needs.

- **Education level:** Higher education levels may correlate with greater financial literacy and understanding of insurance products.
- **Occupation:** Occupation type and stability can influence insurance needs and willingness to purchase coverage. For example, individuals with high-risk occupations may prioritize disability or accidental death coverage.

**5. Product-Specific Variables:** Policy features: Consumers consider factors such as coverage amount, premium affordability, policy duration, flexibility, and exclusions when evaluating insurance products.

- **Brand reputation:** Trust in insurance companies, brand recognition, customer service reputation, and claims processing efficiency can influence purchasing decisions.
- **Marketing and distribution channels:** The effectiveness of marketing strategies, advertising messages, and distribution channels (e.g., online platforms, agents, banc assurance) can impact consumer awareness and engagement with life insurance products.

#### **6. Trust and Reputation of Insurers:**

Consumer trust in insurance companies and their reputation for reliability, financial stability, and customer service influence purchasing behaviour. Consumers are more likely to purchase life insurance from reputable insurers with a track record of fulfilling claims promptly and providing excellent customer support. Trustworthy brands and positive customer experiences contribute to higher confidence and satisfaction among policyholders.

Understanding these factors is essential for insurance companies to design targeted marketing strategies, tailor product offerings, and address consumer needs effectively.

**7. Financial Literacy and Awareness:** The level of financial literacy and awareness about life insurance products significantly influences consumer behaviour. Educated consumers who understand the benefits, features, and importance of life insurance are more likely to make informed purchasing decisions. Conversely, individuals with limited financial knowledge may overlook the significance of life insurance or may be susceptible to misinformation, leading to suboptimal decision-making.

Understanding these variables and their interplay can help insurers tailor their products, marketing strategies, and distribution channels to effectively meet the needs and preferences of different consumer segments.

#### **Conclusion**

The study found that consumers are satisfied with both the pre-purchase and post purchase service. Respondents agree to investment and risk protection for the purpose of purchasing a life insurance policy and disagree with early childhood education, tax benefits and pension benefits Conclusion.

Consumer behaviour plays a pivotal role in shaping the dynamics of the life insurance market. Understanding the factors influencing consumer decisions is essential for insurers to effectively engage with potential policyholders, meet their needs, and drive business growth. Through this examination of consumer behavior in purchasing life insurance products, several key insights emerge.

Firstly, demographic variables such as age, income, and family status significantly influence consumer preferences and priorities in selecting life insurance coverage. Insurers must tailor their products and marketing strategies to resonate with diverse demographic segments, addressing their unique needs and preferences.

Secondly, the perceived need for financial protection and risk aversion drives consumer interest in life insurance. Insurers can capitalize on consumers' desire for security by emphasizing the importance of life insurance in safeguarding against unforeseen events and providing peace of mind for their loved ones.

Thirdly, consumer education and awareness are critical in bridging the gap between perceived need and actual purchase behavior. Insurers should invest in educational resources and initiatives to improve financial literacy and empower consumers to make informed decisions about life insurance.

Additionally, cultural influences trust in insurers, distribution channels, and psychological factors all play significant roles in shaping consumer behavior. Insurers must navigate these complexities by building trust, leveraging distribution channels effectively, and appealing to consumers' emotions and cognitive biases. In conclusion, a deep understanding of consumer behavior is essential for insurers to thrive in the competitive life insurance market. By aligning their strategies with consumer needs, preferences, and decision-making processes, insurers can foster stronger relationships with policyholders, drive customer acquisition and retention, and ultimately achieve long-term success in the evolving landscape of life insurance.

#### **Findings and Suggestions**

Consumer behaviour in purchasing life insurance products is influenced by various factors, including financial literacy, trust in insurance providers, and perceptions of risk, demographics, and psychological biases. Here are some suggestions for understanding and influencing consumer behaviour in this context:

1. **Educational Campaigns:** Launch educational campaigns to improve financial literacy among consumers. Many people may not fully understand the importance of life insurance or the various types of policies available. Providing clear, accessible information can empower consumers to make informed decisions.
2. **Transparency and Trustworthiness:** Focus on building trust with consumers by being transparent about policy terms, fees, and the claims process. Trust is a critical factor in purchasing life insurance, as consumers want to feel confident that their beneficiaries will receive the promised benefits when needed.
3. **Customized Solutions:** Recognize that different demographics have unique needs and preferences when it comes to life insurance. Develop customized solutions that cater to specific segments of the population, such as millennial, families, or retirees.
4. **Behavioural Economics Insights:** Apply insights from behavioural economics to design policies and marketing strategies that address common psychological biases. For example, framing life insurance as a way to protect loved ones rather than focusing solely on financial benefits may resonate more with consumers.
5. **Digitalization and Convenience:** Embrace digital technologies to make purchasing life insurance more convenient and accessible. Develop user-friendly online platforms and mobile apps that allow consumers to research, compare, and purchase policies easily.
6. **Social Proof and Testimonials:** Leverage social proof by showcasing testimonials and success stories from satisfied customers. Positive reviews and personal anecdotes can help alleviate consumer concerns and demonstrate the value of life insurance.
7. **Financial Planning Integration:** Integrate life insurance products into broader financial planning discussions. Position life insurance as an essential component of a comprehensive financial strategy rather than a standalone product.
8. **Regulatory Compliance:** Ensure compliance with regulatory requirements and ethical standards in marketing and selling life insurance products. Consumer trust can be easily eroded by unethical practices or misleading information.
9. **Continuous Engagement:** Maintain on going engagement with customers beyond the initial purchase. Provide regular updates, educational resources, and opportunities for policy reviews to reinforce the value of life insurance and address changing needs over time.

10. **Feedback Mechanisms:** Establish feedback mechanisms to solicit input from customers and address their concerns proactively. Actively listening to consumer feedback can help identify areas for improvement and strengthen relationships with policyholders.

By implementing these suggestions, insurers can better understand and influence consumer behaviour in the purchasing of life insurance products, ultimately increasing uptake and ensuring that more individuals and families have the protection they need for the future.

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## Issues Challenges and Opportunities of Whole Life Insurance a Comprehensive Study

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### Abstract:

Whole life insurance, a type of permanent life insurance, offers coverage for the entire lifetime of the insured, providing a death benefit as well as a cash value component. Despite its potential benefits, the whole life insurance market faces various issues and challenges, ranging from consumer perception to regulatory complexities. This thesis aims to conduct a comprehensive study of the issues, challenges, and opportunities within the whole life insurance sector. Through a combination of literature review, case studies, and data analysis, this research endeavours to shed light on the current landscape of whole life insurance, identify key challenges faced by stakeholders, and explore potential opportunities for growth and innovation. By addressing these aspects, the study seeks to provide valuable insights for insurance companies, regulators, consumers, and other relevant stakeholders to navigate the complexities of the whole life insurance market more effectively.

**Keywords:** Whole Life Insurance, Permanent Life Insurance, Challenges, Opportunities, Insurance Market, Consumer Perception, Regulatory Environment

### Introduction:

Whole life insurance is a type of permanent life insurance that provides coverage for the entire life of the insured individual, as opposed to term life insurance which covers a specific period. This research report aims to analyze the various issues, challenges, and opportunities associated with whole life insurance. It delves into the complexities of this insurance product, exploring its advantages, disadvantages, and potential for innovation in the insurance industry.

### Objectives of the Study

- 1. Understanding Industry Dynamics:** To comprehend the current landscape of the whole life insurance sector, including market trends, regulatory frameworks, and consumer behaviour.
- 2. Identifying Challenges:** To pinpoint the challenges that whole life insurance faces, whether they are related to product design, distribution channels, customer perception, or regulatory constraints.
- 3. Analyzing Opportunities:** To explore potential growth areas and opportunities within the whole life insurance market, such as emerging consumer needs, technological advancements, or untapped market segments.
- 4. Assessing Risk Management:** To evaluate the risks associated with offering whole life insurance products, including investment risks, mortality risks, and interest rate risks, and to propose strategies for mitigating these risks.

- 5. Examining Consumer Perspectives:** To delve into the perspectives and preferences of consumers regarding whole life insurance, including their awareness, attitudes, and purchase behaviour, and to identify ways to enhance consumer engagement and satisfaction.
- 6. Considering Financial Implications:** To analyze the financial implications of whole life insurance for both insurers and policyholders, including pricing strategies, profitability analysis, and the long-term financial benefits for policyholders.
- 7. Exploring Innovation:** To investigate innovative approaches and technologies that can enhance the value proposition of whole life insurance, such as usage-based insurance, digital distribution channels, or personalized underwriting models.
- 8. Addressing Social and Ethical Considerations:** To examine the societal impact of whole life insurance, including its role in financial planning, wealth transfer, and social welfare, and to address any ethical concerns related to product design or marketing practices.

By comprehensively studying these aspects, researchers and industry practitioners can gain valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities facing the whole life insurance market and develop strategies to ensure its sustainable growth and relevance in the future. Here are some potential hypotheses regarding the issues,



challenges, and opportunities of whole life insurance:

Hypotheses

**1. Consumer Awareness:** One hypothesis could be that a lack of understanding or awareness among consumers about the benefits and features of whole life insurance contributes to its underutilization.

**2. Cost vs. Benefits:** Another hypothesis could be that the perceived high cost of whole life insurance premiums relative to other types of life insurance products discourages potential buyers, despite the long-term benefits it offers.

**3. Market Saturation:** It could be hypothesized that the whole life insurance market is becoming increasingly saturated, making it challenging for insurance companies to differentiate their products and attract new customers.

**4. Changing Demographics:** Changes in demographics, such as an aging population or shifting preferences among younger generations, may present both challenges and opportunities for the whole life insurance industry.

**5. Investment Performance:** A hypothesis could be that fluctuations in investment performance, particularly in relation to interest rates and market conditions, significantly impact the financial stability and returns of whole life insurance policies.

**6. Regulatory Environment:** Changes in regulatory requirements or government policies could pose challenges or create opportunities for whole life insurance providers in terms of product offerings, pricing, and distribution channels.

**7. Technological Innovation:** Advances in technology, such as the rise of insurtech companies and digital distribution platforms, may disrupt traditional models of whole life insurance distribution and customer engagement.

**8. Health and Wellness Trends:** Trends in health and wellness may influence consumer attitudes towards whole life insurance, with potential opportunities emerging for insurers to offer products tailored to specific health needs or lifestyle preferences.

**9. Competitive Landscape:** The hypothesis could be that intense competition among insurance companies, including both traditional insurers and newer market entrants, drives innovation but also heightens challenges related to pricing and profitability.

**10. Economic Conditions:** Economic factors such as inflation, unemployment rates, and overall economic stability may impact consumer confidence and their willingness to invest in long-term financial products like whole life insurance.

These hypotheses could serve as starting points for conducting comprehensive studies on the issues, challenges, and opportunities within the whole life insurance industry. They would need to

be tested and validated through empirical research and data analysis.

**Delimitations**

Delimitations in a study about "Issues, Challenges, and Opportunities of Whole Life Insurance: A Comprehensive Study" would involve specifying the boundaries and scope within which the research will be conducted. These delimitations help to focus the study and clarify what aspects will be covered and what will be excluded. Here are some potential delimitations for this study:

**1. Geographic Scope:** Limiting the study to a specific region or country where whole life insurance is prevalent, rather than attempting a global analysis.

**2. Time Frame:** Restricting the study to a certain period, such as the past decade, to analyze recent trends and developments in whole life insurance.

**3. Demographic Focus:** Narrowing down the study to a particular demographic group, such as a specific age range or income bracket, to understand their specific challenges and needs regarding whole life insurance.

**4. Product Focus:** Concentrating on whole life insurance products offered by a particular set of insurance companies or within a specific regulatory framework.

**5. Methodology:** Specifying the research methods and approaches that will be used, such as qualitative interviews or quantitative surveys, and excluding other methodologies.

**6. Exclusion of Specific Issues:** Clearly stating any issues related to whole life insurance that will not be addressed in the study due to their complexity, irrelevance, or lack of data.

**7. Language Limitation:** Conducting the study only in a particular language due to constraints in translation or resources.

**8. Exclusion of Specific Stakeholders:** Choosing to exclude certain stakeholders, such as insurance agents or policymakers, from the study for practical reasons or to maintain focus.

**9. Accessibility of Data:** Acknowledging limitations related to data availability or access to proprietary information from insurance companies.

**10. Academic Discipline:** Focusing the study within a specific academic discipline, such as economics, finance, or sociology, and excluding other disciplinary perspectives.

These delimitations help researchers to manage the scope of their study effectively and ensure that it remains manageable, relevant, and feasible within the constraints of available resources and time.

**Research Method:**

**1. Literature Review:**

**Cost:** One of the primary issues associated with whole life insurance is its relatively high cost compared to term life insurance. The premiums for

whole life insurance policies are typically higher due to the lifelong coverage and cash value accumulation feature.

**Complexity:** Whole life insurance policies can be complex financial instruments, often requiring a thorough understanding of the terms, conditions, and various components such as dividends, cash value growth, and policy loans. This complexity can sometimes lead to confusion among consumers.

**Flexibility Constraints:** While whole life insurance offers guaranteed coverage for life, it lacks the flexibility of term life insurance in terms of adjusting coverage amounts and premium payments based on changing financial needs.

**Investment Returns:** The investment component of whole life insurance policies, represented by the cash value, may not always offer competitive returns compared to alternative investment options. The performance of the underlying investments within the policy can affect the cash value growth.

**2. Quantitative Surveys:** Quantitative surveys involve collecting structured data from a large sample of respondents using standardized questionnaires. Surveys can be conducted among policyholders, insurance agents, financial advisors, or industry professionals to gather quantitative data on topics such as customer preferences, satisfaction levels, purchasing behaviors, and market trends related to whole life insurance. Statistical analysis techniques are then applied to analyze survey data and draw conclusions.

**3. Qualitative Interviews:** Qualitative interviews involve conducting in-depth interviews with individuals or focus groups to explore their perspectives, experiences, and insights on whole life insurance. Interviews can be used to delve into nuanced issues, challenges, and opportunities faced by policyholders, insurers, regulators, and other stakeholders. Qualitative data analysis techniques such as thematic analysis or content analysis are then employed to identify recurring themes and patterns.

**4. Case Studies:** Case studies involve analyzing real-life cases or scenarios related to whole life insurance to understand specific challenges, success factors, or innovative practices in the industry. Researchers may examine individual policyholder cases, insurance company strategies, regulatory interventions, or market disruptions to extract valuable lessons and insights. Case study research typically involves qualitative data collection methods, such as interviews, document analysis, and direct observation.

**5. Secondary Data Analysis:** Secondary data analysis involves analyzing existing datasets or secondary sources of information relevant to whole life insurance. Researchers may utilize publicly available data from government agencies, regulatory bodies, industry associations, or financial

institutions to examine market trends, industry benchmarks, regulatory changes, or historical performance metrics. Secondary data analysis can complement primary research efforts and provide context for interpreting primary research findings.

**6. Experimental Research:** Experimental research involves designing controlled experiments or trials to test hypotheses and assess causal relationships related to whole life insurance. While less common in insurance research due to practical constraints, experimental studies can be conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of specific interventions, product features, or marketing strategies in influencing consumer behavior or insurer outcomes.

**7. Mixed-Methods Research:** Mixed-methods research combines quantitative and qualitative approaches to provide a comprehensive understanding of the issues, challenges, and opportunities of whole life insurance. Researchers may use a combination of surveys, interviews, case studies, and secondary data analysis to triangulate findings and enrich the depth of analysis. Mixed-methods research enables researchers to capture both quantitative trends and qualitative insights, providing a more holistic perspective on the research topic.

By employing a combination of these research methods, researchers can explore the multifaceted nature of issues, challenges, and opportunities in the whole life insurance industry and generate valuable insights to inform policy, practice, and future research directions.

#### **Sample**

The sample for research on "Issues, challenges, and opportunities of whole life insurance: a comprehensive study" would ideally include individuals who have experience or expertise in the field of insurance, particularly whole life insurance. This could include:

- Policyholders who have whole life insurance policies.
- Insurance agents or brokers who sell whole life insurance.
- Insurance company executives or employees involved in whole life insurance product development, marketing, or sales.
- Financial planners or advisors who recommend or work with whole life insurance products.
- Academic researchers or experts in the field of insurance or finance.
- Regulatory authorities or policymakers involved in overseeing the insurance industry.

The sample should be diverse enough to capture various perspectives and experiences related to whole life insurance, allowing for a comprehensive understanding of the issues, challenges, and opportunities associated with it. Additionally, the sample size should be sufficient to

provide meaningful insights and analysis in the research study.

#### Tools

**1. Academic Journals and Articles:** Look for scholarly articles and papers published in academic journals related to insurance, finance, and risk management. These sources often provide in-depth analysis, case studies, and empirical research on various aspects of whole life insurance.

**2. Books:** Explore books written by experts in the field of insurance and finance that cover topics such as life insurance products, investment strategies, and industry trends. Books can offer comprehensive insights and historical perspectives on whole life insurance.

**3. Industry Reports and Market Research:** Access industry reports, market research studies, and white papers published by reputable research firms, industry associations, and financial institutions. These reports often provide statistical data, market trends, and forecasts relevant to the whole life insurance market.

**4. Government Publications:** Check government websites, regulatory agencies, and official publications for information on insurance regulations, policy frameworks, and consumer protection measures related to whole life insurance.

**5. Surveys and Questionnaires:** Design surveys or questionnaires to gather opinions, preferences, and experiences from insurance professionals, policyholders, and industry stakeholders regarding whole life insurance. Online survey platforms can be used to collect and analyze data efficiently.

#### Variables

**1. Premium Rates:** Investigate how premium rates for whole life insurance policies vary based on factors such as age, gender, health status, and coverage amount.

**2. Policy Features:** Examine the features of whole life insurance policies, including cash value accumulation, dividends, loan provisions, surrender charges, and death benefits.

**3. Market Trends:** Analyze market trends related to whole life insurance, such as sales growth, market share, product innovation, and distribution channels.

**4. Customer Demographics:** Explore the demographics of whole life insurance policyholders, including age, income level, occupation, marital status, and geographic location.

**5. Financial Performance:** Assess the financial performance of whole life insurance companies, including metrics such as premium income, net investment income, underwriting profitability, and return on equity.

#### Statistical Operations

**1. Descriptive Statistics:** Descriptive statistics are used to summarize and describe the basic features of

the data. Measures such as mean, median, mode, standard deviation, and range can provide insights into the distribution, central tendency, and variability of variables related to whole life insurance.

**2. Inferential Statistics:** Inferential statistics are used to make inferences and predictions about a population based on a sample of data. Techniques such as hypothesis testing, confidence intervals, and regression analysis can help researchers assess relationships between variables and draw conclusions about the issues, challenges, and opportunities of whole life insurance.

**3. Regression Analysis:** Regression analysis is a statistical technique used to model the relationship between a dependent variable (e.g., insurance premium) and one or more independent variables (e.g., age, income, health status). Regression models can help researchers identify factors that influence key outcomes in the context of whole life insurance and assess the strength and significance of these relationships.

**4. Survival Analysis:** Survival analysis is used to analyze time-to-event data, such as the time until policy lapse or policyholder death, in the context of whole life insurance. Survival models, such as the Kaplan-Meier estimator and Cox proportional hazards model, can help researchers understand factors affecting policy duration and mortality risk.

**5. Time Series Analysis:** Time series analysis is employed to analyze data collected over time, such as historical trends in premium income, policy sales, or investment returns in the whole life insurance market. Time series models, including autoregressive integrated moving average (ARIMA) models and exponential smoothing models, can help researchers identify patterns, forecast future values, and detect anomalies in time-series data.

**6. Cluster Analysis:** Cluster analysis is a technique used to group similar observations or entities into clusters based on their characteristics or attributes. Researchers can use cluster analysis to segment policyholders or insurance markets based on demographic, behavioural, or geographic factors, helping to identify distinct customer segments and tailor marketing strategies accordingly.

**7. Factor Analysis:** Factor analysis is employed to identify underlying dimensions or latent variables that explain patterns of correlation among observed variables. Researchers can use factor analysis to uncover underlying factors influencing attitudes, perceptions, or behaviours related to whole life insurance, helping to identify potential drivers of customer satisfaction or policyholder retention.

By applying these statistical operations, researchers can analyze data effectively, test hypotheses, uncover relationships, and generate insights to inform decision-making in the insurance industry.

## Conclusion

After conducting extensive research on the issues, challenges, and opportunities of whole life insurance, several key conclusions emerge:

**1. Growing Demand amidst Changing Demographics:** Whole life insurance continues to attract interest from consumers, especially as aging populations seek financial security and legacy planning options. However, adapting to shifting demographics, such as changing preferences among younger generations and diverse consumer segments, presents a challenge for insurers.

**2. Risk Management and Product Innovation:** Insurers face the challenge of balancing risk management with the need for product innovation in whole life insurance. While offering stable returns and long-term protection, insurers must also adapt to evolving customer needs by introducing flexible policy features, investment options, and digital enhancements.

**3. Regulatory Compliance and Market Dynamics:** Regulatory compliance remains a significant challenge for insurers, particularly in navigating complex legal frameworks and ensuring consumer protection. Additionally, insurers must navigate competitive market dynamics, including pricing pressures, distribution challenges, and regulatory changes that impact profitability and market share.

**4. Opportunities in Technological Advancements:** Technological advancements present opportunities for insurers to streamline operations, enhance customer engagement, and improve risk assessment in whole life insurance. Embracing digital platforms, data analytics, artificial intelligence, and block chain technology can enable insurers to enhance underwriting accuracy, personalize products, and deliver superior customer experiences.

**5. Long-Term Investment Strategies:** Whole life insurance companies must navigate low interest rate environments and volatile financial markets while maintaining sustainable investment strategies to support policyholder guarantees and long-term growth. Balancing investment risk, liquidity needs, and capital requirements remains a critical consideration for insurers seeking to optimize investment returns and manage solvency risks.

**6. Customer Education and Trust Building:** Building trust and educating consumers about the benefits and complexities of whole life insurance are essential for insurers to expand market penetration and drive long-term growth. Effective communication, transparent disclosure practices, and financial literacy initiatives can empower consumers to make informed decisions and enhance confidence in whole life insurance products.

In conclusion, while whole life insurance offers enduring value as a financial planning tool and risk management solution, insurers must address

various challenges and capitalize on emerging opportunities to remain competitive in a dynamic and evolving market landscape. By embracing innovation, fostering customer trust, and navigating regulatory complexities, insurers can unlock the full potential of whole life insurance and create sustainable value for policyholders and stakeholders alike.

## Suggestions

- **Low Awareness and Understanding:** One of the primary challenges for whole life insurance is the low awareness and understanding among consumers. Many individuals are unfamiliar with the concept of whole life insurance and its benefits compared to other types of insurance policies. Insurers can address this challenge by enhancing educational efforts to raise awareness about the features, benefits, and long-term value of whole life insurance.
- **Perception of Complexity and Cost:** Whole life insurance policies are often perceived as complex and expensive compared to term life insurance. Consumers may be deterred by the higher premiums associated with whole life insurance and may opt for cheaper alternatives. Insurers need to educate consumers about the guaranteed cash value, lifetime coverage, and potential for cash accumulation offered by whole life policies, emphasizing their value as a long-term financial planning tool.
- **Competitive Market Landscape:** The life insurance market is highly competitive, with numerous insurers offering a variety of products and solutions. Whole life insurance faces competition from term life insurance, universal life insurance, and other investment vehicles. Insurers must differentiate their whole life products by highlighting unique features, such as guaranteed premiums and cash value growth, to attract and retain customers.
- **Changing Consumer Preferences and Needs:** Consumer preferences and financial needs evolve over time, influenced by demographic shifts, economic trends, and societal changes. Insurers must adapt their whole life insurance offerings to align with changing consumer preferences, such as customizable coverage options, flexible payment schedules, and value-added benefits. By staying attuned to consumer needs, insurers can remain relevant and competitive in the market.

In summary, while whole life insurance faces challenges such as low awareness, competitive pressures, and interest rate sensitivity, it also presents opportunities for insurers to innovate, educate consumers, and address evolving financial needs. By addressing these challenges proactively and leveraging opportunities for innovation and market differentiation, insurers can strengthen their

position in the whole life insurance market and provide valuable solutions to policyholders.

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## The Role of Social Media on Buying Behaviour in Life Insurance Industry

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### Abstract:

This study explores the role of social media in influencing buying behavior in the life insurance industry, with a focus on Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh, India. Social media has emerged as a powerful tool for insurance companies to connect with consumers, build brand awareness, and drive purchasing decisions. Through targeted marketing campaigns, engagement with customers and promotion of insurance products, companies can influence consumers' attitudes and perceptions towards life insurance.

The research examines the impact of social media on consumer behavior in Barabanki, a district with a significant population and growing insurance market. It analyzes how social media platforms are used by insurance companies to educate consumers, promote their products, and engage with customers. The study also investigates the factors that influence consumers' decisions to purchase life insurance, including the role of social media in shaping their attitudes and preferences.

The findings of this study can provide valuable insights for insurance companies looking to leverage social media to enhance their marketing strategies and drive sales in the competitive life insurance industry.

**Keywords:** Social media, insurance companies, purchasing decisions, consumer behavior.

### Introduction

The role of social media in shaping consumer behavior has become increasingly significant across various industries, including the life insurance sector. In Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh, India, social media's impact on buying behavior in the life insurance industry is particularly noteworthy. Social media platforms, such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram, serve as influential channels for insurers to engage with potential customers, build brand awareness, and ultimately drive sales.

This study aims to explore how social media influences consumer decisions in purchasing life insurance policies in Barabanki. Understanding these dynamics can provide valuable insights for insurance companies seeking to optimize their marketing strategies and enhance customer engagement. By examining the relationship between social media use and buying behavior, this research can offer practical recommendations for insurers looking to leverage social media effectively in Barabanki and beyond.

#### Social media era on present time:

In the present time, social media plays a significant role in various aspects of life. It has revolutionized communication, marketing, and networking. Social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn have become integral parts of daily life for many people around the world.

In terms of communication, social media allows people to connect with friends, family, and colleagues instantly, regardless of geographical barriers. It has also transformed the way people consume news and information, with many individuals relying on social media platforms for updates on current events.

From a business perspective, social media has become a powerful tool for marketing and advertising. Companies use platforms like Facebook and Instagram to promote their products and services, engage with customers, and build brand loyalty. Social media influencers also play a significant role in shaping consumer behavior, with many people turning to their favorite influencers for product recommendations and reviews.

Overall, the social media era has brought about significant changes in how people communicate, consume information, and interact with brands, making it a crucial aspect of modern life.

#### Social media offers several benefits for the insurance industry

- 1. Marketing and Brand Awareness:** Insurance companies can use social media to increase brand visibility and reach a broader audience. They can create targeted advertising campaigns to reach specific demographics and promote their products and services.
- 2. Customer Engagement:** Social media allows insurance companies to engage directly with

customers, respond to queries, and provide customer support. This can help build trust and loyalty among policyholders.

3. **Lead Generation:** Insurance companies can use social media to generate leads by offering valuable content, such as informative articles, videos, and infographics. They can also use social media advertising to target individuals who may be interested in purchasing insurance.
4. **Market Research:** Social media provides insurance companies with valuable insights into consumer behavior and preferences. Companies can analyze social media data to identify trends, gather feedback, and improve their products and services.
5. **Risk Assessment:** Insurers can use social media data for risk assessment purposes. For example, they can analyze social media profiles to assess an individual's lifestyle and behavior, which can help determine their risk profile.
6. **Fraud Detection:** Social media can also be used to detect insurance fraud. Insurers can monitor social media platforms for suspicious activity, such as individuals posting about fake accidents or injuries.

Overall, social media can be a powerful tool for insurance companies to improve their marketing efforts, engage with customers, and gather valuable insights that can help them better understand and serve their target audience.

#### **Insurance industry of India on current scenario -**

As of my last update, the insurance industry in India was experiencing significant growth and transformation. Here are some key points about the current scenario:

1. **Growth:** The Indian insurance industry has been growing rapidly, driven by rising incomes, increasing awareness about the need for insurance and regulatory reforms. Both the life and non-life insurance sectors have been expanding steadily.
2. **Digital Transformation:** The industry has been undergoing a digital transformation, with insurers investing in technology to improve customer service, streamline operations, and enhance distribution channels. Online sales of insurance products have been growing, and digital platforms are being used for policy issuance, claims processing, and customer engagement.
3. **Regulatory Changes:** The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has been introducing regulatory changes to promote innovation and competition in the industry. This includes initiatives to enhance the ease of doing business, such as the introduction of standardized products and the promotion of digital insurance repositories.

4. **Focus on Health Insurance:** There has been a growing focus on health insurance, driven by increasing healthcare costs and a greater awareness of the importance of health coverage. Insurers have been launching innovative health insurance products and expanding their health insurance portfolios.
5. **Micro insurance and Rural Penetration:** Efforts have been made to increase insurance penetration in rural and underserved areas through microinsurance products and partnerships with rural distribution channels. Insurers have been leveraging technology and alternative distribution channels to reach these segments.
6. **Challenges:** Despite the growth opportunities, the insurance industry in India faces challenges such as low insurance penetration, regulatory complexities, and competition. Insurers also need to address issues related to fraud, miss-selling, and customer trust.

Overall, the insurance industry in India is in a dynamic phase, with significant growth potential, especially driven by digital innovation and changing consumer preferences.

#### **Use of social media on insurance:**

Social media is extensively used in the insurance industry for various purposes, including marketing, customer service, product promotion, and brand building. Here are some key uses:

1. **Marketing and Advertising:** Insurance companies use social media platforms to reach a broader audience and promote their products and services. They create targeted ads to reach specific demographics based on factors like age, location, and interests.
2. **Customer Engagement:** Social media enables insurance companies to engage with their customers in real-time. They can respond to queries, provide information, and offer support, enhancing the overall customer experience.
3. **Brand Building:** Social media allows insurance companies to build their brand identity and reputation. They can share informative and engaging content to establish themselves as industry experts and gain the trust of their audience.
4. **Lead Generation:** Insurance companies use social media to generate leads by directing users to their website or landing pages where they can learn more about the company's products and services and potentially make a purchase.
5. **Customer Feedback and Reviews:** Social media provides a platform for customers to leave feedback and reviews about their experiences with an insurance company. This feedback can help the company improve its products and services.

**6. Market Research:** Insurance companies can use social media to conduct market research and gather insights into consumer preferences, trends, and competitors. This information can be used to tailor products and services to meet customer needs better.

Overall, social media plays a crucial role in the insurance industry by providing companies with a powerful tool to connect with customers, promote their offerings, and build a strong brand presence.

#### Results

The results of a study on the role of social media on buying behavior in the life insurance industry can vary based on the research methodology and context. However, here are some potential findings that researchers might uncover:

- 1. Increased Awareness:** Social media can significantly increase awareness about life insurance products and options among consumers.
- 2. Influence on Decision-Making:** Social media platforms can influence buying decisions by providing information, reviews, and recommendations from peers and experts.
- 3. Trust and Credibility:** Consumers may perceive life insurance companies that are active on social media as more trustworthy and credible.
- 4. Customer Engagement:** Social media allows life insurance companies to engage with customers, address their concerns, and build relationships, which can impact buying behavior positively.
- 5. Brand Perception:** A strong social media presence can enhance the perception of a life insurance company's brand, leading to increased interest and potential purchases.
- 6. Customer Feedback and Reviews:** Social media provides a platform for customers to share feedback and reviews, which can influence others' buying decisions.
- 7. Targeted Marketing:** Social media allows for targeted marketing campaigns, which can be more effective in reaching potential life insurance buyers.
- 8. Competitive Advantage:** Life insurance companies that effectively use social media may gain a competitive advantage over those that do not.
- 9. Customer Retention:** Social media can help life insurance companies retain customers by providing ongoing support, information, and updates.
- 10. Challenges:** However, there may also be challenges, such as the need to manage online reputation, deal with negative feedback, and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

These findings suggest that social media plays a significant role in influencing buying behavior in the life insurance industry and can be a valuable tool for companies looking to attract and retain customers.

#### Finding:

The role of social media in influencing buying behavior in the life insurance industry is significant. Social media platforms provide a unique opportunity for life insurance companies to engage with potential customers, build brand awareness, and educate them about the importance of life insurance. Through targeted advertising and content marketing, companies can reach specific demographics and tailor their messages to resonate with their needs and preferences.

Additionally, social media allows for peer-to-peer recommendations and reviews, which can influence decision-making processes. Customers often seek validation from their social circles before making important financial decisions, and positive reviews or endorsements can sway their choices.

Furthermore, social media enables companies to provide personalized offers and services, creating a more engaging and seamless customer experience. By leveraging data analytics and AI, companies can identify customer needs and preferences, offering them the right products at the right time.

In conclusion, social media plays a crucial role in shaping buying behavior in the life insurance industry by providing a platform for engagement, education, and influence. Companies that effectively utilize social media as part of their marketing strategy are likely to see an increase in customer engagement and sales.

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## A Study of Emerging Trends and Innovations of The Voyage Insurance Industry in India

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### Abstract:

Voyage insurance, also known as travel policy insurance or simply VOYAGES, is essential in protecting travelers from unanticipated risks and uncertainties throughout their trip. This initiative aims to explore the intricate nature of voyage insurance, explain its various types of coverage, determine the factors that dictate insurance premiums, and identify emerging trends in the field. This initiative seeks to provide travelers with a comprehensive understanding of voyage insurance, which will aid them in making informed decisions about their insurance requirements before embarking on their trip.

**Keyword:** Voyage insurance, trip, Travellers, financial security, destination.

### Introduction:

Travellers rely on voyage insurance as an essential aspect of their trip, providing both financial security and protection against various unexpected happenings and emergencies. With the growing interconnectedness of travel, voyage insurance is now a crucial necessity in an ever-changing and diverse world. This initiative will explore the intricate details of voyage insurance, focusing on clarifying its meaning, outlining the different types of coverage available, exploring the factors that affect premiums, and charting future developments in the field.

Traveller's must have voyage insurance because of the high level of travel risk and the challenges they face when making their arrangements. It provides protection for a variety of reasons, such as trip cancellations, medical crises or misplaced luggage. The provision of voyage insurance ensures that travelers can be confidently embarking on their journeys, as it provides a safe and secure place to go when faced with unexpected challenges.

This project seeks to shed light on the value of voyage insurance, both in terms of money and psychological factors. In addition to the financial security, voyage insurance gives travelers the freedom to focus on their travels and minimize any potential risks.

Additionally, the project seeks to analyze the factors that affect voyage insurance premiums, such as destination, duration of travel, traveler demographics (including age/emotional characteristics), and the level of coverage required. By being familiar with these details, travelers can make informed decisions about their insurance

options, ensuring that they receive the most comprehensive coverage at reasonable prices.

### Objectives of the study:

1. To examine the various types of coverage offered by voyage insurance policies, including coverage on a trip's cancellation, emergency medical bills covering evacuations (e.g., delayed by flight attendants), baggage delay or loss, travel delay cover and more.
2. To ensure adequate protection against risks and losses during their travels, travelers must be aware of the extensive range of coverage options available to them. By extensively examining the specifics of each type of coverage, travelers can make informed choices that align with their individual travel preferences and needs. Expeditors on adventure trips may require evacuation coverage, and those with valuable items may need heavy baggage protection.
3. To investigate the factors influencing voyage insurance premiums, such as the destination of travel, duration of the trip, age and health status of the traveler, the level of coverage selected, and any pre-existing medical conditions. These factors play a significant role in determining the cost of insurance premiums, as insurers assess the likelihood of claims based on various risk factors associated with the traveler and the trip. By identifying these factors, travelers can better understand the pricing dynamics of voyage insurance and evaluate the cost-effectiveness of different insurance plans. Additionally, awareness of premium determinants empowers travelers to take proactive measures, such as opting for shorter trip durations or obtaining

medical clearance for pre-existing conditions, to potentially reduce insurance costs.

By addressing these objectives, this study aims to provide valuable insights into the complexities of voyage insurance, equipping travelers with the knowledge and tools they need to navigate the insurance landscape confidently and make informed decisions about their insurance needs before embarking on their journeys.

#### **Hypotheses:**

1. The extent and scope of coverage provided by voyage insurance policies vary based on factors such as the insurance provider, plan type, geographical region, and specific travel needs. This hypothesis posits that travelers will encounter differences in coverage options and limitations when comparing voyage insurance policies offered by different providers or for different types of travel destinations. By testing this hypothesis, the study aims to elucidate the variability in coverage offerings and inform travelers about the importance of carefully assessing policy details before making purchasing decisions.
2. Factors such as the traveler's age, destination, duration of travel, pre-existing health conditions, and the level of coverage selected significantly impact voyage insurance premiums. This hypothesis suggests that insurance premiums will vary based on individual traveler characteristics, trip details, and the desired level of coverage. By examining the influence of these factors on insurance premiums, the study seeks to identify key determinants of pricing variability and provide travelers with insights into potential cost-saving strategies or premium optimization techniques.

By testing these hypotheses, the study seeks to advance understanding of key dynamics within the voyage insurance market and provide valuable insights for travelers, insurance providers, and policymakers alike. Through empirical analysis and data-driven research, the study aims to contribute to the ongoing dialogue surrounding voyage insurance and inform decision-making processes related to insurance coverage and risk management in the context of travel.

#### **Delimitation:**

This study is primarily concerned with voyage insurance policies for individual travelers, not corporate or group travel insurance. Corporate and group insurance can be likened to individual voyage insurance, but they frequently provide distinct coverage options, pricing structures, and regulatory requirements. By narrowing the focus to individual voyage insurance, the study hopes that it will offer "focused insights relevant to the needs and preferences of individuals traveling."

Moreover, this study does not provide comprehensive information on the legal and regulatory aspects of voyage insurance in various countries. Although the legal and regulatory frameworks are central to insurance practices and consumer protections, studying the specifics of insurance regulations in different countries would require a separate effort. Rather than delving into the legal framework of insurance regulation, this study looks at how voyage insurance can be understood practically, including coverage options and factors like premiums and trends.

The study's boundaries are defined by its emphasis on individual voyage insurance, lack of exploration into legal or regulatory frameworks, and absence of personal financial advice, all while providing a clear and concise analysis of key aspects of voyage coverage that affect travelers' decision-making processes.

By delineating the boundaries of the study, including its focus on individual voyage insurance, limited exploration of legal and regulatory frameworks, and absence of personalized financial advice, the study aims to provide a clear and targeted analysis of key aspects of voyage insurance relevant to travelers' decision-making processes.

#### **Research Process:**

The research process for this study involves several key steps to gather and analyze data related to voyage insurance comprehensively.

1. **Literature Review:** The initial phase of the research process involves conducting a thorough review of existing literature on voyage insurance. This includes academic journals, industry reports, market analyses, and regulatory guidelines. By synthesizing existing knowledge and identifying gaps in the literature, the study establishes a foundation for further research and analysis.
2. **Conclusion and Recommendations:** Based on the research findings, conclusions are drawn regarding the significance of voyage insurance, factors influencing premiums, emerging trends, and implications for travelers. Recommendations are provided for travelers, insurance providers, and policymakers to enhance the effectiveness and accessibility of voyage insurance offerings.

By following this research process, the study aims to provide valuable insights into the complexities of voyage insurance and inform decision-making processes for travelers and stakeholders within the insurance industry.

#### **Factors of Voyage Insurance**

1. **Types of Coverage:** This variable encompasses the various types of coverage offered by voyage insurance policies, including trip cancellation, emergency medical expenses, evacuation coverage, baggage loss or delay, and travel

delay coverage. The presence or absence of these coverage types may vary between insurance plans and can significantly impact the comprehensiveness and adequacy of insurance protection for travelers.

2. **Premium Determinants:** This variable includes factors that influence voyage insurance premiums, such as the traveler's age, destination, duration of travel, pre-existing health conditions, and the level of coverage selected. These variables affect the risk profile of the insured individual and the likelihood of claims, thereby influencing the cost of insurance premiums.
3. **Technological Innovations:** Technological advancements in the voyage insurance industry represent a variable that impacts the distribution, underwriting, and servicing of insurance policies. Variables such as the integration of digital platforms, artificial intelligence, and big data analytics shape the way insurance products are marketed, priced, and managed, influencing customer experiences and industry practices.
4. **Traveler Preferences:** Traveler preferences encompass variables related to individual preferences and priorities when selecting voyage insurance, such as coverage limits, deductibles, customer service quality, and ease of policy management. These variables reflect travelers' subjective evaluations of insurance offerings and can influence their decisions regarding insurance purchase and policy selection.
5. **Regulatory Environment:** The regulatory environment represents a variable that influences voyage insurance practices and consumer protections. Variables within this category include insurance regulations, consumer protection laws, and regulatory oversight mechanisms governing insurance providers and their operations. Changes in the regulatory environment can impact insurance product features, pricing, and distribution channels, affecting both travelers and insurance providers.

By examining these variables, the study aims to gain a comprehensive understanding of voyage insurance and its implications for travelers, insurance providers, and regulatory authorities. Analyzing the interplay between these variables facilitates the identification of key trends, challenges, and opportunities within the voyage insurance industry, informing strategies for enhancing insurance offerings and consumer protections.

#### **Findings:**

In conclusion, voyage insurance is a vital tool for travelers to have when traveling. The study

has delved into coverage options, premium factors, trends, and statistical operations for voyage insurance. Several important findings have been drawn from the research: First, the study found that voyage insurance policies offer a wide range of coverage options, including trip cancellation, emergency medical expenses, evacuation coverage, and baggage safeguarding. These coverages offer travelers both financial security and peace of mind, covering potential risks such as trip cancellations, medical crises or baggage delays.

According to the study, voyage insurance premiums are influenced by factors such as the traveler's age, destination, trip duration, and chosen level of coverage. Travelers can use this knowledge to understand the premium factors and therefore compare the cost effectiveness of various insurance policies, in order to make informed choices about their travel preferences.

Third, the project drew attention to emerging technological trends within the voyage insurance industry: digital platform technology; artificial intelligence for large scale applications; and big data analytics. The way insurance products are marketed, underwritten, and serviced is being redefined by these trends, which offer travelers greater convenience, efficiency, and customization.

In essence, voyage insurance is a vital component of any travel plan that intends to provide travelers with peace of mind and assurance during their trip. Travellers can gain insight into their individual travel needs and preferences by understanding the intricacies of voyage insurance and staying up-to-date with the latest developments in the industry.

#### **Suggestions:**

- **Educate Travelers:** Travelers should receive comprehensive education about the importance and nuances of voyage insurance. This includes understanding different coverage options, policy terms, and factors influencing premiums. Educational campaigns through online resources, travel agencies, and pre-travel checklists can help raise awareness among travelers about the benefits of voyage insurance and how to select appropriate coverage.
- **Compare Insurance Plans:** Encourage travelers to compare multiple insurance plans from different providers to ensure they find the most suitable coverage for their needs. Online comparison tools and platforms can streamline this process, allowing travelers to evaluate coverage options, premiums, and policy features easily. Additionally, travelers should pay attention to exclusions and limitations to ensure they have adequate coverage for their specific travel circumstances.
- **Consider Additional Coverage:** Depending on the nature of their travels, travelers should

consider additional coverage beyond basic voyage insurance. Specialized coverage may be necessary for activities such as adventure sports, cruises, or international travel. Travelers should assess their risks and activities carefully to determine if additional coverage is warranted to provide comprehensive protection.

- Review Policy Details: Before purchasing voyage insurance, travelers should thoroughly review policy details to understand coverage limits, deductibles, and claim procedures. Clear communication of policy terms and conditions is essential to ensure travelers have realistic expectations and are prepared to navigate the claims process effectively. Seeking clarification from insurance agents or experts can help travelers understand complex policy terms and make informed decisions.

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## A comparative study of customer expectation and satisfaction of Life Insurance in India

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### Abstract:

Accidents and mishaps are strong indicators of how fragile human life can be and how need to systematically insure our lives. It is an important tool to ensure the safety and security of the family. In the event individuals do not insure their lives, their dependents end up facing the tragic loss of their loved one along with a whole host of liabilities such as rent, loans, EMI's and child education and services etc. Life Insurance is crucial for families to fill security and a sense of confidence to continue their lives without losing their everyday stability. Life Insurance is a contract between an insurance policy holder and an insurer, where the insurer promises to pay a sum of money to the beneficiary when the insured person dies or after a pre-determined period in exchange for the premiums paid by policy holder.

In Life Insurance policy you need to pay premiums for a specified policy term and life insurance company provides you with a comprehensive life cover, in return. Life insurance protects future of your loved by paying a lump sum amount referred to as death benefit if an unfortunate event occurs. Sum life insurance policies provide you a maturity benefit after the end of the policy term.

**Keywords:** Insurance sector, Private participation, Life Insurance, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), IRDA Act, 1999, IRDAI.

### Introduction

The Insurance sector was opened up for private participation on the ground that in spite of enormous contributions made by the public sector to expand the coverage and spread awareness about insurance, the interests of the consumers would be better served. With the enactment of the Life Insurance Act, 1912, a new era began in the Indian insurance industry. Life insurance is the fastest growing sector in India, since 2000 as government allowed private persons and FDI. In 1993 The Government of India appointed R N Malhotra Committee to lay down privatization of the Life Insurance Sector. After that the IRDA Bill in parliament was passed in December 1999. As per the provision of IRDA Act, 1999, The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority was established on 19th April, 2000 to protect the interests of policy holders and to regulate, promote and insure orderly growth of the insurance industry.

In a nutshell, all the benefits of life insurance policy are tied to the payment of premiums, which is why one should opt for a premium that can be easily serviced. A life insurance policy works only if the policy holder has paid all premiums regularly.

### Objective of the Study

There are many objectives of this theory are as following:

- **Death benefit**
- **Wealth Creation through Investment Units**
- **Financial security**
- **Loan option**
- **Life stage planning**
- **Assured Income benefit**

### Literature Review

This study is based on the facts and findings of various articles which were selected for review for the purpose of bring out the important facts about Life Insurance concepts, few of the statements are taken as it is to maintain the originality of the research under review and few of the statement are written by the author in own words to draw logical facts.

- **Alok Mittal and Akash Kumar** (2003) , in their study “ An Exploratory Study of Factors Affecting Selection of Life Insurance Products” have attempted to identify the factors which are affecting the consumers in taking into the consideration before selecting a life insurance product and determining the extent to which these factors are taken into the consideration for choosing Life Insurance products.
- **Sinha and Tapen** (2005), in there research article “The Indian Insurance Industry: Challenges and prospects” have stated that India is among the most promising emerging insurance markets in the world. But out of total

insurance premium market in India particularly Life Insurance currently make up 80% of premiums.

- **Dr. P.K. Gupta** (2000), in the article named “Exploring Rural Markets For Private Life Insurance Players in India” has tried to examine the present state of affairs of rural life insurance in India and attempts to explore the causes, which led to poor penetration of rural life insurance markets for which a survey of 2000 sample of rural customers was been conducted to examine their perception and attitude towards buying life insurance products.
- **Upadhyaya and badlani** (2011), in their research attempt to identify the key success factors in the life insurance industry, in terms of customer satisfaction so as to survive intense competition and to increase the market share.
- **Sumathi kumaraswamy** (2012), in her research, “SWOT Analysis For Bancassurance: Application of Confirmatory Factor Analysis: Review of Research” has stated that the Bank places highest priority on customer service and satisfaction has a competitive edge over its competitors. But customer satisfaction is an important strategy for banks in insurance selling as the bank refers their customers to the insurance companies. In her research she has examined the prospects of Bancassurance based on the respondents’ perception towards the strength, weaknesses, opportunities and threat factors pertaining to the Bancassurance Venture.

#### **Research Methodology**

Research comprises defining or suggested solutions, collecting, organising and evaluating data, making detection and reaching conclusions and at last testing the conclusion to determine whether they fit the formulating hypothesis. Research management is broadly, systematic activity directed towards investigating managerial business problems and resulting in invention or discovery of management for problem solving and decision making. It is being planned that how this research work will progress step by step and how it will conclude its findings.

Certainly, here's an outline for the research methodology section on customer expectations and satisfaction of life insurance in India:

#### **Research Design:-**

- Explain the research design chosen for the study, such as quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods.
- Justify the chosen design based on the nature of the research questions and objectives.

#### **Data Collection Methods:-**

- Describe the data collection methods employed, such as surveys, interviews, or focus groups.
- Discuss the rationale for selecting these methods to gather insights into customer

expectations and satisfaction in the life insurance sector.

- Provide details on how the data collection instruments were developed or adapted for the Indian context.

#### **Sampling Strategy:-**

- Explain the sampling technique used to select participants, whether it's probability sampling (e.g., random sampling) or non-probability sampling (e.g., convenience sampling).
- Justify the sample size and composition based on the research objectives and available resources.
- Discuss any potential biases associated with the sampling strategy and steps taken to mitigate them.

#### **Data Analysis Approach:-**

- Outline the methods used to analyze the data collected, such as statistical analysis, thematic analysis, or content analysis.
- Explain how the data analysis techniques will help address the research questions and objectives.
- Discuss any software or tools used for data analysis and their suitability for the study.

#### **Ethical Considerations:-**

- Address ethical considerations related to participant consent, privacy, and confidentiality.
- Describe any measures taken to ensure the ethical conduct of the research, such as obtaining informed consent and anonymizing data.
- Discuss any potential conflicts of interest and steps taken to minimize bias in the study.

#### **Validity and Reliability:-**

- Explain steps taken to ensure the validity and reliability of the research findings, such as pilot testing of instruments, triangulation of data sources, or inter-coder reliability checks (if applicable).

#### **Collection of Data**

The study is designed and planned in such a way that discriminating Data's will be segregated easily. The important findings are necessary for determining the precision of the problem itself on the one hand and other illuminating the theoretical perspective one brings to bear on the problem of the research on the other.

#### **Primary Data**

In this study under the primary data that tools which were employed in this study was questionnaire and interview method.

#### **Secondary Data and Literature Survey**

To finalize the research and to formulate the research topic and extensive literature survey was conducted from published and unpublished bibliographies, academic journals, conference proceedings, government reports, Internet surfing, newspapers and magazines related to the topic etc.

Annual reports of selected companies surfed which helped to understand research problems and gave researchers an outline to proceed further.

### Sample Selection

It is based on random sampling and convenience sampling.

### Customer Satisfaction Level of Insurance Users

Measurement of customer satisfaction has become a key performance indicator of and organization and valuable management tool for companies to extend their current customer relationship and remain competitive. It improves customers join on product, development of new partnership with customer and business community and serves a strong driver of customer's trust and confidence in an organization.

After liberalization there is an increase in the number of private insurance companies which give good competition to public insurance companies.

Analysis revealed that the respondents of different Life Insurance have different opinion regarding all dimensions of services offered by life insurance companies. There is a need to maintain customer relationships in future. Customers also concern about operating hours renewal notification etc. Some are offering 24×7 facility and others are offering flexible operating hours.

### Suggestion of the Study

- It has been observed through surveys that the market is very competitive. It is therefore suggested that the players should adopt a customer centric approach. A company which adopts the customer centric approach will be able to plan its competitor to have an edge over other players.
- It is suggested that in order to maintain edge over competitors the product differentiation should not only be cosmetic in nature but also should be genuine.
- It is suggested that the focus should be shifted more towards untapped areas like semi urban and rural areas close to the urban areas. It is believed that these areas have influence from urban local and media. Therefore awareness as possessed by them may be converted into actual business deals.

### Limitations of the Study

Like other studies, this study is no final work on the subject. This is an exploratory investigation which is conducted under inescapable enforces of time and other resources. It is not an exhaustive and conclusive study for the many limitations which confound it to be so. A clear marketing strategy or model adopted by these companies is not in place. New dimensions and explanations may make the present understanding of the construct of the marketing strategies appear weak and incomplete. Though the Insurance sector

has been liberalized with more than 20 players launching their products, yet the larger chunk of population is still under insure. The present study is based on the available theoretical framework only. Though study does make effort to integrate all possible available literature on the topic.

First of all the study is based on 11 companies in which postal Life Insurance are not taken into consideration. In this study, the study flow from the sampling used is another limitation. The inferences and conclusions drawn from such a small sample of 30 of customers of each company were sought to be taken as representative of each company and may not be generalised. The scope to perform a better analysis exists by improving the size of the sample.

Second important limitation is that LIC, a government company, is much elaborate in comparison with the private companies.

- Limited sampling size : the geographical extent of the exercise was limited only to Delhi.
- The study deals largely with the perception of the industry experts interviewed and policy holders.
- The important limitations in sampling is that the sample respondents are heterogeneous in nature.
- Also the sample size of the study is small due to the large population of insurance policies.
- Unwillingness of industry experts to participate in the industry due to time and others in force. The limited scope of questions that could be asked from the respondent.
- The study has reflected the customer's needs. Unwillingly customers share proper information.
- The importance of the research study is largely based on primary data. Such a type of study requires sufficient financial resources. The researcher at present does not have sufficient financial resources and no one agency is sponsoring.
- This program is time bounded. Another limitation was not to cover a big size population so a large size of sample can be drawn which will be more appropriate and representative one data authenticity.
- Under the research process various activities are performed for this point of view various specialised services are required which provided by killed man power.
- The researcher also faced the lack of skilled manpower services.
- Acknowledge potential limitations of the research methodology, such as sample size constraints, data collection challenges, or limitations of the chosen analytical techniques.
- Discuss how these limitations might affect the generalizability and validity of the study findings.

While this research aimed to provide valuable insights into customer expectations and satisfaction regarding life insurance in India, several limitations should be acknowledged:-

1. **Sampling Bias:** The study relied on a convenience sampling approach, which may introduce bias and limit the generalizability of the findings. Participants were recruited primarily from specific geographic locations or through certain channels, potentially excluding diverse perspectives.
2. **Response Bias:** The data collected via surveys or interviews may be subject to response bias, where participants provide socially desirable responses or exaggerate their satisfaction levels. This could affect the accuracy of the results and undermine the validity of the study.
3. **Limited Scope:** The research focused primarily on a specific demographic or socioeconomic group, potentially overlooking the experiences and expectations of underrepresented populations. As a result, the findings may not fully capture the heterogeneity of customer preferences and satisfaction levels across different segments of the Indian population.
4. **Self-Reported Data:** The study relied heavily on self-reported data from participants, which may be influenced by memory recall bias or subjective interpretation. Participants' perceptions of their expectations and satisfaction with life insurance products may not always align with their actual behaviors or experiences.
5. **Cross-Cultural Variability:** India is a culturally diverse country with distinct regional, linguistic, and cultural differences. The findings of this study may not fully account for the cross-cultural variability in customer expectations and satisfaction across different states or regions.
6. **Industry Dynamics:** The life insurance industry in India is constantly evolving, with changes in regulatory frameworks, product offerings, and market dynamics. The study's findings may be time-bound and may not reflect the current landscape or emerging trends in the industry.
7. **External Factors:** External factors such as economic conditions, social trends, and technological advancements may influence customer expectations and satisfaction with life insurance services. While efforts were made to control for these factors, their impact on the study outcomes cannot be entirely mitigated.
8. **Data Availability:** The availability and quality of secondary data sources on the Indian life insurance industry may have posed challenges during the research process. Limited access to comprehensive datasets or reliable industry

reports may have affected the depth of the analysis and interpretation of findings.

### Findings

The satisfaction level of the policy holder as per the data collected is very low in comparison to expectation in terms of quality of services provided by selected life insurance companies. Each and every company is trying to offer different products but the product itself is complex by Nature to understand. The highest dissatisfaction occurred in terms of services provided by agents of different life insurance companies in terms of information given by them related with life insurance policy to the policyholders. Marketing strategies play a very important role in business growth and also customer satisfaction towards products. Private players have been giving tough competition to LIC from last decade and that is why LIC also changed the way of their promotion and other related aspects of marketing. As per the analysis companies are trying to offer different products but they are serving same kind of services like that claim, grievances handling, causation of policy etc. there is need to develop rules and regulations for these companies so that they cannot cheat the customer. Claim settlement, premium and free services dimension are kept on top priority of the customers and the marketing strategy model has been developed taking into account dimensions so that customers can be delighted.

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## A study of Health Insurance policy and Healthcare Access system in India

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### Abstract

Access to healthcare services is essential for individuals' well-being, and health insurance plays a pivotal role in ensuring this access by mitigating financial barriers associated with medical expenses. This research paper aims to explore the correlation between health insurance and healthcare access, focusing on the influence of health insurance coverage on individuals' ability to obtain and utilize healthcare services. The paper begins by defining health insurance and underlining its significance in facilitating healthcare access. It then examines various forms of health insurance coverage, including private insurance, government-sponsored programs such as Medicaid and Medicare, and the role of health insurance exchanges in providing access to different insurance plans. Factors affecting individuals' decisions to enrol in health insurance programs, including affordability and eligibility criteria, are also discussed. Furthermore, the paper investigates the impact of health insurance coverage on healthcare access, emphasizing its positive effects on healthcare utilization, preventive care, and overall health outcomes. It also addresses challenges faced by individuals with limited or no insurance coverage, such as difficulties in accessing timely and appropriate care, financial burdens, and disparities in healthcare access and outcomes. Moreover, the paper explores the role of government policies and regulations in shaping health insurance coverage and healthcare access, with a particular focus on examples like the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in the United States.

**Keyword:** Health insurance, healthcare services, individuals, individuals.

### Introduction

Access to healthcare services is a fundamental human right, crucial for the well-being of individuals and communities. Health insurance plays a pivotal role in ensuring access to quality healthcare, as it provides financial protection against the high costs of medical treatment. In this paper, we explore the relationship between health insurance and healthcare access, examining how insurance coverage impacts various aspects of healthcare delivery and utilization.

#### The Importance of Health Insurance

Health insurance serves as a crucial tool in ensuring equitable access to healthcare services. It helps individuals and families mitigate the financial risks associated with illness and injury, ensuring that they can seek necessary medical care without facing catastrophic costs. By spreading the financial burden of healthcare across a larger pool of individuals, health insurance promotes solidarity and social welfare, contributing to the overall health and well-being of society.

#### Health Insurance Models

There are several models of health insurance, each with its own set of features and mechanisms for providing coverage. In countries with a social health insurance model, such as Germany and France, healthcare is funded through

mandatory contributions from employers and employees, ensuring universal coverage. In contrast, countries like the United States rely on a mix of private and public insurance schemes, with varying levels of coverage and accessibility.

#### Barriers to Healthcare Access

Despite the importance of health insurance, many individuals and communities face barriers that limit their access to coverage and care. Economic factors, such as poverty and unemployment, can prevent people from obtaining insurance or seeking medical treatment. Additionally, structural barriers, such as lack of transportation or limited availability of healthcare facilities, can further impede access to care, particularly in rural or underserved areas.

#### Impact of Health Insurance on Healthcare Utilization

Studies have shown that individuals with health insurance are more likely to seek preventive care, receive timely treatment for chronic conditions, and have better health outcomes overall. By removing financial barriers to care, health insurance encourages early intervention and promotes continuity of care, leading to improved health outcomes and reduced healthcare costs in the long term.

### Challenges in Health Insurance Coverage

Despite its benefits, achieving universal health insurance coverage remains a significant challenge in many parts of the world. Inadequate funding, fragmented insurance systems, and lack of political will are some of the factors that hinder efforts to expand coverage and improve access to healthcare services. Addressing these challenges requires a comprehensive approach that involves government intervention, private sector participation, and community engagement.

### Future Directions

As we look to the future, it is essential to prioritize efforts to improve health insurance coverage and enhance healthcare access for all. This includes expanding insurance programs, strengthening healthcare infrastructure, and addressing social determinants of health that contribute to disparities in access and outcomes. By investing in health insurance and healthcare access, we can build a healthier, more equitable society for future generations.

### Objectives of Study

- **To examine the relationship between health insurance coverage and healthcare access:** This objective aims to investigate the association between having health insurance and individuals' ability to access healthcare services.
- **To assess the impact of health insurance on healthcare utilization:** This objective seeks to analyse how health insurance affects the frequency and types of healthcare services utilized by individuals.
- **To evaluate the effectiveness of health insurance in reducing out-of-pocket healthcare expenses:** This objective aims to assess whether health insurance reduces the financial burden on individuals by covering a significant portion of healthcare costs. The study will examine whether insured individuals spend less out-of-pocket on healthcare compared to those without insurance.
- **To analyse the disparities in health insurance coverage and healthcare access:** This objective seeks to identify disparities in health insurance coverage and access to healthcare services based on demographic factors such as income, education, and geography.
- **To investigate the role of government policies in promoting health insurance coverage and improving healthcare access:** This objective aims to examine the impact of government policies such as the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in expanding health insurance coverage and improving healthcare access.
- **To identify barriers to health insurance enrollment and healthcare access:** This objective seeks to identify the obstacles that

prevent individuals from enrolling in health insurance programs and accessing healthcare services.

- **To propose recommendations for improving health insurance coverage and healthcare access:** Based on the findings of the study, this objective aims to suggest strategies for policymakers, healthcare providers, and insurance companies to enhance health insurance coverage and access to healthcare services.

### Hypotheses:

- **Hypothesis 1:** Individuals with health insurance are more likely to seek healthcare services than those without health insurance.
- **Null Hypothesis (H0):** There is no significant difference in the likelihood of seeking healthcare services between individuals with health insurance and those without health insurance.
- **Alternative Hypothesis (H1):** Individuals with health insurance are more likely to seek healthcare services than those without health insurance.
- **Hypothesis 2:** The quality of care received is higher among individuals with health insurance compared to those without health insurance.
- **Null Hypothesis (H0):** There is no significant difference in the quality of care received between individuals with health insurance and those without health insurance.
- **Alternative Hypothesis (H1):** The quality of care received is higher among individuals with health insurance compared to those without health insurance.
- **Hypothesis 3:** Health insurance coverage is associated with higher healthcare utilization rates.
- **Null Hypothesis (H0):** There is no significant association between health insurance coverage and healthcare utilization rates.
- **Alternative Hypothesis (H1):** Health insurance coverage is associated with higher healthcare utilization rates.

### Methodology

This study will employ a quantitative research design to test the hypotheses. Data will be collected through surveys assessing individuals' health insurance status, healthcare-seeking behaviour, quality of care received, and healthcare utilization rates. Statistical analyses, such as chi-square tests and regression analyses, will be conducted to examine the relationships between health insurance and healthcare access variables.

### Expected Results

It is anticipated that individuals with health insurance will be more likely to seek healthcare services, receive higher-quality care, and have higher healthcare utilization rates compared to those

without health insurance. These findings will highlight the importance of health insurance in enhancing healthcare access and will provide valuable insights for policy decisions aimed at expanding health insurance coverage to improve population health outcomes.

### Conclusion

Health insurance plays a critical role in determining access to healthcare services. This study examines the impact of health insurance on healthcare access, focusing on different types of health insurance and their effects on individuals' ability to seek, receive, and utilize healthcare services. The findings will contribute to understanding the effectiveness of health insurance programs in improving healthcare access and will inform policy decisions aimed at enhancing access to care for all individuals.

### Delimitations

- **Geographical Scope:** This research focuses on health insurance and healthcare access within the context of a specific country or region. While global perspectives may offer valuable insights, this study limits its scope to ensure a detailed examination of factors relevant to the chosen area.
- **Time Frame:** The study considers data within a specific time frame to analyze trends and changes over time. By focusing on a defined period, the research aims to provide a snapshot of the relationship between health insurance and healthcare access within this temporal boundary.
- **Type of Health Insurance:** The research focuses on a particular type or types of health insurance, such as public, private, or a combination of both. By delimiting the scope to specific types, the study can analyse the impact of these insurance models on healthcare access.
- **Demographic Factors:** This study considers demographic factors such as age, gender, income, and education level as they relate to health insurance coverage and healthcare access. These factors are crucial in understanding disparities in access to healthcare services.
- **Healthcare System Structure:** The research considers the structure of the healthcare system, including the presence of public and private healthcare providers, as well as the role of government policies and regulations in shaping health insurance and access to care.
- **Healthcare Utilization:** This study focuses on healthcare utilization patterns among individuals with health insurance coverage. By examining utilization rates, the research aims to assess the effectiveness of insurance in facilitating access to care.

### Statistical Operations:

The following statistical operations will be conducted to analyse the data and draw conclusions regarding the relationship between health insurance and healthcare access:

- **Descriptive Statistics:** These statistics will summarize the characteristics of the study population, including their health insurance status, demographics, and healthcare access.
- **Inferential Statistics:** Chi-square tests and regression analysis will examine the association between health insurance coverage and healthcare access, controlling for potential confounding variables.
- **Logistic Regression:** This analysis will assess the likelihood of individuals having access to healthcare services based on their health insurance status, adjusting for demographic and socioeconomic factors.
- **Cluster Analysis:** This analysis will identify distinct groups of individuals with similar healthcare access patterns, helping to identify subgroups facing specific access barriers.
- **Results:** The results of the statistical operations will provide insights into the relationship between health insurance and healthcare access. Findings will identify disparities in healthcare access and inform strategies to improve access among vulnerable populations, contributing to knowledge on health insurance and healthcare access.

### Conclusion

Research on health insurance and healthcare access has yielded invaluable insights into their interconnectedness, shedding light on critical factors such as affordability, coverage, and the influence of insurance on health outcomes. A significant discovery underscores the marked enhancement in healthcare accessibility among individuals possessing health insurance. They exhibit a higher propensity to seek preventive care, access timely treatment, and experience superior health outcomes compared to their uninsured counterparts. This emphasizes the pivotal role of health insurance in bolstering population health and mitigating healthcare disparities. Affordability emerges as a pivotal determinant of healthcare access. High premiums, deductibles, and out-of-pocket expenses can erect formidable barriers for low-income individuals and families. Government subsidies and employer-sponsored initiatives play instrumental roles in rendering health insurance more economically feasible for vulnerable demographics. Coverage represents another cornerstone of effective health insurance. A comprehensive coverage spectrum encompassing preventive care, diagnostic assessments, and chronic condition management is indispensable for ensuring access to high-quality

healthcare. Conversely, restricted coverage or exclusions may engender delayed or inadequate care, precipitating inferior health outcomes. Efforts aimed at expanding health insurance coverage, exemplified by initiatives like the Affordable Care Act (ACA), have yielded commendable outcomes in curtailing the uninsured rate and enhancing care accessibility. Nonetheless, challenges persist, particularly regarding affordability and coverage gaps confronting low-income and marginalized segments of society. Health insurance stands as a linchpin for facilitating healthcare service access. Affordable, all-encompassing coverage serves as a linchpin for fostering population health and attenuating disparities. Endeavours geared towards broadening coverage and enhancing affordability represent indispensable components in the pursuit of universal healthcare access and the amelioration of health outcomes across the societal spectrum.

### Suggestions

#### Enhancing Affordability:

- **Targeted Subsidies:** Governments can provide targeted subsidies to low-income individuals and families.
- **Flexible Cost-Sharing:** Implementing flexible cost-sharing mechanisms, such as sliding-scale co-payments and deductibles based on income, can make health insurance more affordable for a broader range of individuals and families.
- **Expanding Coverage:**
- **Comprehensive Benefits:** Health insurance plans should offer comprehensive coverage, including preventive care, maternity care, mental health services, and coverage for pre-existing conditions.
- **Educational Campaigns:** Governments and insurers can launch educational campaigns to raise awareness about the importance of health insurance.
- **Leveraging Technology:**
- **Telemedicine Services:** Utilizing telemedicine technologies can improve access to healthcare services, especially in remote or underserved areas, by connecting patients with healthcare providers virtually.
- **Mobile Applications:** Developing mobile health (mHealth) apps that provide information about health insurance coverage, benefits, and healthcare providers can help individuals access and utilize their insurance benefits.
- **Promoting Preventive Care:**
- **Incentivizing Prevention:** Providing incentives, such as reduced premiums or discounts, for individuals who participate in preventive care programs can encourage people to prioritize preventive care, ultimately reducing the need for more expensive medical treatments.
- **Health and Wellness Programs:** Implementing health and wellness programs can

help people adopt healthier lifestyles, reducing the prevalence of chronic diseases and the associated healthcare costs.

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## The Impact and Significance of Digital Libraries

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### Abstract:

This paper examines the transformative impact of information and communication technology on the development of digital libraries, particularly within academic in india and globally. It defines digital libraries as electronic repositories that facilitate easy access to a diverse range of materials, including text, images, audio and video. The Paper outlines the primary purposes of digital libraries, emphasizing their role in enhancing information management, promoting equitable access, fostering collaboration among various sectors, and supporting lifelong learning. It discusses the essential functions of digital libraries, such as providing access to primary sources, supporting multimedia content and integrating advanced search capabilities.

**Keywords:** Digital Libraries, Network, Information

### Introduction:

Recent developments in information and communication technology, especially the www, have led to the creation of a growing number of digital libraries in the academic institutions in India as well as worldwide. This new phenomenon is designed to bring a paradigm shift in the ways we create access and use digital content. The design antidevelopment of digital libraries depend on computer, communication and other technical skills, and the dream of successful digital libraries leading to a global digital environment can only be fulfilled when sufficient practitioners have the skills to design, build and manage them. It is also essential reading for students, staff and researchers who need to get a good grasp of issues and developments in their field. Digital library facilities are in academic libraries to keep their users abreast of global development.

### Digital Libraries-Concept:

Digital libraries (DL) basically store of materials in electronic format and manipulated large collection of those materials effectively. Digital library, a global virtual library, is a library of thousands of networked electronic libraries. There will be a vast population of users scattered around the globe, who are able to access, easily and conveniently, the complete contents of thousands of repositories containing texts, images, sound recordings, videos, map, scientific and business data, as well as hypermedia combinations of these element. The library must have a networked based distributed system with local servers responsible for maintaining individual collection digital documents. Digital libraries are bringing a paradigm shift in the ways we as for, use and crate information, and as a result have different individual, institution and

society. The basic characteristic of the digital library is that the information objects are found in collections with association management and support function.

### Purpose of a Digital library

- To speed up the systematic development of the means to collect, store and organize information and knowledge in digital form and digital collection
- To promote the economical and efficient delivery of information to all parts of the society
- To encourage cooperative efforts which cover the considerable investment in resources computing communication and network.
- To strength communication and collaboration between and among the research, business, Govt. and educational communities
- To contribute to the lifelong. Learning opportunities.

### Function of Digital Library

1. Access to primary information sources
2. Support multimedia content along with text
3. Network accessibility on intranet and internet
4. User-friendly interface
5. Client server architecture
6. Advanced search and retrieval
7. Integration with other digital libraries
8. OPAC search
9. Video lecturer

### History of Digitization and Digital Library

Digital library has been in use for the last three decades. Over this time there has been a constant improvement in the technology used by Digital Libraries, In the 1970s Digital Libraries were based on mini computers and they provided the basic services of remote access and online

search and retrieval. By the 1980's information science had progressed to the point where sophisticated information storage and retrieval systems were in operation. Digital Libraries made use of techniques to share bibliographic records and link different remote systems. In the 1990s there has been a revolution in digital library systems. First decade of this century technology has made it possible for digital libraries to include different media objects, such as text, image audio and video. In particular, visual information systems are getting more population as compared to text based information systems.

#### **Digital Library of India**

It is a digital library of books, which are free-to-read, searchable, predominantly in Indian Languages, available to everyone over the internet. Very soon it is expected that this portal would provide a gateway to Indian Digital libraries in science, arts, culture, music, movies, traditional medicine, palm leaves and many more. This project is a collaborating between different Indian Institutes and universities and Carnegie Mellon University under Universal Digital Library Project,

#### **Features of Digital Libraries**

A digital library is popularly viewed as an electronic version of a library where storage output is in digital form. The materials can be obtained through direct combination permits copying from the master version, Without proper education, no one is able to exploit the information available on the network. If users satisfaction is the fore most duty and ultimate challenge before us, we need to work cooperatively and collectively.

No library has sufficient fund to purchase all materials published in the world. Therefore, there should be greater emphasis on resource sharing among library and information centers. A number library information networks have been developed since 1980's to provide effective and efficient library and information services to the users. Before 1924, publications were digitized by Indian Institute of science and made available on their server globally. Recent developments in this field have taken a sea change both at national and international scenario.

#### **Importance of Digital Library**

10. Digital Library brings the library users
11. Computer power is used for searching browsing
12. Information can be shared
13. Information is easier to keep update
14. Information is always available
15. New forms of Information become possible
16. Cost of digital libraries
17. Electronic storage is cheaper
18. Pleasant computer display
19. High speed Network wide spreading
20. Computers have become portable.

#### **Conclusion**

The present Digital libraries represent significant advancements in computer and information technology, online publishing, archiving, and other fields since 1965. An ambitious agenda for research and development in digital libraries was made possible by communities, the internet, and the web. The ambitious goal of digital libraries drew the best academics and professionals. The cost of digitization is also going down daily, and as more publications are published online, users are moving to a new setting. Therefore, now is the ideal moment for all library and information science professionals to prepare for the task of creating digital libraries, particularly in university libraries

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## Impact Assessment of irrigation on Land use in Osmanabad District

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### Abstract:

The effect of irrigation on land use is best understood when the two aspects are Net crop area and double crop area. Net arable land directly involves appropriating other components of land use, sometimes through extended irrigation facilities. Increasing cropping intensity, on the other hand, is only possible through intensive agriculture. An important factor in the development of rural and urban settlements is the availability of water. Proper use of available agricultural resources is essential for balanced economic growth. It is far behind the agro economy and the significant migration of people looking for work. The main objective of this paper is to study the impact assessment of irrigation on land use in Osmanabad district.

**Keywords:** 1. Land utilization, 2. Agriculture, 3. Irrigation, 4. Impact assessment.

### Introduction:

Land use in Osmanabad district is presented, the total geographical area of the district is 751240 hectares. There are spatial differences in the general pattern of land use in the study area. The land is grouped into seven main types of use, namely (1) Area covered by forest (2) Non cultivable land (3) another cultivable land (4) Fallow land (5) Net crop area (6) Double cultivated area (7) Barren land. The effect of irrigation on land use can best be understood when the two aspects are pure and double-crop areas. Net cropland directly involves appropriating other components of land use, sometimes through extended irrigation facilities. Increasing crop intensity, on the other hand, is only possible through intensive agriculture. Therefore, it is also mandatory for irrigation, which is the most basic element of a clean crop area. A direct consequence of this is the disproportion in the extent of the irrigated area, both of which constitute a significant part of the total land use.

### Objective:

To study the Impact assessment of irrigation on Land use in Osmanabad District.

### Database and Methodology:

The present study depends on the secondary data. Collected through census handbook of Osmanabad District, District Statistical Department, Water Resources Department of Osmanabad district, District booklet Showing the Progress and current status of all irrigation schemes of Osmanabad district and socio-economic abstract of

Osmanabad District.

### Study Area:

Osmanabad is one of the 8 districts of the Marathwada region. The district lies between 17° 35' N to 18° 40' North Latitude and 75° 16' E to 76° 40' East longitude situated in the Balaghat plateau region. It has a total geographical area of 7512.4 sq. Km. The district of Osmanabad has the following sub-divisions Osmanabad, Tuljapur, Omerga, Paranda, Kalamb, Boom, Lohara, and Washi. It is bounded by Sholapur District to the South-west, Ahemadnagar to the North West, Beed to the North, Latur to the East and North -East, Bidar & Gulbarga district of Karnataka state to the South.

### Impact assessment of irrigation on Land use 2011 to2021:

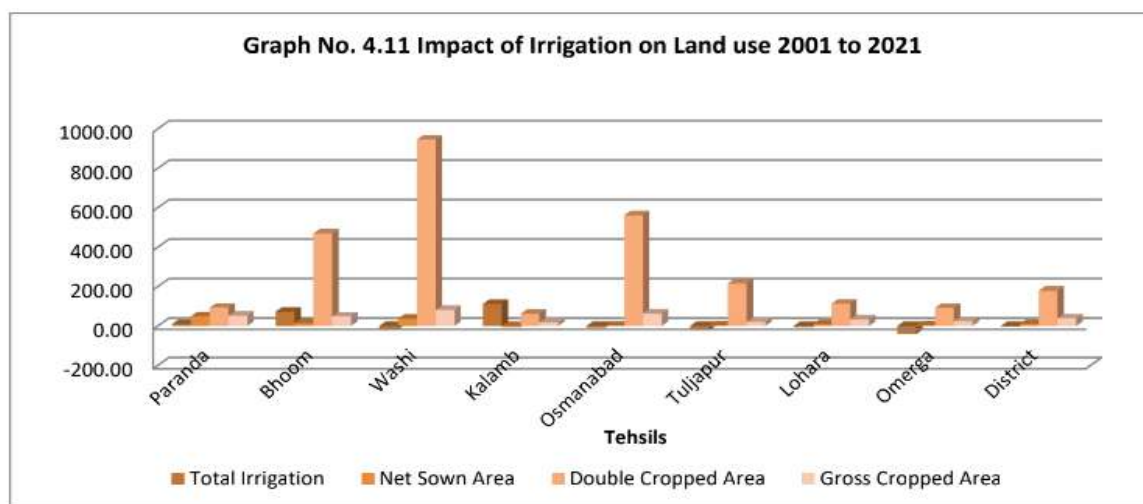
In the years between 2011 to2021 growth rates of total irrigation area were decreased 2.50% and highest growth rates of total irrigation area were increased in Kalamb 111.55% and highest growth rates of total irrigation area were decreased in Omerga 41.21%. In the years between 2011 to2021 growth rates of Net sown area were increased 10.12% and highest growth rates of Net sown area were increased in Paranda 48.77% and highest growth rates of Net sown area were decreased in Kalamb 6.85%. In the years between 2011 to2021 growth rates of Double cropped area were decreased 178.30% and highest growth rates of Double cropped area were increased in Washi 945.27% and highest growth rates of Double cropped area were increased in Kalamb 61.57%.



**Impact assessment of irrigation on Land use 2011 to 2021 in the Osmanabad district**

Tehsils	Total Irrigation	Net Sown Area	Double Cropped Area	Gross Cropped Area
Paranda	9.21	48.77	92.73	51.90
Bhoom	72.20	13.92	468.72	47.91
Washi	-16.51	37.02	945.27	81.43
Kalamb	111.55	-6.85	61.57	18.16
Osmanabad	-8.45	1.51	561.23	62.90
Tuljapur	-23.10	2.79	215.44	20.59
Lohara	-6.99	9.06	112.17	33.05
Omerga	-41.21	3.20	91.48	23.73
District	-2.50	10.12	178.30	38.23

Source: calculated by author from various statistical techniques



In the years between 2011 to 2021 growth rates of Gross cropped area were decreased to 38.23% and highest growth rates of Gross cropped area were increased in the Osmanabad tehsils 62% and highest growth rates of Gross cropped area were decreased in Kalamb tehsils 18.16%.

In the Years of 2011 to 2021 growth rates of total irrigation area were decrease 2.50% but growth rates of net sown area were increased 10.12%, Growth rates of double cropped area were increased 178.30% and growth rates of gross cropped area were increased 38.23%. About growth rates of total irrigation area increase that time net sown area, double cropped area and gross cropped area growth rates are increased but researcher found growth rate of total irrigation were decreased but growth rate of net shown area, double cropped area and gross cropped area were increased that's why researcher search what have behind them that time

researcher found Soyabean is the first rank crop in the specific years Soyabean is short term crop and when Soyabean crop give that time same year second crop definite gave, so total irrigation was decreased but net shown area, double cropped area and gross cropped area are increased.

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## Phytochemical screening and green synthesis of silver nanoparticles from *Cinnamomum verum* crude bark extract: evaluation of cell cytotoxicity and wound healing activity by *in-vitro* methods

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### Abstract

*Cinnamomum verum* is widely cultivated in India for its culinary purposes. The *Cinnamomum verum* spice is ample in medicinally important primary and secondary metabolites because of its active molecules which plays a substantial role in various pharmacological activities. Thus, in this present study an attempt was made to check phyto synthesized nanoparticles and its potentiality against pharmacological activities. To asses this activity Silver nanoparticles were synthesized from *Cinnamomum verum* crude bark extract by phytomediated green synthesis method. In synthesis colour changes from yellow to reddish brown due to Plasmon resonance responses and it was observed during incubation period that indicates the synthesis of AgNPs. The reduction of pure Ag<sup>+</sup> ions was monitored by measuring the UV-Vis spectrum at 540nm which exhibit sharp peak confirming the synthesis of AgNPs. The synthesized AgNPs were subjected to different physical characterization, which includes TEM, XRD and FTIR, analysis showed silver nanoparticles illustrates that they are in oval shape with less than average size of about 20- 100 nm. In XRD studies reveals that presence of crystalline nanoparticles average size about 40-50nm, and also FTIR spectrum analysis of the Synthesized AgNPs showed significant functional group with exhibited 8 intense bands at ~3323, ~2944, ~2832, ~1639, ~1449, ~1413, ~1114 and ~618 cm<sup>-1</sup> respectively. The current study, focused on Cell cytotoxicity (MTT assay) and Invitro Wound healing property by scratch assay revealed that L929 cell lines were treated with 100µg/ml AgNPs for 24hrs. The result indicated that AgNPs induced the migration of L929 cells resulting in wound closure and results were compared with the standard-drug ascorbic acid as reference and results were observed under inverted microscopically. Further studies of this synthesized AgNPs of *Cinnamomum verum* regarding its bioactive compounds and their molecular mechanism may lead to formation of industrially important valuable drug in future days.

**Keywords:** *Cinnamum verum*, AgNPs, TEM, XRD, FTIR, L929 Cell lines.

### Introduction

Nowadays nanotechnology is a multidisciplinary science of tailoring the nanosized particles at the atomic level to reach their unique properties and which are used in many biomedical applications [1]. Nanoscience and nanotechnology is the interdisciplinary branch that measures at the nanoscale from 1-100 nm size particles [2]. Based on structural configuration nanoparticles are broadly classified into metal (Gold, Silver, copper, titanium, magnesium, zinc and alginate) and metal oxide (Silver, zinc, titanium, copper and iron oxides) nanoparticles. Among all the nanoparticles the silver nanoparticles has a increasing interest due to their high thermal conductivity, plasmonic property, chemical stability and antibacterial activity [3]. The productions of nanoparticle involves the use of hazardous chemicals and use of low material

conversions and also very high energy is required, hence a growing need to the development of an eco-friendly production of nanoparticles without using hazardous chemicals is gaining importance. So switching on to the Biosynthesis production of nanoparticle are either by their use of plants extracts or by microorganisms paramount needy in the present scenario. Among these natural sources Fabrication of nanoparticles from plants extracts has gained attention because it is eco-friendly protocol and provides a one-step technique for biosynthesis process [4]. And comparatively to physical and chemical synthesis, the green synthesis of nanoparticles is more beneficial as these are less toxic, easy, inexpensive, uses less energy and can be operates under moderate operating conditions. For a synthesis of AgNPs numerous characterization procedures (UV-Vis, FTIR, XRD, SEM, TEM-EDX

and DLS) have been employed to inspecting information regarding the source, shape, size and properties of AgNPs with respect to various applications [5, 6]. Since from several decades plants drugs are derived from the whole plant body or from different organs of plant like, stem, leaves, bark, root, flower, fruit, seed etc., some drugs are prepared from excretory plants products such as gum, resins and latex. According to the WHO (world health organization), as many as 80% of the world's population depend on the traditional medicine for their primary health care needs and *Cinnamomum verum* has important role because of their bioactive components. Basically *Cinnamomum verum* is native to the Indian subcontinent, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Pakistan, most specifically Sri Lanka. Cinnamon originated in Sri Lanka, where it acquired one of its common names, Ceylon Cinnamon (Ceylon was Sri Lanka's former name). But this can also be grown commercially in areas like Brazil, Java, Madagascar, Vietnam, West Indies, or Zanzibar. The tree is distributed across the South eastern hemisphere and close to the equator.

The *Cinnamomum verum* tree grows to around 10 m (30 ft), and has leathery leaves, usually opposite, that are lanceolate to ovate, 11 to 16 cm (4.5 to 6.25 in) long, with pointed tips. According to several reports the principle constituents *Cinnamomum verum* bark contains up to 4% of essential oil consisting primarily of cinnamaldehyde (60-75%), cinnamyl acetate (1-5%), eugenol (1-10%),  $\beta$ -caryophyllene (1-4%), linalool (1-3%) and 1,8-cineole (1-2%). Other constituents are oligo polymeric pro-cyanidins, cinnamic acid, phenolic acids, pentacyclic di-terpenes cinnzeylanol and its acetyl derivative cinnzeylanine and the sugars mannitol, L-arabino-D-xylanose, L-arabinose, D-xylose,  $\alpha$ -D-glucane as well as mucilage polysaccharides [7]. *Cinnamomum verum* has been used as a culinary spice and in traditional herbal medicine for centuries. Cinnamon has anti-inflammatory, anti-microbial, anti-oxidant, anti-tumor, cardio vascular, cholesterol-lowering, and immunodulatory effects [8]. Several reports says that phytochemical screening is used to determine the presence of natural products (secondary metabolites) i.e., alkaloids, steroids, flavonoids, saponins, protein, tannins and polyphenols, and glycosides which may be responsible for their therapeutic effects These primary and secondary metabolites are constantly involved in the redox reaction to synthesize eco-friendly nanosized particles.

The phytochemical are important in human this is because they display different biological activities such as antioxidant, antifungal, antibacterial, anticancer activities [9]. Cinnamon ethanolic extract has wound-healing properties in mice. For 14 days, the mice were given either 1.5

percent or 3 percent cinnamon extract .The results revealed that 3 percent cinnamon extract had potent wound-healing properties [10].Recent estimations show that approximately 6 million people suffer from chronic wounds worldwide [11]. In a study by Fronza *et al.*, The wound healing activity of *H.perforatum* oil was investigated by cell scratch assay using the 3T3 mouse fibroblast cell line. They found that the prepared oil was cytotoxicity at concentrations higher than 0.5 $\mu$ g/ml. However, wound healing activity of *H. perforatum* was shown by *in vivo* wound models and suggested it to be a potent natural wound healing Product.

Present days problem concern with Diabetes mellitus is an increasingly prevalent chronic metabolic disease characterized by prolonged hyperglycemia that leads to long-term health consequences. It is estimated that impaired healing of diabetic wounds affects approximately 25% of all patients with diabetes mellitus, often resulting in lower limb amputation, with subsequent high economic and psychosocial costs. The hyperglycemic environment promotes the formation of biofilms and makes diabetic wounds difficult to treat with present available drugs [12]. In the present context we focused primarily on phytochemical screening of *Cinnamomum verum* and also crude bark powder was utilized for rapid and single step protocol preparatory method with green principles over the conventional synthesis of nanomaterial and also aims to describe the cell cytotoxicity and wound healing properties of silver nano-particles.

## Material and methods

### Collection of plant material and Identification

The bark of *Cinnamomum verum* plant was collected from local market Raichur, and brought to the laboratory. Further selected bark material was authenticated by Department of Botany Raichur University Raichur.

### Extract preparation

The *C. verum* bark was dried and ground to fine powder and successively extracted by hot Soxhlet extraction method by using the solvents with increasing polarity like Petroleum ether, Chloroform, Methanol, Aqueous. The obtained extract was kept for drying at 60°C and sample was stored at 4°C until further use (Fig. 1).

### Phytochemical screening

The obtained *C. verum* bark extracts were successfully screened for the presence of primary and secondary metabolites by following standard procedures to identify constituents, as described by [13,14] with slight modifications shown in (Fig. 2., Table 1).

### Qualitative analysis of primary metabolites

### Physico-chemical analysis

**Extractive value:** The extractive values are useful for evaluation of crude drugs and give an idea about

the nature of chemical constituents present within [Table 2, 3]. The extractive value is measured by the Equation (1).

Extractive value =  $\frac{\text{Weight of extract}}{\text{Weight of Powder}} \times 100$

(1)

**Ash value:** The ash is particularly important in the evaluation of purity of drugs, i.e. the presence or absence of foreign organic matter such as metallic salts and/or silica. The total ash value of plant material indicated the amount of minerals and earthy materials attached to the plant material. Ash value was carried out by standard method with slight modifications [12].

**Water soluble ash:** The ash was taken and boiled in 10ml of water in a crucible for 5min. The insoluble matter was collected on an ash less filter paper. The weight of insoluble matter was subtracted from the weight of ash.

**Acid insoluble ash:** The remaining half amount of ash was boiled for 5 min with 10ml of 10% BCL Ash was filtered by Whatman filter paper. The weight of insoluble matter was subtracted from the weight of ash. Ash value is calculated by using the Equation (2).

Ash value =  $\frac{\text{Initial Weight} - \text{Final weight}}{\text{Initial weight}} \times 100$

(2)

### Green Synthesis of Silver nanoparticles

Silver nanoparticles synthesis was carried out by green synthesis method with slight modifications. The *C. verum* powder was boiled in 100ml of distilled water for 15minutes and filtered by Whatman filter paper (Qualitative Fltr Paper, CFP1, 1.5cm, PK500). The 20ml of filtered supernatant was dissolved in 90 ml of distilled water, the aqueous solution of 1M Silver nitrate ( $\text{AgNO}_3$ , Sigma Aldrich, St. Louis, USA) was prepared in de-ionized water and used for the synthesis of silver nanoparticles. Prepared 1mm silver nitrate ( $\text{AgNO}_3$ ) was added to solution and incubated for 24 hrs and control (without silver nitrate as negative control). Preliminary detection of AgNPs (silver nanoparticles) was carried out by visual observation of color change (yellow to reddish brown colour) due to their Plasmon resonance phenomenon. In the Final step, the samples were centrifuged at 1000rpm for 10 min for 3-4times in deionised water to remove the other impurities such as cell debris, the obtained purified precipitate dried in watch glass and stored at 4°C. Further utilized for different Physical Characterization that reveals the insights of synthesized Nanoparticles [14].

### Characterization of Silver nanoparticles

The synthesized Silver Nanoparticles were characterized by using different techniques including UV-Visible Spectroscopy, Transmission

Electron Microscopy (TEM) and X-ray Diffraction (XRD) and FTIR analysis.

**UV-Visible spectroscopy:** The reduction of silver ions in the colloidal solution was confirmed and analyzed by UV spectrum of 1ml aliquot sample in quartz cuvette by using UV-Visible spectroscopy and observed for wavelength scanning between 200-1100 nm with distilled water as a reference.

**Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) and XRD analysis:** This method was used to identify the shape and structure of the *Cinnamomum verum* assisted silver nanoparticle and the wavelength of synthesis of silver nanoparticles [15]. TEM was conducted utilising a transmission electron microscope (Techni-G2-300kV). Using distilled water, AgNPs were loaded on the carbon coated copper grid and dried. The TEM analysis predominantly confirmed the size and morphology of the AgNPs [16].

**X-ray diffraction (XRD) dimension:** The crystallographic structure of purified AgNPs was detected using an XRD spectrum. A thin layer of AgNPs was applied on a carbon-coated copper grid and examined by using an X-ray diffractometer (X'Pert-Pro) operated with  $\text{Cu K}\alpha$  radiation and a current of 40-30 mA. The scanning was done in the region of  $2\theta$  from  $10^\circ$  to  $80^\circ$  [17].

**Analysis of Functional group by FTIR:** FTIR (Bruker) was used for identifying functional groups and the types of chemical bonds that were present in AgNPs. Dried powders of *C. verum* AgNPs were used for FT-IR analysis. Where 10mg of the dried synthesized AgNPs powder was encapsulated in 100 mg of KBr pellet, in order to prepare the translucent disc (3 mm diameter). The powdered sample was loaded in FT-IR, with a scan range from 400 to 4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  with a resolution of 4  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . [18].

### Cytotoxicity studies through MTT assay

#### Cell line preparation

The Mouse fibroblast cell lines (L929, ATCC CCL-1) were obtained from American Type Culture Collection (ATCC). The Fibroblasts were grown in DMEM (Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium), incorporated with FBS (fetal bovine serum) and antibiotics (penicillin and streptomycin). For cellular proliferation, cell cultures were incubated in a humidified atmosphere with 5%  $\text{CO}_2$  at 37 °C.

#### MTT assay

The reduction of tetrazolium salts is now widely accepted as a reliable way to examine cell proliferation. The yellow tetrazolium MTT (3-(4, 5-dimethylthiazolyl-2)-2, 5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide) is reduced by metabolically active cells, in part by the action of dehydrogenase enzymes, to generate reducing equivalents such as NADH and NADPH. The resulting intracellular purple

formazan can be solubilized and quantified by spectrophotometric means. The assay measures the cell proliferation rate and conversely, when metabolic events lead to apoptosis or necrosis, the reduction in cell viability.

**MTT Assay (3-(4, 5-dimethylthiazolyl-2)-2, 5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide):** Cell cytotoxicity of biosynthesized silver nanoparticles on L929 cells were assessed by using MTT assay and the percentage viability of L929 cells was calculated. Concentration of AgNPs needed to inhibit cell growth by 50% (CTC<sub>50</sub>) values was generated from the dose-response curves. MTT assay an end point based approach, which represents the concentration dependent toxicity of nanoparticles on L929 cells with various concentrations (50, 100, 150, 200 and 250µg/ml for AgNPs) by measuring the absorbance using a microplate reader at a wavelength of 570 nm and also at 630 nm. The percentage growth inhibition was calculated and cell cytotoxicity effect was measured, after subtracting the background and the blank, and concentration of test drug [19].

#### **In-vitro wound healing activity by scratch assay**

In a scratch healing assay, a wound gap in a cell monolayer is created by scratching, and the healing of this gap by cell migration and growth towards the centre of the gap is monitored and often quantified. Factors that alter the motility and/or growth of the cells can lead to increased or decreased rate of healing of the gap. This assay is simple, inexpensive and experimental conditions can be easily adjusted for different purposes.

The L929 cells were trypsinized and aspirated into a 5ml centrifuge tube. Cell pellet was obtained by centrifugation at 300 x g. The cell count was adjusted, using DMEM medium, To each well of the 12 well plate, 1ml DMEM media containing 100µl of the cell suspension was added and the plate was incubated at 37°C and 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere for 24 h to reach ~100% confluence as a monolayer, without changing the medium.

Gently and slowly a scratch was made on the monolayer with a new 200µl pipette tip across the centre of the well. While scratching across the surface of the well, the long-axial of the tip should always be perpendicular to the bottom of the well. The resulting gap distance therefore equals to the outer diameter of the end of the tip. The gap distance can be adjusted by using different types of tips. Scratch a straight line in one direction. After scratching gently washed the well twice with medium to remove the detached cells. The cells were washed twice with 1x PBS. Further replenished the well with fresh medium and PBS was aspirated. 25µl of different test concentrations from stock of test drugs were added to the respective wells with 1ml of fresh medium. The photos of scratched monolayer were taken at different time

intervals 0hrs, 12hrs and 24 hrs with subsequent incubation the plate at 37°C and 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere for 24h of time intervals. The gap distance can be quantitatively evaluated using MagVision Software by measurement calibration at 4X resolution [20]. Rate of Migration was calculated using below Equation (3).

Percentage of wound closure =  $\frac{\text{Initial wound diameter} - \text{Final diameter}}{\text{Initial diameter}} \times 100$

(3)

## **Results and discussion**

### **Phytochemical analysis**

The phytochemical screening was carried out by *Cinnamomum verum* bark extracts with four different solvents with respect to increasing polarity and solvents were used, Petroleum ether, Chloroform, Methanol and Distilled water [Fig. 1]. According to [21] the *Cinnamomum verum* has showed the presence of various volatiles substances in the entire plant, therefore the presence of various volatiles in the whole plant of present study the phytochemical study while analyzing indicated the presence of various primary and secondary metabolites like carbohydrates, proteins, amino acids, phenols, flavonoids, steroids, tannins and alkaloids [22]. Several study reported that the spicy taste and fragrance are due to the presence of cinnamaldehyde and occur to the absorption of oxygen. As cinnamon ages, it darkens in color, improving the resinous compounds. The presence wide range essential oils, such as trans-cinnamaldehyde, cinnamyl acetate, eugenol, L-borneol, caryophyllene oxide.

In our study the phytochemical screening of *Cinnamomum verum bark extracts*. The ethanolic extract shown the presence of all necessary primary and secondary metabolites which were carbohydrates, proteins, alkaloids, phenols, flavonoids, tannins, saponins, oils and fats and glycosides respectively. And aqueous extract also revealed the presence of carbohydrate, proteins, phenols, saponins, tannins and glycoside while chloroform and Petroleum ether extracts shown the less presence phytochemicals. In the present study data revealed that methanolic extract showed highest presence of the secondary metabolites constituents compared with other solvents chloroform, Petroleum ether, Aqueous extract due to their solubility pattern (Fig. 2 & Table 2).

### **Physicochemical properties analysis**

The extractive value determined the amount of active constituents present in *C.verum* bark solvent extracts in our study the highest extractive value was determined in the methanol extract obtained at 8.15 %. As compared to other solvents like chloroform (4.45%), Aqueous (5.16%), and lowest extractive value obtained in petroleum ether (2.10%) Table 1. The ash remaining following

ignition of medicinal plant materials is determined by three different methods which measure total ash, acid-insoluble ash and water ash water-soluble ash. The total ash method is designed to measure the total amount of material remaining after ignition. This includes both “physiological ash”, which is derived from the plant tissue itself, and “non-physiological” ash, which is the residue of the extraneous matter (e.g. sand and soil) adhering to

the plant surface. Acid- insoluble ash is the residue obtained after boiling the total ash with dilute hydrochloric acid, and igniting the remaining insoluble matter. This measures the amount of silica present, especially sand and siliceous earth (WHO,1998). So the present investigation experiment was carried out to determine the total ash, water soluble ash, and acid-insoluble ash and it was like, 3.6%, 3.88% and 5.54%.

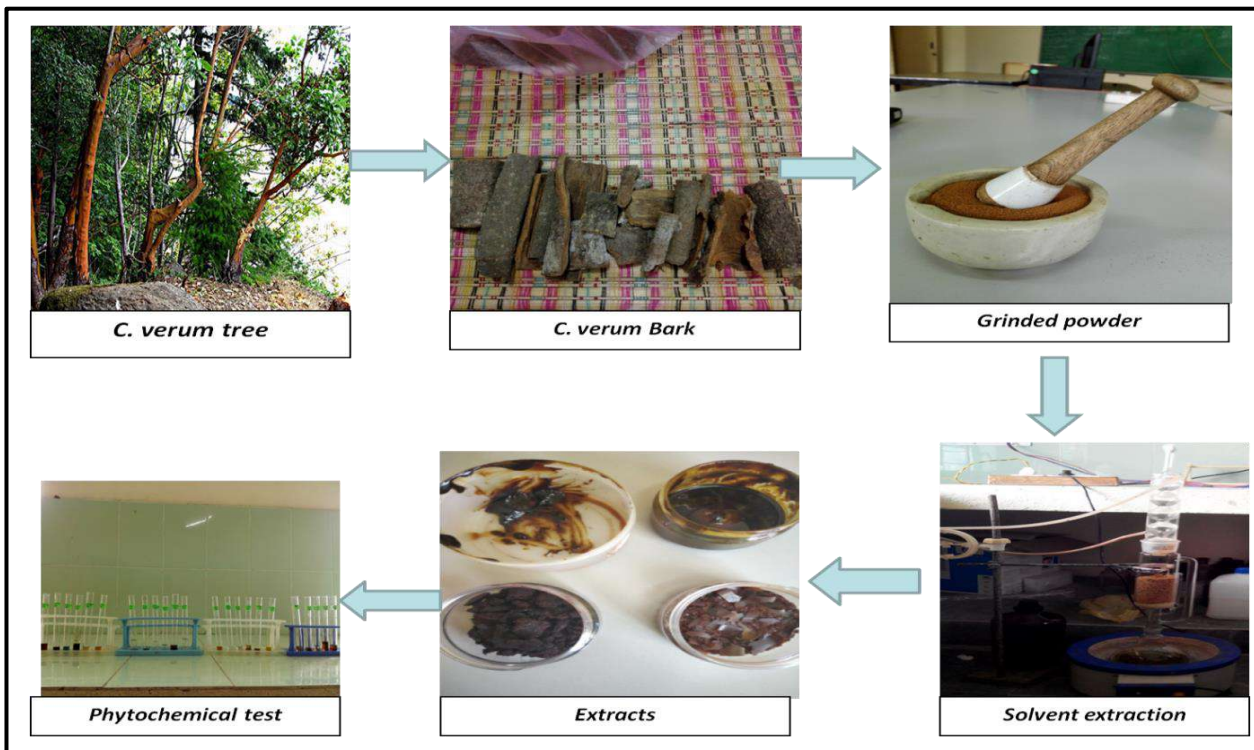


Fig. 1.Collection of *C.verum* bark powder and extraction of phytocompounds by soxhlet apparatus.

Table1. Extractive value of solvent extracts of *C.verum*.

Solvent types	Drypowder taken (gm)	Extract obtained (gm)	Extractive value (%)
Petroleum ether	200	4.21	2.1
Chloroform	200	8.9	4.45
Methanol	200	17.94	8.15%
Aqueous	200	11.1	5.16%



Fig.2. Phytochemical screening of *C.verum* extracts.

Gulappagouda Ramanagouda, M.B Sulochana, Prabhurajeshwar, Ganesh Nayak, Nagarjuna Dalbanjan, Sachin B.H

**Table 2.** Qualitative analysis of phytoconstituents of *C. verum* bark extract. Phytochemical screening of *C. verum* bark extract and highest metabolites were recorded in methanol extract as compared to other solvent extracts.

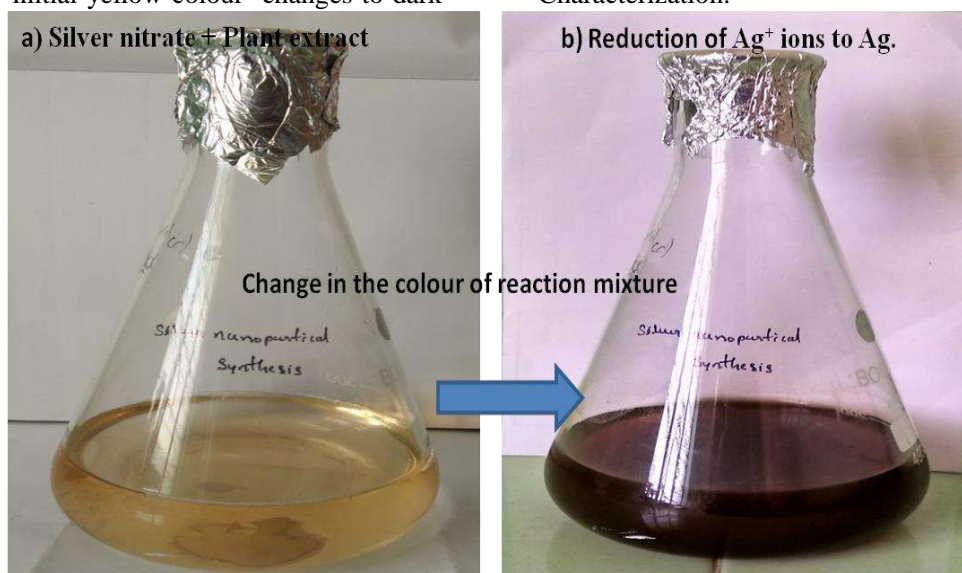
Phytochemical screening	Petroleum ether	Methanol	Chloroform	Aqueous
Carbohydrates	+	+	-	+
Proteins	-	+	-	+
Oils and Fats	+	+	++	-
Phenols	-	++	-	+
Flavonoids	-	+	-	-
Steroids	+	-	+	-
Saponins	-	+	-	+
Tannins	-	+	-	+
Glycosides	-	+	+	+

(+ indicates presence of phytoconstituents, ++ indicates present in high quantity of phytoconstituents, - indicates absence of the phytoconstituents)

### Green synthesis of Silver Nanoparticles from *C. verum* bark extract

The use of natural products as a source of reagents for nanoparticles synthesis is defined as green synthesis [23]. In present study silver nanoparticles are successfully synthesized from green synthesis method. During exposure to *Cinnamomum verum* bark extract sample with silver nitrate (precursor), the reduction of metal ions into Nanoparticles ( $Ag^+$  to  $Ag^0$ ) was monitored as a result of this initial yellow colour changes to dark

reddish brown colour after certain duration of incubation at 24hrs and the reaction was maintained optimized with condition. Due to the presence of some of the metabolites like carbohydrates, proteins and phenolic which acts as reducing and capping agents for the synthesis of Silver nanoparticles in the *C. verum* bark extract and this phenomenon known as Surface Plasmon Resonance (Fig. 3.a,b). Further synthesized dark reddish brown colour precipitate employed for various Physical Characterization.



**Fig 3 (a,b).** Green Synthesis of silver nanoparticles from *C. verum* bark extract.

### Characterization of Synthesized AgNPs Ultraviolet-visible spectroscopy (UV-Vis)

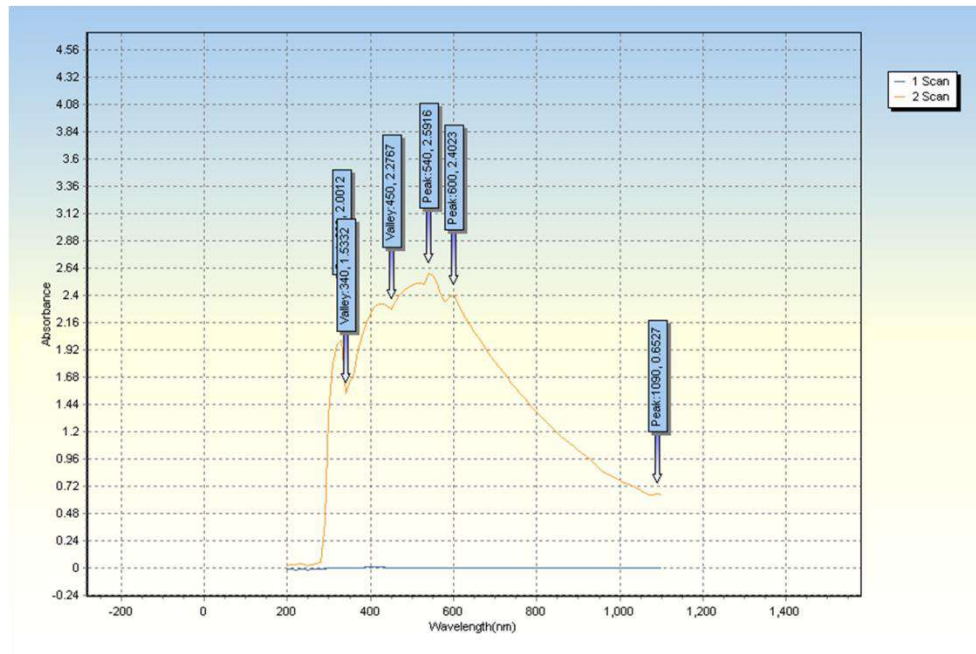
Ultraviolet and visible (UV-Vis) absorption spectroscopy is the measurement of the attenuation of a beam of light after it passes through a sample or after reflection from a sample surface. Absorption measurements can be at a single wavelength or over an extended spectral range –VIS. In our study the spectrophotometer was used Chemito UV Scan 2600 (Thermo Fisher) and the software was Spectrum™ Version 6.87. Absorbance spectra were recorded over the range of 200-1100nm.

Synthesized AgNPs was analysed during the analysis a sharp peak band was observed at 540 nm (Fig. 4.) which is the characteristic peak indication for Silver Nanoparticles thus giving a partial confirmation that Silver Nanoparticles are synthesized This band was a signal for formation of oval shape nanoparticles in a reaction solution.

Previous studies suggested that a surface plasmon resonance peak located between 410 and 450 nm exists for AgNPs and could be attributed to spherical shaped nanoparticles [24].

**Gulappagouda Ramanagouda, M.B Sulochana, Prabhurajeshwar, Ganesh Nayak, Nagarjuna Dalbanjan, Sachin B.H**



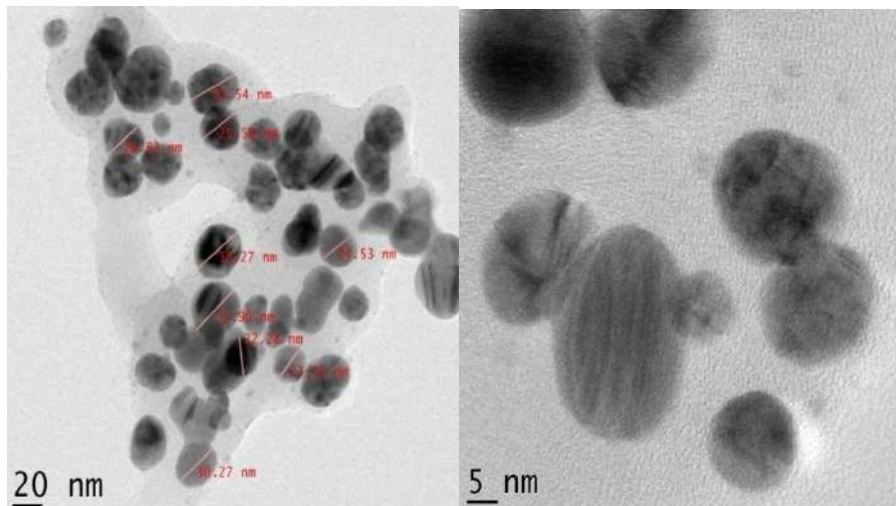


**Fig. 4.** Graphical representation of UV-Spectrum analysis, a sharp peak was observed at 540nm (AgNPs).

#### Transmission Electron Microscopy

In the present study TEM was employed to analyze the size and shape of the formed nanoparticles from *C.verum* bark extract, from below figure and images it can be inferred that green synthesized AgNPs were oval in shape and largely uniform. The nanoparticles were not in direct contact even within the aggregates and were surrounded by thin layer of organic material (phenolic compounds coating), indicating

stabilization of the nanoparticles by a capping agent. TEM image of silver nanoparticles illustrates that they are in oval shape with less than average size of about 20-100 nm (**Fig. 5**). The earlier report suggested that Transmission electron microscopy of synthesized silver nanoparticles from *Senna auriculata* plant have spherical shape [25] and *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* have rod, triangle, and quasi-spherical shapes [26].



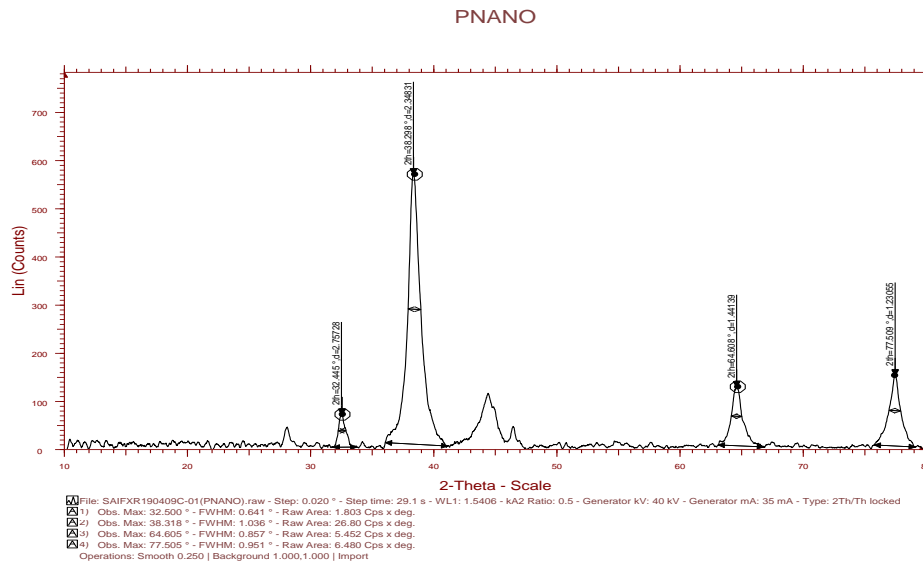
**Fig.5.** TEM images of Green synthesized AgNPs.

#### XRD analysis

In the XRD analysis synthesized AgNPs nature of the structure was confirmed by the spectra record in a Phillips Xpert Pro Diffractometer running at 40 kV and 30 mA. The diffracted intensities were recorded and the Calculation was performed with the help of instanano.com site, which showed the presence of crystalline

nanoparticle of size 40nm to 50nm (**Fig. 6**). In their previous reported by [27] the XRD analyses are used to confirm the formation of nanoparticles and determine their crystal structure. In addition, this technique has been used to calculate the crystalline nanoparticle size and measure the degree of crystalline.

**Gulappagouda Ramanagouda, M.B Sulochana, Prabhurajeshwar, Ganesh Nayak, Nagarjuna Dalbanjan, Sachin B.H**



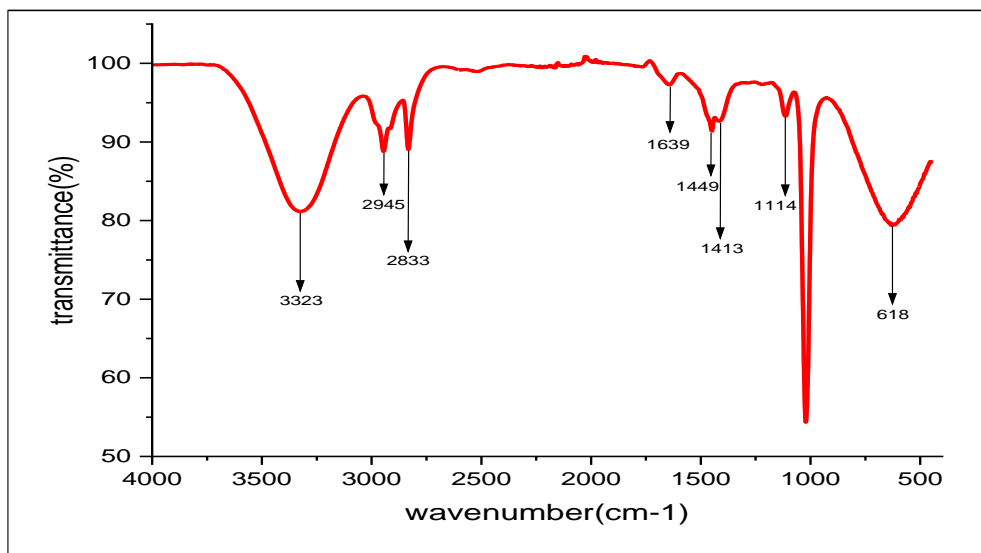
**Fig.6.** XRD analysis graph of Green synthesized AgNPs.

### Identification of functional groups by FT-IR Spectroscopy

FTIR spectroscopy was used to characterize the chemical surface of the nanoparticles as well as to determine the functional groups responsible for the reduction of ion, in production of nanoparticles by microbes and plants. The FTIR spectral data reveals two types of vibrations (i.e. stretching and bending) in the wavelength range of 4,000 to 500  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Mainly, FTIR analysis was used for the detection of potential interactions between metals and carbohydrates, proteins and secondary metabolites that are involved in NPs formation [28]. Because of these reasons, now currently all researchers are routinely using FTIR in nanoparticles characterization.

In this present study revealed that FTIR spectrum measurements of the biosynthesized AgNPs of *Cinnamomum verum* bark extract showed 7 intense bands at  $\sim 3323$ ,  $\sim 2944$ ,  $\sim 2832$ ,  $\sim 1639$ ,

$\sim 1449$ ,  $\sim 1413$ ,  $\sim 1114$  and  $\sim 618$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$  respectively (Fig. 7). The spectra exhibited a broad peak located at  $\sim 3323\text{cm}^{-1}$ , which can be assigned to the -OH stretching vibrations indicating presence of free Hydroxyl groups, Phenol, Alcohol groups. Less intense peak at  $\sim 2944$ ,  $\sim 2832\text{cm}^{-1}$  could be assigned presence of alkenes and -CH Stretching vibrations, -COOH, Carboxylic acid group. The strong band at  $\sim 1639\text{cm}^{-1}$  attributed as Amide groups. The band at  $\sim 1449\text{cm}^{-1}$  assigned as Alkanes groups. The bands at  $\sim 1413$ ,  $\sim 1114$ ,  $\sim 612\text{cm}^{-1}$  indicated that presence of C-O/C-H bending, C-O groups and Halogen Group. The spectrum supports the presence of all the Functional groups in the synthesized AgNPs (Table 3) and also data explored that presence of all functional group are responsible for reducing and capping agents for synthesizing the silver nanoparticles from *C.verum* bark extract.



**Fig. 7.** FT-IR Spectrum analysis of Green synthesized AgNPs from *C.verum* bark extract.

**Table 3.**FT-IR Spectrum peak and functional groups of AgNPs.

Peak No.	Wave No.Cm <sup>-1</sup>	Bonding	Functional groups
1	3315	-OH	Free-OH, Phenol, Alcohol
2	2944	-CH	Alkenes
3	2832	-CH	-COOH, Carboxylic acid
4	1639	C-O	Amide
5	1449	C-H stretches	Alkaanes
6	1413	C-O C-H bending	C-O C-H bending
7	1114	C-O	C-O Glycosidic linkage
8	618	Cis C-H	Halogen group

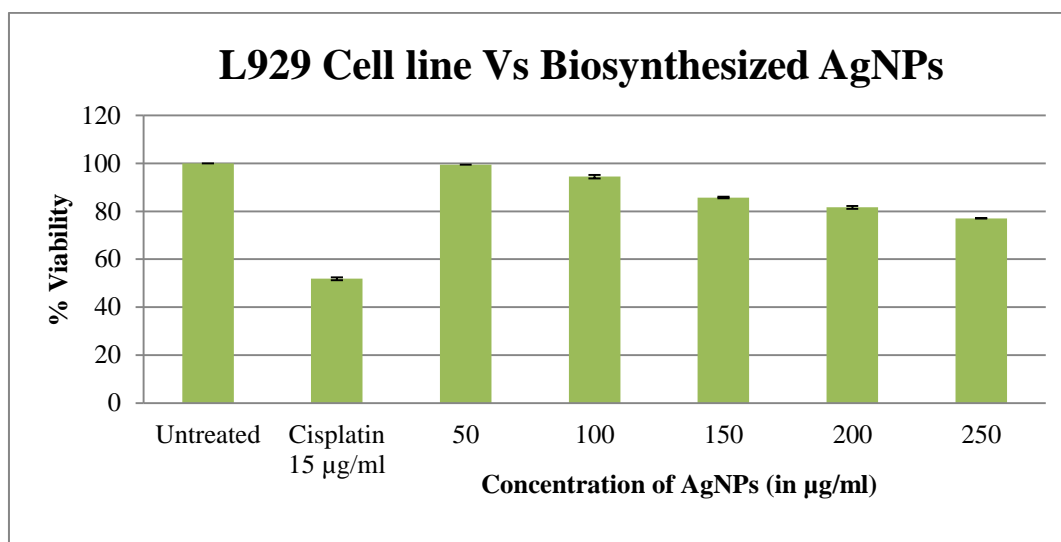
**Cytotoxicity activity (MTT Assay)**

Cytotoxicity effect of *C. verum* based biosynthesized AgNPs on L929 cells was assessed by MTT assay. The cells were exposed to different concentrations of 50, 100, 150, 200, 250 in µg/ml of test compound for 24hrs and Cisplatin used as standard comparative studies, and the cytotoxicity effect of the extract was evaluated. The percentage viability of L929 cells at the lowest (50 µg/mL) and highest (250 µg/mL) treated concentration of Biosynthesized AgNPs was observed to be 99.44% and 77.01% cell viable in nature. The IC<sub>50</sub> value of the extract on L929 cell line was calculated and is obtained to be 476.58µg/ml. The concentrations of AgNPs was used for treatment and their corresponding percentage cell viability were tabulated in (Table 4 & 5) and

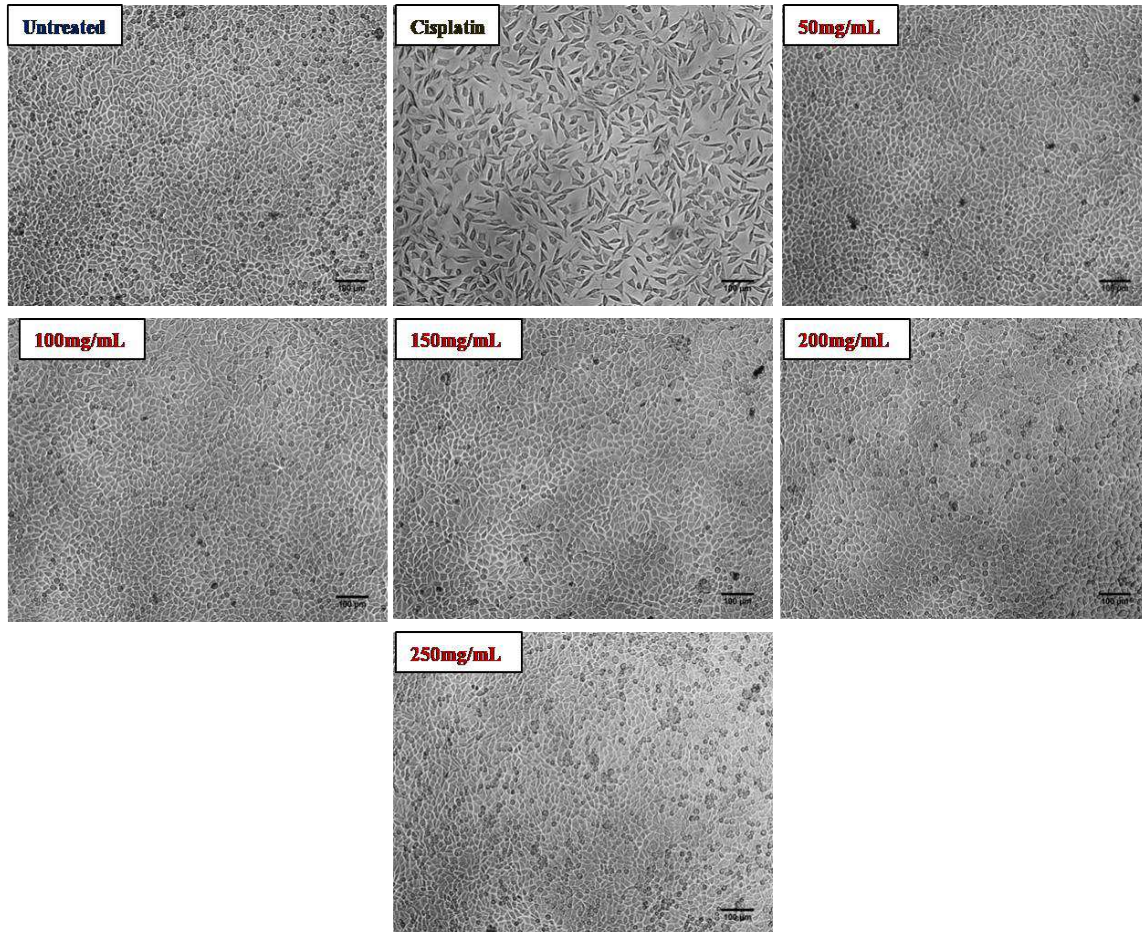
represented in (Fig. 8,9). These results indicated that the *C.verum* bark extract synthesized AgNPs shown less cytotoxicity and less Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS), hence could be assessed for their medicinal properties. Previous study of Tuba [29] reports on cytotoxicity revealed that AgNPs that were synthesized using plant extracts were non-toxic against L929 mouse fibroblast cells. There are different factors such as dose, charge, shape and size of nanoparticles that effect the cellular response which is directly related to the cellular cytotoxicity. According to Moadab *et al.*, the cellular toxicity effect of AgNPs is probably due to the interactions of intracellular bio molecules and silver atoms. It has also been recorded that biogenic NPs caused lower cytotoxicity when compared to silver ions or commercial AgNPs.

**Table 4.** Percentage of L929 cell viability v/s Biosynthesized AgNPs.

	Untreated	Cisplatin Std.drug (15µg/ml)	Test concentrations of AgNPs (in µg/ml)				
			50	100	150	200	250
% Cell viability	100	51.85	99.44	99.43	85.74	81.63	77.01

**Fig. 8.** Effect of Biosynthesized AgNPs on L929 Cells viability & AgNPs exhibited less cytotoxicity on cell lines.**Table 5.** The IC<sub>50</sub> value of the AgNPs for L929 cell-line

Sample	L929 cell line IC <sub>50</sub> (in µg/ml) 24hr
AgNPs	476.58µg/ml



**Fig. 9.** Cell cytotoxicity of AgNPs on L929 cell line.

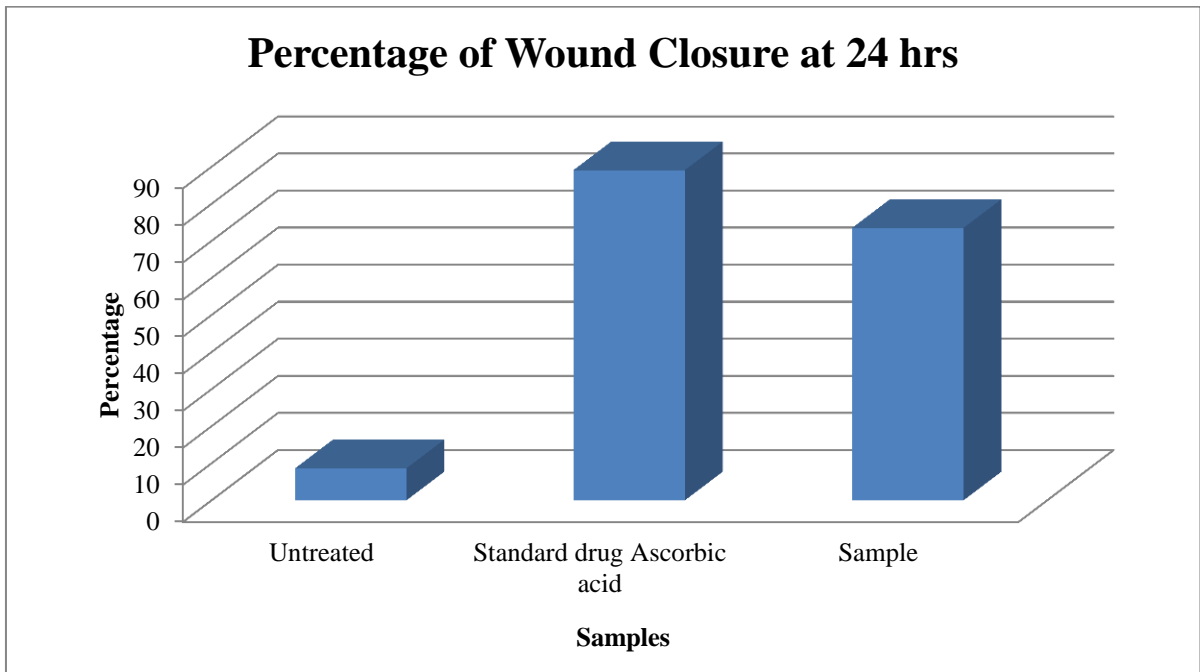
#### Wound healing activity by scratch method

Treating chronic wounds becomes a major concern around the world. The proper healing of chronic wounds depends on the efficacy of the therapeutic agent. The activation, proliferation and migration of fibroblasts are the primary steps in wound healing, where multiple cell types and other micro environmental factors are involved. Scratch assay is a widely applied *In vitro* technique for understanding the wound healing capabilities of medicinally important compounds [30]. Wound infections that are caused by opportunistic pathogenic microorganism and diabetic conditions have been presenting a problematic issue for healthcare practices, so there is need of combining the AgNPs with biomaterials are promising solutions for enhanced wound healing management. In the present investigation L929 cell lines were

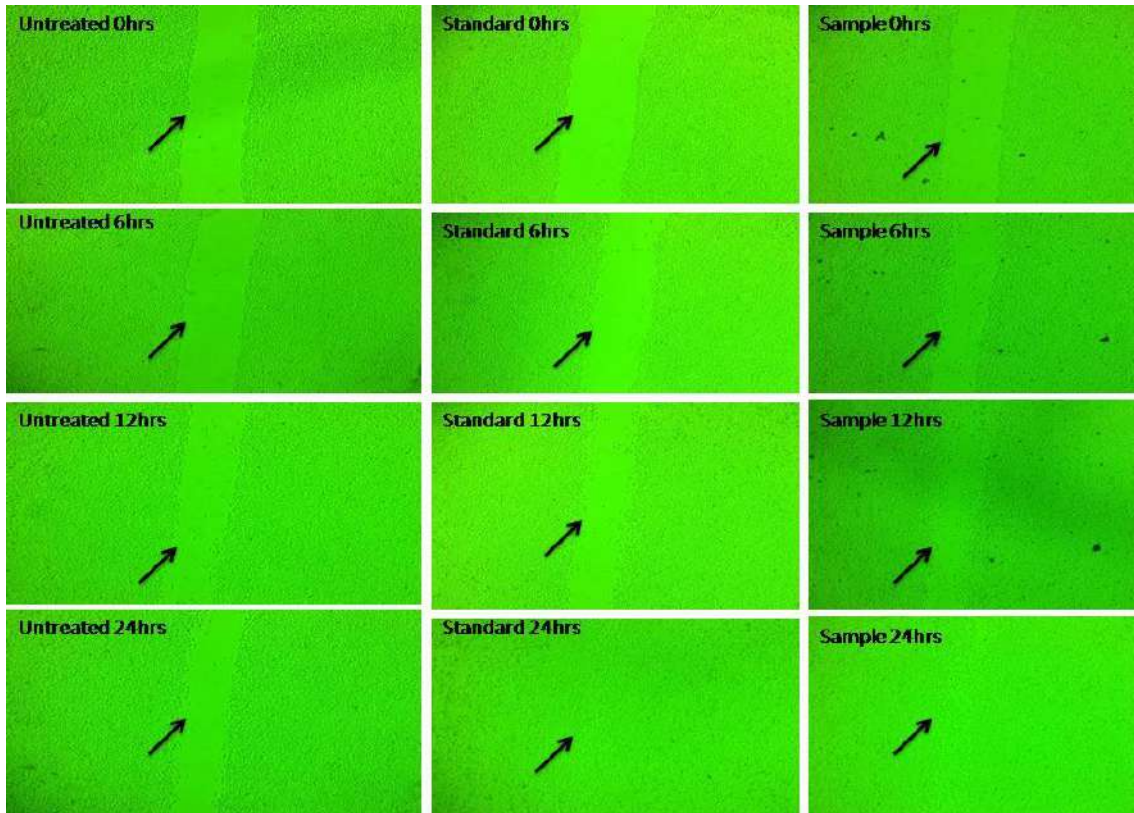
treated with 100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  biosynthesized AgNPs for 24hrs. Cell migration at 0, 6, 12, and 24hrs were captured and wound closure distance was calculated by Image J software. The results indicated that AgNPs at 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ , closed the gap created by the scratch by 8.66% in 24h. Percentage wound closure at different time intervals in untreated, AgNPs treated and control drug-treated cells have been represented in (Fig. 11). According to our study Biosynthesized AgNPs induced the migration of L929 cells resulting in 73.51 % wound gap closed at 24h. Comparison with standard-drug (Ascorbic acid) treated cells, exhibited 89.11% of the gap was closed at 24h. (Fig. 10. Table 6). The Inverted microscopy images of scratch assay revealed that significant wound healing activity through increased cell migration in the control drug-treated cells and AgNPs treated cells.

**Table 6.** Percentage of Wound Closure of different test samples

Sl.No	Test sample	Percentage of Wound Closure at 24 hrs
1	Untreated	8.655
2	Standard drug Ascorbic acid	89.11
3	Sample (AgNPs)	73.51



**Fig.10.** Percentage of Wound Closure



**Fig.11.** Showing the morphological wound healing

**Conclusions**

In context with our study biologically active phytochemicals were present in methanolic extract of *C.verum* as compared to other three extract. The methanolic extract of *C.verum* showed presence of all necessary primary and secondary metabolites and these metabolites were responsible for many pharmacological activities. And present scenario green nanobiotechnology is a flourishing field

generating interest among researchers towards eco-friendly phytomediated synthesis of nanoparticles having a huge potential to bring benefits in areas of interfacing physical, chemical, biological, agricultural and environmental sciences with myriad applications. Within the present study, silver nanoparticles that were biosynthesized from *C. verum* bark extract and synthesized silver nanoparticles were characterized by various

**Gulappagouda Ramanagouda, M.B Sulochana, Prabhurajeshwar, Ganesh Nayak, Nagarjuna Dalbanjan, Sachin B.H**

techniques and data revealed nanoparticles are crystalline form with average size less than 100nm and they are in oval shape confirmed through TEM, XRD and FTIR Spectrum supported the presence of metabolites and functional group which are responsible for reducing and capping agent for the NPs formation. Further AgNPs investigated for their cytotoxicity and wound healing properties. A dose dependent cytotoxicity has been exhibited by biosynthesized nanoparticles with the IC<sub>50</sub> value of 476.58µg/ml towards L929 normal cell line. Wound healing assay revealed out that the biogenic silver nanoparticles had no negative effect on L929 Cell proliferation. Besides, silver nanoparticles at a concentration of 100µg/ml showed no toxicity response to the cells and the migration rate and wound closure were very similar to the control at 24h .With their wound healing potential, it can be concluded that biogenic silver nanoparticles that were synthesized by *Cinnamomum verum* bark extract might be useful for designing wounds. Therefore, the methanolic extracts of *C. verum* and its extracts based biosynthesized silver nanoparticles could be new and ecofriendly sources for the development of new plant-based therapy for management of several diseases in future days.

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#### Conflict of interest

There are no conflicts of interests.

#### Author's contribution

Author, Mr. Gulappagouda Ramanagouda & Prof. M.B Sulochana: Project administration, Investigation, Methodology, Formal analysis, writing original drafting and editing. Ganesh Nayak, & Sachin B.H: Methodology, Formal analysis, writing and editing the manuscript Prabhurajeshwar, Nagarjuna Dalbanjan: Formal analysis and editing. All the authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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**Gulappagouda Ramanagouda, M.B Sulochana, Prabhurajeshwar, Ganesh Nayak, Nagarjuna Dalbanjan, Sachin B.H**

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## The Visionary Work of Savitribai Phule: Transforming Indian Society

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### Abstract

Savitribai Phule, a pioneering social reformer and educator, made monumental contributions to India's social structure in the 1800s. As the first female teacher in modern India, she championed education for girls, women, and marginalized communities at a time when societal norms prohibited their access to education. Alongside her husband, Jyotirao Phule, she established the first school for girls in Pune in 1848 A.D. and worked tirelessly to dismantle caste-based and gender-based discrimination. Savitribai's efforts included advocating for widow remarriage, opposing child marriage, and promoting women's rights. Through her innovative educational philosophy, she emphasized practical knowledge and the importance of universal education for social reform. Her poetry, which focused on social issues and education, also contributed to Marathi literature. Savitribai Phule's legacy as a visionary leader and advocate for the oppressed continues to inspire generations, particularly in the fields of education and women's empowerment.

**Keywords:** Education, Empowerment, Reform, Social justice, Equality.

### Introduction

An iconic person in Indian history, Savitribai Phule is renowned for her groundbreaking contributions that significantly altered the country's social structure in the 1800s. During a period when women were excluded from society and could not pursue higher education due to prevailing societal conventions, Savitribai Phule stood out as a symbol of hope, opposing long-standing injustices and fighting for the rights of the marginalized. She created the groundwork for an inclusive and just society in India with her unwavering pursuit of social change, especially in education and women's empowerment. Savitribai Phule was the first woman teacher in modern India. She was also a feminist, a fearless mass leader who bravely opposed the forces of caste and patriarchy, a radical supporter of women's rights, and an independent figure who stood up for women's education and the education of untouchables. Born in Naigaon village in the Satara region of Maharashtra, Savitribai Phule was born on January 3, 1831 A.D. Her parents were Khandoji Nevse Patil and Lakshmi Bai. Around 1840 A.D., when she was nine, she wed Jyotirao Phule (Mahatma Jotiba Phule). Jyotirao Phule was also a great writer, thinker, social activist, and proponent of anti-caste social change. During her marriage, Savitribai Phule enrolled in school. Jyotirao Phule encouraged her to begin her education because of her enthusiasm for learning. There were no biological offspring born to Savitribai and Jyotirao Phule. They adopted a Brahmin widow's child. That youngster's name was Yashwant Rao. [1]

Savitribai Phule's low social class and gender were prohibited from receiving an education by Brahmins at the time of her marriage. Hence, she was not educated. Along with her husband, Jyotirao Phule, Savitribai, one of the few educated women of the day, is credited with starting the first school for girls in Pune at Bhide Wada. She worked very hard to educate and free child widows, pushed for widow remarriage, and fought against sati pratha and child marriage. As a prominent Maharashtra social reform movement member, she shares the same status as B. R. Ambedkar and Annabhau Sathe as a symbol of the Dalit Mang caste. She aggressively sought to remove gender-based and caste-based discrimination and waged a campaign against untouchability. One of the most significant figures who contributed significantly to elevating the status of the modern Indian social scene was Savitribai Phule. She was the first female educator and instructor, encouraging the oppressed to pursue knowledge and contributing significantly to their liberation. She also engaged in a wide range of social activities. Savitribai and Jyotirao brought about social changes by founding schools for women and the underprivileged. There were several challenges on her way to school. The orthodox folks threw manure at her in an attempt to talk her out of going to school. However, Savitribai had a firm resolve and always carried an additional sari when she got to school. Savitribai was concerned about educating women and members of marginalized communities. [2]



Savitribai supported Jyotirao Phule when he made public education the center of his campaign, particularly when he stressed the need for education for women and children from lower castes. They were adamant about the value of primary education. They opposed the government's educational policies, which gave primary teachers less respect than those in secondary or higher school and ignored primary education altogether. They contended that effective elementary teachers should be paid more than ordinary teachers. The Phule's argued that education should be helpful and practical to meet society's demands, placing a higher value on practical knowledge than bookish knowledge. They advocated for a distinct separation of the curriculum for rural and urban areas. They included pertinent and helpful subjects like health and agriculture in the elementary school curriculum, stressing that it should be tailored to the kids' needs. [3]

Men and women should both be required to attend school, according to the Phule's. They claim that universal education fosters a sense of male camaraderie and fosters understanding across national boundaries. The Phule's denounced the Downward Filtration hypothesis supported by the British government. Due to this approach, they said the Brahmins could effectively control all higher-ranking officials. "In education...lay the key to a fundamental change in social attitudes," according to Savitribai and the Truth Seekers' society, who saw education as having a social role. Her intention in advocating mass education was not only to improve the short-term standard of life for a select few but to transform the country's destiny completely. [4] Much ahead of her time, Savitribai was a philosopher of education. She used creative strategies to disseminate education, such as providing stipends to keep kids in school. At an award ceremony, her teacher encouraged a young pupil to request a school library rather than gifts for herself. She even held the equivalent of a parent-teacher conference to include the parents and help them recognize the value of education and provide support for their children. Additionally, vocational training was taught in her schools. [5]

She began teaching girls in Maharwada, a Pune neighborhood. She also founded the first ladies' school, established in 1848 and located in Pune (then known as Poona). She was the school's first instructor. Afterward, she and her spouse managed three girls' schools in Pune. On November 16, 1852 A.D., she was also awarded as the finest teacher. She also founded the Mahila Seva Mandal in 1852 A.D. to foster self-awareness in women and help every woman understand her responsibilities and rights. Before 1858, all three of the Phule family's schools had closed. The causes for this included Jyotirao's departure from the school

management committee and the cessation of private European donations following the 1857 A.D. Indian uprising. On the other hand, Savitribai educated students from many castes at eighteen schools she established, to women and those from down-prodded castes. [6]

The couple also started a night school for laborers and peasants in 1855 A.D. Since many impoverished individuals can only work at night, they cannot attend conventional schools. To address their needs, a couple founded a night school. [7] Over her whole life, Savitribai Phule has battled on behalf of Dalits, lower castes, women, and widows against the upper castes. She was the pioneer Indian lady who discussed Bahujan. She participated in the reform of the Muslim community in addition to her own. She joined the campaign and made the Muslim woman Fatima Sheikh entirely secular by offering her a position as a teacher. She made efforts to alter the mindset of the neighborhood and neighboring villages. Caste prejudice was opposed by the Phule couple, who welcomed members of all castes. [8]

Advocate of women's rights and social equality, Savitribai Phule was a spoken word. She fought against stereotypes that limited women's duties to the home and promoted their active involvement in various social and academic contexts. [9] Savitribai's writings reveal a strong influence from Jyotirao's thinking. She was intellectually capable of appreciating Phule's ideas since she had internalized them. She is the first to recognize and evaluate Phule's trailblazing contribution to the emancipation of the oppressed. In her final poetry, "Dialogue at Dawn," she asserts unequivocally that Jyotiba represents the new dawn for the untouchables. Her works were significant as a reflection of the social culture of nineteenth-century India and its strength. Savitribai Phule believed that women had the right to become intelligent and that this could only happen via education. Savitribai became an ardent advocate of Phule's work once she could picture his ideals and philosophy. She has expressed in her writings the anguish, hopes, and sentiments of contemporary, free Indian women. India's new, developing women are angry and want to be treated as human people, not simply objects of desire for men, which is also reflected in her composition. [10] Besides its emotional virtues—love, compassion, sharing, and sacrifice—her poetry also contains intellectual ideals that contribute to societal harmony. Her works of writing were autonomous expressions. Her intellectual merits and ardor for poetry are also indisputable. [11]

As a philosopher of education, she disapproved of the Brahmanical educational system, which barred women and men from lower castes from attending and solely supported education for

upper-caste males. To empower individuals to become gender-sensitive, tolerant, critically thinking, and socially reforming, she envisioned creating an education system that would strive to give education to everyone. She saw education as a "Tritiya Rata" weapon, capable of empowering women and the Dalit lower caste by illuminating the connection between power and knowledge. By establishing schools for underprivileged classes, she transformed the Indian educational system. She supported a societal structure based on equality that would provide everyone access to education. In an appropriate social setting, she aimed to impart helpful knowledge. [12]

Women employed her during a time when women were seen as tools to be used, and receiving instruction was seen as immoral. When she spoke, she broke all conventions since she was a modern lady. Today's ladies need to be grateful for all the lives she touched. The fruits of the education tree tended and established by Savitribai Phule are reaped by women today. She believes education should ignite each person's unique intellect and personality rather than focusing only on word recognition or reading. The modern Earn and Learn program, Midday Meal Programme, and Right to Education Act all have innovative ideas. Nonetheless, these concepts were included in Savitribai Phule's schooling. She once gave each student a stipend to prevent them from quitting school. Rather than give her presents, she encouraged kids to ask for a library. Previously, she oversaw the parent-teacher conferences held regularly to help parents realize the value of education and prepare their children for formal education. Knowing the link between starvation and education, she fed pupils in the past. [13]

English and Marathi poet Savitribai Phule was a talented poet. She was India's first female poet, and the British Empire noticed her poetry. Published in 1854 A.D., "Kavya Phule" was the title of her debut poetry collection. The 1982 A.D. publication of "Bhavana Kashi Subodh Ratnakar" Her poems mainly addressed social and educational improvements. She is credited with founding the genre of Marathi poetry. Through her poetry, Savitribai Phule emphasized the value of education and the English language. [14] Savitribai nursed Jyotirao day and night for many days when he suffered a heart attack in July 1887 A.D., which allowed him to recuperate and resume writing. This period was the height of their financial turmoil. A political astute and supporter of them, Param Anand made a concerted effort to secure financial assistance. Param Anand documented their historical attempt in a letter to Sayajirao Gaekwad, the King of Baroda. He also stated that his wife, Savitribai, deserved more honor than Jyotirao related to Savitribai. Whatever amount of

admiration she received from everyone would not suffice. How would one characterize her noteworthy stature? Alongside her esteemed husband, Jyotirao, she consistently collaborated and persevered through their difficulties. Even among the highly educated ladies from the society of upper castes, it is tough to find a lady who is so selfless and decent. [15]

Her educational philosophy's central tenet is to instill in boys and girls of all castes the principles of liberty, equality, fraternity, justice, and moral integrity. Savitribai Phule's schooling involved more than just earning degrees. She believed everyone should be free to think freely and acquire more knowledge and social awareness. She used to argue that education is a basic necessity, along with clothing, food, and shelter. She saw that education was the primary cause of people's backwardness. Therefore, she approaches the issue of the general public's educational upliftment from a pragmatic standpoint. Savitribai sharply criticized the prevalent philosophies of the day. Loans were formerly taken out for festivals and weddings. To entice individuals away from the debt trap, she penned the essay "KARZ." Along with inspiring Muktabai, her adored 11-year-old pupil, to compose an essay that became a pillar of "Dalit literature," Savitribai also showed her mentorship. The first woman to join a society typically reserved for men was Savitribai Phule. She was a successful businesswoman, inspirational teacher, fearless leader, fearless social reformer, brilliant thinker, critique writer, and a traditional Indian wife dedicated to her husband. She was able to significantly alter all aspects of women's lives with her ideas and creations. She served as an effective motivator for Indian women's emancipation. We owe Savitribai Phule a tremendous deal as a community of women in India. [16]

### **Conclusion**

The legacy of Savitribai Phule will permanently be etched in the pages of Indian history, bearing witness to her steadfast commitment to women's rights, education, and social reform. She broke with convention and became a trailblazer, creating Pune's first girls' school with her husband, Jyotirao Phule, despite being born into a society bound by caste and gender prejudice. Collectively, they questioned conventional wisdom, promoting women's emancipation, universal education, and the elimination of discrimination based on caste. Beyond the classroom, Savitribai worked tirelessly to support the rights of marginalized populations, advocate for widow remarriage, and oppose child marriage. Her objective, as an educational philosophy, was to transform Indian education by introducing a system that emphasized liberty, equality, and brotherhood. She received attention even from the British Empire for her poetry, imbued

with social change and empowerment themes. Savitribai bore many hardships, including social disapproval and financial difficulties, but she never wavered, supporting her husband during his sickness and continuing their joint endeavors. Future generations will find guidance toward a more equitable and inclusive society because of her unwavering courage, tenacity, and sacrifice. Savitribai Phule's legacy symbolizes optimism and is a living example of the transformational potential of social reform and education.

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## A Comparative Study of Emotional Intelligence In Relation To Gender at Secondary Level

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### Abstract:

"Emotional intelligence is the ability to perceive emotions; to access and generate emotions so as to assist thought; to understand emotions and emotional knowledge; and to reflectively regulate emotions so as to promote emotional and intellectual growth" in four ways such as (i) Perceive or sense emotions, (ii) Use emotions to assist thought, (iii) Understand emotions, and (iv) Manage emotions. In order to become more emotionally intelligent, it is necessary to develop the following five skill domains: Self-awareness, Emotional Management, Self-Motivation, Empathy, and Relationship Management. In the present study 100 students who were age above 16 and studying in secondary level are chosen through lottery method, which were divided into two groups as under: Boys (50), Girls (50). Independent variable is gender (male, female) and dependent variable is emotional intelligence. t value were calculated and tested at the 0.05 and 0.01 level of confidence. Emotional Intelligence of male students is higher than that of female students. Intra-personal Awareness of Male Students is higher than Female Students. Male Students have high Inter-personal Awareness than Female Students. Male Students have more Intra-personal Management skill than Female Students. Inter-personal Management of Male Students and Female Students is more or less same.

**Keywords:** Emotional intelligence, Self-awareness, Emotional Management, Self-Motivation, Empathy, and Relationship Management.

"Anyone can become angry - That is easy. But to be angry with the right person, to the right degree, at the right time, for the right purpose, and in the right way - That is not easy.

- Aristotle

### Introduction

Human beings have been considered as the highly superior species among the living creatures exist in our universe and so, solely mankind has the responsibility to make vulnerable, secular and pro-social societies for every living organism to survive equally and happily in this world. Ever since the evolution, aggression and violence have been raising its head and now in 21<sup>st</sup> century it seems to be rooted deeply in our society. To deal such aggression and violence, people must learn to deal intelligently with their upsetting and triggering emotions to hold and exhibit pro-social acts like charities, friendship, co-operation, helping, rescuing, sacrificing, sharing and altruism. People dominated by altruistic value certainly will be an asset to the society as their acts are motivated solely by the desire to make other persons "feel better".

Emotional intelligence is a relatively new concept and can be referred to as holistic wisdom. It is a lack of attention to emotional intelligence in our homes and schools that has led to a rapid rise in the current social ills. Emotional intelligence when well exercised helps us to live a life full of wisdom. It

guides our thinking, values and passions. It helps to bring appropriateness to emotions. People with a high level of emotional intelligence are found to be happier, more successful, and more socially responsible, experience more job satisfaction, have more harmony in their relationships and are better adjusted than people with low emotional intelligence.

"Emotional intelligence is the ability to perceive emotions; to access and generate emotions so as to assist thought; to understand emotions and emotional knowledge; and to reflectively regulate emotions so as to promote emotional and intellectual growth" in four ways such as (i) Perceive or sense emotions, (ii) Use emotions to assist thought, (iii) Understand emotions, and (iv) Manage emotions. In order to become more emotionally intelligent, it is necessary to develop the following five skill domains:

**Self-awareness:** Self-awareness involves your ability to recognize feelings while they are happening.

**Emotional management:** Emotional management involves our ability to control the feelings and

express so that they remain appropriate to a given situation. Becoming skillful at emotional management requires that we can cultivate skills such as maintaining perspective, being able to calm ourselves down, and being able to shake off out-of-control grumpiness, anxiety, or sadness.

**Self-motivation:** Self-motivation involves our ability to keep our actions goal-directed even when distracted by emotions. Self-motivation necessarily includes being able to delay gratification, and avoid acting in impulsive ways.

**Empathy:** Empathy involves our ability to notice and correctly interpret the needs and wants of other people. Empathy is the characteristic that leads to altruism, which is our willingness; put the needs of others ahead of our own needs.

**Relationship Management:** Relationship management involves our ability to anticipate, understand, and appropriately respond to the emotions of others. It is closely related to empathy.

#### **Review of Related Literature**

Kuebli, 1999; Bar-On and Parker, 2000 emphasizes that parents can help EQ by encouraging them to identify their emotions and understand how these feelings can be changed and how they are connected to their actions. Some authors have tried to explain the relatively frequent behavioral problems in deaf children by an impaired theory of mind development. Recent studies suggest that this explanation is too simplistic. When deaf children were asked to explain other people emotional reactions, Rieffe and Meerum (2000) found that they were no worse at giving mental state reference than hearing controls. However the content of these references differed between the two groups. Deaf children made more desire attributions and fewer belief attributions than the hearing children.

Chan, David (2005) he studied the relationship among emotional intelligence, social coping and psychological distress were investigated in a sample of 624 Chinese gifted students. He specified that emotional intelligences had an effect on psychological distress mediated by social coping was hypothesized and tested using structural equation modeling procedures. Their finding indicated that the mediation effect model provided an adequate and good fit, suggesting that effect of self relevant and other relevant emotional intelligence on psychological distress were mediated by avoidant coping and social interaction coping and social interaction coping respectively. Implications of the findings for enhancing emotional intelligence of students and in promoting the use of adaptive social coping strategies for their psychological well begin.

Gleff Staff (2001). Discuss how emotional intelligence is needed in the classroom and should be taught to children. Emotionally intelligent people will learn to work well with others in their future

and be more productive. It also discusses that emotional intelligence can be used to motivate individuals.

Lee and Olsezewski - Kubilius (2006) carried more than 200 gifted high schools students. The major findings include that on emotional intelligence of gifted male were comparable to students in the age, normative sample. On the moral judgments gifted students were comparable to the level of individuals with master or professional degrees.

Hintermair, reviewed (2006) many that studies demonstrate the precariousness of hearing-impaired children's socio-emotional development and bring home the necessity of early and reliable diagnosis. The German version of the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ-D) is a fairly new screening procedure examined here with a view to its usefulness in diagnosing hearing-impaired children. **METHODS:** The SDQ-D parent version was completed by 213 mothers and 213 fathers of hearing-impaired children within their families as part of a larger study on familial socialization. The procedure's factorial structure and measurement accuracy were tested, and the prevalence rate of emotional and behavioural disorders was determined in comparison to the German standardization sample (Woerner et al., 2002a) in the context of other variables (age, sex, communicative competence, educational status). The results shows with the exception of the "Behaviour Disorders" scale, the SDQ-D factorial structure can be reproduced in a satisfactory manner. The same can be said for its measurement accuracy. The prevalence of behaviour disorders under the condition "Hearing Impairment" is clearly higher on almost all scales, as well as for the total problem score. Special attention should be paid to the scores in the fields "Emotional Problems" and "Peer Problems" because of their significant correlation to the children's age. The study concluded that the SDQ-D provides a valid yet economical screening procedure which can also be applied in the diagnosis of hearing-impaired children; children whose psychological development is especially endangered at an early age can be identified and referred for a more exact diagnosis and continuing counseling and therapy.

Lukomski, Jennifer (2007) study examined differences between deaf and hearing students' perceptions of their social emotional adjustment as they transition to college. 205 deaf students and 185 hearing students completed the 16PF- Adolescent Personality Questionnaire Life Difficulties Scale. A multivariate analyses of variance and subsequent unvaried tests found that deaf students rated themselves as experiencing significantly higher home life difficulties than hearing students, and deaf students rated themselves as having fewer coping difficulties than hearing students. Results also revealed a hearing status by gender interaction with

deaf females rating themselves significantly higher on worry than deaf males, hearing females, and hearing males. An exploratory factor analysis of the Life Difficulties subscales yielded three factors of life difficulties for deaf college students but only two factors for hearing college students. These findings suggest that there are differences between deaf and hearing students who are transitioning to college with regards to their social-emotional adjustment.

Jahromi, Laudan, Gulsrud, Amanda; Kasari, Connie (2008) reported that although often described as temperamentally "easy" and sociable, children with Down syndrome also exhibit behavior problems. Affective development is important for social and behavioral competence. The study examined negative affective expressions and a range of emotion regulation / coping strategies during a frustrating task in a sample of children with Down syndrome, nonspecific mental retardation, and typical development. Results revealed that children with Down syndrome displayed significantly more frustration and more orienting to the experimenter without asking for help. Typical children used more goal-directed strategies, including assistance seeking and cognitive self-soothing. Findings suggest that children with Down syndrome may use a limited repertoire of strategies for coping with frustration. Suggestions for future intervention studies are provided.

#### Research Methodology

In the present research the researcher tries to analyse the study of Emotional Intelligence between Male and Female students at secondary level.

In this study descriptive survey method has been used. Survey research is considered to be a branch of scientific research. The survey research is interested in accurate assessment of the characteristic of whole population of people (Kerlinger, 1973).

Therefore, survey research focuses on the vital facts of people and their beliefs opinions, attitudes motivation and behaviours. In survey research sample drawn from the population are

**Table 1 Comparison of the Emotional Intelligence of Male Students and Female Students.**

Variables	No. of Subjects	Mean of Scores	S. D.	t value	Level of Significance .05*, .01**
Male Students	50	68.28	10.12	2.98	Significant**
Female Students	50	61.15	13.50		

\*Value of .05=1.98, \*\* Value of .01=2.63

#### Interpretation:

It is clear from table 1 that mean score (68.28) for Emotional Intelligence of Male Students is higher than the mean score (61.15) of Female Students. Here calculated 't' value is 2.98 which is significant at 0.05 and 0.01 level of confidence.

studied and inferences are made about the whole population.

Present research is survey based on the information collected through a scale.

#### Population & Sample of the study

A population refers to a collection of specified group of human beings or of non human beings or of non human entities such as educational institutions, time, units etc., some statistician call it "universe".

The population of the present study will include secondary schools in Buland Shahr.

"A sample is a miniature picture of the entire group of aggregate from which it has been taken."

In other words, it is small representation of a large population.

There are many techniques of sample selection. Keeping in view of this study researcher used lottery method to collect the data.

#### Sample in the present study:

In the present study 100 students who were age above 16 and studying in secondary level are chosen through lottery method, which were divided into two groups as under: Boys (50), Girls (50)

#### Tool to be used in Study

Tools are the gathering instrument through which respondents answer question responds to statement or perform task. For the purpose of present study, the investigator used the Mangal Emotional Intelligence Inventory.

#### Statistical Technique

After scoring the test the researcher organized the data according to the objectives and hypothesis as formulated in the first chapter for accuracy and completeness, whole data is checked before it is tabulated.

The statistical devices used here -

(i) Mean (ii) S.D. (iii) 't' test

#### Variables of the study

In present Study 3

#### Analysis and Interpretation of Data

In view of the objective of the study, the Mean and S.D. were calculated from the raw scores. After this t value were calculated and tested at the 0.05 and 0.01 level of confidence.

Hence the hypothesis that "There is no significant difference between the Emotional Intelligence of Male and Female Students" has been rejected.

It means Emotional Intelligence of male students is higher than that of female students.

**Table 2 Comparison of the Intra-personal Awareness of Male Students and Female Students**

Variables	No. of Subjects	Mean of Scores	S. D.	t value	Level of Significance .05*, .01**
Male Students	50	16.51	1.80	4.384	Significant**

\*Value of .05=1.98, \*\* Value of .01=2.63

**Interpretation:**

The calculated mean, SD and 't' value reveals that mean score ( M = 16.51) for Intra-personal Awareness of Male Students is higher than the mean score (M = 14.62) of Female Students. The calculated 't' value is 4.384, which is significant at 0.05 and 0.01 level of confidence.

Hence the hypothesis that "There is no significant difference between the Intra-personal Awareness of Male Students and Female Students" has been rejected.

It means that Intra-personal Awareness of Male Students is higher than Female Students.

**Table 3 Comparison of the Inter-personal Awareness of Male Students and Female Students**

Variables	No. of Subjects	Mean of Scores	S. D.	t value	Level of Significance .05*, .01**
Male Students	50	17.96	2.05	3.34	Significant**
Female Students	50	15.90	3.84		

\*Value of .05=1.98, \*\* Value of .01=2.63

**Interpretation:**

On comparing Inter-personal Awareness between Male Students and Female Students in table 4.8 show that mean score (M = 17.96) of Male Students is higher than the mean score (M = 15.90) of Female Students. The 't' value is 3.34, which is significant at 0.05 and 0.01 level of confidence.

Hence the hypothesis "There is no significant difference between the Inter-personal Awareness of Male Students and Female Students" has been rejected. It means that Male Students have high Inter-personal Awareness than Female Students.

**Table 4. Comparison of the Intra-personal Management of Male Students and Female Students**

Variables	No. of Subjects	Mean of Scores	S. D.	t value	Level of Significance .05*, .01**
Male Students	50	14.5	3.15	4.26	Significant**
Female Students	50	11.37	4.12		

\*\*Significant Difference at 0.05 & 0.01 level

**Interpretation:**

Table 4 highlights that the mean scores for Intra-personal Management of Male Students (M = 14.50) is higher than mean score of Female Students (M =11.37). The computed value of 't' is 4.2 which is significant at 0.01 and 0.05 level of confidence.

Hence, our hypothesis that "There is no significant difference between the Intra-personal Management of Male Students and Female" has been rejected. It means that Male Students have more Intra-personal Management skill than Female Students.

**Table 5 Comparison of the Inter-personal Management of Male Students and Female Students**

Variables	No. of Subjects	Mean of Scores	S. D.	t value	Level of Significance .05*, .01**
Male Students	50	15.70	1.80	2.55	Not Significant
Female Students	50	14.50	2.79		

**Interpretation:**

Table 5 depicts that mean scores for Inter-personal Management of Male Students (M = 15.70) is slightly higher than mean of Female Students (M = 14.50) The calculated 't' value is 2.55 which is not significant at acceptable level of confidence.

Hence, the hypothesis that "There is no significant difference between the Inter-personal Management of Male Students and Female Students" has been accepted.

It means that Inter-personal Management of Male Students and Female Students is more or less same.

**Findings**

**In the hypothesis No. 1** the result showed that Male Students are more Emotionally Intelligent than Female Students. The reason may be because in childhood, female in our Indian culture are considered to be flexible, sensitive, caring and responsible for which they become emotionally weak. For increasing their Emotional Intelligence we have to down their responsibilities and parents should not compare boys and girls.

**In the hypothesis No. 2** the result showed that Intra-personal Awareness of Male Students is higher than Female students. The reason may be because

the female have to live under very restricted situation since early childhood as compare to Male and have to bear greater responsibilities than boys. Often the Female Students are not provided with the opportunities and facilities at home and in school, which are easily available to Male Students, so the Intra-personal Awareness of male students is greater than Female Students.

**In the hypothesis No. 3** the result showed that Inter-personal Awareness is more in Male students than to Female Students. The reason may be because Females have to grow under very restricted situations since early childhood and have to bear greater responsibilities than Males. For increasing the inter-personal awareness we should to give them co-education and should provide some social activities.

**In the hypothesis No. 4**, the result showed that Male Students are high in Intra-personal Management than to Female Students. The reason may be because Female Students are not provided with the opportunities and facilities at home and in school, which are easily available to Male Students. In the hypothesis No. 5, the result showed that Male and Female Students are same in Inter-personal Management.

#### **Suggestion for the Proper Development of Emotional Intelligence:**

1. Try to help yourself and the youngsters to develop the ability to understand feelings in the right manners both in one self and others.
2. In all situations, self-awareness of the feelings and emotions are important. Try to teach and help yourself know what you feel at a particular time.
3. For understanding others and their feelings develop the trait of a good listener. People who have a high E.Q. (Emotional Quotient) also have a high score on empathy and occur through effective listening.
4. Try to practice and teach the children the art of managing the feelings and emotions as adequately as possible. This is especially important for the distressing emotions of fear, pain and anger.
5. Do not allow the emotions and feelings be obstacles in your path. Use them as a motivating agent or a force achievement your goals.
6. Express your feelings with an equal sense of attending and listening to other's feelings for the better management of relationships.
7. Try to devote more time and take efforts to develop not only the cognitive professional skills but also the affective skills for the development of emotional intelligence.

#### **Educational Implications:**

Knowing about one's emotional intelligence in terms of an emotional quotient has wide educational and social implications for the welfare

of the individual and the society. The following factors show the importance of Emotional Intelligence:

1. Unlike I.Q. emotional intelligence may be the best predictor of success in life, emotionally intelligent people are more likely to succeed in everything they undertake in their life.
2. Emotional competencies, paving the way for increasing their emotional intelligence and thus making their life more healthy enjoyable and successful in coming days.
3. The concept of emotional intelligence is to be applauded not because it is totally new but because it captures the essence of what our children or all of us need to know for being productive and happy.
4. I.Q. and even Standard Achievement Tests (SAT) scores do not predict any person's success in Life. Even success in academics can be predicted more by emotional and social measure (eg. being self-assured and interested, following directions turning to teachers for help, and expressing needs while getting along with other colleagues) than by academic ability as claimed by various researches.
5. A person's emotional intelligence helps him much in all spheres of life through it various constituents or components namely knowledge of his emotions (self-awareness) managing the emotions motivating one self, recognizing emotions in others (empathy) and handling relationships.

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## Change Management Practices in Mindtree Limited Bangalore

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### Abstract

The application of a set of managerial techniques to support the management of organizational transformation processes is often suggested by management literature. This study examines the perception gaps between change strategists and change receivers on the application of these techniques, as well as the effects these practices have on the results of organizational change initiatives and organizational outcomes in a sample of ninety Chilean firms. The findings indicate that change strategists utilize change management techniques more frequently than change receivers for the identical change processes. The findings also indicate that organizations employ practices associated with the change preparation stage more frequently than practices associated with the change implementation stage during organizational change processes. Lastly, the findings indicate that, following the adjustment for organizational size.

**Keywords:** managerial, firms, change implementation, financial, operation productivity.

### Introduction

In the present day, organizations undergo frequent, diverse, and intense change as a result of practices such as process redesign, restructuring, mergers, acquisitions, and total quality programs. These programs are implemented by organizations in an effort to anticipate or adjust to internal or external influences, such as personnel changes or adjustments to policies and procedures, as well as new technology, markets, or laws. Scholarly and professional literature (Armenakis and Bedeian, 1999, Buchanan et al., 2005, Casio, 2002, Jones et al., 2004, Kanter, 2001, Kotter, 1996, Meyer and Stensaker, 2006, Nadler, 1998, Whelan-Berry et al., 2003, among others) suggests a set of managerial practices that better support the implementation of organizational change processes. However, there are still large gaps in our knowledge of these methods' efficacy and operational mechanisms (Doyle).

In the rapidly evolving landscape of the global IT industry, change has become a constant and inevitable force. The Indian IT sector, a significant player in the global market, has been at the forefront of embracing and managing change to maintain its competitive edge. Among the many organizations navigating this dynamic environment, Mindtree Limited, headquartered in Bangalore, stands out as a prime example of how change management practices can be effectively implemented in the Indian IT context.

Change management, in essence, is the structured approach to transitioning individuals,

teams, and organizations from their current state to a desired future state. In the IT sector, this process is particularly crucial due to the industry's rapid technological advancements, shifting client demands, and evolving global economic conditions. For companies like Mindtree, which operate in a highly competitive and fast-paced environment, the ability to manage change effectively can mean the difference between success and obsolescence.

The Indian IT sector has undergone significant transformations since its inception in the late 20th century. From being primarily known for low-cost outsourcing services, it has evolved into a hub for innovation, digital transformation, and high-value IT consulting. This evolution has necessitated a continuous process of change within organizations, affecting everything from technological infrastructure and service offerings to organizational culture and human resource practices.

Mindtree Limited, founded in 1999, has been a witness to and participant in this transformative journey of the Indian IT sector. As a global technology consulting and services company, Mindtree has had to navigate numerous changes in its two-decade-long history. These changes have ranged from adapting to new technologies and market demands to managing mergers and acquisitions, and most recently, adapting to the unprecedented challenges posed by the global COVID-19 pandemic.

The company's approach to change management offers valuable insights into the

practices that have enabled Indian IT firms to remain competitive on the global stage. MindTree's change management strategies encompass a wide range of areas, including technological upgrades, process improvements, organizational restructuring, and cultural shifts. These practices are not just reactive measures to external pressures but proactive strategies aimed at driving innovation and growth.

The Information Technology (IT) sector is one of the most significant contributors to India's economy, playing a pivotal role in transforming the country into a global digital powerhouse. This industry encompasses a wide range of services including software development, IT consulting, business process outsourcing (BPO), and IT-enabled services (ITES). India has established itself as the world's largest sourcing destination for IT services, accounting for approximately 55% of the US\$ 200-250 billion global services sourcing business in 2019-20. The sector's success can be attributed to factors such as a large pool of skilled English-speaking professionals, cost-effectiveness, favorable government policies, and a robust ecosystem of startups and established players.

The IT industry has not only boosted India's economic growth but has also created millions of jobs, enhanced the country's global competitiveness, and fostered innovation across various sectors. As digital transformation accelerates globally, India's IT sector continues to evolve, embracing emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, machine learning, cloud computing, and the Internet of Things to maintain its competitive edge in the global market.

#### Market Size

The Indian IT sector has experienced remarkable growth over the past few decades, becoming a cornerstone of the country's economy. As of fiscal year 2024, the IT industry's revenue (including hardware) is estimated to reach US\$ 254 billion, marking a 3.8% year-on-year growth. This figure represents an addition of over US\$ 9 billion compared to the previous year.

Exports continue to be a major driver of the sector's growth, with IT services exports poised to touch the US\$ 200 billion mark, growing at 3.3% year-on-year. The domestic technology sector is also showing robust growth, expected to cross US\$ 54 billion, with a 5.9% year-on-year increase.

#### Literature Review

**Satyendra C. Pandey, Andrew Dutta (2019):** Change Management Practices in Indian IT Companies: A Case Study of MindTree Limited.

The study examined change management approaches at MindTree, a leading Indian IT firm based in Bangalore. Through interviews with senior executives and analysis of company documents, the researchers identified key practices including extensive employee communication, leadership

development programs, and agile project management methodologies. MindTree's focus on building a culture of innovation and continuous learning was found to be critical in enabling organizational change. The company's "Mission 10X" initiative to drive exponential growth through digital transformation highlighted the importance of aligning change efforts with strategic goals. Overall, MindTree's change management practices were found to be comprehensive and well-integrated with its business strategy.

**Madhavi, R., & Ramnath, N. G. (2019):** Digital Transformation and Change Management in Indian IT Services Firms.

This research analyzed how leading Indian IT companies like MindTree were managing the shift towards digital technologies. Through case studies of multiple firms, the author found that successful digital transformation required changes across strategy, structure, processes and culture. At MindTree, key change management practices included reskilling programs for employees, reorganizing teams around digital capabilities, and fostering a startup-like culture of experimentation. The study highlighted challenges in changing mindsets and ways of working, especially among mid-level managers. It concluded that an integrated approach combining top-down strategic direction with bottom-up innovation was most effective for driving digital transformation.

**Keerthan Raj (2018):** Employee Engagement During Organizational Change: A Study of MindTree Limited.

The researchers investigated employee engagement practices at MindTree during a period of significant organizational change. Using surveys and focus groups with employees across levels, they found that transparent communication from leadership, opportunities for skill development, and involvement in change initiatives were key factors in maintaining engagement. MindTree's "Osmosis" knowledge sharing platform and "Yorbit" digital learning program were highlighted as effective tools. The study also revealed challenges in engaging employees in remote locations and contract workers. Recommendations included more personalized engagement approaches and greater emphasis on change readiness assessments.

**Suresh Kumar (2018):** Leadership Strategies for Driving Change in Indian IT Companies: Lessons from MindTree.

This study analyzed leadership approaches for implementing organizational change at MindTree. Through interviews with C-suite executives and review of company strategies, Dr. Pillai identified key leadership practices including articulating a compelling change vision, role modeling desired behaviors, and empowering employees to drive change. MindTree's "Leaders

Teaching Leaders" program was found to be particularly effective in cascading change throughout the organization. The research emphasized the importance of emotional intelligence and adaptive leadership skills in navigating complex change scenarios in the fast-evolving IT industry.

**Michael E (2017):** Agile Methodologies and Organizational Change: A Case Study of MindTree Limited.

The researchers examined how the adoption of agile methodologies at MindTree influenced organizational change processes. Through a mixed-methods approach including surveys and project case studies, they found that agile practices like iterative development, self-organizing teams, and continuous feedback loops facilitated faster and more responsive organizational change. However, challenges were identified in scaling agile practices across the organization and integrating them with traditional project management approaches. The study concluded that agile methodologies, when properly implemented, can serve as effective enablers of organizational agility and change readiness.

**Aithal, P. S (2017):** Knowledge Management Practices for Enabling Organizational Change: Insights from MindTree.

This research investigated how knowledge management practices at MindTree supported organizational change initiatives. Through analysis of the company's knowledge systems and interviews with knowledge managers, Dr. Banwait found that MindTree's robust knowledge sharing culture and platforms like "MindTree Minds" facilitated rapid dissemination of new ideas and best practices. The study highlighted the role of communities of practice and expert networks in driving innovation and change. Challenges identified included knowledge hoarding behaviors and difficulties in capturing tacit knowledge. Recommendations included stronger incentives for knowledge sharing and improved analytics to measure knowledge utilization.

**Aithal, P. S. & Acharya, R. K. (2017):** Change Communication Strategies in Indian IT Firms: A Comparative Analysis.

The study compared change communication approaches across major Indian IT companies, including MindTree. Through content analysis of internal communications and employee surveys, Chopra found that MindTree's multi-channel communication strategy, including town halls, digital platforms, and peer-to-peer networks, was particularly effective in building change awareness and commitment. The research emphasized the importance of two-way communication and addressing emotional aspects of change. Recommendations included greater use of

storytelling and visual communication to convey change messages, and more frequent pulse surveys to gauge employee sentiment during change initiatives.

**Storey, D. J. (2022):** Innovation Management and Organizational Change: Lessons from MindTree's R&D Practices.

The research investigated how MindTree's innovation management practices influenced organizational change processes. Through case studies of innovation projects and interviews with R&D leaders, Dr. Shunmugam found that MindTree's open innovation approach, including collaborations with startups and academia, enhanced its ability to drive disruptive change. The study highlighted the role of innovation labs, hackathons, and intrapreneurship programs in fostering a culture of continuous improvement. Challenges identified included balancing incremental and radical innovation, and scaling successful pilots across the organization. Recommendations included more systematic approaches to measuring innovation impact and greater integration of innovation practices with core business processes.

#### Research Gap

- **Limited studies on change management specific to Indian IT companies:** While there is research on change management in general, there appears to be a lack of comprehensive studies focusing specifically on change management practices in Indian IT firms like MindTree
- **Insufficient integration of organizational culture and change management:** There is a need for more research examining how organizational culture influences change management practices in Indian IT companies, and how companies like MindTree leverage their culture to drive successful change initiatives.
- **Lack of longitudinal studies:** Most existing research provides snapshot views of change management practices. There is a gap in longitudinal studies that track the evolution and long-term impact of change management approaches in companies like MindTree over time.
- **Limited focus on digital transformation:** Given the rapid pace of technological change, there is a need for more research on how Indian IT companies like MindTree are managing change in the context of digital transformation and adoption of emerging technologies.
- **Insufficient exploration of employee perspectives:** While some studies examine leadership approaches, there is a gap in research that comprehensively captures employee experiences and perspectives on change management practices in Indian IT firms.

## Research Design

### • Statement Of The Problem

The Indian IT sector, particularly Mindtree Limited in Bangalore, is experiencing rapid growth and transformation due to technological advancements and global market demands. However, the company faces challenges in effectively managing organizational change to keep pace with these developments. The current change management practices at Mindtree may not be fully aligned with the evolving needs of the industry and the company's strategic goals. This study aims to examine the existing change management practices at Mindtree, identify gaps, and propose improvements. Understanding and optimizing change management processes is crucial for Mindtree to maintain its competitive edge, foster innovation, and ensure smooth transitions during organizational changes, such as the recent merger with L&T Infotech. By addressing these issues, the study will provide valuable insights to enhance Mindtree's adaptability, employee engagement, and overall organizational effectiveness in the dynamic IT landscape.

### • Need For The Study

This study is essential for several reasons. Firstly, the Indian IT sector is undergoing rapid transformation, and companies like Mindtree need to adapt quickly to remain competitive. Effective change management is crucial for successful digital transformation, adoption of new technologies, and organizational restructuring. Secondly, the recent merger of Mindtree with L&T Infotech presents unique challenges and opportunities in terms of cultural integration and operational alignment, making it an ideal time to assess and improve change management practices. Thirdly, there is limited research on change management specific to mid-sized Indian IT companies, and this study will contribute to filling that knowledge gap. Furthermore, the findings will provide Mindtree with actionable insights to enhance its change management strategies, potentially leading to improved employee satisfaction, productivity, and overall business performance. Lastly, the study's outcomes could serve as a benchmark for other companies in the Indian IT sector, contributing to the industry's overall growth and adaptability.

### Objectives

- To study the current change management practices at Mindtree Limited, Bangalore
- To analyse the effectiveness of existing change management strategies in the context of recent organizational changes
- To ascertain employee perceptions and experiences regarding change management processes at Mindtree
- To understand the challenges faced by Mindtree in implementing change management initiatives

### • Scope Of The Study

This study focuses on change management practices at Mindtree Limited, Bangalore, within the context of the Indian IT sector. It encompasses an examination of current change management strategies, their implementation, and effectiveness. The research will cover various organizational levels, including management and employees, to gain a comprehensive understanding of change management processes. The study will consider recent significant changes, such as the merger with L&T Infotech, and their impact on the organization. While the primary focus is on Mindtree, the findings may have broader implications for similar-sized companies in the Indian IT sector. The research will be conducted over a specified period, providing a snapshot of current practices and immediate historical context.

### Research Methodology

#### Type of study

- **Descriptive:** To detail current change management practices
- **Analytical:** To evaluate the effectiveness of these practices
- **Exploratory:** To uncover new insights into change management in the Indian IT context
- **Case study:** Focusing specifically on Mindtree Limited, Bangalore

#### Sources of Data

**Primary data:** Primary data will be collected personally by the researcher from respondents identified within Mindtree Limited, Bangalore. This will include employees at various levels of the organization, from entry-level staff to senior management. The data will be gathered specifically for the purpose of this study, focusing on their experiences, perceptions, and insights regarding change management practices at Mindtree.

**Secondary data:** Secondary data will be sourced from published materials relevant to change management in the IT sector. This will include academic journals, industry publications, company reports, and reputable internet sources. The data, while collected by others for different purposes, will provide context, industry benchmarks, and theoretical frameworks to support the analysis of Mindtree's change management practices.

#### Sampling Plan

- **Sampling unit:** Employees of Mindtree Limited, Bangalore
- **Sample size:** 100 responses
- **Sampling technique:** Google Survey using questionnaire

#### Tools & Techniques of Data Collection

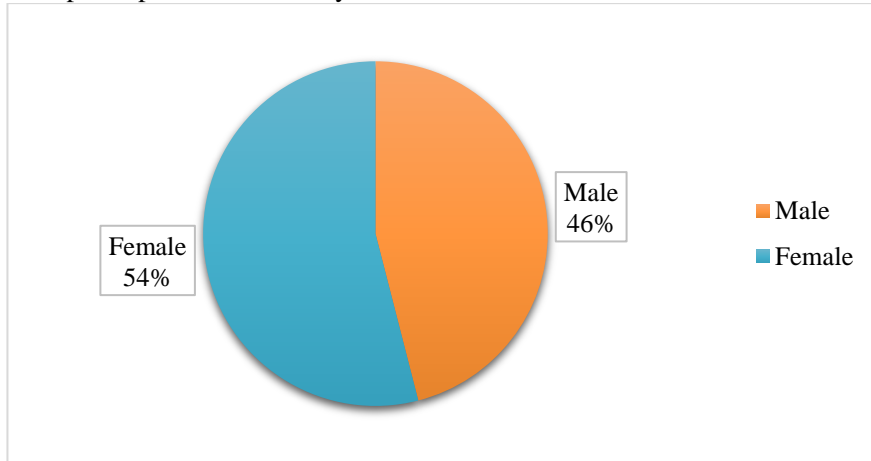
- **Survey:** Using questionnaire with Likert scale options
- **Observation:** Of organizational processes and employee behaviours

- **Focus groups:** With selected employees to gain deeper insights
- Data Analysis and Interpretation**

**Table: Gender**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Male	46	46%
Female	54	54%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

- **Analysis:** From the table above, the survey received responses from 100 participants. Male respondents account for 46% of the total, while female respondents make up 54%. The gender distribution shows a slight majority of female participants in the survey.

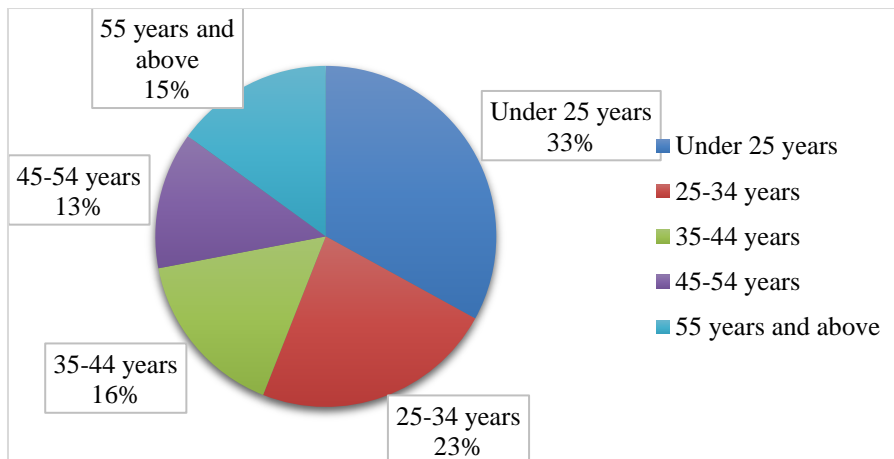


**Interpretation:** From the chart above, the gender distribution indicates a relatively balanced representation of both males and females in the survey. The slight female majority (54%) suggests that women may have a marginally higher participation rate or representation within the organization.

**Table: Age Distribution of Respondents**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Under 25 years	33	33%
25-34 years	23	23%
35-44 years	16	16%
45-54 years	13	13%
55 years and above	15	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Analysis:** From the table above, the largest age group is Under 25 years at 33.0%, followed by 25-34 years at 23.0%. The smallest group is 45-54 years at 13.0%. Middle-aged groups (35-44 and 45-54) comprise 29.0% combined.



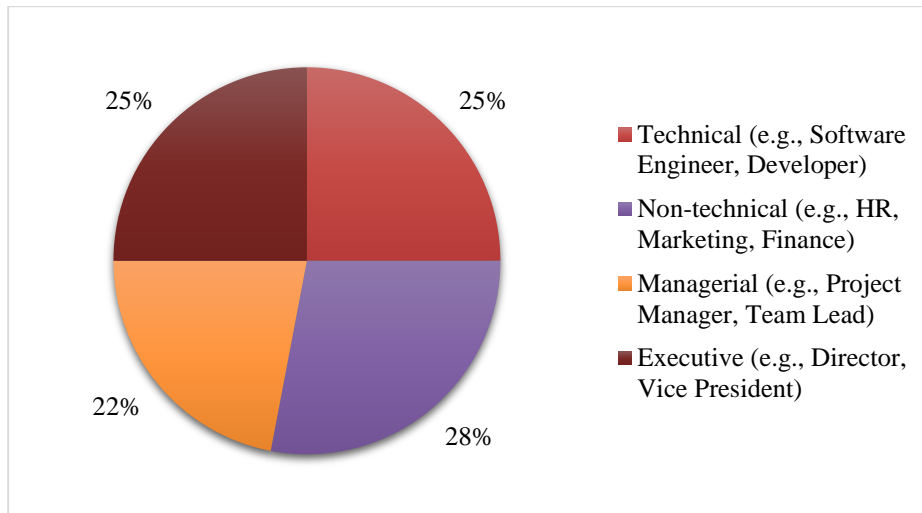
**Interpretation:** From the chart above, the workforce is predominantly young, with 56.0% under 35 years old. This suggests a relatively junior employee base, potentially indicating recent hiring trends or an industry preference for younger workers.

**Table: Job Role**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Technical (e.g., Software Engineer, Developer)	25	25%
Non-technical (e.g., HR, Marketing, Finance)	28	28%
Managerial (e.g., Project Manager, Team Lead)	22	22%
Executive (e.g., Director, Vice President)	25	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Analysis:** From the table above, non-technical roles have the highest representation at 28.0%, followed by technical and executive roles at 25.0% each. Managerial positions account for 22.0% of the respondents.

**Chart: Job Role**

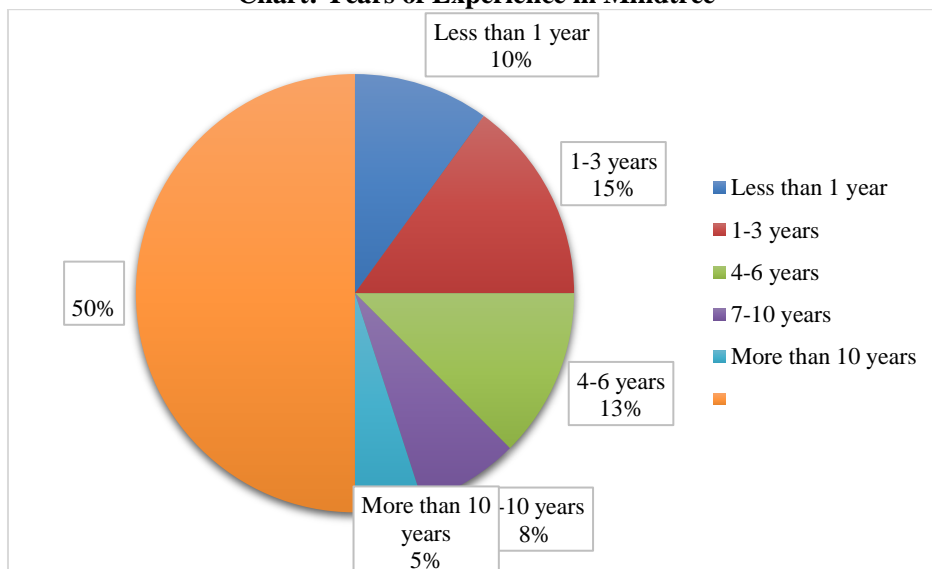


**4 Table: Years of Experience in Mindtree**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Less than 1 year	20	20%
1-3 years	30	30%
4-6 years	25	25%
7-10 years	15	15%
More than 10 years	10	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Analysis:** From the table above, 30% of respondents have 1-3 years of experience, followed by 25% with 4-6 years. 20% have less than 1 year, 15% have 7-10 years, and 10% have more than 10 years of experience at Mindtree.

**Chart: Years of Experience in Mindtree**



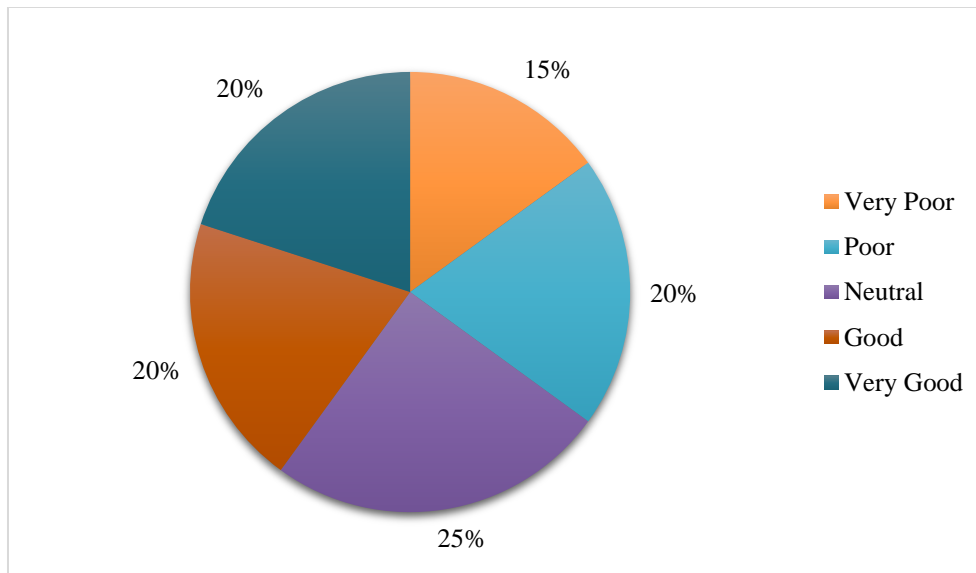
**Interpretation:** From the chart above, the majority of employees (75%) have 6 years or less experience at Mindtree. This suggests a relatively young workforce with potential for growth and development within the company.

**Table: Clarity of communication during recent organizational changes**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Very Poor	15	15%
Poor	20	20%
Neutral	25	25%
Good	20	20%
Very Good	20	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Analysis:** From the table above, 15% rated communication clarity as Very Poor, 20% as Poor, 25% as Neutral, 20% as Good, and 20% as Very Good. The highest percentage (25%) falls in the Neutral category.

**Chart: Clarity of communication during recent organizational changes**



**Interpretation:** From the chart above, opinions on communication clarity are evenly distributed, with a slight lean towards neutral. 40% view it positively (Good or Very Good), while 35% view it negatively (Poor or Very Poor).

**CHI-SQUARE**

**Variables:**

Communication clarity (X)

Employee involvement in change management processes (Y)

**Null Hypothesis (H0):**

There is no significant relationship between the clarity of communication during organizational changes and the extent to which employees feel involved in the change management processes at Mindtree Limited.

**Alternative Hypothesis (H1):**

There is a significant positive relationship between the clarity of communication during organizational changes and the extent to which employees feel involved in the change management processes at Mindtree Limited.

**In statistical terms:**

H0:  $\rho = 0$  (where  $\rho$  is the population correlation coefficient between X and Y)

H1:  $\rho > 0$

**Contingency Table:**

	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very much	Completely	Row Totals
Very Poor	15	0	0	0	0	15
Poor	0	20	0	0	0	20
Neutral	0	0	25	0	0	25
Good	0	0	0	20	0	20
Very Good	0	0	0	0	20	20
<b>Totals</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>



Expected Frequencies:

	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very much	Completely	Row Totals
Very Poor	2.25	3	3.75	3	3	15
Poor	3	4	5	4	4	20
Neutral	3.75	5	6.25	5	5	25
Good	3	4	5	4	4	20
Very Good	3	4	5	4	4	20
<b>Totals</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>

Chi-Square Calculation:

Copy

$$\chi^2 = \sum (O - E)^2 / E$$

Where:

- O = Observed frequency
- E = Expected frequency

Calculating the chi-square statistic:

$$\begin{aligned} \chi^2 = & (15 - 2.25)^2 / 2.25 + (0 - 3)^2 / 3 + (0 - 3.75)^2 / 3.75 + (0 - 3)^2 / 3 + (0 - 3)^2 / 3 \\ & + (0 - 3)^2 / 3 + (20 - 4)^2 / 4 + (0 - 5)^2 / 5 + (20 - 4)^2 / 4 + (0 - 4)^2 / 4 \\ & + (25 - 6.25)^2 / 6.25 + (0 - 5)^2 / 5 + (0 - 5)^2 / 5 + (20 - 4)^2 / 4 + (0 - 4)^2 / 4 \\ & + (20 - 4)^2 / 4 \end{aligned}$$

Simplifying the calculation:

$$\chi^2 = 97.22 + 9 + 16 + 9 + 9 + 9 + 169 + 25 + 169 + 16 + 361 + 25 + 25 + 169 + 16 + 169 = 1,294$$

**Degrees of Freedom:**

The degrees of freedom for a chi-square test on a contingency table is calculated as:

$$df = (r - 1) * (c - 1)$$

Where:

- r = number of rows
- c = number of columns

In this case, we have 5 rows and 5 columns, so the degrees of freedom are:

$$df = (5 - 1) * (5 - 1) = 16$$

**Critical Value:**

With a significance level of 0.05 and 16 degrees of freedom, the critical value from a chi-square distribution table is approximately 26.30.

**Interpretation:**

The calculated chi-square value of 1,294 is much greater than the critical value of 26.30. Therefore, we can conclude that there is a statistically significant relationship between the "Clarity of communication during recent organizational changes" and the "Extent of involvement in change management processes". In other words, the observed frequencies are significantly different from the expected frequencies, suggesting that the two variables are not independent.

**Conclusion:**

The study on change management practices at Mindtree Limited in Bangalore reveals a complex landscape of employee perceptions and experiences. While there are areas of strength, such as a relatively balanced gender distribution and a young, diverse workforce, the findings also highlight several opportunities for improvement in the company's change management approach.

The data suggests that Mindtree has made strides in involving employees in change processes and maintaining a degree of communication clarity. However, there is room for enhancement in areas

such as providing support during transitions, aligning change strategies with strategic objectives, and effectively addressing employee concerns.

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## A Study on Customer Loyalty and Satisfaction towards Products and Service of Sequoia Pvt Ltd

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### Abstract

Customer satisfaction is the key factor for successful and depends highly on the behaviors of frontline service providers. Customers should be managed as assets, and that customers vary in their needs, preferences, and buying behavior. This study applied the SEQUOIA PVT LTD. Customer Satisfaction Index model to A health care factory to analyse customer satisfaction and loyalty. We surveyed 100 customers served by one healthcare factory organizations in Chikkaballapur District, Karnataka state. A partial least square was performed to analyse and test the theoretical model. The results show that perceived quality had the greatest influence on the customer satisfaction for satisfied and dissatisfied customers. In addition, in terms of customer loyalty, the customer satisfaction is more important than image for satisfied and dissatisfied customers. The contribution of this paper is to propose two satisfaction levels of CSI models for analyzing customer satisfaction and loyalty, thereby helping tourism factory managers improve customer satisfaction effectively. Compared with traditional techniques, we believe that our method is more appropriate for making decisions about allocating resources and for assisting managers in establishing appropriate priorities in customer satisfaction management.

**Keywords:** loyalty, satisfaction, behaviors, management, CSI model.

### Introduction:

Traditional manufacturing factories converted for health care purposes, have become a popular leisure industry in India Karnataka state. i.e healthcare factories has experienced significant growth in recent years, and more and more healthcare factories emphasized service quality improvement, and customized service that contributes to a tourism factory's image and competitiveness in Taiwan (Wu and Zheng 2014). Therefore, healthcare factories, has become of greater economic importance in India. By becoming a healthcare factories factory, companies can establish a connection between consumers and the brand, generate additional income from entrance tickets and on-site sales, and eventually add value to service innovations (Tsai et al. 2012). Because of these incentives, the Taiwanese tourism factory industry has become highly competitive. Customer satisfaction is seen as very important in this case.

Customer satisfaction and loyalty are critical metrics for any business striving for long-term success. Customer satisfaction refers to the degree to which products or services meet or exceed customer expectations. When customers are satisfied, they are more likely to make repeat purchases, recommend the company to others, and remain loyal over time. Loyalty, on the other hand,

goes beyond satisfaction; it reflects a customer's commitment to continue doing business with a company, often despite competitive offers or changes in the marketplace. Achieving high levels of customer satisfaction and loyalty requires businesses to consistently deliver exceptional experiences, understand and respond to customer needs, and build strong relationships based on trust and reliability. By focusing on these aspects, businesses can cultivate a loyal customer base that contributes significantly to their growth and success.

Every business organization's success depends on the satisfaction of the customers. Whenever a business is about to start, customers always come "first" and then the profit. Those companies that are succeeding to satisfy the customers fully will remain in the top position in a market. Today's business company has known that customer satisfaction is the key component for the success of the business and at the same time it plays a vital role to expand the market value. In general, customers are those people who buy goods and services from the market or business that meet their needs and wants. Customers purchase products to meet their expectations in terms of money. Therefore, companies should determine their pricing with the quality of the product that attracts the customer and maintains the long-term affiliation.

At the end of selling era, marketing era start emphasizing on customer satisfaction and providing more superior value as compare to competitors to the target market. Every business organization's success depends on the satisfaction of the customers. Whenever a business is about to start, customers always come "first" and then the profit. Those companies that are succeeding to satisfy the customers fully will remain in the top position in a market. Today's business company has known that customer satisfaction is the key component for the success of the business and at the same time it plays a vital role to expand the market value. In general, customers are those people who buy goods and services from the market or business that meet their needs and wants. Customers purchase products to meet their expectations in terms of money. Therefore, companies should determine their pricing with the quality of the product that attracts the customer and maintains the long-term affiliation. The organization should make sure that they are providing full service, equivalent to their monetary value.

This will increase the number of customers and holds the long-term relationship between the customer and the organization. And the existing customer will help to attract the new customers by providing or sharing the information about the products and services of the companies. Satisfaction means to feel content after what the person desired or wanted. It is difficult to know whether the customers are satisfied with the availability of the product or services. So, giving satisfaction to the customers is not an easy task, for this different factor is needed to be taken into consideration. Nowadays, competition can be noticed between the business organizations and marketplaces everywhere and has been one of the challenging tasks.

#### Literature review

1. (Parasuraman, et.al. 1985). Quality in a service business has become a measure of the extent to which the service provided meets the customer's expectations. Companies have found that in order to increase profits and market share, they should pay much attention to service quality. Service quality has become a key strategic factor for companies to differentiate their products and services from other competitors by using service quality as a process that customers evaluate. Many researchers suggest that customers assess service quality by comparing what they feel a seller should offer and compare it against the sellers actual service performance.
2. According to Brown and Swartz (1989) think that customers prefer and value companies that provide high service quality. Thus, the attainment of quality in products and services

has become a drive concern of the 1980s. Customers judge service quality relative to what they want by comparing their perceptions of service experiences with their expectations of what the service performance should be. Marketers described and measured only quality with tangible goods, whereas quality in services was largely undefined and un-researched.

3. (Zeithal&Bitner. 2003, 87-89.) Told that Customer satisfaction is influenced by specific product or service features and perceptions of quality. Satisfaction is also influenced by customer's emotional responses, their attribution their perception of equity.
4. (Hill, Brierley & MacDougall 2003.) Customer satisfaction is dynamic and relative. Only the idea "customercentric" can help companies improve satisfaction and keep customer truly, conversely, if competitors improve customer satisfaction, then it may loss corporate customers. While improving customer satisfaction, customer expectations should be noticed. Service quality, product quality and value for money have a direct positive impact on customer satisfaction. Employee satisfaction is equally important before achieving the customer satisfaction.

If employees have a positive influence, then they can play a big role to increase customer satisfaction level. Satisfaction is a dynamic, moving target that may evolve overtime, influenced by a variety of factors. Particularly when product usage or the service experience takes place over time, satisfaction may be highly variable depending on which point in the usage or experience cycle one is focusing.

5. (Zeithamlet. Al. 2009). Customer expectations are the standards of performance against which service experiences are compared. The difference between what a customer expects and perceives in the service delivery formed customer gap. Which leads to customer dissatisfaction with the product or service. To close this gap, the gap model (gap 1, 2, 3,4 and the not knowing what customer expects, not selecting the right service designs and standards, not delivering to service standards, not matching performance to promise respectively) of service quality suggests that four gaps called provider gaps from one to four needs to be closed. It is important for companies to close the gap between customer expectations and perceptions in order to satisfy their customers and build long-term relationships with them.
6. (Abdullah 2012.), when the needs and wants of the customers were identified by the retailers in the market. Nowadays, in this modern era, the companies have changed this concept towards

the initial target consumers by manufacturing ordinary product benefits in order to persuade customers' satisfaction and loyalty.

7. **(Tao 2014.) has suggested that** Increased customer satisfaction can provide company benefits like customer loyalty, extending the life cycle of a customer expanding the life of merchandise the customer purchase and increases customers positive word of mouth communication. When the customer is satisfied with the product or service of the company, it can make the customer to purchase frequently and to recommend products or services to potential customers. It is impossible for a business organization to grow up in case the company ignores or disregards the needs of customers.

#### Limitations of the Study

1. The information prepared since the annual reports and prior task books throughout the length and its theme was only temporarily or in the gracefully revised throughout this revision.
2. This investigation was conducted just in the city of Chickballapur.
3. The procedure should be tedious and challenging.
4. Data is only comprised of two consecutive years.

#### Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the research paper are mentioned below:

1. To review the concept of customer satisfaction and customer loyalty at multiple level.
2. To understand the implementation challenges at company's level .
3. To study the impact of service quality on customer satisfaction and customer loyalty.

#### Rationale

Customer satisfaction is extremely important because it is the way of getting feedback from the customers in a way that they can use it to manage and improve their business. Customer

satisfaction is the best indicator of how the business looks like in the future. Customer satisfaction helps in doing SWOT analysis that could help them to develop their business in an advance and in a systematic way. Besides this, it will also help in making the right decision to use the appropriate resources while manufacturing the products. Similarly, it maintains the relationship with the existing customers and also creates the possibility to acquire others. (SSRS research 2016.) When products are bought customers expect perfection instead of quantities. There are varieties of products that are similar in the market and sometimes it is difficult to distinguish which one is qualitative and durable.

This is the great opportunity for the business organization doing marketing of their products and services to understand what exactly customers are seeking for. Customer satisfaction is a key indicator of the marketplace that evaluates the success of the organization. People have varieties of tastes and choices and therefore, satisfaction also differs from one person to another. It also may vary the expectation of the consumer depending on the option they may have, such as the national and international market (Kotler & Keller 2006.) A technique for assessing the customer satisfaction should also have to go through the international market procedure to meet the requirement internationally.

In the process, granting the satisfaction to the customer in both physical and technological aspects has changed drastically. However, there is still no method of measuring customer satisfaction. But the feedback from the customer can be taken as a crucial tool for measuring customer satisfaction. (European Institute of Publication Administration 2017.) On the other hand, it's cheaper to retain customers than acquire new ones. To make a customer's cost lot of money. Marketing team spends lots of money and time in convincing their excellence.

#### Data Analysis and interpretation

**Table-4.1**  
Table represents the gender of the respondents

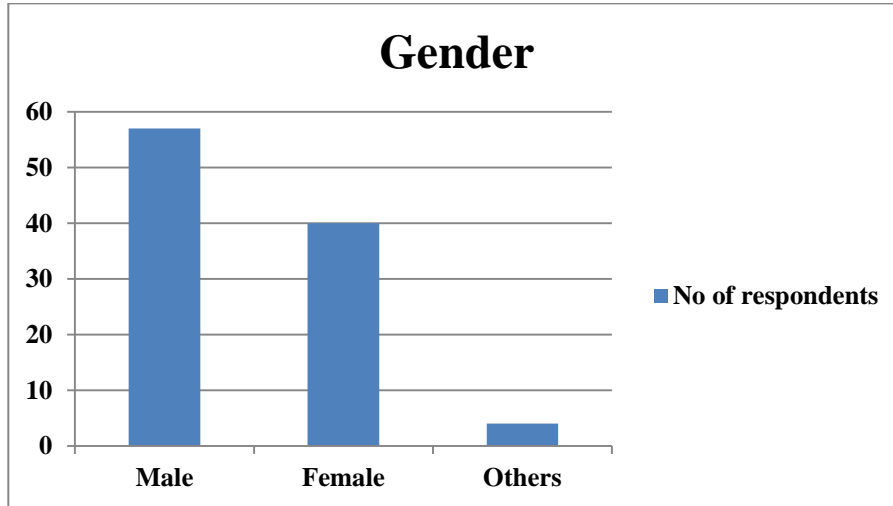
Gender	No of respondents	Percentage
Male	57	56.4%
Female	40	39.6%
Other	4	4%
Total	101	100%

#### Analysis:

The data shows a gender distribution among respondents, with males comprising the majority at 56.4% (57 individuals), followed by females at 39.6% (40 individuals). A small proportion, 4% (4

individuals), identify as "Other." This suggests a significant male predominance among respondents, while the representation of non-binary or other gender identities remains minimal in the sample.

**Chart-4.1**  
**Chart represents the gender of the respondents**



**Interpretation:**

The bar chart illustrates the gender distribution of respondents. Males constitute the largest group, with over 50 respondents, followed by females with slightly fewer than 40 respondents.

The "Others" category is significantly smaller, with very few respondents. This distribution highlights a gender imbalance, with a predominant male representation, a notable female participation, and minimal representation from other gender identities.

**Table-4.2**  
**Table represents the age of the respondents**

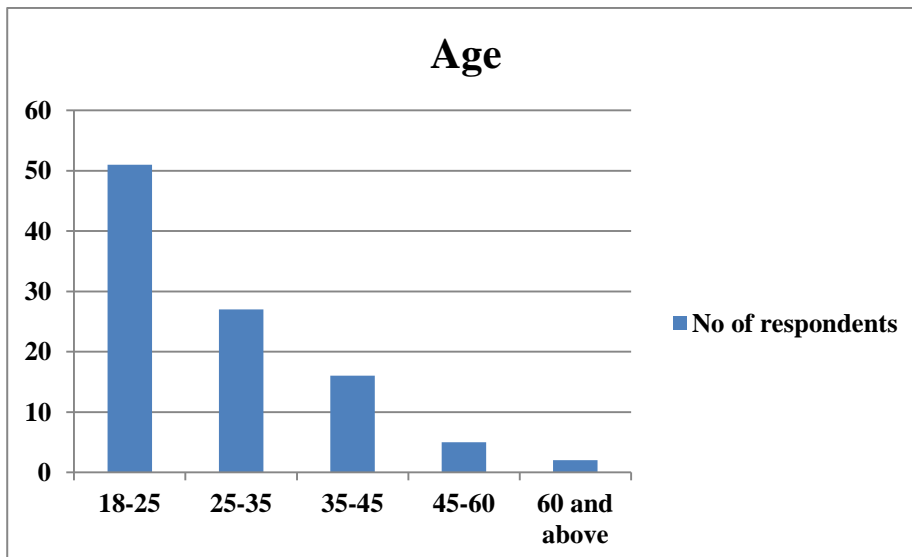
Age	No of respondents	Percentage
18-25	51	50.5%
25-35	27	26.7%
35-45	16	15.8%
45-60	5	5%
60 and above	2	2%
Total	101	100%

**Analysis:**

The data shows that the majority of respondents (50.5%) are aged 18-25, indicating a strong representation of younger individuals. The 25-35 age group follows at 26.7%, while those aged

35-45 make up 15.8%. Respondents aged 45-60 and 60 and above are significantly fewer, comprising only 5% and 2% respectively, highlighting a lesser engagement from older age groups.

**Chart-4.2**  
**Chart represents the age of the respondents**



**Interpretation:**

The bar chart shows the age distribution of respondents, with the 18-25 age group being the most represented, having over 50 respondents. The 25-35 age group follows, with around 27

respondents, while the 35-45 group has fewer participants. The 45-60 and 60 and above groups are the least represented, indicating lower engagement from older individuals.

**Table-4.3**  
Table represents the educational background of the respondents

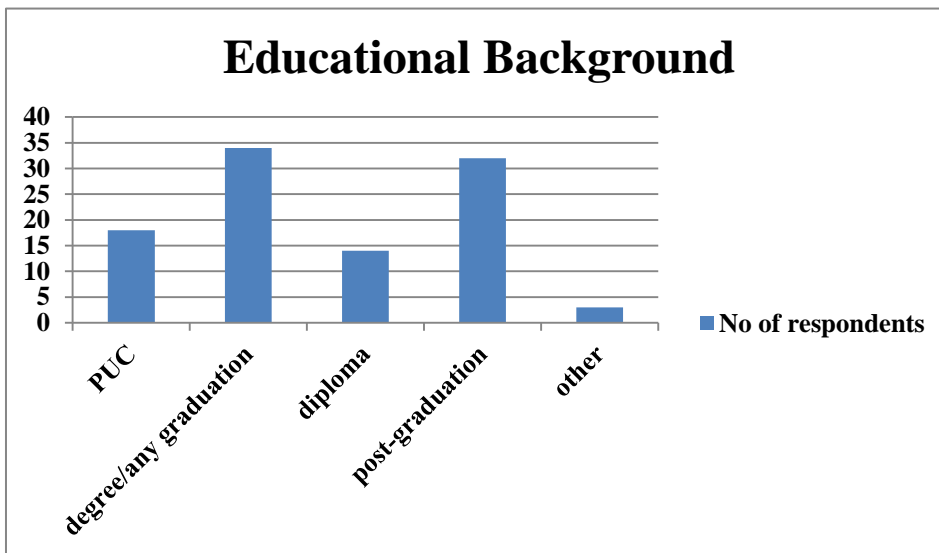
Educational Background	No of respondents	Percentage
PUC	18	17.8%
Degree/any graduation	34	33.7%
Diploma	14	13.9%
Post-graduation	32	31.7%
Other	3	3%
Total	101	100%

**Analysis:**

The data indicates a diverse educational background among respondents, with the majority holding a degree or graduation (33.7%) and a significant portion having post-graduation

qualifications (31.7%). Those with PUC (17.8%) and diplomas (13.9%) are less represented. The "Other" category, accounting for 3%, shows minimal participation, highlighting that most respondents have pursued formal higher education.

**Graph-4.3**  
Graph represents the educational background of the respondents



**Interpretation:**

The bar chart illustrates the educational background of respondents. The largest group holds a degree or graduation, with around 34 respondents, followed closely by those with post-graduation qualifications at 32 respondents. Those with PUC

(18 respondents) and diplomas (14 respondents) are less represented. The "Other" category is minimal, with only 3 respondents, indicating that most participants have formal higher education qualifications.

**Table-4.4**  
Table represents the income distribution of the respondents

Income	No of respondents	Percentage
0-10000	10	9.9%
11000-20000	38	37.6%
21000-30000	17	16.8%
31000-40000	25	24.7%
41000&above	11	10.8%
Total	101	100%

**Analysis:**

The data reflects the income distribution of 101 respondents. The largest group, 37.6%, earns between 11,000-20,000, indicating a concentration in this income range. The second-largest group, 24.7%, falls into the 31,000-40,000 bracket.

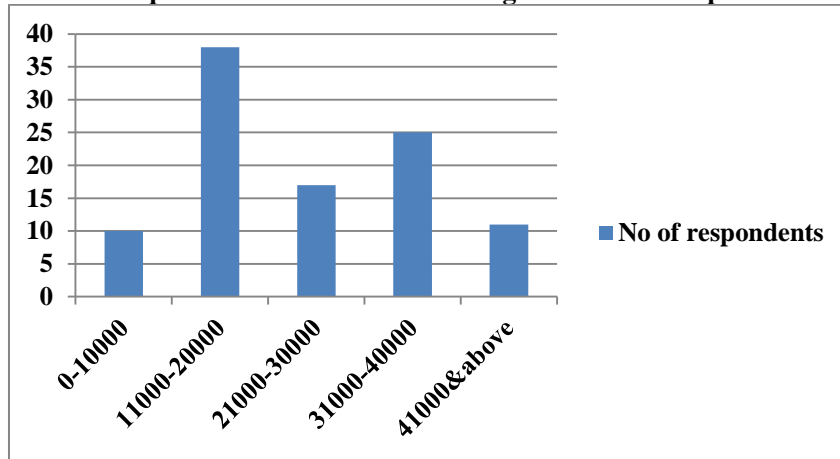
between 11,000-20,000, indicating a concentration in this income range. The second-largest group, 24.7%, falls into the 31,000-40,000 bracket.

**Vishwanath R Havalappagol, Sahana**

Meanwhile, 16.8% earn between 21,000-30,000. Smaller proportions, 10.8% and 9.9%, are seen in

the highest and lowest income categories, respectively.

**Chart-4.4**  
Chart represents the educational background of the respondents



**Interpretation:**

The bar chart represents the distribution of respondents across different income ranges. The majority of respondents fall within the ₹21,000-₹30,000 bracket, with around 35 people. The next

largest group is in the ₹31,000-₹40,000 range. The fewest respondents earn either below ₹10,000 or above ₹41,000, with each of these categories having under 15 people.

**Table-4.5**  
Table represents the satisfaction with the overall quality of sequoia products

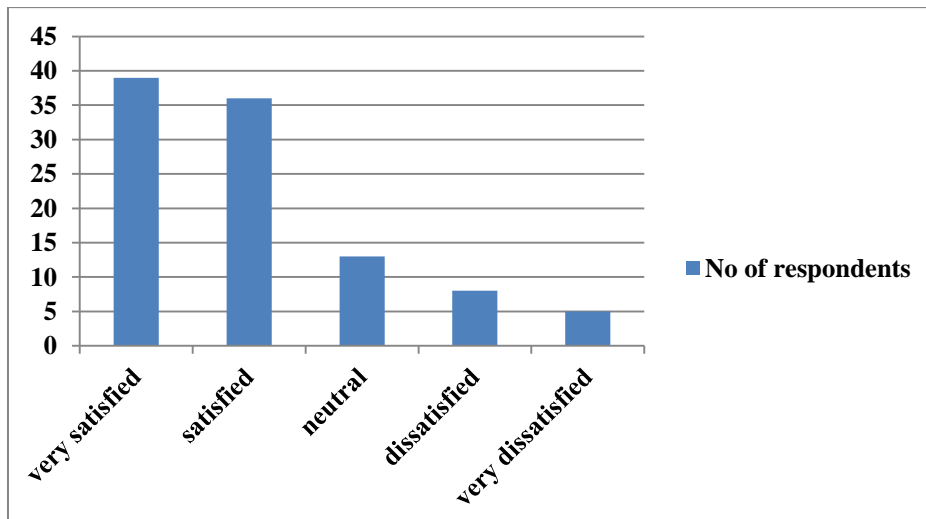
Representatives	No of respondents	Percentage
Very satisfied	39	38.6%
Satisfied	36	35.6%
Neutral	13	12.9%
Dissatisfied	8	7.9%
Very dissatisfied	5	5%
Total	101	100%

**Analysis:**

The data reflects respondents' satisfaction levels, with the majority (38.6%) being "Very satisfied" and an additional 35.6% "Satisfied," indicating overall positive feedback. A smaller

portion remains "Neutral" (12.9%), while a minority are "Dissatisfied" (7.9%) or "Very dissatisfied" (5%). The results suggest that most respondents have a favorable view, though a notable segment expresses ambivalence or dissatisfaction.

**Chart-4.5**  
Chart represents the satisfaction with the overall quality of sequoia products





**Interpretation:**

The bar chart illustrates respondents' satisfaction levels. A significant majority are either "Very satisfied" or "Satisfied," with nearly equal representation in these categories. Fewer respondents remain "Neutral," and even fewer

express dissatisfaction, with "Dissatisfied" and "Very dissatisfied" categories having the least representation. Overall, the chart suggests a generally positive sentiment among respondents, with minimal dissatisfaction.

**Table-4.6**

**Table represents the easy of use of sequoia company products**

Representatives	No of respondents	Percentage
Very easy	42	41.65
Easy	32	31.7%
Neutral	13	12.95
Difficult	11	10.95
Very difficult	3	3%
Total	101	100%

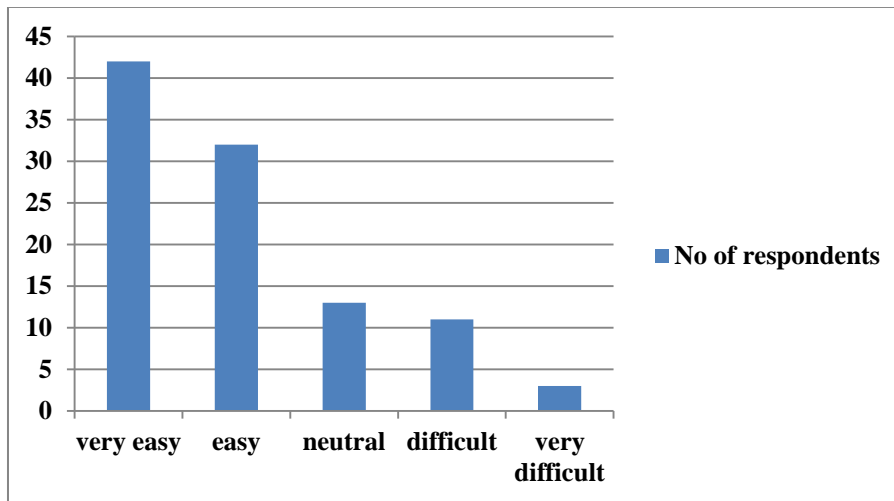
**Analysis:**

The data indicates that a majority of respondents find the task easy, with 41.65% rating it "Very easy" and 31.7% as "Easy," totaling over 73% with a positive perception. A smaller group remains

"Neutral" (12.95%), while a minority finds it challenging, with 10.95% describing it as "Difficult" and 3% as "Very difficult." Overall, the task is perceived positively by most respondents.

**Chart-4.6**

**Chart represents the easy of use of sequoia company products**



**Interpretation:**

The bar chart shows the perceived difficulty of a task among respondents. The majority find it "Very easy" (over 40 respondents) or "Easy" (about 32 respondents). A smaller group is "Neutral," and

even fewer find it "Difficult" or "Very difficult," with the latter category having the least representation. Overall, the chart suggests that most respondents consider the task easy.

**Table-4.7**

**Table represents the overall experiences with the sequoia customer care services**

Representatives	No of respondents	Percentage
Excellent	36	35.6%
Good	44	43.6%
Neutral	12	11.9%
Poor	6	5.9%
Very poor	3	3%
Total	101	100%

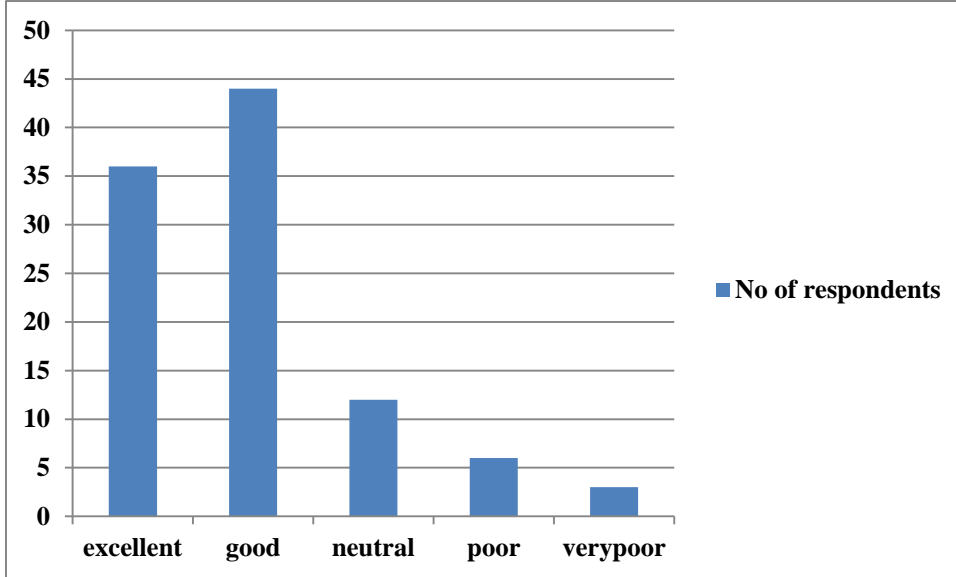
**Analysis:**

The data indicates that the majority of respondents have a positive view, with 43.6% rating the service as "Good" and 35.6% as "Excellent." A smaller portion remains "Neutral" (11.9%), while a minority

perceive it negatively, with 5.9% rating it "Poor" and 3% as "Very poor." Overall, the results suggest general satisfaction, with only a few expressing dissatisfaction.

**Chart-4.7**

Chart represents the overall experiences with the sequoia customer care services



**Interpretation:**

The bar chart represents the distribution of respondents' ratings. Most respondents rated the item as "good" (around 45), followed by "excellent" (about 35). A moderate number rated it "neutral" (around 15), while fewer considered it "poor" (around 7). Very few rated it "very poor" (about 3). Overall, the feedback is largely positive.

(about 35). A moderate number rated it "neutral" (around 15), while fewer considered it "poor" (around 7). Very few rated it "very poor" (about 3). Overall, the feedback is largely positive.

**Table-4.8**

Table represents how quickly the customer care service of sequoia resolve the issues of its customers

Representatives	No of respondents	Percentage
Very quickly	40	39.6%
Quickly	30	29.7%
Neutral	19	18.8%
Slowly	6	5.9%
Very slowly	6	5.9%
Total	101	100%

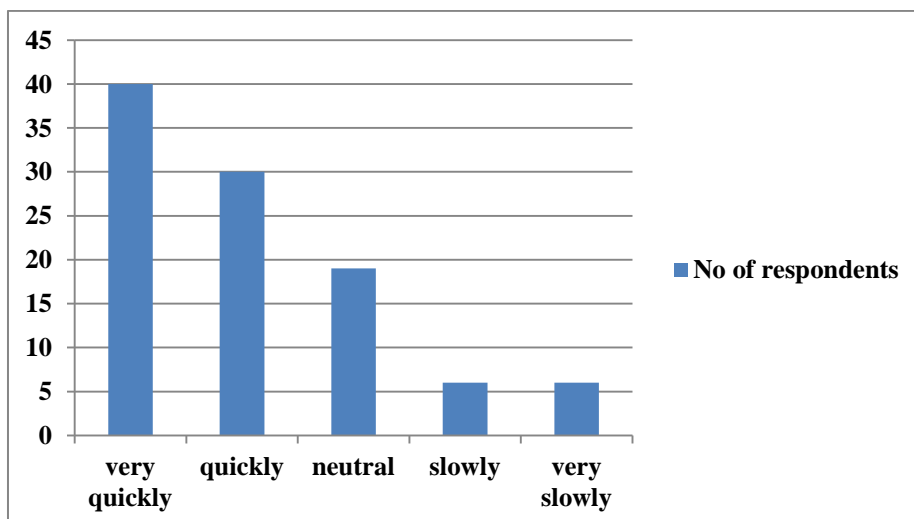
**Analysis:**

The data reflects respondents' perceptions of service speed. A majority (69.3%) find the service fast, with 39.6% rating it as "Very quickly" and 29.7% as "Quickly." However, 18.8% remain

"Neutral," indicating no strong opinion. A minority (11.8%) view the service as slow, with equal percentages finding it "Slowly" or "Very slowly." Overall, the results suggest general satisfaction with the service speed.

**Chart-4.8**

Chart represents how quickly the customer care service of sequoia resolve the issues of its customers



**Interpretation:**

The bar chart shows respondents' perceptions of speed. The majority felt the process was "very quickly" (around 40), followed by those who rated it "quickly" (about 30). A smaller group remained "neutral" (about 17). Few respondents felt it was "slowly" (around 5) or "very slowly" (around 4). Overall, most respondents view the process as efficient.

**Conclusion**

Every company aim is to maintain the long-term relationship with the customers and the business organization. In order to acquire the potential customers, needs and demands should be acknowledged also customer satisfaction has a great impact on the entire business operations. Therefore, it is very important to the organization to understand what exactly the customers need and how to gain loyalty for the successful business. As it is discussed in chapter two, the customer plays a crucial role in the market chain process. To make it clearer, satisfied customers are the ones who creates the possibility of the new customers. If the existing customers are satisfied with the product and service, then there are the chances of recommendation to the new ones. This will lead to the increasing number of customers and could maintain the level of the relationship with the customers. For measuring the satisfaction of the customers, various methods needed to be applied to analyze the consequences. Customers predict the value of the products before purchasing, at the point of purchase and after purchasing. That means their satisfaction may vary accordingly. Hence, a survey should be carried out to figure out the metrics of satisfaction. Overall this study has highlighted that satisfaction and loyalty are core element of a business. Understanding these two terms can help the case company to build a reputation in a market and increase in demand of customers.

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## The Impact of Sustainable Hrm Practices At Alorica India Pvt Ltd

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### Abstract

Sustainable human resource (HR) practices, such as diversity and inclusion, have gained considerable attention in HR research. However, to this point, most of the research has focused on the content of HR practices, rarely considering the HR process perspective. Consequently, the processes that explain the relationships between sustainable HR practices and subsequent employee behavioural outcomes are unclear. In this conceptual paper, we propose a revised process model to explain the effects of sustainable HR practices by building on the Strategic HR process model. We contribute to the sustainable HR literature, the HR process research, and the process model by Wright and Nishii in particular. We conclude the conceptual paper by highlighting future research recommendations.

**Keywords:** sustainable human resources; leadership style; sustainability; managers; HRM system strength

### Introduction

In the rapidly evolving business landscape, organizations are facing increasing pressure to adopt sustainable practices that not only ensure economic growth but also address environmental and social concerns. Human Resource Management (HRM) plays a pivotal role in achieving sustainability goals by aligning organizational strategies with responsible practices that promote employee well-being, environmental stewardship, and societal contributions.

Alorica India Pvt Ltd, a leading provider of customer experience solutions, recognizes the importance of sustainable HRM practices in fostering a positive work environment, enhancing employee engagement, and promoting organizational commitment. As a company that values its human capital, Alorica India Pvt Ltd understands that implementing sustainable HRM practices can lead to a motivated and productive workforce, ultimately contributing to the overall success and longevity of the organization.

Sustainable HRM practices encompass a wide range of initiatives that aim to create a balanced and inclusive work environment while minimizing the environmental impact of business operations. These practices can include promoting work-life balance, offering training and development opportunities, fostering diversity and inclusion, ensuring employee well-being, and implementing eco-friendly policies and practices.

One of the key aspects of sustainable HRM practices is promoting work-life balance. In today's

fast-paced and demanding work environment, striking a healthy balance between professional and personal responsibilities has become increasingly challenging. Alorica India Pvt Ltd recognizes the importance of implementing policies and programs that support employees in managing their work and personal commitments effectively. These initiatives can include flexible work arrangements, parental leave policies, and employee assistance programs, among others.

Another crucial component of sustainable HRM practices is offering training and development opportunities. Investing in employee growth and skill development not only enhances their professional capabilities but also contributes to their personal fulfillment and job satisfaction. Alorica India Pvt Ltd understands the significance of providing continuous learning opportunities, such as on-the-job training, workshops, and mentorship programs, to ensure that employees remain competitive and adaptable in an ever-changing business environment.

Fostering diversity and inclusion is another key aspect of sustainable HRM practices. A diverse and inclusive workforce not only promotes a sense of belonging and respect but also fosters innovation and creativity. Alorica India Pvt Ltd values the unique perspectives and experiences that individuals from different backgrounds bring to the table. By implementing policies and practices that promote equal opportunities, eliminate discrimination, and celebrate diversity, the company can create an

inclusive work environment that empowers employees to reach their full potential.

Employee well-being is a crucial aspect of sustainable HRM practices, as it directly impacts productivity, engagement, and retention rates. Alorica India Pvt Ltd recognizes the importance of promoting physical, mental, and emotional well-being among its employees. This can include initiatives such as providing access to health and wellness programs, offering counseling services, and creating a supportive and positive work culture.

#### Market Size

The BPO industry in India has witnessed remarkable growth over the past decade. According to the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), the Indian BPO industry is estimated to have generated revenue of around \$40 billion in the fiscal year 2022-2023. The industry employs over 1.4 million people, making it a significant contributor to the Indian economy and a major source of employment.

#### Recent Developments

The BPO industry in India has attracted substantial investments from both domestic and international players, driven by the growing demand for outsourced services and the country's cost-effective and skilled workforce. Here are some notable investments and recent developments:

- **Global Expansion:** Major global players, such as Accenture, Genpact, and Concentrix, have established large-scale operations in India, leveraging the country's talent pool and cost advantages.
- **Domestic Players:** Indian companies, such as Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Wipro, and HCL Technologies, have also expanded their BPO offerings, catering to both domestic and international clients.
- **Digital Transformation:** BPO companies are investing in digital technologies, such as automation, artificial intelligence (AI), and data analytics, to enhance operational efficiency, improve customer experience, and provide value-added services.

#### Literature review

1. (Parasuraman, et.al. 1985). Quality in a service business has become a measure of the extent to which the service provided meets the customer's expectations. Companies have found that in order to increase profits and market share, they should pay much attention to service quality. Service quality has become a key strategic factor for companies to differentiate their products and services from other competitors by using service quality as a process that customers evaluate. Many researchers suggest that customers assess service quality by comparing what they feel a

seller should offer and compare it against the sellers actual service performance.

2. **According to Brown and Swartz (1989)** think that customers prefer and value companies that provide high service quality. Thus, the attainment of quality in products and services has become a drive concern of the 1980s. Customers judge service quality relative to what they want by comparing their perceptions of service experiences with their expectations of what the service performance should be. Marketers described and measured only quality with tangible goods, whereas quality in services was largely undefined and un-researched.
3. **(Zeithal&Bitner. 2003, 87-89.)** Told that Customer satisfaction is influenced by specific product or service features and perceptions of quality. Satisfaction is also influenced by customer's emotional responses, their attribution their perception of equity.
4. **(Hill, Brierley & MacDougall 2003.)** Customer satisfaction is dynamic and relative. Only the idea "customercentric" can help companies improve satisfaction and keep customer truly, conversely, if competitors improve customer satisfaction, then it may loss corporate customers. While improving customer satisfaction, customer expectations should be noticed. Service quality, product quality and value for money have a direct positive impact on customer satisfaction. Employee satisfaction is equally important before achieving the customer satisfaction. If employees have a positive influence, then they can play a big role to increase customer satisfaction level. Satisfaction is a dynamic, moving target that may evolve overtime, influenced by a variety of factors. Particularly when product usage or the service experience takes place over time, satisfaction may be highly variable depending on which point in the usage or experience cycle one is focusing.
5. **(Zeithamlet. Al. 2009).** Customer expectations are the standards of performance against which service experiences are compared. The difference between what a customer expects and perceives in the service delivery formed customer gap. Which leads to customer dissatisfaction with the product or service. To close this gap, the gap model (gap 1, 2, 3,4 and the not knowing what customer expects, not selecting the right service designs and standards, not delivering to service standards, not matching performance to promise respectively) of service quality suggests that four gaps called provider gaps from one to four needs to be closed. It is important for companies to close the gap between customer expectations and perceptions in order to satisfy their

customers and build long-term relationships with them.

6. (Abdullah 2012.), when the needs and wants of the customers were identified by the retailers in the market. Nowadays, in this modern era, the companies have changed this concept towards the initial target consumers by manufacturing ordinary product benefits in order to persuade customers' satisfaction and loyalty.

### Research Gap

1. While existing literature has extensively explored the impact of sustainable HRM practices in various organizational contexts, there remains a notable research gap in understanding the specific mechanisms through which these practices influence organizational outcomes, particularly in the case of Alorica India Pvt Ltd. Despite several studies highlighting the positive associations between sustainable HRM practices and employee engagement, performance, and well-being, there is limited research that delves deeper into the nuanced relationships between different dimensions of sustainability and specific organizational outcomes within the context of Alorica India Pvt Ltd.
2. There is a lack of longitudinal studies that track the long-term effects of sustainable HRM practices on organizational performance and sustainability. While many studies provide cross-sectional insights into the immediate impacts of these practices, longitudinal research could offer a more comprehensive understanding of how sustainable HRM initiatives evolve over time and their lasting effects on employee behavior, organizational culture, and competitive advantage.
3. There is a need for more research that explores the challenges and barriers faced by organizations, including Alorica India Pvt Ltd, in implementing sustainable HRM practices effectively. Understanding the factors that hinder or facilitate the adoption and implementation of these practices can inform strategies to overcome barriers and maximize the benefits of sustainability initiatives.

### Research Design

#### Statement of the Problem

The existing state of affairs at Alorica India Pvt Ltd indicates a growing need to assess and understand the impact of sustainable HRM practices on the organization's performance and sustainability. The problem lies in the lack of comprehensive research addressing the specific challenges and opportunities faced by Alorica in implementing sustainable HRM practices and the potential benefits of these initiatives. Undertaking this study is essential to identify areas for improvement, enhance organizational effectiveness, and ensure long-term

viability. By investigating the relationship between sustainable HRM practices and organizational outcomes, the study aims to provide valuable insights into how Alorica can optimize its HRM strategies to drive sustainable growth, improve employee well-being, and achieve competitive advantage in the industry.

### Need For the Study

The need for this study arises from the increasing importance of sustainability in today's business landscape and the crucial role of HRM in driving organizational success. With growing pressure from stakeholders to adopt sustainable practices, Alorica India Pvt Ltd must evaluate its HRM strategies to align with sustainability goals effectively. Understanding the impact of sustainable HRM practices on organizational performance, employee engagement, and stakeholder relationships is imperative for Alorica to stay competitive, mitigate risks, and enhance its reputation as a socially responsible organization.

### Objectives

- To know various sustainable HRM practices implemented at Alorica India Pvt Ltd.
- To analyze the impact of sustainable HRM practices on employee engagement and satisfaction.
- To ascertain the relationship between sustainable HRM practices and organizational performance.
- To understand the challenges and opportunities in implementing sustainable HRM practices at Alorica.
- To observe the potential benefits of sustainable HRM practices for Alorica India Pvt Ltd.

### Scope of the Study

The scope of this study encompasses the evaluation of sustainable HRM practices at Alorica India Pvt Ltd, focusing on their impact on employee engagement, organizational performance, and overall sustainability. The study will involve assessing current HRM policies, conducting surveys and interviews with employees, and analyzing relevant data to identify key insights and recommendations for enhancing sustainability practices within the organization.

### Research Methodology

#### Type of Study

- Descriptive

#### Sources of Data

- Primary Data: Collected personally by the researcher from respondents or sample units identified for the study.
- Secondary Data: Utilizing published data collected by others for different purposes, including journals, publications, and internet sources.

**Sampling Plan**

- Sampling Unit: Employees of Alorica India Pvt Ltd
- Sample Size: 100 responses
- Sampling Technique: Google Survey using a structured questionnaire

**Tools & Techniques of Data Collection**

- Survey: Using a structured questionnaire with Likert scale options.
- Plan of Analysis: Data will be compiled, classified, tabulated, interpreted, and inferred. Percentage analysis and hypothesis testing using Chi-Square for two variables will be employed.

**Limitations of the Study**

- Limited sample size may affect the generalizability of findings.
- Limited access to certain confidential organizational data may restrict the depth of analysis.
- Limited time frame for data collection and analysis may impact the comprehensiveness of the study.
- Limited scope to assess external factors influencing sustainable HRM practices.
- Limited resources available for conducting in-depth interviews or focus groups.
- Limited geographical scope focusing solely on Alorica India Pvt Ltd may limit the broader applicability of findings.

**Data Analysis and interpretation**

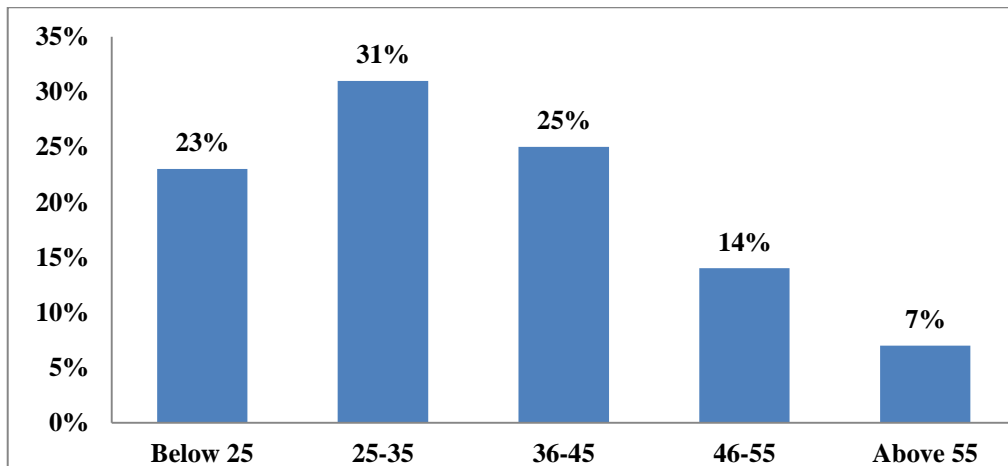
**1 Table: Age of respondents**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Below 25	23	23%
25-35	31	31%
36-45	25	25%
46-55	14	14%
Above 55	7	7%
Total	100	100%

**Analysis:** From the table above, the age group 25-35 has the highest representation at 31%, followed by 36-45 at 25% and Below 25 at 23%. The 46-55 age group accounts for 14% of respondents, while

those Above 55 make up the smallest portion at 7%. The data shows a predominantly younger workforce, with 79% of respondents under 45 years old.

**Chart: Age of respondents**



**Interpretation:** From the chart above, the age distribution indicates a relatively young workforce at Alorica India Pvt Ltd. This demographic profile suggests a mix of fresh talent and experienced professionals, potentially bringing diverse

perspectives to sustainable HRM practices. The company may need to tailor its HRM strategies to address the needs and expectations of different age groups, particularly focusing on the majority under 45.

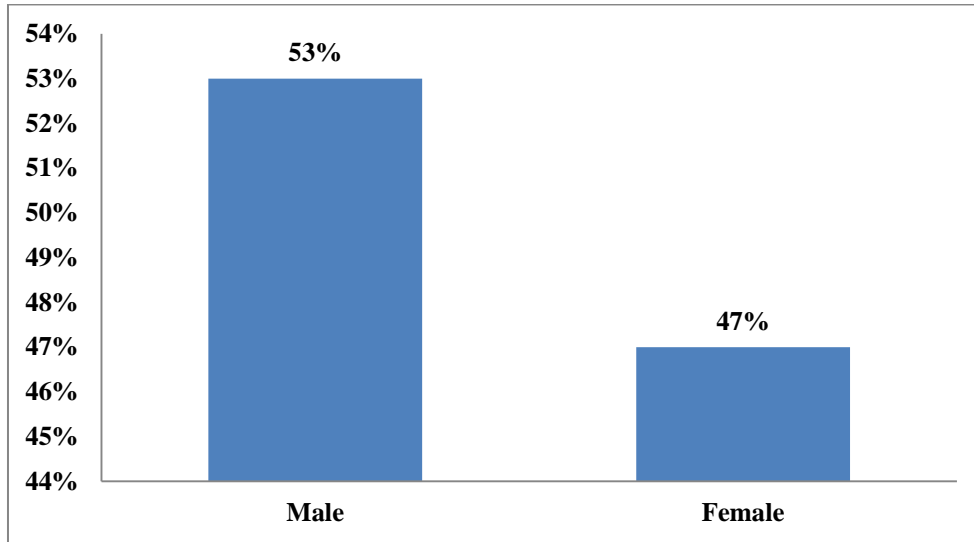
**2 Table: Gender of respondents**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Male	53	53%
Female	47	47%
Total	100	100%

**Analysis:** From the table above, it is evident that 53% of the respondents are male, while 47% are female. The gender distribution shows a slight

majority of male participants in the survey, with a difference of 6% between male and female respondents.

**Chart: Gender of respondents**



**Interpretation:** From the chart above, the gender distribution of respondents indicates a relatively balanced representation of both males and females in the study. This near-equal distribution suggests

that the survey results are likely to reflect perspectives from both genders, providing a comprehensive view of sustainable HRM practices at Alorica India Pvt Ltd.

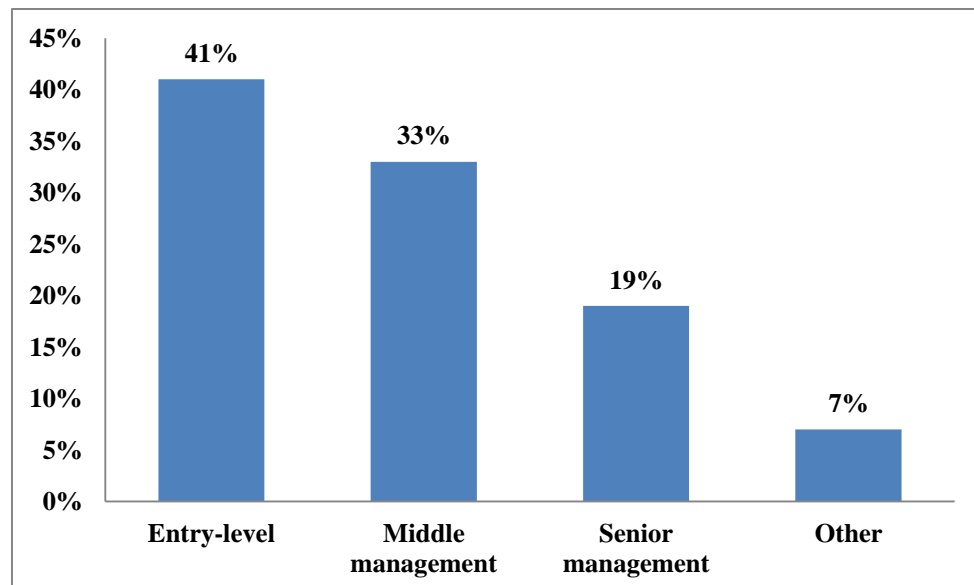
**Table: Job Position of respondents**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Entry-level	41	41%
Middle management	33	33%
Senior management	19	19%
Other	7	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Analysis:** From the table above, 41% of respondents are in entry-level positions, 33% are in middle management, 19% are in senior management, and 7% fall under other job positions. The majority of

respondents (74%) are in entry-level or middle management roles, while senior management and other positions make up the remaining 26%.

**Chart: Job Position of respondents**





**Interpretation:** From the chart above, the distribution of job positions indicates a pyramid structure within the organization. The large proportion of entry-level and middle management

employees suggests a strong foundation for potential career growth and development. The smaller percentage of senior management roles aligns with typical organizational hierarchies.

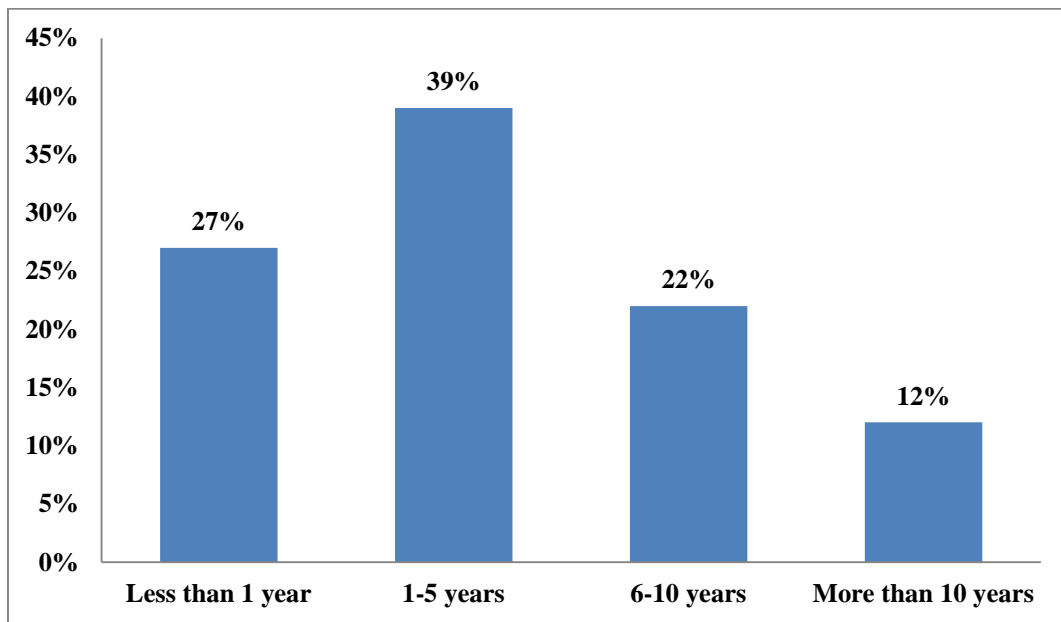
**Table: Length of Employment at Alorica India Pvt Ltd**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Less than 1 year	27	27%
1-5 years	39	39%
6-10 years	22	22%
More than 10 years	12	12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Analysis:** From the table above, 39% of respondents have been employed at Alorica India Pvt Ltd for 1-5 years, followed by 27% with less than 1 year of employment. 22% have worked for 6-10 years,

while 12% have been with the company for more than 10 years. The majority (66%) of employees have been with the company for 5 years or less.

**Chart: Length of Employment at Alorica India Pvt Ltd**



**Interpretation:** From the chart above, Alorica India Pvt Ltd has a relatively young workforce in terms of employment duration. The high percentage of employees with 1-5 years of experience suggests a good balance between fresh perspectives and

established knowledge. The lower percentage of long-term employees (more than 10 years) may indicate potential areas for improvement in retention strategies.

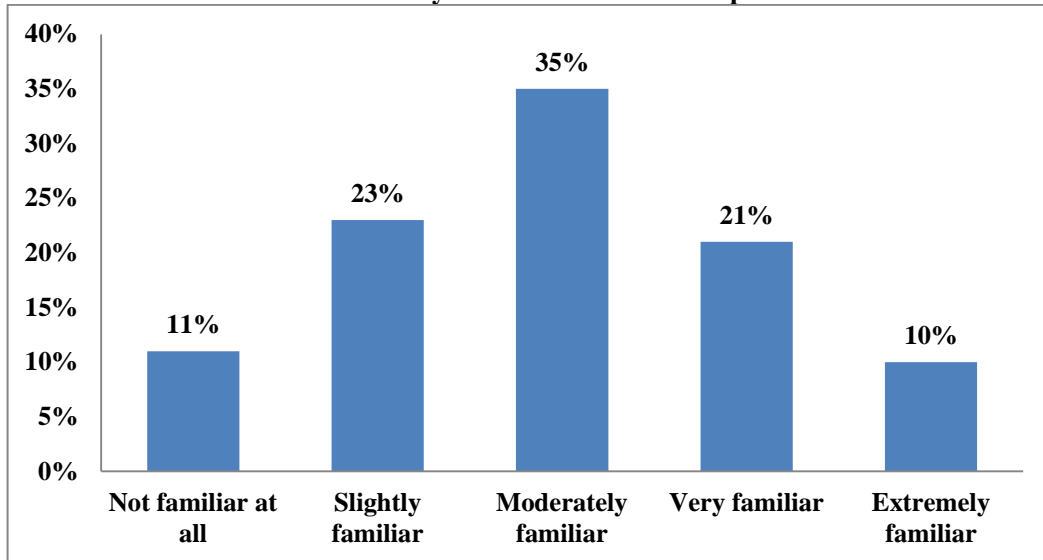
**Table: Familiarity with sustainable HRM practices**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Not familiar at all	11	11%
Slightly familiar	23	23%
Moderately familiar	35	35%
Very familiar	21	21%
Extremely familiar	10	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Analysis:** From the table above, 35% of respondents are moderately familiar with sustainable HRM practices, while 23% are slightly familiar. 21% are very familiar, and 11% are not familiar at all. Only

10% consider themselves extremely familiar with the concept. The majority (58%) have moderate to high familiarity with sustainable HRM practices.

**Chart: Familiarity with sustainable HRM practices**



**Interpretation:** From the chart above, the data suggests a varied level of understanding of sustainable HRM practices among employees. The concentration of responses in the moderate to high familiarity range indicates a general awareness of

the concept. However, there is room for improvement in educating employees about sustainable HRM practices, particularly for the 34% who are slightly familiar or not familiar at all.

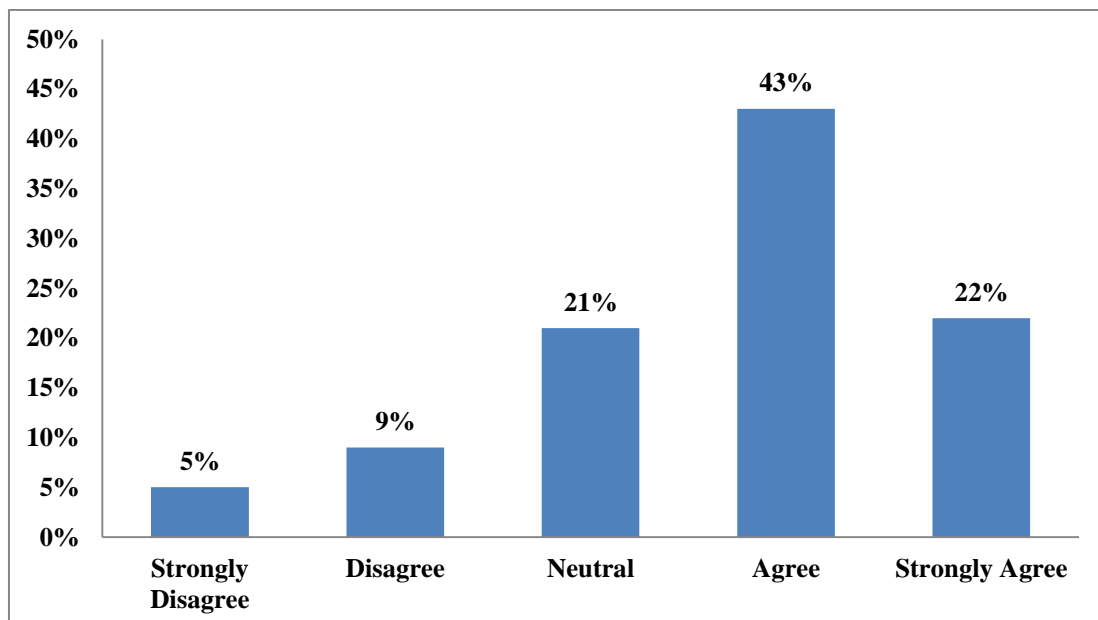
**Table: Belief in positive impact of sustainable HRM on organizational performance**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	5	5%
Disagree	9	9%
Neutral	21	21%
Agree	43	43%
Strongly Agree	22	22%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Analysis:** From the table above, 43% of respondents agree and 22% strongly agree that sustainable HRM practices positively impact organizational performance. 21% remain neutral, while 9%

disagree and 5% strongly disagree. The majority (65%) have a positive perception of sustainable HRM's impact on organizational performance.

**Chart: Belief in positive impact of sustainable HRM on organizational performance**



**Interpretation:**From the chart above, the data suggests a strong belief in the positive impact of sustainable HRM on organizational performance among employees at Alorica India Pvt Ltd. This

indicates that most employees recognize the value of sustainable HRM practices in contributing to the company's success and effectiveness.

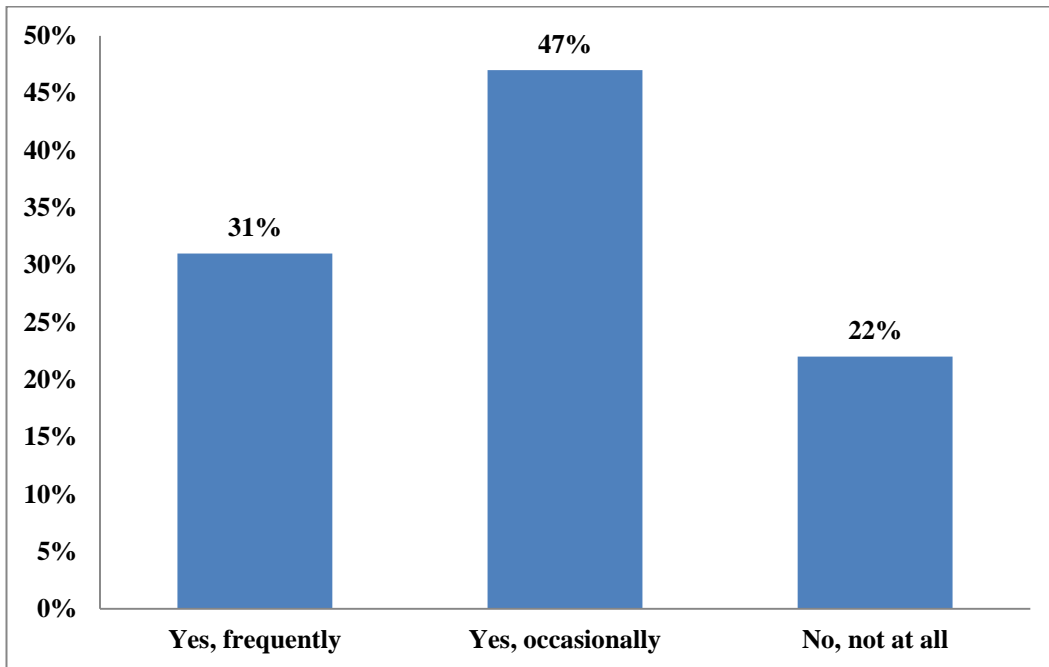
**Table: Observation of sustainable HRM initiatives at Alorica**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes, frequently	31	31%
Yes, occasionally	47	47%
No, not at all	22	22%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Analysis:** From the table above, 31% of respondents observe sustainable HRM initiatives frequently, while 47% observe them occasionally. 22% of

respondents have not observed any such initiatives. The majority (78%) have observed sustainable HRM initiatives at some level within Alorica.

**Chart: Observation of sustainable HRM initiatives at Alorica**



**Interpretation:** From the chart above, the data suggests that Alorica is implementing sustainable HRM initiatives, as 78% of employees have observed them. However, there is room for

improvement in making these initiatives more visible and consistent, as only 31% observe them frequently.

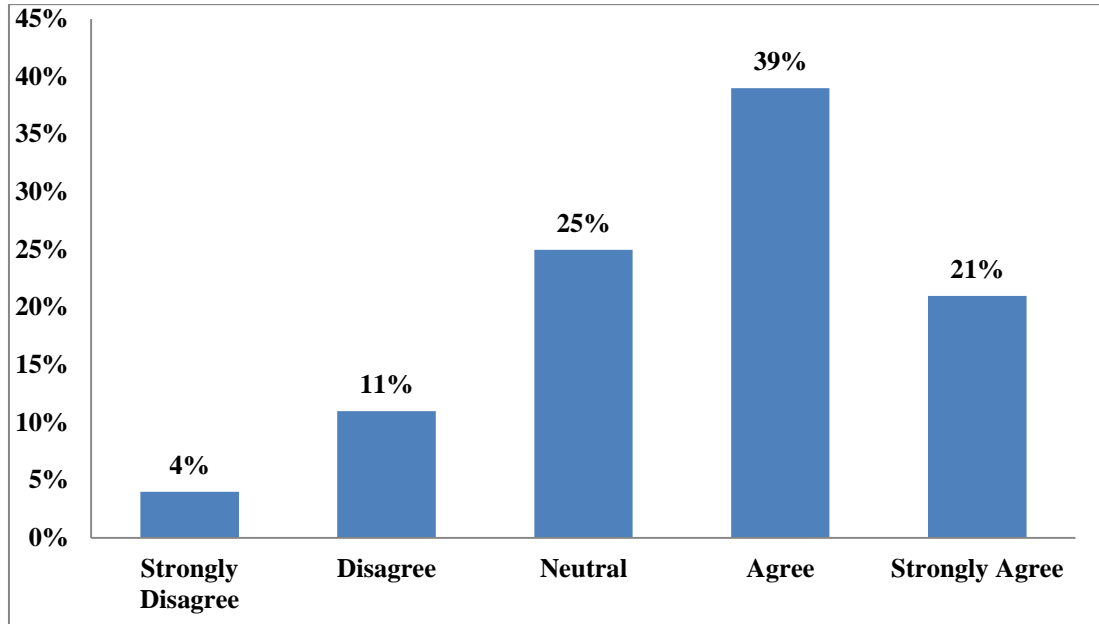
**Table: Perception of sustainable HRM's contribution to employee engagement and satisfaction**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	4	4%
Disagree	11	11%
Neutral	25	25%
Agree	39	39%
Strongly Agree	21	21%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Analysis:** From the table above, 39% of respondents agree and 21% strongly agree that sustainable HRM contributes to employee engagement and satisfaction. 25% remain neutral, while 11%

disagree and 4% strongly disagree. The majority (60%) have a positive perception of sustainable HRM's impact.

**Chart: Perception of sustainable HRM's contribution to employee engagement and satisfaction**



**Interpretation:** From the chart above, the data suggests that most employees at Alorica India Pvt Ltd perceive sustainable HRM practices positively in terms of their contribution to engagement and

satisfaction. This indicates that the company's sustainable HRM initiatives are generally well-received and valued by the workforce.

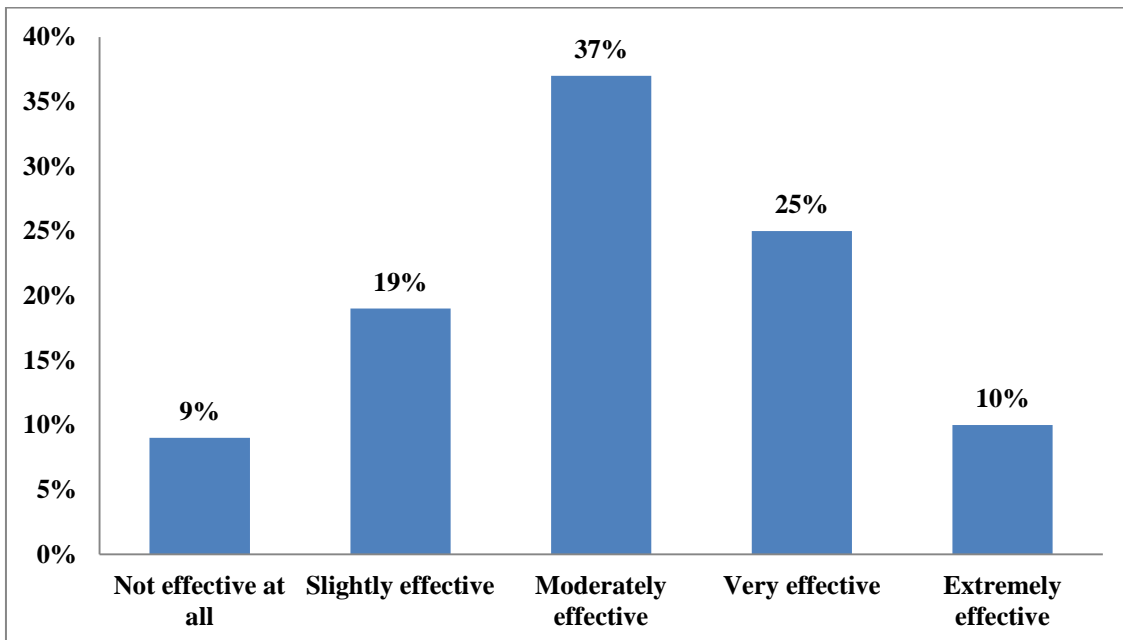
**Table: Effectiveness of communication regarding sustainable HRM practices**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Not effective at all	9	9%
Slightly effective	19	19%
Moderately effective	37	37%
Very effective	25	25%
Extremely effective	10	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Analysis:** From the table above, 37% of respondents find communication moderately effective, while 25% consider it very effective. 19% find it slightly

effective, 10% extremely effective, and 9% not effective at all. The majority (72%) perceive communication effectiveness as moderate or higher.

**Chart: Effectiveness of communication regarding sustainable HRM practices**



**Interpretation:** From the chart above, the data suggests that while communication regarding sustainable HRM practices is generally perceived as effective, there is room for improvement. The

concentration of responses in the moderate to very effective range indicates a positive trend, but the presence of 28% finding it slightly effective or not effective at all highlights areas for enhancement.

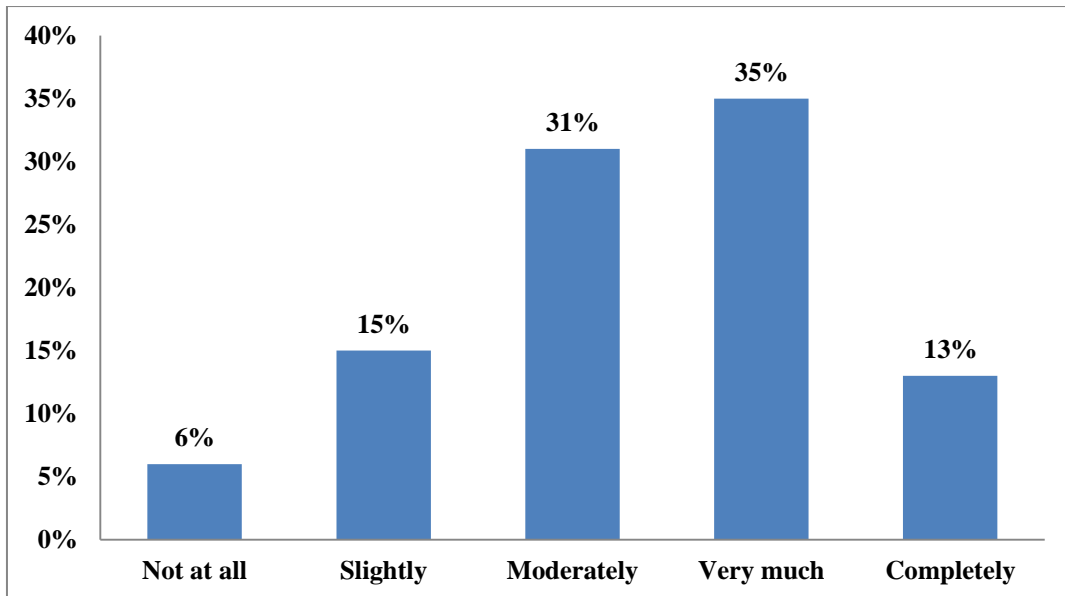
**Table: Alignment of sustainable HRM practices with organizational goals and values**

Response	No of Respondents	Percentage
Not at all	6	6%
Slightly	15	15%
Moderately	31	31%
Very much	35	35%
Completely	13	13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Analysis:** From the table above, 35% of respondents believe sustainable HRM practices align very much with organizational goals and values, while 31% perceive moderate alignment. 15% report slight

alignment, 13% complete alignment, and 6% no alignment at all. The majority (79%) perceive at least moderate alignment between sustainable HRM practices and organizational objectives.

**Chart: Alignment of sustainable HRM practices with organizational goals and values**



**Interpretation:** From the chart above, the data suggests a generally positive perception of alignment between sustainable HRM practices and organizational goals at Alorica India Pvt Ltd. With 48% of respondents indicating strong alignment (very much or completely), there appears to be significant integration of sustainable HRM practices into the company's strategic objectives and core values.

**Findings**

1. The majority of respondents (54%) are between 25-45 years old, indicating a relatively young to middle-aged workforce at Alorica India Pvt Ltd.
2. There is a slight gender imbalance, with 53% male respondents compared to 45% female respondents.
3. Entry-level positions make up the largest group of respondents (41%), followed by middle management (33%), suggesting a pyramid-shaped organizational structure.

4. Most employees (66%) have been with the company for 5 years or less, indicating a relatively new workforce or high turnover rate.
5. The majority of respondents (66%) are at least moderately familiar with sustainable HRM practices, showing a good level of awareness within the organization.
6. A significant portion of employees (65%) agree or strongly agree that sustainable HRM practices positively impact organizational performance.

**Suggestions**

1. Enhance communication strategies: While 72% of respondents find communication about sustainable HRM practices at least moderately effective, there's room for improvement. Develop more robust communication channels to ensure all employees are well-informed about these practices and their benefits.

2. Focus on employee retention: With 66% of employees having been with the company for 5 years or less, implement targeted retention strategies within the sustainable HRM framework to reduce turnover and retain valuable talent.
3. Bridge the awareness gap: Although 66% of respondents are at least moderately familiar with sustainable HRM practices, there's still a significant portion who are not. Develop training programs to increase awareness and understanding among all employees.
4. Strengthen the link between sustainable HRM and motivation: While 57% feel motivated due to sustainable HRM practices, there's potential to increase this. Highlight the connection between these practices and individual/organizational success to boost motivation levels.
5. Improve alignment with organizational goals: Although 79% believe sustainable HRM practices align with company goals, strive for even better integration. Clearly communicate how these practices support Alorica's overall mission and objectives.

### Conclusion

The comprehensive analysis of sustainable HRM practices at Alorica India Pvt Ltd reveals a generally positive perception among employees, with significant potential for further enhancement and impact. The survey results indicate that a majority of employees recognize the value of sustainable HRM initiatives and their contribution to organizational performance, employee engagement, and overall job satisfaction.

The data suggests that Alorica has made commendable progress in implementing and communicating sustainable HRM practices, with most employees observing these initiatives in action. The alignment of these practices with organizational goals and values is particularly noteworthy, as it demonstrates a cohesive approach to human resource management that considers long-term sustainability.

The findings also highlight areas for improvement, particularly in terms of employee retention, awareness levels among some staff members, and the perceived effectiveness of communication regarding sustainable HRM practices. The relatively young workforce and high proportion of entry-level positions present both challenges and opportunities for Alorica to leverage sustainable HRM in fostering career development and long-term employee commitment.

The strong belief among employees that sustainable HRM practices will play a significant role in Alorica's future success is encouraging. This sentiment provides a solid foundation for the company to build upon, refining and expanding its

sustainable HRM initiatives to further enhance employee well-being, motivation, and organizational performance.

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## AI in E-commerce: Applications, Implications and Challenges in Indian Marketing

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### Abstract

Artificial intelligence (AI) is a large subject of computer wisdom devoted to the development of intelligent computers able of doing tasks that would generally need mortal intelligence. AI programming focuses on three cognitive processes learning, logic, and tone-correction. Numerous E-Commerce enterprises moment employ artificial intelligence to more understand their guests and meet their prospects. Machine literacy, the most popular subset of AI technology, can make sense of all the data that online stores collect and use it to give receptivity that ameliorate client experience, streamline internal business operations, and combat fraud. This paper principally aims to identify some crucial operations of AI e-commerce by reviewing exploration papers from colorful sources. The study concluded that AI has great impact on perfecting the effectiveness e-commerce companies and these companies are investing further and further with coming time to help their business to grow and boom in the recent time.

**Keywords:** Artificial intelligence, E-Commerce, Machine literacy, effectiveness and receptivity.

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### Introduction:

Electronic - commerce has changed the way business is done in World , bringing in millions of consumers and millions of bones in transaction. The largest member of thee-commerce request in India is fashion, followed by electronics and also home and kitchen products. The swift- growing-e-commerce companies in India include Flipkart, Part, Amazon and Shop suggestions. 3-commerce request will regard for 2.5 percent of India's Gross Development by 2030 and growing 15 times and reaching (USD) 300 billion. E-commerce has revolutionized the way products are bought and vended in India. In the history, consumers had to calculate on traditional store-grounded shopping to buy the products they demanded. With the arrival of e-commerce, still, consumers now have the capability to buy products directly from the manufacturer or seller, at lower costs and with lesser convenience. The Indian-commerce request is anticipated to grow to US\$ 111.40 billion by 2025 from US\$ 46.2 billion as of 2020.

Thee-commerce assiduity in India is growing at an exponential rate. In 2018, thee-commerce request in India was valued at roughly 22 billion U.S. bones . This number is anticipated to reach 200 billion U.S. bones by 2027, visual representation of current trends in request size e-commerce in India as well as the growth can be achieved by the time 2027. The Indian e-commerce-request is anticipated to come a major motorist of the country's GDP by 2025, contributing to as important as 8 percent-of the

GDP by that time. India's consumer Internet frugality (e-commerce assiduity) is set to touch the 100 billion mark for the first time in 2021 driven by massive growth in consumer relinquishment across sectors. The Indian e-commerce industry is booming at a fast pace. Deal with benefit is one of the e-commerce companies that fit into the criteria of being one of the best e-commerce companies in India. Deal with benefit has changed the way commerce is done in India presents an examination of the Best 10 E-commerce locales in India for 2020 as per month-to-month activity on each location by the potential leads and customers. While Amazon is at the beat of the list, there are exceptionally few other American brands in the best ten. The beat ten is overwhelmed by Indian and Asian brands. Moreover, the Indian e-commerce scene has a great blend of immaculate e-commerce players and brick-and-mortar retailers turned e-commerce behemoths. While the Indian e-commerce segment is still in its early stages, it is an advertisement wealthy in opportunity; with so numerous individuals comes so much room for major and minor players to take inexpensive cut of the Indian e-commerce.

**1. Flipkart (Established: 2007)** Flipkart, a family title in India, gloats the title of the biggest e-commerce company in the nation. The company offers a tremendous item catalog including sold, hardware, domestic apparatuses, furniture, and much more. Flipkart is known for its competitive costs, visit deals occasions, and vigorous conveyance arrange. In 2018, Flipkart

was obtained by Walmart, advance cementing its position as a prevailing player in the Indian e-commerce marks.

2. **Amazon India (Established: 2008)** A recognizable title on the worldwide arrangement, Amazon set up its nearness in India in 2008 and has ended up a furious competitor to Flipkart. Amazon India offers a wide choice of items over different categories, counting its possess private-label brands. The company is known for its Prime participation program, which gives select bargains, free one-day conveyance, and get to gushing services
3. **Mesho (Established: 2015)** Mesh has taken the Indian e-commerce scene by storm with its inventive social commerce model. The stage enables people to get to be affiliates, sharing item catalogs and gaining commissions on deals created through their social systems. Mesh's center on reasonableness and its solid nearness in tier-2 and tier-3 cities has contributed to its quick growth.
4. **Myntra (Established: 2007)** Acquired by Flipkart in 2014, Myntra is India's driving online design goal. The stage offers a curated determination of clothing, footwear, adornments, and magnificence items from a blend of built-up and up-and-coming brands. Myntra is known for its user-friendly interface, customized-suggestions, and visit fashion-focused deals events.
5. **Tata Clip (Established: 2016)** Backed by the Tata Gather, one of India's most trusted combinations, Tata Clip positions itself as a premium e-commerce stage. The stage offers a curated determination of bona fide items over different categories, counting sold, hardware, homeward, and excellence. Tata Clip centers on giving a consistent shopping involvement with guaranteed quality and brand-authorized products.
6. **India Mart (Established: 1996)** While not a conventional consumer-facing e-commerce stage, India Mart is a pivotal player in India's B2B (business-to-business) e-commerce space. The stage acts as a commercial center interfacing producers, providers, and wholesalers, encouraging online exchanges and cultivating exchange inside India and internationally. IndiaMart plays a noteworthy part in supporting little and medium businesses by giving them with an advanced stage to reach a more extensive audience.
7. **Shop Clues (Established: 2011)** Shop Clues offers a wide assortment of items over different categories, counting mold, hardware, homeward, and basic supplies. The stage is known for its competitive estimating and visit markdown offers. Shop Clues-has confronted a

few challenges in later a long time but remains a significant player in the Indian e-commerce landscape.

8. **Snap Deal (Established: 2010)** Another built up player in the Indian e-commerce advertise, Snap-deal, offers a wide choice of items at competitive costs. The stage has a solid nearness in value-conscious markets and caters to a different client base. Snap-deal has executed key associations to grow its reach and item offerings.
9. **First Cry (Established: 2010)** First Cry is India's driving online store committed to parenthood, child, and kid items. The stage offers a comprehensive run of items, counting clothing, toys, diapers, bolstering basics, and nursery furniture. First Cry caters to the particular needs of guardians and gives master exhortation and curated item recommendations.
10. **Nykaa (Established: 2012)** Nykaa has carved a specialty for itself as India's chief online excellence goal. The stage offers a curated choice of cosmetics, skincare, haircare, and individual care items from both residential and universal brands. Nykaa too offers its claim private-label items, which have picked up critical ubiquity among consumers.

#### **Social Commerce:**

The social commerce industry is at a tipping point. Since its beginning, the division has been a catalyst for alter in the way businesses work, with different businesses making a worldview move in the social commerce division. As such, the industry is seeing an upward winding of development.

The social commerce industry is seeing an upward winding of development, as businesses of all sizes figure it out the benefits of leveraging the control of social systems to construct and grow their client bases. For the to begin with time ever, social commerce is an industry that can be measured on a worldwide scale, with industry income in the US alone anticipated to hit \$33.2 billion by 2022, up from \$10.6 billion in 2017. The cash being gone through on social commerce publicizing is moreover being seen by marketers as a speculation that pays off in the shape of expanded deals, with the top-performing social commerce campaigns coming about in a 7x return on speculation. The social commerce industry is anticipated to create more than \$100 billion in worldwide deals in 2022, with a huge lion's share of that coming from brands contributing in the right influencers and making the right advanced substance to be shared on the right stages. Social commerce stages are making the most of the control of social media by contributing in the right influencers and making the right advanced substance to be shared on the right platforms.



### **Cybersecurity in E-Commerce:**

The potential for fake insights in security is gigantic. Machine learning can offer assistance distinguish assaults, anticipate modern ones from happening, and react more viably to dangers when they do develop. But the same innovation that gives security frameworks a boost can too allow cybercriminals unused roads of assault. If the objective is to secure frameworks without giving cybercriminals modern apparatuses to utilize, machine learning must be taken care of with care. Artificial insights (AI) has the potential to make our lives superior, but it too has the potential to make our security frameworks less viable. The same AI that can spot a potential cyber danger can too be utilized to make unused eras of malware that can sidestep discovery. As a result, AI has ended up a polarizing theme in cybersecurity. . To begin with, machines must be given adequate preparing to convey compelling security protections. Moment, machines must not be abused. In other words, machine learning frameworks must not be utilized to supplant human mastery in finding and redressing vulnerabilities.

### **Challenges in Ai in E-Commerce Sector**

**Need of AI Talents:** In September 2019, IDC forecasted that 97.9 billion dollars would be gone through on AI innovation by 2023. AI proceeds to develop at an unfaltering rate as more individuals acknowledge the concept of AI and perceive its noteworthiness in today's advanced world. This rising request for AI moreover implies a rise in request for AI tech designers. This is upheld by reports showing a 74 percent yearly increment in request for AI ability from 2016 to 2019. Be that as it may, there aren't sufficient actually talented individuals accessible to address the increment in request of AI ability .AI too hasn't been completely acknowledged by colleges to be given as a major specialization so that understudies can be mindful around its significance from the exceptionally starting of their college life and encourage driving to brief of AI gifts. With increment in association of digitization in out day-to-day life, AI ought to be made an obligatory subject in schools and colleges so that the future do not come into a circumstance where they have inexhaustible scope to go into the following level of digitization but not sufficient assets to back the advancement. Additionally, in the AI trade, there is an ability deficiency at all levels of competence and encounter. This makes gigantic enlisting difficulties.

### **Future and Scope of AI in E-Commerce:**

It is said that the larger part of the time of supervisors of companies will go on checking how the innovation and calculation is working for their company and whether it is procuring them great income or not; this expectation clearly clarifies the significance that AI will hold in future of E-

commerce division. After entering into the modern typical customer inclinations have moved radically from physical arrange of shopping to computerized shopping since of the helpful highlights it offers such as less cash went through on voyaging to retail shops, less time and dispensing with the topographical boundaries that the clients utilized to confront whereas shopping through retail shops and clearly these might too be the reason that the move is irreversible presently. As a result, commerce businesses are progressively centering on AI ventures to move forward the entirety client encounter. The conceivable outcomes for leveraging AI are unending, from overseeing hundreds of online deal orders each day to handling exchanges. AI not as it were helps and complements businesspeople, but it moreover speeds up strategies in arrange to decrease client drop-off rates. The more we burrow onto the AI matter, the more application of AI can be found in E-commerce subsequently making its presence and integration vital for the survival of businesses in the close future. The future of AI and how much income AI is anticipated to create through its different components and highlights i.e. depending upon how they are utilized by 2025 Since the utilize of AI has as of now advertised clients a helpful way of life and commerce a way through which they can perform exercises viably and proficiently, the propensity of being coordinates with AI cannot be switched presently making it vital for individuals to burrow onto its matter more to take off a superior impact.

### **Conclusion**

The think about relates to get it the applications of AI in E-commerce segments. To ponder-investigated in detail all the applications, major companies, challenges and future scope of AI in E-commerce divisions. To consider conclude that AI holds a capable effect on E-commerce and points to bring modern patterns in the close future. AI can alter the companies and the system inside which the E-commerce websites work and gives modern touch subsequently supplanting the conventional and physical way of shopping for their clients. The modern and up-and-coming patterns in the showcase, AI furred E-commerce companies can discover out modern ways to pull in unused clients and hold the existing ones. AI has broadened the scope of conducting commerce for e-commerce companies and will proceed to open a modern skyline with passing time. An e-commerce commerce can utilize AI to investigations the enormous sums of information it gets each moment without breaking a sweat. The request for such innovation in e-commerce will develop indeed more in the future.

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## A Study of Freshwater Macroinvertebrates as Bio-Indicator in Lotic Water Body of Pandharpur Tehsil, Solapur M.S.India

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### Abstract

This paper deals with, study of freshwater macroinvertebrates as bio-indicator in lotic water body of Pandharpur Tehsil, Solapur. Macroinvertebrates are the small invertebrates seen with naked eyes including Phylum arthropoda, molluscan. The macroinvertebrate act as bio-indicator. The present study was carried out during a period of two years 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 to 30<sup>th</sup> February 2023. In this study 27 species of macroinvertebrates, 13 molluscan species and 14 arthropodan species were found in lotic water body such as Bhima river. They were belonged to 2 phyla, molluscan and arthropodan. The total 14 orders such as Basommatophora, Neotaeniglossa, Mesogastropoda, Architaenioglossa Trigoionida, Unionoida, Veneroida, Venerida, Eulamellibrachia, Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Plecoptera, Odonata, Decapoda 18 families such as Lymnaeidae, Thiaridae, Viviparidae, Unionidae, Corbiculidae, Planorbidae, Cyrenidae, Dytiscidae, Hydrophilidae, Gyridae, Elmidae, Gerridae, Perlidae, Libellulidae, Coenagrionidae, Palaemonidae, Penaeidae, 5 classes Gastropoda, Bivalvia, Pelecypoda, Insecta and Malacostraca. As per BMWP Score 27 macroinvertebrates species, 7 species was pollution tolerant and 11 species was pollution sensitive. The species *Lymnea acuminata*, *Lamellidens marginalis*, *Melanoides tuberculata* were common and Dragonfly naiad species, *Pantala flavescens* species were rare.

**Keywords:** Bhima river, Bio-indicator, Macroinvertebrates, Molluscs, Arthropods, Pandharpur tehsil.

### Introduction:

Macro means big and invertebrates means without backbone. Macroinvertebrates are small organisms inhabiting aquatic ecosystems and play a vital role in reflecting the health of this environment. Aquatic macroinvertebrates take an important role in responding to the quality of the ecological state of rivers and streams and hence apply as bioindicators for the assessment quality of water are pollution indicators (Sharma *et al.*, 2006). Macroinvertebrates including phyla arthropod (insects, mites and crustaceans), mollusca (Gastropoda and Bivalves), annelida (oligochaetes), nematoda and platyhelminthes (Silva *et al.*, 2009). These species are most sensitive to water pollution and react to minimal disturbances in their environments. Aquatic macroinvertebrates are good bio-indicators which indicates good water quality (Sharma and Chowdhary 2011). Freshwater macroinvertebrates that act as bio-indicator (Dacayana *et al.*, 2013). Macroinvertebrates are used as bio-indicators in many studies evaluating the biological quality of aquatic ecosystems (Gouissi *et al.*, 2019). Macroinvertebrates are commonly used as bio-indicators of water quality due to their variability in pollution sensitivity, i.e. mayfly nymphs, dragonflies and damselfly, aquatic worms are pollution sensitive, thus their presence would indicate very low levels of pollution aquatic worms and midge larvae are pollution tolerant and survive

in less-than-ideal conditions such as high/low pH and low dissolved oxygen (Villaroman, 2022). Macroinvertebrates constitute a majority of river biota and occupy a variety of microhabitats, such as rocks, logs, sediments, debris and aquatic plants (Aweng *et al.*, 2012). They perform important ecological functions, including material decomposition, nutrient cycling and the regulation of food webs through their role as consumers at intermediate trophic level (Wallace and Webster, 1996; Covich *et al.*, 1999). The macroinvertebrates serve as good bioindicators of river health, by which, their bioindicators of river health, by which, their presence or abundance may indicate the changes of aquatic environment. In river biomonitoring, the macroinvertebrates are grouped into functional feeding groups based on the ways of the fauna utilize and process their foods (Merrit *et al.*, 2008). The macroinvertebrates are the most common faunal assemblages for bioassessment because they provide more reliable assessment of long term ecological alterations in the quality of aquatic ecosystem (Ojija and Laizer 2016).

The present investigation macroinvertebrates act as bio-indicators, was carried out in Bhima river, Solapur district, Western Maharashtra. The study was done monthly for period of two years during March 2021 to February 2023, to understand the role of macroinvertebrates as bio-indicator and their diversity.

## Material and Method

### A. Study Area

Bhima river is started from Patwardhankuroli and ended in Suste (Tarapur) in Pandharpur tehsil. For a complete perception of the Bhima river in Pandharpur tehsil, four different study sites were selected such as Ahilya bridge, Pundlik temple, Gopalpur, and Mundhewadi according to human anthropogenic activity and distance between each sampling station 5 Km, The river Bhima is one of the main rivers in Pandharpur tehsil, Solapur district, Maharashtra. The length of the Bhima river from Patwardhankuroli to Suste (Tarapur) is 28 Km in Pandharpur city. It is geographically located between  $18^{\circ}53'133''$ N latitude and  $70^{\circ}23'50.79''$ E longitude. It is a major water source in Pandharpur tehsil. It is a major river before entering in Krishna river (Patil *et al.*,2014). The Bhima river has prime

tributaries such as Mula-Mutha, Bhor, Ghod, Pavna, Sina, and Indrayani (Pachorkar and Ravindra 2017). The Geographical location of Bhima river is  $19^{\circ}4'19''$  N latitude and  $73^{\circ}32'9''$  E longitude. The Bhima river is a tributary of the Krishna river, it is also referred to as the Chandrabhaga river in Maharashtra. It originates at Bhimashankar, a mountain range in Pune district in Maharashtra (Kumbhar *et al.*,2018). The Bhima river flows through three states Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Telangana in the country. In Maharashtra, it flows through Pune, Ahmadnagar, and Solapur district. The total length of this river is 861km (535 miles) (Kumbhar *et al.*,2018). The total area of the Bhima river basin is 70,614 Km<sup>2</sup> and it flows to the Southeast. The Bhima river, in Maharashtra covers an area of 46,184 sq. km.

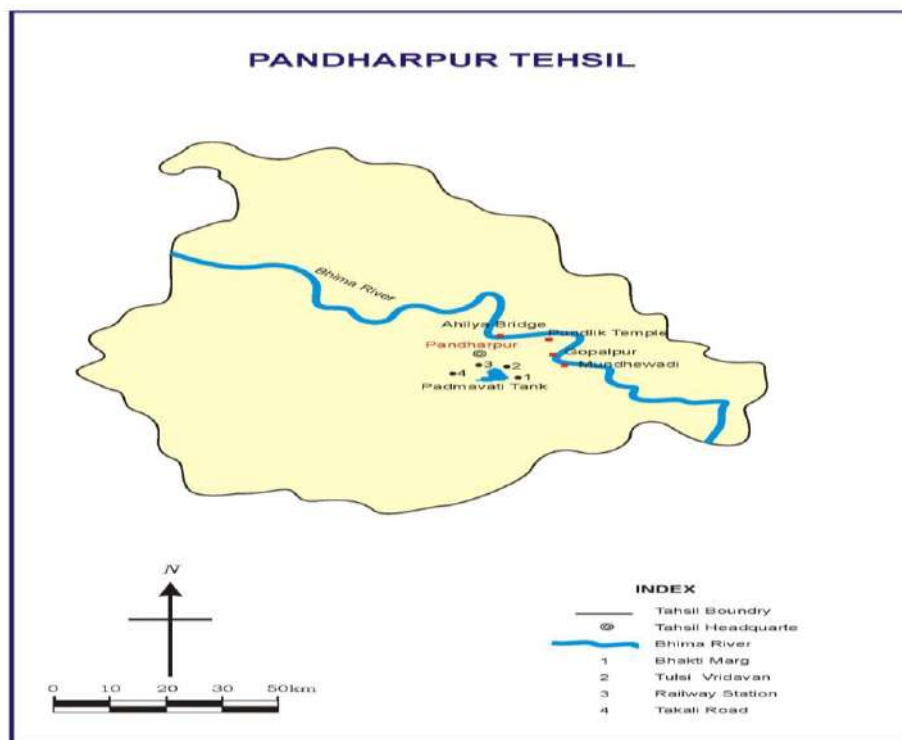


Fig. Map showing study sites of Bhima river Pandharpur tehsil, Solapur.

### B. Materials and Method

The collection of freshwater macroinvertebrates was made from eight sampling stations in the study area. Samples were collected over two years from March 2021 to February 2023 at morning time 09:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The samples were collected by 3 min Kick method with a D-frame net and some shelled specimens manually collected by hand picking and was placed in a bottle preserved in 70% ethanol. The collected specimens were recorded and counted separately sampling station-wise and species-wise. The mean of the total samples was calculated from the data. Macroinvertebrate species were collected, observed, identified, and again released to their habitat. Only shells found in rivers and lakes were retained for further study. The

identification of species of macroinvertebrates was carried out by using standard key guides of Bouchard (2004) and Hartman (2006) and the Handbook on Indian Freshwater Molluscs. The some identification was confirmed to ZSI Western Regional Centre, Pune.

The BMWP score method is based on benthic macroinvertebrate families that were assigned a score from 1 to 10 based on their pollution tolerance, with the most tolerant species giving the highest score (Armitage *et al.*,1983). BMWP scores were calibrated to each ecological condition. BMWP scores consider the sensitivity of macroinvertebrates to oxygen depletion. Higher the BMWP score designate polluted water.















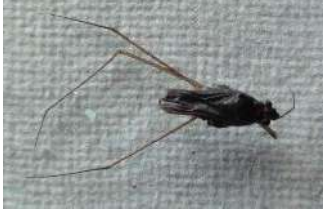






## Results and Discussion

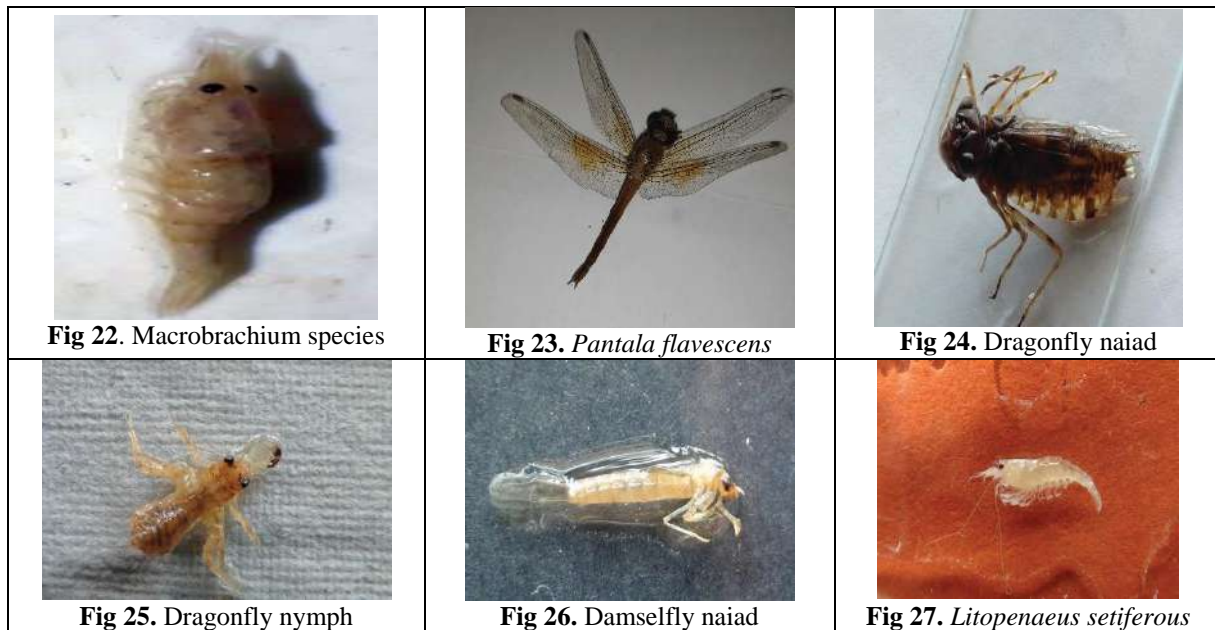
Table.1. List of macroinvertebrate species observed at different study sites of the Bhima river from March 2021 to February 2023.

Sr. No.	Phylum	Class	Order	Family	Macroinvertebrate species (Genus and Species)	
1.	Mollusca	Gastropoda	Basommatophora	Lymnaeidae	<i>Lymnaea luteola</i>	
					<i>Lymnaea (Pseudosuccinea) acuminata</i>	
			Neotaenioglossa	Thiaridae	<i>Tarebia sp.</i>	
			Mesogastropoda		<i>Melanoides tuberculata</i>	
					<i>Bellamya bengalensis</i>	
			Architaenioglossa	Viviparidae	<i>Tarebia lineata</i>	
		Bivalvia	Trigoinoidea	Unionidae	<i>Bellamya sp.</i>	
			Unionoidea		<i>Lamellidens marginalis</i>	
			Veneroidea	Corbiculidae	<i>Parreysia sp.</i>	
				Planorbidae	<i>Corbicula striatella</i>	
			Venerida	Cyrenidae	<i>Indoplanorbis exustus</i>	
					<i>Corbicula fluminalis</i>	
Pelecypoda	Eulamellibrachia	Unionidae	<i>Lamellidens sp.</i>			
2.	Arthropoda	Insecta	Coleoptera	Dytiscidae	<i>Hydroglyphus flammulatus</i>	
					Hydrophilidae	<i>Berosus pulchellus</i>
					Gyrinidae	<i>Dineutus spinosus</i>
						<i>Patrus ribeiroi</i>
					Elmidae	<i>Stenelmis indica</i>
				Hemiptera	Gerridae	<i>Cylindrostethus sp.</i>
						<i>Gerris (Fabricius) sp.</i>
				Plecoptera	Perlidae	<i>Stonefly naiad sp.</i>
				Odonata	Libellulidae	<i>Bradinopyga germinate</i>
						<i>Pantala flavescens</i>
						<i>Dragonfly naiad sp.</i>
					Coenagrionidae	<i>Damselfly naiad sp.</i>
			Malacostraca	Decapoda	Palaemonidae	<i>Macrobrachium sp.</i>
					Penaeidae	<i>Litopenaeus setiferus</i>

Table2. Biological Monitoring Work Party Score (BMWP) of Bhima river from March 2021 to February 2023

Phylum	Class	Order	Family	BMWP Score
Mollusca	Bivalvia	2.Veneroidea	Corbiculidae	6
		3.Venerida	Cyrenidae	7
	Pelecypoda	1. Unionoidea	Unionidae	6
		2. Eulamellibrachia		
	Gastropoda	1.Basommatophora	1.Lymnaeidae	6
			2.Planorbidae	3
2.Mesogastropoda		Thiaridae	6	
	5.Architaenioglossa	Viviparidae	6	
Arthropoda	Insecta	Coleoptera	2. Hydrophilidae	3
			3. Gyrinidae	3
			4. Elmidae	5
			5. Dytiscidae	3
			Hemiptera	1.Gerridae
		1. Plecoptera	1. Perlidae	10
		2.Odonata	2. Libellulidae	8
Malacostraca	Decapoda	Coenagrionidae	8	
		1Palaemonidae	3	
		2.Penaeidae	6	
BMWP Score is = 92.				

 <p><b>Fig 1.</b> <i>Bellamya bengalensis</i></p>	 <p><b>Fig 2.</b> <i>Lymnaea luteola</i></p>	 <p><b>Fig 3.</b> <i>Tarebia lineata</i></p>
 <p><b>Fig 4.</b> <i>Melanoides tuberculata</i></p>	 <p><b>Fig 5.</b> <i>Bellamya</i> species</p>	 <p><b>Fig 6.</b> <i>Lymnea acuminata</i></p>
 <p><b>Fig 7.</b> <i>Tarebia</i> species</p>	 <p><b>Fig 8.</b> <i>Lamellidens</i> species</p>	 <p><b>Fig 9.</b> <i>Corbicula striatella</i></p>
 <p><b>Fig 10.</b> <i>Corbicula fluminalis</i></p>	 <p><b>Fig 11.</b> <i>Parreysia</i> species</p>	 <p><b>Fig 12.</b> <i>Indoplanorbis exustus</i></p>
 <p><b>Fig 13.</b> <i>Gerris</i> species</p>	 <p><b>Fig 14.</b> <i>Berosus pulchellus</i></p>	 <p><b>Fig 15.</b> <i>Cylindrostethus</i> species</p>
 <p><b>Fig 16.</b> <i>Hydroglyphus flammulatus</i></p>	 <p><b>Fig 17.</b> Stonefly naiad</p>	 <p><b>Fig 18.</b> <i>Dineutus spinosus</i></p>
 <p><b>Fig 19.</b> <i>Patrus ribeiroi</i></p>	 <p><b>Fig 20.</b> <i>Stenelmis indica</i></p>	 <p><b>Fig 21.</b> <i>Bradinopyga germinata</i></p>



The 27 species of macroinvertebrates belonged to 2 phyla, 14 orders, 18 families, 5 classes, and 27 genera. (Table 1). The phylum Mollusca consists of 13 species. These 13 species of molluscan were included in 3 classes such as Gastropoda, Bivalvia, Pelecypoda. The class gastropoda was dominant throughout study period. The 9 orders, Basommatophora, Neotaeniglossa, Mesogastropoda, Architaenioglossa, Trigoionida, Unionoida, Veneroida, Venerida, Eulamellibrachia and 7 families, Lymnaeidae, Thiaridae, Viviparidae, Unionidae, Corbiculidae, Planorbidae, Cyrenidae. The family Lymnaeidae and Unionidae were common in all study sites. The species *Lymnea luteola*, *Melanoides tuberculata*, *Corbicula striatella*, *Parreysia* species, *Lamellidens* species were dominant throughout study period. The phylum Arthropoda consists of 14 species. They belonged to 2 classes, Insecta and Malacostraca. The class Insecta was dominant with 4 orders, Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Plecoptera, and Odonata, and 8 families, Dytiscidae, Hydrophilidae, Gyrinidae, Elmidae, Gerridae, Perlidae, Libellulidae, Coenagrionidae. The family libellulidae was dominant. The species of damselfly nymph was dominant as compared to the remaining species of class Insecta. *Pantala flavescens*, was rarely recorded. The class Malacostraca consists of 2 species *Macrobrachium* species, *Litopenaeus setiferus* belonging to the order Decapoda and family, Palaemonidae, and Penaeidae. On the other hand, the *Gerris* species of family Gerridae has a smaller number of individuals compared to other species and was commonly observed in the water surface of Bhima river. Among the 27 species of the macroinvertebrates 11 species were pollution sensitive and 6 species were pollution tolerant.

Slavevska-Stamenkovic *et al.*, (2011) they were reported that in the bottom fauna of the Pcinja river, Macedonia 14 families from 13 animal groups

**Supriya Nanaso chougule, Prof. Dr. Abdar M. R**

were recorded. Mary and Marcina (2012) they were reported that a total of 37 families under 15 orders representing 7 classes, and 13574 individuals of Mananga river, Cebu, Philippines. Elias *et al.*, (2014) they were reported that a total of 12,527 macroinvertebrates belonging to 13 orders and 48 families, in Tanzanian rivers in Tropical African regions. Labajo-Villantes and Nuneza (2015) they have reported 4 classes with 31 families consisting of 1217 individuals of macroinvertebrates were recorded in Labo river and 26 families comprising 2205 individuals in Clarin River, Misamis Occidental, Philippines. Muli *et al.*, (2019) they were reported that a total of 1154 individuals of macroinvertebrates from 10 orders, 43 families and 66 genera were collected from Upper Baleh River, Sarawak, Malaysia. Lad (2023) reported that 27 species of Macroinvertebrates belong to 3 phyla, 10 orders, 16 families, and 6 classes in Krishna river, Sangli.

#### Conclusion:

This study has provided the first comprehensive and taxonomical data of macroinvertebrate communities as reference to moderately impacted study site of Bhima river. However, there is a need for more intensive study on the entire length of Bhima river basin. As macroinvertebrates remained to be a key indicator of pollution in aquatic ecosystem, order mesogastropoda and odonata with more diverse taxa. The more number of pollution sensitive order and pollution tolerant indicate that the study site of Bhima river was moderately polluted.

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## Representation of the Transgender Community in Kashmir's Print Media: A Study

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### Abstract

In the hetero-patriarchal society of Kashmir, the transgender community faces intense harassment and stigmatization, which has pushed them to the margins with limited opportunities for survival. Despite landmark legal decisions in India over the past decade aimed at uplifting the transgender community, those in Kashmir continue to struggle for basic acceptance and societal recognition. They face numerous challenges, including being forced to drop out of school due to bullying, lack of access to proper healthcare, housing insecurity, and constant harassment. Living in an extremely hostile and intimidating social environment, transgender individuals are often unable to openly discuss their daily struggles due to the deep-seated taboo surrounding their identity. This study, focused on the context of Kashmir, draws on the theoretical frameworks of Gerbner and Gross, along with Tuchman's concept of symbolic annihilation, examines how local media in Kashmir symbolically annihilates or misrepresents the transgender community.

**Keywords:** Transgender, Kashmir, Symbolic Annihilation, Under-Representation, Mis-Representation, Newspapers.

### Introduction

The transgender community in Kashmir continues to face deep estrangement, abuse, and social stigmatization, both within familial settings and in the broader society (Rather, 2018). This marginalized group has been systematically denied social, cultural, and legal rights, and their longstanding calls for acceptance and respect have largely gone unheeded (Zahoo, 2018). Discrimination against transgender individuals typically begins during adolescence. In educational settings, they frequently encounter bullying, exclusion, and a hostile atmosphere. These adverse experiences often result in high dropout rates, which in turn severely limit their eligibility for employment in both the public and private sectors (Ahmad, 2017).

The alienation faced by transgender people extends beyond the classroom and into their homes. Many are subjected to physical abuse and rejection by their own families, forcing them to seek alternative housing. However, securing rental accommodation is fraught with difficulties, as landlords often impose restrictive conditions, demanding that tenants conform to traditional societal norms. Beyond housing, transgender individuals are systematically deprived of property rights, denied entry to mosques, excluded from job opportunities, and sometimes even refused burial spaces in graveyards (Iqbal, 2017). These

deprivations exacerbate their marginalization and underscore their exclusion from basic societal institutions.

The challenges faced by transgender people in Kashmir intensify with age. As they grow older, many are left to cope with extreme isolation and neglect, which often leads to deteriorating health and pervasive loneliness (Shah, 2020). Despite legal mandates recognizing transgender individuals as a third gender and granting them equal rights (Venkatesan, 2016), societal attitudes remain deeply discriminatory. Consequently, many are forced into a limited range of occupations for financial survival, reflecting their continued socioeconomic marginalization (Bund, 2013). In a conservative society like Kashmir, where hetero-normative ideals dominate, transgender individuals are often perceived as deviant or morally corrupt simply because they challenge traditional binary gender norms. This stigmatization, for which they are not responsible, fuels further exclusion and prejudice (Masoodi, 2018).

The persistent harassment and societal rejection have profound mental health implications for the transgender community. They are disproportionately affected by mental health issues such as depression, suicidal ideation, panic disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Living in an environment characterized by hostility and intimidation, many

transgender individuals in Kashmir remain unable to openly discuss their struggles due to the pervasive social taboos surrounding their identities (Rafiqi, 2021).

In the contemporary era of globalization, media has emerged as a powerful tool for informing and educating the public about global and local events (Matos, 2012). Media's influence extends beyond mere information dissemination; it shapes societal perceptions, norms, and values, profoundly impacting daily life. By serving as a critical link between the world and its citizens, media holds significant potential to foster awareness and sensitivity regarding gender issues. Ethical and professional media practices can play a crucial role in promoting fair and balanced representations of marginalized communities, including transgender individuals (Gender Equality Commission & Morinière, 2019).

However, numerous studies have demonstrated that global media coverage often remains skewed and unbalanced, contributing to the marginalization of certain groups, including transgender communities (Rao & Taboada, 2021). This study investigates the representation of the transgender community in Kashmiri media, applying the concepts of symbolic annihilation and underrepresentation as articulated by Gerbner and Gross (1976) and Tuchman (1978). By examining the extent to which local media in Kashmir symbolically erases or marginalizes transgender individuals, the study seeks to highlight how media narratives may perpetuate the disenfranchisement of an already vulnerable group.

### **Review of literature**

Historically, media representation has been marred by consistent patterns of misrepresentation or outright exclusion of various marginalized groups, particularly along lines of gender, age, and race. Studies have shown that women, older adults, and racial minorities often face biased or incomplete portrayals that reinforce societal stereotypes (Aubrey & Harrison, 2004; Harwood & Anderson, 2002; Stern, 2005a, 2005b; Coltrane & Messineo, 2000). This phenomenon was first conceptualized by Gerbner and Gross (1976), who introduced the term "symbolic annihilation" to describe how the media's exclusion or distorted representation of specific groups effectively diminishes their social presence. They argued that positive or nuanced portrayals affirm a group's societal relevance, while their absence or negative portrayal reinforces their marginalization and erasure from public consciousness (p. 182). Building on this foundational concept, subsequent scholars have expanded the scope of symbolic annihilation. Merskin (1998a) and Ohye & Daniel (1999b) further defined it as the systematic underrepresentation, trivialization, or exclusion of marginalized

communities. Tuchman (1978) offered a detailed framework, identifying three key dimensions of symbolic annihilation: omission, trivialization, and condemnation. Omission refers to the complete absence of certain groups from media narratives, trivialization involves reducing their roles to insignificant or comical stereotypes, and condemnation portrays these groups in a consistently negative light, often casting them as villains or social deviants.

Merskin (1998b) elaborated on these ideas by emphasizing how media narratives marginalize specific groups, portraying them as peripheral or irrelevant to mainstream society (p. 335). Similarly, Coleman and Yochim (2008) argued that poor media portrayals contribute to the social disempowerment of these communities, effectively erasing them from collective public memory and reinforcing their marginalized status. Pierre Bourdieu (2001a) took this concept further, describing symbolic annihilation as a "subtle form of violence" that denies minority groups their social existence and relevance through media erasure.

The implications of symbolic annihilation extend beyond representation, perpetuating structural inequalities and contributing to social exclusion. Scholars like Yücel (2021) and Andalibi (2021) argue that media's symbolic annihilation reinforces existing power dynamics, denying marginalized groups their rightful place within the broader cultural narrative. Mocarski et al. (2013b) highlighted how transgender individuals are often portrayed in ways that reinforce traditional gender binaries, effectively excluding non-conforming identities from mainstream discourse. This exclusion sends a clear message to audiences: these groups are less important or even irrelevant compared to their heterosexual or cisgender counterparts (Klein & Shiffman, 2009).

Although the advent of digital and new media technologies has brought some improvements in the portrayal of transgender individuals, significant challenges remain. Researchers like Richard (2014) and Ekins & King (2006) note that while visibility has increased, media representations continue to be predominantly negative. Transgender individuals are often depicted through stigmatizing lenses, frequently portrayed as criminals, sex workers, mentally unstable individuals, or as socially marginalized figures (Shelley, 2008a; Davis, 2009). These portrayals contribute to a distorted public perception and reinforce harmful stereotypes. Shelley (2008b) emphasizes that such representations are often incomplete, inaccurate, or lacking in contextual sensitivity, further marginalizing the transgender community.

Despite journalism's commitment to objectivity, biases persist in news media. Swert and Hooghe (2010) found that "news source selection

remains biased” (p. 70), reflecting broader patterns of gender discrimination in media coverage (Armstrong, 2006; Byerly, 2013; Van Zoonen, 1988). Billard (2016) describes a “cycle of ignorance and prejudice” that manifests not only in media portrayals but also in societal attitudes and public policy (pp. 4193–4194). This cycle is often exacerbated by right-wing media outlets, which amplify anti-trans narratives rooted in rigid gender essentialism, further entrenching societal biases (Caraballo & Greenesmith, 2022).

This literature underscores the critical role media plays in shaping societal perceptions and the urgent need for more balanced, fair, and inclusive portrayals of marginalized communities, particularly transgender individuals. Addressing these issues requires a concerted effort to challenge symbolic annihilation, promote ethical media practices, and foster representations that reflect the diversity and complexity of human experiences.

### Research Questions

In light of above discussion, following research questions are framed:

RQ1: Does news media in Kashmir underrepresent and/or symbolically annihilate the transgender community?

RQ3: Do media misrepresent transgender people in Kashmir?

### Objectives

- To assess how transgender community is portrayed by local press in Kashmir.
- To find out if local newspapers in Kashmir ignore, trivialize and condemn the transgender community of the Valley like in other places.
- To explore whether the local media discuss transgenderism in a legitimizing or delegitimizing manner.

### Methodology

#### Content Analysis

This study employed both qualitative and quantitative content analysis to achieve its objectives. Content analysis, as defined by Krippendorff (2004), is a method used to derive meaningful and reproducible insights from various forms of text or media. Berelson (1952) similarly highlighted its effectiveness as an objective, systematic, and quantitative research tool. According to Downe-Wambolt (1992), content analysis helps link research findings to their broader context, enhancing their interpretative value. Holsti (1969) described it as a technique for making inferences through the systematic identification of specific characteristics within messages.

Given that existing research does not establish clear criteria for representation, underrepresentation, or symbolic annihilation (Klein & Shiffman, 2009), the researcher developed specific operational definitions. For this study, the transgender community was considered underrepresented if

fewer than 12 stories about them appeared within a year and symbolically annihilated if fewer than six stories were published during the same period.

In the qualitative analysis, the study examined both the direction and intensity of media content related to the transgender community. Direction referred to whether the portrayal was positive, negative, supportive, or oppositional, while intensity measured the strength or emphasis of these portrayals. Quantitatively, the researcher analyzed the frequency of discriminatory terms and monitored trends over the study period. A dictionary of discriminatory terms was compiled using relevant literature, the GLAAD (2014) media reference guide, and archived newspaper content. GLAAD, a U.S.-based non-governmental organization, advocates for accurate and respectful media representation of the LGBTQ+ community and publishes annual guidelines distinguishing between valid and delegitimizing coverage (GLAAD, 2022). Additional quantitative analysis focused on the location and frequency of content. The location analysis assessed whether stories appeared on prominent pages (such as front, middle, or back), while frequency analysis tracked how often specific codes or themes recurred within the text corpus. The researcher also assessed the presence of visual elements like photographs published by the newspapers and whether those photographs were black and white or colored.

### Sample

The study’s sample comprised content from *Kashmir Times*, one of the region’s oldest and most widely circulated newspapers. In addition to its extensive readership within the Kashmir Valley, the newspaper also reached audiences in Indian states like Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, and Delhi (Nadaf, 2018).

### Reference Period

The selected timeframe for analysis spanned January 1, 2017, to December 31, 2019. This period was pivotal due to significant legislative and judicial milestones in India. The Supreme Court’s annulment of Section 377, which decriminalized homosexuality, and the passage of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2019, marked crucial steps toward LGBTQ+ rights. This bill granted transgender individuals the right to reside in their family homes, access public and private services, and prohibited discrimination in education, employment, and healthcare. It also allowed transgender persons to obtain a certificate of identity from local authorities, affirming their gender (The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2019).

### Unit of Analysis

The units of analysis included news stories, editorials, opinion articles, letters to the editor, and

photographs. Advertisements were excluded to maintain a focused examination of editorial content.

**Rationale of Study**

Over the past decade, India's judiciary and legislature have made notable progress in advancing transgender rights (Bhattacharya et al., 2022; McCarthy, 2014). However, transgender individuals in hetero-patriarchal regions such as Kashmir remain largely marginalized, continuing to face significant challenges in gaining societal acceptance and recognition (Bhat, 2023). Furthermore, the transgender community in Kashmir has received minimal attention from academic research, human rights advocacy, and official documentation. There is a stark lack of records—whether official or informal—that shed light on their lived experiences, media portrayal, daily hardships, or their position as an often-overlooked minority within Kashmiri society (Javeed, 2020). In this context, the present study is crucial as it deepens our understanding of how symbolic annihilation and media underrepresentation of the transgender community in a hetero-patriarchal society like Kashmir differ from patterns observed in other regions of India.

**Findings and Analysis**

**Quantitative Content Analysis**

Coverage of transgender community in *Kashmir Times*

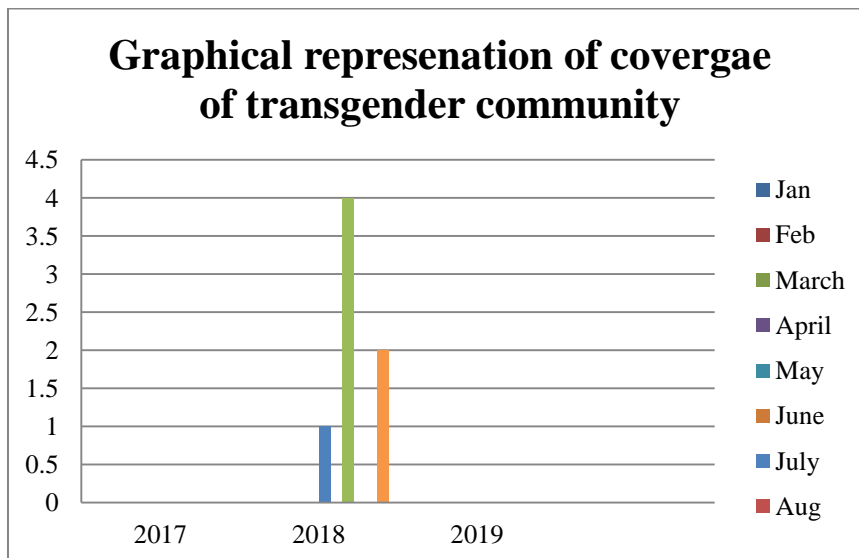
Years	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2018	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	2
2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

The table illustrates *Kashmir Times* coverage of the transgender community from 2017 to 2019, categorizing content into news reports, editorials, and opinion pieces. In 2017, there was no coverage across all months. In 2018, significant coverage emerged, particularly in the latter half of the year. Specifically, two news reports were published in September and December, two opinion

Dictionary of discriminatory words drawn from literature especially guidelines for media covering transgender people from GLAAD, Press Council of India, National Center for Transgender Equality, Trans Journalist Association and so on.

1. “deceptive,” “fooling,” “pretending,” “posing,” or “masquerading” as woman or man
2. “tranny,” “she-male,” “he/she,” “it,” “shim,” or “trap”
3. Identified with a name given at birth.
4. Pronoun assigned at birth
5. Transgender lifestyle, Transgender-rights or special rights.
6. “deviant,” “disordered,” “dysfunctional,” “diseased,” “perverted,” “destructive”, “born a man,” “born a woman,” “biologically male,” “biologically female,” “biological boy,” “biological girl,” “genetically male,” “genetically female”, “Identifies as”, “female-to-male” “male-to-female”
7. Eunuch, Transgenders, alleged transgender, sexual preference.

pieces in July and September, and three editorials in September (two) and December (one). This resulted in 1 publication in July, 4 in September, and 2 in December. In 2019, coverage dropped back to zero, similar to 2017. The data suggests that *Kashmir Times* focused on transgender issues primarily in 2018, possibly in response to specific events or social developments during that period.

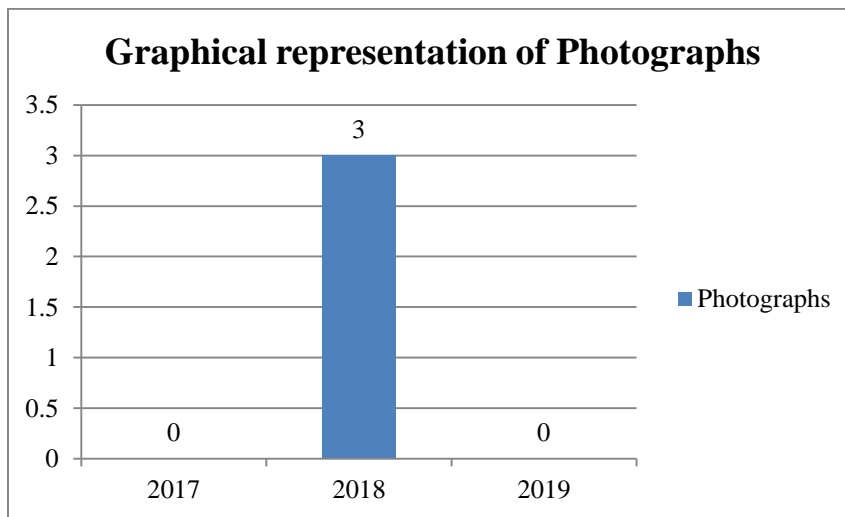


Visual Elements on Transgender Community in *Kashmir Times* from 2017 to 2021

Years	Photographs
2017	0
2018	3
2019	0

The table presents data on photographs related to the transgender community published by *Kashmir Times* from 2017 to 2019. The analysis reveals that no photographs were published in 2017 or 2019. However, in 2018, the newspaper published a total of three photographs. All these images were in black and white, and while the captions accompanying the photographs were written in a positive tone, none of the images

included photo credits. This suggests that while *Kashmir Times* made an effort to visually represent the transgender community during 2018, there was a lack of attribution to the photographers. The positive captions indicate a supportive editorial stance, but the absence of credits might reflect oversight or standard practice in the publication's photojournalism process.



The newspaper did not publish any letters to the editor during the selected timeframe of the study. Apart from photographs, it did not include any other visual elements, such as illustrations or highlighted text. Additionally, some story contained delegitimizing language such name-calling and "Transgenders".

**Qualitative Content Analysis of *Kashmir Times* Coverage on the Transgender Community in 2018**

The *Kashmir Times'* coverage of the transgender community in 2018 comprised two news reports, two opinion pieces, and three editorials. These articles primarily focused on legal developments, social issues, and instances of discrimination faced by transgender individuals. The first news report provided a straightforward account of the Supreme Court's landmark decision to decriminalize homosexuality. This article maintained a neutral tone, focusing on the legal aspects of the ruling without taking an overt stance. By presenting factual information in an unbiased manner, the report contributed to a broader understanding of the legal context. However, it did not delve deeply into the specific impacts on the transgender community or explore the social implications of the ruling.

The second news report addressed a specific incident of discrimination. The report

highlighted how transgender individuals were denied entry to the Sabarimala temple and pressured to conform to traditional gender norms. This article took a clear, supportive stance by emphasizing the violation of their rights and the need for greater inclusivity. By focusing on this incident, the report shed light on the broader issue of exclusion faced by transgender individuals in religious and cultural contexts, fostering empathy and raising awareness about their struggles.

The opinion pieces reflected a more explicit advocacy for the rights of transgender community. The first opinion piece celebrated the Supreme Court's decision on Section 377, framing it as a historic milestone in the fight for human rights. The article's tone was hopeful and empowering, emphasizing the importance of the ruling in advancing equality and acceptance. It called for continued efforts to achieve social inclusion, reinforcing a progressive and affirmative narrative.

However, the second opinion piece presented a more complex case. The article aimed to highlight the societal discrimination and economic challenges faced by transgender individuals, particularly in securing employment. While the intent was to advocate for their rights and shed light on their struggles, the piece contained instances of delegitimizing language, such as the term "transgenders" and certain instances of name-

**Amir Ali Bhat, Dr. Rabia Noor**

calling. This suggests a need for greater awareness and sensitivity in language use, even in well-intentioned advocacy pieces.

The editorials provided a broader perspective on the legal and social issues facing the transgender and LGBTQ+ communities. The editorial strongly supported the Supreme Court's decision on Section 377, framing it as a victory for justice and equality. The piece emphasized the importance of legal recognition and societal acceptance, advocating for a more inclusive society. Its tone was affirming and hopeful, reflecting a commitment to progressive values and human rights. Another editorial discussed the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill. While it acknowledged the significance of the legislation, the editorial stressed that passing the bill alone was not enough. It highlighted the need for effective ground-level implementation to ensure that the rights of transgender individuals are protected in practice. This forward-looking perspective underscored the importance of accountability and genuine social change, advocating for concrete actions beyond mere legal reforms.

Overall, the *Kashmir Times'* coverage in 2018 demonstrated a commitment to highlighting transgender issues and advocating for their rights. The reporting brought attention to key legal and social developments, contributing to a broader discourse on equality and inclusion. However, the presence of delegitimizing language in one of the opinion pieces indicates a gap in sensitivity that could undermine the positive intent of such coverage.

### Conclusion

This study aimed to analyze *Kashmir Times'* representation of the transgender community from 2017 to 2019, focusing on both qualitative and quantitative aspects. The findings reveal significant patterns of symbolic annihilation, underrepresentation, and occasional delegitimizing language, highlighting key areas for improvement in journalistic practices.

The data shows an absence of coverage in both 2017 and 2019, with no articles, editorials, or opinion pieces published about the transgender community in these years. This lack of coverage occurred despite two landmark decisions in India: the Supreme Court's 2018 ruling to decriminalize homosexuality by striking down Section 377 and the passage of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act in 2019. Both events were pivotal for the transgender communities, indicating that *Kashmir Times* missed opportunities to engage in crucial national discourses during these periods. In 2018, the newspaper published seven pieces—two news reports, two opinion articles, and three editorials. However, this total falls below the threshold for adequate representation. According to

the threshold set for this study, fewer than six stories a year indicate symbolic annihilation, and fewer than 12 signify underrepresentation. Thus, while 2018 showed some engagement, the overall frequency still reflects an underrepresentation of transgender voices and issues.

The qualitative analysis of the 2018 coverage revealed a mix of positive and neutral reporting. Positive elements included editorials and opinion pieces that celebrated the decriminalization of homosexuality and advocated for transgender rights. For example, the editorial "*Justice for the LGBTQ Community*" and the opinion piece "*At last! De-criminalizing homosexuality*" adopted hopeful, empowering tones, framing these legal milestones as victories for social justice. Such coverage contributed to raising awareness and fostering a more inclusive narrative.

However, not all coverage was free from shortcomings. One opinion piece contained delegitimizing language, such as the term "transgenders" and instances of name-calling, which undermined the otherwise supportive intent. This reflects a gap in the newspaper's sensitivity and understanding of appropriate terminology, highlighting the need for more inclusive language and editorial oversight. Moreover, the two news reports provided factual information but lacked depth in exploring the broader social implications for the transgender community. The report on the Sabarimala incident took a supportive stance by highlighting discrimination but did not delve deeply into systemic issues or the larger context of religious exclusion.

Visual representation also reflected inconsistencies. In 2018, three black-and-white photographs were published with positive captions, but none were credited, indicating a lack of attribution practice. Moreover, no other visual elements, such as illustrations or highlighted texts were used, and there were no letters to the editor related to transgender issues.

This study adds to the growing body of research on media representation of marginalized communities, particularly in the context of symbolic annihilation and underrepresentation. The findings underscore the need for media outlets to adopt more inclusive and sensitive reporting practices, moving beyond mere acknowledgment of legal milestones to sustained, in-depth coverage of social realities. Moreover, this research reinforces the importance of language sensitivity in journalism. Even well-intentioned articles can perpetuate stereotypes if they employ outdated or derogatory terminology. Therefore, the study calls for continuous education and training for journalists to ensure respectful and accurate representations of transgender individuals. In conclusion, while *Kashmir Times* demonstrated moments of progressive and supportive coverage in

2018, its overall approach fell short of providing consistent and comprehensive representation of the transgender community. Addressing these gaps is crucial for fostering a more inclusive media landscape that genuinely reflects the diverse realities of all communities.

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## Biochemistry of Environment and Health

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### Abstract:

The intricate connection that exists between human health, environmental factors, and biochemistry is the subject of this investigation. Heavy metals, pesticides, and endocrine disruptors are examples of environmental pollutants that have a significant impact on metabolic processes and biochemical pathways. These substances have the potential to change how cells work, which can cause respiratory diseases, cancer, and endocrine disorders. Oxidative stress, inflammation, and epigenetic changes are all highlighted in our investigation of the biochemical mechanisms by which environmental toxins cause their effects. In addition, the connection between environmental exposures, microbiome composition, and diet is discussed, highlighting the need for a comprehensive approach to public health. In order to reduce risks and improve the well-being of populations that are exposed to harmful substances, this study emphasizes the significance of incorporating biochemical insights into environmental health policies.

**Keywords:** pollution, oxidative stress, epigenetics, biochemistry, environmental health, and public health

### Introduction:

In recent years, more and more attention has been paid to the connection between human health, biochemistry, and environmental factors. It has been demonstrated that environmental contaminants, such as air pollutants and pesticides and heavy metals, disrupt the body's biochemical processes, resulting in a variety of health problems. To develop effective strategies to safeguard public health and reduce the effects of environmental exposure, it is essential to comprehend these interactions. A framework for analyzing the effects of external substances on biological systems is provided by the study of chemical processes within and related to living organisms, which is known as biochemistry. Oxidative stress, inflammatory responses, and metabolic pathways can all be disrupted by these environmental pollutants. Heavy metals like lead and mercury, for example, have the potential to disrupt endocrine signaling and impair neuronal function, resulting in cognitive deficits and hormonal imbalances.

### Aims:

- 1. To Explore Biochemical Mechanisms:** Examine the biochemical pathways that are affected by pollutants in the environment and their subsequent effects on human health.
- 2. To Assess Health Outcomes:** Examine the connection between the prevalence of various health problems, such as metabolic disorders and chronic diseases, and specific exposures to the environment.

- 3. To Understand Microbiome Interactions:**

Examine how the microbiome's role in health and disease is affected by environmental factors.

- 4. To Inform Public Health Policies:** Provide recommendations for public health initiatives that aim to lessen exposure to harmful environmental agents based on evidence.

### Objectives:

- 1. Characterize Pollutants:** Key environmental contaminants, along with their biochemical properties, such as their mode of action and toxicity levels, should be identified and categorized.
- 2. Evaluate Biological Effects:** Conduct research to determine how toxins in the environment affect cellular functions, metabolic pathways, and overall health outcomes.
- 3. Investigate Oxidative Stress and Inflammation:** Investigate the mechanisms by which pollutants cause oxidative stress and inflammatory responses, which aid in the progression of disease.
- 4. Analyze Dietary Interactions:** Focus on nutrient interactions and gut health as you investigate how diet affects how environmental exposures affect health.
- 5. Promote Public Awareness:** In order to increase community participation in preventative measures and raise awareness of the links between environmental factors and health, develop educational materials and outreach programs.

**6. Support Sustainable Practices:** Engage in advocacy for environmentally sustainable practices that, in the long run, improve public health by reducing harmful exposures and promoting healthier ecosystems.

This research aims to improve health outcomes and make well-informed policy decisions by expanding our knowledge of the biochemistry of the environment and health through these aims and objectives.

**Literature Review:**

It has been demonstrated that a wide variety of environmental pollutants, such as pesticides, industrial chemicals, and heavy metals (such as lead and mercury), disrupt biochemical pathways. Heavy metals, for instance, can disrupt mitochondrial function and interfere with enzymatic activity, resulting in increased oxidative stress (Cavalli et al., 2020). It is known that pesticides, especially organophosphates, inhibit acetylcholinesterase, which affects the regulation of neurotransmitters and contributes to neurodegenerative diseases (Rao et al., 2019). Numerous health issues have been linked by research to pollutants in the environment. For instance, respiratory illnesses, cardiovascular conditions, and an increase in mortality rates have all been linked to exposure to particulate matter (WHO, 2018). Endocrine disruptors have also been shown to play a role in reproductive health, contributing to issues like infertility and developmental disorders (Colborn et al., 1993). To improve public health outcomes, the World Health Organization emphasizes the significance of reducing these exposures (WHO, 2020). A crucial biochemical mechanism by which environmental pollutants exert their effects is oxidative stress. According to Hussain et al., pollutants can cause cellular damage and inflammation by producing reactive oxygen species (ROS). (2016). In turn, chronic inflammation is known to be a precursor to a number of diseases, such as cancer and autoimmune disorders.

**Research Methodology:**

To provide a comprehensive comprehension of the biochemistry of environment and health, a mixed-methods approach that combines quantitative and qualitative research methods will be utilized. The health effects of specific environmental exposures will be evaluated through cross-sectional and longitudinal studies. Cohort studies that monitor the health of polluted populations will be included in this. In order to learn more about community members' experiences and perceptions of environmental health issues, focus groups and interviews will be carried out. The study will concentrate on specific populations known to be exposed to environmental pollutants in varying degrees, such as those living near agricultural or industrial sites. A stratified random sampling strategy will be utilized to guarantee a diverse age, Dr. Swanand Shrinivasrao Mukhedkar

gender, and socioeconomic status representation. Power analysis will be used to determine sample sizes to guarantee statistical validity. Biomarkers of exposure (such as heavy metals and pesticides) and health outcomes (such as inflammatory markers and oxidative stress indicators) will be measured using blood, urine, and tissue samples. Data on health status, lifestyle factors, dietary habits, and environmental exposure history will be gathered using standard instruments.

**Statement of the Problem:**

The biochemical processes that take place in the human body are impacted by environmental pollutants, which are becoming increasingly recognized as significant contributors to public health issues. Heavy metals, pesticides, and endocrine disruptors are among the harmful substances that have been exposed to a large number of people as a result of the rapid industrialization, urbanization, and agricultural practices. A variety of health issues, including cancer, cardiovascular problems, and respiratory diseases, are brought on by these pollutants' interference with metabolic pathways, induction of oxidative stress, and promotion of inflammatory responses. There is still a lack of understanding of the specific biochemical mechanisms by which environmental factors affect human health, despite extensive research highlighting these associations.

**Need for the Study:**

Exposure to pollutants in the environment has emerged as a major public health concern as a result of urbanization, agricultural practices, and the increasing prevalence of industrial activities. In order to identify potential health risks and develop effective interventions, it is essential to comprehend how these contaminants affect biochemical processes. Pollutants in the environment have been linked to a wide range of health issues, including respiratory illnesses, cardiovascular problems, problems with reproduction, and a variety of cancers. These relationships can be made clearer and prevention strategies can be guided by a deeper comprehension of the biochemical mechanisms involved. Based on genetic, dietary, and lifestyle factors, various populations may exhibit varying degrees of susceptibility to environmental toxins. For the purpose of identifying groups at risk and tailoring public health interventions accordingly, it is essential to investigate these individual differences. Environmental factors can have an impact on the gut microbiome, which is important to health.

**Further Suggestions for Research:**

To monitor the health outcomes of populations that are exposed to particular pollutants in the environment, conduct long-term cohort studies. The effects on health over time and the progression of disease that are connected to biochemical disruptions can be identified with this

method. Determine the precise biochemical pathways affected by specific pollutants, such as pesticides, heavy metals, and plastics, to learn more about their mechanisms of action. Advanced biochemical assays, in vitro studies, and animal models could all be used in this. Investigate how different populations' gut microbiome composition and environmental exposures interact with one another. Changes in the diversity and function of the microbiome could be studied in relation to health outcomes and disease susceptibility. Investigate the role that dietary factors play in mitigating the effects of pollutants in the environment. Specific nutrients, like antioxidants, could be the focus of research on how they protect against exposure-induced oxidative stress and inflammation.

**Research Statement:**

The biochemical mechanisms by which environmental pollutants affect human health will be the focus of this study. The need to comprehend their effects on biochemical processes has never been greater as industrialization, urbanization, and agricultural practices continue to introduce a myriad of environmental toxins, including heavy metals, pesticides, and endocrine disruptors. The study will investigate how these pollutants disrupt metabolic pathways, cause oxidative stress, and elicit inflammatory responses, all of which contribute to negative health outcomes such as cancer, cardiovascular problems, and respiratory diseases. The study aims to clarify the intricate interactions between environmental factors, individual susceptibility, and health through a mixed-methods approach that incorporates microbiome assessments, epidemiological studies, and biochemical analyses. Moreover, this exploration will zero in on weak populaces to survey varieties in helplessness and reaction to natural openings. It aims to provide evidence-based insights that can be used to guide nutritional interventions, raise community awareness of environmental health issues, and inform public health policies.

**Acknowledgments:**

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who helped shape and finish this study on the biochemistry of the environment and health. First and foremost, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my research mentors and advisors for their invaluable guidance, expertise, and support throughout this study. My understanding of the intricate interactions between environmental factors and human health has been shaped by your insights. Additionally, I am indebted to my research team and collaborators for their dedication and hard work. The investigation of these significant issues has been both productive and enjoyable as a result of your dedication to this project. A special thanks goes out to the staff at the laboratory for helping with the biochemical analyses and providing technical support.

**Dr. Swanand Shrinivasrao Mukhedkar**

**Hypothesis:**

Biomarkers of exposure in human populations are linked to specific environmental contaminants like pesticides, endocrine disruptors, and heavy metals like lead and mercury. Changes in energy metabolism and nutrient utilization are two examples of how these pollutants affect important biochemical processes. Damage to cells caused by elevated levels of reactive oxygen species (ROS), inflammatory pathways being activated, which contributes to chronic inflammation. Environmental pollutants are linked to biochemical disruptions that raise the risk of chronic health conditions like: By influencing metabolic and immune functions, changes in the composition of the microbiome brought on by exposures to the environment make health issues even worse. A crucial area of research is the intersection of biochemistry, environmental factors, and human health, particularly in light of the growing threat to human health posed by environmental pollution.

**Results:**

The following is a summary of the study's findings regarding the biochemistry of the environment and health: Participants' blood and urine samples revealed elevated levels of pesticides and heavy metals (such as lead and mercury) in high-exposure areas. Malondialdehyde (MDA), an oxidative stress marker, was found to be significantly higher in participants who had been exposed to pollutants in the environment, while antioxidant levels (such as glutathione) were found to be significantly lower. The prevalence of respiratory conditions like asthma and chronic bronchitis was clearly linked to exposure to air pollutants. A higher frequency and severity of symptoms were reported by participants who resided in polluted areas. Populations that had significant exposure to heavy metals and particulate matter showed elevated blood pressure as well as cardiovascular risk markers like C-reactive protein. According to cognitive tests, people who had been exposed to more lead had significantly worse results on memory and attention tests than people who had been exposed to less lead.

**Discussion:**

The biochemical mechanisms that underlie these relationships are highlighted in the study's findings, which shed light on the intricate relationship between pollutants in the environment and human health. These insights are crucial. According to the findings of the study, exposure to pollutants in the environment significantly disrupts biochemical processes, resulting in an increase in oxidative stress and inflammation. Malondialdehyde (MDA) and other biomarkers of oxidative damage, such as elevated levels of MDA, indicate that heavy metals and pesticides have a negative impact on cellular integrity. Numerous chronic health conditions, including respiratory and cardiovascular

diseases, are connected to this oxidative stress. Previous research has demonstrated a clear link between environmental pollution and health outcomes, and these findings are consistent with that finding. The long-term exposure to pollutants has an impact not only on individual health but also on public health as a whole, especially in urban areas with high levels of pollution.

**Conclusion:**

Environmental pollutants have a significant impact on the biochemical processes that take place in the human body, as has been demonstrated by research on the biochemistry of the environment and health. Our findings demonstrate that, in addition to increasing oxidative stress and inflammation, exposure to contaminants like pesticides, endocrine disruptors, and heavy metals also contributes to a variety of chronic health conditions like respiratory diseases, cardiovascular problems, and neurological impairments. Pollutants from the environment significantly disrupt metabolic pathways, resulting in harmful biochemical changes that can have an impact on one's health. This disruption is clearly visible in the elevated biomarkers of oxidative stress. The interconnectedness of microbiome dynamics and environmental health is highlighted by the alteration in gut microbiome composition in response to environmental exposures. The need for integrative strategies in public health strategies is emphasized by the possibility that dysbiosis will make existing health issues even worse. Toxins in the environment can be especially harmful to children and pregnant women. These findings call for immediate public health initiatives that use targeted interventions and regulatory measures to safeguard these at-risk groups.

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## The Impact of Global Warming on Ecosystems: A Comprehensive Review

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### Abstract

The term "climate change" refers to the widespread changes in weather patterns that occur from human-induced greenhouse gas emissions and global warming. Despite earlier climatic shifts, human activity has unparalleled influenced Earth's climate system since the middle of the 20th century, resulting in global change. Variations in the atmosphere and the interactions between the atmosphere and other geological, chemical, biological, and geographical elements within the Earth's system cause climate change, a periodic alteration of the planet's climate. Unpredictability in weather patterns may result from climate change. Countries like India that rely heavily on agriculture may find it challenging to sustain and develop crops as a result of these unpredictable weather patterns. Weather patterns may become less predictable due to climate change. Agriculture-dependent nations like India are at risk because of these unpredictable weather patterns, which can make it challenging to sustain and develop crops. Destructive weather phenomena like hurricanes, floods, cyclones, and more frequent and severe floods are also being caused by it. Sea levels are rising as a result of the polar regions' ice melting more quickly due to climate change-induced temperature increases. Because of the increased erosion and floods, this is harming the beaches. Human activity is to blame for the current, fast climate change, which is endangering humanity's existence. Emissions of greenhouse gases, of which carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and methane account for over 90%, are the main cause of global warming. The primary cause of these emissions is the burning of fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas) for energy purposes; manufacturing, deforestation, and agriculture also contribute. Climate feedback, such as the loss of snow and ice cover that reflect sunlight, an increase in water vapour, which is a greenhouse gas in and of itself, and modifications to land and ocean carbon sinks, can either accelerate or moderate temperature rise. The development of deserts and an increase in heat waves and wildfires are the results of land-based temperature change that is roughly double the world average. The Arctic is particularly affected by temperature warming, which has accelerated sea ice loss, glacial retreat, and permafrost melting. Storms and other weather extremes are becoming more violent due to rising evaporation rates brought on by warmer temperatures. As their surroundings change, numerous species may relocate or go extinct, which has an immediate effect on coral reefs, mountains, and the Arctic. Food insecurity, water scarcity, flooding, infectious diseases, excessive heat, economic losses, and displacement are all consequences of climate change, which has caused the World Health Organisation to declare it the biggest threat to world health in the twenty-first century. Some effects, including as rising sea levels, rising ocean temperatures, and ocean acidification, will persist for generations even if attempts to reduce future warming are effective. According to several publications published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), these effects would significantly worsen when warming continues to reach 1.5 °C (2.7 °F) or higher. Furthermore, further warming raises the possibility of setting off crucial thresholds known as tipping points. Under the 2015 Paris Agreement, countries committed to implementing mitigation measures to keep global warming "well under 2.0 °C (3.6 °F)." Global warming would still reach roughly 2.8 °C (5.0 °F) by the end of the century notwithstanding the commitments made under the Agreement.

**Keywords:** Greenhouse gases and their effect, Global warming, Climate change, Carbon footprint

### Introduction

The total yearly temperature of the world has risen by slightly over 1 degree Celsius, or almost 2 degrees Fahrenheit, since the Industrial Revolution. It climbed by 0.07 degrees Celsius (0.13 degrees Fahrenheit) every ten years on average between 1880, when accurate recordkeeping started, and 1980. The rate of growth, however, has more than doubled since 1981: Over the past 40 years, the worldwide annual temperature has increased by 0.18

degrees Celsius, or 0.32 degrees Fahrenheit, every decade. According to climate scientists, if we want to prevent a future in which the worst, most destructive effects of climate change—such as extreme droughts, wildfires, floods, tropical storms, and other disasters—mark daily life worldwide, we must keep global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2040. Everyone is affected in some way, but those who are poor, economically disadvantaged, and people of colour are more affected since climate

change frequently plays a major role in their poverty, displacement, hunger, and social unrest. As carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and other air pollutants build up in the atmosphere and absorb sunlight and solar energy that has reflected off the earth's surface, global warming results. Normally, this radiation would escape into space, but because of these pollutants, which can remain in the atmosphere for years or even centuries, the heat is trapped, making the planet hotter. The term "Greenhouse Effect" refers to the impact of these heat-trapping pollutants, which include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, water vapour, and synthetic fluorinated gases.

### Objective

The objectives of climate change adaptation are to improve well-being, increase resilience, lower risk and vulnerability to climate change, and improve the ability to predict and effectively adapt to change. To reduce emissions and stop global warming, it seeks to spur action on climate change. The first-ever Global Stocktake results will be discussed at COP28 this year, evaluating the progress made towards the Paris Agreement's goal of keeping the rise in global temperatures to less than 1.5°C. reaching carbon neutrality by the year 2070. Increase the non-fossil fuel energy capacity to 500GW by 2030. Reduce the economy's carbon intensity by 45% by 2030. Use renewable energy to meet half of its energy needs by 2030.

### Database and Methodology

In the context of climate data analysis, the quantitative research approach can provide causal assertions, forecast outcomes, identify connections, and generalise findings. To better understand complicated phenomena like climate change, qualitative research is frequently used. The methodical process of studying and comprehending the effects and ramifications of climate change is known as a research technique. To conduct a thorough investigation of Earth's climate history, climate experts employ a range of direct and indirect measurements. Data from satellites in orbit, instruments on board the International Space Station, ships, aeroplanes, buoys, and instruments on the ground are examples of direct measurements. Weather stations, weather balloons, radars, ships and buoys, and satellites are the main sources of modern observations. Over 100,000 stations across 180 nations and territories provide records for the Global Historical Climatology Network daily (GHCNd). In comparison to the preindustrial average of the late 19th century (1850–1900), the earth was around 2.45 degrees Fahrenheit (or 1.36 degrees Celsius) warmer in 2023. The warmest years on record have been the last ten. The worldwide surface temperature change is depicted in the animation on the right. We can discover how climate change will affect the frequency and

severity of the risk of indicators like heat stress, hurricanes and typhoons, sea level rise, floods, water stress, and wildfires with the use of climate facts.

### Result and Discussion

#### Causes of Global Warming

**Deforestation:** The removal of forests and woodlands is known as deforestation. This is frequently done to clear land for farming or ranching or to harvest timber. One factor contributing to global greenhouse gas emissions is deforestation. It is accountable for around a quarter of them. This makes it a significant contributor to climate change, along with changes in land use and agriculture. Trees and forests are vital for producing oxygen and absorbing carbon dioxide. The carbon that has been stored is released into the atmosphere when they are destroyed. Deforestation occurs naturally frequently. Usually, wildfires are to blame. The gases released by these fires can have a greater impact on the environment.

**Transportation and Automobiles:** Usually, automobiles, airplanes, boats, and railroads are used for transportation. For their operation, almost all of these modes of transportation rely on fossil fuels. Carbon and other pollutants are released into the atmosphere when fossil fuels are burned. Emissions of carbon dioxide are a result of transportation worldwide. It is responsible for around 25% of all emissions related to energy. As a result, transport contributes to greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, patterns indicate that transportation will require a lot more energy in the years to come.

**Manufacturing Goods:** Emissions from industry and manufacturing are mostly caused by burning fossil fuels. Cement, iron, steel, electronics, plastics, clothing, and other products are all made with this energy. Customers may now buy any goods at any time because to advancements in production and technology. This indicates that we are overproducing and creating an increasing number of things each year. The majority of what we purchase is not very sustainable. Because clothing and electronics have shorter lifespans, there is more garbage than ever before.

**Agriculture:** Roughly 11% of greenhouse gas emissions come from agriculture. Rice production, agricultural soils, and livestock like cows are the sources of these greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture. Local ecosystems may be destroyed to make room for farming, which necessitates a large amount of green space. Along with many greenhouse gases, including methane, these animals also produce a lot of waste. Factory farming exacerbates climate issues since it produces more pollutants and can accommodate more animals.

**Industrialisation:** Industrial pollution is the term used to describe the pollution caused by industry. Increased industrialisation and technological

advancement were brought about by the Industrial Revolution. However, this resulted in serious pollution of the air, land, and water on our planet. One of the worst kinds of pollution is caused by industry. This is because smoke contributes to the depletion of ozone in the atmosphere. Along with global warming, it also has an impact on human and animal health.

**Generating Power:** Burning fossil fuels to provide heat and power is a major contributor to world emissions. The main resources used to produce electricity are coal, oil, and gases. Strong greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide are released when they burn. Global warming results from the accumulation of these gases in the atmosphere, which trap solar heat. Wildlife and their habitats are at risk due to the usage of fossil fuels. It has the potential to be poisonous, killing plants and rendering places uninhabitable. Currently, just over 25% of the world's electricity is produced from renewable energy sources like solar and wind. Renewable energy sources produce minimal to no pollutants or greenhouse gases, in contrast to fossil fuels.

**Producing Food:** Carbon dioxide, methane, and other greenhouse gases are released in a variety of ways during the food production process. The environmental impact of the food we purchase and consume is influenced by numerous factors. These include farming practices, the location of food production, the application of fertilisers and pesticides, and the diet of our animals, as was previously discussed. Because of all of this, food production plays a significant role in climate change. Additionally, the distribution and packaging of food contributes to greenhouse gas emissions.

**Excessive fishing:** Since fish is one of the main sources of protein for people, the world today depends largely on the fish industry. As fewer people buy and eat fish, there is currently less aquatic life. Additionally, overfishing has reduced the water's diversity. Overfishing is the biggest issue confronting marine ecosystems. This occurs when fish are removed from the ocean over what can be replenished naturally.

**Waste:** Waste production by humans is at an all-time high. The short product life cycle and the widespread usage of packaging are to blame for this. Most products, trash, and packaging aren't recyclable; thus, they wind up in landfills. Hazardous gases are released into the atmosphere as waste breaks down in landfills. The global warming is a result of these gases.

**Overconsumption:** The environment is impacted by the choices we make at home. This covers our diets, power sources, and modes of transportation. Greenhouse gas emissions are also increased by the items we purchase, such as clothing, gadgets, and plastics. Impact has been found to vary according to

income level. The carbon footprints of high- and low-income households differ by at least ten times. Customers need to understand the connection between their decisions and the environmental impact of those decisions.

### **Impact of Global Warming & Climate Change**

Global warming of the land and oceans; rising sea levels; melting of ice at the poles and in mountain glaciers; and variations in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events such as hurricanes, heat waves, wildfires, droughts, floods, and precipitation. Global warming refers to the steady rise in the planet's surface temperature. Even though this warming trend has been for some time, the last century has seen a significant acceleration due to the burning of fossil fuels. The growing human population has led to a rise in the amount of fossil fuels burned. Burning fossil fuels like coal, oil, and natural gas causes the "greenhouse effect," which modifies Earth's atmosphere. The greenhouse effect occurs when heat from the Sun's rays enter the atmosphere but is unable to return to space after being reflected off the surface.

Fossil fuel combustion releases gases that keep heat from escaping the atmosphere. These greenhouse gases include methane, nitrous oxide, water vapour, carbon dioxide, and chlorofluorocarbons. Global warming is the term used to describe how the excess heat in the atmosphere has led to an increase in the average global temperature over time. Ocean warming: As a result of climate change, layer stratification by density becomes more stable. This encourages the creation of new Oxygen Minimum Zones (OMZs). Ocean acidification occurs when CO<sub>2</sub> released by humans dissolves in seawater. In the process, it produces carbonic acid, which lowers the pH of water. Increasing the frequency of hot days and warm spells will intensify the consequences of urban heat islands. Due to their reliance on natural resources, rural communities will be impacted by drought, water scarcity, coastal flooding, sea level rise, inland flooding, and urban heat islands (UHI). Transport disruption and land loss; increased migration; and heightened intensity of information diffusion.

### **A strategy to lessen climate change and global warming**

Keep fossil fuels in the ground, reduce methane emissions, stop using petrol and diesel, plant more trees, cut down on greenhouse gas emissions, and provide financial assistance to less developed nations.

### **The efforts of India**

**The International Solar Organisation (ISA)** is a worldwide organization that was founded by India and has its headquarters there. Through the use of cutting-edge technology, it seeks to encourage research into more affordable and efficient ways to



meet the world's energy needs while also regulating and offering incentives for solar energy. It has 88 members at the moment.

**Revised NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions):** According to the revised NDC, India is now committed to lowering the emissions intensity of its GDP from 2005 levels by 45% by 2030. By 2030, the nation also plans to have roughly half of its installed capacity for electricity come from non-fossil fuel-based energy sources. To increase the amount of forest and tree cover to provide an extra (cumulative) carbon sink of 2.5–3 gigatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (GtCO<sub>2e</sub>) by 2030. To promote a sustainable and healthful way of living, India's NDC now includes "LIFE," or "Lifestyle for Environment," as a means of addressing climate change. Additionally, the upgrade is a step towards India's long-term objective of becoming net zero by 2070.

**Mitigation and adaptation:** To increase the scope of India's adaptation and mitigation efforts, the government has started some programs and schemes. Under these programs and schemes, appropriate actions are being taken in a variety of sectors, such as waste management, the circular economy, resource efficiency, energy and enterprise, water, agriculture, forests, and sustainable mobility and housing. India has gradually continued to decouple economic growth from greenhouse gas emissions as a result of the aforementioned efforts.

**Emphasis on Renewable Energy:** The prime minister has established goals and reaffirmed the government's commitment to raising the proportion of renewable energy in India's overall energy mix. The renewable energy goal was once established at 175 GW, however, it has since been raised to 450 GW by 2030. The production of low-emission products like electric vehicles and ultra-efficient appliances, as well as cutting-edge technologies like green hydrogen, will result in a general rise in green jobs in areas like renewable energy and clean energy, including the automotive sector.

**The mobilization of resources:** India is dedicating a significant portion of its development resources to combating climate change, which is an incredible endeavour in comparison to Western nations that are already at advanced stages of development.

### Challenges

**Impact on Urban Livelihood:** In India's urban districts, climate change is already affecting infrastructure, livelihood, and health. Those who live in informal settlements and are economically and socially marginalized in urban areas will be particularly affected.

**Managing Growth and the Environment:** Addressing climate change ultimately requires striking a balance between the present and the future. The Indian government, like governments

around the world, will need to balance intergenerational equity.

**Reducing India's Reliance on Coal:** One estimate states that India's energy output, which is still heavily dependent on coal power plants, accounts for 64% of its greenhouse gas emissions. Since coal is essential to the nation's electricity supply, replacing it entirely with renewable energy will be challenging.

**Climate-insensitive policies in agriculture:** A substantial portion of India's financial resources are allocated to the minimum support price, together with beneficial fertilizer and electricity subsidies, which incentivize farmers to cultivate crops that require a lot of water. When combined, India's agricultural policies worsen water scarcity, promote crop burning, and contribute little to the fight against climate change.

### Way Ahead

**Change to green economy:** India must make sure that investments and policies move away from the grey economy and towards a green one, eschewing fossil fuels and increasing the resilience of people and societies to climate shocks.

**Climate-smart agriculture:** Growing more from less requires the identification and promotion of sustainable farming methods and equipment, which use inputs more effectively and efficiently in light of the world's fast population increase and globalization.

**Value of the Private Sector:** Companies provide funding, creativity, and the capacity to turn obstacles into opportunities, all of which are vital tools in the battle against climate change. Businesses must take the initiative and fulfil their obligations to the environment and to the people.

**Decarbonise emission-intensive industries:** More work is needed to cut emissions in heavy industries like cement, chemicals, and iron and steel. The way forward is an "ecosystem-based" strategy that considers greening both "supply" and "demand."

**Additional Carbon Sinks:** In addition to lowering emissions, India has to build more carbon sinks—places that store carbon, such as wetlands, forests, and oceans. Local communities play a critical role in this.

**Role of the indigenous community:** Indigenous groups may have a strategic role to play in reducing the effects of climate change. Their extensive understanding of environmental cycles and traditional wisdom on climate variability, which could significantly advance current scientific understanding and support the efficacy of adaptation efforts globally, deserve recognition.

### Conclusion

This thorough review study concludes by highlighting the significant and complex effects of climate change on ecosystems, cultures, and economies at both the global and regional levels.

The study offers a thorough examination of how climate change affects terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems while highlighting the significance of tackling this pressing worldwide issue. Investigations are being conducted into the impacts on ecosystem services, including food production, water supply, carbon sequestration, and cultural value. The study emphasizes how species' distribution and abundance are changing significantly due to climate change, upsetting ecological relationships and ecosystem function. It is expected that this shift would lead to changes in ecosystem function and composition, which will change the amount and type of ecosystem services. Crucially, the study discusses the necessity of efficient adaptation and mitigation plans to improve ecosystem resilience and lessen the consequences of climate change. Promoting biodiversity, putting climate-smart farming practices into practice, establishing ecological corridors, and participating in ecological restoration are some of these tactics. As demonstrated by the Paris Agreement, the report also emphasizes the significance of international cooperation in the fight against climate change on a worldwide basis. Furthermore, the study highlights areas that require further investigation, including the impact of numerous stresses on ecosystems, the enhancement of climate models to provide more accurate local forecasts, and the investigation of carbon sequestration and ecosystem restoration technologies. Additionally, long-term ecological research is emphasized as a way to gain a better knowledge of how ecosystems react to shocks and recover. In the face of climate change, it is an invaluable tool for scientists, conservationists, and policymakers to create plans to preserve ecosystems and uphold human welfare.

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## Spatial Dynamics of Family Systems and Marriage-Related Challenges: A Geographical Study of Amravati District

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### Abstract

This research examines the spatial dynamics of family systems and marriage-related challenges in Amravati District, Maharashtra, a region characterized by socio-economic and cultural diversity. By combining spatial analysis, demographic data, and qualitative insights, this study uncovers significant urban-rural disparities in family structures and marriage patterns. The findings reveal that urban areas witness rising trends in delayed marriages and nuclear families due to education and economic aspirations. In contrast, rural areas face early marriages and the persistence of joint family systems. This paper highlights the geographical dimension of these dynamics and emphasizes policy interventions to bridge disparities.

**Keywords:** Family Systems, Marriage Challenges, Geography, Amravati

### Introduction

The family system, deeply embedded in cultural and social contexts, is influenced by geographical and economic transformations. In India, urbanization and modernization have significantly impacted traditional family structures and marriage practices, making these changes more pronounced at the district level. Amravati District, located in Vidarbha, Maharashtra, is an exemplary case to study these phenomena due to its mix of urban centers and rural peripheries.

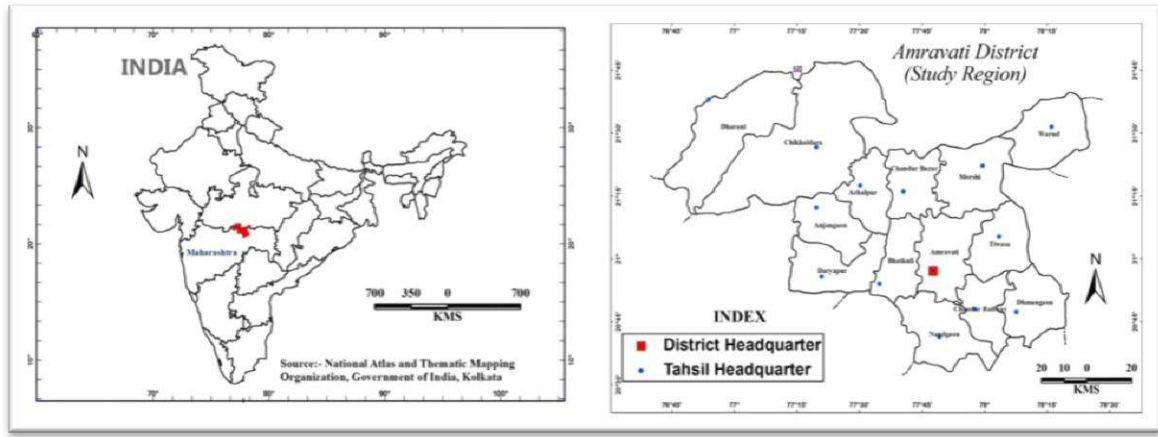
The transition from joint to nuclear families, coupled with marriage-related challenges such as delayed marriages, early marriages, and gender disparities, creates a complex socio-spatial matrix. This paper employs a geographical lens to analyse these dynamics, focusing on spatial distribution and socio-economic determinants.

### Geographical Context of Amravati District

Amravati District is located in northeastern Maharashtra, between 76°37'27"E to 78°27'E longitude and 20°32'N to 21°46'N latitude, bordered by Madhya Pradesh to the north and west, Akola and Yavatmal districts to the south, and Nagpur and Wardha districts to the east. Covering an area of

12,212 sq. km, it represents 3.97% of Maharashtra's land, with 75% Deccan Trap terrain and 25% Purna alluvium, including saline zones unsuitable for irrigation or drinking water. The district features the Satpura Range in the north, including the Gawilgarh hills, with elevations peaking at Vairat Hill (1,177.75 m). It has a tropical climate with three seasons, receiving 700-800 mm average annual rainfall, and temperature extremes of 46°C in summer and 5°C in winter.

The district's main rivers—Tapi, Purna, and Wardha—display dendritic and parallel drainage patterns, crucial for irrigation, though over-exploitation of groundwater is reported, especially in Warud and Morshi. Amravati's forest area spans 3,577 sq. km, primarily in the northern Melghat region, while cultivable land covers 7,407 sq. km, growing cotton, soybean, and oranges. Hydrogeologically, the Deccan Trap's vesicular basalts and the Purna alluvium's sandy zones form key aquifers. Government initiatives like the Shivkalin Pani Sathwan Yojana and the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission aim to enhance water conservation and groundwater management in the region.



Characteristic	Urban Areas	Rural Areas
Literacy Rate	91%	74%
Population Density	1,200/sq. km	300/sq. km
Predominant Family Structure	Nuclear	Joint

**Objectives**

1. To map the spatial patterns of family systems across Amravati District.
2. To identify marriage-related challenges and their geographic distribution.
3. To analyse socio-economic and cultural factors affecting these dynamics.
4. To propose policy recommendations for addressing disparities.

**Literature Review**

Research has highlighted the impact of geography on family structures and marriage practices. Studies by Bhatt (2019) and Kumar (2021) illustrate how urbanization fosters nuclear families and delays marriage due to education and career priorities. Conversely, studies like Patel (2020) highlight rural India's adherence to traditional practices, including early marriages and joint families.

This research builds on these insights by focusing on Amravati District, analysing spatial patterns and socio-economic determinants within the district's unique context.

**Data and Methodology**

The research combines primary and secondary data to analyse family systems and marriage-related challenges in Amravati District. Primary data was collected through surveys in 15 villages and 5 urban wards, covering 500 households, and qualitative interviews with

community leaders and NGOs provided cultural insights. Secondary data from Census 2011, projected data for 2021, and government reports enriched the analysis. The methodology includes GIS-based spatial analysis to map family structures, statistical analysis (correlation and regression) to explore links between socio-economic factors and marriage trends, and thematic analysis of interviews to uncover cultural and societal influences. This multi-faceted approach offers a comprehensive view of family dynamics and marriage patterns across urban and rural areas.

**Results and Discussion**

**1. Spatial Patterns of Family Systems**

The spatial analysis reveals significant disparities in family structures between urban and rural areas of Amravati District. Urban areas exhibit a predominant trend towards nuclear families, with 75% of households adopting this structure. This shift is largely driven by factors such as limited living space in urban environments and the growing aspirations for career advancement, which often necessitate independent living. In contrast, rural areas retain a strong preference for joint families, with 65% of households maintaining this structure. The influence of traditional norms, agricultural livelihoods that often require multi-generational support, and a more communal lifestyle are key factors contributing to this persistence.

Family Type	Urban (%)	Rural (%)
Nuclear	75	35
Joint	25	65

This table illustrates the contrasting family structures, emphasizing how geography shapes family dynamics in Amravati.

**2. Marriage-Related Challenges**

• **Delayed Marriages in Urban Areas:**

In urban areas, the average age of marriage has steadily increased over recent years. Men marry

at an average age of 30 years, and women at 27 years. This delay is primarily influenced by higher education levels, economic independence, and career aspirations. As individuals prioritize educational and professional development, marriage is often postponed. This shift reflects broader socio-

economic trends where career growth and personal freedom take precedence.

- **Early Marriages in Rural Areas:**

In stark contrast, rural areas in Amravati show a troubling trend of early marriages. Approximately 42% of marriages in these areas occur before the legal age, with many young women married off as early as 16. The underlying factors contributing to early marriages include poverty, limited access to education, and entrenched cultural norms that prioritize early marriage as a social expectation. In such settings, early marriage is often seen as a way to alleviate financial burdens or fulfil traditional obligations.

- **Gender Disparities:**

The research also reveals notable gender disparities in both urban and rural settings. Rural women face significant challenges in accessing higher education and employment opportunities, which limits their social mobility and reinforces traditional gender roles. On the other hand, urban women, despite achieving higher levels of education and economic independence, still face societal pressure to conform to traditional marriage expectations. This paradox highlights the complex

interplay between personal aspirations and societal norms, particularly in urban areas where the conflict between modernity and tradition often creates tension.

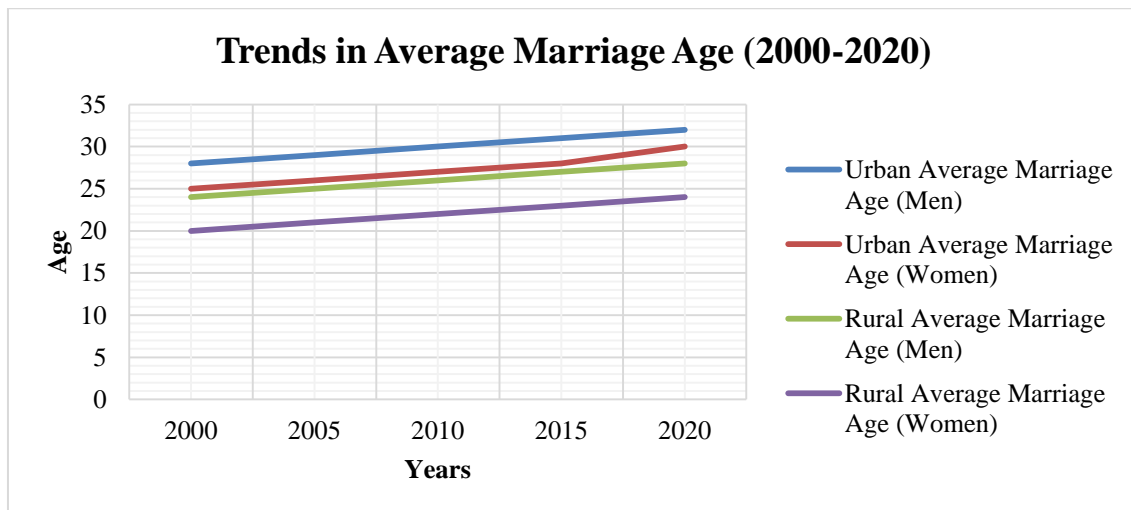
### 3. Socio-Economic Influences

- **Education:**

Urban areas show a strong correlation between higher education and delayed marriages. A correlation coefficient of  $r = 0.82$  indicates a strong relationship between educational attainment and the age of marriage. As education levels rise, individuals, particularly women, tend to delay marriage to focus on their studies and career. This trend is less pronounced in rural areas, where access to education is more limited.

- **Migration:**

Rural-to-urban migration has also significantly impacted family structures. Young adults migrating to urban centres for better employment opportunities often leave behind elderly family members, resulting in a fragmented family system in rural areas. This migration, while economically beneficial for individuals, has weakened the traditional support systems that are central to joint family structures in rural settings.



#### 4. Impact of Migration

Migration from rural to urban areas has further altered family dynamics in Amravati. Young adults in search of better economic opportunities often leave rural areas, resulting in a lack of generational support for elderly family members. This migration, coupled with the dissolution of joint family systems, has contributed to the rise of nuclear families, even in rural areas where traditional family structures once thrived.

##### Policy Implications

Based on the findings of this study, several policy interventions are recommended to address the challenges faced by family systems and marriage patterns in Amravati District. These policies aim to bridge the disparities between urban and rural areas

and foster healthier, more sustainable family structures.

##### 1. Urban Policies:

- **Create Support Systems for Nuclear Families:**

As urban areas increasingly adopt nuclear family structures; it is essential to develop policies that support these families. Given the challenges faced by nuclear families, such as limited time for family engagement due to work pressures and housing constraints, government initiatives can focus on creating communal spaces for families, providing affordable housing, and facilitating access to child care services. Urban centres should have community programs that offer emotional and social support, addressing the isolation often felt by nuclear families.

- **Promote Awareness About Balancing Careers and Family Life:**

In urban areas, career aspirations often contribute to delayed marriages and a shift towards nuclear families. While professional growth is important, it is equally essential to address the mental and emotional strain that working individuals may face in balancing career and family life. Policies should include programs that promote awareness about work-life balance, providing resources and counselling for individuals who struggle to manage their personal and professional responsibilities. Corporate partnerships could also be explored to introduce flexible work arrangements, parental leave, and other family-friendly policies.

## 2. Rural Policies:

- **Strengthen Education Initiatives to Delay Early Marriages:**

Early marriages in rural areas are a critical concern, and educational empowerment is one of the most effective ways to combat this issue. Policies should focus on improving access to education, particularly for girls, by building more schools in rural areas, enhancing infrastructure, and providing scholarships. Community-based awareness programs can also educate families about the negative impacts of early marriage on health, education, and economic opportunities. Strengthening vocational training programs for youth, especially young women, can also provide alternative avenues for self-sufficiency, further delaying marriage.

- **Economic Incentives for Families Prioritizing Girls' Education:**

Economic incentives can play a pivotal role in encouraging families to prioritize girls' education. The government can implement financial schemes that reward families for keeping girls in school and delaying marriage. For example, conditional cash transfers can be offered to families who ensure their daughters complete secondary education or reach a certain age before marriage. These incentives would not only promote education but also help break the cycle of poverty and early marriage. Additionally, rural women can be empowered through skill development programs that enhance their economic independence, making them less reliant on early marriages for social and economic security.

By implementing these policies, both urban and rural areas in Amravati District can benefit from a more balanced approach to family life, education, and marriage. The ultimate goal is to create an environment where individuals, particularly women, have the freedom and resources to make informed decisions about their personal and professional lives. These policies would also foster a more equitable society by addressing the root causes of marriage-

related challenges and supporting diverse family structures.

## Conclusions

The study highlights geography's influence on family systems and marriage challenges in Amravati District. Urban areas are shifting towards nuclear families due to economic independence, career aspirations, and housing limitations, while rural areas largely retain joint family systems, shaped by cultural norms and agricultural livelihoods. Early marriages persist in rural areas, contrasting with delayed marriages in urban settings. The research calls for region-specific policies: urban areas need support for nuclear families, including social services and housing, while rural areas require educational reforms and economic incentives to combat early marriages. Future research should examine how socio-economic changes and policies affect family structures over time, guiding more effective interventions for family well-being.

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## Jacinta Kerketta: Championing the Voices of Jharkhand's Marginalized Tribes

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### Abstract

Tribal Literature refers to the written and oral works produced by indigenous or tribal communities that reflect their cultural, social, and spiritual experiences. These oral traditions include folk tales, songs, myths, legends, poetry, and rituals that have been passed down through generations. Tribal literature today comprises written works by authors who discuss their experiences, hardships, and perspectives. Jharkhand's tribal literature comprises oral history and folklore. Since before independence, Jharkhand's indigenous people have fought with their identity. It is impossible to avoid bringing up Jacinta Kerketta when talking about Indian tribal writers. Jacinta Kerketta is a well-known poet, writer, and journalist from the Adivasi Oraon group in Jharkhand, India. Born in 1983, she is a poet and prose writer who focuses on the difficulties, culture, and perseverance of India's tribal groups. Jacinta's Hindi writing explores topics such as land, identity, environmental degradation, and exploitation of indigenous peoples.

**Keywords:** Tribal literature, indigenous, oral traditions, identity, exploitation

### Introduction

Tribal literature is roughly defined as a collection of oral and written stories, songs, poems, and dance forms depicting tribal culture. Tribal literature is distinguished by a deep connection to nature, community, and spirituality. It frequently displays a healthy relationship with nature, emphasizing sustainable practices and respect for all living things. Common themes include identity, resistance against oppression, cultural preservation, and modernism. This literature is crucial for giving a voice to marginalized populations and conserving their traditions and histories against outsider influences. Writers and storytellers utilize it to express their identities and reject cultural assimilation. Reading tribal literature helps readers grasp the rich legacy and problems of maintaining traditional ways of life in a quickly changing world. When discussing Indian tribal writers, Jacinta Kerketta is unavoidably brought up.

Jacinta Kerketta is a well-known Indian poet, writer, and journalist whose evocative work shines attention on tribal groups' challenges and perseverance. She was born in 1983 in Jharkhand's Gumla district and is a member of India's indigenous tribe, the Oraon. Her childhood in a tribal community instilled in her a strong affinity to nature as well as direct knowledge of the issues that underprivileged populations face. Jacinta's writing captures the cultural history, traditions, and socioeconomic realities of Adivasi life. Her poems, which are frequently painful and honest, criticize the

exploitation of natural resources and the eradication of indigenous voices in the name of progress. Her collections, such as *Angor (Embers)* and *Land of the Roots*, have been translated into numerous languages, giving her a global voice for the voiceless. Jacinta, a journalist by profession, uses her position to raise awareness of issues such as cultural identity, deforestation, and land displacement. She continues to motivate others with her bravery and commitment in spite of the difficulties she faces as a tribal woman in a patriarchal and hierarchical society. Her writing has brought her acclaim on a global scale, establishing her as an important modern voice in Indian literature.

### Objective: Tribal Literature as a means of Protest

The experiences, hardships, and goals of indigenous communities are vividly and dynamically expressed in tribal writing. This corpus of work, which has its roots in oral traditions and is closely connected to nature, goes beyond simple storytelling to serve as a potent protest tool against centuries of exploitation, marginalization, and cultural deterioration. Tribal writers have established a platform to express their opposition and maintain their identity in the face of forces endangering their existence through poetry, stories, and plays. By fusing activism and fiction, well-known tribal authors like Mahasweta Devi have brought attention to the predicament of India's indigenous peoples. Her writings chronicle the

Santhal community's fight against colonial and postcolonial exploitation, including Aranyer Adhikar (Right to the Forest). Likewise, Nirmala Putul's poetry, which examines topics of gender inequity, displacement, and perseverance, elevates the voices of tribal women. These pieces are rallying cries for justice, decency, and recognition rather than just being artistic expressions. Similar ideas are echoed by indigenous writers worldwide.

One such prominent poet from the Oraon tribe of Jharkhand is Jacinta Kerketta, who utilizes her art to convey the suffering, agony, and challenges that the tribal people have endured for ages and that they still haven't achieved equality and standing in society. Kerketta examines issues that are firmly anchored in the hardships, rich cultural heritage, and daily experiences of indigenous peoples. Through expressive poetry and prose, her work frequently portrays the socio-political realities of oppressed populations, especially Adivasis. The celebration of indigenous identity and culture, environmental justice, spirituality and the natural world, gender and patriarchy, land rights and displacement, oppression and resistance, and more are some of the major themes in her work.

Kerketta's debut poetry collection, *Angor* (2016) (translated as *Embers*), depicts the lives and struggles of India's tribal groups. The poems powerfully reflect the issues of dispossession, exploitation, and resistance that Adivasis suffer as a result of industrialization and urbanization. Kerketta employs striking visuals to show land loss, environmental damage, and the disappearance of cultural identity. At the same time, the collection honors Adivasis' deep affinity with nature and spiritual connection to the land, highlighting perseverance in the face of adversity.

Kerketta's poem 'In the Navel of Mother' succinctly illustrates the interwoven life of mankind and Nature:

Earth,  
I seek  
That place  
Where had been buried  
My umbilical cord.

The Oraon tribal culture believes that everyone has an umbilical connection to nature. So, when a kid is born, the umbilical cord is buried near the main door of the house, which they believe helps to anchor the baby to its birthplace. This miraculous act of burying the umbilical cord deep within Mother Earth creates a strong bond between the infant and that location. This deed serves as a metaphor for man's natural connection and sense of belonging to his surroundings.

Her research usually focuses on how mining, industrialization, and deforestation harm the environment and disproportionately affect Adivasi tribes. She illustrates how her people and the land

are inextricably linked and how environmental degradation endangers their way of life. Her love for nature, forests and natural habitat of tribals is strongly resonated in her poem 'Blood Stained River':

Hands stained with blood,  
Of a thousand slaughtered trees  
Quietly washed themselves off stain  
In the waters of Saranda.

She talks about the ongoing theft of forest areas from tribal communities in the name of industrialization. She describes the ruthless destruction of the trees and the ruthless poisoning of the Saranda rivers with iron and bauxite, which signify the total destruction of a society and a way of thinking. Her piece 'The Forest Remembers' explores the collective memory of Adivasi people, where the forest represents history, identity, and life. Kerketta's poetry contrasts the peaceful coexistence of Adivasis and the forest with the destructive effects of others' greed. The collection highlights the forest's function as a storehouse of cultural knowledge and resistance to exploitation, while also reflecting on themes of displacement and survival.

Her collection 'Dreams of a Tribal Woman' delves into the hopes, challenges, and tenacity of Adivasi women. The poems illustrate how Adivasi women experience both systematic exploitation and patriarchal oppression. They are portrayed by Kerketta as strong change agents and stewards of cultural knowledge. The collection gives a nuanced perspective of Adivasi women's daily realities while challenging preconceptions by showcasing their bravery and aspirations. She has both the hope and belief that: "There will come a day, When every girl from the jungle, Will write a poem". As an Adivasi woman, Jacinta Kerketta highlights the multidimensional issues that Indigenous women confront, such as gender discrimination, poverty, and limited educational opportunities.

Kerketta supports and protects Adivasi customs, folklore, and lifestyles through her writings, which are frequently disregarded in popular narratives. Her writing raises awareness of Indigenous peoples' rich cultural history by bridging the gap between their experiences and a broader audience. Kerketta promotes the rights and dignity of Indigenous people by speaking in national and international venues. She advocates for fair development laws that honour Adivasi communities' customs and sovereignty. The strong bond between Indigenous people and their natural surroundings is frequently highlighted in her work. She opposes policies that negatively impact Indigenous livelihoods and the environment and promotes sustainable practices.

### Conclusion

Thus, Jacinta Kerketta's works are strongly entrenched in Adivasi communities, reflecting their



struggles, cultural richness, and resistance against persecution. Her expressive poetry questions dominant narratives, promotes ecological and social justice, and maintains Adivasi heritage. Her writings explore universal themes of identity, survival, and nature's harmony, making significant contributions to Indian literature.

To sum up, tribal literature is a form of resistance that cuts across creative barriers and exemplifies the resilient nature of indigenous peoples. It asks for a rethinking of social structures to incorporate inclusivity and respect for tribal ways of life, challenges oppressive systems, and honours cultural heritage. Reading tribal literature encourages readers to face hard realities and support the movement for justice and understanding. The multifaceted nature of tribal literature is demonstrated by its critique of internal dynamics, such as patriarchy within tribal groups. This introspective approach enhances the genre by presenting it as an interior discussion as well as an external criticism of injustices. Although the voices in tribal writing are varied, they are always dedicated to justice and the truth.

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## Environmental Impact and Sustainability of Nanotechnology in Renewable Energy

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### Abstract:

Nanotechnology is emerging as a transformative force in the renewable energy sector, offering innovative solutions to enhance efficiency, sustainability, and environmental responsibility. This paper delves into the role of nanotechnology in reducing the environmental impact of renewable energy systems and promoting long-term sustainability. It examines the use of nanomaterials in improving energy efficiency, minimizing resource consumption, and enabling recyclable and eco-friendly energy solutions. The environmental benefits, such as reduced carbon emissions and optimized resource utilization, are highlighted alongside potential challenges, including nanomaterial toxicity and lifecycle management. Integrating nanotechnology into renewable energy systems makes a sustainable and greener future achievable, emphasizing the importance of continued research and ethical innovation.

**Keyword:** Nanotechnology, Renewable energy, Sustainability, Environmental impact, Nanomaterials, Energy efficiency, Carbon emissions

### Introduction:

As the world shifts towards renewable energy sources to mitigate climate change, nanotechnology has emerged as a key enabler of efficient and sustainable energy solutions. However, the environmental implications of nanotechnology in renewable energy remain a concern. This presentation will explore the environmental impact and sustainability of nanotechnology in renewable energy, highlighting the opportunities and challenges in this critical area of research.

#### 1. Nanotechnology:

Manipulation of matter at the nanoscale (1-100 nanometers)

Positive Environmental Impacts:

Reduced Carbon Emissions:

Nano-enhanced solar panels and wind turbines improve efficiency, reducing reliance on fossil fuels.

Example: Nanocoating improve solar cell efficiency by up to 30%.

Minimized Resource Use:

Nano-enabled batteries use fewer rare earth elements compared to traditional technologies.

Longer lifecycle reduces waste.

High-capacity nanomaterials (e.g., graphene, nanostructured silicon) store renewable energy more effectively.

#### 2. Supporting Sustainability Goals

Enables Circular Economy:

Recyclable nanomaterials in energy systems.

Decreases Energy Waste:

Advanced nano-sensors optimize energy distribution, reducing losses in smart grids.

Supports Green Manufacturing:

Low-energy processes for producing nanomaterials like quantum dots.

#### 3. Challenges to Sustainability

Environmental Concerns of Nanowaste:

Potential toxicity and persistence of nanomaterials in ecosystems

Resource Extraction:

Mining for raw materials like graphene and rare metals.

### Lifecycle of Nanotechnology in Renewable Energy



Nanomaterial toxicity poses a challenge to the long-term environmental compatibility of nanotechnology. These materials, due to their nanoscale size, can accumulate in ecosystems and living organisms, potentially causing harm to soil, water, and biological systems. Key concerns include:

#### Few examples highlighting the challenges of nanomaterial toxicity:

##### 1. Silver Nanoparticles (AgNPs):

Widely used in antimicrobial coatings and water purification.

Challenge: They can accumulate in aquatic ecosystems, harming beneficial bacteria and aquatic organisms.

##### 2. Carbon Nanotubes (CNTs):

Used in energy storage and lightweight materials.

Challenge: Some studies suggest CNTs can cause respiratory and cellular damage if inhaled, resembling asbestos-like effects.

##### 3. Quantum Dots (QDs):

Applied in solar panels and bioimaging.

Challenge: QDs often contain heavy metals (e.g., cadmium), which can leach into the environment and bioaccumulate in organisms.

##### 4. Zinc Oxide and Titanium Dioxide Nanoparticles:

Common in sunscreens and coatings.

Challenge: They may be toxic to marine life when washed off into water bodies.

##### 5. Graphene Oxide:

Used in batteries and filtration membranes.

Challenge: High concentrations in soil or water can be toxic to plants and microorganism

#### Addressing These Challenges:

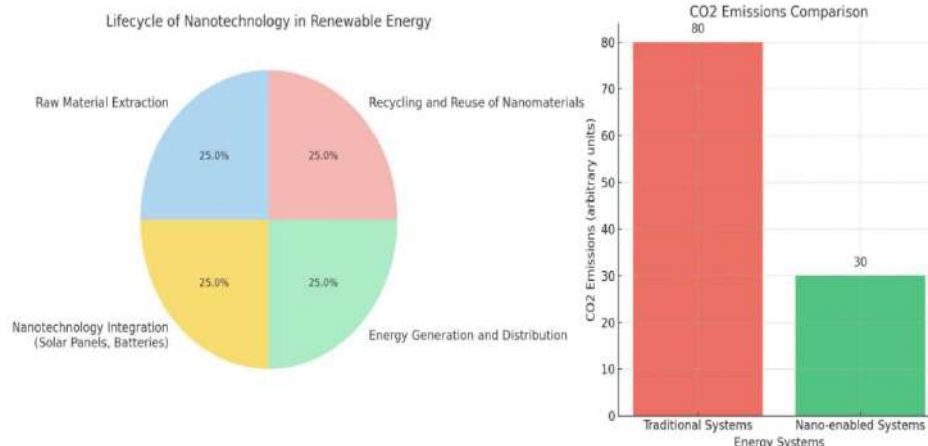
Development of eco-friendly alternatives, such as biodegradable or non-toxic nanomaterials.

Adoption of lifecycle assessments to evaluate and minimize environmental risks.

Despite the risks of nanomaterials, scientists are actively working to minimize these hazards while leveraging their benefits. Key approaches include:

1. Designing Safer Materials: Developing biodegradable and non-toxic nanomaterials using green synthesis methods.
2. Lifecycle Assessments: Evaluating the environmental impact of nanomaterials from production to disposal.
3. Regulation and Guidelines: Implementing strict manufacturing, usage, and disposal standards to reduce environmental and health risks.
4. Toxicity Testing: Using advanced testing and simulation methods to assess and mitigate potential harm
5. Recycling and Reuse: Creating closed-loop systems to recover and repurpose nanomaterials, minimizing waste.

These efforts ensure safer and more sustainable use of nanotechnology.



**Conclusion:**

Nanotechnology plays a transformative role in advancing renewable energy systems by improving efficiency, reducing resource usage, and minimizing carbon emissions. Innovations such as nano-enhanced solar panels, advanced energy storage solutions, and smart grid sensors contribute significantly to sustainability goals, enabling a circular economy and decreasing energy waste. However, addressing challenges like nanomaterial toxicity and resource extraction is crucial for ensuring long-term environmental compatibility. By fostering green manufacturing practices and implementing robust regulations, nanotechnology can drive the global transition to a cleaner, more sustainable energy future.

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## Cultural Influence on Agriculture Farming In Kashmir Valley

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### Abstract:

The cultural influence on agriculture in the Kashmir valley is profound, shaping the types of crops grown, the farming methods employed, and the relationship between the people and their land. The agricultural practices in the region are closely intertwined with the cultural traditions, beliefs, languages and heritage of its inhabitants. Agriculture in the Kashmir Valley is deeply influenced by centuries-old traditions, shaping not only the region's farming practices but also its social and cultural fabric. These traditional influences continue to play a vital role in agricultural productivity, resource management, and community life. Language is a powerful vehicle for transmitting knowledge, culture, and traditions, and in the Kashmir Valley, it plays a significant role in shaping agricultural practices. The interaction between language and agriculture in Kashmir is multifaceted, as it helps preserve indigenous agricultural knowledge, shapes social relationships, and influences community cooperation.

**Keywords:** Culture, Tradition, Religion, Language and agriculture

### Introduction

The Kashmir Valley, nestled in the lap of the Himalayas, is renowned not only for its breathtaking beauty but also for its rich cultural heritage, which has significantly shaped its agricultural practices. Agriculture forms the backbone of the region's economy, with traditional crops like rice, saffron, apples, and walnuts holding cultural and economic significance. Cultural Practices, beliefs, and festivals deeply influence the farming methods in the valley. The agrarian calendar is intertwined with local traditions, with festivals like Baisakhi marking the harvest season and Navreh signifying the sowing period. The reverence for nature in Kashmiri culture encourages sustainable farming methods, preserving biodiversity and maintaining the fertility of the land. Traditional knowledge, passed down through generations, dictates the use of organic manure, specific planting techniques, and crop rotation. Furthermore, Kashmiri cuisine and handicrafts, such as Pashmina weaving and culinary delicacies, often rely on locally produced agricultural products, reinforcing the cultural importance of farming. This interplay between culture and agriculture ensures not just the preservation of traditional practices but also provides a resilient framework for the region's agrarian economy, even in the face of modernization and climatic challenges.

### Culture

Culture deeply influences agriculture in the Kashmir valley, shaping farming practices, crop choices, seasonal rituals, and even the social and

economic framework of rural life. The interplay between agriculture and the unique cultural traditions of Kashmir has created a distinct agricultural identity in the region.

### Traditional crops and farming practices

- **Staple crops:** Rice (shali) and maize are culturally significant and form the dietary foundation of Kashmiri households. Their cultivation has been influenced by cultural preferences and traditional knowledge systems.
- **Saffron Cultivation:** Saffron holds a prestigious place in Kashmir culture, with its farming rooted in ancient traditions. The harvest season is celebrated with community participation, reflecting its cultural importance.
- **Fruit Orchards:** Apples, walnuts, cherries and almonds are integral to Kashmiri cuisine and festivals. These crops are not just an economic mainstay but also deeply embedded in the valleys cultural fabric.

### Seasonal Agricultural Practices and Festivals

Agriculture in Kashmir aligns with cultural cycles and is punctuated by seasonal festivals.

- **Navreh (Kashmiri New Year):** Marks the beginning of the agricultural season, with rituals to bless the land and ensure a prosperous harvest.
- **Baisakhi:** Celebrates the harvest season and acknowledges the agrarian roots of Kashmiri society.
- **Harvest Festivals:** The conclusion of the harvesting period often involves communal feasts and cultural events.

**Community and Social practices:**

- **Collective Farming:** Traditional farming often involved community participation, where neighbors and extended families worked together, reflects the communal culture of the valley.
- **Barter System:** In earlier times, agricultural produce was exchanged for goods and services, showcasing a culture of mutual dependence and resource sharing.

**Cultural Tools and Techniques**

Traditional agricultural tools (halo) and hand-woven baskets (kreeel, are still in use many parts of the valley. These reflect Kashmiri craftsmanship and cultural heritage. Indigenous techniques, like the use of zams (small canals for irrigation), demonstrate how traditional practices align with cultural and environmental conditions.

**Culinary culture and agriculture**

- **Wazwan Cuisine:** The preparation of traditional Kashmiri dishes depends on locally grown produce like rice, vegetables and spices (especially saffron and chillies).
- **Dried Fruits and Spices:** Almonds, walnuts and saffron are not just agricultural products but also symbols of Kashmiri hospitality, frequently used in festive and ceremonial dishes.

**Art and Literature Reflecting Agriculture**

Kashmiri poetry and folk songs, such as Rouf and Wanvun, celebrate agricultural life, reflecting the close relationship between the land and its people. Arts and crafts, such as carpets and shawls, often incorporate motifs inspired by the regions natural beauty and agricultural products (e.g. flowers and fruits).

**Gender Roles in Agriculture**

Women play a vital role in agricultural activities, particularly in sowing, weeding and harvesting. Their contributions are celebrated in cultural expressions including folk songs and community events.

**Modernization and cultural challenges**

While modernization has introduced new techniques and high yield crops, it sometimes conflicts with traditional cultural practices leading to a gradual decline in indigenous farming methods. Urbanization and changing lifestyles have also altered cultural ties to agriculture with younger generations moving away from farming.

**Tradition**

Agriculture in the Kashmir Valley is deeply influenced by centuries-old traditions, shaping not only the region's farming practices but also its social and cultural fabric. The valley's agricultural practices have evolved over time through the interaction of environmental conditions, indigenous knowledge, and cultural customs. These traditional influences continue to play a vital role in agricultural productivity, resource management, and

community life. Below are the key ways in which tradition influences agriculture in the Kashmir Valley.

**Traditional Crop Selection and Farming Practices**

Kashmir Valley's agriculture is shaped by the cultivation of specific crops that have been passed down through generations, forming the backbone of both the local economy and cultural identity.

- **Rice Cultivation:** The cultivation of rice, especially "**Kashmir Khushk**" (a local variety of rice), is one of the oldest agricultural traditions in the region. Traditional rice farming involves the use of water-intensive paddy fields, where irrigation is managed through a network of **Nallahs** (irrigation canals) and **Kuls** (water channels) that direct water from rivers and streams to rice fields. The practice of sowing rice in flooded fields has been perfected over centuries and is integral to local food security and cultural life.
- **Saffron Cultivation:** Kashmir is world-renowned for its saffron, which is grown primarily in the Pampore region. This crop has been cultivated for over a thousand years. The traditional method of saffron farming, including **hand-harvesting** of the delicate flowers and the careful drying of the stigmas, remains largely unchanged. The cultivation of saffron is intertwined with local traditions, customs, and even religious rituals.
- **Fruit Farming:** Apple orchards, particularly in areas like **Shopian**, **Anantnag**, and **baramulla**, have been a key part of Kashmiri agricultural tradition. The valley's cool, temperate climate is ideal for growing apples, cherries, and walnuts. Traditional farming techniques include careful attention to the pruning of trees, grafting, and using organic methods for pest control.

**Water Management: Traditional Irrigation Systems**

Water management in the Kashmir Valley has been a central part of traditional farming practices, given the region's reliance on water for agriculture.

- **Nallahs and Kuls:** These traditional irrigation channels have been dug by local communities over generations. **Nallahs**, natural water channels, and **Kuls**, artificial irrigation canals, direct water from rivers like the **Jhelum** to agricultural fields. The careful regulation and maintenance of these systems are a key feature of traditional Kashmiri farming, ensuring that crops receive the necessary water even during dry spells.
- **Wahars:** These are small, waterlogged fields used for rice cultivation, where the water level is carefully controlled. The use of **flood irrigation** in these fields is a traditional method that ensures high yields of rice. This system is

sustainable and efficient, relying on natural water sources.

- **Sustainable Practices:** The traditional methods of water conservation and distribution are integral to the sustainability of Kashmiri agriculture. Water is not only seen as a resource but as a sacred entity, with local customs dictating when and how it can be used, ensuring its availability for the community.

### Cultural and Religious Significance

Agriculture in Kashmir is not just a means of sustenance but is also embedded in the region's cultural and religious traditions.

- **Harvest Festivals:** The **Navreh** (the Kashmiri New Year) and other harvest festivals mark important agricultural events in the calendar. These festivals, celebrated with rituals and prayers, honor the earth's bounty and seek blessings for future harvests. Offerings to gods and prayers for prosperity reflect the deep spiritual connection between the people and the land.
- **Agriculture-Related Rituals:** Many agricultural practices are tied to **rituals and customs**. For example, the planting of certain crops or trees might be associated with auspicious times according to the lunar calendar. People also follow customs related to the harvesting process, like making offerings to spirits believed to guard the crops.
- **Community Labor:** Traditional farming in Kashmir is often done communally, with neighbors and relatives coming together during peak seasons such as **harvest time**. This tradition of communal labor, known as "*waaz-waz*" or "*shirkah*", strengthens social ties and fosters a sense of collective responsibility.

### Soil Fertility and Crop Rotation

Traditional farming in Kashmir has always emphasized **soil health and sustainability**. Farmers have relied on indigenous knowledge to maintain soil fertility and prevent degradation.

- **Crop Rotation:** A traditional practice in Kashmir is **crop rotation**, which helps maintain soil fertility. Crops such as **oilseeds, wheat, legumes, and pulses** are rotated with rice cultivation, helping replenish soil nutrients and reduce the risk of pest infestations. Legumes like **lentils** and **chickpeas** are often used to restore nitrogen levels in the soil, making it more fertile for the following crops.
- **Organic Fertilizers:** In the past, Kashmiri farmers used **organic fertilizers** such as animal manure, compost, and bio-based nutrients to enrich the soil. This practice continues in many areas, particularly where organic farming is being encouraged as a sustainable alternative to chemical inputs.

### Indigenous Knowledge and Practices

The region's agricultural traditions are shaped by **local knowledge** that has been handed down through generations. This knowledge includes a deep understanding of local climate patterns, soil types, and plant behavior, which has enabled Kashmiri farmers to adapt to the region's diverse conditions.

- **Weather Prediction:** Farmers in the valley often rely on **local weather patterns** and traditional methods of predicting weather to decide the best times for planting and harvesting. Elders in the community, who have observed natural signs like the flowering of certain plants or the behavior of animals, play an important role in passing down this knowledge.
- **Preservation of Traditional Varieties:** Kashmir has a rich heritage of **indigenous crop varieties**, some of which are resistant to local pests and climate conditions. The preservation of these varieties, including unique rice strains, local wheat, and traditional fruits, has been vital in maintaining the agricultural identity of the region.

### Challenges and Adaptation to Change

While traditional practices have provided a stable foundation for agriculture in the Kashmir Valley, they are increasingly challenged by **modernization and climate change**.

- **Climate Change:** Rising temperatures, erratic rainfall, and changing weather patterns are affecting crop yields. Traditional methods of water management, such as irrigation through Kuls and Nallahs, are facing challenges due to unpredictable water availability.
- **Land Fragmentation and Urbanization:** With growing urbanization and the division of agricultural land into smaller parcels, traditional farming practices are under pressure. This fragmentation makes it harder for families to sustain traditional farming methods, especially in an era of mechanization.
- **Migration:** As younger generations migrate to urban areas for better job opportunities, there is a decline in the workforce available to engage in traditional farming practices. This has led to a gradual shift towards more **commercial and industrialized agriculture**.

### Religion

In the Kashmir Valley, **religion** plays a significant role in shaping agricultural practices, from the selection of crops to the timing of farming activities, as well as the rituals and customs surrounding agriculture. Agriculture in Kashmir is not only an economic activity but also a deeply spiritual and cultural one, where religious beliefs intertwine with farming practices. This relationship is seen across various religious communities,

including **Hinduism, Islam, and sikhism**, with each influencing farming in distinct ways.

### Religious Festivals and Agricultural Cycles

Religious festivals and observances in the Kashmir Valley often align with the agricultural calendar, marking important milestones in the farming cycle such as sowing, harvesting, and celebrating the harvest.

- **Navreh (Kashmiri New Year):** For Kashmiri Hindus, **Navreh** is an important festival that celebrates the arrival of the new agricultural season. It coincides with the first day of the lunar calendar in spring and is a time for planting new crops. On this day, Kashmiri Hindus also perform rituals to honor the earth and seek blessings for a bountiful harvest. The festival marks the beginning of sowing season, particularly for rice and other crops.
- **Id-ul-Fitr and Id-ul-Adha:** For Kashmiri Muslims, the two major Islamic festivals, **Id-ul-Fitr** and **Id-ul-Adha**, often coincide with key agricultural events. The time around these festivals is a time for thanksgiving and offering prayers for a successful harvest. The giving of **zakat** (charitable donations) during these festivals also highlights the religious connection to sustenance and agricultural productivity. Eid prayers in the fields are also common in some areas, symbolizing gratitude for the land's abundance.
- **Harvest Festivals:** Kashmiri Muslims, like Hindus, celebrate harvest-related festivals, offering prayers of thanksgiving for a good crop. **Shab-e-Barat**, a night of prayer, is also observed at harvest time, as farmers seek blessings for protection from natural calamities that might affect crops.

### Religious Rituals Linked to Agricultural Practices

Religion is intimately tied to agricultural rituals in Kashmir. These practices range from blessings of tools and seeds to prayers for a good harvest.

- **Prayers for Fertility:** Both Hindu and Muslim communities in Kashmir offer prayers for the fertility of the land. For instance, Kashmiri Hindus often perform **poojas** (rituals) to honor deities like **Bhagwati** (the earth goddess), who is believed to protect crops. These rituals involve offerings of fruits, grains, and other agricultural products. Similarly, Muslims offer prayers to Allah for a fruitful harvest and protection from pests, droughts, and floods.
- **Use of Holy Water and Offerings:** In some areas, water sources used for irrigation are considered sacred. The water from certain rivers or streams is believed to have divine blessings. Farmers may offer prayers and even small sacrifices near these water bodies, seeking good

harvests. For example, in Hindu tradition, water from sacred rivers like the **Jhelum** is sometimes used to purify the land before planting.

- **Blessing of Tools:** Before the agricultural season begins, farmers in Kashmir often conduct **rituals to bless their farming a tool, including ploughs, sickles, and irrigation channels**. These rituals are thought to ensure that the tools function well throughout the agricultural season, and they also serve as a sign of respect for the labor that agriculture requires.

### Language

Language is a powerful vehicle for transmitting knowledge, culture, and traditions, and in the Kashmir Valley, it plays a significant role in shaping agricultural practices. The interaction between language and agriculture in Kashmir is multifaceted, as it helps preserve indigenous agricultural knowledge, shapes social relationships, and influences community cooperation. The dominant languages in the region are **Kashmiri, Urdu** and **Dogri** along with other regional dialects. Here's a closer look at how language influences agriculture in the region.

### Preservation of Agricultural Knowledge and Practices

In the Kashmir Valley, language serves as the primary means of transmitting agricultural knowledge from generation to generation. The Kashmiri language (**Koshur**), along with the local dialects and expressions, is rich in terms, expressions, and proverbs related to farming, weather, crops, and land management. This linguistic tradition ensures that agricultural practices remain embedded in the local culture and community life.

- **Traditional Terms and Vocabulary:** Kashmiri is a language that has developed a distinct agricultural lexicon over centuries. Many words in the language describe specific farming techniques, tools, and crops unique to the region. For example, words like "**wan**" (orchard), "**wahar**" (irrigated rice field), "**kul**" (irrigation canal), and "**gulo**" (flower) reflect the deep connection between language and agriculture.
- **Agricultural Prose and Songs:** Kashmiri has a rich tradition of oral literature, including agricultural songs, stories, and proverbs, which have been passed down through generations. These serve as tools for teaching agricultural practices. Songs sung during sowing or harvest is not just for entertainment but also serve to reinforce the knowledge of the agricultural cycle, weather patterns, and seasonal activities.
- **Weather Lore and Agricultural Wisdom:** Many proverbs in Kashmiri are related to the weather and the agricultural calendar. Phrases like "**Chonay naw chon, wuchhun muhyay**"



(When it rains in the morning, the crops will be good) reflect the folk wisdom passed on in the language, which helps farmers predict the seasons and plan their activities.

### **Community and Social Structure through Language**

Language plays a crucial role in the social organization of agricultural communities in Kashmir. The language reflects the deep-rooted social norms, hierarchies, and cooperative systems that exist around farming.

- **Rural Dialects and Sub-communities:** Different rural areas of Kashmir may speak slightly different dialects of Kashmiri or local variations. These dialects often carry specific terms related to local crops or agricultural practices, which can provide insights into how different regions within the valley have adapted to specific environmental conditions. For example, people from Pulwama may have distinct words for local apple varieties or unique farming tools compared to those from Anantnag.
- **Collective Labor and Cooperation:** The language of cooperation in agriculture, especially in terms of communal labor, is a key feature of farming life in Kashmir. Phrases like "**waaz-waz**" (helping each other) or "**shirkah**" (shared work) are common in rural areas and emphasize the importance of community involvement in tasks such as planting, harvesting, or building irrigation channels. This cooperative labor system reflects the interconnectedness of people and land, reinforcing the communal nature of agriculture in the valley.

### **Religious and Cultural Narratives in Language**

The language of religious traditions in Kashmir also significantly influences agricultural practices. As religion plays a major role in the farming calendar (e.g., Navreh, Eid, and other festivals), the language used in religious contexts often links spiritual beliefs with agricultural rituals and practices.

**Religious Expressions in Kashmiri:** In both **Hinduism** and **Islam**, agricultural practices are often accompanied by prayers, blessings, and religious expressions. For instance, prayers for a good harvest are recited in **Kashmiri** during significant religious festivals like **Navreh** (Kashmiri New Year) and **Id-ul-Adha**. The religious language associated with these rituals helps shape the cultural and spiritual significance of farming.

- **Cultural Identity and Farming Practices:** Language also plays a role in reinforcing the cultural identity of farmers in Kashmir. Religious and cultural expressions embedded in Kashmiri language, such as the specific names for crops, tools, and farming activities,

strengthen the link between **agriculture and cultural identity**. For example, the word "**Shuker**" for wheat and "**Hishr**" for barley reflects cultural specificity in farming and grain consumption, vital to both the Kashmiri Hindu and Muslim communities.

### **Conclusion**

In the Kashmir valley, agriculture is more than just an economic activity, it is deeply intertwined with the regions culture, traditions and way of life. The cultural influence on agriculture not only preserves the identity of Kashmiri society but also ensures the sustainability of its farming practices. Balancing this cultural heritage with modern advancements is essential for maintaining the valleys unique agricultural identity. Tradition continues to play a crucial role in shaping agricultural practices. From the selection of crops to the methods of water management, community labor, and the deep cultural connection to the land, tradition is deeply embedded in the region's farming systems. However, challenges such as modernization, climate change, and social transformation are putting pressure on these traditions. Religion in the Kashmir Valley plays a crucial role in shaping agricultural practices, from the selection of crops to the timing of agricultural activities, the maintenance of sacred landscapes, and the ethical practices in farming. Language plays a critical role in shaping the agricultural practices, knowledge, and cultural identity of the Kashmir Valley. It serves as a conduit for passing down centuries of agricultural wisdom, social values, and religious beliefs. From the specialized vocabulary used to describe crops and farming tools to the proverbs and songs that mark the agricultural cycle, language preserves the rich tradition of farming in the region.

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## Report on the *Sorghum* sp. rhizosphere mycoflora from Barshi tahashil area, Pimpri (Pan.)

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### Abstract:

Current paper deals with the species isolation of fungi. All species were isolated from crop plants rhizosphere. *Penicillium* sp. and *Aspergillus* sp. occurs frequently in studied area soil.

**Keywords:** *Sorghum* sp., mycoflora, Pimpri (Pan)

### Introduction:

*Sorghum* sp. crop grow in rabbi season at semi arid area of Solapur district. It belongs to family Poaceae and it well grow in black soil. Agricultural soil particulates contain mineral elements which required for growth and yield of plants. Few millimeter area of root system as a 'rhizosphere', influenced by exudes and region provides favourable condition for microbial growth. It is attributed that to the rich source of food material provided by root tissue and exudes studied by Agnihotri, (1953). Rhizosphere soil harbour array of k-solubilizing microbes. Like bacteria, fungi *Aspergillus* excrete organic acids, solubilise the unavailable potassium. *Aspergillus* have been employed for their beneficial outcomes on plant growth (Sangeet et al., 2012). Minerals required by cells and possesses essential physiological and biochemical function involving cell osmotic regulation and enzyme activation (Valmorbida and Boaro, 2007).

*Penicillium* sp. and *Aspergillus* sp. has potential role to excrete huge quantity of citric, gluconic and oxalic acids in vitro, which leads to solubilization of soil silicates, mica and feldspar. Soil microbes have been reported to play a key role in the natural 'K' cycle (Lian et. al., 2007). Minerals is maintained initiated by the production of microbial organic acids during the process of proliferation and survival in rhizosphere. Microorganisms play a central role in the natural potassium cycle and k-solubilizing microbes in soil and in plant rhizosphere (Han and Lee, 2005). K-mobilizing microbes as bioinoculants for enhanced crop production could mitigate the employment of chemical fertilizer to maintain and sustain the crop production (Sheng, 2005). Sheng and Huang, 2002 observed that the pH, O<sub>2</sub> and type of bacterial strains employed which affected the K release from the minerals. The option and prospect of using microbes as a substitute or choice for biological

process to persuade the liberation of K from potassium containing rocks and minerals of soil also (Rogers et. al., 1998). Several microbes are proficient in solubilising the unavailable potassium contained in soil and rock minerals through mineralization (Supanjani et.al., 2006). Rhizosphere microbes produce organic acids such as oxalic acid, formic acid, citric acid and malic acid. Microbes has been shown to enhance the plant growth (Meena et al., 2013). Various crop plants rhizosphere mycoflora studied by Mehrotra and Kakkar, (1972). Recently, Deshmukh et.al., (2013) studied sugarcane mycoflora; Rhizosphere mycoflora from dry crop fields of *Sorghum* sp. in Dhule district area studied by Patil and Thakkar, (2019).

### Material and Methods:

Different soil samples were collected from different areas of Barshi tahasil in Solapur district viz. Hingani, Pimpri, Sakat and Pangaon villages. *Sorghum* sp. rhizosphere soil samples were obtained and packed in polythene bags, brought to botany laboratory of college. Isolation of fungi carried on PDA media plates, by serial dilution method (Subba rao, 2004). Serial dilution of soil samples were made up to 10<sup>-6</sup> then 0.5 ml of soil suspension pour on culture media. Incubate the cultures at 25-27 °C FOR 48 hrs to 7 days in inverted positions. Fungal mycelia or spores mount in lacto phenol and stained with cotton blue. Identification of isolated fungi was made with the help of monographs (Tondon, 1968; Subramanian, 1971; Nagamani et. al., 2006) and other relevant literature.

### Results and Discussion:

Environmental conditions determine the nature of microbial population present at any given time in the soil. Basically the growth of continental plants depends on the soil for water and nutrient elements. Beyond this, the soil must provide an environment in which roots can function. An absence of inhibitory factors, such as a toxic concentration of soluble salts, is essential. Nutrients

become available through mineral weathering and organic matter decomposition. Ratio of nutrient is important. Nutrients are absorbed from the soil as cations and anions. Bacteria and fungi are the most important flora in soil concerned with decay and nutrient cycling. Here, in the present investigation, the fungi *Penicillium* sp. and *Aspergillus* sp. occurs frequently in studied area soil as compared to *Saccharomyces* sp., *Mucor* sp. and *Trichoderma* sp. Most important is that mycorrhiza *Glomus* sp. reported from regions of Sakat village.

In general, the fertile fine textured soil, high in organic matter contain many more microbes than coarse textured. If we examine the changes which occur in the microbial population of soil, we find contain cause for these variations. All soil microbes obtain energy either from the oxidation of simple inorganic substances. The invasion of the soil region by an elongating root is followed by a large increase in microbial activity near the root surface. Excretory products and sloughed off root tissue serves as readily available sources of energy and nutrients. Soil structure has a great influence on plant growth, altered by tillage operations and

traffic. Microbial activity supported by the organic matter that is closely relate to aggregate formation. There appears to be several factors involved. First, the organisms like fungal mycelia serve to bind soil particles together. Various substances synthesised by microbes also play an active role. Gums along with other substances acts as cement that exhibits some resistance to rehydration. Some microbiologically produced substances have positively and negatively charged groups that link soil particles.

Wetting and drying, freezing and thawing, tillage and biological activities, these all contributes to the continual breaking down and building up of aggregates. Physical condition of poorly aggregated soil were limiting the yield of crop and vice versa. Microflora contribute to nutrient deficiencies in higher plants when soil becomes anaerobic, still other microbes becomes active.

#### Acknowledgement:

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**Table. 1.** *Sorghum* sp. rhizosphere mycoflora reported from different areas of Barshi tahasil.

Mycoflora	Hingani	Pimpri (Pan)	Sakat	Pangaon
<i>Saccharomyces</i> sp.	++-	---	---	---
<i>Penicillium</i> sp.	+++	+++	++-	+++
<i>Mucor</i> sp.	+--	+--	---	+--
<i>Trichoderma</i> sp.	+--	+++	---	---
<i>Aspergillus</i> sp.	+++	+++	+++	+++
<i>Glomus</i> sp.	---	---	++-	---

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## Work Place Stress among Employees

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### Abstract:

Stress is normally unavoidable part of everyone's life living in this world. It portrays a negative notion that can have an impact on one's mental and physical well-being. In the field of business, Factors leading to work stress and its impact on employee performance is an important factor. The factors leading to work stress and its impact on employee performance is vital for any organisation to ensure its success and smooth functioning. Various studies have been done in the field of business, regarding the factors leading to work stress and its impact on employee performance. This research is aimed at understand the stress and to develop strategies to deal with it, as well as building up their own personal resilience. Secondary data from relevant resources have also effectively utilised in this research to reach valid theoretical findings and conclusions. The research discusses nature of stress at work, the causes and effects of stress, as well as prevention strategies. Roles of the organizational culture in this process and the resources to be drawn upon for managing work stress are also discussed. This study provides practical advice on how to deal with work stress. This research implies that work-related stress occurs when there is a mismatch between the demands of the job and the resources and capabilities of the individual employee to meet those demands. Researcher believes that, the study could contribute some valid findings to the academic stream of managerial studies especially in the field of organizational behaviour.

**Keywords:** Fatigue, Muscular tension, Headache, Heart palpitations, sleeping difficulties, such as insomnia. Gastrointestinal upsets, such as diarrhoea, dermatological disorders.

### Introduction:

Stress is experienced when a body responds to any kind of excessive demand; stress can be caused by both good and bad experiences. When a body feels stressed by something around, it reacts by releasing chemicals into the blood, which gives the body more energy and strength. This can be a good thing, if the stress is caused by physical activity. Similarly it can be a bad thing when stress is in response to an emotional instance and there is no outlet for this extra energy and strength. In this blog we will be discussing about – the different causes of stress, how it affects you, the difference between ‘good’ or ‘positive’ stress and ‘bad’ or ‘negative’ stress, and some common facts about how stress affects people today.

### Literature Review:

#### Positive stress

Positive stress can inspire people to do their best and perform better than if they were under no pressure. Positive stress has the following characteristics:

- Motivates, focuses energy
  - Positive stress is a coping ability
  - Provides excitement
- Improves performance – both physical and

psychological

#### Negative stress

Negative stress is the opposite of Positive stress. The characteristics are as follows:

- Negative stress causes anxiety
- Feels unpleasant
- Decreases endurance and/or performance
- May lead to both physical and psychological problems

#### What causes stress?

There's no particular fixed cause for stress; the reasons can be personal, social or even work related for that matter. Depression, guilt, physique, relationship issues, death or major life instances, financial problems, traumatic events can be included as agents of stress.

#### Long term stress and its consequences

- Long term stress takes its toll on the functioning and condition of both the human body and mind. Please find below some of the consequences of long term stress.
- Depression, anxiety and personal disorders. Panic attacks are the most extreme reactions from stress.
- Hypertension, heart failure, heart attacks,

cardiac arrhythmia, atherosclerosis are few cardiovascular diseases that can result from stress.

- Obesity, anorexia and bulimia are some of the psychological effects that take a toll on the physical condition of a body.
- Sexual dysfunction, low fertility is also a result of chronic stress.
- Acne, permanent hair loss, eczema, gastrointestinal diseases, lung diseases which have a direct impact on the immune system may be a result of chronic stress.

#### **Reducing/avoiding stress**

Although stress cannot be controlled, it can be managed with the following techniques.

- Maintaining a positive attitude throughout is the most basic need to avoid/ deal with stress.
- Communication has to be done in a positive, thoughtful manner. Any kind of negative emotion can lead to excessive stress.
- Anger management is a key component to reduce/control stress
- Stressful situations are best when avoided; time management also helps you to complete your work on time and avoid stress.
- Involve yourself by participating in de-stressing activities like gardening, reading, etc.
- Self reflection for 15-20 minutes every day can help you to neglect negative thoughts from affecting your thinking.
- Yoga and meditation are also very useful to relax your muscles and avoid stress.

A Literature Review on the Connection between Stress and Self-Esteem This review discusses how stress is a complex defensive mechanism in the body, and how stress management techniques can improve self-esteem. Stress and Health: Psychological, Behavioral, and ...

This review discusses how stressors can affect mood, health, behavior, and sense of well-being. It also discusses how the nature, number, and persistence of stressors, as well as an individual's biological vulnerability, can affect the relationship between psychosocial stressors and disease.

**Stress:** Facts and Theories through Literature Review

This review classifies stress based on the nature of the stressor, its influence on the individual, and the exposure time of the stressor.

**Work Place Stress Among Employees:** A Literature Review This review defines stress as the interaction between an individual and a situation, and how it can be a physical and psychological state. It also discusses how stress can sometimes be a motivator, and not always have negative results. Stress Among Working Women: A **Literature Review**

This review discusses how women often feel stressed and overworked, and how they have to

manage both family and professional responsibilities. A Literature Review on Stress and Coping Strategies in Higher Education This review discusses how the COVID-19 pandemic caused stress for students in higher education, due to the loss of personal contact with peers and faculty, and the shift to online learning.

#### **Objectives of the Study:**

Stress can be categorized by its duration, source, and response. Acute stress is short-term stress that can cause temporary physiological changes, like increased heart rate and adrenaline release. Chronic stress, or long-term stress, can contribute to health problems like digestive disorders, headaches, and sleep disorders.

#### **Physical effects:**

Stress can cause the body to release hormones that trigger the "fight-or-flight" response, which can increase heart rate, breathing rate, and blood pressure.

**Psychological effects:** Stress can lead to depression, anxiety, and other mental illnesses.

**Immune system effects:** Stress can alter immunity. Short-term stress can boost the immune system, but chronic stress can cause the immune system to break down.

- Stress management
- Relaxation techniques
- Yoga
- Mindfulness
- Exercise, such as walking, jogging, dancing, yoga, or swimming

#### **Discussion:**

The discussion section contains the results and outcomes of a study. An effective discussion informs readers what can be learned from your experiment and provides context for the results. The field of general psychology concerns itself with studying the mind. This includes cognition, perception, behavior and emotion. Psychology has been around since the time that people started to think about other people. As a discipline, however, it separated itself from regular medicine in the 1800s. The primary types of group discussions are factual, opinion-based, case study, and abstract. Each type has a distinct focus, ranging from data-driven discussions to analyzing specific cases or exploring open-ended, abstract topics.

Critical analysis involves thinking about the merits and drawbacks of what you're reading. It doesn't necessarily mean tearing apart what you've read-it could also involve highlighting what an author or researcher has done well, and thinking through the implications of a study on the broader research area. Discussion methods are a variety of forums for open-ended, collaborative exchange of ideas among a teacher and students or among students for the purpose of furthering students thinking, learning, problem solving, understanding,

or literary appreciation. Whole-class discussions can encourage students to learn from one another and to articulate course content in their own words. While generally not conducive to covering large amounts of content, the interactive dynamic of discussion can help students learn and motivate them to complete homework and to prepare for class.

**Discussions can be meaningful and engaging learning experiences:** dynamic, eye-opening, and generative. The main purpose of discussion is to achieve completion and get in sync, which leads to decisions and/or actions. Conversations that fail to reach completion are a waste of time. When there is an exchange of ideas, it is important to end it by stating the conclusions. If there is agreement, say it; if not, say that.

**Conclusion:**

Workplace stress and associated mental ill-health is a fact that every employer and employee lives with on a daily basis. However, it often is the case that neither are aware of the issues fully and nor are well informed about its ramifications. A balanced lifestyle and coping strategies can help you manage stress. Issues that cause stress cannot always be resolved but changing your expectations of a problem may help. Untreated stress can lead to serious illness. It's important to get help if you feel you can't cope.

**The scope of research for employees can include a variety of topics, such as:**

- How to measure employee performance, including outcomes like turnover, absenteeism, and productivity, and attitudes like engagement, commitment, and satisfaction
- Demographics
- How demographics like gender, age, tenure, and work experience may affect employee performance
- Organizational factors
- How organizational factors like leadership, culture, and infrastructure may affect employee performance
- New initiatives
- How new organizational initiatives may affect employee performance

Narrow down the research area to a specific problem

**Formulate research questions:**

Create specific, measurable, and achievable questions that relate to the research problem

**Define limitations:** Acknowledge the boundaries and limitations of the research, such as sample size restrictions or potential biases

**Specify the target population:** Define the group being studied, including factors like age range, geographical location, and other relevant characteristics

**Establish a timeframe:** Determine the duration of the study and any time-based parameters for data

collection

**Set geographical boundaries:** If the research is location-specific, clearly state the geographical scope

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## Nature and Identity: An Eco-Critical Study of Tribal Narratives in Narayan's Kocharethi and Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar's Rupi Baskey

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### Abstract:

The present paper explores the intricate relationship between nature and identity in tribal narratives through an eco-critical analysis of Narayan's Kocharethi: The Araya Woman and Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar's The Mysterious Ailment of Rupi Baskey. Both novels delve into the lives of the Araya and Santhal tribes, illustrating their deep-rooted connection to the natural environment and the spiritual and cultural dimensions of this bond. The narratives highlight how environmental degradation, modernization, and socio-economic exploitation disrupt these communities, leading to the erosion of their traditions and identities. Central female characters like Kunjipennu and Rupi Baskey symbolize the resilience of tribal culture, navigating personal and collective crises that mirror the challenges faced by their communities. This study underscores the urgent need to preserve both the natural ecosystems and cultural heritage of indigenous tribes, as their harmonious relationship with nature offers valuable lessons in sustainability and identity preservation.

**Keywords:** Eco-criticism, tribal narratives, nature and identity, Narayan, Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar, Kocharethi: The Araya Woman, The Mysterious Ailment of Rupi Baskey, indigenous culture, environmental degradation, resilience.

### Introduction:

In literary studies, the eco-critical approach has emerged as a vital framework to examine the intersection of nature, culture, and identity. As humanity faces environmental crises, literature becomes a lens through which to explore humanity's relationship with the natural world. Eco-criticism not only evaluates the representation of the environment in texts but also investigates how cultural and individual identities are shaped by ecological contexts. The present paper applies an eco-critical perspective to explore the deep connections between nature and identity in tribal narratives, focusing on two significant works of Indian English literature: Narayan's Kocharethi: The Araya Woman and Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar's The Mysterious Ailment of Rupi Baskey.

Tribal literature serves as a powerful medium for articulating the voices of marginalized communities, particularly in India, where indigenous people have historically faced social, economic, and cultural oppression. Through storytelling, tribal authors and their works illuminate the symbiotic relationship between tribal communities and their environment. The selected texts explore how this connection is central to tribal life, providing sustenance, spiritual meaning, and cultural identity. However, these narratives also

reflect the profound challenges posed by environmental degradation and societal transformation, making them an important subject for eco critical analysis.

### Analysis of Kocharethi: The Araya Woman Narayan's Kocharethi:

The Araya Woman is a landmark in Indian English literature, offering a profound insight into the life and struggles of the Araya tribe of Kerala. Through its evocative narrative, the novel highlights the tribe's intimate relationship with nature, their cultural practices, and the challenges they face due to modernization and environmental changes. The story centers on Kunjipennu, a woman whose life reflects the joys and hardships of her community, and explores how nature functions as both a source of identity and a site of conflict. The natural world in Kocharethi is more than a backdrop; it is a living presence that shapes the characters' lives. The forest, in particular, symbolizes sustenance, spirituality, and security for the Araya tribe. Narayan writes, "The forest was the home of the Arayas, their protector and provider, a mother who never turned her children away" (Narayan 42). This imagery underscores the Arayas' dependence on the forest for their livelihood and cultural traditions. The forest provides not only material resources such as food and shelter but also spiritual meaning,

serving as the site of rituals and communal gatherings. However, this harmonious relationship is disrupted by the encroachment of modernity, which threatens the tribe's way of life. The introduction of roads and machines into the forest is described as an invasion, stripping the land of its vitality. Narayan poignantly observes, "The trees fell one by one, and with them fell the memories of a life that had once been full of laughter and song" (134). This destruction of the natural environment parallels the erosion of the Araya tribe's cultural identity. As their traditional spaces are replaced by modern infrastructure, the community is forced to adapt to new ways of life that are often at odds with their values. Kunjipennu's life exemplifies the tension between tradition and change. As a child, she learns the stories and rituals of her ancestors, which are deeply rooted in the natural world. Narayan describes a moment of her awakening: "She stood by the river, listening to its song, feeling as though it carried the voices of her ancestors" (58). The river, a recurring motif in the novel, symbolizes continuity and connection to the past. However, as Kunjipennu grows older, she witnesses the gradual decline of these traditions. The river becomes polluted, and its once-clear waters turn muddy, mirroring the loss of clarity and purity in the tribe's collective identity. Modernization not only alters the landscape but also brings new forms of exploitation and inequality. The Arayas, once self-sufficient, become dependent on external forces for survival. Narayan critiques this shift, stating, "The forest was no longer theirs. It belonged to the men with papers and promises, men who spoke of progress but brought only despair" (143).

This critique highlights the economic and social marginalization of tribal communities in the face of development projects that prioritize profit over people. Despite these challenges, the novel also portrays the resilience of the Araya tribe. Kunjipennu, as a matriarch, becomes a symbol of resistance and adaptation. While she mourns the loss of the old ways, she also finds ways to preserve her culture within the constraints of modernity. For instance, she teaches her children the songs and stories of their ancestors, ensuring that their heritage is not entirely lost. Narayan writes, "Even as the world changed around her, Kunjipennu held onto the roots of her people, planting them in the hearts of the next generation" (167). This act of preservation highlights the enduring strength of tribal identity, even in the face of adversity. Kocharethi also explores the spiritual dimension of the Arayas' connection to nature. The forest is not merely a resource but a sacred space imbued with divine presence. Rituals and ceremonies often take place in natural settings, reinforcing the tribe's belief in the interconnectedness of all life forms. Narayan captures this beautifully: "To the Arayas,

every tree had a soul, every river a spirit, and every mountain a guardian" (92). This perspective contrasts sharply with the commodification of nature by external forces, emphasizing the cultural and ethical implications of environmental destruction. Ultimately, Kocharethi: *The Araya Woman* is a poignant exploration of the interplay between nature and identity in tribal life. Through Kunjipennu's story, Narayan illustrates the profound ways in which the natural world shapes individual and communal identities. At the same time, the novel serves as a critique of the forces that disrupt this relationship, from environmental degradation to socio-economic exploitation. The text resonates as both a celebration of tribal culture and a call to action to preserve the delicate balance between humanity and the environment.

### **Analysis of the Mysterious Ailment of Rupi Baskey**

Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar's *The Mysterious Ailment of Rupi Baskey* is a richly textured narrative that delves into the life and struggles of the Santhal tribe in Jharkhand. The novel intricately weaves together themes of nature, spirituality, and identity, portraying how the environment is central to the Santhal way of life and deeply intertwined with their cultural and spiritual practices. Through the story of Rupi Baskey, the novel highlights the fragility of tribal identity in the face of social, economic, and environmental challenges. Nature in *The Mysterious Ailment of Rupi Baskey* is both a nurturing force and a site of conflict. The Santhal community's connection to the land is foundational to their identity. Their agricultural practices, rituals, and daily lives are closely tied to the rhythms of nature. The novel emphasizes this connection early on, stating, "The fields were not just land to till; they were sacred spaces that sang the songs of their ancestors" (Shekhar 24). This spiritual relationship with the environment underscores the Santhals' belief in the interconnectedness of all living beings. However, this harmony is disrupted by external forces, including modern development and deforestation. The arrival of outsiders seeking to exploit the land is depicted as a direct threat to the Santhals' way of life. Shekhar writes, "The forest was their haven, but now it was being stripped bare by men who saw only profit in its trees" (56). This exploitation of natural resources mirrors the broader marginalization of tribal communities, whose voices are often silenced in the name of progress. The loss of the forest is not just an environmental issue; it is a cultural and existential crisis for the Santhals. The titular character, Rupi Baskey, becomes a symbol of the tribe's struggles and resilience. Her mysterious ailment is intricately linked to the land and the spiritual world.

The novel suggests that her illness is not merely physical but also a manifestation of the collective trauma experienced by her community. Shekhar describes her suffering as “a shadow that crept into her soul, as if the earth itself was mourning through her” (87). This metaphorical portrayal of her ailment connects her personal pain to the broader suffering of the Santhal people, whose lives are increasingly destabilized by external pressures. Spirituality plays a pivotal role in the novel, reflecting the Santhals’ belief in the power of nature and ancestral spirits. The traditional healers, or ojhas, are depicted as custodians of this spiritual knowledge, mediating between the physical and metaphysical realms. The novel captures this beautifully when it states, “The ojha did not merely heal; he listened to the whispers of the trees and the murmurs of the wind, seeking answers from the world beyond” (102). Rupi’s ailment becomes a test of faith and a reminder of the Santhals’ deep reliance on their spiritual heritage. At the same time, the novel critiques the tensions within the community, particularly the influence of patriarchal norms and internal divisions.

While Rupi’s strength and resilience are celebrated, her struggles also expose the limitations imposed on women within tribal society. Shekhar writes, “Rupi carried the weight of her family’s legacy, but no one saw the burden that was crushing her spirit” (138). This duality adds depth to her character and highlights the broader challenges faced by tribal women, who often bear the brunt of societal and environmental upheavals. The encroachment of modernity is another recurring theme in the novel. The Santhal community is depicted as being caught between tradition and change, struggling to preserve their identity in a rapidly transforming world. Shekhar poignantly observes, “The old songs were fading, drowned out by the noise of machines and the hum of electricity” (175). This loss of cultural heritage is mirrored in the erosion of their natural environment, creating a sense of existential crisis for the tribe. Despite these challenges, *The Mysterious Ailment of Rupi Baskey* also portrays the resilience of the Santhal community. Rupi’s story is ultimately one of survival and hope, symbolizing the enduring spirit of her people. Shekhar writes, “Even in her weakest moments, Rupi was a tree that refused to fall, her roots clinging to the soil of her ancestors” (210). This imagery reinforces the central theme of the novel: the inseparable bond between the Santhal people and their land, and the enduring strength of their identity in the face of adversity. Through its rich narrative and complex characters, *The Mysterious Ailment of Rupi Baskey* offers a poignant exploration of the Santhal community’s relationship with nature and the challenges they face in a changing world. Shekhar’s nuanced portrayal of

Rupi and her tribe serves as both a celebration of tribal culture and a critique of the forces that threaten its survival. The novel underscores the urgent need to recognize and preserve the cultural and environmental heritage of India’s tribal communities, making it a significant contribution to contemporary Indian English literature.

#### **Conclusion:**

In conclusion, Narayan’s Kocharethi and Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar’s *The Mysterious Ailment of Rupi Baskey* illustrate the profound connection between nature and tribal identity. Both novels portray how the natural environment shapes the cultural, spiritual, and social lives of tribal communities while highlighting the devastating effects of modernization and environmental degradation. The struggles of characters like Kunjipennu and Rupi Baskey underscore the existential crisis faced by tribes as they navigate the loss of their lands and traditions. At the same time, these women symbolize resilience, embodying the enduring strength of tribal culture. The novels emphasize that ecological destruction is not merely an environmental issue but a cultural one, threatening the survival of indigenous knowledge and identity. By foregrounding these narratives, the authors call attention to the need for preserving both natural ecosystems and tribal heritage. These works remind readers of the intrinsic value of living in harmony with nature and the urgent need for sustainable approaches to development.

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## The Role of Educational Institutions in Sustainable Development

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### Abstract:

The multifaceted role of educational institutions in promoting sustainable development. It explores how education systems across different levels—primary, secondary, and tertiary—can foster sustainability principles. By analyzing secondary data from existing literature, reports, and case studies, this paper discusses the integration of sustainability into curricula, pedagogical approaches, the role of institutions in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and how education institutions model sustainability through their policies and operations. The paper highlights the challenges and opportunities for educational institutions in advancing sustainable development and offers recommendations for enhancing their contribution to sustainability.

**Keywords:** Sustainability Education, Curriculum Integration, Pedagogical Approaches, Campus Sustainability, Community Engagement

### Introduction:

Sustainable development is a global imperative that seeks to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Education plays a crucial role in achieving this vision by equipping individuals with the knowledge and skills required for sustainable practices and by shaping values and behaviors that contribute to a sustainable future. Educational institutions are uniquely positioned to influence social, economic, and environmental sustainability across communities and nations.

This paper investigates the role of educational institutions in fostering sustainable development through various avenues: curriculum integration, pedagogical strategies, research initiatives, campus operations, and community engagement. It also examines the challenges and opportunities in aligning education systems with sustainability objectives, focusing on the role of primary, secondary, and higher education institutions.

### Review of Literature: The Role of Educational Institutions in Sustainable Development

The role of educational institutions in fostering sustainable development has garnered significant attention in recent academic literature. Research in this area underscores education's critical role in promoting sustainable practices across environmental, social, and economic dimensions. From primary schools to universities, educational institutions are critical agents of change, shaping future generations' knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors necessary to tackle global sustainability challenges.

### Curriculum Integration of Sustainability:

A substantial body of research highlights the importance of integrating sustainability into educational curricula. Many studies emphasize the need for sustainability to be incorporated across disciplines, from the natural sciences to social sciences and the humanities (Tilbury, 2011). The goal is to educate students about environmental issues and promote sustainable practices in various fields of study, including business, economics, law, and engineering (Beringer & Adomßent, 2013).

For instance, Filho et al. (2018) discuss how universities worldwide have started to embed sustainability into the curriculum, especially through specialized programs like environmental studies, sustainable development, and green business. These programs aim to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate and address the complex sustainability challenges of the 21st century. Furthermore, curriculum integration is a powerful tool for aligning education systems with the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, particularly SDG 4 on Quality Education, which promotes inclusive and equitable education for sustainable development (UNESCO, 2017).

### Pedagogical Approaches for Sustainability Education:

Pedagogy plays a pivotal role in shaping how sustainability is taught and learned. Experiential and project-based learning are commonly cited as effective pedagogical approaches for promoting sustainability education (Sterling, 2012). Experiential learning allows students to engage with real-world sustainability challenges like waste management, climate change mitigation, and sustainable resource use. By participating in

sustainability projects or internships, students gain practical knowledge and develop a deeper sense of environmental stewardship (Hopkins & McKeown, 2007).

Interdisciplinary teaching is highlighted as an essential strategy for fostering an understanding of sustainability's multifaceted nature (Sterling, 2012). Sustainability issues, such as climate change, resource depletion, and social inequality, require a comprehensive understanding of scientific, economic, social, and ethical perspectives. Integrating these different fields of knowledge helps students appreciate the interconnectedness of global sustainability challenges and equips them to find innovative, cross-disciplinary solutions (Beringer & Adom̄ent, 2013).

**Institutional Policies and Organizational Change:** Research also points to the importance of institutional leadership and policy in embedding sustainability in educational practices. Universities, colleges, and primary and secondary schools are increasingly adopting sustainability policies that affect everything from research agendas to campus operations (Filho et al., 2018). Policies can range from incorporating sustainability into governance structures, such as creating sustainability offices, to offering incentives for research in sustainability and green technologies (Sterling, 2012).

One area where policies are making a significant impact is in campus operations. Universities, for instance, are adopting green building standards, renewable energy sources, and zero-waste initiatives, which contribute to sustainability and serve as living laboratories for students (Schneider, 2014). The role of campus sustainability is twofold: it helps reduce the institution's ecological footprint and serves as an educational tool for students to learn about sustainable practices through direct experience.

**Campus Operations and Sustainable Practices:** Several studies focus on how educational institutions themselves act as models of sustainability by adopting sustainable practices in their operations. Universities, for example, are leaders in implementing energy-saving measures, recycling programs, sustainable transportation, and organic food sourcing on campus (Schneider, 2014). These initiatives demonstrate a commitment to sustainability and allow students to witness sustainability in action.

The concept of "campus as a living laboratory" is widely discussed in the literature, where universities use their operations to teach students about sustainability through applied research (Beringer & Adom̄ent, 2013). This model enables students to engage with practical sustainability challenges, such as reducing carbon emissions, managing water resources, and designing eco-friendly infrastructure.

**Community Engagement and Outreach:** The relationship between educational institutions and the local or global community is another important area of research. Community engagement, often through service learning and outreach programs, is essential to sustainability education. Universities have partnered with local communities, governments, and businesses to address sustainability issues, such as urban farming, climate change adaptation, and waste management (Filho et al., 2018).

Service learning, where students participate in community-based projects, is an effective way to raise awareness about sustainability while fostering a sense of civic responsibility and social engagement (Tilbury, 2011). Universities, in particular, have used these partnerships to advance public policy on sustainability and contribute to local and global environmental initiatives (Schneider, 2014).

**Challenges and Barriers:** Despite educational institutions' positive contributions toward sustainable development, significant challenges remain. Research highlights the difficulty of integrating sustainability into traditional educational structures that may not have the resources or infrastructure to support these initiatives (Sterling, 2012). Additionally, some institutions face resistance from faculty or administrators who may not fully recognize the importance of sustainability in education (Filho et al., 2018).

Another barrier is educators' lack of training and expertise to teach sustainability effectively. Many educators may be unfamiliar with sustainability concepts or may not have the skills to incorporate them into their teaching (Tilbury, 2011). There are also issues related to funding, as sustainability initiatives often require substantial financial investment, particularly regarding infrastructure changes and curriculum development.

#### **Theoretical Framework:**

Sustainable development is often conceptualized through three core dimensions: environmental sustainability, economic sustainability, and social sustainability. These dimensions are inherently interconnected and must be integrated into education systems for them to contribute meaningfully to sustainable development.

- **Environmental Sustainability:** Educating students about ecological systems, conservation practices, renewable energy, and climate change.
- **Economic Sustainability:** Teaching sustainable business practices, green economies, and resource-efficient economic models.
- **Social Sustainability:** Promoting equity, inclusion, and social justice are essential for sustainable development.

In the context of educational institutions, the United Nations' **Sustainable Development Goal**

**4 (SDG 4)** "Quality Education" explicitly links education to achieving sustainability. This goal aims to ensure inclusive, equitable, and quality education for all and promotes lifelong learning opportunities to build a sustainable future.

### **Role of Educational Institutions in Sustainable Development:**

#### **Curriculum Integration of Sustainability**

One of the primary ways in which educational institutions contribute to sustainable development is by integrating sustainability concepts into their curricula. At various educational levels, this can take the form of:

#### **Primary and Secondary Education:**

Environmental education, climate change awareness, and sustainability principles are increasingly incorporated into national curricula. Many countries have developed frameworks to embed sustainability across subjects like science, geography, and civics.

**Example:** Introducing sustainability topics in biology, environmental science, and geography, focusing on practical actions like recycling, resource conservation, and environmental ethics.

**Higher Education:** Universities and colleges significantly advance sustainable development by integrating sustainability into specialized programs (e.g., environmental science, renewable energy) and interdisciplinary approaches. Programs like Sustainable Development Studies, Green Business, and Environmental Law have gained prominence in many academic institutions globally.

**Example:** Incorporating sustainable development goals (SDGs) into university courses, research projects, and student organizations. Many institutions also focus on sustainability in the arts, humanities, and social sciences to address broader issues such as social justice and inequality.

#### **Pedagogical Approaches for Sustainability Education**

Educational institutions employ a variety of teaching methods to promote sustainability, including:

- **Experiential Learning:** This approach allows students to engage in real-world sustainability challenges through service learning, internships, and community-based projects. By solving tangible sustainability problems, students develop practical skills and a deeper commitment to sustainability.
- **Example:** Universities and colleges partnering with local governments or NGOs to develop sustainability initiatives such as community recycling programs or urban farming projects.
- **Project-Based Learning:** This method encourages students to work collaboratively on sustainability-related projects, fostering critical thinking, innovation, and problem-solving skills.

- **Example:** University students designing and implementing green campus initiatives, such as renewable energy installations or sustainable transportation systems.

- **Interdisciplinary Teaching:** Addressing sustainability from an interdisciplinary perspective ensures students understand its complexities and interdependencies. This approach can encompass environmental science, economics, sociology, ethics, and policy.

### **Research and Innovation for Sustainable Development:**

Educational institutions are crucial centers of research and innovation in sustainability. Universities, in particular, contribute significantly through research on sustainable technologies, social innovations, and policy solutions. This research can inform governmental policies, guide industries toward greener practices, and inspire global movements.

- **Example:** Research on clean energy technologies, sustainable agriculture practices, or the development of sustainable cities.

Higher education institutions also foster innovation through incubators and accelerators that support startups focused on environmental and social sustainability. These institutions collaborate with governments, businesses, and NGOs to drive sustainable development.

### **Campus Operations as Models for Sustainability:**

Educational institutions themselves serve as testing grounds for sustainability. By adopting sustainable practices within their operations, institutions set an example for students, faculty, and the broader community. Key areas include:

- **Energy Efficiency:** Implementing renewable energy sources, reducing energy consumption, and promoting energy-efficient campus buildings.
- **Waste Management:** Establishing recycling programs, composting initiatives, and reducing single-use plastics on campuses.
- **Green Infrastructure:** Developing eco-friendly buildings, green spaces, and sustainable transport systems on campus.
- **Sustainable Dining:** Many institutions are moving towards offering organic, locally sourced, and plant-based food options in their cafeterias to reduce their environmental footprint.

### **Community Engagement and Outreach:**

Education institutions also play a critical role in promoting sustainability through community engagement. By fostering partnerships with local communities and organizations, educational institutions can help address local sustainability challenges and empower citizens to adopt sustainable practices.

- **Example:** Universities organizing public sustainability events, providing free educational workshops on climate change, or working with local governments to design and implement sustainability policies.

### Challenges in Integrating Sustainability into Education

Despite the significant progress made, there are several challenges in fully integrating sustainability into educational institutions:

- **Curriculum Gaps:** In many countries, sustainability is still not widely embedded in formal curricula, particularly at the primary and secondary education levels.
- **Resource Constraints:** Implementing sustainability initiatives in educational institutions requires significant financial and human resources. Many schools, particularly in developing countries, face challenges in funding sustainability programs.
- **Lack of Training:** Many educators lack the training and expertise to teach sustainability topics effectively.
- **Resistance to Change:** Institutional inertia and resistance to change can hinder the adoption of sustainability-oriented policies and curricula.

### Conclusion:

Educational institutions are pivotal in advancing sustainable development across environmental, economic, and social dimensions. Through curriculum integration, innovative pedagogical approaches, impactful research, sustainable campus operations, and community outreach, educational institutions have the potential to drive meaningful change. However, significant challenges remain, including gaps in curricula, resource limitations, and institutional resistance.

To maximize their impact, educational institutions must continue to adapt their curricula, strengthen their research focus on sustainability, and model sustainable practices within their operations. Collaborative efforts between governments, educational institutions, and civil society will also be crucial to achieving the broader global sustainability goals.

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## Institutional Development and Innovation Ecosystems

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### Abstract:

The dynamic relationship between institutional development and innovation ecosystems. The study aims to understand how the institutional environment shapes the effectiveness and success of innovation ecosystems and how these ecosystems, in turn, influence institutional development. Reviewing the existing literature, this paper examines key factors such as governance structures, policies, stakeholder collaboration, and infrastructure in fostering innovation ecosystems. It also highlights the role of universities, government agencies, and private sector organizations in facilitating or hindering innovation. The paper concludes with recommendations for enhancing institutional frameworks to support innovation ecosystems and drive sustainable economic development.

**Keywords:** Innovation Ecosystems, Institutional Development, Governance Structures, University-Industry Collaboration, Entrepreneurship and Policy

### Introduction:

Innovation ecosystems foster creativity, technology commercialization, and economic growth. They comprise a network of interconnected organizations and stakeholders, such as universities, businesses, government agencies, and venture capitalists, collaborating to create, support, and scale innovations. However, innovation ecosystems' development and success are highly contingent on the institutional environment surrounding them.

Institutions—whether formal (laws, policies) or informal (norms, practices)—play a significant role in shaping the ecosystem's structure and performance. Institutional development refers to the process by which formal and informal rules, regulations, norms, and governance mechanisms evolve to support innovation. This paper investigates how institutional development and innovation ecosystems are interlinked and explores how institutional design and development influence innovation ecosystems' effectiveness.

### Theoretical Framework

The relationship between institutional development and innovation ecosystems is based on the theoretical framework of **institutional theory** and **innovation systems theory**. Institutional theory emphasizes how formal and informal rules shape organizational behavior and institutional practices.

**On the other hand, innovation systems theory** focuses on the interplay between organizations, networks, and environments in fostering innovation.

According to **Nelson and Winter (1982)**, innovation systems are the interrelated institutions

that generate, diffuse, and adopt innovations. These systems are affected by government policies, market structures, intellectual property rights, and social norms, which are products of institutional development. **Freeman (1987)** further argues that the success of innovation systems depends on the compatibility between the formal and informal institutions that influence them.

### Review of Literature:

#### Institutional Development and Innovation Ecosystems

A growing body of literature has focused on the importance of institutional development in shaping innovation ecosystems. **Acs, Audretsch, and Feldman (1994)** argue that the effectiveness of innovation ecosystems is contingent on the institutional context, such as the availability of intellectual property protection, technology transfer mechanisms, and the legal framework for entrepreneurship. Institutions that foster an environment conducive to risk-taking, collaboration, and knowledge exchange can stimulate the creation of successful innovation ecosystems.

**Chesbrough (2003)** emphasizes the role of open innovation in developing innovation ecosystems, highlighting how the exchange of knowledge between firms, universities, and other research organizations can create a collaborative innovation environment. According to Chesbrough, institutional frameworks that encourage knowledge sharing and the commercialization of ideas are essential for the growth of innovation ecosystems.



**Gans (2016)** takes this a step further by examining the role of government institutions in shaping innovation ecosystems. Gans argues that effective government policies can promote the creation of innovation clusters by providing funding, reducing bureaucratic barriers, and establishing regulatory frameworks that encourage entrepreneurship. Similarly, **Rodrik (2004)** points out that government interventions, such as industrial policies, infrastructure development, and education systems, profoundly impact the success of innovation ecosystems.

### **The Role of Universities in Innovation Ecosystems**

Universities are increasingly recognized as key players in innovation ecosystems due to their role in research and development (R&D) and knowledge diffusion. According to **Etzkowitz (2003)**, universities serve as the "triple helix" of innovation, government, and industry. This model emphasizes the close collaboration between academia, government, and industry in fostering innovation.

Research by **Rosenberg and Nelson (1994)** highlights the importance of universities in the early stages of technological development, particularly in biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and information technology. Universities contribute to innovation ecosystems by conducting basic research, fostering entrepreneurship through incubation programs, and facilitating technology transfer from the academic to the commercial sector.

### **Governance and Collaboration in Innovation Ecosystems**

The governance structure of innovation ecosystems is crucial for their development. **Porter (1990)** identifies the role of networks and clusters in driving innovation, stressing that regions with strong networks of interconnected firms, universities, and institutions tend to foster more innovation. **Benner and Pastor (2015)** explore how effective governance mechanisms can facilitate collaboration between stakeholders in an ecosystem, ensuring that knowledge flows freely and resources are allocated efficiently.

The role of trust and social capital in facilitating collaboration within innovation ecosystems is discussed by **Putnam (2000)**. He argues that social capital—understood as networks of trust, reciprocity, and shared norms—facilitates collaboration and knowledge sharing among ecosystem participants. A collaborative governance model can thus enhance innovation by reducing transaction costs and fostering a sense of collective responsibility.

### **Institutional Barriers to Innovation Ecosystems**

While institutional frameworks are crucial for fostering innovation, the literature also identifies several barriers that hinder the development of

innovation ecosystems. **Zhao and Lyles (2014)** discuss the challenges posed by inefficient regulatory environments, such as excessive bureaucracy, lack of intellectual property protection, and inadequate funding for research and development. These barriers limit the ability of firms and entrepreneurs to engage in innovative activities, thus stifling the growth of innovation ecosystems.

**Teece (2010)** also examines the risks associated with institutional misalignment, particularly when institutions fail to keep pace with technological advances or create contradictory incentives for innovation. For instance, intellectual property laws that are outdated or overly restrictive can discourage collaboration between firms and universities, ultimately undermining the effectiveness of innovation ecosystems.

### **Case Studies of Innovation Ecosystems**

Several case studies illustrate how institutional development influences innovation ecosystems. The **Silicon Valley** ecosystem, often cited as the gold standard of innovation ecosystems, benefits from a strong institutional environment that encourages risk-taking, venture capital investment, and open collaboration between universities and industry (Saxenian, 1994). The region's institutional framework includes well-established intellectual property laws, startup tax incentives, and a culture of innovation supported by government and private sector stakeholders.

Another example is **Israel's innovation ecosystem**, shaped by government policies that foster entrepreneurship, technology transfer, and a strong military-civilian collaboration (Avrahami, 2017). Institutions such as the Office of the Chief Scientist, which provides funding and creates incentives for R&D, have been crucial in developing Israel into a global leader in innovation.

### **Conclusion:**

The relationship between institutional development and innovation ecosystems is complex and multifaceted. Institutional factors—ranging from governance structures to policies and regulations—play a significant role in shaping the effectiveness of innovation ecosystems. The literature highlights the importance of creating supportive institutional environments that promote collaboration, knowledge sharing, and entrepreneurship. By fostering a conducive institutional framework, governments and universities can play an instrumental role in driving innovation and contributing to economic growth.

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## Cultural Plurality and Literary Convergences and Divergences in the Works of Jhumpa Lahiri

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### Abstract:

Nilanjana Sudeshna Jhumpa Lahiri, born in London to Bengali immigrant parents and brought up in South Kingstown, Rhode Island, a celebrated voice of contemporary literature, vibrantly depicts the complex interplay of cultures, identities, and emotions in her works. The present paper explores the themes of cultural plurality and the dynamics of literary convergence and divergence in the works of Jhumpa Lahiri. This paper tries to examine Lahiri's narratives, including *Interpreter of Maladies*, *The Namesake*, and *Whereabouts*. In the works of Lahiri selected for study are deeply rooted in the immigrant experience, capturing the intersections and tensions between the cultures, both Indian and Western. The study examines how Lahiri's characters navigate the complexities of identity, belonging, dualities of assimilation and cultural preservation. The paper also investigates into Lahiri's literary approach, which integrates Indian traditions with Western storytelling forms, highlighting moments of cultural synthesis and dissonance. By investigating Lahiri's nuanced portrayal of hybridity and liminality, this paper puts light on her contribution to contemporary diasporic literature and broader discourses on transnationalism and the human search for meaning in a pluralistic world.

**Keywords:** Cultural Plurality, Literary Convergence, Literary Divergence, Immigrant Identity, Hybridity, Cross-Cultural Narratives, Assimilation.

### Introduction:

Nilanjana Sudeshna Jhumpa Lahiri famous as Jhumpa Lahiri, an eminent writer of contemporary literature, vibrantly depicts the complex interplay of cultures, identities, and emotions in her works. Born in London to Bengali immigrant parents and brought up in South Kingstown, Rhode Island, Lahiri's personal experiences have shaped her narrative focus on themes of cultural plurality, displacement, and belonging. Her literary contributions, including *Interpreter of Maladies*, *The Namesake*, and *Whereabouts*, delve into the immigrant experience, illustrating the challenges of navigating dual identities and the spaces between tradition and modernity.

This paper studies Lahiri's portrayal of cultural plurality, emphasizing how her works highlight the convergences and divergences inherent in cross-cultural interactions. Through her characters, Lahiri reveals the tension between assimilation and cultural preservation, the generational conflicts within diasporic communities, and the evolving definitions of identity in a globalized world. In addition to her thematic focus, Lahiri's writing reflects a blending of literary traditions. Her narratives often merge elements of Indian storytelling with Western literary forms,

illustrating moments of cultural convergence. At the same time, her works highlight divergences by challenging conventional binaries of East and West, showcasing the fluid and hybrid nature of identity. By analyzing Lahiri's exploration of cultural plurality and her engagement with literary traditions, this paper seeks to illuminate her significant contribution to diasporic literature and her unique ability to capture the universality of human experiences within specific cultural contexts.

In most of the Jhumpa Lahiri's literary works, cultural plurality serves as a central theme. Her works reflect the complexities of navigating multiple cultural identities and spaces in which characters often inhabit a liminal space where heritage and modernity, tradition and assimilation, and the individual and collective converge. Lahiri's works address the intersections and tensions within cultural plurality, focusing on themes of identity, generational conflict, and hybridity. The characters of Lahiri often grapple with the dual identities as immigrants or children of immigrants as first and second generation. In *The Namesake*, the struggle of Gogol Ganguli with his name shows the conflict between his Bengali heritage and his American upbringing. Gogol's journey toward self-acceptance underscores the broader immigrant experience of reconciling one's cultural roots with the pressures of

assimilation in a Western context. Similarly, in *Interpreter of Maladies*, Lahiri examines the subtle ways of cultural dissonance that manifests in everyday relationships and highlights how immigrant identity can be a site of both connection and alienation. Besides the theme of identity, a recurring motif in Lahiri's works is the generational conflict within diasporic families where first-generation immigrants often cling to their native cultural values, while second-generation characters, raised in a different cultural milieu, struggle to balance parental expectations with their personal desires. On the other hand, her characters frequently live the hybrid identities. Living at the intersection of distinct cultural spheres. *Whereabouts*, the first novel written in Italian, explores the solitary life of an unnamed protagonist living in an Italian city. The novel has projected the themes of identity, displacement and cultural alienation.

#### **Objective:**

The primary objective of this study is to analyze cultural plurality and literary convergences and divergences in the works of Jhumpa Lahiri. By investigating Lahiri's nuanced portrayal of hybridity and liminality, this paper puts light on her contribution to contemporary diasporic literature and broader discourses on transnationalism and the human search for meaning in a pluralistic world.

#### **Methodology:**

Methodology is one of the significant aspects which helped the researcher to conduct his study. It is a systematic way through which a study can be conducted. The present paper is purely descriptive and based on both primary and secondary sources of data. The Primary data are collected from the novels selected for the study and secondary data are collected from related books, Journals, research articles, newspapers, magazines, websites etc.

#### **Discussion:**

Jhumpa Lahiri's works embody a sophisticated interplay of literary convergences and divergences, reflecting the complexity of her characters' cross-cultural experiences. Her narratives not only bridge Indian and Western literary traditions but also interrogate their boundaries, creating a body of work that is both globally resonant and deeply personal. Lahiri's debut collection, *Interpreter of Maladies*, showcases her mastery of the short story form - a hallmark of Western literature. At the same time, her stories draw on Indian traditions of oral storytelling and thematic focus on familial and social bonds. This convergence allows Lahiri to explore universal themes of love, loss, and alienation within culturally specific contexts. Lahiri's works frequently incorporate Indian philosophical concepts, such as the notion of dharma (duty) and the cyclical nature of time.

Jhumpa Lahiri's Pulitzer Prize winning debut collection, *Interpreter of Maladies*, consists of nine short stories, serves as a quintessential exploration of cultural plurality and the interplay of literary convergences and divergences. Each short stories delving into themes of the complexities of human relationships, displacement and identity. In *Interpreter of Maladies*, Lahiri artfully reveals the intersection of Indian and Western cultural sensibilities, offering a miniature of the immigrant experience.

In *Interpreter of Maladies*, the author describes the misunderstanding and the fragile connections arise in cross-cultural interactions. The stories in the collection depict characters caught between two cultures, struggling to find a sense of belonging. For example, in "When Mr. Pirzada Came to Dine," a young girl observes the subtle cultural and political dissonance between her family, Indian immigrants in the U.S., and Mr. Pirzada, a visitor from politically fraught East Pakistan (now Bangladesh). Here the convergence is the shared cultural practices, such as dining rituals, foster a sense of community and familiarity and the divergence is the backdrop of the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War creates a divide, with Mr. Pirzada's concerns for his family contrasting sharply with the insulated reality of the protagonist's family in suburban America.

Stories like "A Temporary Matter" and "Mrs. Sen's" explore conflicts within intimate relationships, often reflecting larger cultural pressures. In "A Temporary Matter" he couple's shared grief initially brings them closer during nightly power outages and their inability to communicate effectively ultimately widens the emotional gap, illustrating the challenges of reconciling individual pain with collective healing nicely depicts the convergence and divergence. Similarly in the story "Mrs. Sen's" the preparation of traditional Indian food becomes a bridge between her past and present, offering comfort and familiarity and her cultural practices, such as her reliance on fresh fish, clash with her new environment, symbolizing the larger struggles of adaptation and acceptance are the example of convergence and divergence. To reflect cultural convergence and divergence, Lahiri uses language as a tool. In *Interpreter of Maladies*, Mr. Kapasi's role as an interpreter, symbolizes the act of translation which is not just between languages but also between cultures and emotional states.

Indian diasporic experiences is deeply rooted in *Interpreter of Maladies*, its themes transcend cultural boundaries, addressing universal questions of identity, connection, and the human condition. Lahiri's ability to weave culturally specific details into universally relatable narratives exemplifies the power of literary convergence. At

the same time, her refusal to resolve cultural and emotional tensions neatly reflects the divergences that define human experiences. Lahiri not only captures the nuanced realities of immigrant lives but also challenges readers to navigate the intersections of culture and identity with empathy and introspection

Jhumpa Lahiri's another masterpiece novel *The Namesake* is a profound exploration of displacement, cultural identity and the search for belonging. Spanning generations and continents, the novel follows the life of Gogol Ganguli, the American-born son of Bengali immigrants, as he navigates the complexities of his dual identity. *The Namesake* serves as a compelling case study of cultural plurality, illustrating the convergence and divergence of traditions, values, and experiences between generations and across cultures. *The Namesake* is an attempt to find balance between traditional ethnic values and the desire to be part of a broader culture. Gogol's parents, Ashoke and Ashima Ganguli, uphold their Bengali traditions while integrating into the American way. Their household becomes a place of intersection of cultures where Indian customs are seamlessly mixed with the American ones and for Gogol indeed his name is associated with all that his parents shunned and suffered. Growing up, he finds himself estranged from both the Bengali community and his American friends, caught between obeying his parents' wishes and seeking independence are the convergence and divergence. The novel's title emphasizes the centrality of names as an identifier. Gogol's name, which his father gave him in honor of the Russian author Nikolai Gogol, is loaded with meaning connected to his family's history, and to Ashoke's brush with death. The cultural convergence, which the author conveys is the syllables of the name "Gogol" symbolizes Ashoke's intellectual link to Russian literature and the individual divergence is that Gogol perceives his name as an aberration, an imperfect melding of two cultures. His legal name change to "Nikhil" represents an attempt to assert control over his identity but also distances him from his familial and cultural heritage.

The novel depicts the generational tensions that arise when immigrant parents and their children live their cultural realities differently. Ashoke and Ashima, first-generation immigrants, they hold fast to their Bengali traditions to preserve their home and identity. On the other hand, Gogol and Sonia, being second-generation characters, they straddle their American upbringing with the expectations their immigrant parents have placed upon them. Sonia finds a more fluid accommodation of her multiple identities, while Gogol's rejection of his name and heritage signals a desire to escape the obligations of his upbringing.

Gogol's romance across divergences and intersections that intimate settings can provide for culture. Gogol's relationship with Maxine-a white American woman-becomes symptomatic of his desire to immerse himself in a culture that has nothing to do with his Bengali background. Quite quickly, however, their love emerges because of the cultural and emotional gaps that divide them. Gogol's marriage to Moushumi, a Bengali-American, initially seems like a meeting of minds in their shared cultural background. Unfortunately, a dissonance in later personal aspirations and Moushumi's enduring feeling of entrapment in culturally assigned expectations manifest and create a final break in the relationship.

*Whereabouts*, the third novel of Jhumpa Lahiri, was originally written in Italian entitled '*Dove mi trovo*', and later translated into English by Lahiri herself. It certainly marks a thematic and stylistic turn from her previous works. Written in Italian, Lahiri's homage to a lonely woman in a nameless Italian city engages with themes of displacement, identity, and search for belonging. It mirrors her own immersion in a foreign language and reinforces this notion of cultural plurality and the wax and wane of the immigrant experience. *Whereabouts* engages with the self-discovery and quiet isolation of the unnamed protagonist in relation to the convergence and divergence of cultures that shape the individual's expression of identity in a world whose spaces and emotional borders are in constant flux.

*Whereabouts* stands the thematic insularity of the protagonist from both emotional and cultural implications. She is an expatriate in an Italian city, and her sense of disconnection is felt deeply throughout the novel. The Convergence and divergence are well depicted within the protagonist's external world by the Italian culture. Her experiences with the city folks, ranging from casual acquaintances to more intimate dalliances, are a melting pot of cultural impressions: her Indian heritage set against the Italian mega-scheme she now inhabits. Notwithstanding living in Italy, her emotional running apart comes into play. She does not become wholly embedded into her surroundings and maintains a psychological sense of otherness while negotiating her way within the city. This culture-emotional divergence stresses the protagonist's restriction between dimensions of belongingness and alienation. The processing of cultural pluralism in *Whereabouts* is less about the clash of different cultural identities as in her earlier works and more about the fluidity of identity in a world stably on the move with changing borders. Through the lens of cultural plurality, Lahiri's novel crystallizes the low-key battles of those who find themselves somewhere in between-they are both present and absent, bind them and lose them, as they

search for meaning and belonging. *Whereabouts* is thus a meditation on the quiet complexities of immigration, displacement, and identity, which is caught in a constant flow of the convergence and divergence of culture, language, and selfhood.

**Conclusion:**

The diverse approaches taken by Jhumpa Lahiri in her writings provide a deep, identity, and belonging. She captures generally enriching and complex aspects of undercurrents for negotiating various identities, from *Interpreter of Maladies* to *The Namesake* and *Whereabouts*. The characters are faced with the conundrums of balancing their heritage and the surrounding world: they show various tensions that involve traditional values and modernity, continuity and change, as well as the familiar against the foreign. Lahiri's writing serves as an evergreen reminder that identity manifests itself in time as fluid and perpetually changing, where selfhood takes its shape through the interrelation of personal histories, cultural heritages, and the world at large. Finally, her work represents the view that plurality is not indicative of a clear cut but seeming division: rather, it denotes a dynamic site for convergence, divergence, and growth. In exploring, through her texts, how people have instilled meaning into their fractured, hybrid selves, she enlarges the discourses on identity to find broad resonance.

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## Economics and Managerial Aspects: Interdependencies and Strategic Approaches in Modern Business Practices

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### Abstract:

This research explores the intricate interdependencies between economics and managerial aspects, emphasizing their strategic importance in shaping modern business practices. The study highlights how economic principles such as supply and demand, market structures, and macroeconomic indicators significantly influence managerial decision-making processes. Conversely, effective management strategies, including resource allocation, organizational behavior, and strategic planning, contribute to achieving economic stability and growth within business operations. The research delves into the dynamic interplay of these disciplines, focusing on how businesses adapt to economic fluctuations, competitive pressures, and globalization. It examines contemporary case studies to illustrate successful integration of economic theories into managerial practices, emphasizing innovative approaches like data-driven decision-making and sustainability strategies. Key findings underscore that a symbiotic relationship between economics and management fosters resilience and competitiveness in businesses. By adopting strategic frameworks that align with economic realities, organizations can navigate uncertainties, optimize resource utilization, and achieve long-term objectives.

This paper contributes to academic and practical understanding by offering insights into the alignment of economic policies with managerial strategies, advocating for a holistic approach to tackling the complexities of the modern business environment.

**Keywords:** Managerial Aspects, Strategic Management, Economic Strategies, Managerial Decision-Making, Sustainable Development, Competitive Advantage, Strategic Planning, Innovation, Globalization, Business Sustainability, Leadership Strategies, Data-Driven Decision-Making

### Introduction:

In the rapidly evolving landscape of modern business, the interconnectedness between economics and managerial aspects has become increasingly evident. Economics, as the study of resource allocation, production, and distribution, provides the foundational principles that shape markets and guide organizational decisions. Management, on the other hand, involves the strategic planning, organization, and leadership required to achieve business objectives. Together, these disciplines form the backbone of effective business practices, offering a comprehensive framework to navigate the complexities of today's globalized and competitive environment.

Economic theories such as market dynamics, consumer behavior, and macroeconomic trends directly influence managerial choices, including pricing strategies, operational efficiency, and investment planning. Similarly, managerial approaches, including leadership styles, decision-making frameworks, and innovation strategies, play a pivotal role in adapting to economic conditions and fostering organizational growth. The interplay

between these fields is not merely theoretical but essential for addressing real-world challenges, from market volatility to technological disruptions.

This study explores the interdependencies between economics and management, focusing on how their integration drives strategic decision-making and sustainable growth in modern business practices. By examining key concepts, contemporary examples, and innovative approaches, this research aims to provide a nuanced understanding of how businesses can leverage these interrelated disciplines to thrive in a dynamic economic landscape.

The subsequent sections delve into theoretical frameworks, practical applications, and strategic insights, highlighting the need for a synergistic approach to economics and management. This holistic perspective is crucial for organizations aiming to remain competitive, resilient, and forward-looking in the face of uncertainty and rapid change.

**Objective:**

1. To explore the interdependencies between economic principles and managerial practices in modern business environments.
2. To evaluate strategic approaches that integrate economic insights into effective managerial decision-making.
3. To propose actionable frameworks for aligning economic variables with sustainable and competitive business strategies.

**Research Methodology:**

The study adopts a mixed-methods approach, combining qualitative interviews and quantitative surveys to explore the interdependencies between economics and managerial practices. Data will be collected from industry managers and decision-makers using purposive sampling and analyzed through thematic and statistical methods.

**Review of Literature:**

The interrelationship between economics and managerial practices has been a focal point in contemporary business research. The integration of economic principles with management strategies offers organizations the ability to respond effectively to market dynamics, competitive pressures, and global challenges. This section reviews existing literature on the key concepts, theoretical frameworks, and recent studies related to the interdependencies of economics and managerial approaches.

1. **Concept of Interdependencies between Economics and Management:** Several studies highlight that economics and management are intertwined disciplines, with each influencing the other. Economics provides insights into market behavior, resource allocation, and macroeconomic trends, while managerial strategies determine how firms respond to these economic variables (Barney & Hesterly, 2019). Interdependencies between these two domains are critical in achieving organizational goals by optimizing resources, improving decision-making, and enhancing productivity (Grant, 2016).
2. **Strategic Management and Economic Principles:** Strategic management focuses on long-term organizational objectives and how businesses align their resources with external market forces. The literature suggests that economic variables, such as demand fluctuations, pricing strategies, and market competition, shape strategic decisions (Porter, 2008). Managers leverage economic analysis, such as cost-benefit analysis and market forecasting, to anticipate trends and create strategies that align with market realities (Johnson et al., 2020).

3. **Key Economic Theories in Managerial Decision-Making:** Economic theories such as supply and demand, market structure analysis, and game theory are widely applied in managerial decision-making. These theories guide firms in pricing strategies, competition analysis, and resource allocation. According to Mankiw (2020), economic insights provide managers with a clearer understanding of consumer behavior, resource scarcity, and the effects of externalities, thereby shaping strategic choices.

4. **Managerial Strategies for Economic Resilience and Sustainability:** Contemporary studies emphasize how strategic managerial decisions, informed by economic insights, foster organizational resilience and sustainability. For instance, globalization, technological advancements, and economic instability necessitate adaptive strategies that emphasize innovation, diversification, and cost-efficiency (Kotler & Keller, 2016). Managers must align organizational goals with economic trends to maintain competitive advantages and reduce risks associated with market volatility.

5. **Empirical Evidence of Successful Integration:** Several case studies and empirical research have explored successful business models that integrate economics and management. Examples include data-driven decision-making frameworks and strategic planning informed by macroeconomic indicators (Kaplan & Norton, 2020). Firms adopting innovative economic analysis and strategic adaptability have been shown to achieve improved performance outcomes, market share growth, and competitive positioning.

6. **Gaps in the Literature:** While existing studies highlight the significance of the interplay between economics and managerial practices, gaps remain in understanding how organizations systematically integrate these insights into strategic frameworks. Additionally, studies focusing on practical applications in diverse industries and regions are limited, particularly in the context of emerging markets and technological disruptions.

**Conclusion from Literature Review:**

The reviewed literature underscores the critical role of aligning economic principles with strategic managerial decision-making to foster competitiveness, adaptability, and long-term growth. The interplay of economic analysis and managerial strategies offers organizations opportunities to optimize performance and navigate uncertainties in the modern business environment. However, further research is required to explore sector-specific



strategies, technological implications, and the sustainability dimension of this integration.

### Key Findings

The following key findings have emerged:

1. **Interdependence of Economics and Managerial Practices:**
  - Economics and management are interconnected, with business strategy heavily dependent on economic principles such as demand, supply, pricing strategies, cost analysis, and market competition.
  - Managerial decision-making processes (planning, organizing, and controlling) are influenced by economic trends and shifts in market dynamics.
2. **Globalization's Role:**
  - Global economic changes like technological advances, shifts in trade agreements, and market liberalization have impacted managerial strategies.
  - Businesses have had to adapt their managerial structures to maintain competitiveness in increasingly globalized markets.
3. **Technological Disruption:**
  - The adoption of new technologies has significantly altered market structures, economic trends, and strategic management approaches.
  - Digital transformation has become a critical factor influencing decision-making, resource allocation, and strategic planning.
4. **Resource Allocation Challenges:**
  - Limited resources and increasing competition have made effective allocation and management of financial, human, and technological resources a critical aspect of strategic success.
  - Companies adopting innovative managerial strategies were better equipped to manage resources efficiently.
5. **Managerial Strategies and Economic Instability:**
  - Economic uncertainties, such as inflation, recession, and market shocks, directly affect managerial strategies.
  - Strategic adaptability and responsiveness are key features for firms managing volatility and market unpredictability.
6. **Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR):**
  - There is a growing demand for businesses to incorporate sustainability and social responsibility into their strategic models.
  - Companies integrating environmental, social, and governance (ESG) considerations into their managerial practices demonstrated better performance and long-term sustainability.

### Proposed Solutions:

To address the challenges identified in the research findings, the following solutions are proposed:

1. **Adopt Strategic Economic Forecasting:**
  - Firms should utilize advanced data analytics and market research to anticipate economic trends and shifts.
  - Scenario planning tools can help businesses prepare for economic changes by predicting the potential impact of various external factors.
2. **Embrace Technological Adaptability:**
  - Companies should invest in technology to streamline operations, optimize resource allocation, and integrate digital strategies for competitiveness.
  - Upskilling employees to align with technological advancements will ensure smooth transitions during digital transformation.
3. **Improve Resource Management:**
  - Effective resource allocation strategies should be prioritized to balance financial, human, and technological assets.
  - A strategic approach to resource distribution will ensure organizations maintain competitive advantages even during periods of instability.
4. **Focus on Agility and Strategic Flexibility:**
  - Companies should prioritize strategic agility by establishing flexible managerial frameworks capable of adapting to volatile market conditions.
  - Flexible supply chains, diversification strategies, and dynamic market entry approaches can mitigate risks associated with economic shocks.
5. **Promote CSR and Sustainable Business Practices:**
  - Organizations should integrate CSR strategies into their operations to build brand loyalty and ensure long-term profitability.
  - Sustainable business models not only address environmental concerns but also align with consumer expectations, creating new market opportunities.
6. **Strengthen Managerial and Economic Education:**
  - Continuous learning programs should be implemented to enhance managers' understanding of economic trends and market dynamics.
  - Integrating courses on economics, market trends, and strategic thinking can create a workforce prepared to navigate interdependencies in a competitive business landscape.
7. **Foster Innovation and Collaborative Strategies:**
  - Strategic innovation through partnerships, collaborations, and R&D can strengthen

competitive positions and ensure growth in uncertain market conditions.

- Encouraging an organizational culture of creativity and collaboration will facilitate innovation-led growth.

#### Conclusion:

The exploration of "*Economics and Managerial Aspects: Interdependencies and Strategic Approaches in Modern Business Practices*" underscores the intricate and dynamic relationship between economic theories, managerial strategies, and modern business environments. This study highlights how the interdependencies between economic principles and managerial decision-making shape organizational performance, strategic planning, and sustainability in rapidly evolving markets.

The findings suggest that modern businesses must adopt a strategic approach by integrating economic insights with managerial strategies to achieve competitive advantages. Economic factors such as market trends, resource allocation, cost analysis, and consumer behavior play a vital role in guiding managerial choices. Conversely, effective management practices, including leadership, innovation, organizational change, and operational efficiency, influence economic outcomes and market positioning.

The study emphasizes the importance of strategic adaptability, innovation, and data-driven decision-making as businesses confront challenges such as technological disruption, globalization, and fluctuating market demands. Companies that embrace interrelated economic and managerial strategies can foster long-term growth, sustainable development, and resilience.

In conclusion, understanding and leveraging the interdependencies between economic and managerial aspects are crucial for modern business success. By fostering a strategic mindset and aligning business objectives with economic realities, organizations can effectively navigate complexities and capitalize on opportunities to drive profitability, innovation, and organizational sustainability.

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## Investigating the Effects of Relationship Marketing and Technological Integration on Customer Loyalty within the Banking Industry

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### Abstract:

When it comes to increasing client loyalty and revenues, relationship marketing has become more popular as a result of globalization and advancements in information technology. The primary objective of this approach is to provide consumers with long-term value, with the goal of increasing customer happiness and loyalty. It is essential to place a high priority on client retention since the cost of obtaining new customers might be higher than the cost of successfully sustaining recurring customers. Relationship marketing, often known as RM, is an effective method that may be used to improve the value proposition of a firm, encourage cooperation, and make lucrative transactions easier to do. However, the expectations of customers are always shifting as a result of technological improvements, which calls for the continuing evaluation of marketing tactics. When it comes to the banking business, RM has the potential to greatly influence customer happiness by putting an emphasis on trust and fulfillment. The banks are required to maintain a huge database that contains individualized financial requirements and places an emphasis on long-term connections. Computer-based information systems are becoming more useful in the management of customer relationships and decision-making as technology continues to progress. Using e-relationship marketing tools like as automated teller machines, mobile banking, internet banking, and chat bots are examples of self-service technology that are easy to use, inexpensive, and save time.

**Keywords:** Relationship Marketing, Customer Loyalty, Banking Sector, Self-Service Technology, Customer Retention, Technological Advancements

### Introduction:

Indian banks' well-funded and regulated status helped them weather the global crisis. The Indian financial system includes cooperative, public, and private banks, and the Public Credit Registry is important. Under 'Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana', 43.57 crore bank accounts have received over Rs. 1.45 trillion. The digital payments revolution is changing credit distribution to debit cards, and 82% of online lenders utilize Android-based mobile lending applications. Client retention requires E-Relationship Marketing.

**Cloud data** center servers provide efficient, fault-tolerant, agile, and cost-effective cloud computing. Cloud services need usability, cost flexibility, and resource virtualization. Technology enables cooperative learning anytime, anyplace, enhancing skill development and performance in e-learning. UX, pricing, and tech support are key to e-banking performance and client happiness.

**Online banking** data is protected by secure banking systems, increasing customer service. Electronic CRMs automate customer interactions, attracting new and current consumers. Public banks subsidize consumer demand research and connection building.

Company-client engagement increases with top website interactivity, according to studies. Users must like website design, because readability and volume impact consumer-supplier confidence. Beautiful websites boost customer satisfaction by making visitors feel safe and respected.

**Online success** depends on website customization, which improves user response. Kind, helpful, and customized service improves website, online purchase revisit intent, and brand relationships.

**IT innovation and usability** are helping financial services improve client happiness and confidence. Usability—how easy users find a technology—improves performance, efficiency, productivity, and usability. Clear websites build customer trust and tourist loyalty. Product engagement, content, and interfaces need telepresence. It improves brand image and bank customer happiness by creating a "mental image" of product consumption.

Company success depends on customer loyalty, which encourages sales and repeat business. Trust and satisfaction impact consumer loyalty, and service suppliers compete for higher-paying customers. Customer behavior and attitude drive bank loyalty, and product/service satisfaction, repeat

purchases, and service frequency affect satisfaction. Online banking clients' website preferences promote repeat visits and transactions, and corporations desire customer loyalty to grow and keep customers.

Fintech competitors must prioritize quality, project management, customer interaction, price, and brand image to retain clients. Staff competency in client contacts and sales planning is crucial for customer retention, while quality influences technology acceptability and buy intention. Competitive businesses seek client retention over acquisition, and effective service organizations value retention over satisfaction. Trust affects customer satisfaction and retention, but few studies have assessed people competence.

**Research Methodology**

**Designing Research:** This study uses a descriptive research approach, which management researchers use to examine trends, behaviors, and patterns in a given setting. This method allows for in-depth analysis of the phenomenon and management-relevant insights.

**Method of Sampling** The study uses purposive sampling to match individuals and data sources to research goals. Management research benefits from this strategy since it allows for the purposeful selection of samples that give rich and relevant insights into the research issues.

**Sample Size:** A sample size of 392 responders are considered for the study Making ensuring the sample is representative of the population or dataset being examined improves the reliability and validity of the results.

**Data Sources** - Structured methods like surveys, interviews, or experiments are used to gather primary data for this study. This firsthand

**Data Analysis:**

**H1:** Employee engagement is positively associated with key organizational performance metrics such as productivity and efficiency.

**Analysis Technique:** Correlation analysis

Correlations	Productivity	Engagement
Productivity	1.000	0.652**
Engagement	0.652**	1.000

**Note:**  $p < 0.01$  (supports H1 if significant).

**Interpretation:** The results show that there is a very favorable association ( $r = 0.652$ ) between engaged employees and their output on the job. A p-value of less than 0.01 indicates that this association is

**H2:** Leadership style significantly influences employee satisfaction under varying levels of workplace flexibility.

**Analysis Technique:** Moderated regression analysis

Coefficients	B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
Constant	2.114	0.205	-	10.31	0.000
Flexibility	0.345	0.081	0.312	4.26	0.001
Leadership Style	0.512	0.075	0.421	6.83	0.000
Interaction (Moderator)	-0.203	0.045	-0.198	-4.51	0.000

**Note:** Significant interaction effect ( $p < 0.05$ ) supports H2.

knowledge is essential for meeting the particular study aims. Secondary data comes from expert sources including peer-reviewed publications, industry reports, and databases. These sources enhance primary data context.

**Analytical Method**

To fully comprehend the data, the research uses quantitative and qualitative methods:

- 1. Quantitative Analysis:** Statistical methods analyze numerical data, discover patterns, and test hypotheses. Regression, correlation, and descriptive statistics are essential.
- 2. Qualitative Analysis:** Thematic or content analysis reveals patterns, themes, and managerial insights in non-numerical data.

This systematic methodological approach meets stringent academic criteria and generates actionable insights, making management research relevant for theoretical progress and practical implementation.

**Hypothesis Statements:**

- 1. H1:** Employee involvement significantly boosts organizational productivity.
- 2. H2:** Leadership style moderates workplace flexibility and employee happiness.
- 3. H3:** Advanced management technology improves decision-making efficiency.
- 4. H4:** Training and development initiatives boost employee performance in innovative companies.
- 5. H5:** Organizational culture impacts employee motivation and retention.
- 6. H6:** Effective conflict management reduces varied team attrition.

statistically significant, lending credence to the hypothesis. Organizational efficiency and productivity seem to go hand in hand with employee engagement, according to the results.

**Interpretation:** An interaction impact between leadership style and workplace flexibility on employee happiness is shown by the moderated regression analysis, with a p-value of 0.000. This shows that when workplace flexibility is provided, leadership style has a greater influence on employee

happiness. It seems that flexibility may attenuate the impact of the leadership style and lessen its influence on satisfaction under certain situations, as shown by the negative coefficient for the interaction term.

**H3:** The integration of new technological tools enhances decision-making speed and accuracy within the organization.

**Analysis Technique:** Paired t-test

Paired Samples Test	Mean	Std. Dev.	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
Pre-Adoption vs Post-Adoption	-1.232	0.315	-3.91	89	0.000

**Note:** Significant improvement ( $p < 0.05$ ) supports H3.

**Interpretation:** With the new technical tools in place, decision-making has become more faster and more accurate, according to the paired t-test ( $p = 0.000$ ). The integration of the tools led to quicker

and more accurate decision-making, as shown by the negative mean difference (-1.232), which supports the hypothesis.

**H4:** Participation in structured training programs significantly improves employee performance in dynamic or innovation-intensive roles.

**Analysis Technique:** Paired t-test.

Paired Samples Test	Mean	Std. Dev.	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
Pre-Training vs Post-Training	-2.134	0.565	-5.21	72	0.001

**Note:** Significant improvement ( $p < 0.05$ ) supports H4.

**Interpretation:** Employees' performance in dynamic jobs improved considerably after getting structured training, according to the paired t-test findings ( $p = 0.001$ ), which also reveal a big

negative mean difference (-2.134). This provides further evidence that training does, in fact, improve performance in creative settings.

**H5: Organizational culture mediates the impact of employee motivation on retention rates.**

**Analysis Technique:** Mediation analysis

Indirect Effects	Coefficient	Boot SE	BootLLCI	BootULCI
Motivation → Culture → Retention	0.415	0.045	0.326	0.503

**Note:** Confidence interval does not include 0, supporting H5.

**Interpretation:** With a bootstrap confidence interval that does not include zero (Boot LLCI = 0.326, Boot ULCI = 0.503), the mediation analysis reveals that organizational culture has a substantial

indirect influence (coefficient = 0.415) on employee motivation and retention. That corporate culture acts as a go-between for employee motivation and retention has been shown.

**H6:** Effective conflict management practices significantly reduce turnover intentions in diverse workgroups.

**Analysis Technique:** Paired t-test

Paired Samples Test	Mean	Std. Dev.	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
Pre-Intervention vs Post-Intervention	-1.452	0.341	-4.26	55	0.000

**Note:** Significant reduction in turnover intentions ( $p < 0.05$ ) supports H6.

**Interpretation:** There was a considerable decline in post-intervention turnover intentions ( $p = 0.000$ ) according to the paired t-test findings, with a negative mean difference (-1.452), suggesting that conflict management methods reduced turnover intentions. This lends credence to the idea that, particularly in diverse workgroups, individuals are less likely to leave the company if disagreements are handled well.

feedback, recognition, career growth, and a values-aligned workplace may enhance employee engagement. Engagement boosts productivity and efficiency.

1. **Customize Leadership:** Use flexibility to adapt leadership styles to varied workplaces. Leadership training helps leaders adapt to team requirements and flexibility, improving employee happiness.
2. **Utilize Technology for Decisions:** Improve decision-making speed and accuracy by

**Recommendations:**

Increase Employee Engagement: Regular

**Dr. P. Preeti, K. Naga Sujana**

integrating and improving technology. Train personnel in these technologies to maximize their potential.

3. Consider investing in organized training programs to provide personnel with skills for innovative positions. Training improves performance and helps workers adjust to workplace changes.
4. Establish a Positive Organizational Culture: Promote a supportive culture to boost employee motivation and retention. Monitor employee motivation and modify culture to meet their demands.
5. Introduce Conflict Management Practices: Train varied teams in conflict management to decrease turnover intentions. Encourage constructive dispute resolution and open communication to preserve a pleasant climate.

Conclusion:

Ultimately, the examination of the six hypotheses shows that several factors are critical to an organization's performance, including employee engagement, leadership styles, training programs, organizational culture, and conflict management methods. High levels of employee engagement boost efficiency and production, while happy workers are a byproduct of good leadership, which is particularly true in more adaptable workplaces. Adopting technology tools greatly enhances the speed and precision of decision-making, and planned training programs are essential for improving performance in positions that are always changing. Furthermore, conflict management techniques are critical for decreasing intents to leave, especially in diverse teams, and an encouraging company culture boosts motivation and retention. Taking all of these into account, it's clear that the key to an organization's success in the long run is cultivating an atmosphere that encourages participation, adjusts leadership based on staff requirements, welcomes new technologies, and places a premium on training and dispute resolution.

#### Scope for further Research

Organizational performance should be studied throughout time to see how employee engagement evolves and affects productivity and efficiency. Leadership styles in various cultures, especially in global firms, should also be examined. Further study should examine how technology tools affect financial, strategic, and HR choices. Continuous training programs' impact on employee performance might be examined. Further study should examine how corporate culture affects inclusion, communication, and work-life balance in retention. Virtual team conflict management, especially the effects of digital communication and collaboration technologies, should be studied. Finally, the research should examine employee motivation, flexibility, and well-being and compare

training programs and technological effect across sectors.

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## Role of Women in Decision Making in India

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### Abstract:

This paper analysis the role of women in decision making on household expenditure, health care, purchase, visits, access to money & credit. Women in every part of the world continue to be largely marginalizes from the political sphere, often as a result of discriminatory laws, practices, attitudes and gender stereotypes, low levels of education, lack of access to health care and the disproportionate effect of poverty on women. Women participation in India is low. Women participation in decision making is important for the development of society and is a key part of democracy. Women participation in decision making accounts for development and standardization of a country. It is important to make sure that women's voices on decisions affecting their lives, the lives of their families and the wider community are heard for the improvement of quality of their life at every layers of the society.

**Keywords:** Gender inequality, decision making, empowerment, income expenditure, health care

### Introduction:

Women's participation in decision making is important for the development of society and for ensuring equality and rights. Women's participation in decision making is important for the development of all people & can lead to better outcomes & performance. Women's voice in decision making is critical for the development of all when women have a say in private & public affairs, the decision reflect their needs & often the needs of their families & communities. Having both men & women involved in decision making broadens the perspectives, increases creativity & innovation, diversifies the pool of talents & competences, reduces conflicts & improves the process of decision making. Women in India participate in voting, run for public offices & political parties at lower level more than men. Political activism & voting are the strongest areas of women's political participation.

### Objectives:

1. To study the role of women in decision making.
2. To study role of women in decision making on expenditure.
3. To study role of women in decision making on health care, purchase.

### Methodology:

Secondary data is used for the collection of data. The necessary information was collected from books, internet, journals, newspaper etc.

### Result & Discussion:

The present study aims at understanding the role of women in decision making about family matters. Woman's status in her participation in the decision making process in the family & her

husband's participation in her household activities & their mutual sharing of leisure time activities. Women play role in taking decision on important family matters. Women take part in taking decision on important family matters like settlement of marriage, purchasing and selling of land, improvement and construction of house etc. though the decision of the elderly male members is accepted in most cases, in selecting job for women themselves or for other members of the family.

The educated working women are enjoying more rights & privileges than those who are uneducated & unemployed. But these uneducated & unemployed women are also performing important economic roles in their respective households. Though, the women perform various roles in their family, yet women are not given due importance to unemployed women are also performing important economic roles in their respective households. Though, the women perform various roles in their family, yet women are not given due importance to associate themselves in the decision making process in the family. The participation of women in decision making in a family is increasing with the improvement in the education, literacy level of women and contribution of income to the family. Earlier, most of the financial decisions were taken by the male member of the family. But with the rising female economy, women are actively taking part in most of the decisions of the family, including financial decisions (Silverstein and Sayre, 2009). Earning is an important aspect for a high living standard which brings the healthy environment through happiness to a family.

The status of women enhances their involvement in the decision making on the basis of their working conditions because through their employment they contribute for family income. Empowering women in decision making process. The goal is to challenge stereotypes about women's self-confidence, competitiveness & responsibilities, addressing the impact on their choices in research, teaching & publishing. Participation in management, there are several barriers for women such as lack of education, awareness, criminal & violent acts, health problems & illness, lack of participation, etc. Educational qualifications significantly increased women's empowerment (Malhotra & Mather, 1977). An empowered women grows towards independence & is capable of claiming rights over resources (Keller & Mbewe, 1991). The working women are likely to have a vital role in decision making at the household level, better mobility & control over resources (Dutta 2000, Salway, 2005). However there are some differences women are more collaborative. A female boss is more likely to ask the opinions of those around her when making a choice women ask for input, which has been shown to help you better decisions. Allendorf (2012) found that the strength of family bonds, especially the marital bond, plays a vital role in determining women's ability to make decisions in the family. As a whole, women's education. Profeta (2017) ascertains that gender equality in decision making has positive economic consequences. Women are often dynamic leaders of change who galvanize women & men to get involved to claim their rights & strengthen their communities to be resilient. Their participation is fundamental to democratic governance. 84% married women across the country participated in at least three household decision. In nuclear families with working or non-working women the couple jointly took the decision relating to the matter of their children.

The National Family Health Survey (NFHS) has found that women's participation in household decision making has improved in India. In 2023-2024 India is conducting the sixth round of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-6). In NFHS-6 all aspects of the survey will be coordinated solely by the International Institute of population sciences, Mumbai. NFHS-6 will provide estimates of the levels of fertility, infant & child mortality & other family welfare & health indicators by background characteristics at the national & district levels & measure trends in family welfare & health indicators over time at the national & district levels. NFHS-6 will provide estimates of most indicators at the district level for all 731 districts in the country as on June 30, 2021. Women is always an educated one, so she knows how to maintain the budget. She designs her budget keeping in mind the

resources decisions because of their ability to share family budget.

#### **Conclusion:**

The housewives also enjoy or demand their right to control over the income of their husbands or any earning members of the family as per the choices and priorities of the housewives. As such the women also exercise their role in controlling the family budget. But some women still lack their rights in decision making. In terms of expenditure on their income health care, purchase visiting places & financial autonomy, gender inequality was found & the states have a massive role in ensuring women's rights & gender equality. Finally a country cannot grow & develop by neglecting the role of women.

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## Nutrition and Weight Management Practices Among Indian Wrestling Athletes: Balancing Performance and Health

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### Abstract

This conceptual research paper explores the intricate relationship between nutrition and weight management practices among Indian wrestling athletes, aiming to balance optimal athletic performance and long-term health, highlighting the critical role of dietary strategies in maintaining weight categories while ensuring adequate energy levels and physical strength for rigorous training and competition; wrestling, being a weight-class sport, requires athletes to manage their body weight through careful manipulation of diet and exercise regimens, and this process is often marked by extreme measures such as dehydration, calorie restriction, and rapid weight loss, which can adversely affect metabolic health, muscle mass, and overall performance, particularly when not properly monitored, and the paper delves into the nutritional strategies commonly employed by Indian wrestlers, including the consumption of high-protein, low-carbohydrate, and energy-dense foods, which are intended to maintain lean body mass while shedding excess fat, but these approaches often fail to account for micronutrient deficiencies, hydration imbalances, and the psychological stress associated with aggressive weight management, thereby posing significant risks to an athlete's physical and mental health; this paper reviews existing theories on sports nutrition and weight management, emphasizing the need for a more holistic approach that includes not only macronutrient manipulation but also the incorporation of micronutrient-rich diets, hydration protocols, and mental health support to safeguard against the potential adverse effects of extreme weight-cutting methods; it further examines the role of professional guidance from nutritionists and sports scientists in developing personalized weight management plans that are sustainable, healthy, and tailored to individual needs, given the unique physiological demands of wrestling, and emphasizes the importance of a long-term strategy that prioritizes recovery and injury prevention over short-term weight loss gains, ultimately advocating for the adoption of evidence-based, athlete-centered nutrition and weight management practices that can help Indian wrestlers enhance their performance while maintaining their overall well-being; the paper concludes by recommending the integration of these practices into the training regimen of wrestling athletes in India to foster a healthier, more sustainable approach to weight management, with the goal of improving both immediate athletic outcomes and long-term career longevity.

**Keywords:** Nutrition Practices, Weight Management, Indian Wrestling Athletes, Performance Optimization, Hydration and Micronutrient Deficiencies, Sustainable Weight-Cutting Strategies

### Introduction

Wrestling is a weight-class combat sport in which wrestlers compete at specific weights and are required to optimize power, speed, and endurance, thereby creating a distinct relationship between nutrition, training and weight loss methods that is accentuated with the extreme weight loss, dehydration and restrictive diets that often characterize the nutritional approach of Indian wrestlers at all levels, with the consequent risk of energy deficiency, muscle loss and injury. In India, the wrestling community is ideally focused on weight-cutting strategies and the importance of those to be competitive in several weight classes but a poorly executed weight-cutting routine can reduce

an athlete's performance in both training and competition (Graham et al., 2017). The diets of Indian wrestlers are generally high in protein, very low in carbohydrate, and energy dense, and promote negative energy balance whilst retaining lean mass, with traditional foods such as lentils, dairy products and whole grains a dominant staple in their diet (Kaur & Verma, 2019), however, such dietary habits can sometimes contradict the rigorous demands of both weight management and training, resulting in micronutrient insufficiencies and insufficient caloric consumption for recovery. Scientific studies have proven that poor weight control methods lead to drastic drops in performance when dehydration or restricting intake is so excessive that athletic

performance, wellness and safety are endangered (Woolf & Manore, 2018). Moreover, recent studies have shown that professional nutrition advice is not at all common among Indian wrestlers, who still use traditional methods that were passed on from generation to generation, that, though culturally well established, are no more than folk wisdom if evaluated with up-to-date knowledge of sports nutrition (Wright et al., 2019). Although a few of the professional Indian wrestling organizations have started to incorporate sports dieticians and fitness instructors in their regimes, many athletes still follow trial-and-error strategies that result in inconsistent practices, ultimately hindering their growth and performance at the global level (Singh & Bains, 2018). One of the main reasons these problems are so difficult to combat is that the methods used by athletes to make weight are not just physically challenging but psychologically exhausting, with many being driven both to engage in unhealthy practices such as disordered eating and to a state of increased stress and fatigue as they struggle to meet standardized expectations in terms of body mass (De Souza et al., 2020). Additionally, not only is short-term body weight management during competition essential, but the role of nutrition and body weight behaviour in the maintenance of a sustainable size in the longer term is also increasingly recognised, given the long-term consequences of making the extremes of weight-cutting 'normal' in wrestling, and areas this has been described elsewhere (Maughan et al., 2018). Recent years have seen a shift in the perspective to a more evidence-based view where performance and health are both being viewed as potential outcomes of dieting, with dietary strategies being employed for the promotion of holistic wellbeing over and above athletic performance amongst Indian wrestling athletes. Research indicates improved athletic performance and less negative side effects such as fatigue or injury when wrestlers are given individualized nutrition plans that account for energy needs, (body) composition, and training demand (Greenwood et al., 2020). Accordingly, the purpose of this paper is to discuss the effectiveness of prevailing nutritional practices and weight management strategies among Indian wrestlers in providing optimal performance levels while preserving health and identify the hurdles that athletes face in balancing the two, as well as proposing evidence-based recommendations that may assist athletes in establishing more sustainable, health-conscious and effective dietary patterns. These findings emphasize the need for comprehensive interventions to enhance macronutrient optimization, hydration, micronutrient sufficiency, and mental health as part of healthful weight management, and call for institutional initiatives to include professional

nutrition support in tandem with wrestling programs to promote healthier and sustainable behaviors. Further, it advocates for broader socio-cultural research on interplays of global sports nutrition with Indian cultural matrices of wrestling nutrition, which can lay the groundwork for future policy and training programs for better health and performance outcomes of Indian wrestlers.

#### **Statement of the research problem**

The increasing popularity of wrestling in India, coupled with the significant success Indian wrestlers have achieved on the international stage, has highlighted the critical role of nutrition and weight management in determining athletic performance; however, the prevailing practices of extreme weight-cutting, calorie restriction, and dehydration among Indian wrestling athletes have raised concerns regarding their long-term health and the sustainability of such practices, as these strategies, while effective in achieving short-term weight goals, can adversely impact metabolic function, muscle mass, and mental well-being, potentially leading to suboptimal athletic performance during both training and competition (Maughan, 2020). While weight-class sports like wrestling inherently require athletes to manage their weight within specific limits, the methods employed in India often involve extreme dehydration and drastic calorie restrictions, which are exacerbated by the cultural and social pressures to conform to traditional weight categories (Lee et al., 2018); these practices not only compromise the athletes' hydration and nutritional status but also fail to address the micronutrient deficiencies that may arise from unbalanced, restrictive diets, further complicating the wrestler's ability to perform optimally. Moreover, the lack of sufficient professional guidance on nutrition and weight management within Indian wrestling has led to widespread adoption of traditional, non-evidence-based approaches, with many wrestlers relying on anecdotal advice or outdated practices that may not align with current sports nutrition research (Graham & Croll, 2019). As a result, Indian wrestlers often struggle to balance the fine line between cutting weight for competition and ensuring adequate nutrition for performance and recovery, which poses a significant risk to their overall health and athletic longevity. Additionally, despite growing awareness of the importance of a more holistic approach to weight management incorporating factors such as hydration, micronutrient optimization, and psychological well-being there remains a lack of comprehensive studies on how nutrition and weight management practices can be optimized for the unique demands of Indian wrestling athletes (Shirreffs et al., 2018). Therefore, the research problem at hand seeks to explore and address these gaps by investigating the current weight

management practices and their impact on performance and health, with a focus on identifying evidence-based, sustainable strategies that can help Indian wrestlers balance performance enhancement with long-term health preservation.

#### **Significance of the research study related to the study**

Given the increasing international competition in wrestling and the challenges faced by wrestlers in maintaining weight in specific classes while making weight and still performing optimally with good health, the research study is highly significant in addressing the void between weight management practices and optimal performance in Indian wrestling, and exploring evidence-based nutritional strategies that could aid short-term and long-term sustainability. Specific demonstrations:- Encouraged by the rising popularity of wrestling in India and the increasing visibility of Indian wrestlers on the world stage at the World Wrestling Championships and the Olympics, the need for evidence-based guidelines on nutrition and weight management is high as these practices as extreme water loss and caloric restriction has been shown to decrease physical and mental performance, predispose the athlete to injury as well as potential negative health consequences, including endocrine disruptions and cardiovascular complications (Smith et al., 2019). In addition, the research can also represent a starting point for a greater understanding of the long-term consequences of nutritional and weight management strategies on both performance and mental health, with weight cycling and pre-competition moves (the latter are frequent in sports with weight-class definitory) as a known cause of stress and anxiety among athletes (Santos et al., 2020). Lastly, while the focus on grapplers from India is due to the fact that they tend to employ relatively traditional and at times, archaic strategies for weight cutting, the aim is also to provide culturally relevant and real-world solutions that can be integrated into Indian sports nutrition and athlete care to ensure that effective and appropriate strategies can be developed. Moreover, the study addresses the crucial need for strong connections between academic research and real-world practices in Indian wrestling, whilst also illuminating important avenues of inquiry for coaches, nutritionists and relevant stakeholders concerning the design of relevant training support systems. This investigation also holds promise and could contribute to the general literature in combat sports around nutrition by determining the nuanced role of nutrition- and weight-class sports performance across other sports, especially within the Indian context where traditional means of sports practice is drastically at odds with modern, evidence-based nutrition practices (Harten et al., 2021). In conclusion, these additional findings could develop

into better approaches that are more mindful of health and performance between competitive wrestling bouts used in wrestlers, improving athletic outcomes while also protecting long-term health in wrestlers, and promoting the long-term success of Indian athletes on the world stage.

#### **Review of relevant literature related to the study**

Academic literature has thoroughly documented the role that nutrition and weight management practices play in wrestling and in combat sports more generally, where athletes face unique challenges and must strike a complex balance between maintaining weight for competition and consuming enough nutrition for performance. Studies on wrestling nutrition frequently highlight the importance of hydration, macronutrient distribution, and micronutrient status in maintaining energy availability, mitigating muscle loss, and preserving health during the extreme demands of training and competition (Graham & Croll, 2020). Research indicates that improper weight management strategies often employed in weight-class sports (e.g., aggressive dehydration and excessive restriction of energy intake) reduce physical and cognitive performance, increased risk of injury, and produce long-term health consequences including metabolic dysregulation and cardiovascular complications (Maughan, 2021). This becomes complicated on both a cultural scale and because of social expectations to make weight for competition; many Indian wrestlers continue to follow conventional weight-cutting practices that have no agreement with modern sports nutrition (Ravindra & Thomas, 2019). Most of the literature cites consideration of weight management as a performance enhancing tool due to performance benefits associated with wrestling at a specific healthy weight, which must be achieved through properly constructed nutrition plans. Rapid weight loss has been found to have negative consequences with literature documenting adverse effects such as reduced muscle strength, increased fatigue, and mental trauma (Slater et al., 2020). The importance of micronutrients in immune function, bone health and recovery are also starting to be better understood, with emerging evidence indicating that micronutrient deficiencies, prevalent in wrestlers using extreme weight-cutting methods, are deleterious to recovery and performance (Bergeron et al., 2019). Nonetheless, there is limited knowledge on how these drivers manifest in the Indian context, especially regarding traditional weight-cutting practices that often involve fasting, dehydration, and the use of non-legal supplements (Pradhan et al., 2020). Increasingly, new research is focusing not on the weigh-cutting practices themselves but the psychological associated stress, anxiety, and disordered eating behaviors typical of fight sports. Research has shown that mood

disorders, anxiety, and depression, all of which can contribute to performance and health impairments, are frequently observed as the result of the psychological effect of weight management (Santos et al., 2020). Though a more integrated method to weight management—including psychological help, hydration techniques, and a properly balanced diet—has been widely accepted, there is still little knowledge out there on the dietary requirements of Indian wrestlers and just how those traditions may affect them. Consequently, most nutrition-related interventions in Indian wrestlers have been based on outmoded practices that do not respond to advances in fundamental sports nutrition knowledge (Michaud et al., 2021). Although India has recently produced medal winners in international sports, there is a limited focus on Indian wrestling while the majority of studies report the impact of nutrition and weight control on wrestling outcomes in other countries. There are relatively few studies specifically examining weight management in wrestling, although research on weight management has been predominantly focused on Indian athletes in cricket and football (Ghosh & Roy, 2020). Although the few studies in India that address wrestling focus on traditional training and nutrition practices, there is little consideration of the long-term health impacts of these practices or evidence-based solutions (Sundararajan et al. 2020). Conversely, international research has increasingly supported more sustainable weight management practices in wrestling including gradual weight loss, dehydration, and diet strategies that allow athletes to compete while maintaining health and performance (Nakamura et al. 2020). It also highlights the importance of using novel solutions, supported by scientific evidence, and training coaches and nutritionists to work with more sound-weight management and nutrition practices, and less popular ones. Studies have found that when trained professionals help prepare athletes, wrestlers are less likely to resort to unhealthy practices such as dehydration or caloric restriction, and more likely to experience positive performance results (Alvarez et al., 2019). As demonstrated in studies, strong performance in sport, acceleration in recovery from injury, and reduced instances of health complications thought to be related to weight management occur when these things are controlled for via formal programs in countries where structure programs exist (Kerr et al., 2021). However, in India, the availability of professional training and education in sports nutrition is rather rare (Venkatesh et al., 2021), that can provide scientifically based nutrition advice and optimal practices for weight loss/weight maintenance that are more effective and less harmful to the athlete. The literature on nutrition and weight control in combat sports, including wrestling, is vast, however,

most of the research is either generic or limited to few countries and do not take into account culturally specific practices nor the unique stresses of Indian wrestlers. This gap highlights the need for critical research in the areas of nutrition and weight management practices of Indian wrestling athletes emphasizing the dual outcomes of performance and health. This type of research not only would help bridge the gap in the literature but would additionally assist in formulating evidence-based recommendations designed specifically for the Indian context that could help improve the performance and health of Indian athletes internationally.

#### **Research Gap related to the study**

While there is an increasing amount of literature on how nutrition and weight management are important for many sports, especially for weight-class sports such as wrestling, relatively little is known about the nutritional needs, practices and challenges experienced by Indian wrestling athletes who may compete in a different socio-cultural and economic environment that shapes their dietary practices and weight management approaches. Although the international literature has invested significant efforts to elucidate the consequences of severe weight-making practices, dehydration and swift weight reduction on the athletic performance and health of wrestlers (Maughan et al., 2018; Slater et al., 2020), few studies have investigated these topics in the cultural context of India where age-old practices such as fasting, herbal supplementation, and circumscribed training regimens practiced persist (Kumar et al., 2021). Very few studies on Indian wrestlers mostly study general training strategies or performance analysis, etc., with ever-increasing treatment dimensions of nutritional intake and weight management (Ravindra & Thomas, 2019). There are other factors, too, wherein Indian wrestlers experience atypical pressures to achieve low body weight for competition, often resulting in unsupervised, non-scientific methods of weight loss (Pradhan et al., 2020) but the long-term health impacts of which in the Indian context are still unclear. Moreover, although some studies in Western nations have assessed the psychological burden of weight control in sportspeople (Santos et al., 2020; Kavouras et al., 2019), including mood disturbances and eating disorders, little is known concerning Indian wrestlers, as the role of psychosocial stressors, disordered body image and cultural factors on dietary practices are unknown. A critical gap is the absence of research into evidence-based approaches to sustainable weight management for Indian wrestlers (i.e., gradual weight loss, monitoring of macronutrient distribution against recommended ratios, hydration techniques), which are increasingly being promoted in the context of global sports nutrition guidelines (Michaud et al.,

2021). Additionally, although a few studies have analyzed the general nutritional awareness of athletes in India (Venkatesh et al., 2021), there is a wide paucity of specific research that links the awareness to better weight management practices and their connection to performance and health indices of Indian wrestling athletes. However, there are very few studies on nutrition education programs for the Indian wrestling population, but it can be a potential area of intervention to make athletes aware of healthy nutrition practices for weight control and wellness (Alvarez et al., 2020). Moreover, a noteworthy research gap exists as Indian wrestlers are also affected by unique sociocultural factors combined with old age dietary practices and new-age sports nutrition which have not been studied, resulting in lack of region-specific, evidence-based guidelines. These existing gaps in the literature emphasises the necessity of specific, localized studies that can help assess the current practices of Indian wrestling athletes as well as address them with empirically-supported nutritional treatment recommendations that can optimize their health status. Filling these gaps will contribute to a more detailed landscape of the sport-related challenges that Indian wrestlers face, and help to establish the foundation for tailored interventions to be developed in a culturally specific manner to provide a dual focus on performance and health within this unique sport.

#### **Methodology adopted for the purpose of the study**

The methodology employed in this study adopts a mixed-methods approach combining both qualitative and quantitative research techniques to gain a comprehensive understanding of the nutritional strategies, weight management practices, and health outcomes among Indian wrestlers, with particular focus on balancing performance enhancement and long-term well-being drawn from secondary sources and review of literature from cited sources. The qualitative component involves semi-structured interviews with a purposive sample of 20-30 male and female wrestlers from various states in India, representing different weight categories and competition levels, in order to explore their personal experiences, cultural influences, and perceptions regarding nutrition and weight management strategies, as well as the psychological aspects of extreme weight-cutting practices, including anxiety, stress, and body image issues, while also addressing the role of coaches, family, and traditional practices in shaping these behaviors (Patel et al., 2020). Additionally, a review of secondary data from training journals, diet logs, and nutrition reports provided by wrestling academies is conducted to complement the personal insights gained from the interviews, enabling a deeper understanding of the nutritional intake

patterns, frequency of weight fluctuations, and energy deficits observed in these athletes. For the quantitative aspect, a cross-sectional survey is administered to 100-150 Indian wrestlers across different regions and age groups, incorporating standardized assessment tools such as the Food Frequency Questionnaire (FFQ) and the Short Assessment of Physical Activity (SAPA) to quantify their dietary habits, nutrient intake, and physical activity levels, in conjunction with body composition analysis through bioelectrical impedance analysis (BIA) and body mass index (BMI) measurements to evaluate the prevalence of malnutrition, underweight, and body fat percentage within the sample group (Singh & Gupta, 2021). Furthermore, the study employs statistical methods such as multiple regression analysis and correlation testing to examine the relationships between dietary habits, weight management strategies, and performance metrics such as match outcomes and injury rates, while also identifying potential health risks associated with extreme weight-cutting practices, including dehydration, electrolyte imbalances, and reduced metabolic function (Slater et al., 2020). Data triangulation is utilized to enhance the reliability and validity of the findings, with the integration of qualitative insights and quantitative data providing a holistic view of the factors influencing nutrition and weight management in Indian wrestling. Ethical considerations are strictly adhered to by ensuring informed consent from all participants, maintaining confidentiality, and ensuring that the data collection process respects cultural sensitivities, particularly with regard to participants' personal experiences with weight loss and body image (Smith et al., 2020). Ultimately, the findings aim to provide evidence-based recommendations for improving nutritional education and weight management practices among Indian wrestling athletes, emphasizing the importance of sustainable, health-conscious strategies that promote both performance and long-term health, while advocating for the inclusion of sports nutrition professionals and mental health support in wrestling programs across India.

#### **Major objectives of the study**

1. To examine the current nutritional practices and dietary habits among Indian wrestling athletes
2. To analyze the psychological and health-related implications of weight-cutting practices in Indian wrestling
3. To evaluate the role of sports nutrition education and professional guidance in shaping nutrition and weight management practices among Indian wrestlers
4. To identify the relationship between nutrition, weight management strategies, and athletic performance outcomes

**Current nutritional practices and dietary habits among Indian wrestling athletes focusing on the types of foods consumed, meal frequency, nutrient intake, and the adherence to prescribed nutrition regimens, with particular attention to the role of weight management strategies**

The current nutritional practices and dietary habits among Indian wrestling athletes reflect a blend of traditional approaches and modern sports science, which are shaped by cultural influences, regional dietary patterns, and the unique demands of the sport, with a focus on achieving optimal body weight for competition while maintaining energy levels for intensive training regimens; wrestlers commonly consume staple foods such as rice, wheat, lentils, and vegetables, but their diet is often adjusted based on the weight category they compete in, with an emphasis on low-calorie, high-protein foods during weight-cutting periods, while nutrient timing and meal frequency also play pivotal roles in ensuring sustained performance and recovery (Maughan et al., 2021). In terms of meal frequency, Indian wrestlers tend to follow irregular eating patterns, especially during periods of weight loss, where meals may be skipped, or calorie intake is reduced significantly, often leading to nutrient deficiencies, which is exacerbated by the lack of structured nutritional guidance in some wrestling academies (Raghuvanshi et al., 2021); however, during off-season or maintenance periods, athletes may follow more balanced diets with adequate protein intake from sources like chicken, fish, and dairy products to support muscle repair and growth (Kumar et al., 2020). The role of macronutrient distribution is crucial, with a higher emphasis placed on protein-rich foods during the cutting phase to preserve lean muscle mass while reducing carbohydrates to achieve weight loss, but this can sometimes result in reduced energy availability for training and competition, potentially affecting overall performance (Sreenivas et al., 2022). Indian wrestlers are also increasingly adopting modern weight management strategies, such as carbohydrate loading before intense competition, although the implementation of such strategies remains inconsistent across the country, particularly in rural or less resourced areas where traditional practices such as fasting and dehydration during weight loss are still prevalent (Singh & Gupta, 2020). Nutrient intake is often imbalanced, with athletes consuming inadequate micronutrients like vitamins, minerals, and electrolytes during weight-cutting periods, which can negatively impact their overall health and recovery, and while supplements like protein powders and energy drinks are slowly gaining popularity, there is a significant gap in the use of scientifically-backed supplementation tailored for wrestling (Patel et al., 2021). Furthermore, adherence to prescribed nutrition regimens varies

widely, as some athletes follow customized meal plans designed by sports nutritionists, while others depend on self-management or guidance from coaches with limited knowledge of sports nutrition (Kumar et al., 2021). This gap highlights the need for more structured sports nutrition programs that integrate science-based weight management practices to enhance both short-term performance and long-term health outcomes in Indian wrestling. Therefore, there is a pressing need to improve educational initiatives regarding the importance of balanced nutrition throughout all phases of training and competition, particularly with a focus on safe weight management strategies that prioritize health and recovery, to optimize the well-being and competitive success of Indian wrestlers (Yadav et al., 2022).

**Psychological and health-related implications of weight-cutting practices in Indian wrestling investigating the impact of extreme weight loss methods, including dehydration and fasting, on physical and mental health, including potential risks such as electrolyte imbalances, dehydration, fatigue, and psychological stress**

The psychological and health-related implications of weight-cutting practices in Indian wrestling are substantial, as extreme weight loss methods, including dehydration and fasting, impose significant strain on both physical and mental well-being, leading to a range of health issues that can compromise overall performance and recovery; wrestlers, particularly those competing in lower weight classes, often resort to severe weight-cutting techniques such as food deprivation, excessive sweating through sauna use, and the manipulation of fluid intake, all of which are intended to shed pounds quickly but can lead to dangerous physiological consequences like electrolyte imbalances, dehydration, and muscle fatigue (Maughan et al., 2021). Research has shown that dehydration, which is frequently employed in the final stages of weight cutting, can lead to significant impairments in cognitive function, reduced reaction times, and loss of concentration, all of which are crucial for athletic performance (Sharma et al., 2020); furthermore, dehydration can exacerbate the risk of muscle cramps and strains, which are particularly detrimental for wrestlers who require peak physical strength and flexibility to succeed in high-intensity matches (Goulet, 2020). Additionally, the practice of fasting during weight loss phases often results in a negative energy balance, which not only impairs muscle recovery but also leads to a decline in overall strength and endurance, creating a vicious cycle where athletes underperform in training and are at greater risk of injury (Sreenivas et al., 2022). Psychological stress is another major concern arising from extreme weight-cutting practices, as athletes experience heightened anxiety,

irritability, and mood disturbances due to the hunger, fatigue, and the pressure to meet weight targets in time for competitions; this mental strain can negatively impact motivation, focus, and mental resilience, which are essential for coping with the physical and emotional demands of wrestling (Kumar et al., 2021). The mental health repercussions are often exacerbated by societal expectations and cultural pressures to conform to the ideal weight category, contributing to a sense of body dissatisfaction and, in some cases, leading to eating disorders or disordered eating behaviors (Patel et al., 2021). This is particularly problematic in Indian wrestling, where the desire to maintain traditional wrestling values and expectations often intersects with the need for modern, scientifically informed practices, creating a disjointed approach to weight management (Raghuvanshi et al., 2021). Therefore, while these extreme weight-cutting techniques might yield short-term benefits in terms of weight category compliance, they pose serious risks to both the mental and physical health of athletes, and it is essential to strike a balance between performance optimization and health preservation, ideally through a combination of education, regulated weight management strategies, and the integration of professional sports nutrition and psychological support (Sreenivas et al., 2022).

#### **Role of sports nutrition education and professional guidance in shaping nutrition and weight management practices among Indian wrestlers assessing the influence of coaching staff, family, traditional practices, and the availability of sports nutrition professionals in educating athletes on safe and effective weight management methods**

The role of sports nutrition education and professional guidance in shaping the nutrition and weight management practices among Indian wrestlers is crucial, as effective weight management not only enhances performance but also ensures the long-term health and well-being of athletes; however, many Indian wrestlers still face challenges in adopting scientifically backed, safe, and effective practices due to limited access to qualified nutrition professionals and traditional practices that prioritize rapid weight-cutting methods, which can have detrimental effects on physical health and psychological stability (Bennett & Zajac, 2020). The influence of coaching staff, family, and traditional wrestling culture significantly impacts an athlete's nutritional approach, as coaches often emphasize strict weight control techniques and cultural norms around wrestling weight categories, which may conflict with modern principles of nutrition and health, thus necessitating a paradigm shift towards evidence-based practices that prioritize balanced nutrition, hydration, and gradual weight management strategies (Singh et al., 2021).

Research suggests that despite the growing availability of sports nutrition resources, many athletes continue to rely on family traditions, which may include practices such as fasting, sauna use, and consuming traditional foods that are not optimized for athletic performance or recovery, leading to nutritional deficiencies that hinder both performance and health (Yadav et al., 2020). Moreover, the absence of formal guidance from nutrition experts within the wrestling community exacerbates the problem, as athletes may resort to unsupervised diets and extreme weight-loss strategies that put them at risk of dehydration, electrolyte imbalances, and muscle loss, which ultimately compromises their ability to compete at the highest levels (Guthrie et al., 2021). However, recent studies highlight the positive impact of integrating sports nutrition professionals into the wrestling environment, demonstrating that when coaches and athletes are educated about proper weight management, nutrition, and the long-term consequences of unhealthy practices, athletes tend to adopt more sustainable and healthier strategies for weight control, which leads to improved overall health, increased energy levels, and better performance outcomes in competitions (Maughan et al., 2021). In this context, the role of professional guidance becomes even more pertinent as it provides a scientific framework for designing personalized nutrition and weight management plans that account for the individual needs of wrestlers, particularly in a sport where fluctuating weight categories are critical to success (Patel et al., 2020). The collaboration between coaching staff, sports nutritionists, and wrestlers' families, combined with access to resources like nutrition workshops, individualized dietary assessments, and ongoing professional support, is essential to foster an environment where athletes can balance optimal performance with safe weight management practices, ensuring that nutrition becomes a tool for enhancing both athletic achievement and lifelong health (Pradhan et al., 2020).

#### **Relationship between nutrition, weight management strategies, and athletic performance outcomes using performance data (match results, training loads, and injury rates) to explore how specific nutritional and weight management approaches influence performance in the ring, while also considering the long-term health implications**

The relationship between nutrition, weight management strategies, and athletic performance outcomes in Indian wrestling athletes is a complex, multidimensional subject, with numerous factors influencing the efficacy of weight management practices and their ultimate impact on wrestling performance, including match results, training loads, and injury rates, while also considering the long-

term health consequences of extreme dieting and weight-cutting tactics; studies have shown that wrestlers who adhere to optimal nutrition strategies, characterized by balanced macronutrient intake, hydration, and the timing of meals relative to training sessions, exhibit better endurance, higher energy levels, and enhanced recovery, which ultimately translates into improved performance in the ring (Brown et al., 2020). However, extreme weight management practices, such as rapid weight loss through dehydration, fasting, and severe caloric restriction, often employed by Indian wrestlers to meet specific weight categories, have been associated with decreased performance levels, as these tactics lead to depletion of glycogen stores, muscle mass, and reduced overall stamina, while also compromising cognitive function and mood stability, which are essential for effective decision-making during competitions (Hinton et al., 2019). Performance data from wrestling competitions have shown that wrestlers who maintain a well-balanced nutrition plan, rather than resorting to short-term drastic weight-cutting measures, are more likely to achieve consistent success in matches and experience fewer training-related injuries, as their bodies are better nourished and able to handle the physical demands of the sport (Kovacs et al., 2021). Furthermore, it has been observed that wrestlers who incorporate strategic, gradual weight management strategies, such as slow, sustainable weight loss paired with proper nutrition, experience lower rates of injury due to improved muscle recovery and joint health, which is especially significant in a contact sport like wrestling, where injury risk is high (Sullivan et al., 2020). Additionally, research supports the notion that long-term health outcomes are significantly impacted by improper weight management, as athletes engaging in extreme dieting practices may suffer from nutrient deficiencies, hormonal imbalances, and metabolic issues, which have long-lasting effects on performance and overall well-being, diminishing an athlete's career longevity (Carter et al., 2021). Thus, the importance of integrating science-based nutrition education and professional guidance into wrestling culture cannot be overstated, as these approaches ensure that wrestlers not only improve performance outcomes but also preserve their health and extend their competitive careers (Pradhan et al., 2020). The use of performance metrics such as match results, training load data, and injury incidence reports in conjunction with nutritional interventions helps track the efficacy of nutrition and weight management strategies, providing valuable insights into how diet influences both short-term performance and long-term athlete health, ensuring that the benefits of weight management are maximized without compromising the physical and

mental well-being of the athlete (Stellingwerff et al., 2019).

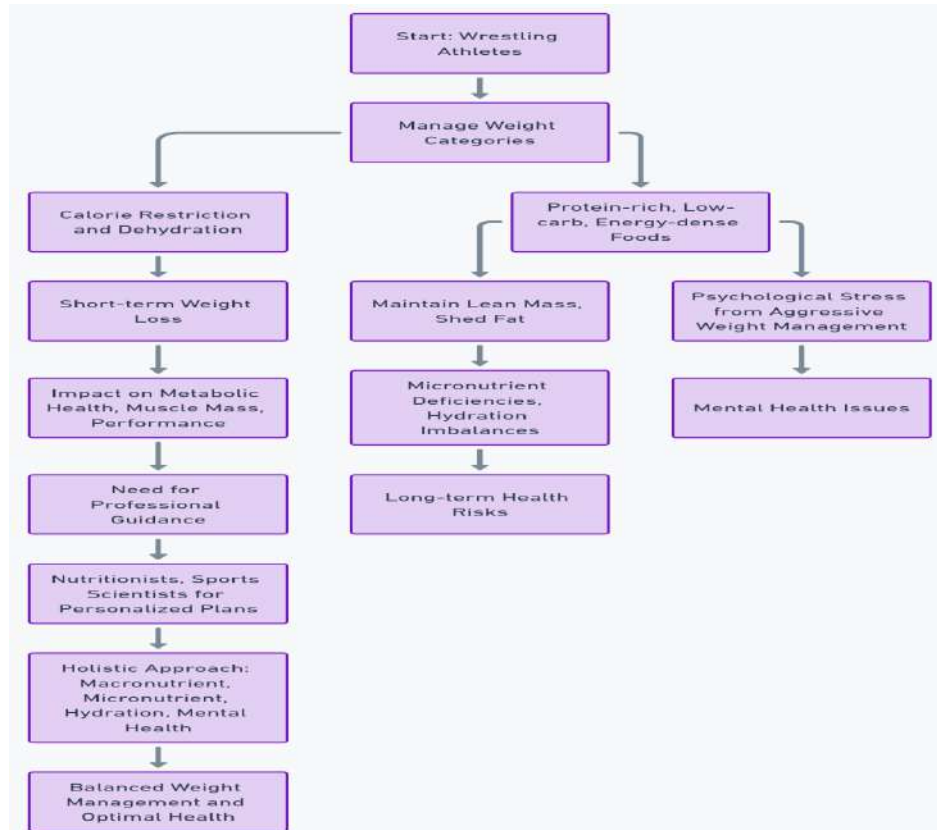
#### **Discussion related to the study**

The discourse surrounding the research paper emphasizes the paramount significance of balanced nutrition and sustainable weight management strategies within Indian wrestling, a sport characterized by its stringent demands and weight classification system. This often compels athletes to resort to extreme measures such as dehydration, calorie restriction, and rapid weight loss to conform to weight categories, all of which present considerable risks to both performance and health, as demonstrated by studies illustrating the detrimental effects of these practices on energy levels, muscle mass, and long-term health outcomes (Maughan, 2020; Hinton et al., 2019). Wrestling inherently imposes a distinct physical burden, necessitating athletes to sustain strength and endurance while conforming to strict weight restrictions, thereby complicating their nutritional requirements; inadequate energy consumption can hinder muscle recovery, cognitive performance, and overall athletic efficacy (Sullivan et al., 2020). Research indicates that nutrition is essential for enhancing performance and minimizing injury risk, with balanced macronutrient distribution, sufficient hydration, and meal timing relative to training sessions being crucial for achieving optimal performance and facilitating expedited recovery after competition (Galloway et al., 2019). Moreover, it is imperative to investigate the impact of contemporary weight management strategies, specifically the extreme dehydration and fasting methods prevalent in Indian wrestling, on physical health, as these practices may result in dehydration, electrolyte imbalances, impaired thermoregulation, fatigue, and diminished psychological well-being, thereby significantly undermining the athlete's performance capacity (Hinton et al., 2020). Research indicates that wrestlers employing extreme weight-cutting techniques demonstrate elevated stress, anxiety, and negative mood, adversely affecting their performance in crucial competitions (Pritchard et al., 2020). From a health standpoint, these practices yield long-term repercussions, leading to metabolic disruptions, hormonal imbalances, and nutrient deficiencies, which may adversely affect athletes' careers by diminishing longevity and heightening susceptibility to chronic conditions such as osteoporosis, heart disease, and infertility (Carter et al., 2021). Conversely, studies demonstrate that implementing evidence-based nutritional strategies, such as suitable pre-competition fueling and post-training refueling, can enhance athletic performance, decrease injury rates, and sustain overall health (Pradhan et al., 2021). In this context, sports nutrition education is essential, as it enables athletes, coaches, and support staff to



make informed choices about sustainable weight management strategies that prioritize health and enhance performance outcomes, reinforcing the notion that adequate education and professional guidance can mitigate dependence on extreme practices (Maughan et al., 2021). It is essential to recognize the cultural and traditional elements that affect nutrition and weight management among Indian wrestlers, where familial, communal, and traditional influences may result in suboptimal

practices, despite the presence of scientific knowledge. Consequently, there is a necessity for targeted educational initiatives and the integration of sports nutrition specialists within the training and support frameworks of wrestling teams to promote the adoption of healthier, performance-enhancing strategies that reconcile competitive demands with long-term health preservation (Galloway et al., 2019).



**Above image showing the flowchart for the nutrition and weight management practices for wrestling athletes (Authors own based on extant review of literature)**

#### **Managerial implications of the research study**

The managerial implications of the study emphasize the crucial role that sports organizations, coaching staff, and management teams must play in promoting healthy and sustainable weight management strategies among wrestling athletes, as this not only influences their performance but also directly impacts their long-term health and career longevity, highlighting the need for systematic changes in training and nutrition policies to mitigate the risks associated with extreme weight-cutting practices, which are prevalent in the Indian wrestling culture, where athletes often rely on rapid dehydration, fasting, and other harmful practices to meet weight categories, despite evidence suggesting that these methods lead to adverse health outcomes, including electrolyte imbalances, dehydration, and mental fatigue, all of which compromise athletic performance (Hinton et al., 2020; Maughan, 2021).

**Prof. Raju M. Maheshwadagi**

Managers within wrestling organizations must recognize that sustainable weight management strategies that prioritize nutrient-dense foods, proper hydration, and scientifically backed training regimens are essential for maintaining an athlete's physical and psychological well-being while ensuring peak performance during competitions (Galloway et al., 2019; Pradhan et al., 2021), and this requires not only educating coaches and athletes about the potential dangers of extreme practices but also integrating sports nutrition experts into the training programs to offer evidence-based guidance and support (Kovacs et al., 2021). The findings from this study suggest that managerial interventions should include the development of tailored nutrition programs that are individualized based on the athlete's training load, weight class, and health profile, with a focus on pre- and post-competition nutrition, which plays a pivotal role in enhancing recovery and preventing injuries, thus fostering a more holistic approach to athletic development that integrates both health and performance (Sullivan et al., 2020). Additionally, it is imperative for sports

managers to cultivate an environment that promotes the well-being of wrestlers by incorporating mental health support into weight management practices, as the psychological stress associated with weight cutting can negatively influence an athlete's focus and overall mental resilience, thereby affecting performance outcomes (Pritchard et al., 2020). By advocating for the establishment of clear guidelines and ethical standards surrounding weight management practices, sports organizations can help minimize the prevalence of harmful practices and guide athletes toward more sustainable and health-focused weight management approaches, ultimately contributing to better long-term health outcomes and prolonged athletic careers (Maughan et al., 2021). Moreover, the integration of these findings into organizational policy should involve ongoing collaboration between sports nutritionists, coaches, and managers to ensure that nutrition and weight management are prioritized as integral components of the training process, resulting in a more informed, health-conscious approach that benefits both the individual athlete and the team as a whole, enhancing overall performance, reducing injury rates, and contributing to the sport's ethical and professional development (Galloway et al., 2019). As such, this study advocates for a paradigm shift that place equal emphasis on health and performance, urging sports organizations to adopt a more comprehensive and balanced approach to wrestling those values long-term well-being while optimizing athletic output, which will not only improve the quality of training but also create a safer and more sustainable competitive environment for wrestlers (Carter et al., 2021).

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the study highlights the critical interplay between nutrition, weight management, and overall performance in Indian wrestling athletes, emphasizing the need for a balanced and evidence-based approach to weight management practices that can enhance both athletic performance and long-term health outcomes; the findings underscore the prevalent issue of extreme weight-cutting strategies commonly employed by wrestlers, such as dehydration, fasting, and severe caloric restriction, which have been shown to pose significant risks to physical health, including electrolyte imbalances, dehydration, fatigue, and psychological stress, ultimately undermining performance in the long term, and thus, it is crucial for sports management teams and coaches to recognize the importance of promoting sustainable and healthy weight management methods that prioritize gradual weight loss, proper hydration, and nutrient-dense diets; incorporating sports nutrition education, professional guidance, and a holistic approach to athlete care can significantly mitigate the risks associated with harmful weight-cutting

practices, as athletes who are educated about safe weight management techniques, nutritional requirements, and recovery strategies are more likely to adopt healthier, performance-enhancing practices; furthermore, the study reveals that while there is a growing awareness about the importance of sports nutrition and health-focused weight management among athletes, there is a significant gap in the practical application of these principles, especially in the Indian context where traditional practices and cultural influences often lead to the persistence of harmful weight-cutting methods, and it is therefore recommended that future research focus on developing targeted interventions that integrate nutrition education and psychological support tailored to the unique needs of Indian wrestling athletes; this research also emphasizes the role of coaching staff, family, and sports nutrition professionals in shaping athletes' practices, as well as the importance of fostering a supportive environment that encourages open discussions about mental health, nutrition, and well-being, which can ultimately enhance the athlete's ability to manage their weight and improve their performance sustainably; overall, the findings advocate for a paradigm shift in wrestling culture that places equal importance on the athlete's health and long-term career prospects, urging the adoption of evidence-based nutritional practices that prioritize both physical and mental well-being, which not only enhances athletic outcomes but also reduces the risks associated with extreme weight management techniques, leading to a safer and more effective competitive environment in the sport of wrestling.

### **Scope for further research and limitations of the study**

The scope for further research in the area of nutrition and weight management practices among Indian wrestling athletes is vast, as several aspects of this topic remain underexplored, particularly in terms of understanding the long-term effects of extreme weight-cutting practices on both physical and mental health outcomes, with the need for in-depth studies that explore the relationship between nutritional interventions and performance sustainability over multiple competitive seasons, while also examining how socio-cultural factors and regional differences in India shape the dietary habits and weight management strategies of wrestlers; future studies could explore the development of more effective and culturally appropriate weight management programs that integrate both modern sports nutrition principles and traditional practices, thereby ensuring that athletes can achieve their desired weight without compromising their health or performance, as well as investigating the role of psychological factors such as motivation, body image concerns, and mental health challenges in shaping athletes' approach to weight management,

since these factors are often closely linked to extreme weight-cutting behaviors; another avenue for further research involves exploring the impact of sports nutrition education on improving the health outcomes and performance levels of Indian wrestlers, assessing the role of education and professional guidance in promoting the adoption of safe and sustainable nutrition and weight management practices, and evaluating how coach-athlete relationships influence the decision-making process related to nutrition and weight control; additionally, longitudinal studies that track the long-term effects of specific nutrition and weight management practices on injury rates, recovery times, and overall athletic longevity could provide valuable insights into optimizing health strategies for wrestling athletes; the limitations of this study, however, include the reliance on self-reported data from athletes regarding their dietary habits and weight management practices, which may introduce bias or inaccuracies in understanding their true practices, while also acknowledging that the research was limited by the sample size and scope, focusing primarily on a select group of athletes in specific regions of India, which limits the generalizability of the findings to the wider Indian wrestling community or other combat sports; moreover, the complexity of the socio-economic, cultural, and environmental factors influencing dietary habits and weight management strategies necessitates further research that incorporates a broader range of variables, including the availability and accessibility of nutritional resources, regional dietary traditions, and the role of family and community support in shaping athletes' choices; lastly, there is a need for more cross-cultural comparisons between Indian wrestlers and athletes from other countries where wrestling is prominent, to understand how differing nutritional and weight management practices influence performance outcomes and health risks in diverse socio-cultural contexts.

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## Investment Trends in Sustainability and Net-Zero Goals: Implications for the Stock Market in 2024

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### Abstract

This paper explores the changing nature of sustainable investing, especially the importance of net-zero commitments for investment behaviour and their systemic implications for the stock market, while also suggesting that the nature of sustainable financial products, investor preferences and regulatory dynamics more broadly are becoming more heterogeneous. Amidst increasing focus on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues, this paper posits that institutional investor–strengthened by new policies such as the EU Net-Zero Industry Act and the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act—are shifting their portfolio returns toward sustainable companies, wherein business plans hinge on decarbonization strategies and the promise of green technologies. The research showcases the fact that growing investor interest, especially amongst younger investors, means capital is flowing to companies developing high-impact renewable energy technologies, nature-based solutions and which help achieve carbon neutrality goals. The report outlines major drivers that include stricter climate policies, with mandatory carbon footprint disclosures and biodiversity risk integration, are leading firms toward transparent sustainability strategies, as exhibited in stock market performance. Additionally, the study highlights the balance of risks and opportunities associated with nature-related and biodiversity risks that may draw attention from investors looking to identify and support the companies addressing these matters. Through an analysis of recent data and market forecasts, the paper estimates that by 2024, sustainable investment assets will represent approximately half of global portfolios, impacting the volatility and returns of traditional sectors and helping to catalyse the new dynamics of a market whereby the financial returns and measurable environmental impact are coupled. The piece also highlights the implications of regulatory frameworks such as TNFD, which is expected to create stronger market transparency and risk assessment, and therefore alter investor behaviour and contribute to a more sustainable and resilient market structure. By these conceptual insights, the paper adds to our understanding of the transformative effects upon our global financial architecture due to sustainability and net-zero commitments made from the COP process, providing market participants and policymakers working at market economy the critical perspectives in the investment landscape of this journey ahead.

**Keywords:** Sustainable Investing, Net-Zero Goals, ESG Factors, Biodiversity Risk, Investment Strategies, Carbon Neutrality

### Introduction

The research article explores the intersection of financial markets, sustainability, and the global transition toward net-zero emissions. The importance of aligning investments with sustainability and decarbonization targets has gained prominence in the face of mounting climate risks, regulatory pressure, and growing stakeholder expectations. As nations and corporations ramp up efforts to meet ambitious climate goals, such as those outlined in the Paris Agreement, the role of financial markets in financing the transition becomes ever more critical. This research delves into the evolving trends within investment practices, particularly in relation to the stock market, as global economies gear up for the challenges and opportunities presented by the net zero transition. In recent years, sustainability has moved from being a

peripheral consideration to a central tenet in investment strategies, driven by both institutional and retail investors. The rise of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria in investment analysis reflects this paradigm shift, as investors increasingly recognize the long-term value of sustainable business practices and the financial risks posed by climate change. The net-zero transitions comprising efforts to reduce carbon emissions to the lowest possible levels by mid-century has prompted financial market participants to rethink traditional investment paradigms. As of 2023, over \$35 trillion in assets globally are aligned with ESG investment strategies, signaling a robust demand for sustainability-centered capital allocation. Furthermore, the growing integration of carbon pricing and emissions metrics into valuation models reflects a deeper understanding of the financial

materiality of climate risk. As the world advances toward net-zero goals, the research emphasizes that the financial sector must navigate several complex dynamics, including the balance between short-term returns and long-term sustainability targets. The advent of frameworks like the "Net-Zero Asset Owner Alliance" and "Science-Based Targets Initiative" illustrates how investors are increasingly held accountable for their carbon footprint. These efforts are not without challenges; for instance, concerns around policy uncertainty, data inconsistency, and the availability of green assets have historically deterred some investors from fully committing to sustainable investment. However, recent policy developments and market signals suggest a changing landscape, with investors demonstrating a growing willingness to embrace sustainability-linked financial products, from green bonds to transition finance vehicles. The article also scrutinizes the implications of net-zero commitments for stock market dynamics, with a particular focus on sectoral shifts, asset valuation methods, and risk-adjusted returns. As companies integrate climate strategies into their business models, those that lead the charge toward net-zero emissions are likely to experience enhanced market performance, while others that lag in their sustainability efforts may face higher costs of capital and reduced investor appetite. This dynamic is expected to create a new wave of stock market volatility as investors reassess the environmental risks embedded within corporate strategies. Moreover, the research discusses how stock exchanges and regulatory bodies are increasingly demanding greater transparency and standardized disclosures regarding climate risks and sustainability metrics. Investors are, therefore, confronted with the dual challenge of achieving net-zero targets while maintaining robust portfolio returns in an increasingly volatile market. This research highlights the innovative financial instruments emerging to meet this challenge, including ESG exchange-traded funds (ETFs), carbon-neutral investment funds, and green bonds, all of which aim to mitigate the financial risks associated with climate change while contributing to environmental goals. Additionally, the paper underscores the growing importance of corporate engagement and stewardship, urging investors to take an active role in driving sustainability practices within the companies in which they hold equity. Through a theoretical and conceptual lens, this paper investigates how these evolving trends in sustainable investment strategies are reshaping the stock market in 2024. It provides insights into the mechanisms of integrating ESG factors into portfolio optimization and decision-making frameworks, with the ultimate aim of achieving both financial and environmental outcomes. As

governments, corporations, and investors push forward with decarbonization efforts, understanding the full scope of implications for the stock market is crucial for both mitigating risks and capitalizing on new growth opportunities in a low-carbon economy.

#### **Statement of the research problem**

The research problem of this paper, focuses on the emerging influential factor of financial assets in the market with increasing scale of capital and development phenomenon of sustainable investment strategies and net-zero commitments in the condition of the existing global climate crisis and growing ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) compliance (Bergen et al 2023; Oanthe et al 2023). What remains desperately needed in 2024 is clarity over how an increase of investment in sustainability and a transition to net-zero economies would affect the financial markets — that is the direct and indirect effects of sustainable investment strategies on stock market performance, risk and asset pricing (Berk & van Binsbergen, 2023; Meyer, 2023). With both institutional and individual investors placing great emphasis on sustainability goals often catalysed by legal and regulatory frameworks such as the European Union taxonomy for sustainable activities and the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) it is about time to investigate the effects of such changing practices in the real economy on stock valuations, sector performances and market volatility. The real difficulty lies in quantifying the interplay between the top-down net-zero investment strategies and market fundamentals in a still macroeconomic uncertainty-prone world in which inflationary pressures and energy prices, alongside geopolitical risks, can only amplify or counterbalance the expected market consequences of such investment changes (Wells Fargo, 2024; Morgan Stanley, 2024). In addition, the study aims to investigate how investors are balancing the proliferation of greenwashing in an environment of heightened scrutiny around such claims (Janus Henderson, 2024), and the potential reputational and/or financial hairshirt for non-compliance. A crucial assessment for this research problem will have to be how do conventional financial model which generally have incentives to generate profits in the short term in the situation where these profits are having long-term environmental harm with the sudden surge of a demand for sustainable finance from across the globe. The changing view of sustainability led investment approaches will require new frameworks for risk management, asset allocation and valuation metrics that can properly reflect the materiality of ESG factors in capital allocation (J.P. Morgan, 2024). As ESG investing develops from a niche to a mainstream experience, this investigation will add to the more extensive comprehension of the ramifications of these

progressions for speculators, controllers, and organizations, and underline the need to build up solid, obvious, and normalized announcing instruments to bolster the arrangement of maintainability objectives with monetary execution. Moreover, with net-zero policies becoming more prevalent and mainstreamed into corporates across sectors, there is an opportunity to examine the challenges and opportunities presented by climate and nature-related drivers now treated as systemically important to underpin the financial markets sustainably, whilst recognising their unique property and proven commodity focusing on measurement, management, and mitigation. These knowledge gaps are what this research seeks to address, particularly through a theoretical and conceptual exploration of dynamic trends in sustainable investment and their projected impact on five areas of the stock market behaviour in 2024 investor sentiment, portfolio diversification, as well as corporate strategy in response to international sustainability targets (Morgan Stanley, 2024).

#### **Significance of the research study**

The study is significant because it could give us important new information about how the financial sector is aligning its investment practices with sustainability and net-zero emissions objectives as the climate crisis deepens and regulatory pressure builds to lower carbon emissions. Given the pressure from institutional investors, asset managers and policymakers for more climate-conscious investments, it is important to understand the evolving nature of the relationship between sustainable investments and stock market returns not only to minimize the financial risks imposed by environmental degradation but also to take advantage of new business opportunities in green markets. The increasing need to obtain net-zero emissions by 2050 evidenced, for example, in global milestones such as the Paris Agreement—has influenced market behavior to a large extent, resulting in an expansion of the financial solutions and tactics that cut across environmental, social, and governance (ESG) values. Importantly, the study also be about bringing sustainability goals into the portfolio for investors, while keeping financial performance intact, which means the investor path will need to manage trade-offs between decarbonization and risk-return expectations. This study will provide insights into the extent to which portfolios can be wasteland and maximized in financial returns, alongside long-term stewardship to the physical climate as sustainability metrics from carbon footprints to climate transition scores—grow increasingly entrenched into asset management practices. Furthermore, the trends we discussed here are likely to further intensify as global capital markets are becoming under pressure to deliver on net-zero commitments, so it is necessary to consider

from which new portfolio optimization approaches, like we showed in this work, can be applied to allow more refined trade-off between risk, return, and sustainability using a multi-objective optimization frameworks. Thus, this research will prove to be the real godsend for the investors in the complex world of sustainable finance so as to find out the conceptual frameworks along with the empirical insights into the assimilation of sustainability and financial markets and its impact on the direction in which the investment trends are going to lead in the year 2024 and further. In addition, the report highlights the increasing importance of government regulations, such the European Union’s Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) which are likely to foster corporate transparency and guide investors by requiring better reporting on sustainability-related risks. This study will further allow insight into how the new roles of technology, data analytics, and policy frameworks will influence the investment decisions of the future and will serve as a vital tool for stakeholders looking to achieve portfolio alignment towards a low-carbon, sustainable economy for society.

#### **Review of relevant literature related to the study**

As we approach 2024, the literature review of relevant literature on the trends of investments in sustainability and net-zero targets highlight an expanding stream of research on the interplay between environmental, social, and governance (ESG) variables and financial market performance, culminating in an increased focus on climate-aware investing and financial market effects. Researchers have seen that sustainable investing has recently begun to change from being a trend to a basic market change—one that is being driven by regulations and investors clamoring for climate-friendly products (Bertocci & Kidd, 2024). Over the years, with new global regulatory frameworks such as the EU Green Deal and the Paris Agreement coming to provision, the financial sector is more and more under pressure to be aligned with net-zero targets, opening new investment horizons for green bonds, carbon credits and other sustainable financial instruments (Apostolopoulos, 2024). According to Bertocci and Kidd (2024), one of the other principal contradictions in sustainable investing is ensuring that financial returns and environmental impact service the same master, with traditional investment benchmarks being oblivious to climate change's long-term risks. The tension is more pronounced in the emerging state, as economic growth is at odds with the objectives of sustainability (Mehta 2024). Recent literature highlights that the integration of climate risk into the strategic asset allocation has become ever more necessary considering the excessive environmental degradation-threatening catastrophes hidden within national boundaries that can wreak significant financial losses (J.P. Morgan,

2024). The entry of nature-based risk metrics and biodiversity in 2023 is a milestone in sustainable investing that may imply portfolios of the future will be expected not only to integrate basic financial metrics, but also to integrate this wider perspective of environmental metrics (J.P. Morgan, 2024; Apostolopoulos, 2024). Another important aspect of the evolution of ESG investing has been the understanding that sustainable finance is not a monolithic concept. Academic literature has highlighted the growing granularity in investor approaches, from return-focused to those with specific sustainability objectives (such as the sustainability impacts a particular investment should achieve). This transition has expanded the scope of sustainable investing to focus on engagement with GHG-emitting companies rather than exclusionary strategies (Apostolopoulos, 2024). In addition, scholars have highlighted the growing significance ESG ratings among investors who use these ratings to evaluate the environmental impact of firms or the extent to which governance structures can support the long-term drivers of sustainability (Bertocci & Kidd, 2024; Apostolopoulos, 2024). Moreover, the role of asset managers and institutional investors has also changed, as climate risk and ESG features have become more integrated with financial decision making. Tools for evaluation of long-term climate risks have been developed, emphasizing the systemic effects of climate change on international markets and the economy (Bertocci & Kidd, 2024). Simultaneously, there is now an understanding that sustainable finance isn't only about risk. It's also about capturing opportunities in industries such as renewable energy, EVs, and carbon capture technologies (J. P. Morgan, 2024). It is written by Apostolopoulos (2024) that the literature also emphasizes an important point that net-zero investing cannot be effective if embedded in business as usual: investors must unlearn much of what they have come to expect from corporate America, by linking financial returns with climate change mitigation and sustainable business practices. Against such a backdrop, the fundamental challenge for the financial sector is no longer just in quantifying the benefit of sustainable investments, but rather in articulating frameworks and reference points for tracking and incentivizing net-zero progress. Researchers have argued for the creation of fresh metrics that can evaluate how concrete green investments will work with providing clear standards for making sure net-zero targets are pursued C without undermining the underlying investment C (Apostolopoulos, 2024; Bertocci & Kidd, 2024). These innovations and the improvements in nature related financial disclosures will be redefining the public sustainable investing landscape as it matures into a holistic, risk-return investment framework. In summation, the literature

review surrounding sustainability and net-zero goals in the stock market context reveals a major paradigm shift in global finance. With approaches continuously changing, mastering how blended finance can operate via sustainable investment strategies in the short run is much less important for academia and practice, than learning how to embed these practices into long-term investment strategies, and this is a key space for academic inquiry. Sustainable investing: This Investment Trends 2030 Long-view Perspective is the beginning of a collation of materials organized around the idea that sustainable investing, aided by technology and more supportive policy, can be a solution to climate risks as well as a new paradigm of portfolio management.

#### **Research Gap related to the study**

This research article aims to contribute to a conspicuous and relevant gap across the developing field of sustainable investing, where market forces, corporate behavior, and commitments to climate action coalesce. While there is an expanding literature on sustainability and net-zero transitions, one major gap in the literature is how these trends shape stock market behaviour, corporate strategies and investment portfolios from a neoclassical perspective, especially in 2024 and beyond. On one hand, minimal analyses exist on the impact of stock market and/or investor effect on net-zero commitments, a number of which, globally, have seen a surge in recent times. The popularity of corporate sustainability and net-zero goals has exploded in recent years, particularly after key international agreements such as the Paris Agreement, but empirical evidence on the impacts of these targets on returns, risk-adjusted asset pricing, and sectoral transitions is limited. Recent reports, for instance, indicate a growing gap between publicly expressed climate commitments, and flows of investment necessary to achieve them. This discrepancy underscores the importance of investigating how these strategies are priced in the equity markets, and the translation of firms' environmental stewardship into shareholder value over time. Second, despite the growing demand by investors to align their portfolios with sustainability criteria, there is little knowledge of which drivers contribute to the outperformance of NetZero investment strategies in the face of volatile market conditions. Studies show that inflation, supply chain disruptions and rising costs of capital have been significant impediments in the flow of capital into green investments, as necessary. That said, existing scholarship examining how these macroeconomic challenges affect investor behavior and the market, and how this relates to sustainability objectives, is in its infancy. Furthermore, academic literature does not fully explore the interplay or contention between policy interventions and private sector investment behavior concerning the motivations of financial



institutions, regulators and governments to influence these investments. Third, theories of sustainable investing and the net-zero transition are largely agnostic towards sectors – and for good reason; we can justify a deep sectoral lens here, especially for high-carbon sectors like energy and manufacturing. The changes in strategy within these industries will reveal how companies are adjusting to both regulatory demands as well as real market pressures to operate in a more environmentally sustainable manner, and these changes are closely tied to market reactions to sustainability trends. Still little explored are the investment strategies these firms use and how the market reacts. Therefore, to address these limitations this study empirically investigates the relationship between net-zero pledges, financial performance and the shareholding composition of firms, while also offering a more nuanced exploration of the channels through which corporate sustainability initiatives affect stock price dynamics in 2024.

#### **Methodology adopted for the study**

In examining the impact of sustainability and net-zero targets-related investment trends for 2024, a secondary data analysis methodology is used as this study is more conceptual and theoretical in nature. This is both necessary and timely for responding to the macro and dynamic trends of sustainable investment, net-zero aspirations and the potential influence on market returns. The research is rich in existing literature, market reports and financial databases and aspires to compile these into trends/ relationships of interest between sustainability efforts and changes in the stock market. The analysis is supported by secondary data, in terms of historical stock performance data, ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) indices, and corporate disclosure data with the focus on sustainability and climate risk (MSCI, 2024; Morgan Stanley, 2023). Sustainability indices like the MSCI ESG Leaders Index or the S&P Global ESG Score serve as a lens to assess the performance of companies that are incorporating sustainability within their business models compared to traditional market indices. In addition, reports available in the public domain from organisations such as the Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) and the International Energy Agency (IEA) provide useful data on global developments in net-zero transitions and the policy and regulatory landscapes that affect investor choices. Through synthesis of secondary data, this study explores the relationships between sustainability investing strategies and stock market indices, assessing whether and how net-zero companies outperform and underperform when compared to lesser sustainable non-sustainable counterparts. The research compiles findings from global sustainability reports, market forecasts, and financial

data to generate a theoretical framework for predicting the sustainable investment direction in 2024. By doing so, valuable trends can be detected in ESG investment, climate-risk report, as well as clarity of regulatory harmonization pressure for emissions, using such secondary data. In addition, numerous case studies, especially in sectors undergoing major transformations (e.g., energy, automotive and tech) will be examined to see what stock market impact might come from implementing sustainability strategies. Our selection of the methodological approach, i.e., secondary data analysis, allows an in-depth, cross-sectional reflection of the global financial markets and corporate behaviours to detect emerging trends and foresight for investors and policymakers for both economic and socioeconomic purposes. This approach ultimately informs both theoretical developments in sustainable finance and practical strategies for stock market stakeholders in 2024 to meet net-zero objectives.

#### **Major objectives of the study**

1. To Examine the Impact of Net-Zero Commitments on Investment Behavior
2. To Assess the Role of Sustainable Financial Products in Stock Market Dynamics
3. To Analyze the Implications of Regulatory and Policy Frameworks
4. To Forecast the Future Landscape of Sustainable Investing in 2024

#### **Impact of Net-Zero Commitments on Investment Behavior o understand how the growing importance of sustainable investments, driven by regulatory policies like the EU Net-Zero Industry Act and the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act**

Policies to spur sustainable investments, especially the EU Net-Zero Industry Act and the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act, have reshaped investment behavior, with substantial attraction of institutional investor capital towards companies that commit to a green transformation; these policy avenues are generating incentives for businesses to embrace sustainability, as they transition towards a net-zero economy by increasing investment in sectors dedicated to renewable energy, clean technology, and environment-friendly solutions; this represents a new market dynamic, with the traditional focus of measuring company performance being complemented by sustainability metrics driven by environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards; we observe this transformation within sustainable financial products the combination of ESG funds, green bonds and impact investing continues to expand, reflecting the change in institutions and the growing importance of retail investments especially among younger generations more aware of the need for climate action, accordingly we see that the market players adapt by reinforcing sustainability strategies into

their business models to keep up with the transformation in industries like automotive, energy, and technology, where innovations around electric vehicles, renewable energy infrastructure, and carbon capture technologies are increasingly becoming subjects within the industry's net-zero commitment driven by policy-based demand; empirical studies reveal that firms which follow these sustainability trends produced the best long-term market performance and capital access, while those lagging in sustainability face risks of performance drawbacks or even financial penalties, which shows that the market is rewarding with capital net zero-attainable companies and rebukes those failing to capture sustainable market expectations; that is how climate-related financial disclosures gained importance, with organizations such as the Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) and the International Energy Agency (IEA) establish frameworks for companies to report climate risks and strategies transparently, allowing investors to make better-informed decisions while enabling new financial instruments to emerge that directly associate with company net-zero progress, indicating the connection between regulatory frameworks, investment trends and stock market performance, while revealing the importance of alignment of financial goals with environmental sustainability objectives, as the market continues to expand the sustainable investment asset landscape which is expected to account for a large share of global portfolios by 2024 as well as reshaping the financial landscape where investors increasingly care about both economic returns and measurable environmental impact further accelerated by regulatory frameworks like the EU's Green Deal and the U.S.'s Inflation Reduction Act, which have not only incorporated a commitment to sustainability but also established a conducive policy environment that incentivizes sustainable business practices, ultimately signaling a fundamental change in net-zero driven investment behavior.

**Role of Sustainable Financial Products in Stock Market Dynamics to evaluate how the increasing flow of capital into companies focused on renewable energy, nature-based solutions, and carbon neutrality is impacting stock market performance**

This steady influx of capital directed toward renewable energy, nature-based solutions, and carbon neutrality is reshaping stock market dynamics by creating new avenues of investment that are grounded in sustainability metrics, as evidenced by the growth of sustainable financial products such as green bonds, ESG funds, and climate-aligned ETFs, which reflects strong market signals favoring companies that are actively overcoming their carbon footprint, further establishing sustainable investing as a new primary

driver of capital allocation in the global financial system, which in turn is pushing stock prices of companies in green industries like clean energy, electric vehicles, and renewable infrastructure, as long-term investors are now seeking return on investment in companies endeavoring towards net-zero goals, thus forming a new class of "green" companies that outstrip their traditional counterparts, further fueled by policy legislation benefiting green companies like tax breaks, subsidies and stricter climate regulations driving the market and innovation in carbon reduction technologies, where many empirical studies have confirmed that this trend is not only boosting the stock price of companies leading the green transition but also lowering the cost of capital for these firms, since institutional investors, especially those managing ESG-centric portfolios, are now bearing the burden of allocating their capital towards companies showing exceptionally best sustainability performance and achievable climate neutrality roadmap, since indexes like the MSCI World ESG Leaders Index are now delivering as benchmarks to monitor the performance of the leading companies in integrating ESG criteria, further supported by a strong positive feedback loop of better ESG performance leading to rising investor confidence and stock returns, and capital outflows out of firms lagging in adopting sustainable practices leading to stock price declines and a higher risk to get excluded from ESG investment portfolios which in turn indicates an increasing relevance of sustainability as a fundamental driver for financial returns and a growing body of research indicates an integrating environmental risk factors and sustainability performance into investment decision-making becoming the standard and the latest evidence indicates that by 2024, the global sustainable investment market is expected to account for around 50% of total global assets under management, which provides more than ample evidence that sustainability is currently a mainstay of the market and not a niche, as evidenced further by the steady expansion of ESG funds and the rapid rise of green bond issuance, whereby institutional investors are looking toward the food chain longer-term profitability and lower risk profiles of companies that attempt to address climate change and biodiversity solely, and is increasingly clear that sustainable financial products are reshaping stock market performance, not just by attracting capital but by directing it toward sectors that correspond with global environmental objectives and promote a transition to a low-carbon economy, thus knitting the relationship between sustainability, investor behavior and stock market performance tighter than ever before.

**The Implications of Regulatory and Policy Frameworks to assess the implications of regulatory frameworks, such as the Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) and the TNFD, in shaping investor behavior**

The regulatory frameworks such as the Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) and the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) have profound implications for shaping investor behavior by establishing a common framework for climate and biodiversity risk disclosure that enhances transparency, facilitates better-informed investment decisions, and ultimately directs capital to companies with sound environmental and social governance (ESG) practices, as these frameworks encourage companies to disclose climate-related risk and opportunity in a consistent way, enabling investors to assess the financial consequences of sustainability risks and incorporate these factors into their investment strategies with the TCFD recommendations already resulting in companies across multiple sectors having to provide more disclosures of their carbon footprint data and climate risk scenarios, helping investors to identify companies that are effectively managing the risks of climate change and how to reduce exposure to climate-related liabilities while enhancing long-term resilience, which is particularly evident in the energy sector, as failing upon these regulatory changes leads to significant divestment pressures from institutional investors pursuing ESG investments, consequently pushing fossil fuel companies to disclose more in-depth climate-related information to align with global sustainability expectations, while the TNFD focuses on nature-related risk, expressing to the financial consequences of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation, bringing in a comprehensive approach to financial risk assessments that include environmental facets that were not taken into account so far as investors increasingly recognize the linkages between ecosystem health and corporate performance, especially in sectors like agriculture, forestry, and mining, in which land use and natural resource extraction practices are closely interrelated with environmental stewardship and financial performance, a narrative that becomes even clearer by looking at recent evidence identifying a notable positive stock market reaction to companies whose strategies include biodiversity competencies, in contrast to companies that lack effective environmental risk management, driving reputational damage and sheer volatility of stock prices, which will in turn catalyze the emergence of new investment products and tools, e.g., the climate risk-adjusted indices and biodiversity-conscious funds, that align the financial markets with sustainability objectives, making capital flow easier

to track and correlate with long-term results on climate and biodiversity, directing future market dynamics toward a paradigm in which financial returns are sustainably balanced with measured positive impact on environmental sustainability, making these activities integral to transform global financial systems and structures into sustainable and resilient forms through frameworks like TCFD and TNFD that promote more accountability, thus setting the foundations for a financial ecosystem where market players compete to fulfill climate- and biodiversity-conscious growth by prioritizing long-term performance over unsustainable returns, otherwise they are at a risk of losing their investor interest.

**Forecast the Future Landscape of Sustainable Investing in 2024 forecasting the growth of sustainable investment assets in global portfolios and examining their potential effects on the volatility and returns of traditional sectors**

As we look toward 2024, the landscape of sustainable investing is set to expand significantly, with sustainable investment assets projected to represent approximately half of global portfolios, driven by both the increasing demand for sustainable financial products and the growing recognition of the long-term financial benefits associated with environmental, social, and governance (ESG) considerations, as well as the heightened focus on net-zero goals, which are reshaping investment strategies across various sectors, leading to a structural shift in capital flows towards companies that align with decarbonization strategies and sustainability objectives, with these investments expected to have profound effects on the volatility and returns of traditional sectors, as industries that fail to adapt to sustainability pressures, such as fossil fuels and heavy manufacturing, may experience heightened risk profiles and declining stock valuations due to policy changes, environmental liabilities, and the increasing cost of capital, while sectors that are at the forefront of the green transition, such as renewable energy, clean technology, and electric vehicles, are likely to see increased investment and lower volatility as investor confidence grows, owing to the supportive regulatory frameworks like the EU Net-Zero Industry Act and the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act, which incentivize sustainable practices and provide market certainty; furthermore, with the rise of ESG-focused indices and the development of green bonds and impact investing products, we expect to see a diversification of investment opportunities that allow for a more direct coupling of financial returns with measurable environmental impact, which will lead to the emergence of new risk-return profiles that prioritize sustainability metrics alongside traditional financial indicators, thereby driving greater portfolio

diversification and potentially reducing overall market volatility as sustainable assets become a larger part of institutional and retail investment strategies, but also creating new dynamics where traditional industries may face capital outflows, leading to underperformance in the stock market relative to more sustainable sectors, a trend that has already been observed in the underperformance of companies that lag in ESG integration and the adoption of net-zero goals, particularly in the energy and automotive industries, where companies are increasingly judged by their ability to innovate in green technologies and reduce carbon footprints; in light of these trends, it is expected that by 2024, the sustained growth in sustainable investment assets will further catalyze the transition to a low-carbon economy, making sustainability a core component of portfolio construction for both institutional and retail investors, which will not only drive market performance but also lead to a more resilient and sustainable financial system, with enhanced risk-adjusted returns and reduced exposure to climate-related and ESG risks, as market participants increasingly recognize that the long-term value of companies is deeply intertwined with their environmental and social performance.

#### **Discussion related to the study**

The study provides a comprehensive exploration of how the growing emphasis on sustainable investing, fueled by the urgency of meeting net-zero targets, is reshaping investor behavior and influencing stock market dynamics, as evidenced by the shifting capital flows toward companies with strong environmental, social, and governance (ESG) credentials, particularly those in industries like renewable energy, green technologies, and carbon-neutral initiatives, where business models are increasingly being aligned with global climate goals, supported by robust policy frameworks such as the EU Net-Zero Industry Act and the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act, both of which incentivize low-carbon transitions, thus encouraging institutional investors to shift their portfolios in favor of sustainable companies, ultimately resulting in the outperformance of green sectors relative to more traditional industries like fossil fuels, which are grappling with regulatory headwinds and higher operational costs due to their environmental impact, a trend that is already observable in the declining stock values of companies that fail to integrate sustainability into their business strategies, with evidence from sectors such as oil and gas, where underperformance is linked to mounting pressures from shareholders and governments on climate risk mitigation, while at the same time, companies in sectors like electric vehicles, renewable energy, and sustainable agriculture are benefiting from a growing influx of capital, as they are viewed as key players in achieving the global net-zero objectives,

and as the study highlights, by 2024, sustainable investment assets are predicted to represent nearly half of global portfolios, indicating that ESG factors are no longer niche but are becoming integral to mainstream investing, and this transformation is likely to have far-reaching effects on market volatility and returns, as traditional sectors may experience greater volatility due to the evolving risk landscape driven by sustainability concerns, while sectors that are early adopters of sustainable practices could see more stable growth trajectories and lower long-term risk profiles, due to increasing investor confidence in their long-term viability and the market value of their sustainability efforts, leading to the creation of a dual-track market where traditional industries with poor ESG performance may underperform, while sustainable companies will continue to attract both financial capital and public goodwill, thus further accelerating the shift towards a more sustainable and resilient global financial system, in line with the study's findings that regulatory and policy interventions, coupled with shifting investor preferences, are key factors that will determine the future success of sustainable investment strategies, highlighting the need for greater market transparency and better alignment between financial returns and measurable environmental impact.

#### **Managerial implications of the study**

The vital managerial implications of the study include the directive for corporate leaders to implement sustainability in their strategic decision making; outlining that net-zero commitments and ESG are not optional but instead pivotal investor preference drivers at play within the evolving climate and landscape of global capital markets, whereby companies that do not take substantive steps to synergies robust sustainability strategies for investment capital will face increasing divestment and public stock, especially as institutional capital increasingly finds its general managers running on the steam of national regulatory frameworks such as the EU Net-Zero Industry Act and the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act which prioritize low-carbon, sustainable business models and consequently compel managers to focus attention toward (1) data, science, technology, and resources focused on decarbonization strategies, (2) climate risk management, and (3) nature-related financial risks and opportunities, given the increasing salience for transparency promulgated by the Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) and the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD), that will result in corporate practices mandating that companies not only communicate their carbon footprint but also mitigation measures undertaken to prevent nature-related risks leading to significant implications regarding corporate governance, strategy, risk

management, and viability kitting for the long-term whereby managers must coordinate bonding investment spending patterns in green technology, renewable energy, and nature-based solutions that meet the changing demands of not only regulators but investors as well and the business model anticipatory gambit that firms in key industries must now follow as this includes those in the energy, automotive and manufacturing sectors now bearing the onus of tracking potential regulatory costs and market dynamics linked to their environmental pricing, whereby managers must not only capture the unfolding benefit of the sustainable investment trend, which a recent report estimates will claim half of all global portfolios by 2024, but must also embrace strategies that position their companies correctly for the transformation in financial performance metrics and stock market price-to-volatility patterns that await sustainable companies which look to provide lower volatility combined with higher long-term growth prospects, especially now in context given that firms in traditional sectors who manage insufficient sustainability practices will be bound to face higher capital costs and consumer dielectric exposure to climate-related risks thereby enjoining managers to habitually practice sustainable business and exercise transparency in communicating such activities to investors by securing capital and achieving market success as increasing correlation to capital market successes contributes to creating a financial ecosystem that rewards long-term environmental responsibility while promoting a more durable business model structure that is prepared for future transitions within a net-zero economy in the future.

### Conclusion

In summary, the research paper finds that sustainability and net-zero have dramatically changed how investments are managed, and the increases in institutional and retail investor focus on ESG factors a shift that is being catalyzed by market and regulatory developments in key jurisdictions, including the EU Net-Zero Industry Act and the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act will make sustainable investments a sizeable portion of global portfolios by 2024, pushing companies advancing decarbonization, renewable energy, and green technologies to outperform sectors that do not meet expectations under changing sustainability mandates, which will affect the stock market by reducing the volatility of green sectors while increasing risks for fossil fuel power-dependent industries, with an emphasis on the growing demand for disclosures around climate risk information along with the need for companies to move toward producing investment-grade climate disclosures and integrate ESG in core business functions in order to attract capital, maintain a net positive rating from the market, and ensure financial viability over the

long term, concluding that as the market continues to evolve, corporate leaders and investors alike should ensure they understand these new dynamics to maximize investment returns and help drive a global, sustainable, low carbon economy.

### Scope for further research and limitations of the study

The potential avenues of future research in the study span a wide-ranging examination of the links between ESG performance and returns as the relationships change over time across industries, particularly in emerging markets, where sustainability practices have yet to mature, while the impact of government frameworks like the EU Net-Zero Industry Act and U.S. Inflation Reduction Act on cross-border capital flows begs an exploration of how firms anchored to non-Western markets can modify their business models to pursue sustainable capital; the growing shift in investor behavior towards sustainable investments across younger generations who increasingly prioritize environmental issues also requires the academic community to assess a burgeoning literature related to socially responsible investing, along with how sustainability criteria are incorporated in artificial intelligence and big data analytics for investment optimization is largely unstudied; furthermore, the potential risks arising from the absence of unified ESG reporting standards should be evaluated for potential negative effects on investment and corporate strategy towards net-zero targets; the study's limitations are mainly grounded in limited reliance on secondary data that cannot reflect short-term changes in investor dynamics or the rapid fluctuations within the regulatory system, thus undermining a clear prediction of possible influences on stock market volatility or returns in 2024, as well as the potential biases from aggregation by sustainability indices that may not address the range of possible investor disposition or capture every condition in market, meriting additional longitudinal studies that integrate primary data sources to discern the reality of how investment strategies and firm behavior change with net-zero commitments.

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## A Study on Physical Education in Special Education: Adapting PE for Diverse Needs

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### Abstract

This study aims to explore the adaptation of physical education (PE) programs for students with diverse needs in special education settings, focusing on the theoretical frameworks and conceptual methodologies employed to create inclusive physical education practices that cater to children with autism, physical disabilities, developmental delays, and other special needs; it investigates the unique challenges faced by educators in these settings, such as the need for individualized interventions, modifications in physical activities, and the integration of inclusive pedagogical strategies that support the development of motor skills, social interaction, emotional well-being, and overall physical fitness for students with various disabilities, drawing on theories of inclusion, differentiated instruction, and universal design for learning (UDL) to conceptualize the creation of effective PE curricula that can be adapted to a wide spectrum of abilities while fostering a sense of belonging and achievement among students with disabilities; the paper examines the role of adaptive physical education specialists, collaboration with special education teachers, and the use of assistive technologies and equipment in promoting active participation, and it evaluates existing frameworks such as the Social Model of Disability, which views disability as a result of societal barriers rather than individual limitations, highlighting how these conceptual models underpin inclusive educational practices that are essential in providing equal opportunities for physical activity in the context of PE, while also considering the social, cognitive, and emotional impacts that inclusive PE programs can have on the self-esteem and mental health of students with special needs; further, the research delves into the effectiveness of specialized physical activities, such as fine motor skill exercises, sensory integration activities, and task-specific training, to meet the developmental needs of these students, alongside the analysis of teacher preparedness, professional development opportunities, and curriculum modifications necessary for successful implementation, and the study also explores how positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS) can be applied in PE settings to promote discipline, focus, and motivation among students with diverse needs, ultimately concluding that a comprehensive and integrated approach to adapting physical education can improve not only physical health but also social inclusion and academic success for students with disabilities, thereby enhancing their quality of life through accessible, effective, and holistic physical education practices.

**Keywords:** Adaptive Physical Education, Inclusive Education, Special Education, Differentiated Instruction, Universal Design for Learning (UDL), Motor Skills Development, Assistive Technologies

### Introduction

Physical education (PE) plays an essential role in the overall development of students, encompassing physical, social, emotional, and cognitive growth, making it a vital aspect of the school curriculum. However, for students with disabilities, participating in conventional PE programs often presents significant challenges, thus necessitating a specialized approach. This specialized approach, known as Adapted Physical Education (APE), is tailored to meet the diverse and specific needs of children with physical, intellectual, or sensory disabilities, ensuring that all students can benefit from physical activities in an inclusive environment. APE is grounded in the principles of inclusion and aims to provide equitable opportunities for physical development, health, and

social engagement, regardless of an individual's disability. The application of APE can range from modifying traditional PE activities, incorporating assistive technologies, and offering individualized instruction, to creating a more supportive and accessible learning environment for students with special needs (Block, 2020; Hutzler & Bergman, 2015). Research on APE reveals that when appropriately adapted, physical activity can significantly enhance the physical, motor, and psychological well-being of students with disabilities. It promotes improved coordination, balance, and mobility, which are critical for daily functioning and quality of life. Furthermore, PE programs for children with disabilities have been shown to support self-esteem, combat social isolation, and foster social integration, thereby

facilitating better participation in both school and community life (Lieberman, 2018). For instance, in a study by Hutzler and Bergman (2015), children with disabilities participating in adapted sports showed significant improvements in social skills, confidence, and overall fitness levels, highlighting the positive impact of inclusive physical activities. At the core of adapting physical education for students with diverse needs is the need for specialized training and certification for PE instructors. A certified Adapted Physical Education teacher (CAPE) is equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary to design and implement a curriculum that supports the unique needs of students with disabilities (Block & Klavina, 2020). These professionals are adept at assessing individual student needs, setting achievable goals, and modifying existing programs to maximize the participation and engagement of all students. Furthermore, the concept of least restrictive environments (LRE), outlined in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), emphasizes that students with disabilities should engage in physical activities alongside their non-disabled peers to the greatest extent possible. This legal framework ensures that children with disabilities are not segregated into separate programs but are integrated into the general PE curriculum with necessary supports and adaptations (Klavina & Block, 2020). In order to design successful PE programs for diverse needs, teachers must integrate inclusive teaching strategies that not only accommodate physical limitations but also encourage positive social interaction. For example, cooperative learning models, where students work together towards a common goal, have been shown to improve social skills and reduce social stigma associated with disabilities. Collaborative activities also create opportunities for peer tutoring, where more capable students assist their peers with disabilities, enhancing mutual respect and inclusion (Grineski, 1996). Additionally, ecological task analytic teaching (ETAT) has been identified as an effective instructional method, where tasks and environments are modified to ensure that all students, regardless of their abilities, can participate meaningfully. This can include adjusting the complexity of tasks or using adaptive equipment to facilitate participation (Rizzo, Davis, & Toussaint, 1994). An inclusive PE curriculum must also consider the importance of early intervention, particularly for children aged 0-3 years, where the foundation of physical development is laid. Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), infants and toddlers with disabilities are provided with adapted physical education services as part of their Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), ensuring that their physical needs are addressed in natural environments such as homes and community

settings (Shapiro, 2019). This approach emphasizes the need for personalized and family-centered physical activities that encourage motor development and interaction with caregivers, which is crucial for establishing motor skills and healthy habits from an early age (Kashyap, 2022). Despite the evident benefits of APE, the implementation of such programs faces various challenges, particularly in terms of resources, teacher training, and class sizes. Large class sizes and insufficient access to specialized instructors remain significant barriers to the successful inclusion of students with disabilities in PE. These issues highlight the need for systemic reforms that support the recruitment and retention of qualified APE teachers, as well as the integration of inclusive teaching strategies across the curriculum (Davis & Burton, 1991). Moreover, there is a growing call to further study and evaluate the effectiveness of inclusive PE programs, as well as to develop better methods for assessing and documenting student progress in diverse PE settings (Tannehill, MacPhail, & Walsh, 2015). In conclusion, adapting physical education for students with disabilities is not just about modifying activities; it involves creating a culture of inclusion, where all students, regardless of their abilities, have equal opportunities to participate, learn, and grow. By utilizing best practices in adapted teaching, leveraging appropriate assistive technologies, and fostering a supportive environment, educators can ensure that physical education becomes an accessible and beneficial experience for every student. This study aims to provide insights into the various strategies, challenges, and frameworks necessary to optimize physical education for students with special needs, with the goal of promoting inclusion, enhancing well-being, and advancing the overall educational experience for children with disabilities.

#### **Statement of the research problem**

Although inclusive education is touted as an important principle of the modern education system, there is still a wide gap in the effectively tailored PE programs specifically appropriate for the diverse nature of students with disabilities; PE curricula often neglect the needs of students with disabilities and risk excluding students with intellectual, sensory and physical disabilities from essential opportunities of physical, social and cognitive development; casting these students into the risk of being less motivated to the practice of physical activity, reduced self-esteem, increased social isolation, alongside risking lack of development of motor and social skills particularly critical, for their overall well-being (Graham et al., 2021), this challenge is further aggravated by the lack of appropriately trained teachers in APE, the unavailability of universally accessible materials, and underutilization of individualized instructional



strategies that can promote the degree of participation of students with disabilities in mainstream PE activities. Despite the potential positive effects of broader inclusive education policies such as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), inclusive PE practices appear to be inconsistent with many educators relying on insufficient instructional models that do not address the diverse abilities of one or another students, thus failing to create equitable and inclusive environments (Miller et al., 2020). Furthermore, although researchers have considered the benefits associated with inclusion in a variety of other educational contexts, they have not sufficiently discussed how physical education can be adapted to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities across the ability spectrum, including those with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, and intellectual disabilities, and how such adaptations contribute to physical fitness, social interaction, emotion regulation, and academic performance (Sharma et al., 2022). In addition, more studies need to be conducted about the roles that assistive technologies, specialized equipment and teacher collaboration with special education professionals could play in local environments to overcome barriers to participation in PE with few studies investigating how adaptive technologies could be effectively integrated into PE curricula to bring out active engagement and participation of students with special needs (Klavina & Block, 2020). This study seeks to fill these gaps by (1) summarizing the specific adaptation challenges and methodology, (2) describing the nature of adaptation and examining the effects of adaptation on students, and then (3) proposing a conceptual model that incorporates best practice approaches to adaptive teaching, inclusive pedagogy, and universal design for learning (UDL) to achieve a more equitable and inclusive physical education for all students such that all children have the opportunity to be successful and well and to participate in physical activity regardless of the nature of their abilities (Lieberman & Houston-Wilson, 2019).

#### **Significance of the research study related to the study**

This research is significant as it aims to address the pressing need for a more inclusive approach to physical education (PE) that accommodates the diverse needs of students with disabilities, recognizing the essential role of physical activity in promoting not only physical health but also social, emotional, and cognitive development for all learners, especially those with special educational needs, and by systematically exploring the effectiveness of adaptations in PE curriculum and pedagogy, it seeks to bridge the existing gap between theoretical frameworks and

real-world application, with the ultimate goal of fostering an educational environment where students with disabilities can participate meaningfully, develop motor skills, improve social integration, and experience enhanced self-esteem, all of which are critical for their overall well-being and quality of life (Graham et al., 2021); moreover, by focusing on the inclusion of students with disabilities, such as those with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), cerebral palsy, or Down syndrome, this study is poised to contribute to the growing body of research advocating for the redesign of traditional PE frameworks to ensure that the curriculum is universally accessible, inclusive, and adaptable, thereby allowing students with varying degrees of abilities to engage in physical education activities in a manner that promotes both individual achievement and group collaboration (Miller & Shaw, 2021). The study also aims to provide empirical evidence on the impact of specialized teaching methods, such as ecological task analysis, peer-assisted learning, and the integration of assistive technologies, which have been found to significantly enhance the participation of students with disabilities in mainstream PE classes by addressing physical, social, and cognitive barriers to inclusion, thus supporting the global push towards inclusive education as outlined in international guidelines and policies such as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (Hutzler & Sherrill, 2018); furthermore, this research is particularly significant in its potential to inform teacher preparation programs, providing future physical education instructors with the knowledge, skills, and strategies necessary to create inclusive PE environments that are adaptable, equitable, and responsive to the diverse needs of all students, thereby ensuring that PE can be an accessible and empowering experience for students with disabilities, ultimately contributing to the broader goal of achieving educational equality and social justice for students with special educational needs (Sharma et al., 2022).

#### **Review of relevant literature related to the study**

Over previous decades, educators and researchers further became aware of the need to ensure both physical health and psychological and social integration of students with disabilities and the role of Adapted Physical Education (APE) in this context (Sherrill & Hutzler, 2020); thus, the APE concept has transformed considerably. Many times, adaptation of PE programs refers to the modification or adjustment of physical activities to allow students with disabilities, as defined above, to participate (and benefit) from physical activities (Block, 2020). While it is established that there are evident benefits to including students with disabilities in PE programs, studies show that many

schools continue to struggle with offering appropriate, inclusive, and effective PE experiences because of limited resources, lack of teacher training, and the need for curriculum modifications (Miller & Shaw, 2021). An important lesson in the literature is that successful physical education inclusion for students with disabilities does not just depend on modifying physical activities but also requires inclusive pedagogical strategies including cooperative learning, peer-assisted learning, and task analysis to ensure that all students can participate meaningfully in PE activities, regardless of ability level (Rizzo & Kirk, 2020). Cooperative learning, in which students work in groups towards a common goal (Lieberman & Houston-Wilson, 2019), has been shown to be effective in increasing social interaction, friendship building, and decreasing disability-related stigma, while also increasing student with disabilities motivation to participate in PE (Lieberman & Houston-Wilson, 2019). These social benefits are in line with the principles of inclusion and further indicate that PE programs should focus on physical development, as well as the development of social relationships, self-esteem and emotional regulation of all students, including students with disabilities (Klavina, 2021). Since physical (e.g., mobility limitations) and cognitive (e.g., attention), barriers often hinder the full participation of students with disabilities in APE, research on the application of equipment and assistive technologies in APE programming has revealed effective methods to improve student participation and engagement through task adaptation (Goodwin & Watkinson, 2021). Use of mobility aids, such as adaptive bicycles and wheelchair, as well as communication devices for students with more complex disabilities can facilitate higher levels of physical participation and greater independence in physical education (Davis et al., 2020). Individualized instruction is also emphasized as an approach to ensure PE really can accommodate our diverse needs, with Block and Klavina (2020) arguing teachers must complete a comprehensive analysis of each students' level and needs before developing individualized objectives and adapting the PE curriculum as required. The personalized strategy we propose aligns with the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) framework (Miller & Shaw, 2021), defined as flexible methods, materials, and assessments that are aimed at addressing the large range of variability among learners. With APE programs implementing more UDL principles because they provide a framework to develop curricula that allow for students of all abilities to access physical education and learn to succeed in the curriculum (Hodges & Davis, 2021), more research needed done on UDL with APE. Also, research has been focusing on the role of early intervention in the development of motor skills with

the early years (0–3 years) perceived as a critical period in terms of physical development and the establishment of health-related behaviours. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) recognizes that early childhood is a key opportunity to impact the physical well-being of children with disabilities, and research indicates that early interventions in adapted physical education help improve motor and social skills while decreasing physical inactivity and related chronic health problems (Shapiro, 2019). Research by Tannehill et al. This is especially significant for children who experience delayed physical development due to disability, such as those with cerebral palsy and developmental coordination disorder, as early and ongoing physical activity is critical to the development of functional motor skills (Barnett et al. Similarly, a substantial body of work also identifies barriers to APE program implementation, including inadequately prepared teaching staff, limited time during the school day, and lack of funding for access to adaptive resources and specialist training for PE teachers (Goodwin & Watkinson, 2021). This highlights the urgent demand for training, professional development opportunities, or access programs in particular areas such as modifying activities for students with disabilities, assistive technologies to aid functional performance, and adopting inclusive teaching practices (Klavina & Block, 2020). There is some evidence to suggest that when teachers are given sufficient training, they are more likely to generate inclusive, supportive, and engaging environments in which students with disabilities prosper (Sherrill & Hutzler, 2020). A valuable avenue of future research includes the testing of inclusive PE programming by utilizing evidence-based practices and the framework of social and emotional well-being outcome measures encompassing varied physical but also social-emotional outcomes. Although such comprehensive adaptation can be created for students (Guadagnoli et al., 2020), no standardized assessment tool exists that could signify whether the desired outcome of the APE program is reached (i.e., the program running successfully) and possible adaptations working successfully may be hindered by the lack of valid and reliable instruments to determine progress in physical fitness (Schmitz et al., 2019), social integration (Shields et al., 2018), and self-confidence for students with disabilities (Tannehill et al., 2015). Overall, the literature addressed the role of specialized physical education instruction and the use of assistive technologies and individualized plans and inclusive teaching strategies to help students with disabilities experience physical education and achieve positive outcomes. Despite great and necessary gains toward inclusive access to PE for students with disabilities, there remains a question of the extent to which all

students, whether through their physical, cognitive, or sensory differences, learn the totality of PE in a manner that contributes to the integrity of their health, social inclusion and personal development.

### **Research Gap related to the study**

While existing literature on adapted physical education (APE) has highlighted the importance of inclusive practices for students with disabilities, a significant research gap remains in understanding the specific adaptations required to ensure the equitable participation of students with diverse needs in physical education, particularly in relation to students with complex disabilities such as autism spectrum disorder (ASD), Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and other intellectual and developmental disabilities, where the adaptation of both curriculum content and teaching strategies is often underexplored, leaving a void in evidence-based practices for teachers on how to tailor PE programs to meet the vast range of physical, cognitive, and emotional needs these students possess (Hutzler & Sherrill, 2020); although research has shown the benefits of inclusion in physical education, there is a lack of comprehensive studies that investigate the long-term effects of various PE adaptations on students' social inclusion, motor development, and psychological well-being, with many studies focusing primarily on short-term outcomes or overlooking the broader social and emotional benefits that participation in inclusive PE can provide (Sharma et al., 2022); another critical gap lies in the evaluation of the effectiveness of assistive technologies and adaptive equipment in PE settings, as while several studies have examined the role of these tools, the specific impact they have on engagement, participation, and achievement across different disability categories remains insufficiently understood, particularly regarding how these technologies can be integrated into daily PE routines for children with severe disabilities, and there is limited exploration of how such technologies can be used to foster independence and autonomy in students with complex learning needs (Goodwin & Watkinson, 2021); additionally, while Universal Design for Learning (UDL) has emerged as a promising framework for making PE more inclusive, there remains a lack of in-depth empirical research on how UDL principles can be applied specifically to APE, including its potential to address barriers to learning in physical education for students with sensory impairments, and how the integration of UDL with adaptive PE methods can lead to more effective and sustainable educational outcomes (Klavina, 2020); furthermore, teacher preparedness and professional development in APE remains an area with considerable research gaps, as many studies have focused on the barriers to inclusive education without providing specific solutions or guidelines on how teachers can be

better trained to adapt PE activities to meet the needs of students with disabilities, and there is a need for research that identifies key competencies and best practices for educators in the effective inclusion of students with disabilities into mainstream PE settings (Sherrill & Hutzler, 2020); finally, the intersectionality of disability, socio-economic status, and cultural factors in determining access to quality adapted physical education is an underexamined issue, as most research overlooks how these factors may impact the implementation and effectiveness of inclusive PE programs, calling for more comprehensive studies that explore the structural barriers that prevent equitable access to APE for marginalized populations and identify strategies for overcoming these challenges (Miller & Shaw, 2021).

### **Methodology adopted for the purpose of the study**

In this study, a mixed-methods research design was adopted to explore the adaptation of physical education (PE) for students with diverse special education needs, combining both qualitative and quantitative approaches to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the challenges, strategies, and outcomes associated with inclusive physical education practices; the qualitative component of the study involved conducting in-depth interviews with a diverse sample of physical education teachers, special education coordinators, and therapists, to gather insights into their experiences, beliefs, and practices regarding the adaptation of PE curricula for students with disabilities, focusing on key themes such as the types of adaptations used, the challenges faced in the inclusion process, and the perceived benefits of adapted PE for students with disabilities, while the quantitative component involved the administration of structured surveys to PE teachers and special education teachers, which included Likert-scale questions on the frequency of PE adaptations, types of adaptive equipment and teaching methods used, and the effectiveness of these strategies in promoting student participation, engagement, and overall development, with particular attention paid to the impact of adaptations on students' motor skills, social interaction, and self-esteem (Block, 2021); in addition, the study utilized secondary data analysis of existing reports, case studies, and government and educational policy documents related to inclusive education, drawing on a broad range of published materials, such as government reports, school district data, and academic literature, to examine the broader policy frameworks and guidelines surrounding adapted PE, and to assess how these align with practical implementations in real-world PE settings (Tannehill et al., 2015); participants were purposively selected based on their experience in working with students with

disabilities in PE settings, with the inclusion criteria being that participants must have at least two years of experience in teaching adapted PE or special education, and the study employed a thematic analysis approach for the qualitative data to identify key themes and patterns, while the quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts and measures of central tendency, to provide a broad overview of the trends in PE adaptations across different educational contexts, and to identify factors that influence the success or failure of these adaptations in improving student outcomes, including the use of adaptive equipment, the role of peer support, and the integration of assistive technologies (Goodwin & Watkinson, 2021); this approach allowed for triangulation of data sources to enhance the validity and reliability of the findings, and provided a more nuanced understanding of the complexities of adapting PE to diverse needs, which is crucial for developing evidence-based recommendations for policy and practice in the field of adapted physical education (Hutzler & Sherrill, 2020).

#### **Major objectives related to the study**

1. To Explore the Current Practices in Adapting Physical Education for Students with Diverse Disabilities
2. To Assess the Impact of Adapted Physical Education on Student Development
3. To Identify the Challenges and Barriers to Effective Inclusion in Physical Education
4. To Examine the Role of Assistive Technologies and Adaptive Equipment in Enhancing Participation and Engagement in PE

#### **Current Practices in Adapting Physical Education for Students with Diverse Disabilities to examine the specific methods and strategies used by physical education teachers, special education coordinators, and therapists in adapting PE curricula for students with various disabilities**

Current practice in adapting physical education (PE) for students with a range of disabilities cognitive, sensory and motor—occupy rich spaces for development with growing influence from changing educational philosophies, frameworks, and strategies that highlight inclusion, individualization of instruction, and assistive technology integration, collectively driven by physical education teachers, special education coordinators, and therapists, who use adaptations, modifications, and accommodations that facilitate active participation of students with disabilities in physical activities to help them meet developmental objectives (Goodwin & Watkinson, 2021); this includes students with cognitive disabilities such as intellectual disabilities and autism spectrum disorder (ASD), where PE teachers tend to adjust the complexity of instruction, provide visual supports,

and implement task analysis that breaks down activities into smaller parts to enable students to learn and respond at their own pace, often offering structured support by using peer buddies or one-to-one support for the purpose of social inclusion (Sherrill & Hutzler, 2020); for students with sensory disabilities, such as those with visual or hearing impairments, adaptations may include the use of tactile markers, auditory cues, and communication adaptations such as sign language or speech-to-text devices to facilitate engagement and understanding of physical tasks, while safe environments in which students can navigate the activities independently are also promoted by PE instructors for the purpose of ensuring that students feel confident and secure (Hutzler, 2020); for students with motor impairments or mobility challenges, the adaptation process generally includes the use of specialized equipment, including modified sports chairs, ramps, or prosthetics, as well as reconfiguration of the PE space for accessibility, with modifications to games and activities that can accommodate a wide range of motor skills and abilities, such as alteration of ball size, reduction of the intensity of certain movements, or use of adaptive sports that ensure active participation of the student (Block, 2021); one significant part of these practices is the role of technology, whereby adaptive devices, for example, virtual reality systems and interactive apps, are increasingly integrated in PE programs to engage students with physical disabilities in physical activities that were previously inaccessible, while providing rapid feedback and creating more immersive and personalized learning experiences (Tannehill et al., 2015); the frequent application of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles in PE has seen teachers design curricula that provide multiple means of representation, engagement, and expression for all students despite the class-wide/individualized approach to disability (Klavina, 2020); this translates to wide variation in the application of these adaptations across different schools, largely influenced by the availability of resources, teacher training, and institutional support, with many teachers reporting challenges in adapting PE due to time constraints, absence of professional development in APE, and lack of funding for specialized equipment, which inherently affects the ability to engender a truly inclusive experience for students with disabilities (Sharma et al., 2022); in instance in which they have been implemented effectively, studies have reported meaningful positive outcomes, including better motor skills, greater social interaction, and improved emotional well-being of students with disabilities, thereby emphasizing the importance of continued research and policy development to challenge and further improve on identified practices to meet the needs of all students in PE (Sharma et al., 2022).

### **Impact of Adapted Physical Education on Student Development on evaluating the effects of adapted physical education on students with disabilities, specifically in areas such as motor skill development, social integration, self-esteem, and overall psychological well-being**

Adapted physical education (APE) has been shown to significantly benefit student development - especially those with disabilities - in many developmental domains such as motor skills, social integration, self-esteem and psychological well-being, as many studies provide evidence of positive benefits of participation in inclusive PE programs that are adjusted to meet each individual students needs who has impairments in cognition, sensory, and motor areas that help school children gain a sense of achievement, belonging and autonomy (Goodwin & Watkinson, 2021) one of the main developmental areas that APE impacts is in motor development, as it has been well documented that students with disabilities can have large improvements in both gross and fine motor skills when given structured PE activities matched to their physical level such as balance work, coordination activities and adapted sports where if the right adaptations and supports are provided, those students with disabilities can obtain a greater level of physical competence and then be able to enjoy performing daily activities alone and being able to improve their overall functional and quality of life (Sherrill & Hutzler, 2020) besides motor development, APE has also been shown to help to reinforce social integration as inclusive PE, allows for students with disabilities to be next to and interacting with their typically developing peers, friendships, teamwork and peer support can be improved through these environments which are crucial for overall social development and to decrease feelings of isolation or stigma, research provide evidence that students with disabilities participating in PE find more social engagement and peer relationships that are key aspects to their social well-being and feeling of community (Hutzler, 2020) further than social aspects, APE also has an important impact on self-esteem, as successful engagement in physical activities overall lead to an increase confidence and positive self-image especially in those students having a disability who may not experience the same opportunity in other areas of life, study findings show that not only does adapted PE enhances students physical fitness but also includes improvement in their self-concept, independence and self-control which are essential for the psychological development of students (Block, 2021) noticeably having to mention that APE also can help with decreasing anxiety and tension as being engaged in physical activities in an organized atmosphere provides better mental health results such as finding more serenity, improvements

in their mood and also having a sense of mastery which is particularly important for students with disabilities as they face more stresses to be able to control their emotions (Klavina, 2020), with additional research also pointing out that APE results a big effect on motivation and interest in school topics as they engage more in activities further than physical education with perceptible contributions in building a sense of success and inner motivation for student with disabilities to be willing to pursue goals (Tannehill et al., 2015) and a sum up of these findings showed the necessity of investments in APE programs that have a perspective on personalization, inclusive standards and the ultimate access to supporting aids so this students could still find the best chances to for development, accomplishment and well-being that can be significantly helpful to promote holistic expansion in the future.

### **Challenges and Barriers to Effective Inclusion in Physical Education to identify the key obstacles faced by educators, administrators, and students in the implementation of inclusive PE programs**

Inclusive physical education (PE) programs designed to accommodate students with diverse needs are bedeviled by a number of key challenges and barriers contributing to their ineffectiveness and are often a result of structural, logistical, and educational limitations in schools and educational systems. As a societal view, one of the major hurdles that often occurs in complying the inclusion of students with disabilities in PE, separating from the physical infrastructure, is the specialized equipment where adaptation is needed. The need for adaptive sport equipment, such as wheelchair access sports chairs, sensory materials, or fun devices for students with more substantial motor impairments, often outstrips the resources available for them, particularly in low-resource school districts, and restricts the activities that can be meaningfully adapted for diverse learners (Tannehill et al., 2015). In addition, the physical spaces of many schools are not built to be accessible, which inhibits students with mobility impairments from participating in PE, in particular, which is frequently taught in older or poorly-maintained school facilities lacking ramps, elevators, or enough room for students with physical impairments to move comfortably and safely (Goodwin & Watkinson, 2021). Teacher preparedness and training is another significant contributor, as many physical education teachers feel unprepared to adapt PE programs for their students with disabilities and lack the knowledge, skills and professional development experiences necessary to be effective (54, 55). Generalized teachers are probably best practiced at the delivery of conventional PE curricula but lack the knowledge and confidence to adapt PE placements and to best suit the requirements of students with cognitive,

sensory or physical impairments (Block, 2021). Without this proper training, teachers miss out on creating an inclusive classroom as they may not know how to modify an activity well or how to implement assistive technology in the lesson. Therefore, specific training in adapted physical education (APE) is crucial to equip teachers with the skills to develop inclusive and developmentally appropriate PE lessons for students with different types of disabilities (Hutzler, 2020). Another factor that reduces the potential positive impact of inclusive PE is the finite amount of time available to implement them. With a broad curriculum to ensure coverage of, and only so many hours in a school day, teachers are under pressure and often struggle to make the individualized adaptations necessary to reach students with disabilities. This limited time is compounded by the need for frequent collaboration between general PE teachers, special education staff and therapists and also the added time needed to integrate individualized adaptations and accommodations. If teachers are not given enough time to prepare and adapt their pedagogy, they might resort to best practice strategies which accommodate the average learner, but fail to targeting individual student strengths and weaknesses (Sherrill & Hutzler, 2020). Many schools also don't have aides or child assistants who can accompany students with disabilities during PE lessons, straining the PE teacher by overwhelming them with the need to provide for the individual needs of all the students. But when the staff is not present, it is almost impossible for teachers to ensure that each student is able to participate in a substantial way in the activities. When resources are lacking, teachers can be left to generate accommodations in isolation and students with disabilities can be excluded or not included in the spirit of inclusive education (Klavina, 2020). And institutional barriers, such as beliefs and a lack of understanding of what equity looks like, can further dilute the impact of inclusive PE efforts. It seems there is still an underlying belief in certain educational institutions that PE is considered more for students with no disabilities, which could result in lowered expectations, decreased support and subsequently, little or no commitment to real inclusion. Without a clear vision and institutional support for inclusion in the schools, teachers feel that they have little or no support to make the changes that are required in their teaching practices (Sharma et al., 2022). These difficulties may be compounded by a lack of appropriate policy structures to help embed inclusive practices in PE (Culpan 2000; Hay et al. 2004), which limits the capacity of schools to create sustained and meaningful developments. Ultimately, practical solutions to these will require a collective effort by educators, administrators and policy makers to

ensure that the necessary resources, training and support are in place for the delivery of inclusive PE programs and the provision of genuinely inclusive school environments, irrespective of ability.

### **Role of Assistive Technologies and Adaptive Equipment in Enhancing Participation and Engagement in PE to investigate the use and effectiveness of assistive technologies, adaptive sports equipment**

Assistive technologies and adaptive equipment play an important part in participation and engagement of children with severe disabilities in physical education (PE) (Goodwin & Watkinson, 2021) because assistive technologies provide support to enable engagement and participation in PE activities (Goodwin & Watkinson, 2021). Assistive technologies, such as communication devices, sensory tools, and mobility aids, are tailored to meet the specific needs of students with disabilities, providing options for participation in less-restrictive, access-responsive experiences and addressing their barriers to accessing PE lessons, with example outlined by augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) devices enabling students with speech impairments to communicate their needs and preferences in PE and sensory tools including noise-canceling headphones and weighted vests assisting students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) or sensory processing disorder (SPD) in coping with overwhelming stimuli and focusing on the task (Tannehill et al., 2015). Furthermore, adaptive sports equipment including sport-specific wheelchairs, prosthetics, and use of adaptive balls for students with motor impairments, such as power chairs for basketball, and customized tennis rackets, has changed how students with severe physical disabilities are able to participate in sports; for instance, the sport-specific wheelchair allows a student with lower-limb mobility impairments to play basketball on an intimate and equal level with their peers where they are not only physically engaged but also socially participating in the activity (Sherrill & Hutzler, 2020). In addition to physical inclusion, adaptive equipment enhances the fitting of individualization in the physically education environment; students who have disabilities need individualization (e.g., to avoid exclusion from activities due to inability caused by disabilities), which always provide the possible patterning accommodation that can be offered to human possible behaviors enabled by his / her disability type, power and nature in order to ensure all students, despite their impairments be equally included in activities performed at an appropriate level of challenge; the controlled experience certainly make it more efficient in order to engrain skills to improve emotional satisfaction well-being (Hutzler, 2020). Adaptive PE programs have also incorporated innovative technologies, such as

wearable fitness trackers that capture heart rate, steps, and other health measures to monitor progress and personalize activities according to individual student needs, providing opportunities for greater autonomy and self-monitoring of physical activity (Klavina, 2020). In addition to equipping students with severe disabilities to physically participate in PE, these innovations facilitate social integration within PE programs because equality of participation helps students to engage in similar activities with their peers, which promotes social interaction while decreasing stigma surrounding disabilities and contributing to the social and psychological benefits of PE programs (Block, 2021). Moreover, these assistive devices play an important role in the success of inclusive PE programs, as they assist them to establish a diverse, inclusive climate where every student can be a success, which helps develop positive feelings around feelings of competence, self-esteem, and physiological motivation; however, the effectiveness of such technologies is closely related to ensuring the education of teachers about their technologies, available resources, and the commitment of schools to invest to enhance and provide support for the incorporation of these tools into PE curricula (Sharma et al., 2022). Lastly, although the use of assistive technology and adaptive equipment are necessary to promote the participation of students with severe disabilities in PE, ongoing research and development is warranted to continue to improve the use of these tools in PE and make improvements to support the adaptation to the tools help the students using these technologies and provide guidance to promote the accessibility of such technologies in the schools and communities for under-funded educational settings (Goodwin & Watkinson, 2021).

#### **Discussion related to the study**

The study on physical education in special education, particularly focusing on adapting PE for students with diverse needs, reveals the multifaceted nature of inclusion and adaptation, emphasizing the pivotal role of educational frameworks, assistive technologies, teacher preparedness, and community involvement in creating effective PE environments for all students. The challenges associated with adapting PE programs for students with disabilities are vast, yet technological advancements, curriculum modifications, and interdisciplinary collaboration offer substantial solutions to many of these barriers. One of the most significant findings is the importance of assistive technologies and adaptive equipment in ensuring that students with severe disabilities are not excluded from PE activities. These tools not only promote physical participation but also enhance students' psychological well-being by enabling them to engage in activities that bolster self-esteem and confidence (Sherrill & Hutzler, 2020). For instance,

the use of sport-specific wheelchairs in adaptive basketball or modified tennis rackets allows students with physical impairments to participate meaningfully in sports alongside their peers, ensuring social integration and reducing the stigma that often accompanies disability (Tannehill et al., 2015). However, despite the effectiveness of these technologies, their implementation is contingent upon factors such as adequate resources, teacher training, and institutional support, which are often lacking in underfunded educational systems. The need for specialized equipment and trained personnel underscores the broader challenge of ensuring equity in access to quality PE programs for all students, particularly those with severe disabilities. Furthermore, the integration of individualized education plans (IEPs) into PE curriculum planning is essential for addressing the diverse needs of students with disabilities. IEPs, which outline specific goals, accommodations, and modifications, offer a structured approach to ensuring that each student's unique abilities and challenges are considered in the design and delivery of PE activities (Goodwin & Watkinson, 2021). These individualized plans not only support students' motor development but also foster social skills, improve physical fitness, and encourage self-regulation. The involvement of special education teachers, physical therapists, and school counselors in the development and execution of PE programs is essential to ensure that the adaptations are both effective and sustainable. These professionals bring valuable expertise in tailoring activities that can engage students with a wide range of disabilities, ensuring that the PE experience is both inclusive and educational. While significant progress has been made in adapting PE programs, challenges such as time constraints, insufficient teacher preparation, and lack of administrative support remain substantial barriers to the widespread implementation of inclusive PE practices (Block, 2021). The tension between the standard PE curriculum and the individualized needs of students with disabilities often results in limited opportunities for these students to fully participate. The ongoing professional development of PE teachers is critical in overcoming these barriers, as it equips educators with the knowledge and strategies necessary to create inclusive and adaptive learning environments. Training in areas such as differentiated instruction, assistive technology integration, and collaborative teaching models can enhance teacher effectiveness in meeting the needs of students with disabilities (Hutzler, 2020). Additionally, schools must prioritize the integration of inclusionary policies into their core mission, ensuring that students with disabilities are not only accommodated but also embraced as equal participants in all PE activities. Finally, it is crucial

to recognize that inclusive physical education does not merely focus on physical ability but also promotes social integration and emotional growth. By participating in shared PE experiences, students with disabilities develop essential social skills, build friendships, and increase their sense of belonging within the broader school community. Therefore,

the discussion highlights the importance of continued research and development in the field of adapted physical education, especially in terms of developing innovative solutions to address the persisting gaps in resources, training, and institutional support that hinder full inclusion.



**Above image showing Physical Education in Special Education: Adapting PE for Diverse Needs (Authors Own from Extant Review of Literature)**

#### **Managerial implications related to the study**

The managerial implications arising from the study on adapting physical education (PE) for students with diverse needs in special education underscore the necessity for a multifaceted and strategic approach to implementing inclusive PE programs in schools, emphasizing the critical role of school administrators, special education coordinators, and physical education managers in facilitating the integration of students with disabilities into PE activities, while addressing challenges related to resources, teacher training, and institutional support. It is imperative for school management to prioritize the provision of specialized training for PE educators in the areas of differentiated instruction, assistive technology usage, and adaptive equipment to ensure that

**Dr. Jagadish S. Gasti**

teachers are adequately prepared to meet the diverse needs of students with disabilities, thereby promoting a culture of inclusion that enhances both student participation and development (Block, 2021). Administrators must recognize that without appropriate professional development and support, teachers may struggle to effectively incorporate adaptations into PE lessons, leading to unintentional exclusion of students with disabilities from physical activities. Thus, investing in continuous professional development and fostering an environment where specialized skills can be honed through workshops, conferences, and online resources will significantly improve the efficacy of inclusive PE programs (Sherrill & Hutzler, 2020). Furthermore, the role of assistive technologies and adaptive sports equipment cannot be overstated in ensuring the active participation of students with severe disabilities; managers must facilitate the acquisition and integration of appropriate tools such as adaptive wheelchairs, prosthetics, and sensory equipment,



recognizing that the availability and accessibility of such resources are fundamental to creating an equitable learning environment for all students (Tannehill et al., 2015). These technologies not only aid in the physical inclusion of students with disabilities but also foster social engagement and emotional development by ensuring students can participate in shared activities with their peers, thus promoting a sense of belonging and achievement. Additionally, managers must take proactive steps to address logistical and structural challenges, such as time constraints and lack of space, which often hinder the implementation of inclusive PE. This involves reevaluating scheduling, resource allocation, and curriculum design to ensure that PE lessons are adequately adapted and accommodate students with diverse needs (Hutzler, 2020). Strategic planning must focus on integrating adaptive sports programs into mainstream PE classes while ensuring that collaborative teaching practices, involving special education teachers, physical therapists, and other support staff, are effectively implemented to support students' individualized needs. Schools must also advocate for policy changes at the district and national levels that ensure funding is allocated for adaptive equipment and resources, and that inclusion is prioritized as a core objective within physical education programs (Goodwin & Watkinson, 2021). Moreover, school managers must recognize the importance of fostering community partnerships with organizations specializing in disability sports and physical activity programs, as these collaborations can provide valuable expertise, resources, and opportunities for students with disabilities. By working together with local and national disability organizations, schools can leverage external resources to supplement their own PE programs, ensuring that students with disabilities have access to a wide range of inclusive physical activities. Finally, managers must also be aware of the psychosocial benefits that inclusive PE brings, not only in terms of physical health but also in enhancing students' self-esteem, social integration, and mental well-being; fostering an inclusive and supportive environment in PE can help to challenge societal stereotypes surrounding disability and promote positive attitudes toward diversity. This understanding should guide the development of policies and practices that encourage and support the full participation of all students in PE, ensuring that schools are not just places of academic learning, but of holistic development for all children, regardless of ability (Sharma et al., 2022).

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the study on adapting physical education for students with diverse needs in special education highlights the critical importance of creating inclusive, accessible, and adaptable PE

environments that cater to the varied abilities of students with disabilities, while emphasizing the need for systematic changes in teacher preparation, resource allocation, and institutional support to overcome the inherent challenges associated with inclusion in PE programs; the research underscores that while significant progress has been made in incorporating assistive technologies, adaptive equipment, and individualized education plans (IEPs) into PE curricula, many schools still face barriers related to inadequate resources, lack of specialized teacher training, time constraints, and insufficient integration of interdisciplinary support, which can hinder the full participation of students with disabilities in physical activities and limit their opportunities for social integration, motor skill development, and overall psychological well-being; to address these barriers, the study advocates for a holistic, collaborative approach in which physical education teachers work closely with special education professionals, physical therapists, and other support staff to ensure that all students, regardless of ability, can actively participate in inclusive PE programs that promote both physical and emotional growth, while fostering a sense of belonging and self-esteem through shared physical activities; the findings also highlight the importance of continued professional development for teachers, ensuring they are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to modify PE activities to meet the needs of students with diverse disabilities, while also addressing the logistical challenges of adapting PE curriculum to accommodate various impairments; furthermore, the research emphasizes the value of assistive technologies and adaptive sports equipment, such as specialized wheelchairs, prosthetics, and sensory devices, in enhancing students' participation and engagement, demonstrating that when these tools are effectively integrated into PE programs, they can provide students with the means to fully engage in activities alongside their peers, leading to improved physical, social, and emotional outcomes; however, the study also identifies the need for increased funding and resources to ensure the availability and accessibility of such equipment, particularly in underfunded educational systems, where resource scarcity continues to limit the scope of inclusionary practices in PE; the role of school administrators is crucial in addressing these systemic issues by prioritizing inclusivity in PE policies, allocating adequate resources, and fostering an environment that supports the professional growth of teachers, thereby promoting the broader goal of inclusive education for all students; ultimately, the research concludes that while challenges remain, the promotion of inclusive physical education in special education settings has the potential to significantly enhance the development, self-confidence, and well-

being of students with disabilities, contributing to a more equitable and just educational experience for all learners, which, in turn, can help break down societal barriers and foster a more inclusive and understanding society.

#### **Scope for further research and limitations of the study**

The scope for further research in the area of adapting physical education (PE) for students with diverse needs in special education remains extensive, as the current study highlights several gaps in knowledge and practices that warrant exploration, including the need for longitudinal studies that examine the long-term effects of inclusive PE programs on students' physical, social, and psychological development, as well as the exploration of innovative adaptations in PE curriculum that go beyond traditional modifications to include more personalized and technology-driven approaches that cater to the increasingly diverse nature of disabilities, such as those related to cognitive, sensory, and motor impairments; additional research is also needed to evaluate the effectiveness of various assistive technologies and adaptive equipment across different disabilities, examining how specific tools impact participation rates, skill development, and overall engagement in PE activities, and how these tools can be integrated more efficiently into mainstream PE classes to provide equitable opportunities for all students; furthermore, the study points to the importance of examining the role of school culture and policy in shaping the implementation of inclusive PE programs, suggesting that research should investigate how institutional support, leadership, and funding affect the quality and sustainability of inclusive physical education, with a focus on how schools can overcome resource limitations and structural barriers to inclusion; another critical area for further investigation is the intersection of teacher preparedness and the success of inclusive PE programs, specifically exploring how professional development opportunities and specialized training in inclusive teaching strategies, adaptive sports, and disability awareness influence teachers' ability to effectively modify PE lessons and ensure that all students can engage meaningfully in physical activities; in addition, research could explore the perspectives of students with disabilities, parents, and caregivers, to better understand their experiences with adapted PE, focusing on the challenges they face, as well as their perceptions of the social and emotional benefits derived from participating in inclusive physical activities, and how these experiences may differ depending on the nature and severity of the disability; however, despite the promising potential for further exploration, the study also acknowledges several limitations, including the small sample size of

schools and participants involved in the research, which may limit the generalizability of the findings to broader educational settings, and the fact that the research was conducted in specific regional contexts that may not reflect the challenges or practices of schools in other countries or diverse cultural settings; another limitation lies in the reliance on self-reported data from teachers and administrators, which may be subject to bias or inaccurate representation of the actual practices and barriers within schools, and the study does not fully account for the varied levels of implementation of inclusive PE programs across different school districts, leading to inconsistent results and a lack of comprehensive data on the range of practices in use; finally, the study's focus on the theoretical aspects of adapting PE for students with disabilities may have overlooked the practical challenges faced by schools in implementing these adaptations, such as the availability of funding for adaptive equipment and specialized staff training, or the pressures that schools face in balancing the needs of students with disabilities alongside other educational priorities. Therefore, future studies should aim to address these limitations by expanding sample sizes, including a more diverse range of educational settings, and incorporating a more holistic view of the challenges involved in adapting PE for students with disabilities, to provide a clearer and more comprehensive understanding of the factors that influence the success of inclusive PE programs.

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## A Study on the Marriage System of the Ahoms in Assam

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### Abstract:

Assam is the meeting ground of various tribes and ethnic groups situated in northeast India. Tai-Ahom or Ahom are one of the major ethnic groups in Assam and an integral part of Assamese society. The Ahom were originally Tai-Yai or Shan group of people who entered Assam in 1228 A.D. under the leadership of *Su-Ka-Pha*. There are some customs and traditions in the Tai-Ahom society through which they identify themselves as Tai Ahom. "Tai Ahom Marriage System - *Chaklong*" is one of the important traditions of Ahom in Assam. Therefore, the present paper tries to explore the types and customary rules of Ahom traditional marriage system and its impact on the Ahom community in Assam.

**Keywords:** Assam, Ahom, Marriage, *Chak-lang*, ethnic group

### Introduction:

North East India, in the context of India occupies a distinctive place primarily due to its geographical, historical, social, cultural, and political features. This region is the homeland of large numbers of ethnic groups, who came from different directions at different historical periods of time. These ethnic groups belong to different racial stocks, speak different languages, and have varied socio-cultural traditions. All these ethnic groups have their own customs and traditions.

Assam is the state of North East India, which is surrounded by Nagaland, Manipur in the East, West Bengal in the West, Bhutan and Arunachal Pradesh in the North and Mizoram, Tripura, Bangladesh and Meghalaya in the South. Assam is called the Gateway of North East India and the homeland of various ethnic groups. Every ethnic group living in Assam has its own customs, traditions, culture, dress and exotic way of life, which give each group a distinct cultural identity different from the others.

Ahom is one of the major ethnic groups of Assam and they identify as Ahom through certain customs and traditions. These traditions include *Rik Khan*, *Um-fa*, *Sai-fa*, *Jasingpha*, *Furalung*, *Ban-phi*, *Dam-phi*, "Tai Ahom Marriage System - *Chaklong*" etc. *Chaklang* means lighting a hundred and one lanterns - witnessing the stars and starting a married life.

Marriage is one of the universal social institutions in the world closely associated with family. Westermarck defined marriage as "a more or less durable connection between male and female lasting beyond the mere act of propagation till after the birth of the offspring" (The History of Human

Marriage, 1891). The marriage system refers to the various traditions, rites, and ceremonies which are used to formally unite two people, these practices vary greatly among different cultures and religions around the world.

### Objectives of the Study:

The main objectives in the paper are mentioned as follows

1. To understand the marriage system of the Ahom in Assam.
2. To find out the changes in their traditional marriage system.

### Data and Methodology:

The present study used both primary and secondary sources of data. The primary data is collected through observations and interviews of experienced persons, those who know the traditional marriage system of the Ahom. So I have taken participatory observation and unstructured interview methods. Secondary data are collected from Buranji's (Chronicles), Ahom history books, History of Assam, research articles, articles (published & unpublished), journals, etc. Both descriptive and analytical methods of research are followed to achieve the objectives of the study.

### Result & Discussion:

#### A brief history of the Ahom:

Ahom is a Mongoloid group of people who came from Upper Burma via the north-eastern route, crossed the Patkai range and entered the Brahmaputra valley under the leadership of *Su-Ka-Pha* during the beginning of the 13th century. Linguistically, they belonged to the Siamese-Chinese branch of the Sino-Tibeto language and spoke Tai language and the members of the great Tai or Thai family of South-East Asia <sup>[1]</sup>. Ahom

established the kingdom in Assam and ruled for approximately six hundred years. The Ahom had their own customs, values, culture, and rituals. After they arrived in Assam and founded their kingdom, their customs and culture gradually assimilated with the local people of Brahmaputra valley. However, Ahom didn't abandon all of their traditions and customs here. At present, Ahom people are found mostly in Upper Assam, particularly in the districts of- Jorhat, Sivasagar, Golaghat, Charaideo, Dibrugarh, Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Tinsukia, Sonitpur and Biswanath.

#### **Marriage System of the Ahom:**

Ahoms were seven *clans* known as *Satgharia* Ahom (Boruah, 2007) and these seven clans Ahom family maintained *clans* exogamy. After the establishment of the Ahom kingdom in Assam, the Ahom in Assam started the process of assimilation with the local people of Brahmaputra valley through inter-marriage and friendship relations. gradually they Assam assimilated into the Hindu social structure and made a significant contribution to the construction of a greater Assamese society.

Ahom marriage customs are typically monogamous, but polygamy is also acceptable. Ahom nobles frequently had multiple spouses, and this custom persisted until the British era. But, from the beginning of Ahom rule the process of marrying from outside groups started and suggested that they traditionally accept endogamy marriage but avoid incest for smooth running of their rule. This is one of the processes of the Ahom rule in the Brahmaputra valley for almost six hundred years until 1826. In course of time, Ahom adopted the local Assamese language, culture etc. and became an integral part of the Assamese society. So, this type of marriage policy of the Ahom rulers brought changes in their social structure and strengthened the control of the Ahom rule in Assam.

#### **Chak-Lang Marriage:**

The Ahom traditional marriage system is known as Chaklang or *Chak-lang*. The Tai Ahoms gradually left their distinct language, religion and culture and focused on building their country and nation but Ahoms did not completely abandon their distinct marriage system of Chaklang. In the present day, many Ahom people of Assam marry according to the traditional Chaklang custom.

During the days of the Ahom kings, the marriage ceremony was a long ritualistic affair of nine days. The procedures followed in 'Chak-long' ceremony in the early stage were their own continuous traditional systems that can be termed as customary laws. Originally, there were no gods or goddesses in Chak-long ceremony and the married couple prayed to almighty, elders and ancestors. After the Sanskritization of the community, gods and goddesses like Lang-kuri, Leng-don, La-reng,

Jan-sai-hung, Ja-singpha were introduced by Ahom pundits (Deb, 2018).

But, now the system is changed and it is confined to three days. First day is called *Joran Diya*, where the bridegroom family gifts wedding costumes which consists of minimum three pairs of it, Assamese ornaments, makeup products along with other necessary items. These gifts depict the epitome of love and they welcome the bride to her new family. Then *Murot Tel Diya*, where putting oil on the hair of the bride and groom and last one is called *Chok-long*. Some of the rituals related to Chak-Lang marriage are- '*Na Purushor Chawal Khowa, Joran-Diya, Pani-Tola, Murot-Teldiya, Gathiyen Khunda* etc.

The Ahom priestly classes viz. Deodhai, Mohan and Bailung perform all the religious rituals in the Ahom society including marriage ceremonies. The main focus of the Chak-Lang marriage ceremonies is *Maral* (a form of Rangoli) which is made by four pillars of banana plant and an octagonal altar decorated with 101 earthen lamps. The eight sides of the *Maral* are believed to represent either the eight cobras that guard the earth or the eight kingdoms conquered by Tai King with the central lamp symbolizing the God *Phura*.

In the day of marriage both the house of bride's and groom's arrange the receptions for the guests and at night Groom's with his *Dora-Dhora* (best-man), friends and other relatives goes in a procession to the bride's house at night. The Chak-long is done in the bride's house.

The couple exchanges the wedding vow in front of the *Maral*, which acts as a witness to their union. They sit beside the altar of the groom traditionally positioned to the bride's right. Following this, they are blessed with holy water and panchamrit while priests *Mulung* (Chants) pray for the successful completion of this ceremony. The bride's father than presents the groom with a gold ring and performs the rituals of sampradan, placing the bride's thumb over the groom's thumb. As the priests chant the mantras, the couple's sadors are tied together in a knot known as *Longo-Gathi*. After the all rituals related to marriage are conducted by the priest, the bride presents the *Hengdang* (Sword) to her husband. The acceptance of this *Hengdang* is of traditional and historical significance as it marks the protection of the bride by the groom. It is also a promise to protect the family country, religion, and nation.

The book "Chak-long" published by Duleswar Konwar on behalf of the Tai Historical and Cultural Society of Assam is an authoritative book on Chak-long. The procedures followed in 'Chak-long' ceremony in the early stage were their own continuous traditional systems that can be termed as customary laws. Like Saptapadi (that is, the taking of seven steps by the bridegroom and the

bride jointly before the sacred fire) in Hindu marriage, there are no such rites and rituals in Chak-long ceremony that, one of the rituals, if not performed; the Chak-long marriage would be invalid. Originally there were no gods or goddesses in *Chak-long* ceremony and the married couple prayed to almighty, elders and ancestors. After the Sanskritization of the community, gods and goddesses like *Lang-Kuri*, *Leng-don*, *La-reng*, *Jan-sai-hung*, *Ja-singpha* were introduced by Ahom pundits.

#### Conclusion:

In conclusion, it can be said that Chak-long marriage plays an important role in maintaining social coherence within the Ahom community and reinforce their cultural identity and heritage. Chak-Long marriage also stands as a testament to the rich cultural heritage of the Ahom community, preserving its unique identity, traditions and also connects the present generations with their ancestral past. At present, changes have been taking place in the Ahom society due to the impact of modernization. In the earlier Ahom society there was restriction regarding marriages within the same clan but they preferred marriage alliance with the other group of people is still observed today. After the expansion of Neo-Vaishnavism preached by Sankardeva and Madhabdeva, Vaishnavite customs, rituals and principles were also embraced by Ahom people in Assam. Therefore, majority Ahom societies perform marriage according to Vaishnavitic rites according to Hindu religion and someone performed at temple or court, which are different from traditional Ahom marriage ceremonies. Still, Tai-Ahoms especially the priest classes - Mohans, Deodhais and Bailungs, continue to observe their customary ceremonies, religious rituals, and festivals as per traditional manners and customs.

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## Navigating the Gig Economy: A Comprehensive Analysis of Workforce Transformation in India

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### Abstract:

The gig economy, which is characterized by on-demand, flexible, and short-term labor, has become very popular both internationally and in India. The evolution of the gig economy in India is examined in this study, with a focus on how it has changed employment trends. It highlights the varied roles that gig workers play across industries by classifying them into discrete groups like independent contractors, freelancers, and platform-based workers. The gig economy's contribution to job creation and workforce growth is a major area of interest. Indian festivals and cultural events, in particular, are crucial times for short-term workforce growth, illustrating the economy's ability to mobilize labor in a flexible way. The gig economy has grown due to a number of factors, including urbanization, workforce preferences, and technological advancements. The study further looks at government policies like skill-development programs, social security programs, and regulatory frameworks that are meant to support the gig economy. In order to solve issues like job security, irregular income, and gig workers' lack of benefits, these initiatives are essential.

**Keywords:** GIG Economy, GIG Workers, Freelancing,

### Introduction & Defining Gig Economy

The term "gig economy" describes a labor market where traditional full-time employment is replaced by freelance work, on-demand work, or short-term contracts. It gives employees flexible work schedules, frequently via digital platforms, and gives companies access to temporary talent when needed. The gig economy includes, independent contractors, freelance graphic designers taking on jobs on Fiverr or cab drivers working for Ola and Uber or Delivery person for Zomato, Swiggy and Bigbasket, or project-based workers. Technological

developments and the growth of websites have led to a significant expansion of this model. Employees can choose where, when, and how they work due to its flexibility and autonomy. However, there are drawbacks as well, like irregular income, unstable employment, and a lack of benefits like health insurance or retirement plans. Businesses can access a flexible and diverse workforce instead of long-term commitments owing to the gig economy. The gig economy is booming but with continued growth brings up significant issues regarding employment rights, economic stability, and the future of work.

### Characteristics of GIG Economy:

<b>Flexibility</b>	Employees select their own workload and schedules
<b>Task-Based</b>	Employment is temporary and assignment-oriented
<b>Digital Platforms</b>	Clients and employees are connected by apps like Fiverr and Uber
<b>Income Variability</b>	Demand and available labour determine earnings
<b>Several Work Arrangements</b>	From independent contractors to on-demand service providers
<b>Compensation Based on Skill</b>	Income based on market demand and individual performance

The main driver behind the gig economy's explosive growth has been the exponential development of digital technologies. By removing conventional institutional and geographic barriers, cutting-edge digital platforms such as Zomato, Ola, Uber, Swiggy, Bigbasket, and several industry-

specific marketplaces have simplified access to employment opportunities. These platforms make use of advanced computations, evaluation processes, and clear pricing structures to enable smooth communication between customers and service providers.

The basic employment contract is the primary distinction between the gig economy and traditional employment. While the gig economy emphasizes individual autonomy, a variety of revenue streams, and skill-based opportunities, traditional models provided employment security, certain income, and defined career progression. This change is a reflection of larger cultural trends toward more individualized, technologically advanced workplaces that respect individual talents and creative work arrangements.

### **Indian Context of Gig Economy**

The gig economy in India is a distinct and dynamic ecosystem that has developed at the nexus of changing economic goals, demographic distributions, and technological innovation. The unique features of the country, which are fueled by a complex interaction between digital platforms, an entrepreneurial spirit, and structural economic changes, make it an intriguing case study in the transformation of the gig economy. According to the Economic Survey 2024, 77 lakh workers participated in the gig economy in 2020–21, making up 2.6% of India's non-agricultural workforce or 1.5% of the country's total workforce (NITI Aayog, 2022).

Economic Survey 2024: The government published the report on 'the state of the economy' one day prior to the table of the Union Budget 2024. According to the Economic Survey 2024, by 2029–2030, the gig economy is predicted to grow to 2.35 crore workers. According to the survey, by 2029–2030, gig workers are predicted to make up 6.7% of the non-agricultural workforce, or 4.1% of all income. In 2020–21, 77 lakh workers participated in the gig economy, making up 2.6% of the non-agricultural workforce or 1.5% of India's total workforce, according to data from the NITI Aayog national labour force survey. The gig economy in India includes a number of industries, such as freelance services, transportation services, food delivery, and e-commerce. With the rise of major players like Swiggy, Zomato, Ola, and Urban Company, new job opportunities have been created. Since 85% of Indians are employed in the unregulated economy and as "casual workers," gig work is not an unfamiliar concept in the country.

### **Literature Review:**

(Suryavanshi, 2022) Study on the gig workforce in India came to the conclusion that the gig and platform economies are expanding quickly, and that this trend necessitates the implementation of systematic regulation. The study also outlines the growth of the gig economy, its prospects, and the difficulties it faces in India.

(Kumar & SHOBANA, 2024) This study investigates how gig economy platforms affect job prospects in India's rural and urban areas. In order to maximize the advantages of gig economy platforms

for inclusive growth, remove obstacles to participation, and foster equitable socioeconomic development throughout India's diverse regions, the study ends with policy recommendations.

(Ahmad, 2021) The future trajectory of Malaysia's gig economy is examined in this study. In August 2020, 200 respondents from Universities Sains Islam Malaysia were given a survey questionnaire based on purposive sampling. The findings imply that the majority of respondents had previously worked gig jobs like dropshipping, courier services, and food delivery during the movement control order (MCO).

(Pal, 2021) The growing popularity of the gig economy in India is a topic this article addresses. The effects of the gig economy in India are highlighted in this article. The effects of the gig economy are felt in many different industries. It has fundamentally changed the way our economy functions and completely changed how people interact at work.

(Joshi, Jain, & Gupta, 2024) The article examines how the gig economy has changed over time and how it has affected labor laws, regulations, and the workplace. While addressing the drawbacks of gig work, such as job insecurity and the possibility of social and ethical dumping, it also emphasizes its benefits, such as adaptability and job expansion. It is discussed how gig platforms are changing labor markets, especially in terms of empowering women in some areas. The study promotes a comprehensive strategy to deal with the moral dilemmas raised by the growing gig economy. By imagining a gig economy that not only satisfies consumer demands but also places a high priority on justice, equity, and the welfare of its employees, it advocates striking a balance between flexibility and moral considerations.

(Banwari, 2018) The article looks at the advantages and disadvantages of the gig economy's rapid expansion. The study came to the conclusion that the gig economy is growing and could benefit developing nations like India greatly. Collaboration between the central and state government, employees, and educational institutions can help turn obstacles to opportunities. The extent of the gig economy in India will be largely determined by labor laws and government policies.

### **Who are Gig Workers: A Comprehensive Profile:**

A dynamic and diverse workforce that breaks conventional employment classifications, gig workers are becoming an increasingly important part of the contemporary economy. These people are distinguished by their capacity to manage various work schedules, using digital channels and their own abilities to produce revenue through project-based, flexible, and short-term work. Gig workers represent an emerging model for professional



flexibility, independence, and entrepreneurial spirit in contrast to traditional employees who are constrained by fixed-term agreements and organizational hierarchies. In India, the demographics of gig workers are incredibly varied, covering a wide range of ages, educational qualifications, and skill levels. Young professionals looking for extra cash, knowledgeable professionals providing specialized services, and people from a range of socioeconomic backgrounds hoping to optimize their ability to earn through non-traditional employment models are all included in this workforce. The typical gig worker is becoming more tech-savvy, flexible, and able to adjust to different work opportunities with ease.

#### **Categorization of Gig Workers:**

##### **Skill Level Categorization:**

**Lower-Skilled Gig Workers:** Mostly working in customer service-related positions like delivery drivers, cab drivers, and manual laborers-

**Mid-Skill Gig Workers:** Experts with specific knowledge in fields like customer service, digital marketing, and content production

**High-Skill Gig Workers:** Highly skilled professionals providing cutting-edge professional services, such as software engineers, designers, consultants, and subject matter experts

##### **Job Style Classification:**

**Part-Time Gig Workers:** People who use extra flexible work to augment their primary income

**Full-Time Gig Workers:** Working professionals who only use gig work as their main source of income

**Gig Workers Based on Projects:** Experts who work on targeted, deadline-driven projects in a variety of fields

##### **Time-Based Classification:**

**Short-term Gig Workers:** employees working on projects that take a few hours or days to complete.

**Long-Term Gig Workers:** freelancers who put in weeks or months on long-term projects.

##### **Income-Based Categorization:**

**Primary Income Gig Workers:** People who make their living solely from gig work

**Supplemental Income Gig Workers:** People who use gig work in addition to their main job to supplement their income

**Occasional Gig Workers:** People who occasionally or seasonally take on gig work

##### **Platform-Based Categorization:**

**Online Platforms:** Platforms such as Upwork, Fiverr, and Toptal are used by freelancers.

**On-Demand Platforms:** Employees using services such as Ola, Uber, or Bigbasket

**Marketplace Platforms:** Flipkart, Amazon, or Myntra sellers or creators

##### **Geographic-Based Categorization:**

**Local Gig Workers:** Providing services in a specific geographic area (e.g., delivery drivers).

Global Gig Workers: Serving clients across borders (e.g., remote web developers).

#### **Job Opportunities and Workforce Expansion in the Gig Economy:**

India offers an incredibly diverse range of gig work opportunities across several industries, which reflects the country's growing technological sophistication and digitalization of the economy. There is something in the gig economy for almost every skill set and career goal, from tech-driven jobs to creative and customer-focused roles.

**Transportation and Delivery:** Opportunities include delivering food or packages for Blinkit, Zomato, Swiggy and Bigbasket, ridesharing with Ube, Ola, Rapiddo and providing eco-friendly bike or scooter delivery for city workers.

**Freelance and Creative Services:** In addition to writing, freelancers can work in the areas of graphic design, videography, photography, editing, and marketing services like SEO and social media management.

**Technology and IT:** For qualified professionals, tech gigs offer a variety of flexible options, ranging from data entry and remote IT support to web and software development.

**Professional Services:** For people with business, legal, or financial expertise, there are opportunities in consulting, legal work, and accounting.

**Education and Training:** Online tutoring, creating courses on sites like Unacademy, and skill-based coaching are examples of teaching and mentoring options.

**Healthcare and Wellness:** Popular wellness jobs include telehealth care, fitness coaching, and providing care positions like pet or babysitting.

**Skilled Trades and Labor:** For those with practical trade skills, cleaning, landscaping, and handyman services provide a reliable source of income.

**Sales and E-Commerce:** Manage dropshipping businesses, sell handmade goods, or make money online with affiliate marketing.

**Event and Hospitality Work:** Flexible and exciting work options are offered by event planning, catering, and temporary staffing.

**Entertainment and Arts:** Voice acting for media projects, performing arts, and streaming on websites like YouTube are examples of gigs.

**Miscellaneous Online Tasks:** Virtual help, survey participation, and microtasks like image tagging or transcription are examples of remote work.

**Specialized Gigs:** Translation, 3D modeling, CAD design, and voiceover work for training and media are examples of specialized roles.

#### **Cultural Events and Temporary Workforce Expansion:**

The growth of the temporary workforce in India's gig economy is largely driven by cultural events like festivals, fairs, concerts, marriage ceremonies, and big celebrations. These occasions,

which have their roots in India's rich and varied cultural landscape, cause seasonal increases in the need for both skilled and unskilled labor in a variety of fields. For example, the demand for decorating professionals, caterers, event managers, and performers increases during holidays like Diwali, Durga Puja, and Eid. In India, weddings are frequently seen as elaborate, multi-day events that present significant opportunities for photographers, makeup artists, florists, and logistical support personnel. Gig workers are also needed for crowd control, ticketing, security, and technical support in cities that host international concerts, art exhibits, or athletic events. These events' transient nature fits in well with the flexible work model of the gig economy, which allows employees to take on short-term tasks without committing to anything long-term. These opportunities are now more accessible thanks to platforms like UrbanClap (now Urban Company) and other freelance marketplaces, which have helped close the gap between supply and demand. Additionally, the growth of the temporary workforce during these occasions highlights how flexible India's labor market is, providing jobs to a diverse range of people, including students, stay-at-home moms, and part-time workers. To protect the interests of this important workforce segment, policy-level interventions are necessary to ensure fair compensation and fundamental worker rights, as the irregularity of income and lack of job security in these roles continue to be problems.

#### **Factors Contributing to Gig Economy Growth:**

The gig economy's rapid expansion is the result of a complex interaction between various socioeconomic, technological, and cultural factors that have radically changed the nature of traditional employment. A complex convergence of interrelated dynamics has produced an unparalleled ecosystem of flexible work opportunities, rather than a single factor being the cause of this transformative phenomenon.

**Technological Advancements:** High-speed internet, mobile apps, websites, and automation tools have all improved the accessibility, effectiveness, and smoothness of gig work.

**Economic Drivers:** Employing gig workers helps businesses cut expenses while allowing individuals to diversify their sources of income. Cost-effective labor is another advantage for startups.

**Changing Workforce Preferences:** Employees, particularly Millennials and Gen Z, who place a high importance on work-life balance, seek adaptability, autonomy, and proper alignment with their skills.

**Urbanization and Demographics:** While younger demographics, especially in countries like India, prefer gig work, urbanization raises demand for gig services in urban areas.

**Societal Shifts:** Due in large part to the experience economy's emphasis on individualized, on-demand services, freelancing and gig work are now commonly accepted.

**Economic Disruption and Uncertainty:** People turn to gig work as a flexible source of income in response to crises like COVID-19 and unemployment.

**Regulatory and Policy Developments:** The growth of the gig economy is supported by government initiatives like tax laws that are favorable to freelancers.

**Market Demand for On-Demand Services:** Businesses use gig workers to grow rapidly, and consumers' demand for quick, individualized services is fueling sectors like delivery and ride-hailing.

**Education and Skill Development:** Workers can upskill with the aid of online learning platforms, and new opportunities are created by the demand for specialized skills like digital marketing and artificial intelligence.

**Globalization and Remote Work Trends:** While work-from-home culture increases the sector's acceptance, remote work links gig workers with clients around the world.

**Additional income:** Many people, particularly those in lower income groups, are using gig work as a way to augment their incomes as a result of inflation and rising living expenses.

**Business Demand for Cost-Effective Solutions:** Gig workers are being used by companies, especially start-ups and small-scale enterprises to cut expenses. Businesses may recruit gig workers for particular tasks or projects in place of full-time staff.

#### **Government Initiatives toward Protecting Gig Workers Interest in India:**

**Code on Social Security, 2020:** Acknowledges gig workers, suggests social security benefits (such as health insurance and maternity benefits), and requires aggregators to pay a social security fund between 1% and 2% of their turnover.

**E-Shram Portal:** A single location where unorganized workers can sign up for benefits, such as PMSBY accident insurance.

**Pension Schemes:** Government-matched contributions are available for voluntary pensions through programs such as PM-SYM.

**Health Coverage:** For qualified gig workers, Ayushman Bharat (PM-JAY) offers up to ₹5 lakh in health insurance per year.

**Skill Development:** Employability and entrepreneurial skills are improved by programs like NULM and Skill India.

**State-Level Programs:** While Rajasthan intends to establish a gig workers' welfare board, Kerala offers health insurance and pensions.

**Women-Centric Support:** The goal of initiatives like Mahila E-Haat is to empower gig workers who are women.

**Fair Wages and Grievance Redressal:** There are initiatives in place to set minimum wage regulations and settle payment disputes.

**Conclusion:**

The gig economy in India is significantly altering the way individuals work and make a living. By removing obstacles like geography and official job systems, technology such as online platforms, smartphone devices, and high-speed internet has made it simpler for individuals to find employment. Gig work provides flexibility, passive income, and an opportunity to learn new skills in light of the shortage of full-time jobs and growing living expenses. This trend was further accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which increased the prevalence of flexible and remote work. Today's younger generations, such as Gen Z and millennials, place a higher value on learning, freedom, and fulfilling work than job security. Digital platforms and India's startup ecosystem have also been very important in fostering an entrepreneurial mindset and assisting individuals in using and developing their skills. As a whole, it is playing an increasingly important role in India's economic development.

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## Exploring How Characters' Challenges and Triumphs in Literature Enhance Our Understanding of Human Emotions and Identity

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### Abstract:

Characters are central to literature. Though they are technically part of the plot, their actions and interactions with others allow authors to communicate ideas and explore emotions in complex ways. From the beginning of time, they have been the vehicles through which listeners and readers come to understand a story on an organic, more personal level. This ability they possess to carry messages and appeal to readers is not merely superficial; much as real-life conversations or anecdotes are vehicles for deeper truths, so characters in literature have motivations and emotions that guide the stories they inhabit. Their struggles and hard-won victories give access to themes about the human condition and the growth that result from it. Because of this, great writers of the past and present have used characters as philosophical arguments, ethical foils, and emotional giants.

The impact of characters upon the meaning of a narrative cannot be understated. While the role of the protagonist is idea-saturated, characters in the periphery of the work also help to communicate sentiments, atmospheres, and communities, both potential and possible. What are narratives but the impetus behind decisions, and how are we to know the outcome of decisions without a person there to make them? Or fail to make them, as the case often may be. Even more such focal points give an audience reason to speculate on human action and identity, which can in turn lead to deeper understanding and appreciation for the complexity of those themes.

**Keywords:** (Psychological, Challenges, Triumphs and Resilience and identity)

### Introduction

The experience of literature is often similar to other emotional experiences: readers and onlookers often feel the emotions and the physical changes that accompany them. We maintain a certain psychological distance from a character's emotions when reading. Since this is not the distance we maintain with real people, the "compassionate commentary" of literature is quite different from how we handle or should handle real discussions. This psychological distance is generated from the fact that, as they read, the reader is aware that they are reading, that they are witnessing a performance of voice, face, and emotion. Finally, readers' responses to characters are embedded in the complex state of reader response.

Yet, our emotional responses to characters are real and important: the responses are to a mimicry event that the reader maintains an aware self, which only adds to the complexity of the reader's response to fictional characters that become convincing by way of complex figural devices. Using this work, we argue the opposite: that the mimicry is the source of the emotional impact of fiction, that the theory can account for these emotional responses precisely as they are, and that, as it stands, the implementation lacks the sophistication genuinely to achieve what it proposes.

### Scope and Objectives

The study area chosen for this dissertation includes challenges that the fictitious beings known as characters, subject to stressful situations defined by the theme of the selected electronic literature, must face in literary narratives written in a digital medium. The general exploratory objective is to investigate the externalized and represented human emotions when presented with distinct challenges. The nature of related work is depicted as a combination of existing proposals and the creation of synthetic worlds aiming to validate meaning in distinct stress-inducing challenges that can be presented to characters. The research methodology consists mainly of studying and analyzing works, projects, and contexts that are closest to meeting the selected purpose. The expected results include a list of human emotions and their respective ratings when characters present feelings resulting from challenges. Finally, the study concludes by suggesting new, deeper orientations for targets that border the theme, as valid research can be in some future branches of psychology, cognitive science, psychophysiology, and affective computing.

### Literature Review

One does not have to be concerned about proving that literature, and for that matter, the other arts, represent and humanize the world of human

emotions. Writers themselves have been aware of the therapeutic nature of their art. Fiction lays open, giving the imaginative play that allows one to take up vicariously the situation of another person, which becomes an end in itself, with the power to lighten woes. All the arts reflect a desire to interact with people and their emotions in ways that heal and make the pains of life surmountable. Indeed, the temporal concerns of the arts indicate a direct relationship to the enveloping drama of life. Nor do the arts only reflect emotions. After all, logic, by reflecting core perceptual processes, forms a deep basis for all forms of self-understanding and underlies, in a deeper sense, the philosophy of science. A great body of religious and pious literature with deep therapeutic implications has tried to capture not only the insight and compassion of the godly but also the concern and the sense of what the grandparents mean and the value of doing good and managing our way through our temporal lives. Literature also helps us see how understandings of both individual and collective identity are made.

#### **The Role of Characters in Literature**

Characters are fundamental to literature. Through their conflicts and reconciliations, we learn from others about moral relationships, moral behavior, and ultimately, ourselves. Literature is characterized by concrete, specific human beings living in a complex, particularized human environment. Literature is therefore uniquely situated to help students develop moral understanding. All readers create a mental image of the characters and see the vision of what defines the character's identity. Returning to the narrative time and time again not only constructs the reader's idea of the character but also helps the reader perceive the character as a social being and understand empathetically how another person reacts to external circumstances.

Despite the differences among the abilities of students reading the same text, the creation of additional perspectives about a text is why the same book can be read repeatedly by readers at different periods in their lives and possibly the reason for the generation of companion works modifying or expanding the original. Some of the most deeply moving human beings are, in fact, fictional and live within books, drama, and poetry. Readers' relationships with literary characters offer opportunities to lead them through mindful reading of the literature in order to develop not only an understanding of human relationships and emotions but also an internal reservoir of aspects that can help themselves and others. We can attempt to teach children to behave well, share, and help with their physical things, but by allowing them to interact with literature and the characters within it, we can extend that idea by displaying characters

participating in those same behaviors of spiritually nurturing ideas.

#### **Psychological Theories on Emotions and Identity**

Both modern-day psychology and literature intersect when examining human emotions and evolving identities. A number of psychological theories address this intersection by substantiating the interaction between people and their world. Although no one theory is entirely sufficient to encapsulate this phenomenon, prominent theories include the psychological narrative theory, the social constructionist theory, identity theory, and emotional mirroring. A majority of these theories suggest that narrative and external experiences play pivotal roles in shaping human identity.

The psychological narrative theory proposes that individuals use stories in their lives as a method of sense-making. Specifically, people explain their experiences to themselves in the form of a story. These personal stories reflect the realities in which people exist and are part of. It is through these stories that people find coherence and continuity of elements and events in their lives and, in turn, develop a subjective sense of identity. According to this theory, the self does not rest within an individual in isolation. Instead, it is developed in relation to the outside world and through interpersonal communication.

#### **Methodology**

**Quantitative methods.** To take a nuanced approach to emotion, especially in literature, where the boundary between what can be classified as one emotion or another is fluid, I first defined a range of emotions in a continuous 2D space. I decided to use the circumflex model of emotions, which arranges emotions along two axes, valence and arousal. Valence ranges from unpleasant to pleasant; high arousal ranges from excitable to passive. A spot in the circumflex is thus a specific emotion, and mapping emotions on a two-axis system, whether they are left, right, high, or low, allows for better comparison. The emotion model is adapted for my study, so I used a dataset with mean valence and arousal data that had been assessed by independent subjects. Next, I counted how many times each emotion occurred in each text. To do this, I used an emotion lexicon that associates emotions with a range of words and their inflected forms.

**Qualitative Methods.** I simply selected four novels and one play from two literary movements, Romanticism and Realism. I first used an anthology for Romanticism, another anthology for Realism, and other sources to form a 'further reading' list. Then, with the necessary accessibility in mind, I focused on those authors: four Romantic authors and one Realist author. I read several works from the chosen authors, which were mainly novels and one play, and selected 5 examples: Mansfield Park, David Copperfield, Wuthering Heights, The Private

Memoirs of a Justified Sinner, and Don Álvaro o la fuerza del sino, respectively. This is the final list of the texts. Because I read several works from each author, I have read most of them before. However, I took notes from the reading, cited the pages, and used a more critical lens than when reading for pleasure. Lastly, I drew on all my knowledge of the texts after years of reading, thinking, and researching literature and emotions.

### **Challenges Faced by Characters**

Even longer works that offer deeper exploration and complexity can be boiled down to a central challenge. The *Odyssey* does have many meanings and lessons and a rich lyricism that can't be reduced to any single element. To recognize that the thematic core of *The Odyssey* is Odysseus's long journey home, however, is not reductive. In fact, subtler secondary themes braid and interweave with the one unifying plotline. Survival and the need for security in the face of continual danger give rise to the Greek concept of hospitality. *Odyssey* becomes Unferth's main and only hope when Grendel starts preying on the people of Heorot. In the tradition of the heroic tale, *Beowulf*, who has benefited greatly from the help of strangers, comes to the aid of Unferth, who is perhaps not so great in his dealings with strangers. *The Odyssey's* most significant challenge surrounds the theme of human identity.

*The Odyssey* makes use of the concepts of starting and stopping as related to the goal of reaching a specific destination—the return of Odysseus to his proper home. Many of the secondary storylines are brought to their fullness as internalized tales with their own lesson. Some of those stories bring listeners to the wealthy colonizer king and his court. Told to entertain Athena, who takes the form of a man, Odysseus' stories educate the court, and suggest subtly something to the characters and readers to come to Odysseus.

### **Internal vs. External Challenges**

Before we begin our analyses of Balthazar and Cassius, it is valuable to consider the following four questions. What is the difference between problems that happen within us, for example, anxiety, and a dilemma of fear versus problems that happen to us or in the world, for instance, an earthquake or war? What exactly is an internal problem or state? Are we fools to get so upset about 'nothing'? Conversely, why shouldn't we have certain mental states that guide us through life with its unpredictable external events? Should we be afraid of our feelings, and of course, are there clues in our own literature about how great characters have successfully dealt with their problems of internal mental states? It is important to begin our analyses of Balthazar and Cassius with these questions because one way to perhaps understand internal problems is to begin by examining external

challenges that happen in the world and also to consider how we respond to them with certain emotions and internal mental states such as fear and anxiety.

External challenges tend to happen due to outside events such as the death, move, or sickness of a loved one; or due to forces of nature that we have no control over, such as a hurricane or an earthquake, and/or due to factors in which we are in control, for instance, a war. Due to the commonality of such happenings, we do not tend to question the legitimacy of the feelings that come with such events and states such as sadness, worry, and fear.

### **Triumphs and Resilience**

As we explore the question of how characters' challenges and triumphs enhance our understanding of human emotions and identity, it is useful to first consider a variety of definitions of these terms. "Triumph," a term often used in literature to describe a character's winning over adversity, might be defined more broadly as any positive benefit emerging from adversities or their sequelae. Resilience, sometimes seen as a direct cause of triumph in literature, could be considered an antecedent or trait helping people to cope with life's challenges. These and other concepts appear to be widely used by authors in ways that convey their meaning, often in an implicit fashion, to their readers. What we wish to do is to explicate these terms, examine how literature's presentation of them is consistent with or differs from scholarly definitions, and then summarize what lessons can be garnered from this shared perspective.

In children's literature, we find countless examples of characters who may not be able to completely change or overcome their circumstances but who do experience an important amount of personal triumph—a personal triumph made possible by the strength and resourcefulness needed to face challenges. We have heard of "Joe's walk across thorns" stories in which good things do not necessarily happen, yet we still feel good in some way about Joe in the end. It has been suggested that children need and deserve characters that find personal strength and triumph in their lives, however modest. Without the positive outcome that betokens natural human experience, young readers cast blindly into sordid worlds might well become professionally uninterested, take intellectual flight, and seek alternative comfort zones.

### **Impact on Readers**

Our students are facing incredibly demanding lives, filled with everything from divorce to drive-by violence. As teachers, we simply do not have the skill, the background knowledge, energy, or the desire to diagnose and console each child affected by all these events. But we can validate them; honor their attempts to solve the problems through our units of literature. By

broadening the range of characters and families to be featured, and by linking emotions with issues that arise in the literary genre, we create many more opportunities for optimal growth to occur. Students who have siblings whose feelings they can guess feel successful and can assert their established power roles with benevolence. A child who can understand why one parent's behavior sometimes appears inappropriate can still love and begin to help that parent. Children with struggles in norm compliance experience successful cooperation in the creative problem-solving groups.

By addressing some of the different kinds of emotionality in literary elements, protagonists can grow in their operational thinking skills. By experiencing aesthetic concepts and responses, our students can establish a new level of emotional expectation. As children who perceive they to be the families equal, they can become more responsible toward the family's restabilization while still acquiring optimal emotional nurture in our enculturation disciplines. With literature, we can help our students recapture what is called the childhood of man. Our next step as sensitive adult educators recognizes that exposure to books is not enough? Just as with the sound study, literature teaches vowel discrimination and consonant blending before phonemic analysis, we must recognize that children's pre-perception abilities need encouragement, nourishment, and validation before identity is developed. Reading literature demands cognitive stretching and expansion. If we use literature in a variety of ways to appeal to a variety of children, we could connect emotionally with books and characters.

### **Empathy and Connection**

World-renowned literature for children does not exist. Books that adults and children alike have come to treasure over the years do not transport the reader to a magical and distant place where worries evaporate and passion wanes. Quite the contrary. Characters in these distinguished tales face difficulties and dilemmas that help young people recognize and understand the challenges of life. These books honor the emotional lives of children by acknowledging that, like adults, children experience joy, sorrow, anger, and ambivalence. They reassure children that diverse feelings nurture, not threaten, the human spirit. Remarkable works of children's literature possess a profound understanding of the emotional universe of youth. Classic books for children are often praised for their ability to entertain readers. Yet they also succeed in educating children on how to interpret and cope with their interior world.

Children's capacity to empathize and feel compassion for others is commonly attributed to witnessing the actions of responsible adults. In their struggle to define communal values, however, adults

have relied on the experiences of children engaging in imaginative activities—through literature, storytelling, and pretend play. To fulfill their educational potential, these activities must be more than pleasant diversions. They must enable children to delve deeply into their own feelings and those of others. Stories are the vehicle through which one generation passes down to another their finest hopes, most tragic miseries, and highest goals. They are the instrument through which lasting connections within a given culture and shared human experience across cultures are preserved and enriched. Inviting powerful characters from a variety of times and places to become our friends fosters a multiplicity of viewpoints and reveals diverse responses to universal questions about revelation, anonymity, oppression, faith, ambition, physical beauty, creativity, and ethics—issues that transcend language, time, and culture.

### **Conclusion**

As the contributors to this volume have illustrated so convincingly, literature offers valuable, natural, and frequent demonstrations of characters experiencing difficult challenges and their often inventive and temporary triumphs over these challenges. Furthermore, many character personalities, by the very nature of literary description, are rich in emotional and identity nuances, all of which become evidence of that character's cognitive, emotional, and social challenges and triumphs. The ultimate goal of grounding our understanding of emotions and identity through literature is to secure psychological identity. To have a psychological identity unified, not composed of many selves, one strong, one pleasant, one omnipotent, gives humans the psychological strength necessary to understand and endure the myriad unresolved questions of human existence that oppress the mind and heart of every human being. Great literature reflects the often diverse and discordant voices of these myriad unresolved questions in our literature.

Creating an understanding of psychology through literature, respecting the tension inherent in human existence, will carefully remove the mask between the person, who is constantly evolving through time, place, and multiple contingencies, and the idea that personal identity is somehow an essential, inviolate, pre-existing, and already formed concept, the prime cause of our many human ills. This type of appreciation will allow more realistic discussions about emotions and identity; it will further designate a new way of learning—learning through literature. This concluding affirmation speaks to the heart of why literature is important. Studies of these narratives and the creation of such an interdisciplinary forum have the power to transform literature and psychology, thereby



increasing the prevalence of interdisciplinary studies across universities worldwide.

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अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक  
समायोजन का तुलनात्मक अध्ययन

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सारांश-

शिक्षा ऐसी प्रक्रिया है जो व्यक्ति के व्यवहार, जीवन के लक्ष्यों एवं आदर्शों के अनुसार उसका विकास करती है। और इस प्रक्रिया में व्यक्ति के साथ-साथ देश, समाज, और विश्व का भी कल्याण निहित होता है। और समायोजन एक ऐसा शब्द है जिसमें सामंजस्य की भावना संलग्न रहती है। मानव अपने लक्ष्यों की प्राप्ति में कहाँ तक सफल रहा इसका, ज्ञान भी समायोजन द्वारा ही निश्चित होता है। यह समायोजन ही है जो मानव के लक्ष्यों को निर्धारित करता है। भारत में विविध धर्म, जाति एवं संस्कृति के लोग निवास करते हैं उन्हीं में से एक समुदाय अल्पसंख्यक है। अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय को शोधार्थी ने अपने शोध का मुख्य विषय बनाया है। अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक समायोजन का अध्ययन करने के उद्देश्य से शोधार्थी ने इस समस्या का चयन किया है। शोध अध्ययन में शोधार्थी ने 'वर्णनात्मक अनुसंधान' की 'सर्वेक्षण विधि' का प्रयोग किया है। संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक समायोजन' स्तर के मापन हेतु डॉ. ए. के. पी. सिन्हा और डॉ. आर. पी. सिंह द्वारा निर्मित 'समायोजन मापनी' का प्रयोग किया है। प्रस्तुत शोध कार्य में शोधार्थी द्वारा गैर सम्भाव्य न्यादर्श की 'सौददेश्य विधि' द्वारा झाँसी शहर के 2 माध्यमिक विद्यालयों एवं यादृच्छिक विधि द्वारा 150 छात्र व 150 छात्राओं को चयन किया गया है विद्यार्थियों के सन्दर्भ में चरों की गणना करने हेतु मध्यमान, मानक विचलन एवं टी-परीक्षण आदि सांख्यिकीय प्रविधियों का प्रयोग किया है। निष्कर्षतः शोध अध्ययन से प्राप्त परिणामों इस बात की प्रतिपुष्टि करते हैं कि माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्रों का संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक और शैक्षिक समायोजन' छात्राओं की तुलना में आंशिक रूप से उच्च है। परंतु उनके संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक समायोजन में विशेष अन्तर उपस्थित नहीं है। इस का मुख्य कारण छात्र एवं छात्राओं के साथ सहयोग, मेल-जोल की भावना, साथ उठने-बैठने, प्रश्न पूछने, द्वेष, क्रोध का प्रदर्शन नहीं करती एवं पारस्परिक मेल-जोल के कारण संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक क्षेत्र में अपेक्षाकृत अधिक समायोजित हैं। अर्थात् छात्र-छात्राओं के समायोजन में कोई सार्थक अन्तर नहीं पाया गया है।

कुंजीभूत शब्द- अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय, संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक और शैक्षिक समायोजन।

प्रस्तावना-

शिक्षा सम्मान का स्रोत और गौरव का साधन है और शिक्षा से ही मनुष्य की सभी आकांक्षाओं की पूर्ति सम्भव है मनुष्य का विकास और उन्नयन शिक्षा पर ही निर्भर करता है जन्म के समय बालक पशु के समान आचरण करता है उस समय वह अपनी मूल प्रवृत्तियों के वशीभूत होकर कार्य करता है। शिक्षा उसकी इन प्रवृत्तियों का उचित मार्गदर्शन करके उसे परिपक्वता प्रदान कर उसके आचरण एवं क्रियाकलापों को समाजोपयोगी बनाती है। शिक्षा उसमें रचनात्मक शक्ति का विकास करती है शिक्षा के द्वारा वह अपनी परिस्थितियों से अनुकूलन करने में समर्थ ही नहीं होता वरन् विजय भी प्राप्त करता है शिक्षा के द्वारा ही मनुष्य आज प्रगति के इस उच्च शिखर पर पहुँच पाया है। शिक्षा एक ऐसी अन्नत प्यास है, जिसका संबंध केवल जीवन जीने की कला मात्र से ही नहीं अपितु वह स्वयं जीवन के आदर्शों से जुड़ी हुई है। और न केवल व्यक्ति के संदर्भ में यह उपयोगी है बल्कि राष्ट्र और समाज की उन्नति एवं विकास भी शिक्षा पर ही निर्भर है। भारतीय परिप्रेक्ष्य में अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय से तात्पर्य उस समूह विशेष से है जो अपनी जाति-भाषा एवं धर्म की दृष्टि से एकदम भिन्न हैं। भारत में हिन्दू धर्म को मानने वालों को बहुसंख्यक कहा जाता है जबकि मुस्लिम, सिख, ईसाई,

बौद्ध, पारसी एवं जैन को अल्पसंख्यक कहा जाता है। जम्मू-कश्मीर, लक्षद्वीप राज्य में मुस्लिम वर्ग बहुसंख्यक कहलाता है। ईसाई समुदाय मेघालय, नागालैण्ड और मिजोरम में बहुसंख्यक वर्ग है। उसी प्रकार सिख, पंजाब में बहुसंख्यक है अतः राज्य या संघ राज्य क्षेत्र के अन्तर्गत अल्पसंख्यक वर्ग अन्य धार्मिक समुदाय नहीं है। समायोजन स्तर यह बताता है कि बालक अपना लक्ष्य प्राप्त करने में कहाँ तक सफल रहा। इस शोध अध्ययन में माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक समायोजन को विषय बनाया गया है। जो मनुष्य को उसके अनुभव, रुचि, कौशल, व्यवसायिकता, अनिवार्यता एवं समस्याओं से अवगत कराते हुए उनके संवेगात्मक, शैक्षिक एवं सामाजिक समायोजन का विकास करने पर ध्यान केन्द्रित करता है मनुष्य को अपनी परिस्थितियों से समायोजित होने हेतु गतिशीलता प्रदान करता है।

यह समायोजन ही है जो मानव के लक्ष्यों को निर्धारित करता है। लक्ष्यों की प्राप्ति की आगे क्या सम्भावना है। अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय को समाज में समायोजित होने के समान अवसर प्राप्त हो, यह सुनिश्चित करता है। समायोजन वह अवधारणा है जो विद्यार्थियों में एक लालसा उत्पन्न करती है यह जीवित प्राणियों की

आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति करने वाली स्थितियों तथा आवश्यकताओं के बीच संतुलन बनाने की आदर्श प्रक्रिया है समायोजन को कुछ विशिष्ट शब्दों में व्यक्त किया जाता है जिसमें ग्रहण करने की योग्यता, स्नेह करने की क्षमता, सन्तुलित जीवन, अनुभवों से लाभ उठाने की योग्यता, भगनाशा, सहनशीलता, रसिकता, समभाव, वस्तुनिष्ठता एवं अन्य वस्तुएँ सम्मिलित रहती है। हम कह सकते हैं परन्तु यहाँ लालसा से यह तात्पर्य यह नहीं है कि विद्यार्थियों में लालच पैदा करे, यहाँ इसका तात्पर्य विद्यार्थियों में उच्च आदर्शों को उत्पन्न करना है, ताकि वह अपनी परिस्थितियों से जूझकर निरन्तर आगे बढ़ते हुए अपनी जीवन उपलब्धियों को प्राप्त कर सके। शिक्षा एक ऐसा माध्यम है जिसके द्वारा विद्यार्थी अपनी पूर्व परिस्थितियों में बदलाव लाकर कुछ नया कर सकता है। प्रत्येक देश की अपनी राजनैतिक, आर्थिक, सामाजिक तथा धार्मिक व्यवस्था होती है और उसी के अनुकूल वहाँ की शिक्षा व्यवस्था होती है। जिसमें धर्म, जाति, एवं स्थान के भेदभाव के बिना शिक्षा दी जाती है। समायोजन को संतुलन, भगनाशा एवं सहनशीलता इत्यादि नामों से भी जाना जाता है। मनुष्य की आवश्यकता ही उसकी आकांक्षाओं को जन्म देती है इस संसार में कोई भी ऐसा प्राणी नहीं है जिसके अंतर्मन में समभाव, वस्तुनिष्ठता उत्पन्न न हो, भगनाशा भविष्य हेतु संकेत करती है। जिससे कोई भी व्यक्ति अपने सहनशीलता से लक्ष्य को प्राप्त कर सकता है।

#### समस्या का प्रादुर्भाव-

प्रत्येक छात्र अपने आपको एक साकार अभिनेता के रूप में देखता है, जो उसकी व विश्व की उन्नति की सीमा तक पहुँचने में सहायक हो सकता है। आजादी के इतने वर्षों के बाद भी समाज में धर्म, जाति, वर्ग, क्षेत्रीयता, मूल्य-मान्यताएँ व्याप्त है। शिक्षा की दृष्टि से देखा जाय तो अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय को मुस्लिम, जैन, सिक्ख, ईसाई, बौद्ध एवं पारसी वर्गों में बाँटा गया है। संविधान द्वारा इन्हे अल्पसंख्यक घोषित किया गया है इनको पिछड़ा वर्ग भी कहा जाता है। पिछड़ेपन के कई कारण हैं जैसे आर्थिक रूप से पिछड़ापन, शिक्षा की कमी, समाज में असानता एवं अवसरों की कमी एवं जागरूकता का अभाव आदि।

स्वतंत्रता प्राप्ति के 75 साल बाद भी अल्पसंख्यकों के सामाजिक उत्थान के लिए विभिन्न प्रयास के उपरांत भी उनका आर्थिक स्तर बहुत निम्न है। देश में उनकी शिक्षा की भी यही स्थिति है यह अनुभव किया गया है। कि छात्राओं की शैक्षिक प्रगति छात्रों की अपेक्षा इतनी अच्छी नहीं होती है। बच्चों में परिवेश एवं शैक्षिक परिवेश में पर्याप्त अंतर होता है। क्योंकि जिस परिवेश से ये बच्चे आते हैं उसकी झलक मानसिक, बौद्धिक, सामाजिक व राजनीतिक स्तर पर स्पष्ट रूप से दिखाई पड़ती है अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय को निम्न समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ता है:-

- अभिभावकों में शिक्षा के प्रति जागरूकता की कमी एवं उनका अशिक्षित होना।
- पारिवारिक, सामाजिक, समायोजन एवं शैक्षिक क्षेत्र से संबंधित समस्याएँ।
- सांस्कृतिक परिवर्तन और विभिन्न स्तरीय भाषा का होना।
- अचेतनात्मक व्यवहार और असंतुलित व्यक्तित्व।
- घृणा या हीनभावना की भावना।

#### डॉ. आशिया खातून

- संघर्षपूर्ण जीवनशैली के साथ-साथ सामाजिककरण करने में असमर्थ होते हैं।

#### शोध का औचित्य-

शोध समस्या का मुख्य उद्देश्य वर्तमान में व्याप्त वर्ग, जाति, सम्प्रदाय के व्यक्तियों को समाज की मुख्य धारा से जोड़ना है भारत में धर्म और भाषा के आधार पर कुछ व्यक्तियों को अल्पसंख्यक घोषित किया गया है। भारत एक विकासशील देश है और आज हम विकसित राष्ट्र की कल्पना कर रहे हैं हमारी यह इच्छा तभी पूर्ण होगी जब देश में रहने वाले प्रत्येक धर्म, संप्रदाय, वर्ग एवं जाति का विकास होगा और यह तभी संभव है जब देश का प्रत्येक वर्ग शिक्षित होकर देश हित में महत्वपूर्ण कदम उठाएँ। अतः प्रश्न उठता है कि संवैधानिक प्रावधानों, आरक्षणों, संरक्षणों के होने के बाद भी अल्पसंख्यक वर्ग के विद्यार्थियों में पिछड़ेपन क्यों है और ऐसी कौन सी समस्याएँ हैं जो उनके पिछड़ेपन का कारण है शिक्षा के प्रति इनका दृष्टिकोण क्या है और उनकी समस्याओं का समाधान विभिन्न परिप्रेक्ष्य में कितना उपयोगी सिद्ध होगा वर्तमान संदर्भ में विश्व में अल्पसंख्यकों के संबंध में कई शोध कार्य हुए हैं समय-समय राष्ट्रीय और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर अनेक पत्र-पत्रिकाएँ, समाचार-पत्र एवं शोध-पत्र प्रकाशित हुए हैं जिनमें अल्पसंख्यकों को विभिन्न संदर्भ में जागरूक करने के उद्देश्य से समाज के प्रत्येक स्तर पर कार्य किए गए हैं। शोधार्थी द्वारा अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के विद्यार्थियों के संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक समायोजन से संबंधित समस्याओं को समझने का प्रयास किया गया है जो उनके समायोजन के विकास में बाधक है शोधार्थी ने अपने आस-पास के अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के बच्चों को परेशान होते हुए देखा है जो किसी कारणवश समाज में समायोजित नहीं हो पाते। अतः शोधार्थी के मन में समायोजन के परिप्रेक्ष्य में अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक समायोजन का तुलनात्मक अध्ययन करने की अपवश्यकता अनुभव हुई है शोध अध्ययन से जो के सटीक परिणाम प्राप्त होंगे उससे शिक्षाविदों व समाजशास्त्रियों को भविष्य हेतु सकारात्मक एवं सफल मार्ग स्पष्ट होगा।

#### संबंधित शोध साहित्य का अध्ययन-

शमीर, मो. (2011) ने "बैडमिंटन खिलाड़ी, टेनिस खिलाड़ी एवं सामान्य छात्रों के समायोजन व मूल्यों का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन" किया। न्यादर्श के रूप में उन्होंने उत्तर प्रदेश के विश्वविद्यालयों से 300 छात्र-छात्राओं को चयनित किया। आँकड़ों का विवेचन टी-परीक्षण, पोस्ट हॉक विधि, प्रसरण विश्लेषण विधि द्वारा किया गया। निष्कर्षतः उन्होंने पाया कि बैडमिंटन एवं टेनिस के पुरुष व महिला खिलाड़ी में सम्पूर्ण समायोजन में समानता पायी गयी।

राजपूत, देवेन्द्र (2016) ने "माध्यमिक स्तर पर अनुसूचित जाति एवं पिछड़ी जाति के विद्यार्थियों के सामाजिक समायोजन आर्थिक स्तर का उनकी शैक्षिक उपलब्धि व समायोजन पर पड़ने वाले प्रभाव का अध्ययन" किया। न्यादर्श के रूप में फिरोजाबाद जनपद के माध्यमिक विद्यालयों से 1000 विद्यार्थियों का चयन किया गया। निष्कर्षतः उन्होंने पाया कि अनुसूचित जाति के उच्च व औसत सामाजिक आर्थिक स्तर वाले छात्रों का समायोजन पिछड़ी जाति के छात्रों से उच्च पाया गया।

जादौन, रश्मि (2022) ने "बी.एड. प्रशिक्षुओं के समायोजन, मानसिक स्वास्थ्य एवं संवेगात्मक बुद्धि का उनके सामाजिक आर्थिक स्तर के संदर्भ में अध्ययन"

किया। न्यादर्श के रूप में झाँसी जनपद के बुन्देलखण्ड विश्वविद्यालय से 450 महिला व पुरुष बी.एड. प्रशिक्षुओं को चयनित किया गया। निष्कर्षतः उन्होंने पाया कि समायोजन के विभिन्न आयामों यथा स्तर स्वास्थ्य व सामाजिक समायोजन में किसी भी प्रकार की कोई असमानता नहीं पायी गयी जबकि संवेगात्मक समायोजन में दोनों समूहों के बीच असमानता पायी गयी है।

#### समस्या में सम्बन्धित शब्दों का कथनीकरण—

**अल्पसंख्यक वर्ग—** अल्पसंख्यक शब्द 'संस्कृत' के दो सामासिक शब्दों के योग 'अल्प' + 'संख्या' से बना है जहाँ 'अल्प' का अर्थ होता है 'कम' व 'संख्या' का अर्थ होता है दूसरों की अपेक्षा 'संख्या में कमतर' होना। अल्पसंख्यक को अंग्रेजी में Minority कहा जाता है जो लैटिन भाषा के Minor और ity से बना है Minority से अभिप्राय— दो समूहों में संख्या की दृष्टि से अपेक्षाकृत छोटा समूह से है। अर्थात् अल्पसंख्यक अन्य समूहों की अपेक्षा में संख्यात्मक रूप से छोटा समूह है। इस समूह को सामाजिक, आर्थिक एवं राजनैतिक सत्ता का अनुपात में लाभ प्राप्त नहीं होता है।

**ऑक्सफोर्ड शब्दकोष के अनुसार** "अल्पसंख्यक शब्द को कम भाग या कम संख्या के रूप में परिभाषित किया गया है जो सम्पूर्ण आबादी से कम है"।

भारतीय संविधान द्वारा 'अल्पसंख्यक' शब्द को परिभाषित नहीं किया गया है लेकिन संविधान के अनुच्छेद 29, 30, 350 'क' और 350 'ख' अल्पसंख्यकों के विषय में बताता है।

अनुच्छेद '29' में कहा गया है कि "भारत के किसी भू-भाग या राज्य क्षेत्र में निवास करने वाले वह नागरिक जिनकी अपनी विशिष्ट संस्कृति, लिपि एवं भाषा है इनके संरक्षण का अधिकार संविधान को होगा"।

अनुच्छेद '30' अल्पसंख्यकों की दो श्रेणियों का वर्णन करता है—

1. धार्मिक अल्पसंख्यक

2. भाषायी अल्पसंख्यक

**समायोजन—** मनुष्य के दिनचर्या की शुरुआत ही समायोजन या अनुकूलन के आधार पर ही होती है। मनुष्य प्रत्येक परिस्थितियों को अपने अनुसार व्यवस्थित करता है। जिससे उसकी कार्य क्षमता में वृद्धि होती है। समायोजन शब्द अंग्रेजी के 'Adjustment' का हिन्दी स्वरूप है। समायोजन दो शब्दों के योग से बना है 'सम' और 'आयोजन'। सम् का अर्थ— अच्छी, समान रूप एवं भली-भाँति और आयोजन का अर्थ है— व्यवस्था। इस प्रकार समायोजन का पूर्ण अर्थ है— सुव्यवस्था, दूसरे अर्थ में समायोजन किसी भी प्रकार से परिस्थितियों को अपने अनुकूल बनाने की एक कला है। प्रस्तुत शोध में समायोजन से तात्पर्य— समायोजित होने की वह प्रक्रिया जो जीवन के प्रत्येक पहलू से सामंजस्य स्थापित कराती है जिसमें विद्यार्थी स्वयं परिस्थितियों तथा आवश्यकताओं के बीच विश्लेषणात्मक संतुलन स्थापित करता है। व्यक्ति स्व-विकास के लिए प्रेरकों की सहायता से परिस्थितियों पर विजय प्राप्त करता है तनाव, परिस्थितियों तथा अनिवार्यताओं के मध्य व्यवहारात्मक एवं व्यक्तिगत प्रयासों का परिणाम ही समायोजन है।

#### एल.एस.शेफर के अनुसार

"समायोजन वह प्रक्रिया है जिसकी सहायता कोई जीवित प्राणी आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति करने वाली स्थितियों तथा आवश्यकताओं के बीच संतुलन स्थापित करता है।"

डॉ. आशिया खातून

प्रस्तुत शोध में समायोजन से संबंधित मुख्य तीन क्षेत्रों का अध्ययन किया गया है :-

1. संवेगात्मक समायोजन
2. सामाजिक समायोजन
3. शैक्षिक समायोजन

#### 1. संवेगात्मक समायोजन

संवेगात्मक रूप से समायोजित बालक अत्यधिक संयोजित प्रवृत्ति का होता है आत्म विश्लेषण और संवेगों को किस प्रकार अभिव्यक्त किया जाये भली-भाँति जानता है। इस प्रकार के बालकों में संवेगात्मक नियंत्रण एवं व्यवहार कुशलता की दक्षता विद्यमान होती है। ऐसे विद्यार्थी स्वयं को भी पर्याप्त सम्मान देते हैं साथ ही साथ दूसरों का मान सम्मान भी करते हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त ऐसे विद्यार्थी व्यक्तित्व से निरंतर संतुष्ट रहने का प्रयत्न करते हैं। रूप रंग, कद-काठी एवं अभियोग्यता जैसी विशेषताओं को स्वीकार कर उनकी कदर करते हैं एवं स्वयं के पास जो कुछ भी नहीं है उसकी तुलना दूसरे व्यक्ति से करके व्यर्थ में रोना नहीं रोते और न ही ऐसी बातों से हताशा एवं परेशान होते हैं।

#### 2. सामाजिक समायोजन

समायोजित बालक सामाजिक विकास, परिपक्वता एवं अभिवृत्ति से अपने लिंग व आयु के अनुरूप प्रगति करता है। ऐसे बालक अन्य बालकों के साथ खेलने कूदने, मित्रता करने, सामाजिक क्रिया-कलापों में प्रतिभाग करने में निपुण होते हैं। इस प्रकार के बालक परिवार के सदस्यों, मित्रों, पड़ोसियों एवं सामाजिक वातावरण के साथ संबंध आसानी से स्थापित कर लेते हैं। सामाजिक समायोजन के लिए विद्यार्थियों को समाज के नियमावलिओं, आचार संहिता एवं विशेष रूप से अपने समुदाय की विशेष मनोवृत्तियों, रीति-रिवाजों एवं संस्कारों से पूर्णता लिप्त होना चाहिए।

#### 3. शैक्षिक समायोजन

व्यावहारिक रूप से शैक्षिक समायोजन वह परिवर्तन है जिसके द्वारा विद्यार्थी स्वयं एवं विद्यालयी वातावरण के मध्य मधुर संबंध स्थापित करने का प्रयास करता है। अर्थात् शैक्षिक समायोजन के अंतर्गत विद्यार्थी स्वयं का विद्यालय से संबंध, अनुदेशन की स्थिति, उपस्थिति, शैक्षिक समस्याएँ, अवलोकन, अनुशासन, पाठ्यक्रम तथा पाठ्य सहगामी गतिविधियों आदि के संबंध में संतुलन बनाने का निरंतर प्रयास करता है। शैक्षिक परिवेश एवं विद्यालयी परिवेश में समन्वय बनाए रखता है। विद्यार्थी की शैक्षिक आकांक्षाओं की पूर्ति शैक्षिक समायोजन के द्वारा ही संभव है।

#### शोध अध्ययन के उद्देश्य—

प्रस्तुत शोध समस्या हेतु निम्न उद्देश्यों का निर्माण किया गया है:-

1. माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र एवं छात्राओं के सामाजिक समायोजन का तुलनात्मक अध्ययन करना।
2. माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र एवं छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक समायोजन का तुलनात्मक अध्ययन करना।
3. माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र एवं छात्राओं के शैक्षिक समायोजन का तुलनात्मक अध्ययन करना।

**शोध अध्ययन की परिकल्पना-**

प्रस्तुत शोध अध्ययन के उद्देश्यों को ध्यान में रखते हुए निम्नलिखित परिकल्पनाओं का निर्माण किया गया है:-

1. माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक समायोजन में कोई सार्थक अंतर नहीं है।
2. माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के सामाजिक समायोजन में कोई सार्थक अंतर नहीं है।
3. माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के शैक्षिक समायोजन में कोई सार्थक अंतर नहीं है।

**अध्ययन की परिसीमाएँ-**

1. शोधार्थी द्वारा शोध अध्ययन के लिए झाँसी शहर का चयन किया गया है।
2. प्रस्तुत शोध अध्ययन उत्तर-प्रदेश माध्यमिक शिक्षा परिषद द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त माध्यमिक विद्यालयों तक सीमित है।
3. प्रस्तुत शोध अध्ययन में झाँसी शहर के 2 माध्यमिक स्तर के विद्यालयों का चयन किया गया है।
4. माध्यमिक स्तर के अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के 300 छात्र-छात्राओं को ही जनसंख्या के रूप में चुना गया। जिसमें 150 छात्र और 150 छात्राएँ समाहित हैं।

**विद्यालय एवं छात्र-छात्राओं की संख्याओं के वर्गीकरण को दर्शाती तालिका**

क्र.सं.	विद्यालय का नाम	छात्र	छात्राएँ	संख्या
1.	नेशनल हाफिज सिद्दीकी इंटर कॉलेज, झाँसी	75	75	150
2.	श्री गुरु हरकिशन इंटर कॉलेज, झाँसी	75	75	150
	<b>कुल</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>300</b>

**अध्ययन के चर-**

किसी भी शोध में चरों का स्थान महत्वपूर्ण होता है। समस्या के सम्बन्ध में जिस वस्तु, घटना तथा चीजों के गुणों, विशेषताओं और अवस्था का अध्ययन किया जाता है उसे 'चर' कहा जाता है। चर मुख्यतः दो प्रकार के होते हैं-

स्वतन्त्र चर  
आश्रित चर

प्रस्तुत शोध अध्ययन का उद्देश्य अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक समायोजन का तुलनात्मक अध्ययन करना है। अतः उद्देश्यों की प्राप्ति हेतु अध्ययन में सम्मिलित चरों का वर्गीकरण निम्नवत् किया गया है:-

**स्वतन्त्र चर-** छात्र एवं छात्राएँ

**आश्रित चर-** संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक समायोजन।

**अध्ययन में प्रयुक्त उपकरण-**

प्रस्तुत शोध कार्य में शोधकर्त्री ने 'संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक समायोजन' स्तर के मापन हेतु डॉ. ए. के. पी. सिन्हा और डॉ. आर. पी. सिंह द्वारा निर्मित 'समायोजन मापनी' का प्रयोग किया है।

**शोध में प्रयुक्त सांख्यिकीय प्रविधियाँ-**

तथ्यों का संकलन एवं विश्लेषण करने के लिए सांख्यिकीय विधियों का प्रयोग किया जाता है जिससे बेहतर शोध परिणाम प्राप्त

5. प्रस्तुत शोध अध्ययन में अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के अन्तर्गत 'मुस्लिम' विद्यार्थियों का चयन किया गया है।

**शोध विधि-**

शोध विधि से अभिप्राय, उस प्रक्रिया से है जिससे समस्या के विभिन्न तथ्यों को एकत्रित कर व्यापक निष्कर्ष पर पहुँचा जाता है। इस पूरी प्रक्रिया में पृष्ठताछ, चिन्तन, गहन अध्ययन एवं जाँच आदि सम्मिलित रहते हैं। वैज्ञानिक दृष्टिकोण के अनुसार अनुसंधान एक ऐसा पथ है जिस पर चलकर सार्वभौमिक सत्य की प्राप्ति की जा सकती है। अतः शोधार्थी द्वारा 'वर्णनात्मक अनुसंधान' की 'सर्वेक्षण विधि' को अपनाया गया है। जो वर्तमान की समस्याओं, परिस्थितियों, घटनाओं, तथ्यों, विश्वासों, मान्यताओं, विचारधाराओं तथा अभिवृत्तियों के पारस्परिक सम्बन्धों का अध्ययन कर समस्या का सर्वेक्षण कर उसके वास्तविक स्वरूप को प्रदर्शित करती है।

**अध्ययन का न्यादर्श-**

प्रस्तुत शोध अध्ययन में समस्या के सन्दर्भ में निश्चित उद्देश्यों को ध्यान में रखते हुए 300 इकाईयों को न्यादर्श के रूप में चयन किया गया है। प्रस्तुत शोध कार्य में शोधार्थी द्वारा गैर सम्भाव्य न्यादर्श की 'सौददेश्य विधि' द्वारा झाँसी शहर के 2 माध्यमिक विद्यालयों एवं यादृच्छिक विधि द्वारा 150 छात्र व 150 छात्राओं का चयन किया गया है। चयनित विद्यालयों एवं छात्र-छात्राओं की संख्या तालिका में दर्शायी गयी है।

हो सकें। शोधार्थी द्वारा शोध के लिए जो आँकड़े एवं सूचनाएँ एकत्रित की जाती हैं उन सभी तथ्यों को संगठित कर व्यवस्थित किया जाता है। अतः शोधार्थी द्वारा अल्पसंख्यक छात्र-छात्राओं के सन्दर्भ में चरों की गणना करने हेतु निम्न सांख्यिकीय प्रविधियों का प्रयोग किया गया है:-

मध्यमान  
मानक विचलन, और  
टी-परीक्षण।

**प्रदत्त विश्लेषण एवं व्याख्या-**

शोध कार्य में तथ्यों को एकत्रित करने के पश्चात् उनको सुव्यवस्थित एवं वर्गीकृत कर सारणीयन किया जाता है, जिससे बिखरे हुए तथ्यों को क्रमबद्ध कर संक्षिप्त रूप दिया जा सके क्योंकि शोध कार्य हेतु प्राप्त आँकड़ों का जब तक कोई महत्व नहीं होता जब तक उनका सांख्यिकीय परिणामों द्वारा विवेचन न किया जाए शोध का सबसे कठिन कार्य आँकड़ों का संकलन कर उनका विश्लेषण करना है तब कहीं जाकर शोध के सन्दर्भ में किसी निर्णायक नतीजे पर पहुँचते हैं। प्राप्त आँकड़ों के अंकन एवं सारणीयन के पश्चात् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र एवं छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक समायोजन की विविध प्रकार की सांख्यिकीय गणना द्वारा निम्न परिणाम प्राप्त हुए हैं।

**परिकल्पना संख्या 1.** माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र एवं छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक समायोजन में कोई सार्थक अन्तर नहीं है।

## तालिका संख्या- 1

माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक समायोजन के मध्यमान, मानक विचलन एवं टी मूल्य को दर्शाती तालिका

क्र.सं.	विद्यार्थी	संख्या	मध्यमान	मानक विचलन	मुक्तांश	टी-मूल्य	सार्थकता स्तर
1.	छात्र	150	7.48	3.50	298	0.15	स्वीकृत
2.	छात्राएँ	150	7.42	3.33			

## विवेचना-

माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक समायोजन के प्राप्तांकों का मध्यमान क्रमशः 7.48 व 7.42 तथा मानक विचलन 3.50 व 3.33 है। प्राप्त मध्यमानों के अंतर की सार्थकता की जाँच करने पर टी-मूल्य 0.15 प्राप्त हुआ है। मुक्तांश 298 पर टी का सारणी मूल्य 0.05 सार्थकता स्तर पर 1.96 है जबकि

टी-मूल्य सारणी मूल्य से कम है। अतः माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक समायोजन में कोई सार्थक अन्तर नहीं है इसलिए शून्य परिकल्पना स्वीकृत की जाती है।

**परिकल्पना संख्या 2.** माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के सामाजिक समायोजन में कोई सार्थक अन्तर नहीं है।

## तालिका संख्या- 2

माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के सामाजिक समायोजन के मध्यमान, मानक विचलन एवं टी मूल्य को दर्शाती तालिका

क्र.सं.	विद्यार्थी	संख्या	मध्यमान	मानक विचलन	मुक्तांश	टी-मूल्य	सार्थकता स्तर
1.	छात्र	150	7.49	2.81	298	0.61	स्वीकृत
2.	छात्राएँ	150	7.30	2.55			

## विवेचना-

माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के सामाजिक समायोजन के प्राप्तांकों का मध्यमान क्रमशः 7.49 व 7.30 तथा मानक विचलन 2.81 व 2.55 है। प्राप्त मध्यमानों के अंतर की सार्थकता की जाँच करने पर टी-मूल्य 0.61 प्राप्त हुआ है। मुक्तांश 298 पर टी का सारणी मूल्य 0.05 सार्थकता स्तर पर 1.96 है जबकि

टी-मूल्य सारणी मूल्य से कम है। अतः माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के सामाजिक समायोजन में कोई सार्थक अन्तर नहीं है इसलिए शून्य परिकल्पना स्वीकृत की जाती है।

**परिकल्पना संख्या 3.** माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के शैक्षिक समायोजन में कोई सार्थक अन्तर नहीं है।

माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के शैक्षिक समायोजन के मध्यमान, मानक विचलन एवं टी मूल्य को दर्शाती तालिका संख्या-3

क्र.सं.	विद्यार्थी	संख्या	मध्यमान	मानक विचलन	मुक्तांश	टी-मूल्य	सार्थकता स्तर
1.	छात्र	150	7.38	3.38	298	1.85	स्वीकृत
2.	छात्राएँ	150	6.67	3.27			

## विवेचना-

माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के शैक्षिक समायोजन के प्राप्तांकों का मध्यमान क्रमशः 7.38 व 6.67 तथा मानक विचलन 3.38 व 3.27 है। प्राप्त मध्यमानों के अंतर की सार्थकता की जाँच करने पर टी-मूल्य 1.85 प्राप्त हुआ है। मुक्तांश 298 पर टी का सारणी मूल्य 0.05 सार्थकता स्तर पर 1.96 है जबकि टी-मूल्य सारणी मूल्य से कम है। अतः माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के सामाजिक समायोजन में कोई सार्थक अन्तर नहीं है इसलिए शून्य परिकल्पना स्वीकृत की जाती है।

**पूर्व में किए गये शोध अध्ययनों** से प्राप्त परिणाम प्रस्तुत शोध को प्रतिपुष्टि प्रदान करता है। **सिंह, अंकुर (2000)** ने अपने शोध अध्ययन में उच्च एवं निम्न आत्म विश्वास वाले छात्र-छात्राओं के समायोजन में सार्थक अन्तर पाया। **ठक्कर, कन्हैयालाल (2005)** ने भी अपने शोध अध्ययन में विभिन्न अध्ययन आदतों वाले बालकों की शैक्षिक उपलब्धि पर शैक्षणिक समायोजन का प्रभाव पाया है। **मिश्र, सुनीता (2006)** ने अपने शोध अध्ययन में उच्च व निम्न समायोजन वाले छात्र-छात्राओं के प्रतिबल पर प्रभाव पाया। **चौहान, अनामिका (2012)** ने भी अपने शोध अध्ययन

में समायोजन के सभी क्षेत्रों में बिना किसी लिंग भेद के विकलांग समूहों में सामान्य समूहों की अपेक्षा निम्न समायोजन पाया गया।

**अध्ययन के निष्कर्ष-**

शोध अध्ययनों से प्राप्त परिणामों के आधार पर कहा जा सकता है। कि माध्यमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्रों का संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक और शैक्षिक समायोजन छात्राओं की तुलना में आंशिक रूप से उच्च है। परंतु उनके संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक और शैक्षिक समायोजन में विशेष अन्तर उपस्थित नहीं है। छात्र-छात्राओं के साथ सहयोग, मेल-जोल की भावना, साथ उठने-बैठने, प्रश्न पूछने, द्वेष, क्रोध का प्रदर्शन नहीं करती एवं पारस्परिक मेल-जोल के कारण संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक समायोजन के क्षेत्र में अपेक्षाकृत अधिक समायोजित हैं। अर्थात् अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक समायोजन में कोई सार्थक अन्तर नहीं है। इस अध्ययन का उद्देश्य शिक्षकों अभिभावकों और शिक्षाविदों को के मार्गदर्शन तथा निर्देशित करने के लिए किया जा सकता है।

**भावी शोध हेतु सुझाव—**

1. प्रस्तुत शोध अध्ययन केवल झाँसी जनपद के झाँसी शहर तक ही सीमित था। भविष्य में यह झाँसी जनपद या बुन्देलखण्ड परिप्रेक्ष्य के संदर्भ में भी किया जा सकता है।
2. प्रस्तुत शोध कार्य माध्यमिक विद्यालयों के छात्र-छात्राओं पर किया गया है। भविष्य में यह शोध अध्ययन उच्च माध्यमिक, स्नातक तथा परास्नातक स्तर के छात्र-छात्राओं पर भी किया जा सकता है।
3. प्रस्तुत शोध कार्य हिन्दी माध्यम के विद्यार्थियों तक ही सीमित था। भविष्य में यह अंग्रेजी माध्यम के विद्यार्थियों पर भी किया जा सकता है।
4. प्रस्तुत शोध अध्ययन भविष्य में अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के विद्यालयी परिवेश एवं शैक्षिक समस्याओं का अध्ययन विषय पर भी किया जा सकता है।
5. भावी शोध कार्य कला, विज्ञान एवं वाणिज्य वर्ग के अल्पसंख्यक वर्ग के विद्यार्थियों पर भी किया जा सकता है।

**शैक्षिक निहितार्थ —**

प्रस्तुत शोध अध्ययन ऐसे वर्ग विशेष की ओर इंगित करता है जिनके उत्थान एवं उन्नयन के लिए सरकार द्वारा विभिन्न योजनाएँ व नीतियाँ चलायी जा रही हैं। अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के उत्थान के लिए 'राष्ट्रीय अल्पसंख्यक आयोग' की स्थापना की गई है। यह आयोग अल्पसंख्यकों के विकास हेतु सामाजिक, आर्थिक, शैक्षिक व सांस्कृतिक परिप्रेक्ष्य में निरन्तर प्रयत्नशील है। संविधान द्वारा यह प्रावधान है कि राज्य कोई भी नीति बनाते समय अल्पसंख्यकों के विकास और हित को ध्यान में रखेगा। शोधार्थी ने शोध के माध्यम से अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के विद्यार्थियों के समायोजन व शैक्षिक आकांक्षा स्तर का अध्ययन करते समय उनके पारिवारिक परिवेश को जानने का प्रयास किया है। प्रस्तुत शोध अध्ययन "अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के छात्र-छात्राओं के संवेगात्मक, सामाजिक एवं शैक्षिक समायोजन का तुलनात्मक अध्ययन" की सार्थकता को शिक्षकों, अभिभावकों, शिक्षा प्रशासकों एवं शिक्षा नीति निर्माताओं के लिए शैक्षिक दृष्टि से उपादेयता रखता है। प्रस्तुत शोध अध्ययन शैक्षिक दृष्टिकोण से उपयोगी होने के साथ-साथ संविधान द्वारा प्रदत्त अधिकारों से अवगत कराता है और सरकार द्वारा चलायी जा रही नीतियों एवं कार्यक्रमों के प्रति सचेत करता है जिससे विशेष वर्ग के व्यक्ति लाभ उठा सकेंगे।

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## विजयदेव नारायण साही की सांस्कृतिक दृष्टि

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### प्रस्तावना :

किसी भी रचनाकार मे-चाहे वह कविता लिख रहा हो, कहानी, उपन्यास, नाटक लिख रहा हो-चाहे वह इन सभी विधाओं की आलोचना कर रहा हो उसके होती है। 'सांस्कृतिक-दृष्टि' से न सिर्फ उसके विचारों की भाव-भूमि का पता चला है बल्कि उसके यथार्थवादी रचनात्मकता से सम-सामयिक "रचना दृष्टि" को भी परखने का मौका मिलता है। किसी भी आलोचक की 'सांस्कृतिक-दृष्टि' को परखने का मतलब होता है कि उसके सस्कृति, मानवता, वर्ण-व्यवस्था, जाति व्यवस्था राष्ट्रीयता, काल, प्रकृति, समाज को देखने की दृष्टि को परखना। इस दृष्टि से अगर विजयदेव नारायण साही की 'सांस्कृतिक-दृष्टि' को परखने का पैमाना उपयुक्त तत्वों को बनाया जा तो साही की सांस्कृतिक 'दृष्टि' को परख पाना मुश्किल है। 'साही' एक कवि, आलोचक चिन्तक होने के साथ-साथ एक राजनैतिक

व्यक्तित्व के भी पुरोधा रहे है। साही के लिए राजनीति और साहित्य के सम्बन्धों की परख उधार की अनुभूति नहीं रही है। कुल मिलाकर यह कहा जा सकता है साही ने समाज को सिर्फ एक साहित्यकार की दृष्टि से ही नहीं, बल्कि एक राजनीतिक दृष्टि से भी देखा-परखा। इन्हीं 'मनोभूमियों' की भाव-भूमि से साही के 'सांस्कृतिक-दृष्टिकोण' को देखना उपयुक्त होगा। साही राजनीति में 'लोहिया' के सहयोगी रहे हैं। "लोहिया" की समाजवादी राजनीति में पूर्ण आस्था रही है। 'लोहिया' के विचारों की छाप साही में अक्सर पड़ती मिलती है, तो स्वभाविक है कि लोहिया की सांस्कृतिक दृष्टि को केन्द्र में

रखकर साही की दृष्टि को समझा जा सकता है। पिछले अध्याय में मैं बता चुका हूँ कि साही का मार्क्सवादी दृष्टिकोण से साहित्य को परखने वालों से वैचारिक मतभेद बराबर बना रहा। साही साहित्य में किसी 'वाद' के आधार पर रचना करने वालों को साहित्यिक की श्रेणी में नहीं रखते। राजनीति में साही के गुरु लोहिया मार्क्सवादी विचारधारा से विरोध रखते रहे। दरअसल यह विरोध किसी पूर्वग्रह वश नहीं था बल्कि शुद्ध भारतीय चिन्तन परम्परा से ओत-प्रोत होने के कारण था। साही में इसे भारत-विम्ब' के रूप में देखा जा सकता है। हजारी प्रसाद द्विवेदी ने लिखा है कि भारत का लोकनायक वही हो सकता है जिसमें समन्वय की विराट् चेष्टा हो। इस दृष्टि से गाँधी में यह क्षमता रही है, नेहरू में रही है, बहुत हद तक लोहिया में भी। इन सभी विचारकों ने सस्कृति में समन्वय की बात कही है लेकिन लोहिया के बहुत से विचार सहमति की विचार-पद्धति पर आधारित है तो बहुत से समन्वय की पद्धति पर। सहमति और समन्वय में अन्तर होता है। इस दृष्टि से साही के साहित्यिक अवदानों को देखा जाय तो साही 'सहमति' सिद्धान्त के प्रखर विरोधी रहे है। 'समन्वयवाद' की परिकल्पना भी शायद उस रूप में नहीं मिलती जैसा कि हजारी प्रसाद द्विवेदी ने प्रस्तावित किया है। मेरा मकसद यहाँ लोहिया की राजनीति को साही के साहित्य में परखने का नहीं है, सिर्फ यह रेखांकित करने का प्रयास है कि साही अपने सहयोगियों के साथ कैसे उस मनोभूमि को परखते रहे हैं जिसमें फिरदौसी भी है, जायसी भी है, कालिदास भी है तो प्रेमचन्द भी है।

**विशिष्ट शब्द :-** धर्मांध , इंग्लिस्तान, महत्त्वकांक्षाएँ, मनोयोग , मेटाफिजिकल, विमूढ रूढ़िवादिता, परस्त्रीगमन ,ब्रह्माण्डव्यापी चेतना |



**विषयवस्तु :-**

सर्वेश्वर दयाल सक्सेना ने साही के व्यक्तित्व को परखते हुए लिखा है कि "साहित्य में साही के होने का मतलब ही था चुनौती का होना"<sup>1</sup> चुनौती के ही स्वर में साही ने बार-बार भारत में 'हिन्दू-मुस्लिम' दो संस्कृतियों कोस मझने का प्रयास किया है। बार-बार वे इस प्रश्न से जुझते हैं कि आखिर वह कौन सा रास्ता है जिससे दोनों संस्कृतियों का आस पस में सामंजस्य बैठ सकता है। वस्तुतः यह 'समन्वय की विराट चेष्टा' का ही मुहावरा है। धर्म निरपेक्षता की खोज में हिन्दी साहित्य और उसके पडोस पर एक दृष्टि से साही ने 'दिनमान' में तीन लेखों की लेखमाला लिखी है। जिसमें साही ने साफ-साफ कहा है कि "धर्म निरपेक्षता कोई परिभाषित प्रत्यय नहीं है। बल्कि यह प्रक्रिया है।"<sup>2</sup> बीसवीं शताब्दी के मुहाने पर भारतीय जनता-जिसमें हिन्दू भी थे, मुसलमान भी थे, का अग्रजों के विरुद्ध जो संघर्ष चल रहा था उसमें धीरे-धीरे दरार पडने लगी थी। उस दरार को भरने का अथक प्रयास किया महात्मा गाँधी ने। लेकिन सारी कवायद के बावजूद 1947 में भारत पाकिस्तान का बँटवारा हो गया। यह बँटवारा सिर्फ दो राष्ट्रों का ही नहीं था बल्कि दो संस्कृतियों की असफलता भी थी। साही ने इस दौर को केन्द्र में रखकर मध्यकाल की उस युग-भूमि को देखने का प्रयास किया है जब मुगल बादशाहों ने भारत में अपनी सत्ता स्थापित की। क्या वह दौर भी ऐसी ही मन-स्थितियों से नहीं गुजर रहा था? साही की सारी उधेड़-बुन' इन्हीं दो संस्कृतियों के टकराव और उसके समन्वय को लेकर है। साही का मानना है कि हिन्दुस्तान में धर्मान्ध और धर्मनिरपेक्ष तत्वों की 'उधेड़बुन' करने पर दो तरह की प्रक्रियाएँ सामने आती हैं।

एक प्रक्रिया तो खासतौर पर हिन्दू मुस्लिम रिश्तों को लेकर चलती है। इस स्थिति में टकराव भी है, समझौता भी है। विभाजन भी है, समन्वय भी है। यह प्रक्रिया बहुत पुरानी है। इसकी जड़े हमारे मध्यकाल में हैं।<sup>3</sup> मध्यकाल में इन दोनों संस्कृतियों की जड़ों की खोज में ही साही 'जायसी' तक पहुँचते हैं। आखिर जायसी ही ऐसे क्यों मिले? कबीर भी थे, सूर भी थे, तुलसी भी थे? साथ ही दूसरा सवाल उठता है कि भारत में 'संस्कृतियों' की यह टकराव सिर्फ भक्तिकाल में ही हो, ऐसा तो नहीं है। इसके पूर्व भी भिन्न-भिन्न संस्कृतियों की टकराव होती है? दरअसल साही के सामने मुख्य प्रश्न हिन्दू-मुस्लिम की एकता का था। 47 की आजादी

जया रमेशलाल बजाज

के बाद जब दो देशों का निर्माण दो संस्कृतियों के आधार पर हुआ, तो वहाँ भी प्रश्न 'हिन्दू-मुस्लिम' का ही था, हूणो, शको का नहीं। यही नहीं "अग्रजों" मनोभावों का भी नहीं था। क्योंकि कही न कहीं भारतीय जनमानस यूरोपीय संस्कृति में समन्वय करने में सफल हो गया था। यह अलग बात है कि इसमें तत्वों के सम्मिश्रण का अनुपात कुछ गड़बड़ है। धर्मनिरपेक्षता की खोज में 'जायसी' तक पहुँचने का कारण साही के लिए सिर्फ इसलिए नहीं था कि जायसी मुसलमान थे और कविता अवधी में करते थे। बल्कि वह चेतना थी जिससे जायसी 'मनुष्य' की कविता करने में सफल हो सके। साही ने 'जायसी' को केन्द्र में रखकर जहाँ एक तरफ 'भक्तिकाल' की कविता की धर्म सम्बन्धित अनुभूति का जायजा लिया है, वहीं इसी के माध्यम से हिन्दू मुस्लिम धर्म में समन्वय की चेष्टा का भी प्रयास किया है।

साही धर्म निरपेक्षता को दो भागों में बाँटकर देखते हैं। एक-समान दूरी वाली धर्म निरपेक्षता, दूसरी-धर्मनिरपेक्ष धर्म निरपेक्षता। एक समान वाली धर्म निरपेक्षता को कबीर के सन्दर्भ से व्याख्यायित करते हुए साही कहते हैं कि कबीर में यह तत्व सबसे अधिक है। कबीर के सन्दर्भ को रेखांकित करते हुए साही आधुनिकता के पहलू से भी धर्म पर विचार करते हैं। "कबीर दास को हम क्या कहे? धर्मान्ध या धर्मनिरपेक्ष" इस तरह पूछने पर फौरन लगता है कि सिर्फ दो चौखट्टे काफी नहीं हैं। और भी होने चाहिए। इसी से साबित होता है कि धर्म निरपेक्षता का सवाल उतना इकहरा नहीं है जितना सिर्फ यूरोप के अनुभव को देखकर मान लिया जाता है। हिन्दू और मुसलमान दोनों से समान दूरी पर अपने को जगाने की कबीर की कोशिश को सब जानते हैं। इस मशा से वह धर्म को बल्कि दोनों धर्मों को निचोड़ते हैं। धर्म का एक काम यह भी होता है कि वह कुछ दुनियावी चीजों को 'पावनता' से मडित करता है और बाकी को 'अपावन' बनाता है। धर्मान्धता में यह पावन-अपावन टक्कर बड़ी उग्र हो जाती है और बहुतों को लपेटती है। कबीरदास की निचोड़ धर्म के पावन तत्व को मनुष्य की सहज आंतरिकता में सीमित कर देती है। दुनिया खाली हो जाती है बाहरी बातें 'पावनता' के घेरे के बाहर हो जाती हैं, गौण या निरर्थक हो जाती हैं। दूसरे शब्दों में यह ललकार चालू पावनता को धर्मनिरपेक्षता में बंद लाने का ढग है। इन सब धर्मों से समान दूरी का प्रयास, धर्मनिरपेक्षता उपजाता है।"<sup>4</sup>

कबीर का जो समन्वय का प्रयास था वह एक "नई दुनिया" की स्थापना में था। लेकिन समाज को जोड़ने का प्रयास उसके भीतर से ही होना चाहिए, किसी भी तरह से अलग होकर नहीं। इस दृष्टि से 'जायसी' अधिक महत्वपूर्ण है जिन्होंने धर्म के अन्दर रहकर भी धर्मनिरपेक्षता की खोज की है। साही लिखते हैं "जायसी कबीर से भिन्न है। वह अपने इस्लाम में दृढ़ है। लेकिन अभिव्यक्ति के लिए लोक भाषा को चुनते हैं। यानी फारसी से इस्लाम का अनावश्यक रिश्ता तोड़ते हैं। पद्मावत में वह मानवीय प्रेम के उस रसायन का आविष्कार करते हैं जो मनुष्य को

मुट्टीभर धूल से उठा कर 'बैकुठी' बनाता है।"5

जायसी 'मानुष-प्रेम' को बैकुठी बनाने में दो तरफा चुनौती का समाना करते हैं। प्रेम को बैकुठी बनाने का काम ईरान में भी सूफियो ने किया है। लेकिन जायसी इससे एक कदम आगे बढ़ते हैं "जायसी अपने परिवेश और काव्य-माध्यम के चुनाव के कारण ईरानी सूफियो से कुछ आगे बढ़ने को विवश है। ईरान के सूफियो के सामने सिर्फ एक धर्म था - इस्लाम, उसी को उन्होंने प्रेम रसायन डालकर निचोड़ा लेकिन जायसी के सामने दुहरी चुनौती थी। अगर यह रसायन मनुष्य मात्र के हृदय में है तो सबको निचोड़ेगा। इस तरह एक धर्म का सारतत्व सब धर्मों का सारतत्व बनता है। जायसी का तसब्बुफ आगे बढ़कर बिना अपने इस्लाम को छोड़े, हिंदू धर्म के मर्म को स्पर्श करता है। कविता में एक तत्काल नतीजा यह निकलता है कि धारणाओ, प्रत्ययो, प्रतीको, पुराकथाओ, मिथको, शब्दों की एक उभयधर्मी या बहुधर्मी दुनिया खड़ी हो जाती है, जो किसी एक धर्म के पाश से मुक्त हो जाती है। दीवारे टूटने लगती है। 'कविलास' और 'जन्नत' का फर्क मिट जाता है। . . सक्षेप में - जकडबन्द धार्मिक प्रतीक प्रत्यय या मानवीय प्रतीकों में बदलकर धर्मनिरपेक्ष होने लगते हैं।"6

जायसी का महत्व इस दृष्टि से भी है कि उन्होंने इतिहास की यथार्थता को उसके उसी रूप में प्रस्तुत किया है जैसा वह मूलरूप में था। इस दृष्टि से जायसी ने एक जोखम उठाने का काम किया। एक तरफ वे अलाउद्दीन की विजय को स्वीकार करते हैं दूसरी तरफ जौहर होती हुई स्त्रियाँ का वर्णन भी करते हैं।

जायसी शुद्धरूप से हिन्दू-मुस्लिम: टक्कर को बिना किसी लाग-लपेट के व्याख्यायित करते हैं। "लगता है कि वह जानबूझकर उस अलौकिक प्रेम-रसायन को दुखती रगो के

जया रमेशलाल बजाज

सग्राम में डालकर परखना चाहते हैं कि इसमें कुछ दम भी है या सिर्फ लफ्फाजी है।"7

साही का मानना है कि जायसी के बाद के भक्ति कवि सूरदास, तुलसीदास ऐसा नहीं कर पाते। आखिर क्यों? क्योंकि "सूरदास की धार्मिक अनुभूति परमदर्शन को इतना घनत्व दे देती है कि वह उनके भीतर ही समूचा समा जाता है। बाहर कोई वृन्दावन नहीं बचता या अगर बचता भी है तो असली वृन्दावन के निमित्त छूछे सकेत की ही तरह। जबकि तुलसीदास थोड़े भिन्न हैं। यह सही है कि उनकी धार्मिक अनुभूति भी मुख्यत उनके मर्म में ही लहराती है, लेकिन कुछ बाहर भी झलकती है। हमारी रोजमर्रा की दुनिया में भी पावन-अपावन का भेद पैदा करती दिखती है।"8

वस्तुतः साही जिस समन्वय की बात कर रहे थे उससे उनका मतव्य था कि समाज को उसके सभी सन्दर्भों से जोड़कर परख कर देखना ही महत्वपूर्ण होता है। किसी भी मर्म को जड़ से उखाड़ फेंकना जरूरी है न कि उस पर कोई लीपा पोती करना या उससे पलायन करना। साथ ही यह स्वीकार भी है कि आधुनिक भारत का सांस्कृतिक समाज सिर्फ 'हिन्दू धर्म' से परिचालित नहीं हो सकता उसमें उतना ही महत्व अन्य धर्मों खासकर 'मुस्लिम धर्म' का भी है। क्योंकि "जब दो या अधिक धर्मों में टकराव होता है तो आदमी तर्कश तीन धारणाएँ बना सकता है। पहली धर्म

में सार है, बाकी निस्सार है। दूसरी सभी धर्मों में सार है। तीसरी सभी धर्म निस्सार है। पहली धारणा अगर धर्मान्धि है तो अंतिम दोनों धर्मनिरपेक्ष होगी।"9 और यही दूसरी धारणा- एक समान दूरी वाली धर्म निरपेक्षता है तो तीसरी निरर्थकता वाली धर्म निरपेक्षता है।

साही अपने विचार क्रम में मध्यकाल में ही नहीं प्रविष्ट होते बल्कि मध्यकाल की इस्लामी मनोवृत्ति की पहचान करने में खैबर दर्रे के उस पार तक जाते हैं। साही की एक खास विशेषता रही है कि वे अपनी बात को इधर-उधर से खोद-खोदकर देखते हैं। हिन्दुस्तान के मुस्लिम राज्य और ईरान के मुस्लिम राज्य को एक साथ देखने का क्या औचित्य? औचित्य है; क्योंकि भारत में स्थापित मुस्लिम राज्य सिर्फ 'इस्लाम' का प्रतिबिम्ब नहीं है बल्कि एक भारतीय जनमानस का वह प्रतिबिम्ब जिसमें कितना हिन्दू है कितना मुसलमान, कितना अलाउद्दीन है कितना पद्मावती का भी प्रतिबिम्ब है। ईरान में राष्ट्रीयवा की एक

लहर महमूद गजनवी से थोड़ा पहले उठी उमर खलिफा के सहयोगी साथियों ने पूरे ईरान के साहित्य को जलाकर नष्ट कर दिया। लेकिन सारा प्रयास निरर्थक साबित हो गया जब ईरान के साहित्यकारों ने उसके समूचे इतिहास को फिर से जिन्दा कर दिया। साही 'फिरदौसी' के 'शाहनामा' को एक क्रान्तिकारी पुस्तक के रूप में स्वीकार करते हुए कहते हैं कि "महमूद गजनवी के दमन के बावजूद शाहनामा उस हगा। पाए गजनवी दमन शाहनामा अमर हुआ। इतना ही नहीं, फिरदौसी की दृष्टि इस मामले में बिलकुल साफ है कि अरब विजेताओं के विरुद्ध लड़ाई, ईरान की राष्ट्रीय अंतर्धर्म निरपेक्ष लड़ाई है जिसमें ईरान की समूची परम्परा को जीवित रखने की जरूरत है।"10 लेकिन भारत में ऐसा नहीं हुआ, कोई फिरदौसी जन्म नहीं लेता? लोक गाथाएँ जिसमें हीर-राँझा, सोहनी-महीवाल, सस्सी-पुनो, पद्मावत आदि शामिल हैं, वे उदान के तत्व नहीं मिलते जो फिरदौसी में थे। साही का मानना है कि "फिरदौसी और उसके शाहनामा के प्रवाह का मतलब सिर्फ दूर से झलकने वाली निर्मल, मोहिनी चंचल लोकगाथा नहीं है। वह कुछ और है वह एक ऐसा प्रामाणिक रचना विधान है जो एक ही बहाव में लोक सस्कृति और उच्च सस्कृति दोनों को इस तरह जोड़ देता है कि अंतर मिट जाता है।"11 फिरदौसी का महत्व इस दृष्टि से भी है कि उसके सामने महमूद गजनवी जैसा कट्टर बादशाह भी छोटा पड़ जाता है। फिरदौसी को साही मध्यकालीन भारत में एक सम्भावना की तरह स्वीकार करते हैं। भक्तिकालीन कविता में दो सस्कृतियों को लेकर समन्वय की दृष्टि साही को कालिदास की तरफ भी उन्मुख करती है। जिस राष्ट्रीय सन्दर्भ से फिरदौसी का साहित्य धर्मनिरपेक्ष है, उसी दृष्टिकोण से सस्कृत साहित्य भी धर्मनिरपेक्ष है। साही कहते हैं कि "कमनीयता कीर्ति, प्रेम और मधुर मादकता से बनी हुई कालिदास की दुनिया मूलतः धर्मनिरपेक्ष दुनिया है। पराक्रमी पुरखों से लेकर आखिरी क्षय तक कालिदास जिस तटस्थ भाव से समूचे रघुवंश की तस्वीर हमारे सामने रखते हैं वह न केवल धर्मनिरपेक्ष है, बल्कि कुछ हद तक नीतिनिरपेक्ष भी लगती है।"12 साही इसे भक्ति काल का दूसरा क्षितिज मानते हैं और कालिदास और फिरदौसी दोनों को मध्यकालीन क्षितिज में सम्भावना की तरह झलकता पाते हैं "और बीच के मैदान में हिन्दी भाषा उत्तर भारत का काव्य जन्म लेता है।" वस्तुतः साही धर्मनिरपेक्षता की संस्कृति को समाजशास्त्रीय दृष्टि से परिभाषित करते हैं। धर्मनिरपेक्षता"

जया रमेशलाल बजाज

सिर्फ धर्मों से निरपेक्ष सम्बन्ध पर ही नहीं आधारित होती, बल्कि वह अपने काल समग्र में राजनीति से भी निरपेक्ष होती है।

अठारहवीं शताब्दी के भारत में हिन्दू मुस्लिम से परे एक दूसरी धार्मिक विचारधारा का आगमन होता है 'क्रिश्चियन धर्म' का। 'इंग्लिस्तान' की "विचार के कारण भारत का जो नया समाज जन्म ले रहा था, उसकी दिशा-दशा बदल गयी। जायसी, फिरदौसी, कालिदास की तरह एक नये व्यक्तित्व की तलाश शुरू होती है और वह खोज गांधी जी में जाकर पूरी होती है। गांधी जी ने अपने अथक प्रयास से भारत को स्वतन्त्रता दिलाई। यद्यपि यह श्रेय अकेले गांधी जी को ही नहीं जाता, लेकिन अगुआई गांधी जी ने की है। साही का मानना है कि स्वाधीनता! संग्राम के दौरान भारत के गौरवमय इतिहास और महान परम्परा का हवाला बार-बार दिया गया। जिसके पीछे विदेशियों के विरोध के प्रति आत्मविश्वास और महत्वाकांक्षा जगाने की भावना थी। लेकिन स्वतन्त्रता के बाद राष्ट्रीय महत्वाकांक्षा की कसौटी अन्वेषण की नहीं सृजनात्मकता की हो जाती है। साही का मानना है कि "आज की स्थिति को आर्थिक, राजनैतिक, सामाजिक और सांस्कृतिक इन चार स्तरों पर देख सकते हैं।"14 इसी दृष्टि से साही "इतिहास" को वर्तमान के सापेक्ष देखते हैं। रामचन्द्र शुक्ल से साही की दृष्टि का अन्तर यही है कि रामचन्द्र शुक्ल वर्तमान में भूत को समाहित कर देते हैं जबकि साही वर्तमान का फैलाव भूत में भी करते हैं और भविष्य में। साही का मानना है कि "इतिहास सिर्फ वही नहीं है जो दो हजार बरस पहले घटित हुआ था, बल्कि वह भी है जो पिछले सौ वर्षों में गुजरा है और वह भी जो कल घटित होने की सम्भावना की तरह आज हमारे मानस को व्याकुल कर रहा है।"15

परम्पराओं से समाज का गठन भी जुड़ा रहता है और जब परम्पराएँ टूटती हैं तो समाज के टूटने का भी खतरा बना रहता है लेकिन साही का तर्क है कि यह सच नहीं है क्योंकि अठारहवीं सदी से कहीं भारत आज ज्यादा मजबूत है, तो इसका तात्पर्य है कि "परम्पराओं के अलावा और चीजें भी हैं जो सामाजिक इकाई को बाधता है।"16 'धर्म और सस्कृति' ये दो तत्व हैं जिनसे समाज को एकजुट रहता है। साही का मानना है कि मध्ययुग में परम्पराओं का पुंज ही धर्म था और भारत में आधुनिकता का पहला कदम धार्मिक सुधार ही है, लेकिन इससे भी महत्वपूर्ण बात है

'संस्कृति'। 'संस्कृति धर्म के मुकाबले बड़ी चीज है इसमें धर्म, कला, साहित्य, रीति-रिवाज, संस्थाएं राजनीति, समाज नीति और इतिहास का बड़ा हिस्सा समाहित होता है। कुल मिलाकर 'संस्कृति' परम्पराओं का प्रभा मण्डल है।

इस दृष्टि से साही 1947 के विभाजन को सिर्फ राजनैतिक असफलता नहीं स्वीकारते उसे सांस्कृतिक विफलता भी स्वीकारते हैं। साही का कहना है कि "धर्म की संस्कृति से उलझने की कोशिश मूलतः परमतत्त्व से निकलकर इतिहास में आने की कोशिश है। इस क्षेत्र में आने पर नयी समस्याएँ खड़ी हो गयीं। एक तरफ तो आर्य संस्कृति और द्रविड संस्कृति की बहस चल पड़ी, दूसरी तरफ हिन्दू संस्कृति और मुस्लिम संस्कृति की। मुख्य बौद्धिक चुनौती यह थी क्या संस्कृति की कोई ऐसी सन्तोषजनक परिभाषा हो सकती है, जो इस समूची सामाजिक इकाई को कई केन्द्रों की जगह एक केन्द्र प्रदान कर सके? सत्याग्रह युग (बीसवी सदी के तीसरे और चौथे दशक) में इसका सबसे चलता हुआ जवाब 'समन्वित संस्कृति' की धारणा में दिया। लेकिन 'समन्वित संस्कृति' एक केन्द्र की स्थापना नहीं कर सकी, वह कई केन्द्रों के सहअस्तित्व तक ही सीमित रही।

धार्मिक दीन इलाही पन की तरह समन्वित संस्कृति ने भी एक नये शात्वार्थ को जन्म दिया असली संस्कृति बनाम 'सकुचित संस्कृति'। यह बहस भी सुनाई पड़ती है। इसके पहले की धर्म की तरह संस्कृति को भी हम किसी और बड़ी सवेदनशीलता में पचा लेते, बँटवारा हो गया। भारत-पाकिस्तान विभाजन धार्मिक विफलता नहीं है, गहरे स्तर पर सांस्कृतिक विफलता है। जिन् ना से लेकर अयूब खा तक का नेतृत्व इस्लाम धर्म के बूते पर नहीं है (क्योंकि वे धार्मिक नेता नहीं हैं), बल्कि मुस्लिम संस्कृति के नाम पर है।"17\_ सन् 1947 की आजादी को साही ने पूर्वग्रहीन क्रान्ति माना है। 'पूर्वग्रहीन' इस अर्थ में कि "हर क्रान्ति के साथ भावनाओं के एक वृहत् कोष का विस्फोट होता है जो पिछले सम्बन्धों के टूटने के बाद नये सम्बन्धों के लिए घृणा द्वेष, प्रेम, भय, आक्रोश, धैर्य, निष्ठा आदि को नई दिशाएँ झटके के साथ नया आवेग देता है। 1947 की आजादी ने यह नहीं किया। ससार की यह सबसे अधिक पूर्वग्रहीन क्रान्ति थी।"18 आजादी की लड़ाई में एक तरफ भारत बनाम पश्चिम का द्वन्द्व था तो दूसरी तरफ हिन्दू बनाम मुस्लिम का और इस पहलू का तीसरा कोण सवर्ण बनाम अवर्ण का भी था। भीमराव अम्बेडकर ने हरिजनो के

जया रमेशलाल बजाज

लिए अलग स्वायत्तता की मांग की जआजिसे अआंगरे जो ननेेह ह वाी दतीा। गनआधली जी ने इसका विरोध क िया, आमरण अनशन कर भीमराव को 'पूना पैक्ट' लिए बाध्य किया। एक तरह से गांधी के विचारों में परिवर्तन की यह आधार भूमि है। क्रान्ति काए क तरीका गांधी का आमरण अनशनभी है इससे साही बहुत गहरे प्रभावित होते हैं। जब समाज के अन्दर से गांठ बनने लगती है तो सामाजिक प्रक्रिया पतनशील हो जाती है। गांधी ने अपने कर्म से इस गांठ को तोड़ने का प्रयास किया और "समाज में फाँक बनाने वाले तत्व के पहले उसका विरोध करने के साथ-साथ विषमता से वह फाँक वहाँ उत्पन्न हुई उस विषमता को भी उन्होंने अपने जिम्मे लेने का हठ लिया।"19

स्वतन्त्रता के बाद भारत में 'जाति-प्रथा' की समस्या और गभीर रूप धारण कर लेती है। जो सघर्ष हरिजन बनाम सवर्ण का था उसमें एक तीसरा वर्ग जिसे पिछड़ा वर्ग कहा जाता है का उदभव होने लगता है। इस वर्ग को तो कोई भीमराव अम्बेडकर नहीं मिले लेकिन चरण सिंह जैसा किसान नेता मिला। पिछड़े वर्ग की सामाजिक स्थिति हरिजन वर्ग से भिन् न थी इसलिए पिछड़ा वर्ग किसी इन्कलाब की बात नहीं करता उसे सिर्फ ऊँची जातियों के समान समाज में स्थान चाहिए। साही के अनुसार "उसकी अपनी जो जातिगत सामाजिक महत्वाकाक्षाएँ हैं, उन सामाजिक महत्वाकाक्षाओं के भीतर ही वह अपनी राजनीति की तस्वीर बनाता है उस तस्वीर में इन्कलाब नहीं शामिल है, जाति तोड़ना नहीं शामिल है, केवल ऊँची जातियों के आसन पर एक पीढा हमारा भी लग जाय यही मांग है।"20

जातिवाद की यह समस्या 'भक्तिकाल' में भी थी। भक्तिकाल के कवियों ने इसका हल अपने तई निकाला, लेकिन कुछ ही समय बाद यह व्यवस्था और भयानक रूप से भारत में स्थिर हो गयी। शायद इसके मूल में हिन्दू धर्म की वह पाचन शक्ति है जिसमें आकर सबका कोई न कोई समाधान निकल ही जाता है और कछ नहीं तो एक नया सगठन बन जाता है, क्योंकि हिन्दी समाज ऐसा है कि आप रजनीश हो सकते हैं, बहुत ही क्रान्तिकारी बात कह सकते हैं और एक बिलकुल क्रान्तिकारी सम्प्रदाय की स्थापना कर सकते हैं और बहुत चौकानें वाली प्रथाओं का प्रवर्तन कर सकते हैं। बशर्ते आप अपने सम्प्रदाय के अन्दर करे? वैसा करने का अधिकार हिन्दू धर्म आपको दे सकता, क्योंकि सम्प्रदाय समझौते की एक विशेष अवस्था में क्रियाशील

होता है, वह तनाव की अवस्था में क्रियाशील नहीं हो पाता वह क्रान्ति नहीं होता, वह सिर्फ अलगाव होता है।” 21 साही ने बार-बार इस तथ्य को रेखांकित करने का प्रयास किया है कि कैसे भारत में जाति-प्रथा को तोड़ा जाय, कैसे 'हिन्दू मुस्लिम एकीकरण को मजबूत किया जाय। 'हिन्दू-मुस्लिम' एकता के लिए साही कहते हैं कि मुसलमानों की जब सत्ता भारत को अपना देश मानने लगी, उसी समय एक दूसरे आक्रमणकारियों की लहर आयी उसने भी जब भारत को अपना देश माना तो तीसरा दल आया। इस तरह से बार-बार आक्रमण मुस्लिम शासक झेलते रहे। वस्तुतः ये विचार

राम मनोहर लोहिया के हैं, साही इसे विस्तार देते हुए हिन्दू मुस्लिम समन्वय की बात करते हैं” अपने को उस समय के विजेता समझते हैं वह स्वयं सोचे और जरूरत पड़ने पर अगर हिन्दू हैं तो मुसलमानों और अगर मुसलमान हैं तो हिन्दुओं से विचार-विमर्श करें। डरे नहीं कि खुली बात कहने में गडबड है।”22 साही अपनी बात बड़े ही बेलाग तरीके से रखते हैं। बगैर इस चिन्ता के कि उनकी बात का इस्तेमाल कौन अपने पक्ष में करेगा। साखी कविता संग्रह में 'साही' अपने 'परम गुरु' से प्रार्थना करते हैं कि” 23

परम गुरु दो तो ऐसी विनम्रता दो  
कि अन्तहीन सहानुभूति की वाणी बोल सकू।  
और यह अन्तहीन सहानुभूति  
पाखण्ड न लगे।-----

दो तो ऐसी निरीहता दो  
कि इस दहाडते आतंक के बीच  
फटकार कर सच बोल सकें |  
और इसकी चिन्ता न हो  
कि इस बहुमुखी युद्ध में  
मेरे सच का इस्तेमाल कौन अपने पक्ष में करेगा।

बगैर चिन्ता किये साही एक तरफ हिन्दू धर्म के कमजोर पक्षों पर चोट करते हैं तो दूसरी तरफ वह मुसलमानों को भी नहीं बक्सते। साही का मानना है कि लोहिया ने सारे भारत में एक से सविधान की वकालत की है उसके पीछे उनकी सामाजिक क्रान्ति का सिद्धान्त है। साही मुस्लिम तुष्टिकरण की नीति का विरोध करते हुए लिखते हैं कि “हम आप इन्कलाब करते हैं चाहे इस्लाम को मानते हैं। इसके तो सारे उसूल हमारी कुरान में मिल जाते हैं फिर मुसलमान जब बहुमत में हैं तो क्या करें। जब सत्ता तक होगा तब पता चलता है। तब सैयद के भी अपने सलाओ चेला जैसे खुमैनी साहेब बहुत लोग जैसे कर रहे हैं। जिया-उल-हक साहेब कर रहे हैं। इसका न हदीस में और न ही कुरान में कोई जिक्र है कि तुम जब अल्पमत में रहो तो क्या करो। इसलिए मुसलमान जब अल्पमत में हैं तो उसे धर्मनिरपेक्षता चाहिए, सत्ता में है तो कहता है कि सिवाय इस्लाम के और कोई धर्म नहीं चलेगा। एक जबान दो फाक।”24

वस्तुतः साही तटस्थ भाव से हिन्दू-मुस्लिम' सस्कृति को परखने के हिमायती रहे हैं। तुष्टिकरण की नीति-चाहे वह हिन्दू के पक्ष में हो या चाहे मुसलमान के पक्ष में का साही बार-बार विरोध करते हैं। डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया के 'सात क्रान्तियों' के सिद्धान्त में एक सिद्धान्त है 'नर-नारी समानता' का। लोहिया ने सीता सावित्री को आदर्श रखने के बजाय द्रौपदी! को आदर्श माना। इस अर्थ में नहीं कि वह पांच पतियों वाली स्त्री है, बल्कि इस अर्थ में कि वह अपने अधिकारों के प्रति सतत जागरूक है। वह अपने प्रति होने वाले अन्याय से लड़ना जानती है। आज की नारी को भी ऐसा ही होना चाहिए। इसी बात को आगे बढ़ाते हुए साही कहते हैं कि “आज अगर मैं तुलसी दास की जगह राम की कथा लिखने बैठू तो निश्चय ही मैं सवाल पूछूंगा कि अहिल्या का कौन सा दोष था? उसका तो एक तरह से बलात्कार ही हुआ था, बल्कि उससे भी ज्यादा खराब धोखा दिया था।”25 दरअसल समस्या नारी-पुरुष की न होकर समाज की पुरुष मानसिकता की है। 'योनिशुचिता' के सिद्धान्त से स्त्री के लिए

एक कसौटी और पुरुष के लिए दूसरी कसौटी निर्धारित करना न सिर्फ सामाजिक स्तर पर अन्याय है, बल्कि मनुष्य होने की संभावना को भी समाप्त करना है। नारी की यह स्थिति सिर्फ हिन्दू धर्म में ही हो ऐसा नहीं है तुसलमानी संस्कृति में यह तो और भयानक रूप में विद्यमान है।

आधुनिक काल में फ्रांस की एक अस्तित्ववादी विचारक सिमान दी बोवा ने स्त्रियों के शोषण सम्बन्धी कारणों में 'विवाह' को भी एक कारण माना है। समाजवादी विचारक साही इस बात का विरोध करते हैं। "स्त्री-पुरुष विवाह होता है, वही स्त्री का शोषण शुरू हो जाता है। कहने को ये बातें अच्छी लगती हैं कि परिवार ही शोषण का आधार है। यह नहीं कि आज का परिवार शोषण को बढ़ावा देता है, बल्कि परिवार मात्र चाहे जिस समाज में होगा, यदि पारिवारिकता होगी। स्त्री-पुरुष में विवाह सम्बन्ध होगा तो सिवाय शोषक-शोषित के कोई दूसरा सम्बन्ध नहीं बनेगा। कोई भी समाजवादी और समाजशास्त्री इतना तो मान लेगा कि आज के समाज, आज के परिवार, स्त्री-पुरुष के बीच में बड़ी असमानताएं हैं और शोषण के बहुत से आधार हैं। उन आधारों को दूर करना एक बात है, लेकिन यह कहना कि परिवार मात्र ही, विवाह पद्धति मात्र ही इस सकट को खड़ा कर देती है, ऐसा कोई समाजवादी स्वीकार नहीं करेगा।" 26

"भाषा' पर साही ने अपने विचार-क्रम में बहुत कुछ ऐसे विचार प्रस्तुत किये हैं जिससे हिन्दी आलोचना अच्छी रही है। भाषा' की समस्या 'भारत' के लिए सांस्कृतिक समस्या रही है। खासकर स्वतन्त्र भारत में। अंग्रेजी बनाम हिन्दी' 'हिन्दी बनाम अन्य प्रान्तीय भाषा' का द्वन्द्व भारत को दो ध्रुवों उत्तर, दक्षिण में बांट देने की स्थिति में पहुँच गया है। सारी कवायद के बाद भी आज हिन्दी' की अपेक्षा अंग्रेजी' मजबूत स्थिति में भारत में पैर जमा चुकी है। जो कि ठीक नहीं है, क्योंकि "किसी भी दूसरे देश की भाषा ज्ञान का साधन बन सकती है। यह अलग मत है, लेकिन देश की एकता का साधन बन सकती है, कभी नहीं। वह हमेशा विदेशी है।" 27 भाषा की समस्या सिर्फ आधुनिक भारत' की ही समस्या नहीं रही है। मध्यकाल में भी ऐसी स्थिति थी। राजभाषा दूसरी लोक भाषा दूसरी। भक्तिकाल, रीतिकाल की भाषा कविता में लोकभाषा अवधी, ब्रज की रही है और राजनीति में फारसी। ब्रज, अवधी को स्थापित करने में युगीन कवियों को काफी संघर्ष करना पड़ा। मामला धर्म का भी था- इसकी अभिव्यक्ति 'भाषा' के लिए चुनौती थी।

जया रमेशलाल बजाज

'भक्ति-काल' की भाषिक स्थिति की विवेचना करते हुए साही कहते हैं कि "धर्मान्धता और धर्मनिरपेक्षता की सीधी बहस में विषयवस्तु की ओर ध्यान बरबस चला जाता है। लेकिन काव्य सत्य में निहित समूची सम्भावना को देखने के लिए विषय वस्तु और रूप विधान को अलग न करना उचित है और यही लोक प्रचलित धर्म-निरपेक्षता तत्व-यानी बोलचाल की भाषा बड़े पैमाने पर काम करती दिखती है। बोलचाल की भाषा धर्म निरपेक्ष इसी अर्थ में होती है कि धर्मों के अन्तर के बावजूद सभी लोग उसे बोले। भाषा सबकी होकर धर्म निरपेक्ष/ हो जाती है।" 28-

साही का मानना है कि धर्म के तत्ववाद को पकड़ने के बावजूद भक्तिकाल के कवियों ने भाषा की एकतानता को स्वीकार कर सर्वसम्प्रदाय: की स्थापना की। "एक ही अवधी से जायसी और तुलसीदास दोनों का काम चलता है। कविरूप में दोनों एक ही मनोभूमि के अंग हैं। अगर जायसी अपनी बात फारसी में कहते और तुलसीदास संस्कृत में तो प्रेम-रसायन या भक्ति-रसायन में समानता के बावजूद दोनों के दायरे अलग रहते। जैसे शेख सादी और जायसी की दुनियाएँ अलग हैं। दरवेश दोनों हैं। यहाँ संस्कृत और फारसी हिन्दू और मुसलमान के साथ नत्थी हो गयी थी। लोकभाषा हिन्दी दीवारे तोड़ती है और समन्वय का आह्वान करती है।" 29 साही को जायसी अपने 'मानुष प्रेम' के साथ-साथ इसलिए भी महत्वपूर्ण लगते हैं कि मुसलमान होने के बावजूद, इस्लाम में दृढ़ आस्था रखने के बावजूद, अपनी अभिव्यक्ति के लिए लोकभाषा अवधी का चुनाव करते हैं। "यानी फारसी से इस्लाम का अनावश्यक रिश्ता" 30 तोड़ते हैं।

रीतिकाल' को हिन्दी आलोचना में 'छय युग' के नाम से जाना जाता है। लेकिन साही इस काल को भाषायी दृष्टिकोण से महत्वपूर्ण मानते हैं। साही का मानना है कि जब मुस्लिम सत्ता भारत में पैर जमा चुकी थी तात्पर्य यह कि वह भारत को अपना मुल्क मान चुकी थी तो राजभाषा को लेकर एक सवाल उस दौर में भी उठा। ठीक उसी प्रकार जिस तरह से आधुनिक काल में, स्वतन्त्र भारत में 'हिन्दी या अंग्रेजी' का उठा है। साही किसी भी युग को उसके राजनीतिक, सामाजिक, सांस्कृतिक दृष्टि से विचार करने के पक्षपाती रहे हैं। वस्तुतः उनकी कोशिश युग की मनोभूमियों को उसके "तलस्पर्शी" तत्वों से खोजने की रही है। 'ब्रजभाषा' के काव्य भाषा बनने के कारण को साही तत्कालीन राजनीतिक

स्थिति से जोड़कर देखते हैं। साही कहते हैं "1661 में एक बेमतलब पानीपत की तीसरी लड़ाई हुई जिसमें किसी चीज का निबटारा नहीं हुआ और 1757 में बहुत मतलबों से भरी हुई प्लासी की लड़ाई हुई जिसने भविष्य के लिए सब कुछ का निपटारा कर दिया।"31

सामाजिक स्थिति राजनीतिक स्थिति से भिन्न नहीं हो सकती। कविता समाज को गतिमान बनाने का एक तत्व है। सत्रहवीं-अठारहवीं शताब्दी में 'ब्रजभाषा' ने यही काम किया है। "ब्रजभाषा कवियों ने सबसे बड़ा कमाल यह किया कि जब एक ओर राजनीतिक एकता टुकड़े-टुकड़े हो रही थी उन्होंने आज जो हिन्दी-भाषी क्षेत्र कहलाता है, इस पूरे खिन्ते के लिए बड़े मनोयोग से एक सर्वमान्य भाषायी माध्यम निर्मित कर डाला। इतना ही नहीं उसे परवान भी चढाया। पूरे क्षेत्र को समान रूचि और काव्य भगिमा दी और लोकभाषा में तराश और प्रगल्भता की यह खोज निकाली जो न सिर्फ सात समुन्द्र पार उसी समय के अंग्रेजी 'मेटाफिजिकल' कवियों की बौद्धिकता की जैसी लगती है, बल्कि बात पैदा करने में उनसे आगे भी निकल जाती है। पंजाब से लेकर मिथिला तक और काश्मीर से लेकर सतारा तक हृदय एक तरह धडकाना सिर्फ दरबारी विलासिता या विमूढ रूढिवादिता के बूते काम नहीं है। कुछ और है जो बिहारी के दोहों को बाँकी मुस्तैदी और घनानन्द के स्वर को कसकता हुआ पकापन देता है।" 32 इसीलिए साही रीतिकालीन कविता को सांस्कृतिक दृष्टि से महत्वपूर्ण मानते हैं। साही का यहाँ तक मानना है कि ये कवि न होते तो हिन्दी भाषी क्षेत्र बोलियों में टूट जाता।

इन्होंने अपनी आन्तरिक स्फूर्ति से ब्रजभाषा में कविता लिखने का फैसला लिया तथा दूर-दूर तक के भिन्न क्षेत्रीय- 'ऐते-ऐते कविन की बानी हूँ सो जानिये'-कवियों ने भाषा का निर्माण किया जैसे खड़ी बोली को भारतेन्दु से लेकर निराला, प्रेमचन्द्र आदि ने मानक रूप प्रदान किया। साहीपूर्व हिन्दी आलोचना में रीतिकालीन कविता को 'परस्त्रीगमन' का चित्र मानकर उसे कठघरे में खड़ा किया जाता रहा पर, साही ने अपने चितन से इस परम्परा को तोड़ने का प्रयास किया है। ब्रजभाषा और फारसी के इन्द्र के साथ -साथ साही हिन्दी और उर्दू के इन्द्र को भी सामने रखते हैं। भारत में एक आम प्रचलित धारणा रही है कि हिन्दी हिन्दुओं की और उर्दू मुसलमानों की भाषा है। बीसवीं शताब्दी में बार-बार इसी प्रश्न को लेकर विवाह: उठता रहा

जया रमेशलाल बजाज

है। साही इसे सांस्कृतिक खतरा मानते हैं। क्योंकि उर्दू को फिर से जिन्दा करने की कवायद करना एक तरह से भारत की एकता अखण्डता को नष्ट करना होगा। क्योंकि उर्दू भाषा बहुमुखी प्रतिभा की भाषा नहीं है। "अगर वह पर्याप्त रूप से बहुमुखी भाषा, प्रतिभा वाली भाषा होती जो पूरे पतन काल को आच्छादित कर लेती तो भी वह ब्रजभाषा को अप्रासंगिक बना देती। लेकिन सब होने पर भी पतनकाल का एक हिस्सा उर्दू कीप कड के बाहर रह गया और वह कार्य ब्रजभाषा के रीतिकालीन कवि करते रहे। एक घातक भूल जो उर्दू के लखकों ने की वह यह थी कि उन्होंने ब्रजभाषा या ब्रजभाषा के पहले के कवियों की सजीव और उद्दीप्त परम्पराओं से सम्बन्ध-विच्छेद कर लिया।"33 इसलिए आज के सन्दर्भ में उर्दू हमारे महत्व की भाषा नहीं रही क्योंकि "जो विरासत हमारे लिए छोड़ी है वह बहुत अधिक रीतिबद्ध, बहुत नफीस और तराशी हुई है। अतः हमारी जरूरतों के लिए अनुपयुक्त है। ब्रजभाषा के क्षीण पडकर लोप हो जाने की प्रक्रिया उन्हीं कारणों से हुई। एक लगभग पीठिका की आवश्यकता है। जैसा कि स्पष्ट है हिन्दी ने इस दिशा में गतिशीलता का सामर्थ्य अधिक दिखाया, क्योंकि वह भविष्योमुखी है। अतः आधुनिक हिन्दी ही चयनीय सिद्ध होगी, जिसका विकास आधुनिक युग के साथ संक्रमण करता है।"34 इसलिए "उर्दू को वैसे ही सूख जाने देना चाहिए जैसे ब्रजभाषा।"35 ऐसा नहीं है कि साही सिर्फ उर्दू या ब्रजभाषा के लिए 'रीतिबद्ध, नफीस, तराशी हुई भाषा का मानदण्ड स्वीकार कर विरोध करते हैं बल्कि हिन्दी में भी ऐसी भाषा छविमयता' या सिलवटों की भाषा' जिसका सन्दर्भ आचलिकता से होता है का विरोध भी इसी दृष्टिकोण से किया है।

साही एक ऐसी मानक भाषा की वकालत करते हैं जिसमें पूरा का पूरा राष्ट्र सन्दर्भित हो सकें। पूरा का पूरा साहित्य अट जाय, और यही साहित्यकार के दायित्व की कसौटी भी है। साहित्यकार के दायित्व को साही चार स्तरों की चेतना में स्वीकारते हैं। उनका मानना है कि "सामाजिक चेतना, पारिवारिक चेतना, मानवीय चेतना ब्रह्माण्डव्यापी चेतना' इन चार स्तरों पर एक साथ लेखक का दायित्व बनता है।" 36 पीछे मैं बता चुका हूँ कि 'जायसी' की महत्ता का रेखांकन साही ने हिन्दू-मुस्लिम ऐक्य के सन्दर्भ में, उनके काव्यभाषा के सम्बन्ध में साथ ही इतिहास के यथार्थ पक्ष को ध्यान में रखकर लिखने के पक्ष में किया है और "जायसी में जितना परिवार या प्रेम का सम्बन्ध आया है, एक ही साथ

ब्रह्माण्ड सामाजिक चेतना, पारिवारिक चेतना और मानवीय चेतना चारों को ध्वनित किया।" 37 इसलिए जायसी बड़े कवि हैं। इसके कारण ही जायसी में "मनुष्य मात्र की चिन्ता का तत्व प्रमुख है, क्योंकि "जायसी का प्रस्थान बिन्दु न ईश्वर है, न कोई नया अध्यात्म है। उनकी चिन्ता का मुख्य ध्येय मनुष्य है। मनुष्य जैसा कि वह सामान्य जिन्दगी में उठता-बैठता है, सीखता है, प्रेम करता है, गृहस्थी चलाता है, युद्ध में वीरता और कायरता दिखलाता है, राज्य स्थापित करता है। बटोर करने के लिए नारे लगाता है और इस सबके बाद अपनी अपर्याप्तता की गहरी त्रासदी से ग्रस्त हो जाता है" 38 और इसके लिए "जायसी ने वह मुहावरा विकसित किया था जो एक साथ कई स्तरों पर झकट होता है। उनका स्वाभाविक पाठक वर्ग अलग धर्मों और संस्कृतियों के बावजूद, बिना किसी दुराव या संस्कृतिक सीमा रेखा के एक साथ उनके सृजनात्मक ससार में शामिल हो सकता है" 39 और यही मनुष्य जब इस सृजनात्मक ससार में प्रवेश करता है तो वह पाता है कि जायसी की चिन्ता 'मनुष्य' नाभिक है और "अपने सम्पूर्ण प्रसार में यह चिन्तनशीलता पूरी कथा में एक

तरल विषाद दृष्टि का सृजन करती है जिसमें मानवीय व्यापार के प्रति पीडा है, किन्तु अवसाद नहीं है, हल्का वैराग्य है, लेकिन गहरी ससक्ति भी है, तटस्थता है, लेकिन स्पष्ट नैतिक विवेक भी है। यही वह सुगंध है जो फूल के मरने के बाद भी नहीं मरती।" 40 'फूल मरै पर मरै न बासू।

जायसी का महत्व इस दृष्टि से और अधिक बढ़ जाता है कि उनके बाद के 'भक्त कवि' अपनी दुनिया को इस लोक से परे 'द्विपर-त्रेता' में केन्द्रित करते हैं। जबकि जायसी अपनी दुनिया अपने युग-भूमि में, 'अलोक-इतिहास लोक' में खोजते हैं। उस मनुष्य को खोजते रहते हैं जिससे समाज में एक सामजस्य स्थापित हो सके। इसीलिए जायसी के पदमावत में दो दुनियाओं की संरचना है जिसमें 'स्वप्नो आकांक्षाओं मूल्यवत्ता की एक दुनिया भीतर है। रौंदती हुई सत्ता की एक आतंककारी दुनिया बाहर है।" 41 जायसी का चिन्तन तो इसी बात को लेकर था क्या इन दोनों दुनियाओं में सामजस्य हो सकता है जब वे आपस में टकराती हों? क्या होता है? "अपनी आत्मा की पूरी शक्ति से जायसी ने इसी सवाल को आध्यात्मिक, भौतिक, सामाजिक, सांस्कृतिक आयामों में पूरी पदमावत कथा में पूछने का अभूत पूर्व प्रयास

जया रमेशलाल बजाज

किया है। जवाब में उन्होंने देखा चिन्ता से उडती हुई राख और एक वीरान सन् नाटा और जायसी उस चिन्ता की राख को कूरेदते हैं कि इसमें एक घडकता हुआ हृदय था उसका क्या हुआ? गालिब के शब्दों में-

जला है जिस्म जहां दिल भी जल गया होगा

कुरेदते हो ये क्यो खाक जुस्तजू क्या है 42"

कुल मिलाकर 'जायसी' में एक ऐसी दृष्टि मिलती है जिसमें समन्वय भी है और "व्यक्ति-चेतना" या 'प्रेम-चेतना' का तत्व भी है। इस दृष्टि से जायसी का मानुष प्रेम 'बैकुठी' बन जाता है। महत्वपूर्ण यह है जायसी को "बैकुठी प्रेम की तलाश नहीं है, जो ऐसा प्रेम चाहता है जो प्रेम करने वाले मनुष्य को ही बैकुठी बना दे।" 43 साही ने बार-बार 'हिन्दू-मुस्लिम' दोनों ही संस्कृतियों को एकाकार कर नयी भाव-प्रसार भूमि देने की वकालत की है। वे बार-बार तुष्टिकरण की नीति का विरोध करते हैं। फटकार कर सच बोलने वाले साही आधुनिकतावादियों के तुष्टिकरण की नीति का विरोध करते हुए कहते हैं कि "आधुनिकतावादी हिन्दी शास्त्रों का विरोध तो वैज्ञानिक दृष्टिकोणों के नाम पर करता है लेकिन मुस्लिम समाज के ढाँचे में परिवर्तन का सवाल उठने पर मुस्लिम शास्त्रों का विरोध करने का साहस नहीं बटोर पाता, मुसलमानों के जातीय कानून में परिवर्तन करने का साहस नहीं बटोर पाता।

मुसलमानों में जातीय कानून में परिवर्तन की मांग करने वाले को प्रतिगामी करार दिया जाता है। ब्राह्मणवाद तो आलोचना का विषय बन जाता है, लेकिन मुल्लावाद के खिलाफ कोई आवाज नहीं उठाता" 44। वस्तुतः साही अपनी सांस्कृतिक चेतना से 'हिन्दू-मुस्लिम' संघर्ष को भारत के सन्दर्भ में हानिकारक मानते हैं। वे बार-बार इस बात पर जोर देते हैं कि हिन्दू 'भारतीय मुसलमानों' को तथा मुसलमान 'हिन्दुओं' को भारत का नागरिक स्वीकार करें। 'एकीकरण' के स्वस्थ पक्षपाती साही भारत-पाकिस्तान के बटवारे को नहीं पचा पाते और स्वतन्त्रता के बाद 'भारत-पाकिस्तान' के बीच जो युद्ध हुआ उसे साही एक भयानक गलती मानते हैं। 18.9.1965 को अपनी 'डायरी' में साही लिखते हैं "सब झूठ लग रहा है। 'ठीक' प्रतिक्रिया नहीं बन पा रही है चीन के लिए या पाकिस्तान के लिए दिल में तीखी नफरत महसूस करने में मैं अपने को असमर्थ पा रहा हूँ। हम सब के लिए वैसे ही तटस्थ भावना है, जैसी शास्त्री सरकार के लिए।



यह राष्ट्रद्रोह हो तो हो। कोई वैकल्पिक समीकरण बनना चाहिए, जो नहीं बन पा रहा है।” 45 इससे स्पष्ट कि साही का भारत बिम्ब किसी देशकाल की परिधि से नहीं घिरा है। वह 'मनुष्य' मात्र की परिधि से घिरा है। साही के 'उधेड बुन' मे कुछ असगतिया भी परिलक्षित होती है जैसे समाज की एकजुटता के लिए (धर्म! की दुहाई देना। चमार और राजा के द्वन्द को प्रस्तुत करते हुए साही कहते हैं “देखो तुम भी उसी शिव को मानते हैं, यह भी उसी शिव को मानता है-दोनो शिव के पुजारी है अगर तुमने लडाई किया तो ऐसा न हो कि शिव की जगह कोई और देवता यहा पूजा जाने लगे यह डरवाता है, लेकिन जब आग्रह अधिक बढ़ता है तो वह कहता है कि शिव तो गये भाड मे हम तो इस राजा को हटा देगे। इतना कह देता है कि शिव तो गये भाड मे। तब खतरा लगने लगता कि अगर शिव भाड मे चले जायेगे तो यह समाज समाप्त हो जायेगा।”46

#### निष्कर्ष:

कमला प्रसाद के उपर्युक्त कथन से पूरी तरह सहमत नहीं हुआ जा सकता कि साही का चिन्तन अधूरा है। शायद ये अन्तर्विरोध राजनीतिक दृष्टिकोण को साहित्यिक दृष्टिकोण पर वरीयता देने से ही उभर आये है। जो भी हो लेकिन यह भी सच है कि व्यक्ति का अन्तर्विरोध ही आने

तात्पर्य यह है कि साही राजा, चमार के दवन्द को प्रासंगिक मानते हुए भी परिवर्तन की चेतना को कुहासे के रूप में ही स्वीकार कर पाते है। क्या यह धार्मिक कठमुल्लापन नहीं है? ऐसे ही वे एक तरफ 'वसुधैव कृटुम्बकम् की उक्ति को ससार की सबसे खतरनाक उक्ति मानते है जिससे आदमी पगु हो जाता है, कर्महीन हो जाता है तो दूसरी तरफ 'पाकिस्तान' को लेकर राष्ट्रद्रोह तक की बात करते है। साथ ही रीतिकालीन कविता के सास्कृतिक महत्व को निरुपित करते हुए उसके भाषायी दृष्टिकोण की प्रशंसा करते है, लेकिन रीतिकालीन कविता के मूल चरित्र 'परस्त्री गमन' की बात को भूल जाते हैं। आखिर ऐसा क्यों हैं? कमला प्रसाद का मानना है कि “इतिहास सस्कृति, और सामाजिक विकास के बारे में उनकी दृष्टि अधूरी थी। वे जानकारी और सूचनाओं का आकलन पूवाप्रटी दृष्टि से करते हे | का आकलन पूर्वग्रही से करते रहे” 47।

वाली पीढी को नया रास्ता दिखाने का उपक्रम करता है। नयी पीढी का काम है कि व्यक्ति के अन्तर्विरोधों को स्वीकार कर उसके मूल मततव्य को ग्रहण करे। इस दृष्टि से साही का महत्व अप्रतिम है। क्योंकि उन्होने हमे जो विचार-पूजी सौपी है उसे नीर-क्षीर, विवेक से परिमार्जित करके उससे एक सही निश्चित दिशा में बढ़ने का उपक्रम मिलता है। क्योंकि-“

अजब खामोश धडकन है किसी तूफान की |

शून्य मे भी जोन यी आवाज रचती ही गयी।

जिस कदर लिखता गया उठते गये अनगिनत सवाल |

लाख सुलझता गया गुत्थी उलझती ही गयी।”

तो इसी उलझन को सुझलाने की चुनौती में ही एक युग से दूसरे युग का सवाद चलता रहता है। साही की 'सास्कृतिक दृष्टि' भी ऐसे ही सवाद की आकाक्षी रही है।

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3. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 39
4. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साह, धर्म निरेपक्षता की खोज में पृ. 84-85
5. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 85
6. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 85-86

7. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 86

8. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 87

9. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 40--47

10. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 42

11. साहित्य क्यो-विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 43

12. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 44

13. साहित्य क्यो-विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 44

14. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साही पृ. 73

इतिहास और परम्परा

15. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साही, 16 साहित्य क्यो-विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 75

16. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 78-79

17. छठवा दशक-विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 77

18. साहित्यकार और उसका परिवेश
19. लोकतन्त्र की कसौटियाँ . विजय देव नारायण साही- पृ. 68  
सम्पूर्णक्रान्ति और कौमी एकता- पृ. 28
20. लोकतन्त्र की कसौटियाँ . विजय देव नारायण साही- पृ. 64  
स. क्रान्ति के सा. और सां. पहलू
21. वर्धमान और पतनशील- विजय देव नारायण साही-  
भारतीय काव्य, पृ. 68  
परम्परा मे दलितों का योगदान
22. लोकतन्त्र की कसौटियाँ, सम्पूर्ण क्रान्ति और  
कौमीएकता विजय देव नारायण साही- पृ.39
23. साखी (कविता संग्रह)- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 446
24. लोकतन्त्र की कसौटियाँ- विजय देव नारायण साही,  
पृ.39-40
25. लोकतन्त्र की कसौटियाँ - विजय देव नारायण साही-  
पृ. 39-40
26. लोकतन्त्र की कसौटियाँ - विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 76
27. लोकतन्त्र की कसौटियाँ- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 76-77
28. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 88
29. साहित्य क्यो विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ.88-89
30. साहित्य क्यो - विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 85
31. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साही. पृ. 90
32. साहित्य क्यो- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 90
33. वर्धमान और पतनशील- विजय देव नारायण साही,  
पृ.434
34. वर्धमान और पतनशील- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ. 435
35. वर्धभमान और पतनशील- विजय देव नारायण साही,  
पृ.436
36. साहित्य और साहित्यकार- का दायित्व, विजय देव  
नारायण साही, पृ.54
37. साहित्य और साहित्यकार का दायित्व- विजय देव  
नारायण साही, पृ.54
38. जायसी-विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ.62
39. जायसो- विजय देव नारायण साही , पृ.64
40. जायसी- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ.67
41. जायसी- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ.98
42. जायसी- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ.98-99
43. जायसी- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ.403
44. साहित्य क्यो?- विजय देव नारायण साही, पृ.55
45. पूर्वग्रह (पत्रिका)- सम्पादक रमेशचन्द्र शाह - 'डायरी',  
पृ.35
46. साहित्य और सात्यिकार का दायित्व- विजय देव  
नारायण साही, पृ.44
47. अभिप्राय (पत्रिका, सम्पादक राजेन्द्र कुमार , पृ.72
48. संवाद तुमसे (कविता संग्रह)- विजय देव नारायण साही  
पृ.86



## गर्भावस्था के दौरान शारीरिक और मानसिक तनाव: एक मनोवैज्ञानिक विश्लेषण

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### शोध सारांश:

यह शोध "गर्भावस्था के दौरान शारीरिक और मानसिक तनाव: एक मनोवैज्ञानिक विश्लेषण" विषय पर केंद्रित है, जिसमें शहरी और ग्रामीण गर्भवती महिलाओं के बीच तनाव के स्तर की तुलना की गई है। अध्ययन के मुख्य बिंदुओं में मानसिक और शारीरिक तनाव के स्रोतों की पहचान, पारिवारिक समर्थन की भूमिका, और तनाव प्रबंधन के तरीकों का विश्लेषण शामिल है। अध्ययन के प्रमुख निष्कर्ष बताते हैं कि शहरी गर्भवती महिलाएँ मानसिक तनाव से अधिक प्रभावित होती हैं, जिसका मुख्य कारण पारिवारिक समर्थन की कमी और सामाजिक एवं आर्थिक दबाव हैं। वहीं, ग्रामीण गर्भवती महिलाएँ शारीरिक तनाव का सामना करती हैं, जो सीमित स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं और शारीरिक कार्यों के कारण होता है, परंतु उन्हें पारिवारिक समर्थन अधिक मिलता है, जिससे उनके मानसिक तनाव का स्तर कम रहता है। अध्ययन में Wang Pregnancy Stress Scale और Parental Stress Index का उपयोग किया गया, जिनके द्वारा गर्भवती महिलाओं के तनाव स्तर को मापा गया। इसके अलावा, साक्षात्कार और प्रश्नावली के माध्यम से तनाव प्रबंधन तकनीकों और स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं तक पहुँच का भी विश्लेषण किया गया। यह शोध गर्भवती महिलाओं के तनाव और उनके स्वास्थ्य पर पारिवारिक और सामाजिक कारकों के प्रभाव को समझने में सहायक है। इसके परिणाम बताते हैं कि गर्भावस्था के दौरान तनाव प्रबंधन और पारिवारिक समर्थन की महत्ता अत्यधिक होती है, और इनके अभाव में तनाव का स्तर बढ़ सकता है, जो माँ और शिशु दोनों के स्वास्थ्य के लिए हानिकारक हो सकता है।

**मुख्य शब्द:** मनोवैज्ञानिक विश्लेषण, मानसिक तनाव, गर्भावस्था, तनाव प्रबंधन

### प्रस्तावना:

गर्भावस्था जीवन का एक अनोखा और जटिल चरण होता है, जिसमें महिला का शरीर और मन दोनों कई गहरे परिवर्तन से गुजरते हैं। यह समय न केवल शारीरिक रूप से चुनौतीपूर्ण होता है, बल्कि मानसिक और भावनात्मक स्तर पर भी महिला को कई प्रकार के तनावों का सामना करना पड़ता है। गर्भावस्था के दौरान महिला का शरीर तेजी से बदलता है—वजन में वृद्धि, हार्मोनल असंतुलन, शारीरिक दर्द और थकान इस अवधि में सामान्य होते हैं। इन शारीरिक परिवर्तनों के कारण महिला का शरीर अधिक तनावग्रस्त हो सकता है, क्योंकि उसे अपनी दिनचर्या, खानपान, और आराम के तरीकों में आवश्यक बदलाव करने पड़ते हैं। इस शारीरिक तनाव के साथ-साथ मानसिक तनाव भी एक महत्वपूर्ण चुनौती के रूप में उभरता है। मानसिक तनाव की उत्पत्ति आने वाले शिशु की सुरक्षा

और देखभाल की चिंता, वित्तीय बोझ, पारिवारिक अपेक्षाएँ, और सामाजिक दबावों से होती है। गर्भवती महिलाएँ अक्सर अपने स्वास्थ्य, प्रसव के परिणाम, और अपने शिशु के भविष्य को लेकर चिंतित रहती हैं, जो मानसिक तनाव को और बढ़ा सकता है। साथ ही, कई महिलाएँ अपने कार्यस्थल पर तनाव महसूस करती हैं, जहाँ वे गर्भावस्था के दौरान काम करने और आराम के बीच संतुलन बनाने की कोशिश करती हैं।

गर्भावस्था के दौरान मानसिक और शारीरिक तनाव न केवल महिला के स्वास्थ्य को प्रभावित करता है, बल्कि अजन्मे शिशु के विकास पर भी इसका गहरा प्रभाव पड़ सकता है। अध्ययनों से यह सिद्ध हुआ है कि जो महिलाएँ गर्भावस्था के दौरान उच्च स्तर के मानसिक तनाव का सामना करती हैं, वे प्री-टर्म डिलीवरी, जन्म के समय कम वजन, और शिशु में विकास संबंधी समस्याओं जैसी

जटिलताओं का अधिक सामना कर सकती हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त, शारीरिक तनाव से पीठ दर्द, पैरों में सूजन, और रक्तचाप में अनियमितता जैसी शारीरिक समस्याएँ उत्पन्न हो सकती हैं। ग्रामीण और शहरी क्षेत्रों में महिलाओं के गर्भावस्था के अनुभवों में भी महत्वपूर्ण अंतर होता है। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में रहने वाली महिलाएँ अक्सर संयुक्त परिवारों में रहती हैं, जहाँ उन्हें अधिक सामाजिक और पारिवारिक समर्थन प्राप्त होता है, जिससे उनके मानसिक तनाव में कमी होती है। दूसरी ओर, शहरी महिलाओं को पारिवारिक समर्थन कम मिलता है, क्योंकि वे अधिकतर एकल परिवारों में रहती हैं। इसके परिणामस्वरूप, शहरी महिलाओं में मानसिक तनाव का स्तर अधिक पाया जाता है। इसके साथ ही, ग्रामीण महिलाएँ अधिक शारीरिक काम करती हैं, जिससे वे शारीरिक तनाव से अधिक प्रभावित हो सकती हैं। गर्भावस्था के दौरान शारीरिक और मानसिक तनाव के प्रबंधन के लिए पारिवारिक समर्थन और स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका होती है। सही खानपान, नियमित चिकित्सकीय देखभाल, और तनाव को कम करने के उपाय जैसे योग, ध्यान, और हल्के व्यायाम गर्भवती महिलाओं के लिए सहायक हो सकते हैं। मानसिक और शारीरिक तनाव के सही प्रबंधन के अभाव में, न केवल महिला का शारीरिक और मानसिक स्वास्थ्य प्रभावित हो सकता है, बल्कि अजन्मे शिशु के स्वास्थ्य पर भी इसका गंभीर प्रभाव पड़ सकता है।

इस शोध पत्र का उद्देश्य गर्भवती महिलाओं के शारीरिक और मानसिक तनाव के विभिन्न पहलुओं को समझना, ग्रामीण और शहरी महिलाओं के तनाव स्तरों की तुलना करना, और उनके तनाव प्रबंधन के तरीकों का विश्लेषण करना है। इसके साथ ही, यह अध्ययन गर्भावस्था के दौरान पारिवारिक और सामाजिक समर्थन की महत्ता पर भी प्रकाश डालेगा, ताकि गर्भवती महिलाओं को बेहतर स्वास्थ्य सेवाएँ और तनाव प्रबंधन तकनीकों के प्रति जागरूक पकिया जा सके।

**अध्ययन के उद्देश्य :-**

**गर्भवती महिलाओं में शारीरिक और मानसिक तनाव के स्तर का विश्लेषण करना:** इस उद्देश्य के तहत यह जानने की कोशिश की जाएगी कि गर्भावस्था के दौरान महिलाओं को किस प्रकार का शारीरिक और मानसिक तनाव होता है, और यह किन कारणों से उत्पन्न होता है।

**मुकेश कुमार**

**ग्रामीण और शहरी गर्भवती महिलाओं के तनाव के बीच तुलनात्मक अध्ययन करना:** इस उद्देश्य का मुख्य उद्देश्य यह जानना है कि ग्रामीण और शहरी गर्भवती महिलाओं के तनाव स्तर में किस प्रकार का अंतर होता है। दोनों के सामाजिक, आर्थिक और पारिवारिक परिवेश में अंतर होने के कारण उनका तनाव स्तर भी भिन्न हो सकता है।

**पारिवारिक समर्थन और सामाजिक कारकों की भूमिका का अध्ययन करना:** गर्भावस्था के दौरान पारिवारिक और सामाजिक समर्थन कैसे तनाव को कम करता है, और इसका महिलाओं के मानसिक स्वास्थ्य पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ता है, इसका विश्लेषण करना इस उद्देश्य का महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है।

**तनाव प्रबंधन के तरीकों का अध्ययन:** गर्भवती महिलाएँ किस प्रकार के तनाव प्रबंधन उपायों का उपयोग करती हैं, जैसे योग, ध्यान, चिकित्सा देखभाल आदि, इसका अध्ययन भी इस शोध का एक उद्देश्य है।

**गर्भावस्था के दौरान तनाव के परिणामों का विश्लेषण करना:** गर्भावस्था में तनाव का शिशु के विकास और महिलाओं के स्वास्थ्य पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ता है, इसे समझना भी अध्ययन का एक महत्वपूर्ण उद्देश्य है।

**समीक्षा साहित्य :-**

डॉ. सीमा गुप्ता, प्रकाशन: इंडियन जर्नल ऑफ साइकोलॉजी, वर्ष: 2018, पुस्तक: मानसिक स्वास्थ्य और मातृत्व, पृष्ठ संख्या: 112-130, शीर्षक: "गर्भवती महिलाओं में मानसिक स्वास्थ्य: शहरी और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों का तुलनात्मक अध्ययन"

**परिणाम:** इस अध्ययन से यह निष्कर्ष निकला कि शहरी महिलाओं में तनाव और चिंता का स्तर अधिक था, जबकि ग्रामीण महिलाओं में शारीरिक थकान और पारिवारिक समर्थन के कारण मानसिक स्वास्थ्य बेहतर पाया गया।

प्रो. राजेश्वरी सिंह, प्रकाशन: इंटरनेशनल जर्नल ऑफ वुमन हेल्थ, वर्ष: 2019, पुस्तक: गर्भावस्था के दौरान तनाव और उसका मातृत्व पर प्रभाव, पृष्ठ संख्या: 210-225, शीर्षक: "पारिवारिक समर्थन और गर्भवती महिलाओं के मानसिक स्वास्थ्य का विश्लेषण", परिणाम: अध्ययन ने यह दर्शाया कि जिन महिलाओं को अधिक पारिवारिक समर्थन प्राप्त था, उनमें मानसिक तनाव का स्तर कम था और उनका मानसिक स्वास्थ्य बेहतर था।

डॉ. अंजलि मेहरा, प्रकाशन: जर्नल ऑफ मैटरनल हेल्थ, वर्ष: 2017, पुस्तक: मातृत्व और मानसिक स्वास्थ्य

**पृष्ठ संख्या:** 345-360, **शीर्षक:** "शारीरिक और मानसिक स्वास्थ्य में संतुलन: गर्भवती महिलाओं पर अध्ययन" **परिणाम:** इस शोध में पाया गया कि गर्भावस्था के दौरान योग और ध्यान जैसी तनाव प्रबंधन तकनीकों का उपयोग करने वाली महिलाओं में शारीरिक और मानसिक तनाव कम पाया गया।

**डॉ. किरण शर्मा, प्रकाशन:** हेल्थ साइंस जर्नल, **वर्ष:** 2020, **पुस्तक:** महिला स्वास्थ्य और गर्भावस्था **पृष्ठ संख्या:** 97-110, **शीर्षक:** "गर्भावस्था के दौरान शारीरिक और मानसिक तनाव का विश्लेषण" **परिणाम:** इस अध्ययन में शहरी और ग्रामीण महिलाओं के तनाव के स्तर का तुलनात्मक विश्लेषण किया गया। शहरी महिलाओं में मानसिक तनाव अधिक था, जबकि ग्रामीण महिलाओं में शारीरिक थकावट अधिक थी।

**अनुसंधान पद्धति:-** इस अध्ययन का उद्देश्य ग्रामीण और शहरी गर्भवती महिलाओं में शारीरिक और मानसिक तनाव का तुलनात्मक विश्लेषण करना है। अनुसंधान पद्धति में निम्नलिखित बिंदुओं को शामिल किया गया है:

**अनुसंधान डिज़ाइन:-** यह एक तुलनात्मक एवं वर्णनात्मक शोध डिज़ाइन है। इसमें शहरी और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों की गर्भवती महिलाओं के बीच तनाव और पारिवारिक समायोजन के स्तर की तुलना की जाएगी।

**सैंपल चयन:-** सैंपल साइज: 100 गर्भवती महिलाएँ (50 शहरी और 50 ग्रामीण)

**चयन प्रक्रिया:** महिलाओं का चयन यादृच्छिक सैंपलिंग विधि (Random Sampling Method) द्वारा किया गया। चयन के मानदंड निम्नलिखित हैं:

**उम्र:** 18-35 वर्ष, गर्भावस्था की अवधि: पहली से तीसरी तिमाही तक, स्वस्थ महिलाएँ जिनमें कोई गंभीर स्वास्थ्य समस्या नहीं है।

**डेटा संग्रह विधि:-** इस अध्ययन में तनाव और पारिवारिक समायोजन को मापने के लिए विभिन्न मनोवैज्ञानिक और सांख्यिकीय उपकरणों का उपयोग किया गया है। इनमें निम्नलिखित प्रमुख उपकरण शामिल हैं:

**Wang Pregnancy Stress Scale:**

यह एक मानक स्केल है, जिसका उपयोग गर्भवती महिलाओं में तनाव के विभिन्न पहलुओं को मापने के लिए किया जाता है। इसमें गर्भावस्था के दौरान मानसिक और शारीरिक

तनाव का मापन किया जाता है। इसके विभिन्न आयामों में शामिल होते हैं:

सामाजिक दबाव, आर्थिक चिंताएँ, पारिवारिक समर्थन की कमी, प्रसव की चिंता

**Parental Stress Index:**

यह स्केल गर्भवती महिलाओं के माता-पिता बनने के दौरान उत्पन्न होने वाले तनाव को मापने के लिए उपयोग किया जाता है। इस सूचकांक में पारिवारिक दबाव, जिम्मेदारियों का प्रभाव, और प्रसव के बाद की परिस्थितियों का विश्लेषण किया जाता है।

**साक्षात्कार:-** तनाव के विभिन्न पहलुओं को समझने के लिए शोधकर्ताओं ने गर्भवती महिलाओं का साक्षात्कार लिया, जिसमें उनके व्यक्तिगत अनुभव, पारिवारिक समर्थन, और तनाव प्रबंधन उपायों पर चर्चा की गई।

**प्रश्नावली :-** प्रश्नावली का उपयोग करके शारीरिक और मानसिक तनाव के विभिन्न पहलुओं का मूल्यांकन किया गया। इसमें गर्भवती महिलाओं से उनके जीवन की दिनचर्या, भावनात्मक स्थिति, और पारिवारिक समर्थन के बारे में सवाल पूछे गए।

सांख्यिकीय उपकरण :-

डेटा विश्लेषण के लिए विभिन्न सांख्यिकीय तकनीकों का उपयोग किया गया, जैसे:

**t-test:** शहरी और ग्रामीण महिलाओं के तनाव स्तर के तुलनात्मक विश्लेषण के लिए।

**ANOVA (Analysis of Variance):** विभिन्न समूहों के बीच तनाव के अंतर का विश्लेषण करने के लिए।

इन उपकरणों के माध्यम से अध्ययन में शहरी और ग्रामीण गर्भवती महिलाओं के तनाव स्तर और पारिवारिक समर्थन में अंतर का विश्लेषण किया गया।

**परिणाम :-** इस अध्ययन में शहरी और ग्रामीण गर्भवती महिलाओं के शारीरिक और मानसिक तनाव का तुलनात्मक विश्लेषण किया गया। परिणामों से निम्नलिखित मुख्य निष्कर्ष सामने आए:

**मानसिक तनाव में भिन्नता:**

शहरी गर्भवती महिलाएँ मानसिक तनाव का अधिक सामना करती हैं। इसका प्रमुख कारण उच्च सामाजिक दबाव, एकल परिवारों में पारिवारिक समर्थन की कमी, और वित्तीय जिम्मेदारियाँ हैं।

ग्रामीण गर्भवती महिलाएँ मानसिक तनाव में अपेक्षाकृत कम पाई गई, क्योंकि उन्हें संयुक्त परिवारों से बेहतर भावनात्मक और सामाजिक समर्थन प्राप्त होता है।

**शारीरिक तनाव में अंतर:-** ग्रामीण महिलाएँ शहरी महिलाओं की तुलना में अधिक शारीरिक तनाव का अनुभव करती हैं। इसका कारण शारीरिक श्रम, सीमित स्वास्थ्य सेवाएँ, और कठिन परिस्थितियाँ हैं।

शहरी महिलाएँ बेहतर स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं के कारण शारीरिक तनाव का सामना कम करती हैं, लेकिन मानसिक तनाव अधिक होता है।

**पारिवारिक समर्थन:-**ग्रामीण महिलाओं को अधिक पारिवारिक समर्थन प्राप्त होता है, जो उनके मानसिक स्वास्थ्य को बनाए रखने में मददगार होता है।

#### डेटा तालिका:-

मापदंड	शहरी क्षेत्र (%)	ग्रामीण क्षेत्र (%)	कुल (%)
मानसिक तनाव	80	55	67.5
शारीरिक तनाव	75	60	67.5
पारिवारिक समर्थन	40	70	55
स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं की उपलब्धता	85	50	67.5
तनाव प्रबंधन तकनीक उपयोग	45	65	55

#### उपकरण :-

#### Wang Pregnancy Stress Scale Parental Stress Index

#### निष्कर्ष:-

इस अध्ययन से यह स्पष्ट हुआ कि गर्भवती महिलाओं के मानसिक और शारीरिक तनाव में शहरी और ग्रामीण महिलाओं के बीच महत्वपूर्ण अंतर है। शहरी महिलाएँ जहाँ मानसिक तनाव से अधिक प्रभावित होती हैं, वहीं ग्रामीण महिलाएँ शारीरिक तनाव का अधिक अनुभव करती हैं। इसके पीछे प्रमुख कारण सामाजिक और पारिवारिक वातावरण, स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं तक पहुँच, और जीवनशैली की भिन्नताएँ हैं।

शहरी महिलाएँ अधिक मानसिक तनाव का सामना करती हैं क्योंकि उन्हें सीमित पारिवारिक समर्थन, आर्थिक दबाव, और एकल परिवारों में रहने की चुनौतियाँ झेलनी पड़ती हैं। इसके विपरीत, शहरी क्षेत्रों में बेहतर स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं के कारण शारीरिक तनाव अपेक्षाकृत कम पाया गया।

ग्रामीण महिलाएँ शारीरिक तनाव से अधिक प्रभावित पाई गई, जिसका प्रमुख कारण कठिन भौतिक कार्य, सीमित

मुकेश कुमार

शहरी महिलाएँ अक्सर पारिवारिक समर्थन स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं तक पहुँच:

शहरी क्षेत्रों में स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं की उपलब्धता की कमी के कारण मानसिक तनाव का अधिक अनुभव करती हैं। बेहतर पाई गई, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप शारीरिक तनाव कम हुआ।

ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं की सीमित उपलब्धता के कारण महिलाओं को शारीरिक तनाव का सामना अधिक करना पड़ा।

**तनाव प्रबंधन तकनीकें:-** शहरी और ग्रामीण दोनों क्षेत्रों की महिलाओं ने योग और ध्यान जैसी तनाव प्रबंधन तकनीकों का उपयोग किया, लेकिन ग्रामीण महिलाओं ने इनका अधिक लाभ उठाया।

स्वास्थ्य सेवाएँ, और प्रसव संबंधी सुविधाओं की कमी है। हालांकि, पारिवारिक और सामुदायिक समर्थन की प्रचुरता उनके मानसिक तनाव को नियंत्रित रखने में सहायक है।

**पारिवारिक समर्थन** गर्भवती महिलाओं के तनाव को कम करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में संयुक्त परिवारों का समर्थन महिलाओं के मानसिक स्वास्थ्य को बनाए रखने में मददगार है, जबकि शहरी क्षेत्रों में एकल परिवारों की संरचना के कारण यह समर्थन सीमित हो जाता है। अध्ययन के निष्कर्षों से यह भी स्पष्ट होता है कि गर्भावस्था के दौरान महिलाओं के तनाव को कम करने के लिए बेहतर स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं के साथ-साथ सामाजिक और पारिवारिक समर्थन को मजबूत करना आवश्यक है। इस दिशा में, नीतिगत बदलाव और सामुदायिक जागरूकता के कार्यक्रम गर्भवती महिलाओं के मानसिक और शारीरिक स्वास्थ्य में सुधार ला सकते हैं।

अंत में, गर्भवती महिलाओं के स्वास्थ्य को बनाए रखने के लिए मानसिक और शारीरिक तनाव प्रबंधन की समग्र

दृष्टिकोण से योजना बनाने की आवश्यकता है, जिससे उनकी गर्भावस्था स्वस्थ और सुरक्षित हो सके।

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बालकांच्या वाढ व विकासावर परिणाम करणाऱ्या घटकांचे अध्ययन

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सारांश

बालकांची वाढ व विकासाची प्रक्रिया ही बाळ जन्माला येण्यापूर्वी म्हणजेच मातेच्या उदरात असतांना सुरू झालेली असते. त्यामुळे बालकांच्या विकासावर जन्मापूर्वीचे व जन्मानंतरचे अनेक घटक परिणाम करत असतात. या घटकांमध्ये बालकांचे वय, लिंग, अनुवंशिकता, बुद्धिमत्ता, आहार व पोषण तसेच अंतस्त्रावी ग्रंथीचा प्रभाव दिसून येतो. त्याचबरोबर पालकांची समाजार्थिकस्थिती, शिक्षण, उत्पन्न, राहणीमानाचा दर्जा या बाबींचा देखील बालकांच्या विकासावर परिणाम होत असल्याचे दिसून येते.

**मुख्य शब्द:** बालक, वाढ, विकास, अनुवंशिकता, अंतस्त्रावी ग्रंथी, पालक समाज-आर्थिक, स्थिती, आहार, आरोग्य, कौटुंबिक वातावरण

प्रस्तावना:

बालकांच्या जन्मापूर्वीच्या विकासाचा प्रभाव त्यांच्या जन्मोत्तर जीवनावर पडत असल्यामुळे बालकांच्या विकासांमध्ये जन्मपूर्व काळातील अध्ययनास महत्व प्राप्त झाले आहे. बालकांची जडण—घडण होण्याच्या काळात त्यांचे योग्य पध्दतीने संगोपन होणे गरजेचे आहे. याकरिता पालकांनी बालकांच्या विकासाचे मापदंड तसेच विकासाची दिशा याचे ज्ञान करून घेणे महत्वाचे आहे. बालकांच्या सर्वांगीण विकासासाठी आवश्यक असणारे वातावरण, प्रोत्साहन व प्रशिक्षण पालकांना देणे गरजेचे आहे. बालकांच्या वयाची साधारणपणे सुरवातीची ५ ते ६ वर्षे ही त्यांच्या व्यक्तिमत्व जडण घडणीच्या दृष्टिने खुप महत्वाची आहेत. या काळात त्यांच्या विकासाला अनुकूल परिस्थिती व पोषक वातावरण मिळाले तर बालकांची वाढ व सर्वांगीण विकास उत्तम प्रकारे होईल.

उद्दिष्टे:

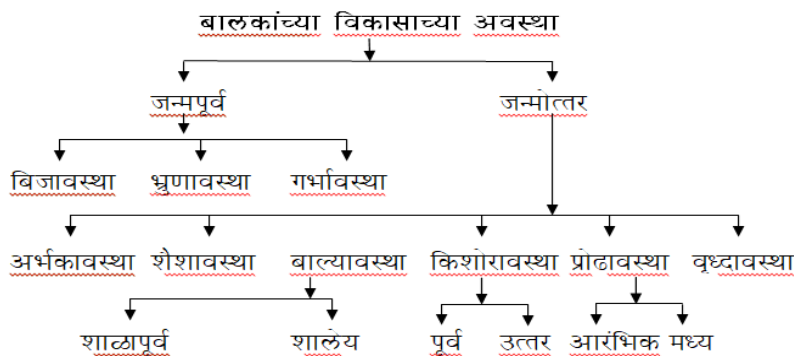
- बालकांच्या वैयक्तिक व कौटुंबिक पार्श्वभूमीचे अध्ययन करणे.

- बालकांच्या आहार विषयक स्थितीचे अध्ययन करणे.
- बालकांच्या आवडी—निवडी व सवयींचा अभ्यास करणे.
- बालकांच्या आरोग्य व खेळाविषयी माहिती जाणून घेणे.

गृहितके:

- अध्ययनातील बालक निम्न आर्थिकस्थिती असणाऱ्या कुटुंबातील आहेत.
- बालकांचा आहार साधारण आहे.
- बालकांच्या आवडी—निवडी व सवयी ह्या विकासास प्रतिकूल आहेत.
- पालक बालकांच्या आरोग्याविषयी जागरूक आहेत.
- पालकांमध्ये बालकांच्या खेळाविषयी मतभिन्नता दिसून आली.

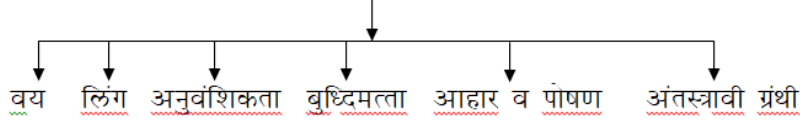
बालकांच्या विकासाच्या प्रमुख दोन अवस्था आहेत. जन्मपूर्व आणि जन्मोत्तर





जीवन हे प्रवाही असल्याने त्यामध्ये होणारी स्थित्यंतरे व परिवर्तने अपरिहार्य आहेत. बालकांचा सर्वांगीण विकास होण्याकरिता त्यांच्या विकासाच्या अवस्थांचे ज्ञान असणे गरजेचे आहे. या अवस्थानुसार बालकांचा विकास होत असतांना यावर कोणकोणते घटक प्रभाव करतात या विषयी सविस्तर माहिती खालील प्रमाणे—

### बालकांच्या वाढ व विकासावर परिणाम करणारे घटक



बालकांची वाढ व विकास होण्याच्या काळात विशिष्ट बाबी चालना देणाऱ्या व परिणाम करणाऱ्या आढळून येतात.

#### वय

बालकांच्या जन्मपूर्व अवस्थेपासून जन्मानंतरच्या सर्व अवस्थांमध्ये वयानुसार वाढीचा वेग, वाढीची क्रिया, विकासात्मक कार्याची दिशा व वेग हा ठरलेला असतो. अर्भकावस्थेपासून पूर्वशालेय अवस्थेपर्यंत तसेच पुढे किशोरावस्थेमध्ये वाढीचा वेग खूप जास्त असतो. किशोरावस्थेच्या शेवटी व प्रौढावस्थेच्या आरंभापर्यंत वाढ पूर्ण झालेली असते. यापुढे उंची व मुळ आकारमानात वाढ संभवत नाही. बालविकासाचे अध्ययन करतांना वय हा घटक लक्षात घेवून त्या—त्या विशिष्ट वयामधील उंचीची वाढ व वजनातील वाढ याची नोंद घेता येते. अपेक्षित वजन व उंची वाढत नसेल तर त्याची कारणे शोधून उपाय योजना करणे आवश्यक आहे. वयोगटानुसार अपेक्षित उंची व वजन माहिती असणे पालकांना गरजेचे आहे. यावरून बालकांच्या वयाचा त्यांच्या वाढ व विकासावर प्रभाव पडत असल्याचे दिसून येते.

#### लिंग

बालकांची वाढ व विकास या दोन्ही संदर्भात मुले व मुली यामध्ये फरक आढळतो. मुलांच्या तुलनेत मुलींमध्ये परिपक्वता लवकर येते. मुलींचा शारीरिक तसेच मानसिक विकास मुलांपेक्षा कमी वयात होतो. या लिंग भेद नैसर्गिक असल्याने त्या लिंगानुसार बालकांची वाढ व विकास होत असल्याचे दिसून येते.

#### अनुवंशिकता

बालकांची वाढ व विकासामध्ये अनुवंशिकता हा घटक अतिशय महत्वपूर्ण आहे. कारण अनुवंशिकतेमुळे मागील पिढीचे गुणदोष पुढील पिढीत संक्रमित होत असतात. बालकांच्या विकासाची गती तीव्र किंवा मंद असली तरी त्यांचा विकास विशिष्ट क्रमाने होत असतो. मुलांच्या केसांचा, त्वचेचा, डोळ्यांचा भिन्न रंग आपण पाहतो. यासारखे केवळ शारीरिक व्यक्तीभेद बालकांमध्ये असतो असे नाही. तर बुद्धिमत्ता, स्वभाव, आवड, कल्पकता यासारख्या विविध बाबींमध्ये हा फरक आढळून येतो. अनुवंशिक गुण किंवा अवगुणांचा बालकांच्या विकासावर प्रभाव पडतो. बालकांच्या विकासांमध्ये विविध पैलूंचा समावेश असून अनुवंशिकतेचा प्रभाव अधिक प्रमाणात झालेला दिसून येतो. विशेषतः बालकांची उंची व वजनावर अधिक प्रमाणात अनुवंशिकतेचा परिणाम होत असल्याचे निदर्शनास येते.

#### बुद्धिमत्ता

बालकांच्या सर्वांगीण विकासावर बुद्धिमत्तेचा प्रभाव होत असल्याचे आढळते. कुशाग्र बुद्धिमत्तेच्या मुलांचा बोधात्मक विकास उत्तम झालेला असल्याने

सामाजिक विकासाच्या बाबतीत ते इतर सर्व सामान्यांमध्ये अग्रेसर असतात. तसेच आकलन क्षमता चांगली असल्यामुळे बौद्धिक विकास तिब्र गतीने होतो. बौद्धिक दृष्ट्या मागासलेल्या बालकांचा अध्ययनाचा वेग कमी असतो. आकलन क्षमते अभावी सामाजिक विकासात अडथळे येतात. अशा मुलांचा बुद्ध्यांक कमी असल्यामुळे इतर विकासात देखिल ही मुले माघारलेली दिसून येतात.

#### आहार व पोषण

जन्मापूर्वी व जन्मानंतर बालकांची वाढ व विकास योग्य होण्याच्या दृष्टिने पोषक व समतोल आहार घेणे ही बाब अत्यंत महत्वाची असते. पोषक आहार व बालकांची वाढ व विकास यांचा अत्यंत जवळचा संबंध आहे. बालकाला आवश्यक असलेल्या अन्न घटकांमध्ये प्रथिने, कर्बोदके, स्निग्धपदार्थ, जीवनसत्वे, खनिजद्रव्य व पाणी यांचा समावेश होतो. नव्या पेशींची निर्मिती, हाडांची वाढ, रक्त निर्मिती, स्नायुंची वाढ तसेच शरीरांतर्गत घडणाऱ्या अनिश्चित क्रिया, शारीरिक हालचाली या सर्वांसाठी असणारी उर्जेची गरज अन्नातून पुरविली जाते. ज्या बालकांना पोषक आहार मिळतो त्यांचा विकास समतोल होतो. त्यांच्यात परिपक्वता लवकर येते. कुपोषण व अपुऱ्या पोषणामुळे बालकांची वाढ खुंटते.

#### अंतःस्त्रावी ग्रंथी

जन्मपूर्व व जन्मानंतरच्या काळात अंतःस्त्रावी ग्रंथी बालकांच्या विकासावर परिणाम करतात. बालकांची शारीरिक तसेच मानसिक वाढ अंतःस्त्रावी ग्रंथीवर अवलंबून असते. अंतःस्त्रावी ग्रंथीतून निघणाऱ्या स्त्रावाला अंतःद्रव्य म्हणतात. गर्भावस्थेत ग्रंथीचे स्त्राव कमी जास्त झाल्यास त्याचा गर्भाच्या विकासावर परिणाम होतो. ज्या प्रमाणे कंठस्थ ग्रंथीचे कार्य योग्य नसल्यास गर्भाचा विकास निट होत नाही. त्वचा खरखरीत होते, केस रठ होतात, मेंदूची वाढ पूर्णपणे होत नाही. डोक्याचा आकार लहान राहतो, मुल मंदबुद्धिचे होते. शारीरिक वाढ देखिल योग्य होत नाही. पोट मोठे होते तसेच शिर्षस्थ ग्रंथीचे कार्य देखिल फार महत्वाचे आहे. कुठल्याही कारणाने त्याचे कार्य योग्य प्रकारे होत नसल्यास बालकांच्या विकासावर त्याचा विपरित परिणाम होतो.

#### व्यायाम व विश्रांती

योग्य आहार, योग्य विहार व योग्य विश्रांती मिळाल्यास मुलांचा विकास योग्य गतीने होण्यास मदत होईल. व्यायामामुळे अन्न पचन चांगले होवून स्नायूमध्ये लवचिकता येते व शारीरिक क्रिया योग्य प्रकारे होतात. रक्ताभिसरण चांगले होवून प्रकृती सुदृढ व निरोगी राहण्यास मदत होते. मुलांना भरपूर खेळू दिल्यास

बालकांचा शारीरिक विकास योग्य दिशेने होईल. शारीरिक मेहनतीचे खेळ खेळायला प्रोत्साहन देवून संधी उपलब्ध करून द्याव्यात. यामुळे शारीरिक विकासाबरोबरच व्यायामामुळे बौद्धिक, मानसिक, सामाजिक आणि नैतिक विकासाला मदत होईल. बालकांची साधारणतः शारीरिक वाढ झोपेतच होते. व्यायामामुळे शरीर थकल्यानंतर मुलांना चांगली झोप येते. यामुळे त्यांचा विकास योग्य होण्यास मदत होते.

#### आजारपण

निरोगी बालकांचा विकास उत्तम होतो परंतु मुलांना होणाऱ्या आजारांमुळे त्यांच्या विकासात अडथळे निर्माण होतात. स्वास्थ्यपूर्ण माता-पित्याची मुले सुदृढ असतात. मातेकडून प्राप्त झालेली रोग प्रतिकार शक्ती बालकास सहा महिनेपर्यंत उपयुक्त ठरते परंतु योग्य आहार न मिळाल्यास किंवा लसीकरण न केल्यास बालक एखाद्या रोगाला बळी पडू शकतो. एखाद्या आजारामुळे कायमचे अपंगत्व येवू शकते व त्यामुळे विकासात बाधा निर्माण होते. पोटासंबंधीचे विकार, पोलिओ, घटसर्प किंवा मानसिक आजार असल्यास त्याचा बालकांच्या विकासावर परिणाम होवून सामान्य मुलांपेक्षा त्याचा विकास उशिरा होतो. प्रकृती अस्वास्थामुळे शैक्षणिक प्रगतीवर देखील त्याचा विपरित परिणाम होतो.

#### शारीरिक दोष

जन्माच्यावेळी किंवा जन्मानंतर अपघात, आजार या कारणामुळे बालकात दोष निर्माण होतात. त्यामुळे बालकांच्या विकासात बाधा येते. जन्माच्यावेळी मेंदूला ईजा झाल्यास शारीरिक दोष निर्माण होण्याची शक्यता अधिक असते. शारीरिक दोष दृश्य स्वरूपात असतात. उदा. दृष्टिहिनता, अपघातामुळे आलेले अपंगत्व या साराख्या दोषांमुळे सर्वांगीण विकासात अडचणी येतात. बालकांच्या विकासास अनुकूल सोयीसुविधा मिळाल्यास अपंगत्वावर मात करून स्वतःमधील क्षमतांचा वापर अधिक प्रमाणात करून विकास साध्य करतात. याकरिता त्यांना संधी मिळणे गरजेचे आहे.

#### निष्कर्ष

सुदृढ समाजाची निर्मिती करण्याकरिता भावी पिढी निरोगी असणे गरजेचे आहे. याच अनुषंगाने बालकांच्या वाढ व विकासाला प्रभावित करणाऱ्या घटकांमध्ये वय, लिंग, आहार व पोषण, अनुवंशिकता, बुद्धिमत्ता, आजारपण, व्यायाम व विश्रांती तसेच शारीरिक दोष आणि लसीकरण या बाबी अंतर्भूत आहेत. यावरून बालकांचे संगोपन करित असतांना त्यांच्या वाढ व विकासावर प्रभाव करणाऱ्या घटकांविषयीची माहिती सुजान पालकांना असणे गरजेचे आहे.

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## भारत में सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्योगों के विकास में जोखिम को कम करने में बीमा कंपनियों की भूमिका का अध्ययन।

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### शोध सारांश:

भारत में सूक्ष्म लघु और मध्यम उद्योगों के विकास में जोखिम को कम करने में बीमा कंपनियों का एक महत्वपूर्ण योगदान होता है। सूक्ष्म लघु व मध्यम उद्योगों के विकास में जोखिम बहुत ज्यादा है और इस क्षेत्र में बहुत सारे व्यक्ति काम करते हैं। भारत में एमएसएमई में कार्य करने वाले लोगों की अनुमानित संख्या उघम पोर्टल के नए आंकड़ों के आधार पर दिसंबर 2022 तक लगभग 1.28 करोड़ एमएसएमई में पंजीकृत उद्योगों ने 2.18 करोड़ महिलाएं कार्यरत सहित 9.31 करोड़ लोग है। कोविड 2019 महामारी के समयमें एमएसएमई के क्षेत्र को समर्थन देने के लिए आत्मनिर्भर भारत अभियान के तहत कई पहल की है। एमएसएमई के विकास में जोखिम को कम करने में बीमा कंपनियों का एक महत्वपूर्ण योगदान है। सूक्ष्म लघु व मध्यम उद्योग का एक अभिन्न अंग है या व्यवसाय में होने वाले जोखिम के खिलाफ कार्य करता है व वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करता है। बीमा का उद्योग में एक महत्वपूर्ण स्थान है सबसे अच्छा उपकरण एमएसएमई में बीमा कंपनियां या बैंक है यह उद्योग को उन कारकों से भी बचाते हैं जो प्रत्यक्ष व अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से व्यवसाय को प्रभावित करते हैं ये कारक आंतरिक व बाह्य भी हो सकते हैं जो व्यक्ति अपने व्यवसाय का बीमा करवा लेता है तो वह व्यवसाय में जल्दी सफलता को प्राप्त करता है वर्तमान समय में देश में लगभग सक्रिय 6.3 करोड़ एमएसएमई उद्योग है जिसमें कार्य करने वाले व्यक्तियों की संख्या 1,23,15,681 है।

**मुख्य शब्द:** एमएसएमई उद्योग, कोविड-19, स्वास्थ्य बीमा, बीमा व्यापार ।

### सरकारी योजनाएं:

सूक्ष्म लघु और मध्यम उद्यम मंत्रालय ने देश में रोजगार के अवसर को बढ़ाने व जोखिम को कम करने के लिए निम्न योजनाएं चालू की है कुछ योजनाओं के नाम इस प्रकार हैं

- प्रधानमंत्री रोजगार सृजन कार्यक्रम और अन्य क्रेडिट सहायता स्कीम।
- प्रधानमंत्री रोजगार सृजन कार्यक्रम (PMEG)।
- सूक्ष्म और लघु उद्योगों के लिए क्रेडिट गारंटीड ट्रस्टफंड (CGTSME)।
- घरेलू बाजार संवर्धन स्कीम (DMP) आदि।

उद्योग एवं उद्यमिता के लिए सरकार ने देश के विकास में विशेषकर कोरोना काल कोविड-19 महामारी के समय में एमएसएमई के क्षेत्र को समर्थन देने के लिए "आत्मनिर्भर भारत अभियान" के तहत कई पहल की थी बीमा किसी भी कंपनी को जोखिम से बचाने व जोखिम को कम करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है। MSME के वर्तमान व भविष्य के विकास में सहायता करता है। बीमा किसी भी व्यवसाय का एक अभिन्न अंग है। बीमा आकस्मिक घटित होने वाले घटनाओं जैसे आग के जोखिम, भगवान के आतंक, भूकंप, चोरी व अन्य किसी के खिलाफ हो सकता है। इसलिए लघु सूक्ष्म व मध्यम उद्योगों को अनेकों जोखिमों

का सामना करना पड़ता है। ऐसे में बीमा कंपनियों एमएसएमई को जोखिम से बचाती है और विकास में सहायता करते हैं। जब उद्योगों का विकास होता है तो लोगों को रोजगार मिलता है और बेरोजगारी की दर में कमी आती है और देश का भी विकास होता है।

### अध्ययन का उद्देश्य:

बीमा व्यवसाय का एक अभिन्न अंग है बीमा का मुख्य उद्देश्य उद्योग में होने वाले वित्तीय जोखिम को कम करना व वित्तीय जोखिम के समय उद्योग में सहायता करना है। जिन उद्योगों का बीमा होता है वह कम समय में ज्यादा प्रगति करते हैं बीमा एमएसएमई के क्षेत्र में एक महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है यह वर्तमान समय वह भविष्य में मदद करता है। प्रत्येक व्यवसाय को चालू रखने व आगे बढ़ाने के लिए कार्यशील पूंजी की आवश्यकता होती है। एमएसएमई ने भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था में एक महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है देश में लगभग 6.3 करोड़ एमएसएमई है, एमएसएमई में देश की जीडीपी में योगदान दिया है। एमएसएमई के द्वारा लगभग 110 मिलियन लोगों को रोजगार मिला है 110 मिलियन लोगों को रोजगार मिलने के कारण बेरोजगारी की दर में कमी आई है। एमएसएमई श्रमिक बाजार की स्थिरता में भी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है। साथ ही सरकार द्वारा "आत्मनिर्भर भारत अभियान" भी चलाया जा रहा है। एमएसएमई के इस महत्व को देखते हुए सन 2019 में

सरकार ने यह अनुमान लगाया कि आगे आने वाले 5 वर्षों में यह क्षेत्र भारत की आधी GDP और लगभग 50 मिलियन नए रोजगारों के सृजन के लिए उत्तरदाई होगा। कोविड-19 महामारी के कारण एमएसएमई व अन्य वर्गों पर नकारात्मक प्रभाव पड़ा है लेकिन बीमा वह ईंधन है जो व्यवसाय उद्योग को शक्ति देता है व सफल छोटे व्यवसाय के माध्यम से लोगों को रोजगार मिलता है इसलिए बीमा छोटे व्यवसाय के विकास में भी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है।

### कोविड-19 महामारी और एमएसएमई की समस्याएँ:

भारत में कोविड-19 महामारी लॉकडाउन के कारण एमएसएमई के क्षेत्र में बहुत बुरा प्रभाव पड़ा है लॉकडाउन के समय में 5000 एमएसएमई के सर्वेक्षण में पाया गया मार्च सन 2020 में 71% उद्यम कोविड-19 के कारण अपने कर्मचारियों को वेतन तक नहीं दे पाए थे वर्तमान में यह क्षेत्र 11.4 करोड़ लोगों को रोजगार प्रदान करता है साथ ही भारत की जीडीपी में 30% का योगदान देता है कोविड-19 के कारण उद्योगों पर नकारात्मक प्रभाव पड़ा और मांग में भी कमी आई है। यद्यपि एमएसएमई अर्थव्यवस्था का महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है अक्सर बीमा के बारे में भी अधिक जानकारी न होने के कारण एमएसएमई उद्योग में बीमा के मुद्दों को नजर अंदाज कर देते हैं क्योंकि रिकॉर्ड के अनुसार केवल 5% ही ऐसे MSME है जो बीमा से सुरक्षित हैं। जबकि भारत में कितने करोड़ MSME है इसका यही मतलब है कि उनका व्यवसाय में होने वाले आंतरिक व बाह्य जोखिमों के बारे में न तो पता है और ना ही बीमा के महत्व के बारे में पता है उद्योग के मालिकों को उद्योग में होने वाले जोखिम के बारे में व नीति व कानून के बारे में संपूर्ण जानकारी होनी चाहिए। मालिक को अपने व्यवसाय में होने वाले जोखिम से अपने व्यवसाय को बचाना चाहिए अपने व्यवसाय को सुरक्षित रखना चाहिए बीमा एक प्रकार से व्यवसाय के मालिकों को मन की शांति देता है। वह जोखिम के समय में भी वह अपने व्यवसाय को कैसे विकसित कर सकते हैं और चुनौतियों से लड़ सकते हैं।

### एमएसएमई की बाधाएँ :

एमएसएमई की प्रगति की प्रमुख बाधाएं निम्न है:

- बैंकिंग पहुंच की कमी के कारण गैरबैंकिंग वित्तीय कंपनियों (NBFCs) या सूक्ष्मवित्तीय संस्थानों (MFIs) पर निर्भरता।
- -सितंबर 2018 से NBFC क्षेत्र की तरलता की कमी के कारण वित्तीय चुनौतियों का और अधिक सामना करना।
- देश में कुल एमएसएमई में से लगभग 86% का पंजीकरण नहीं।
- वर्तमान समय में देश में कुल 6.3 करोड़ MSME में से 1.1 एक करोड़ ही वस्तु और सेवा कर (GST) के साथ पंजीकृत है।
- आयकर दाखिला वाली संख्या 1.1 करोड़ से भी कम है।
- पुरानी व अप्रचलित प्रौद्योगिकी पर आधारित तकनीक आदि।

### क्रियाविधि:-

हमारा शोध कार्यमूल रूप से द्वितीय समंक पर आधारित है जिसमें हमने कई विभागों की वेबसाइट के माध्यम से जानकारी प्राप्त की है जैसे कुछ वेबसाइट के नाम इस प्रकार हैं-

- IRDA (Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority)

भारत सरकार की यह एक प्राधिकरण एजेंसी है इसका उद्देश्य बीमा की पॉलिसी धारकों के हितों की रक्षा करना बीमा उद्योग का क्रमबद्ध विनियमन संवर्धन व आकस्मिक घटनाओं पर कार्य करना है इसका मुख्यालय हैदराबाद में है इसकी स्थापना संसद द्वारा पारित, बीमा विनयामक और विकास प्राधिकरण अधिनियम,द्वारा 1999 में की गई थी।

- MSME (Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises).

- MSME and Insurance से संबंधित अन्य वेबसाइट।

सभी वित्तीय और गैर वित्तीय डाटा एमएसएमई भारत सरकार की वार्षिक रिपोर्ट व विभिन्न पुस्तकों पत्रिकाओं और वेबसाइटों से एकत्र किया है।

### भारत में एमएसएमई में रोजगार के अवसर:

एमएसएमई क्षेत्र में 11.10 करोड़ नौकरियों में से 360.41 लाख नौकरियां पैदा करता है यह नौकरियां ग्रामीण और शहरी क्षेत्र में विनिर्माण से संबंधित है। जिसमें देश भर के व्यापार में 387.18 लाख नौकरियां और अन्य सेवाओं में 362.82 लाख नौकरियां है सांख्यिकी और MOSPI द्वारा अनगिनित गैर कृषि उद्योगों पर NSS रिपोर्ट के 73 वेंदौर (July 2015- 2016) के अनुसार एमएसएमई में कार्य करने वाले व्यक्तियों की संख्या अनुमानित 11.10 करोड़ है प्रधानमंत्री रोजगार सृजन कार्यक्रम (PMEGP) के तहत वर्ष 2016 -17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020 -21 और 2021- 22 के दौरान सूक्ष्मउद्यमों में अनुमानित रोजगार व्यक्तियों की संख्या 15.11.2021 को 4.08 लाख, 3.87 लाख, 5.87 लाख, 5.33 लाख, 5.95 लाख, 2.90 लाख है। सरकार ने देश में विशेष कर कोविड-19 महामारी में एमएसएमई के क्षेत्र को समर्थन देने के लिए आत्मनिर्भर भारत के तहत कई योजनाएं भी शुरू की है जो एमएसएमई में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं।

### जीडीपी में योगदान:

एमएसएमई देश GDP (सकल घरेलू उत्पाद) में भी अपना योगदान देता है MSME के माध्यम से लोगों को रोजगार मिलता है उस में से 20% ग्रामीण इलाके के लोग हैं और वह जीडीपी में सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के द्वारा प्राप्त नई जानकारी के अनुसार वर्ष 2019-20, 2020-21 और 2021-22 के दौरान GDP मेंGVA(सकल मूल्य वर्धित) की हिस्सेदारी 30.5% थी क्रमशः 27.2% और 29.2% है। यह ध्यान देने वाली बात है कि जुलाई - सितंबर 2023 तिमाही के दौरान जीडीपी में 7.6% की वृद्धि हुई और इस वृद्धि में मुख्य योगदान उद्योग का रहा है। भारत के उद्योग क्षेत्र में इस दौरान 13.2% की

वृद्धि दर हासिल की की है। जो कि हाल ही के समय में अपने आप में एक रिकॉर्ड है ये संख्याएं काफी चौका देने वाली है GDP के आंकड़ों में जितना अनुमान लगाया गया है उससे ज्यादा बेहतर आंकड़ों का परिणाम मिला है साल- दर -साल 8.4 फीसदी की यह दर साल 2022 की दूसरी तिमाही के बाद से सबसे मजबूत वृद्धि है जो 6.6 फीसदी के पूर्वानुमान से कहीं ज्यादा है और वर्तमान समय में कोविड-19 महामारी के द्वारा भारत देश की GDP 3.7 ट्रिलियन अमेरिकन डॉलर की GDP के साथ 5वां सबसे बड़ा देश है और MSME “आत्मनिर्भर भारत” और “मेक इन इंडिया” कार्यक्रमों जैसी सरकारी नीतियों का भी नियम पूर्वक पालन करते हैं भारत सरकार MSME के लिए वित्तीय सहायता तो बीमा के माध्यम से करती है साथ ही साथ कानूनी सहायता भी करती है बीमा का क्षेत्र उद्योग के मध्यस्थ की भूमिका निभाता है।

#### एमएसएमई उद्योग में बीमा का महत्व:

व्यवसाय किसी भी प्रकार का बीमा व्यवसाय का एक अभिन्न अंग है या रीड की हड्डी के समान जिस प्रकार रीड की हड्डी टूट जाने पर इंसान जिंदा तो रहता है पर कोई भी विकास नहीं कर पता ठीक उसी प्रकार जब कंपनी को घटा होता है तो कंपनी चलती तो है पर विकास नहीं हो पाता है बीमा कंपनी व्यवसाय को जोखिम से बचने व विकास में सहायता करती है यह चोरी, बाढ़, भूकंप, आतंक के खिलाफ हो सकता है इसलिए उद्योग को कई जोखनों का सामना करना पड़ता है कोविड-19 महामारी के दौरान पूरे MSME उद्योग पर बुरा प्रभाव व नकारात्मक प्रभाव पड़ा है लॉकडाउन में न केवल मालिक को श्रमिकों को नियुक्ताओं व अन्य वर्गों को हिला डाला अधिकांश भारतीय वह या अन्य बाजारों में भी व्यवसायों को वित्त, किराया, वेतन, मजदूरी आदि समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ा, लेकिन कोविड-19 महामारी के दौरान तो उद्योग को अन्य प्रकार की समस्याओं का भी सामना करना पड़ा कुछ उद्योग तो बंद हो गए थे कुछ पर प्रभाव तो पड़ा लेकिन वह बंद नहीं हुए जिनका बीमा था वे अब वह विकास कर रहे हैं भारत में एमएसएमई इसकी संख्या 6.3 करोड़ है फिर भी MSME उद्योग द्वारा बीमा मुद्दे को नजर अंदाज किया गया है क्योंकि रिकॉर्ड के अनुसार 5% उद्योग ऐसे उद्योग है जो बीमा से सुरक्षित है इसका कारण यह है कि एमएसएमई के मालिकों के पास पर्याप्त जानकारी नहीं है। उनको इन सब योजनाओं के बारे में जागरूक होना चाहिए कि बीमा उद्योगों के विकास में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है मालिकों को अपने व्यवसाय या उद्योग का बीमा अवश्य करवा लेना चाहिए वह जोखिमों को कम करना चाहिए बीमा के माध्यम से मालिक अपने व्यवसाय को जोखिम से बचा सकते हैं वह कठिन समय में भी व्यवसाय को चालू रख सकते हैं या धीरे-धीरे विकसित कर सकते हैं।

#### एमएसएमई में बीमा की आवश्यकता:

एमएसएमई के क्षेत्र में बीमा का एक महत्वपूर्ण स्थान है बीमा MSME का एक महत्वपूर्ण अंग है बीमा

जोखिम व वित्तीय संकट के समय व्यवसाय में सहायता करता है संयुक्त राष्ट्र ने वर्ष 2015 में सतत विकास लक्ष्य (SDD) नामक एक परियोजना की शुरुआत की और सन 2030 तक इसके परिणाम भी देखने को मिलेंगे और प्रत्येक देश का इस लक्ष्य को पूरा करने के लिए तैयार है उन्हें MSME का GDP में लगभग 25% योगदान है और रोजगार देता है भारत में कोविड-19 महामारी के समय में बीमा ने अपनी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई थी।

#### सुझाव:

हाल के वर्षों में भारतीय ब्रांड बाजार में हुए विकास के बीच MSME Bond को बढ़ावा देने से MSME की ऋण पूंजी बाजारों की भागीदारी को बढ़ावा मिल सकता है वह ब्रांड के माध्यम से वस्तु के क्रय- विक्रय में कम वित्त की लागत लगेगी क्योंकि ब्रांड के माध्यम से अगर वस्तु को खरीदा या बेचा जाएगा तो विचौलियों को दी जाने वाली राशि हमारी बचत होगी। नई-नई तकनीकियों का प्रयोग करना नए-नए डिजिटल व्यवस्थाओं के माध्यम से कार्य को करना यदि हम चाहते हैं कि सही मायने में कि देश के विकास में एमएसएमई का महत्वपूर्ण योगदान हो तो इसके लिए वर्तमान समय में हमें एक ऐसे ढांचे का निर्माण करना होगा जो कि जोखिम मुक्त हो या बहुत आवश्यक हो कि जो हमारे खिलाफ काम करने के बजाय हमारे लिए काम करें तभी या विकसित हुआ मजबूत राष्ट्र देश का निर्माण होगा।

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## राष्ट्रीय-स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना से गरीबों को होने वाले लाभों का अध्ययन

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### शोध सारांश

दुनिया भर में स्वास्थ्य सेवा उद्योग परिवर्तन के दौर से गुजर रहा है। भारत सरकार की एक उत्साहित योजना स्वास्थ्य सेवा प्रणाली के सामने आने वाले कई चुनौतियों से निपटने की कोशिश करती है। राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना आरएसबीवाई कार्यक्रम ने भारत के अधिकांश राज्यों में 36 मिलियन से अधिक परिवारों को माध्यमिक स्तर की स्वास्थ्य सुविधाएं प्रदान की है। यह विशेष स्वास्थ्य बीमा पहल भारत सरकार द्वारा दयनीय या हसीए पर रहने वाली भारतीय आबादी एवं उन परिवारों की सुरक्षा के उद्देश्य से की गई थी जो अस्पताल में भर्ती होने और अपने रोजमर्रा के खर्चों के कारण आर्थिक जोखिम का सामना कर रहे हैं। आरएसबीवाई माध्यमिक देखभाल के लिए बीमा कवरेज के साथ सस्ती और सुलभ स्वास्थ्य सेवा प्रदान करता है। हालांकि रोगी के उपचार या अस्पताल में भर्ती होने तक ही सीमित है। आउट पेशेंट का एवरेज के लिए कई रणनीतियों को लागू किया गया है लेकिन कम नामांकन अभी भी इस योजना के तहत एक मौजूदा दोष है। वर्तमान पेपर आरएसबीवाई की विभिन्न विशेषताएं शुरू की गई बाहर रोगी परियोजना और विभिन्न बड़ाओ पर चर्चा करता है जिन्हें भारत में प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल के साथ इस बीमा योजना को एकीकृत करने के लिए दूर किया जा सकता है।

**मुख्य शब्द:**राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना, आयुष्मान भारत, बाह्य रोगी कवरेज।

### परिचय:

भारत में स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली की विशेषता एक विशाल लेकिन कमजोर सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली है और एक मजबूत लाभ संचालित निजी स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली है। सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली को कर राजस्व द्वारा वित्त पोषित किया जाता है और कार्य राज्य बजट आवंटन द्वारा किया जाता है। एक सशस्त्र स्वास्थ्य सेवा प्रणाली लगातार इन स्वास्थ्य संबंधी चुनौतियों से प्रभावित तरीके से निपटने का प्रयास करती है। भारत सरकार (जीओआई) ने अपनी स्वास्थ्य सेवा प्रणाली की डिलीवरी और वित्त में विभिन्न असमानताओं और अक्षमताओं को पहचान है। और इन मुद्दों को हल करने के लिए भारत सरकार स्वास्थ्य देखभाल प्रणाली के लिए बजट आवंटन में वृद्धि जैसे विभिन्न उपाय पेश करने का प्रयास किया है। यहां तक की विभिन्न राज्य सरकारों ने भी विशेष रूप से आर्थिक रूप से पिछड़े आबादी की जरूरत को पूरा करने के लिए एक समान स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना शुरू की है। भारत सरकार का ऐसा ही एक प्रमुख दृष्टिकोण राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना (आरएसबीवाई) की शुरुआत की है।

पिछले कुछ वर्षों के दौरान, कई विकासशील देशों ने अपनी वंचित आबादी के लिए कर वित्त पोषित स्वास्थ्य बीमा कवरेज शुरू किया है। 2008 के दौरान, भारत ने भारतीय श्रम और रोजगार मंत्रालय (एमओएल और ई) के समर्थन के साथ, इस प्रयास को जोड़ा और दयनीय भारतीय

परिवारों को रोजमर्रा के अस्पताल में भर्ती होने के खर्च से जुड़े आर्थिक जोखिमों से बचने के प्रस्ताव के साथ "आरएसबीवाई" की शुरुआत की। इस आरएसबीवाई उद्गम में, 65 मिलियन परिवारों को लक्षित किया गया था और सितंबर 2016 के अंत तक 41 मिलियन से अधिक परिवारों ने अपना नामांकन कराया था। मूल रूप से, आरएसबीवाई गरीबी रेखा से नीचे (बीपीएल) के अंतर्गत आने वाली आबादी के लिए एक सरकार प्रायोजित प्रस्ताव है। भारत में इस योजना के तहत प्रमुख लाभ (लगभग 75%) का पारिश्रमिक भारत सरकार द्वारा दिए जाने का प्रावधान है, जबकि शेष का पारिश्रमिक संबंधित राज्य सरकार द्वारा किया जाता है।

भारत के कई राज्यों में लगभग 30 मिलियन परिवारों के लिए, आरएसबीवाई कार्यक्रम ने माध्यमिक स्तर के स्वास्थ्य देखभाल प्रदान की है, जबकि बाय रोगी सेवाएं योजना की सीमा से बाहर है। इसलिए, भारतीय नीति निर्माता स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं की समर्थ और पहुंच में सुधार के लिए प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल प्रणाली में एक नीव रखने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। यहां तक कि आरएसबीवाई कार्यक्रम अभी भी इस तथ्य पर विचार करते हुए पुनर्विचार के अधीन है कि यह भारत में प्राथमिक देखभाल दृष्टिकोण के साथ बेहतर तरीके से एकीकृत होगा।

### राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना का जन्म:

राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना भारत सरकार द्वारा संचालित एक राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा कार्यक्रम है। इस योजना का उद्देश्य सार्वजनिक और निजी अस्पताल में बीपीएल श्रेणी को अस्पताल में भर्ती होने के लिए कैशलेस बीमा प्रदान करना है। राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना 1 अप्रैल, 2008 को शुरू हुई, और यह श्रम और रोजगार मंत्रालय द्वारा नियंत्रित एक परियोजना थी। 1 अप्रैल, 2015 को यह स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के अधीन आ गया। पहले यह मुख्य रूप से केवल गरीबी रेखा से नीचे परिवारों को कर रहा था, लेकिन बाद में इसे गैर गरीब परिवारों तक बढ़ा दिया गया। डीटेलस रेडियो भी विशेष रूप से कुछ अनौपचारिक क्षेत्र के श्रमिक हैं जिन्हें भारत सरकार और विभिन्न राज्य सरकारों द्वारा वित्त पोषित किया जा रहा है इस योजना का लक्ष्य 12वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना (2012-2017) के अंत तक 70 मिलियन परिवारों को शामिल करना था।

### राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना के उद्देश्य:

भारत में, लगभग एक तिहाई आबादी गरीबी रेखा के नीचे है और बीमा के भुगतान करने की उसकी क्षमता बहुत सीमित है जिसके परिणामस्वरूप बीमा कवरेज योजनाओं के लिए सबसे बड़ी समस्या है इसलिए केंद्र सरकार का श्रम मंत्रालय और रोजगार ने आरएसबीआई योजना को संगठित क्षेत्र को स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना के साथ नामांकित करने की दृष्टिकोण के साथ डिजाइन किया ताकि उन्हें चिकित्सा त्रासदी से उत्पन्न होने वाले वित्तीय झटके से बचाया जा सके यहां तक की किफायती और सुलभ स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं भी इस योजना के पीछे के एजेंट में से एक हैं ताकि साथ सेवा क्षेत्र में सुधार किया जा सके खासकर अशिक्षित या हसीए पर रहने वाले व्यक्तियों के लिए आरएसबीआई माध्यमिक देखभाल के लिए बीमा कवरेज प्रदान करता है जो आमतौर पर सामुदायिक स्वास्थ्य केंद्र जिला अस्पतालों में प्रदान किया जाता है। इस प्रकार, आरएसबीआई को 2012-13 तक गरीबी रेखा के नीचे रहने वाली पूरी आबादी को कवर करने की एक दृढ़ योजना के साथ शुरू किया गया था। राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना के प्रमुख उद्देश्य निम्नलिखित हैं-

### भारी स्वास्थ्य खर्चों से सुरक्षा:

बदलते समय के साथ स्वास्थ्य सम्राट लोगों की चीज बन गई है और पिछले दशकों में जब से खर्च बढ़ रहा है। भारत सरकार की बीमा योजना कमजोर वर्गों को महंगे उपचार चिकित्सा सहायता के खिलाफ बहुत जरूरी सुरक्षा प्रदान करती है।

### सभी के लिए गुणवत्तापूर्ण स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं:

सरकार समाज के विभिन्न वर्गों के लिए कल्याणकारी सेवाएं लाने का प्रयास करती है, और भारत के संविधान में राज्य के नीति निर्देशक सिद्धांतों द्वारा भी इस पर जोर दिया गया है। संविधान राज्य को सभी के लिए

गुणवत्तापूर्ण स्वास्थ्य विभाग सुनिश्चित करने का निर्देश देता है। आर0एस0बी0वाई0 समाज के विभिन्न वर्गों के लिए गुणवत्तापूर्ण स्वास्थ्य देखभाल तक पहुंच में सुधार करती है।

### राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना से गरीबों को लाभ:

- इस कार्यक्रम के तहत लाभार्थियों को रुपए तक का बीमा कवरेज दिया जाता है। फैमिली फ्लोटर आधार पर प्रतिवर्ष 30000 जिसमें परिवार के अधिकतम 5 सदस्य शामिल होते हैं जिनमें घर का मुखिया उनके पति या पत्नी और तीन आश्रित शामिल होते हैं।
- प्राप्तकर्ताओं को बायोमेट्रिक कार्य क्षमता वाला एक स्मार्ट कार्ड या स्वास्थ्य कार्ड प्राप्त होता है।
- जम्मू कश्मीर और पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों के लिए भारत के केंद्र सरकार अपेक्षित वार्षिक योगदान का 90% और अनुमानित वार्षिक प्रीमियम को 75 प्रतिशत भुगतान करती है।
- राज्य सरकारी कुल वार्षिक प्रीमियम का 25% और जम्मू कश्मीर और पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों के मामले में 10 प्रतिशत का योगदान करती है।
- यह सभी चिकित्सा प्रक्रिया और अस्पताल में रहने के लिए कैशलेस बीमा सुरक्षा प्रदान करता है।
- वह परिवहन भत्ते अस्पताल में भर्ती होने से पहले का एक दिन का खर्च और अस्पताल में भर्ती होने के बाद के पांच दिनों का खर्च प्रदान करते हैं।

### आरएसबीआई के तहत जारी किया गया स्मार्ट कार्ड:

स्मार्ट कार्ड कई उद्देश्यों को पूरा करता है जिसमें तस्वीर और उंगलियों के निशान के माध्यम से लाभार्थी की पहचान के साथ-साथ रोगी की जानकारी संग्रहित करना शामिल है। इसका प्राथमिक कार्य सूचीबद्ध अस्पतालों में कैशलेस लेनदेन की सुविधा प्रदान करना और देश भर में लाभ पोर्टेबिलिटी सुनिश्चित करना है। प्रमाणीकरण के बाद लाभार्थी को नामांकन स्टेशन पर स्मार्ट कार्ड जारी किया जाता है यदि बायोमेट्रिक डाटा सफल हो जाता है तो स्मार्ट कार्ड पर परिवार के मुखिया की तस्वीर का उपयोग पहचान उद्देश्यों के लिए किया जा सकता है।

### आयुष्मान कार्ड: प्रधानमंत्री जन आरोग्य योजना (PM-JAY)

सरकार ने हर किसी के इलाज कराने को आसान बनाने के लिए प्रधानमंत्री जन आरोग्य योजना की शुरुआत की है। आयुष्मान भारत योजना के तहत गरीब लोगों को मुफ्त में ₹500000 तक का इलाज करने की सुविधा मिलती है। इसे 23 सितंबर 2018 को पूरे भारत में लागू किया गया था, लेकिन इसके जरिए किन बीमारियों का इलाज होता है लिए बताते हैं समय समय पर सरकार हर वर्ग के लोगों के लिए तरह-तरह की स्कीम लाते रहते हैं जिसके जरिए आर्थिक रूप से कमजोर लोगों को मदद की जाती है। कोरोना के बाद से लोगों में कई तरह की बीमारियां बढ़ रही हैं जिनका इलाज करना हर आदमी के बस की बात नहीं होती है ऐसे में सरकार ने हर किसी के इलाज करने को आसान बनाने के लिए प्रधानमंत्री जन आरोग्य योजना की शुरुआत की है। इस योजना के तहत सरकारी अस्पतालों में कोरोना,

कैंसर, किडनी, हार्ट, डेंगू, चिकनगुनिया, मलेरिया, डायलिसिस, मोतियाबिंद और अन्य चिन्हित गंभीर बीमारियों को निशुल्क उपचार होता है।

इस योजना का लाभ कच्चे मकान में रहने वाला, भूमिहीन व्यक्ति अनुसूचित जाति जनजाति से संबंधित ग्रामीण इलाके में रहने वाले ट्रांसजेंडर, गरीबी रेखा से नीचे गुजर बसर करने वाले लोग उठा सकते हैं। सिर्फ इन लोगों को ही इस योजना के लिए आवेदन करने का अधिकार होता है।

#### PM-JAY की प्रमुख विशेषताएं-

- प्रधानमंत्री जन आरोग्य योजना दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना है जो पूरी तरह से सरकार द्वारा वित्त पोषित है।
- यह रुपए का कवर प्रदान करता है भारत में सार्वजनिक और निजी सूची का 10 सालों में माध्यमिक और तृतीय देखभाल अस्पताल में भर्ती के लिए प्रति परिवार 5 लाख की सुविधा।
- प्रधानमंत्री जन आरोग्य योजना को सेवा स्थल यानी अस्पताल में देखभाल सेवाओं तक कैशलेस पहुंच प्रदान करता है।
- 12 करोड़ से अधिक गरीब और कमजोर पत्र परिवार इन लाभों के लिए पात्र हैं।

#### आयुष्मान भारत राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य सुरक्षा मिशन -

भारत सरकार ने भारतीय परिवारों में बढ़ते जैव खर्चों से निपटने के लिए सितंबर 2018 में एबी-एनएचपीएस लॉन्च किया, जो अधिक से अधिक लोगों को गरीबी सीमा से नीचे धकेल रहा है। आयुष्मान भारत में 5 लाख रुपए की बड़ी हुई कवरेज सीमा प्रदान की। उसे बदलाव के बावजूद आरएसबीआई के कुछ काम वंचित पहलू दुर्भाग्य से एबी-एनएचपीएस योजना में शामिल हो गए। इस संदर्भ में तीन मुख्य कार्यों पर ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है-

- बाह्य रोगी व्यय जो की ओओपीई का एक बड़ा हिस्सा है एबी-एनएचपीएस के दायरे से बाहर रखा गया है जो की 55% से काफी ऊपर है और एबी-एनएचपीएस कुल ओओपीई का केवल 32% ही कर करेगा। दूसरी बात समाज के कमजोर वर्गों का व्यावहारिक पैटर्न है जिसे एबी-एनएचपीएस लक्षित करना चाहता है। यह एक विस्थापित तथ्य है कि गरीब लोग जो दैनिक आय पर निर्भर होते हैं वह अपनी आय के नुकसान के कारण अस्पताल में भर्ती होने से बचते हैं इसलिए उनके लिए निदान और दवाओं के प्रावधान सहित बाय रोगी देखभाल का बीमा किया जाना आवश्यक है।
- एबी-एनएचपीएस, अपने वर्तमान स्वरूप में खिलाड़ियों की भागीदारी का हिसाब देने में सक्षम नहीं हो सकता है। निजी क्षेत्र द्वारा अपनी योजना के तहत प्रदान की जाने वाली स्वास्थ्य देखभाल सेवाओं का मिलन मुआवजे को अधिक मूल्य देगा।
- देश भर में स्वास्थ्य देखभाल आवश्यकता में विविधता को देखते हुए केंद्रीय स्तर पर संपूर्ण चिकित्सा प्रक्रिया

सूची तैयार करना एक संभावित रूप से गैर-इष्टतम कदम है। नीति आयोग द्वारा की गई रैंकिंग के अनुसार, यह देखा गया कि स्वास्थ्य पर सबसे अधिक सरकारी व वाले सेट प्रदर्शन वाले राज्यों में भी निजी क्षेत्र में काफी अधिक ओओपीई व्यय है। ऐसे ही प्रवृत्ति उन राज्यों में भी देखी गई है जो प्रदर्शन तालिका में सबसे नीचे हैं।

#### आर0एस0बी0वाई0 के साथ बाह्य रोगी कवरेज में बाधाएं-

आर0एस0बी0वाई0 को विभिन्न मुद्दों का सामना करना पड़ा है जैसे कि इस ओपी कवरेज में राष्ट्रीयकृत व्यापार नाम की कमी चाहे वह समान हो या दंत चिकित्सा या यहां तक की नैदानिक भी हो इसके अलावा कुछ निश्चित कारक है जिन्होंने अतीत में स्वास्थ्य बीमा के विस्तार और गहनता को बाधित किया है और निकट भविष्य में प्रभाव पड़ने की उम्मीद है, जिसमें व्यापक जनता के लिए स्वास्थ्य बीमा को बढ़ावा देने में अपूर्ण प्रतिक्रिया के साथ-साथ इसकी कमी भी शामिल है। रोग की रूपरेखा और प्रबंधन लागत पर भरोसेमंद डाटा और महामारी विज्ञान की समझ को स्वास्थ्य बीमा उत्पाद निर्देशों को तैयार करने के लिए आवश्यक है।

- कभी-कभी दावों पर विचार और भुगतान के लिए बिलिंग और सेवा में तत्परता से जुड़े मामलों में धोखाधड़ी की साजिश को ओपी कवर को नियमित करने में बाधा माना जाता है।
- पहले से मौजूद बीमारियों से ग्रस्त लोगों और अस्वस्थ व्यक्तियों के प्रतिकूल चयन के लिए जोखिम के कारण बीमा डाटा की कमी हो जाती है।
- तकनीकी स्वरूप से कुशल जनशक्ति की कमी, जिसके पास स्वास्थ्य बीमा के चिकित्सा पहलुओं से जुड़े अनुसंधान और विकास गतिविधियों में अच्छा ज्ञान हो और ग्राहकों की अपेक्षाओं को पूरा करने के लिए अच्छी तरह से प्रशिक्षित कर्मचारी हो।
- ओपीडी कवरेज बनाम स्वास्थ्य कार्ड या डिस्काउंट कार्ड या स्वास्थ्य कार्ड के साथ बीमा विशेष योजनाएं हैं जो मासिक या वार्षिक सदस्यता शुल्क लेकर चिकित्सा, स्वास्थ्य और दवा खर्चों पर रियायती दरें प्रदान करती है लेकिन किसी भी तरह से अस्पताल में भर्ती कवर का प्रतिस्थापन नहीं करती है।
- दावों के प्रसंस्करण और निपटान के संबंध में स्वास्थ्य सेवा प्रदाताओं के साथ सहयोग और समन्वय की कमी का भी बीमा व्यवसाय पर नकारात्मक प्रभाव पड़ता है।

#### पारिवारिक चिकित्सा और प्राथमिक देखभाल में पेपर की क्षमता:

वर्तमान पेपर विभिन्न इलेक्ट्रॉनिक और मैनुअल अनुसंधान डेटाबेस से भरा हुआ है जिसमें प्रशासन के समय कोई सीमा नहीं है। यहां तक कि हमने खोजे गए साहित्य समीक्षाओं की संदर्भ सूचीयों को भी शामिल करने का प्रयास किया। हालांकि साहित्य की कमी के कारण कम लेख ही उपलब्ध थे जो कुछ हद तक जानकारी को सीमित करता है लेकिन यह आरएसबीवाई और आउट पेशेंट कवरेज के बारे में महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी पर प्रकाश डालता है जो प्राथमिक



देखभाल के साथ सामान्य या पारिवारिक चिकित्सा में सराहनीय योगदान दे सकता है कुल मिलाकर इस पेपर के माध्यम से हमारे विश्लेषण से पता चलता है कि आरएसबीवाई ने गरीब परिवारों के लिए कोई महत्वपूर्ण वित्तीय सुरक्षा प्रदान नहीं की है। आउट पेशेंट व्यय का बोझ, जो ओओपी स्वास्थ्य देखभाल व्यय के बड़े हिस्से के लिए जिम्मेदार है, ज्यादातर अप्रभावित है और आरएसबीवाई के कारण आउट पेशेंट देखभाल का उपयोग भी बढ़ सकता है।

पारिवारिक चिकित्सा का अनुशासन और पारिवारिक चिकित्सकों की भूमिकाएं और रुचिया विकसित हो रही है। रोगी की जरूरत और आवश्यक संसाधनों के आधार पर पारिवारिक चिकित्सक निश्चित देखभाल, साझा देखभाल, सहायक देखभाल, एकीकृत देखभाल प्रदान करता है या दूसरे द्वारा प्रदान की जाने वाली देखभाल को निर्देशित करता है। पारिवारिक चिकित्सक नियमित ओपीडी देखभाल प्रदान करने में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान देते हैं। पारिवारिक चिकित्सकों को उनके कार्यालय अभ्यास में तीव्र पुरानी और निवारक चिकित्सा देखभाल सेवाओं की एक श्रृंखला प्रदान करने के लिए प्रशिक्षित किया जाता है। बीमारी का निदान और उपचार करने के अलावा भी निवारक देखभाल में प्रदान करते हैं जिसमें नियमित जांच स्वास्थ्य जोखिम मूल्यांकन, टीकाकरण और स्क्रीनिंग परीक्षण और स्वस्थ जीवन शैली बनाए रखने पर व्यक्तिगत परामर्श शामिल है। पश्चिमी देशों में कई पारिवारिक चिकित्सक रोगी की कुल स्वास्थ्य आवश्यकताओं का मूल्यांकन करता है और चिकित्सा के एक या अधिक क्षेत्रों में व्यक्तिगत देखभाल प्रदान करता है। देखभाल की निरंतरता को बनाए रखते हुए देखभाल के अन्य स्रोतों का संकेत मिलने पर पारिवारिक चिकित्सक रोगी को रिफर करता है। अमेरिका और कई पश्चिमी देशों में पारिवारिक चिकित्सक मरीजों को देखने फोन कॉल का जवाब देने और अपने नियमित ओपीडी अभ्यास में आने वाली तत्काल समस्याओं का ध्यान रखने के लिए मिलकर काम करते हैं।

#### निष्कर्ष:

भारत में मध्यम वर्ग की बड़ी आबादी और स्वास्थ्य से संबंधित व्यय परिवारों को गहरी गरीबी में धकेलता है। लेकिन भारत सरकार या राज्य सरकार द्वारा विभिन्न स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजनाओं को स्वास्थ्य सेवा प्रणाली में शामिल किया गया है और ऐसी ही एक योजना आरएसबीवाई है, जो गरीबों को अस्पताल में भर्ती कवरेज प्रदान करने के लिए प्रेरित करने के लिए विभिन्न हितधारकों के लिए अंतरनिहित प्रोत्साहन के साथ एक सामाजिक कल्याण योजना है। हालांकि यह आंतरिक रोगी उपचार या अस्पताल में भर्ती होने तक सीमित है और बाय रोगी लागत के लिए कवरेज की कमी के साथ कम नामांकन इस बैनर के तहत अभी भी मौजूद खामियों हैं। लेकिन यह आजकल एक सफल बिजनेस मॉडल बनता जा रहा है क्योंकि निजी बीमा क्षेत्र के खिलाड़ी भी आरएसबीवाई में भाग ले रहे हैं हालांकि आरएसबीवाई फैमिली फ्लोटर हेल्थ केयर योजना के मामले

में लागत प्रभावी है जिसे भारत सरकार ने सफलतापूर्वक निर्धारित किया है हालांकि इसे अभी भी हाशिए पर रहने वाली या बीपीएल आबादी के बीच अधिक जागरूकता और पहुंच पैदा करने की आवश्यकता है।

#### संदर्भ सूची:

1. आहूजा आर, डी आई, गरीबों के लिए स्वास्थ्य बीमा: स्वास्थ्य देखभाल प्रावधान को मजबूत करने की आवश्यकता।
2. राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना: भारत का राष्ट्रीय पोर्टल।
3. आयुष्मान भारत कार्यक्रम और भारत में सार्वभौमिक स्वास्थ्य कवरेज।
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## स्वास्थ्य बीमा से होने वाले लाभों का समीक्षात्मक अध्ययन

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### शोध सारांश:

स्वास्थ्य बीमा पॉलिसी बीमा कंपनी और एक व्यक्ति के बीच एक अनुबंध है। व्यक्ति बीमाकर्ता को प्रीमियम का भुगतान करता है और बीमाकर्ता बदले में व्यक्ति को स्वास्थ्य देखभाल खर्चों के लिए वित्तीय सुरक्षा प्रदान करता है। स्वास्थ्य बीमा एक प्रकार का बीमा है जो किसी व्यक्ति के चिकित्सा खर्चों के पूरा रूप से कवर करता है। स्वास्थ्य बीमा का मतलब होता है कि किसी भी प्रकार की मेडिकल इमरजेंसी आने पर हमारे स्वास्थ्य से संबंधित किसी भी प्रकार की समस्या कोई बीमारी या कोई दुर्घटना जैसी आपातकालीन स्थिति होने पर उसके इलाज के लिए जो भी खर्चा आता है वहां हमको नहीं देना होता बल्कि हम जिस कंपनी का स्वास्थ्य बीमा लिए होते हैं वह कंपनी उसका पूरा खर्च का भुगतान करती है। बीमा योजनाएं अपने परिवार, संपत्ति और खुद को वित्तीय नुकसान से बचाने की चाहत रखने वाले किसी भी व्यक्ति के लिए फायदेमंद होती हैं। बीमा योजनाएं हमारे चिकित्सा आपात स्थिति, अस्पताल में भर्ती होने, किसी भी बीमारी के होने और उपचार और भविष्य में आवश्यक चिकित्सा देखभाल के लिए भुगतान करने में मदद करती हैं। स्वास्थ्य संबंधित समस्या कभी भी किसी को भी हो सकती है तथा आज के समय में अच्छा अस्पताल में अच्छे इलाज के लिए काफी खर्च आता है जिसका भुगतान कर पाना हर किसी व्यक्ति के लिए अचानक से संभव नहीं हो पता इन्हीं सब परिस्थितियों में स्वास्थ्य बीमा काम आता है यदि किसी व्यक्ति ने स्वास्थ्य बीमा ले रखा होता है तो इलाज के लिए उसे अपनी जेब से पैसे खर्च करने की आवश्यकता नहीं होती है पूरा खर्चा स्वास्थ्य बीमा कंपनी देती है स्वास्थ्य बीमा आपकी मेडिकल एवं सर्जिकल खर्च आदि को कवर करती है यानी इनमें होने वाले खर्च स्वास्थ्य बीमा में ही कर कर लिया जाता है। यदि कोई व्यक्ति किसी रोग से ग्रसित होते हैं या दुर्भाग्यवश आप किसी कारण किसी दुर्घटना घटित होती है तो उसके बाद अस्पताल में एडमिट होने पर डॉक्टर की फीस मेडिकल बिल ऑपरेशन चार्ज नर्सिंग चार्ज सर्जरी इत्यादि जैसे सारे खर्च आपकी स्वास्थ्य बीमा कंपनी हॉस्पिटल को कैशलेस तरीके से भुगतान करती है।

**मुख्य शब्द:** स्वास्थ्य बीमा, चिकित्सा उपचार, चिकित्सा दावा, सुरक्षा।

1. स्वास्थ्य बीमा पॉलिसी एक आश्वासन देता है।
2. स्वास्थ्य बीमा आप और आपके परिवार की सुरक्षा करता और बचत की रक्षा करता है।
3. यह व्यक्ति को उच्च चिकित्सा खर्चों की चिंता किए बिना बेहतर उपचार प्राप्त करने की सुविधा देती है।
4. स्वास्थ्य बीमा व्यक्ति के गंभीर बीमारियों के लिए विशेष कवरेज प्रदान करती है।
5. स्वास्थ्य बीमा में पॉलिसी धारक और बीमा कंपनी के बीच एक अनुबंध होता है जो बीमारी चोट पिया दुर्घटना के कारण होने वाली चिकित्सा खर्चों भुगतान करती है।

### स्वास्थ्य बीमा के प्रकार

स्वास्थ्य बीमा वर्तमान समय और उम्र में स्वास्थ्य बीमा अनिवार्य हो गया है विशेष रूप से देश में बढ़ती चिकित्सा खर्चों के साथ किसी को आप आपातकालीन चिकित्सा परिस्थितियों की जोखिमों को कम करने के लिए मजबूत सुरक्षा की आवश्यकता होती है। भारत में स्वास्थ्य बीमा में आपके लिए चुनने के लिए बहुत सारे बीमा प्लान हैं

हालांकि इस तरह के एक महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय के गहन शोध के साथ पालन किया जाना चाहिए।

- **व्यक्तिगत स्वास्थ्य बीमा:-** व्यक्तिगत स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना में व्यक्ति के लिए होती है जैसे कि नाम से ही पता चलता है इसमें एक ही व्यक्ति के द्वारा खरीदा जा सकता है इस स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना में व्यक्ति खुद का बीमा करवाता है उसे बीमारी और चिकित्सा इलाज की खर्चों के लिए किए गए खर्च की भरपाई की जाती है।
- **परिवार स्वास्थ्य बीमा :-** परिवार स्वास्थ्य बीमा के नाम से ही मशहूर है परिवार स्वास्थ्य बीमा पॉलिसी पूरे परिवार को एक ही प्रकार के कवर के साथ सुरक्षित करती है परिवार के लिए स्वास्थ्य बीमा पॉलिसी में जीवनसाथी बच्चों और बड़ों सहित परिवार के सभी सदस्य शामिल होते हैं।
- **क्रिटिकल इलनेस प्लान:-** जीवन से संबंधित बीमारियों का प्रसार बढ़ रहा है बीमा फार्मों ने इस ध्यान में रखते हुए क्रिटिकल इलनेस पॉलिसी बनाई है। इस बीमा पॉलिसी में उपचार की वास्तविक लागत की परवाह के

बिना जैसे ही आपको बीमारी का पता चलता है क्रिटिकल इलनेस प्लान आपको पूर्ण निश्चित राशि का भुगतान करती है क्रिटिकल इनलेस पॉलिसी खरीदना सबसे चतुर निर्णय है जिससे आप कर सकते हैं क्योंकि यह आपकी बचत की सुरक्षा करता है पॉलिसी को अनिश्चित कार्य के लिए नवीन कृत किया जा सकता है आपके पास गंभीर स्थिति नीति है तो आपको बीमारी का पता चलने के बाद कम से कम 30 दिन तक जीवित रहने में सक्षम होना चाहिए।

- **व्यक्तिगत दुर्घटना:-** वर्तमान समय में सड़क दुर्घटना के मामलों की संख्या बढ़ती हुई जा रही है और आज भारत में नागरिकों की सुरक्षा के लिए कई प्रकार के स्वास्थ्य बीमा है जिसमें लोग अपने जीवन को खो देते या विकलांग हो जाते हैं और इलाज का खर्च करने में थोड़ी कठिनाइयां होती हैं। इसलिए व्यक्तिगत दुर्घटना बीमा पॉलिसी का लाभ उठाना एक समझदारी का विचार है। यह पॉलिसी पीड़ित तथा उसके परिवार के सहायता के रूप में एक राशि प्रदान करती है।
- **वरिष्ठ नागरिकों के लिए स्वास्थ्य बीमा:-** यह स्वास्थ्य बीमा पॉलिसी विशेष रूप से 60 वर्ष से अधिक आयु के नागरिकों के लिए बनाई गई है क्योंकि वरिष्ठ नागरिकों को बीमारी की आशंका अधिक होती है। इसलिए इस बीमा पॉलिसी का प्रीमियम अधिक होता है। इसमें हम अपने माता-पिता या दादा दादी के लिए बीमा पॉलिसी खरीदने को सोचते हैं, क्योंकि यह सबसे अच्छी बीमा पॉलिसी है।
- **मैटरनिटी स्वास्थ्य बीमा :-** इस शास्त्र बीमा प्लान विशेष रूप से महिलाओं के लिए बनाया गया है प्रसव पूर्व और बात के खर्च साथ ही डिलीवरी और एंबुलेंस की खर्च सभी इन योजनाओं के तहत भुगतान किए जाते हैं 19000 शिशु कर भी उपलब्ध है जो एक निश्चित अवधि के लिए नवजात शिशु से जुड़े खर्चों को कवर करता है अधिकांश मातृ योजनाएं होने से पहले आमतौर पर प्रतीक्षा अवधि होती है जैसे ही कोई महिला शादी करती इस तरह की बीमा को खरीदना आवश्यक है इन्हें स्टैंडर्ड पॉलिसी के सप्लीमेंट के रूप में भी खरीदा जा सकता है

#### स्वास्थ्य बीमा के लाभ

स्वास्थ्य बीमा आधुनिक जीवन का एक अनिवार्य पहलू और चिकित्सा आपात स्थिति के दौरान लोगों को वित्तीय सुरक्षा प्रदान करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है। स्वास्थ्य बीमा महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि आज के समय में चिकित्सा उपचार बहुत महंगे होते यहां तक कि अगर आपके पास पैसा है तो भी गंभीर बीमारी या सर्जरी आपकी पूरी बचत को खत्म कर देती है स्वास्थ्य बीमा उन सभी खर्चों को कवर करती है। यहां सुनिश्चित करती कि आप अपनी जरूरत के हिसाब से मेडिकल केयर ले सकते हैं। स्वास्थ्य बीमा के कुछ बेहतरीन लाभ मिलते हैं जैसे हॉस्पिटलाइजेशन, होम केयर ट्रीटमेंट, ऑर्गन डोनर खर्च

कवरेज पॉलिसी डिस्काउंट, क्रिटिकल ट्रीटमेंट इत्यादि। स्वास्थ्य बीमा प्लान में इन्वेस्ट करने से न केवल आपके बेहतरीन मेडिकल केयर का लाभ उठा सकते बल्कि आपको कई सुविधाओं का लाभ मिलता है जो आपको एक स्वस्थ जीवन शैली जीने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करती है।

स्वास्थ्य बीमा पॉलिसी के निम्नलिखित लाभ हैं :-

1. **अस्पताल में भर्ती होने का खर्च:-** स्वास्थ्य बीमा पॉलिसी अस्पताल में भर्ती होने के समय होने वाले सभी चिकित्सा संबंधित खर्चों का भुगतान करती इसमें दबाव डॉक्टर की फीस और नर्सिंग पर होने वाले खर्च सभी शामिल होते हैं इसमें कमरे का किराया आईसीयू शुल्क और परीक्षण जैसे खर्चों का भी भुगतान शामिल होते हैं।
2. **वित्तीय सुरक्षा:-** स्वास्थ्य बीमा में चिकित्सा उपचार की लागत दिन प्रतिदिन आसमान छूटी जा रही इसलिए सही बीमा पॉलिसी जोरदार और अप्रत्याशित वित्तीय उथल-पुथल से सुरक्षा प्रदान करेगी यदि आप अत्यधिक महंगे मेडिकल बिलों का भुगतान करने से बचना चाहते हैं या महंगी दावों पर खर्च करना फिर भारत में सही स्वास्थ्य बीमा पॉलिसी चुना आपकी बचत को बरकरार रखने के लिए अत्यंत आवश्यक होती है।
3. **आयकर लाभ:-** इनकम टैक्स में लाभ सही स्वास्थ्य बीमा प्लान खरीदने से आपके इनकम टैक्स लाभ भी मिलते हैं आयकर अधिनियम 1961 की धारा 80 डी के अनुसार व्यक्ति एक लाख रुपए तक की कर कटौती का दावा कर सकते हैं इसीलिए यह काम कटौती की ओर जाता है आयकर बिलों में और भविष्य के लिए लाभ मिलता है।
4. **कैशलेस ट्रीटमेंट:-** स्वास्थ्य बीमा कंपनियां कैशलेस हॉस्पिटलाइजेशन का लाभ प्रदान करती है यहां पर बीमित व्यक्ति को अपनी जेब से भुगतान करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है सभी खर्चों का भुगतान संबंधित बीमा कंपनी द्वारा किया जाता है।
5. **विश्वसनीयता और विश्वास:-** स्वास्थ्य बीमा में सहज और तनाव मुक्त रखता है। स्वास्थ्य बीमा के प्लान से कई लाभों में से एक है मेडिकल इमरजेंसी के समय यह जानना जरूरी है कि एक अच्छा स्वास्थ्य बीमा प्लान आपके परिवार के सभी सदस्यों के लिए एक कवच होता है एक अच्छे स्वास्थ्य बीमा द्वारा प्रदान की गई विश्वसनीयता और विश्वास संकट के समय में बीमित व्यक्ति के आत्मविश्वास को बढ़ाता है।

स्वास्थ्य बीमा क्यों महत्वपूर्ण है

- **फाइनेंशियल सपोर्ट:-** स्वास्थ्य बीमा पॉलिसी मेडिकल इमरजेंसी की स्थिति में खर्च किए गए वायु को व्यक्ति के फाइनेंशियल सहायता प्रदान करती है।
- **निवेश और बचत:-** स्वास्थ्य बीमा के माध्यम से एक आदमी कि उसके निवेश और बचत को प्रोत्साहित करती है। एक बार जब आप स्वस्थ बीमा पॉलिसी प्राप्त

कर लेते तो आपको उपचार लागत के बारे में चिंतित नहीं होना पड़ता इसलिए क्योंकि वह कंपनी खर्चों को कवर करती है।

- **वार्षिक स्वास्थ्य परीक्षा:-** स्वास्थ्य बीमा कंपनी आपकी योजना के हिस्से के रूप में वार्षिक स्वास्थ्य जांच की सुविधा प्रदान करती हैं।

#### भारत की स्वास्थ्य बीमा कंपनियां

1. **आदित्य बिरला स्वास्थ्य बीमा कंपनी:-** आदित्य बिड़ला स्वास्थ्य बीमा आदित्य बिड़ला कैपिटल लिमिटेड की एक कंपनी है। अपने उपभोक्ताओं के लिए जनरल बीमा सेवाओं को आसान करने के लिए इसको शुरू किया गया था। इस कंपनी का पूरे विश्व में बीमा कंपनियों नाम है जैसे पूर्वी दक्षिण एशिया, मध्य पूर्व और दक्षिण एशिया। यह बीमा कंपनी पूरे देश में 5850 से ज्यादा अस्पतालों में कैशलेस इलाज का प्रावधान करती हैं। यह बीमा कंपनी फिटनेस सेंटर, वैलनेस सेंटर, हॉस्पिटल सेंटर और डायग्नोस्टिक सेंटर का प्रावधान भी देती है।
2. **न्यू इंडिया अश्वोरन्स स्वास्थ्य बीमा कंपनी:-** न्यू इंडिया अश्वोरन्स कंपनी एक सरकारी कंपनी है जो 1919 से कार्यरत है। यह अपनी मेडिकलेम पॉलिसी के लिए जानी जाती है। यह अलग अलग मेट्रो के लिए हेल्थ इंश्योरेंस पॉलिसी का लाभ देती है। सन् 2018-2019 का इन्कुररेड क्लेम रेश्यो 103.74 प्रतिशत था। न्यू इंडिया कैसर गार्ड पॉलिसी में बीमा कंपनी कैसर कवरेज देती है। न्यू इंडिया अश्वोरन्स कंपनी पूरे परिवार के लिए खुद के लिए, जीवनसाथी के लिए और दो आश्रित बच्चों के लिए विस्तृत हेल्थ इंश्योरेंस प्लान देती है। ग्लोबल कवरेज के लिए कंपनी न्यू इंडिया मेडिकलेम पॉलिसी देती है।
3. **रिलायंस स्वास्थ्य बीमा कंपनी:-** रिलायंस हेल्थ इंश्योरेंस भारत में एक मशहूर बीमा कंपनी है। इसका पूरे भारत में 139 ऑफिस हैं और यह अपने उपभोक्ताओं को आसान सुविधा देती है। यह भारत के बहार भी मौजूद है। इसके उपभोक्ता ऐसेमी, कॉर्पोरेट और व्यक्ति हैं। ऑनलाइन खरीद के साथ यह और भी आसान हो गए हैं। रिलायंस हेल्थ इंश्योरेंस बीमा धन समाप्त होने पर फिर से शुरू करने का प्रावधान देता है।
4. **एचडीएफसी एर्गो जनरल इंश्योरेंस कंपनी:-** एचडीएफसी और एर्गो इंटरनेशनल एजी के बीच एक संयुक्त उद्यम फर्म है, जिसे 2002 में स्थापित किया गया था। इसकी शाखाओं की एक विस्तृत श्रृंखला है, 200 से अधिक जो भारत के 170 शहरों में फैली हुई हैं। यह विभिन्न लाभों के साथ स्वास्थ्य बीमा उत्पादों के विभिन्न और व्यापक सेट प्रदान करता है जो किसी व्यक्ति को अपने लिए उपयुक्त उत्पाद का पता लगाने में मदद कर सकता है। एचडीएफसी एर्गो जनरल इंश्योरेंस ने ग्राहक अनुभव को बेहतर बनाने के लिए रोबोटिक्स प्रोसेस ऑटोमेशन और वॉयस एनालिटिक्स को

अपनाया है, जिसने इसे वास्तव में ग्राहकों के बीच लोकप्रिय बना दिया है और उनके लिए सुविधाजनक भी बना दिया है।

5. **केयर हेल्थ इंश्योरेंस कंपनी:-** 2012 में स्थापित, केयर हेल्थ इंश्योरेंस कंपनी, जिसे पहले रेलिगेयर इंश्योरेंस कंपनी लिमिटेड के नाम से जाना जाता था, भारत की अग्रणी स्वास्थ्य बीमा कंपनियों में से एक है, जिसका मुख्यालय गुडगांव में है। यह मातृत्व बीमा, वरिष्ठ नागरिक स्वास्थ्य योजना, मधुमेह और उच्च रक्तचाप कवर से लेकर कई अन्य स्वास्थ्य देखभाल योजनाओं की एक विस्तृत श्रृंखला प्रदान करता है। यह एक विश्वसनीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा कंपनी है जिसने हाल ही में एबीपी न्यूज़-बीएफएसआई अवार्ड्स में 'नेस्ट हेल्थ इंश्योरेंस कंपनी' के पुरस्कार का दावा किया है।
6. **एसबीआई जनरल इंश्योरेंस कंपनी:-** मुंबई में मुख्यालय और 2009 में स्थापित, एसबीआई जनरल इंश्योरेंस कंपनी इंश्योरेंस ऑस्ट्रेलिया ग्रुप (आईएजी) और भारतीय स्टेट बैंक के बीच एक संयुक्त उद्यम है। कंपनी खुदरा और वाणिज्यिक क्षेत्र में बीमा उत्पादों और सेवाओं की एक विस्तृत श्रृंखला प्रदान करती है, जिसमें व्यक्तिगत दुर्घटना, घर, स्वास्थ्य, यात्रा और खुदरा क्षेत्र में मोटर बीमा और विमानन, समुद्री, अग्नि और कई अन्य बीमा शामिल हैं। पूरे भारत में इसकी 22,000 से अधिक शाखाएँ हैं। यह भारत की भरोसेमंद स्वास्थ्य बीमा कंपनियों में से एक है।

#### निष्कर्ष:

स्वास्थ्य बीमा के अध्ययन से निष्कर्षों से पता चलता है स्वास्थ्य बीमा एक महत्वपूर्ण अंतिम निर्णय है जिसे बहुत ही अनोखे तरीके से लिया जा सकता है। इसलिए शोध करने के लिए अपना समय ले और वह पॉलिसी चुने जो आपके स्वास्थ्य देखभाल आवश्यकताओं और बजट को सही रूप से पूरा करती हो। किसी भी स्वास्थ्य बीमा कंपनी को चुनने से पहले यह सुनिश्चित कर लें कि आपकी कंपनी की बाजार में अच्छी प्रतिष्ठा है। इसके लिए आपको ग्राहकों की समीक्षा और रेटिंग की जांच करनी होगी क्योंकि वहां आपको सबसे ईमानदार राय मिल सकती है। यह सच है कि जिन कंपनियों के पास व्यापक ग्राहक आधार और अच्छी समीक्षाओं का संग्रह होता है, वे अधिक भरोसेमंद और विश्वसनीय होती हैं। स्वास्थ्य बीमा और स्वास्थ्य देखभाल चिकित्सा देखभाल उद्योग का हिस्सा हैं और एक दूसरे पर निर्भर हैं। स्वास्थ्य बीमा सामान्य बीमा का एक हिस्सा है जो सामान्य बीमा के अन्य सभी क्षेत्रों की तुलना में प्रीमियम का लगभग 29% योगदान देता है। भारत के वित्तीय योजनाकारों द्वारा बीमा को एक उभरते हुए क्षेत्र के रूप में पहचाना गया है। बीमा उद्योग में भारत की जनता को

विकसित करने, प्रवेश करने और सेवा प्रदान करने की काफी संभावनाएं हैं। बीमा पूरी तरह से सुरक्षा के बारे में है। स्वास्थ्य बीमा एक ऐसा वित्तीय साधन है जिसमें आपका जीवन सुरक्षा कवर प्रदान करते समय अपने प्रिय जनों की वित्तीय सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने में मदद कर सकता है वर्तमान समय को ध्यान में रखते हुए बीमा पॉलिसी उन व्यक्तियों के लिए आवश्यक है जिनके पास वित्तीय आश्रित है, यदि किसी दुर्घटना के या बीमारी के प्रकोप के बीच किसी व्यक्ति को कुछ भी होता है तो ऐसी परिस्थितियों में जीवन बीमा पॉलिसी बहुत उपयोगी हो सकती है।

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## हवामानातील बदलामुळे शेती व्यवसायावर होणारे परिणाम - एक समाजशास्त्रीय अभ्यास

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### सारांश:

जागतिक तापमानवाढीमुळे हवामानात बदल होत आहे. अवकाळी पाऊस, महापूर, भुंकप, भुस्खलन, दरडी कोसळणे, मोठ्या प्रमाणात अवेळी पाऊस पडून मानवी जीवनावर व प्राण्यांवर मोठ्या प्रमाणात परीणाम होत आहे. जंगलतोड मोठ्या प्रमाणात होत असल्यामुळे उष्णता वाढत आहे. त्याचा परिणाम मानवी जीवनावर होत असून प्रचंड लोकसंख्या वाढल्यामुळे शेतीसाठी लागणारी जमिन कमी होऊन त्यात मोठमोठे औद्योगिक प्रकल्प, रस्ते, दळणवळणांची साधने यामुळे शेतजमिन कमी होऊन मानवाला त्यांच्या मुलभूत गरजा भागविण्यासाठी शेतजमिन त्यावर मोठमोठे इमारती मानवी वसाहत निर्माण होऊ लागल्यामुळे त्याचा परिणाम निसर्गावर होत आहे. समाजशास्त्रीय दृष्टीकोनातून सामाजिक आर्थिक विकास होत असल्याने मानवी वसाहत निर्माण झाल्यामुळे त्याचा हवामान बदलावरती परीणाम होत आहे. जागतिक तापमान वाढीमुळे अनेक प्रकारचे सामाजिक समस्या निर्माण होत आहे. जसे की मानवी वसाहतीसाठी जमिन, औद्योगिक वसाहतीसाठी जमिन, यामुळे डोंगर, दऱ्या, जंगल नष्ट होत असल्याने त्याचा मानवी जीवनावर परिणाम होत आहे. हवामान बदलामुळे शेतीव्यवसायाबरोबरच मानवी जीवनात अनेक प्रकारचे समस्या निर्माण होत आहेत. एकंदरीत हवामान बदलामुळे मानव व प्राणी जंगल नष्ट होत असल्याने निसर्गाचा समतोल बिघडलेला आहे. त्याचा परिणाम शेतीव्यवसायाबरोबर मानवी जीवनावर व प्राणी जीवनावर हवामान बदलाचा परिणाम होत आहे.

**मुख्य शब्द:** हवामान बदल, अत्याधुनिक ज्ञान, तंत्रज्ञानाचा वापर.

### प्रस्तावना -

हवामान बदलामुळे शेती व्यवसायावर अनेक प्रकारचे परिणाम होत आहेत. जागतिक तापमान वाढीमुळे पर्यावरणात बदल होत असतात. अतिवृष्टी, महापूर, पूर यामुळे शेती व्यवसायावर परिणाम होते. ओला दुष्काळ, कोरडा दुष्काळ असे समस्या हवामानातील बदलामुळे होतात. अतिवृष्टी मोठ्या प्रमाणात झाल्यावर शेतातील पिके नदीच्या पाण्याच्या पुरात वाहून जातात. शेतजमिन खरडल्या जातात व त्याचबरोबर शेतात मोठ्या प्रमाणात गाळ साचतो. यामुळे शेतमालाची उत्पादन घटते. शेती व्यवसाय हा आज विविध पध्दतीने केला जातो. कोरडवाहू, बागायती शेती केली जाते. कोरडवाहू शेती व्यवसाय हा पूर्ण पावसाच्या पाण्यावर अवलंबून आहे. पाऊस वेळेवर पडला तर पिकांची लागवड वेळेवर होऊन उत्पादन क्षेत्रात वाढ होते. शेती व्यवसाय हा अत्याधुनिक ज्ञान, तंत्रज्ञानाचा वापर करून केला जात आहे असे असले तरी नैसर्गिक मुक्त वातावरणात केली जाते. वातावरणातील विविध बदलांचा परिणाम शेतातील पिकांवर चांगला वाईट अशा स्वरूपात होत असतो. पर्यावरण आणि वातावरण हे एकमेकांशी संलग्न आहेत. शेती व्यवसाय हे पिकांची व्यवस्थित वाढ व कमी खर्चात अधिक उत्पादन मिळविण्यासाठी हवामानातील बदल वातावरण, पर्यावरण समृद्धी चांगली असणे हे अत्यंत आवश्यक आहे.

शेती व्यवसाय ही एक खुल्या हवेची क्रिया आहे. ज्यामध्ये शेतकरी कडक उन्हात, पाऊस, वारा, धुळ यामध्ये कष्ट करतात. त्यामुळे शेतकरी हवामानातील बदल, तापमान, पावसाचे प्रमाण आणि वादळ, वारा यासारख्या काही घटकांवर नियंत्रण ठेवू शकत नाही. कितकनाशक आणि रोगांचा प्रादुर्भाव संसाधनांचा त्रास आणि वाढती टंचाई (माती, पाणी, जैवविधता) शेतीमध्ये पिकणाऱ्या अन्नधान्याची बाजारभावातील चढउतार आणि फेरफार शेतमालाला योग्य प्रकारे दर भेटत नाही. शेतमालाच्या संबंधाने सरकारी धोरण इत्यादीमुळे शेतीव्यवसायावर अनेक परिणाम होत आहेत. अनेक कृषी क्रियाकलापांना जागतिक अन्न सुरक्षा प्रदान करणे कठिण होत आहे. वाढते तापमान आणि बदलत्या हवामानाचा परिणाम दुष्काळ, उष्णतेच्या लाटा आणि पूर यामुळे होणाऱ्या पाण्याच्या कमतरतेमुळे पीक उत्पादन कमी होते. हवामान बदलांच्या या परिणामामुळे सध्याच्या दुर्मिळ जोखीम अनेक प्रदेशांमध्ये एकाचे वेळी पीक अपयशी होण्याचा धोका वाढू शकतो. त्यामुळे जागतिक अन्नधान्य पुरवठ्यावर महत्त्वपूर्ण परिणाम होईल. शेती हवामानासाठी संवेदनशील आहे आणि उष्णतेच्या लाटा किंवा दुष्काळ, अतिवृष्टी ज्याला कमी आणि जास्त पर्जन्यमान म्हणतात यासारख्या मोठ्या घटनांमुळे पिकांचे मोठे नुकसान होऊ शकते. हवामानातील बदलामुळे शेतीव्यवसायाबरोबरच पशु संगोपनावर हवामान बदलाचे अनेक परस्परसंबंधीत परिणाम होत आहेत.

हवामान बदलाचा शेती उत्पादनावर परिणाम होत आहेत. कोरडा दुष्काळ, ओला दुष्काळ अतिवृष्टी ढगफुटी दृश्य पाऊस, महापूर, पूर अशा नैसर्गिक संकटाचा शेती व मानवाला सुध्दा सामना करावा लागतो.

#### अध्ययनाचे उद्दिष्ट्ये -

हवामान व पर्यावरणीय वातावरणातील बदलामुळे व जागतिक तापमान वाढ यामुळे शेती व्यवसायावर मानवी जीवनावर असे अनेक प्रकारचे झालेले परिणामांचा चिकित्सक अध्ययन करणे.

#### संशोधन आराखडा -

प्रस्तुत संशोधनासाठी वर्णनात्मक संशोधन आराखड्याचा वापर करण्यात आला.

#### तथ्य संकलनाचे तंत्र -

प्रस्तुत संशोधन हे दुय्यम साधनांवर आधारीत आहे. पुस्तके, नियतकालिके, इंटरनेट इत्यादी .

#### गृहीतकृत्य -

प्रस्तुत संशोधनात हवामानातील व पर्यावरणातील बदलामुळे कोरडवाहू व पारंपारिक शेती व बागायती शेती या व्यवसायावर व मानवी व प्राणी जीवनांवर झालेल्या परिणामांचा अध्ययन करणे.

#### १) शेती व्यवसायावर बदलत्या हवामानाचा परिणाम -

शेती व्यवसायावर बदललेल्या वातावरणाचा परिणाम मोठ्या प्रमाणात होत आहे. कोरडा दुष्काळ, ओला दुष्काळ यामुळे पिकांचा उत्पादनावर परिणाम होत आहे. कोरडवाहू शेती, पुर्णतः पावसावर अवलंबून असल्यामुळे पाऊस वेळेवर पडला नाही तर पेरणी खोळंबतात व अतिवृष्टी झाल्यावर शेतातील पिके पुराचा पाण्यात वाहून जातात त्यामुळे पिकांचा उत्पन्नावर परिणाम होतो. कोरडवाहू शेती पावसावर अवलंबून असल्याने महागडे खत, बियाणे, किटनाशके पेरणी केल्यानंतर वेळेवर पाऊस न पडल्यामुळे शेतकऱ्यांच मोठे आर्थिक नुकसान होते. त्यामुळे शेती व्यवसाय तोट्यात जाते व उत्पादनावर थेट परिणाम होतो. त्याच बरोबर बागायती शेती पाऊस जास्त पडल्यावर नदी, नाले, विहीर, इंधन विहीर इत्यादीचा माध्यमातून शेती केली जाते. पाऊस कमी पडला तर विहीर, नदी, नाले, तलाव विधन विहीर यांचावर परिणाम होतो. व पिका बरोबरच पशुंवर परिणाम होतो. जनावरांना चारा पाण्याची टंचाई निर्माण होते. कमी पाऊस व अतिवृष्टीचा कृषी, पाळीव प्राणी, जंगलातील प्राणी यांचावर परिणाम होतो. हवामानातील बदलामुळे पाऊस कमी पडला तर दुष्काळाची परिस्थिती निर्माण होते. शेतीसाठी लागणारे पाणी व जनावरांचा चारा, पाण्याची समस्या निर्माण होते.

#### २) अन्नधान्याचे प्रदुषण -

वाढत्या लोकसंख्येमुळे अन्नधान्याचे सुध्दा प्रदुषण होते. हवामानातील बदलामुळे अनेक प्रकारचे प्रदुषणाचे समस्या निर्माण होते. यामध्ये काही मानव निर्मित कारणे आहेत तर काही रासायनिक प्रक्रियेतून होते. हरितक्रांती नंतर अन्न धान्याचे उत्पादन वाढले परंतु शेतीमध्ये रासायनिक खतांचा वापर मोठ्याप्रमाणात केला जातो. हवामान बदलामुळे शेतातील पिकांना रासायनिक खत, किटनाशकांचा वापर करावा लागतो. तरच शेतीचे

प्रा. लक्ष्मण बापुराव नैताम

उत्पादनात वाढ होते. पर्यावरणात बदल झाल्यामुळे पाऊस कमी जास्त प्रमाणात पडत असतो. रासायनिक खतांचा व किटनाशकांचा वापर प्रचंड प्रमाणात झाल्याने पिकाव्दारे ते मानवी साखळीत होते. अन्नधान्याचे उत्पादन वाढले व त्याचबरोबर अन्नधान्यात प्रदुषण वाढले.

#### 3) जंगलतोड -

हवामान बदलाचा परिणामास मोठ्या प्रमाणात जंगलतोड कारणीभूत आहे. कारण जंगलापासून ग्रामीण जनतेस इंधन, जनावरांना चारा, डिक, मध, जळाऊ लाकूड आणि इमारती शिवाय औद्योगिक क्षेत्रात लागणारा कच्चा माल उदा. पेपर, प्लायवूड इत्यादीसाठी जंगली उत्पादने गरजेची असतात. जंगलापासून मृदुसंधारण होते व पर्यावरणाचा समतोल राखला जातो. ग्रामीण भागात राहणाऱ्या ७० % लोकांना जळाऊ लाकडाची मागणी जंगलातूनच पूर्ण केली जाते. त्यामुळे जंगल वने नष्ट होत आहे. हवामानातील बदल यामुळे होत असते. कोरडा दुष्काळ, ओला दुष्काळ, पूर, महापूर, भूकंप, नैसर्गिक आपत्ती वातावरणातील बदलामुळे होतो. जंगलातील वृक्षतोड मोठ्या प्रमाणात होत असल्यामुळे हवामानात बदल होऊन पावसाचे प्रमाणे कमी होत आहे. कधी पाऊस जास्त पडतो किंवा कमी पडतो. वातावरणातील बदलामुळे चक्रीवादळ, वादळ, ढगफुटी, महापूर, अतिवृष्टी, अवर्षण, पर्जन्यमानाचा ऋतुत बदल होत आहे. वृक्षतोड झाल्यामुळे जमिनीची धुप होते. ढगफुटी सारखे पाऊस झाल्यावर भुस्खलन, दरडी कोसळणे, महापूर असे समस्या निर्माण होतात.

#### ४) पिकांचे नुकसान -

हवामानात बदल झाल्यामुळे पाऊस कमी अधिक प्रमाणात पडत असतो. अतिवृष्टी झाली की महापूर, पूर मोठ्या प्रमाणात येऊन शेतातील पिकांचे नुकसान होत असते व कमी पाऊस पडला तरी पिके पाण्याअभावी सुकून जातात व जनावरांचा चाऱ्यांचा प्रश्न निर्माण होते. शेतातील पिकांचे उत्पन्न कमी होते. जर मोठ्या प्रमाणात एका ऋतुत व लागोपाठ येणाऱ्या वर्षात पिकांचे झालेले नुकसान हे जगातील विविध भागातील भुकेचे मुख्य कारण आहे. १९७० साली जगात बऱ्याच ठिकाणी पिकांचे नुकसान त्यामुळे भुकमारी झाली. पर्यावरणातील बदल आणि हवामान परिस्थिती यामुळे सुध्दा पिकांचे नुकसान होत असते. १९८० साली भारत, पाकीस्तान, चीन आणि काही अप्रगत देशांमध्ये या कारणास्तव पिकांच्या उत्पादनातील झालेली घट असा परिणाम दिसून आला.

#### ५) हवामान बदल -

वातावरणातील बदलात मोठ्या प्रमाणात बदल झाला तर पाऊस पडणार नाही. नदी, नाले, तलाव कोरडे होतील आणि मानवाला अन्नपाण्यासाठी भटकावे लागेल हे आफ्रिकेतील साहेल, इथियोपिया या प्रदेशात झाले आहे. येथे अनेक वर्षांपासून अवर्षणाची परिस्थिती आहे आणि म्हणूनच हवामानातील बदलामुळे पाऊस कमी पडला तर कापूस, सोयाबिन, तूर, उडीद, मुग, ज्वारी, बाजरी, गहू, भूईमुग अशा पिकांना पाऊस कमी पडला तर उत्पादनात घट होते व

दुष्काळाची परिस्थिती निर्माण होते. मानव, जनावरे अन्न, पाणी मिळत नाही. म्हणूनच आजारांचा प्रादुर्भाव होऊन बऱ्याच प्रमाणात लोक मरण पावले व त्याच बरोबर जनावरे ही मोठ्या प्रमाणात दगावले. पावसाचे प्रमाण कमी झाले की दुष्काळ पडतो व मानवाबरोबरच प्राणी देखील दुष्काळात अन्न पाण्याशिवाय मृत्यूमुखी पडतात असे हवामानातील बदलाचे परिणाम निर्माण होते.

#### ६) खर्चित प्रगत शेती -

हवामान बदलामुळे शेती व्यवसायात उत्पादन वाढविण्यासाठी प्रगत शेतीचे खर्चिक संकरीत बिया, रासायनिक खते, किटकनाशक, धरण, तलाव, कालव्याची सोय वीजपंप, तेलपंप, ठिबक सिंचन, जलसिंचन यामुळे उत्पादनाची क्षमता वाढली आहे. ट्रॅक्टर, मळणी यंत्र, शेतीसाठी लागणारे मांगर वेगवेगळ्या प्रकारे यांत्रिक अवजारे, यंत्रे इत्यादीची मागणी वाढलेली आहे. रासायनिक खतांचा वी बियाणे यांचा वापर प्रचंड प्रमाणात केला जातो. किटकनाशक फवारणीसाठी वापर केला जातो. त्यामुळे शेतातील पिकांचे उत्पन्न वाढविण्यासाठी केला जातो. आधुनिक शेतीसाठी लागणारे यंत्रांचा वापर करून प्रगत शेती केली जात आहे. पिकांचे उत्पादन वाढले पण खर्चही मोठ्या प्रमाणात वाढलेला आहे. विकसनशील देशातील गरीब शेतकऱ्याकडील त्यांचे सर्व स्रोत यासारख्या यंत्रांचा खरेदीत खर्च झाल्यामुळे फायदा होण्याऐवजी तोटा झाला म्हणजेच पिकांचे नुकसान झाले तर शेतकऱ्यांचे नुकसान होते.

#### 7) नापिक किंवा नुकसान झालेली जमिन -

जास्त प्रमाणात सिंचन झाल्याने जास्त पिकविल्याने किंवा जास्त पशुपालन केल्यामुळे शेती जमिनीचा मातीतील सर्व पोषण तत्वे निघून जातात. आणि म्हणून अशा जमिनीत फक्त कमी कॅलरी असलेले अन्न उगवते. अशा जमिनीत फक्त मका, ज्वारी, नाचणी पिकविता येतात. हवामानातील बदलामुळे शेती क्षेत्रात सिंचनाची प्रमाण वाढलेली आहे. मोठे मोठे धरण, तलाव, कालवा, नदीत, विहीरीत वीज पंप, तेल पंप या माध्यमातून शेती केली जाते व पावसाचे अनियमितता दुष्काळ, अति पर्जन्यमान यामुळे शेत जमिन नापीक होते. अतिवृष्टी झाली तर पुरामुळे शेती वाहून जाते पिकांचे मोठ्या प्रमाणात नुकसान होते. तर कधी कोरडा दुष्काळ पडतो. तर कधी ओला दुष्काळ पडतो. यामुळे शेतकऱ्यांनी सिंचन क्षेत्रावर भर दिला. जिथे तलाव, कालवे, नदी नाही असे डोंगराळ भागात शेतकऱ्यांना कोरडवाहू शेतीवरच अवलंबून राहावे लागते.

#### 8) शेतामध्ये पाण्याची उपलब्धता -

दुष्काळ आणि पूर दोन्ही मुळे उत्पादनात घट होते. सरासरी हवामान बदलामुळे वातावरणातील पाण्याचे प्रमाण वाढते. पिकांचा सिंचनामुळे कमी पर्जन्यमान आणि उच्च तापमानाचा उत्पादनावरील परिणाम कमी करणे किंवा दूर करणे शक्य आहे. स्थानिकीकृत थंडीद्वारे सिंचनासाठी जलस्रोत वापरण्याचे तोटे आहेत आणि ते महाग आहेत. पुढे सिंचनाचा पाण्याचा काही स्रोत कमी विश्वसनीय होऊ शकतात. यामध्ये उन्हाळ्यात हिमनद्या वरील पाण्याच्या प्रा. लक्ष्मण बापुराव नैताम

प्रवाहामुळे चालणाऱ्या सिंचनाचा समावेश होतो. जलचक्राचा वरील हवामान बदलाचा परिणामामुळे पाणलोट्याच्या पश्चिमेकडील भागाशिवाय सर्वच ठिकाणी पर्जन्यमानात लक्षणीय वाढ होण्याचा अंदाज असल्याने हिमनद्यांचे नुकसान भरून काढणे अपेक्षित आहे. एकूणच याचा अर्थ असा की हवामान बदलामुळे दुष्काळ सरासरी अधिक वारंवार होत आहे. हवामान बदलाचा तिन्ही ऋतुत बदल होत आहेत.

#### निष्कर्ष -

जागतिक तापमान वाढीमुळे हवामान व पर्यावरणात मोठ्या प्रमाणात बदल होत आहे. बदलत्या हवामानाचा शेती व्यवसायावर परिणाम, वृक्षतोड, कोरडा दुष्काळ, ओला दुष्काळ, पावसाचा अनियमितपणा अन्नधान्याचे प्रदुषण हवामान बदलामुळे शेतातील पिकांचे नुकसान होते, बेसुमार वृक्षतोड जंगलतोड वने नष्ट होत असल्यामुळे शेतीसाठी लागणारी शेतजमिन मानवी वसाहतीसाठी वापर होवू लागल्याने शेतीचे क्षेत्र कमी झाले आहे, दुष्काळामुळे जनावरांचा चाऱ्याचा प्रश्न, शेतीचे यांत्रिककरण, संकरीत वी बियाणे रासायनिक खतांचा वापर, किटकनाशकांचा वापर, होत असल्याने हवामान व पर्यावरणात बदल होत आहे. याचा पारंपारिक शेती कोरडवाहू शेती, जिरायती, बागायती रब्बी, खरीप, उन्हाळी या शेती हंगामावर हवामान बदलाचा परिणाम दिसून येत आहे.

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## गवताळ परिसंस्थेचा भौगोलिक अभ्यास

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### सारांश:

प्राचीन काळापासून पृथ्वीवरील अजैविक व जैविक घटकांचे परस्परांशी सहसंबंध आहेत. पर्यावरण ही एक व्यापक संकल्पना आहे. यात पृथ्वीवरील पर्यावरणातील सजीव व निर्जीव घटकांचा समावेश होतो. पर्यावरण भूगोलाचा अभ्यास करण्यासाठी परिसंस्था ही संकल्पना विशेष महत्त्वाची आहे. पर्यावरणातील सजीव आणि निर्जीव घटकांचा एकमेकांशी असणारा संबंध परिसंस्थेत बघायला मिळतो. या सहसंबंधातून जी वैशिष्ट्ये पूर्ण अशी परिस्थिती निर्माण होते, तिलाच परिसंस्था असे म्हणतात. परिसंस्थेला इंग्रजीत Ecosystem असे म्हणतात. Eco हा शब्द ग्रीक भाषेतून घेतलेला आहे. त्याचा अर्थ घर असा होतो. थोडक्यात परिसंस्था म्हणजे पर्यावरणातील एक कुटुंब आहे.

नैसर्गिक पर्यावरण व सजीव यांच्यात असणाऱ्या परस्पर आंतरक्रियेतून परिसंस्था साकार होतात. पर्यावरणातील जैविक व अजैविक घटकांच्या सहसंबंधातून परिसंस्था अस्तित्वात येत असते. निसर्गातील सजीव सृष्टीवर पर्यावरणाचा फार मोठा प्रभाव पडलेला असतो. सजीव व पर्यावरण यांच्यात सारखी देवाणघेवाण कार्यरत असते. यामुळे तेथे एक वैशिष्ट्यपूर्ण दृश्य निर्माण होते. यालाच आपण परिसंस्था असे म्हणतो. हवामानाला अनुसरून पृथ्वीवर सजीवसृष्टी निर्माण झाली आहे. पर्यावरणात विविधता असल्यामुळे पृथ्वीवर वेगवेगळ्या परिसंस्था निर्माण झाल्या आहेत. त्यामध्ये भू- परिसंस्था व जल- परिसंस्था यांचा समावेश होतो. भू परिसंस्थेमध्ये जंगल परिसंस्था, गवताळ परिसंस्था, वाळवंटी परिसंस्था यांचा समावेश होतो.

**बीजसंज्ञा:** जैवविविधता, गवताळ परिसंस्था, नैसर्गिक पर्यावरण, जैविक घटक, अजैविक घटक, हिरवीगार वनराई, सेंद्रिय घटक द्रव्य, शिकान्यांचे नंदनवन, कटिबंध, गवताळ कुरणे.

### प्रस्तावना:

पृथ्वीवर कमी पर्जन्याच्या प्रदेशात अरण्ये व वाळवंटे यांच्या दरम्यानच्या प्रदेशात गवताळ परिसंस्था आढळतात. पृथ्वीवरील 24 टक्के भाग हा गवताळ परिसंस्थेने व्यापलेला आहे. सर्वसाधारणपणे 40 ते 130 cm पर्जन्याच्या प्रदेशात वनस्पती तुरळक वाढतात. परंतु गवताचे प्रमाण अधिक आढळते. गवताळ परिसंस्था सागर किनाऱ्यापासून दूर खंडांतर्गत भागात आढळतात. मध्यम पावसाच्या प्रदेशात वाळवंटी परिसंस्था आढळतात. या प्रदेशात पाऊस पडल्यावर गवत उगवते व त्यांची वाढ होऊन ते अल्पकाळच टिकते. पर्जन्य विरहित काळात ते पिवळे पडून

मातीत मिसळल्यामुळे मृदेतील सेंद्रिय घटक द्रव्याचे प्रमाण वाढते व पुन्हा गवत नव्या जोमाने वाढते. हिरवा चारा नसतो अशावेळी प्राणी शरीरात साठवलेल्या चरबीचा वापर करतात. त्यामुळे त्यांना फारसे अन्न नसले तरी चालते. गवताळ प्रदेशात पावसाळ्यात परिसर हिरवागार असतो. परंतु उन्हाळ्यात मात्र गवत वाळल्यामुळे हा परिसर उजाड दिसतो.

### • उष्ण कटिबंधीय गवताळ परिसंस्था

पृथ्वीवर उत्तर व दक्षिण गोलार्धात 5 अंश ते 20 अंश अक्षवृत्ताच्या दरम्यान उष्णकटिबंधीय गवताळ परिसंस्था आढळतात. आफ्रिका खंडात मादागास्कर, सुदान,

केनिया, टांझानिया, झांबिया व नायजेरिया या देशात वैशिष्ट्यपूर्ण गवताळ परिसंस्था आहेत. तसेच दक्षिण अमेरिकेतील गियाना व ब्राझील, ऑस्ट्रेलिया आणि भारतातील पठारी प्रदेशात उष्णकटिबंधीय गवताळ परिसंस्था आढळतात. उष्णकटिबंधीय गवताळ प्रदेशात मांस भक्षक व तृणभक्षक प्राणी आढळतात. काळवीट,, सांबर, बैल, म्हैस, झेब्रा, जिराफ, हत्ती, गेंडे व विविध जातीचे हरीण आढळतात. हिरव्यागार गवतावर गुजरान करणारे प्राणी या गवताळ परिसंस्थेत मुबलक प्रमाणात आढळतात. तसेच सिंह, वाघ, लांडगा, चित्ता, तरस रान कुत्री यासारखे मांस भक्षक प्राणी आढळतात. या गवताळ प्रदेशात व्यापारी पशुपालना ऐवजी उदरनिर्वाह पशुपालन व्यवसाय मोठ्या प्रमाणावर केला जातो. या प्रदेशातील गवत कसदार नसून निकृष्ट प्रतीचे असते. त्यामुळे पशुपालन व्यवसाय फारसा विकसित झालेला नाही.

#### • सव्हाना गवताळ प्रदेश

आफ्रिका खंडातील गवताळ प्रदेशाला सव्हाना असे म्हणतात. या गवताळ परिसंस्थेतील तापमान सुमारे 20 अंश ते 30 अंश सेल्सिअसच्या दरम्यान आढळते. वार्षिक सरासरी तापमान कक्षा 7 अंश ते 14 अंश सेल्सिअसच्या दरम्यान असते. विषुववृत्ताकडून वाळवंटी प्रदेशाकडे पावसाचे प्रमाण कमी कमी होत जाते. पावसाचे प्रमाण 25 सेंटीमीटर ते 140 सेंटीमीटरच्या आसपास आढळते. हिवाळ्यात हवामानात गारवा जाणवतो. विषुववृत्ताकडून वाळवंटी प्रदेशाकडे जाताना वनस्पती व गवताचे प्रमाण विरळ होताना आढळते. काटेरी वनस्पती व खुरटे गवत या परिसंस्थेत आढळते. पृथ्वीवरील शिकार्यांचे नंदनवन म्हणून सव्हाना गवताळ परिसंस्था ओळखतात.

जैवविविधतेचा भव्य देखावा या गवताळ प्रदेशात पहावयास मिळतो. जिराफ, रेडे, गेंडे, हत्ती यांचे कळप आढळतात. तसेच सिंह, वाघ, चित्ता, लांडगा, कोल्हा, तरस, शिकारी कुत्रे हे मांस भक्षक प्राणी आढळतात. उन्हाळा कोरडा ऋतू असल्यामुळे सर्व प्राणी पानवट्यांच्या परिसरात वावरत असतात. पावसाळा सुरू झाला की निसर्गसौंदर्य प्रमाणे प्राणी सृष्टीही गजबजून जाते. या गवताळ परिसंस्था अतिशय वैशिष्ट्यपूर्ण समजल्या जातात. जंगली प्राण्यांचा मनमोहक नजारा बघायला मिळतो.

#### • कंपोज गवताळ प्रदेश

दक्षिण अमेरिकेतील ब्राझीलच्या पठारी प्रदेशात कंपोज गवताळ परिसंस्था आढळते. तापमान व पर्जन्य हे दोन घटक अनुकूल असल्यामुळे हिरव्यागार गवताची वाढ चांगली होते. जनावरांना लागणारा हिरवा चारा मुबलक उपलब्ध असल्यामुळे या परिसंस्थेत व्यापारी तत्त्वावर आधारित पशुपालन व्यवसायाचा चांगला विकास झालेला आहे. या परिसंस्थेत हिरव्यागार गवता बरोबरच अथून मधून विरळ वनस्पती आढळतात. व्यापारी तत्त्वावर पशुपालन व्यवसाय करत असताना दुग्धजन्य पदार्थांचे उत्पादन घेतले जाते. तसेच काही जनावरांचे पैदास मांस उत्पादनासाठी केले जाते.

जनावरांच्या आरोग्याची चांगली निगा राखली जाते. गवताळ कुरणात जनावरे चरण्यासाठी मोकट सोडली जातात. दलदलमय व पूरग्रस्त प्रदेशातील गवत अधिक सकस असते. काही ठिकाणी पानझडी वनस्पती आढळतात. ब्राझीलच्या अर्थव्यवस्थेत पशुपालन व्यवसायाला विशेष महत्त्व आहे. आधुनिक काळातील यांत्रिक शेती व बदलत्या पर्यावरणामुळे कंपोज गवताळ प्रदेश विरळ होताना आढळत आहेत. वाढत्या लोकसंख्येमुळे गवताळ परिसंस्थेचे अस्तित्व धोक्यात येत आहे.

#### • डाऊन्स गवताळ प्रदेश

ऑस्ट्रेलियातील क्वीनसल्यांड प्रांतात उष्ण कटिबंधीय गवताळ परिसंस्थेला डाऊन्स असे म्हणतात. या प्रदेशातील गवत हिरवेगार असते. अनुकूल तापमान व पर्जन्य असल्यामुळे गवताळ परिसंस्थेचा विकास झालेला आहे. हा भूप्रदेश मोसमी हवामानाचा असल्याने मोसमी पावसात दरवर्षी बदल होत असल्याने अनेक भागात उंच गवत वाढताना आढळते. पावसाळ्यात गवताबरोबरच विविध वनस्पतींची चांगली वाढ होते. मेंढ्या, गार्ड, म्हशी यांना हिरव्या गवताचा व वनस्पतींचा चांगला उपयोग होतो. डाऊन्स गवताळ प्रदेशात कांगारू हा वैशिष्ट्यपूर्ण प्राणी आढळतो. या प्रदेशात विरळ मानवी वस्ती असल्याने गवताळ परिसंस्था निसर्गनिर्मित जसेच्या तसे आढळतात. जगभरातील अनेक हौशी पर्यटक डाऊन्स या गवताळ प्रदेशाला दरवर्षी भेट देतात.

- **भारतीय पठारी गवताळ परिसंस्था**

दक्षिण भारताच्या पठारी प्रदेशात अनुकूल हवामान असणाऱ्या ठिकाणी गवताळ प्रदेश आढळतो. या गवताळ परिसंस्थेत वनस्पती बरोबरच हिरवेगार गवत आढळते. यालाच दख्खन पठारी गवताळ परिसंस्था असे म्हणतात. या गवताळ प्रदेशात पर्जन्यावर आधारित गवताची वाढ होते. गवत कसदार असल्यामुळे शेळ्या,मेंढ्या,गाई ,म्हशी,बैल यांची चांगली गुजराण होते. ग्रामीण भागात शेतीला पूरक व्यवसाय म्हणून अनेक शेतकरी पशुपालन व्यवसाय करतात. मांस, दूध ,लोणी, दुधाचे पदार्थ यांचे उत्पादन घेतले जाते. या प्रदेशात वाघ, सिंह, चित्ता, तरस, कोल्हे, माकड, विविध पक्षी आढळतात.

- **समशीतोष्ण कटिबंधीय गवताळ परिसंस्था**

समशीतोष्ण कटिबंधीय गवताळ परिसंस्था कमी पावसाच्या प्रदेशात उत्तर व दक्षिण गोलार्धात 30 अंश ते 60 अंश अक्षवृत्ताच्या दरम्यान आढळतात. या प्रदेशात पर्जन्याचे प्रमाण 25 cm ते 130 cm च्या आसपास आढळते. उत्तर अमेरिकेतील प्रेअरी गवताळ परिसंस्था, दक्षिण अमेरिकेतील पंपाज गवताळ परिसंस्था, युरोशियातील स्टेप गवताळ परिसंस्था, आफ्रिकेतील वेल्ड गवताळ परिसंस्था, ऑस्ट्रेलियातील डाऊन्स गवताळ परिसंस्था आणि न्यूझीलंडच्या दक्षिणेकडील कॅटेनबरी गवताळ परिसंस्था यांचा समावेश समशीतोष्ण कटिबंधीय गवताळ परिसंस्थेत होतो.

या प्रदेशातील जमिनीत सेंद्रिय घटकद्रव्याचे प्रमाण अधिक असल्याने बऱ्याच भागात गवताळ कुरनांबरोबरच शेती व्यवसायाचा विकास झालेला आढळतो. प्रेअरी, स्टेप व डाऊन्स या गवताळ प्रदेशात गव्हाची व्यापारी शेती केली जाते. विरळ लोकवस्ती असल्यामुळे यांत्रिक शेती केली जाते. दर हेक्टरी उत्पादन कमी असले तरी दरडोई कृषी उत्पादन अधिक आहे. जगाच्या गव्हाचे कोठार म्हणून हा गवताळ प्रदेश ओळखला जातो.

- **प्रेअरी गवताळ प्रदेश**

उत्तर अमेरिका खंडाच्या मध्यभागी कॅनडा व संयुक्त संस्थाने या देशात प्रेअरी गवताळ परिसंस्था पसरलेली आहे. हा भाग सखल मैदानी प्रदेशाचा असून प्रेअरी प्रदेशातील हवामान विषम आहे. या भागात उन्हाळा ऋतूतील सरासरी तापमान 15 अंश ते 25 अंश सेल्सिअस पर्यंत आढळते. हिवाळ्यातील तापमान मायनस 5 अंश ते

प्रा.डॉ. राजाराम महादेव थोरात

19 अंश सेल्सिअस पर्यंत खाली घसरते. उबदार पावसाळी उन्हाळे असतात. पर्जन्याचे प्रमाण 40 ते 75 सेंटीमीटर इतके आढळते. पाऊस अनिश्चित स्वरूपाचा असतो. उन्हाळे व हिवाळे अतिशय कडक असतात. हिवाळ्यातील तापमान गोठणबिंदूच्या खाली जाते. हिवाळ्यात जोरदार थंड व बोचरे वारे वाहतात. उन्हाळ्याच्या शेवटी प्रेअरी गवताळ प्रदेशात पाण्याची टंचाई निर्माण होते. या वैशिष्ट्यपूर्ण हवामानाचा वनस्पती व प्राणी जीवनावर महत्त्वपूर्ण प्रभाव पडलेला आहे. व्यापारी तत्त्वावर या प्रदेशात पशुपालन व्यवसायाचा फार मोठा विकास झालेला आहे. या गवताळ प्रदेशात हरीण,काळवीट, गवा, घोडे, लांडगे, खारी, कुत्रे हे प्राणी आढळतात.

आज प्रेअरी गवताळ प्रदेश नष्ट करून व्यापारी तत्त्वावर आधारित शेती व्यवसायाचा विकास होत आहे. विशाल आकाराच्या शेतजमिनीतून व्यापारी तत्त्वावर आधारित मोठ्या प्रमाणावर गव्हाचे उत्पादन घेतले जात आहे. जागतिक गव्हाचे कोठार म्हणून प्रेअरी गवताळ प्रदेश जगप्रसिद्ध आहे. सुधारित बियाणे, रासायनिक खते, कीटकनाशके व यांत्रिक अवजारांचा मोठ्या प्रमाणावर उपयोग केला जात आहे. या प्रदेशात दर हेक्टरी गव्हाचे उत्पादन कमी असले तरी दरडोई उत्पादन अधिक आहे. तसेच आज व्यापारी तत्त्वावर आधारित पशुपालन व्यवसायाचा विकास होत आहे. मांस उत्पादनासाठी गाई पाळल्या जात आहेत. आंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजारपेठेत मांस मोठ्या प्रमाणात निर्यात केले जाते.

- **पंपाज गवताळ प्रदेश**

दक्षिण अमेरिकेत अमेझॉन जंगलाच्या दक्षिणेस व अँडीज पर्वताच्या पूर्वेला पंपाज गवताळ प्रदेश पसरलेला आहे. या परिसंस्थेत दुष्काळ पडण्याचे प्रमाण अधिक आहे. मुसळधार पाऊस पडल्यानंतर पाणी भूगर्भात मुरण्याचे प्रमाण कमी असून उताराला अनुसरून लगेच वाहून जाते. त्यामुळे वनस्पतींची वाढ चांगल्या प्रकारे होत नाही. त्यामुळे या प्रदेशात विस्तीर्ण गवताळ प्रदेश निर्माण झाले आहेत. पंपाज गवताळ प्रदेशात अधून - मधून गवत व मोकळी जागा असा विलोभनीय देखावा पहावयास मिळतो. या गवताळ प्रदेशात दुर्मिळ जातीचे हरीण आढळतात. प्राणी व वनस्पती जीवनात विविधता आढळते.

या परिसंस्थेत कोल्हा, काराकारा, ससाणा,मारा, केवी इत्यादी वैशिष्ट्यपूर्ण प्राणी आढळतात. तसेच

फुलपाखरे, टोळ, मुंग्या, सुरवंट इत्यादी कीटक आढळतात. वाळवी, मुंग्या व विविध कीटक खाणारा आरमाडीलो प्राणी आढळतो. या गवताळ प्रदेशात मानवाचा शिरकाव झाल्यापासून परिसंस्थेत हळूहळू बदल होताना आढळत आहेत.

#### • स्टेप गवताळ परिसंस्था

युरोप व आशिया खंडातील युरेशियन प्रदेशात स्टेप गवताळ प्रदेश पसरलेला आहे. या भागातील हवामान विषम स्वरूपाचे आहे. उन्हाळ्यातील सरासरी तापमान 24°C च्या दरम्यान असते. तसेच हिवाळ्यातील तापमान गोठणबिंदूच्या खाली जाते. पर्जन्याचे प्रमाण 50 ते 60 सेंटीमीटर च्या दरम्यान आढळते. उबदार पावसाळी उन्हाळे आढळतात. त्यामुळे गवताची वाढ चांगली होताना आढळते. या परिसंस्थेतील गवताचे आयुर्मान फार कमी असते. हा गवताळ प्रदेश एकाच प्रकारच्या गवताचा आहे. या भागात अधून मधून फुलझाडे वाढतात. कोरड्या उन्हाळ्यात गवताळ प्रदेश वाळून जातात.

त्यामुळे भयान आसमानी शांतता पसरलेली असते. या गवताळ परिसंस्थेत शेळ्या, मेंढ्या, उंट, गाढव, घोडा, रेडे हे प्राणी आढळतात. तसेच विविध प्रकारचे हरीण, कायोटे, ब्रेजर, जाकरबिट यासारखे जंगली प्राणी आढळतात. या गवताळ कुरणात पूर्वी रान घोडे व गवे मोठ्या प्रमाणावर आढळत होते. परंतु आज पाळीव घोडे व राखाडी रंगाची गुरे आढळतात. युरोपातील स्टेप गवताळ प्रदेशात लेमिंग, मार्मट, मॉलरेट हे प्राणी जमिनीत विळे करून राहतात. वाढत्या लोकसंख्या मुळे हा गवताळ प्रदेश शेती खाली आणला असून गवताळ परिसंस्थेचे अस्तित्व मानवाने आज धोक्यात आणलेले आहे. तसेच पशुपालन व्यवसायाचा विकास होताना आढळत आहे.

#### • व्हेल्ड गवताळ प्रदेश

दक्षिण अमेरिकेतील पठारी प्रदेशात हा गवताळ प्रदेश पसरलेला आहे. कलहरी वाळवंटाच्या पूर्वेकडील प्रदेशात 1100 मीटर उंचीच्या आसपास विस्तीर्ण गवताळ प्रदेश आढळतो. या गवताळ प्रदेशात शेळ्या, मेंढ्या, गुरे यांचे पालन पोषण केले जाते. या गवताळ परिसंस्थेमध्ये हवामान

#### संदर्भ ग्रंथ

1. Saksena H.M. - Environmental Geography
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प्रा.डॉ. राजाराम महादेव थोरात

कोरडे असून रात्री दव व दहिवर पडते. दैनिक तापमान कक्षा अधिक आढळते. त्यामुळे वनस्पती जीवनाचा फारसा विकास झालेला आढळत नाही. हवामान व मृदा प्रकारावर आधारित गवताचे विविध प्रकार आढळतात. पर्जन्याच्या प्रमाणावर वनस्पती व गवताळ प्रदेशाचा विकास अवलंबून असतो. काटेरी वनस्पती व खुरड्या गवताची वाढ होताना दिसते. या प्रदेशातील अर्थव्यवस्था पशुपालन व्यवसाय आणि कृषी व्यवसायावर अवलंबून आहे. हवामान बदलाचा या गवताळ प्रदेशावर फार प्रभाव पडतो. दक्षिण आफ्रिकेतील व्हेल्ड गवताळ परिसंस्था विशेष महत्त्वाची आहे. वाढत्या लोकसंख्येमुळे नैसर्गिक पर्यावरणाचा समतोल बिघडत चाललेला आहे. गवताळ परिसंस्था नष्ट होत आहेत. जैवविविधता आज धोक्यात आलेली आहे.

#### • डाऊन्स गवताळ परिसंस्था

ऑस्ट्रेलिया खंडातील मरे डार्लिंगच्या खोऱ्यात समशीतोष्ण कटिबंधीय डाऊन्स गवताळ परिसंस्था आढळते. हा गवताळ प्रदेश सखल प्रदेशात पसरलेला आहे. तसेच हवामानातही फारसा फरक पडत नाही. या प्रदेशात करड्या व तांबूस रंगाची मृदा आढळते. पावसाचे प्रमाण 40 ते 70 cm च्या दरम्यान आढळते. टास्मानिया व व्हिक्टोरिया प्रदेशात विस्तीर्ण गवत पसरलेले आहे. या गवताळ प्रदेशात अधून मधून उंच वनस्पती आढळतात. येथील गवताळ कुरणातील दानथोनिया गवत मेंढ्यांच्या पोषणासाठी अनुकूल आहे.

त्यामुळे मेंढपाळ व्यवसायाचा विकास झालेला दिसून येतो. मेंढ्यांपासून उच्च दर्जाची लोकर मिळते. मेंढ्यांचे कळप गवताळ प्रदेशात चरण्यासाठी सोडतात. मेंढ्यांची लोकर निर्यात केली जाते त्यामुळे गवताळ प्रदेशात पशुपालन व्यवसायाचा विकास झालेला आहे. डाऊन्स गवताळ परिसंस्थेत कांगारू गवत व स्पेअर गवत हे गवताचे दोन प्रकार आढळतात. परंतु आज अनेक गवताळ कुरणे कायमची नष्ट होत आहेत. पावसाचे प्रमाण कमी झाल्यामुळे गवताळ कुरणावर व मेंढपाळ व्यवसायावर विपरीत परिणाम होताना आढळत आहे.

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## मराठवाड्यातील ग्रामीण कथात्म साहित्याची भाषा व अभिवृत्ती

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संशोधिका

स्वामी रामानंद तीर्थ मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ नांदेड

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### सारांश

अशा प्रकारे २००५ ते २०१५ या कालखंडातील मराठवाड्यातील ग्रामीण कथाकारांची भाषाशैली लक्षणीय होत गेलेली दिसून येते. भाषेत पारंपरिक म्हणी, वाक्प्रचार, यामुळे तर भाषाशैलीला जीवंतपणा आलेला आहे. त्याचबरोबर मराठवाड्याला कर्नाटक, आंध्र, तेलंगणा या प्रदेशातील भाषेचा प्रभाव, लकब हे मराठवाड्याच्या बोलीवर पडलेले असल्याने येथील कथाकारांच्या कथेतील पात्रे, व्यक्ती संमिश्र भाषेत संवाद करताना दिसून येतात. तसेच निवेदनशैली, व्यक्तिवर्णने, जोडशब्दे, नादानुकारी शब्द, इंग्रजी शब्द, हिंदी आदीमुळे या कालखंडातील लेखकांची भाषाशैली जीवंत अनुभूती तर देतेच त्या पेक्षाही मराठवाड्याच्या ग्रामीण समाज जीवनाच्या वेदनेची दाहकता प्रभावीपणे मांडण्याची ताकद या दशकातील ग्रामीण कथाकारांच्या भाषाशैलीने निर्माण केली आहे. हेच या कथाकारांच्या भाषाशैलीचे निराळेपण होते.

**मुख्य शब्द:** भाषाशैली, म्हणी, वाक्प्रचार, प्रदेश, निसर्ग.

### प्रस्तावना

भाषा ही मानवी जीवनाचा अविभाज्य भाग आहे. आचार-विचारांची देवाणघेवाण करण्याकरिता भाषा ही जीवनदायिनीसारखे कार्य करत असते. जीवनव्यवहाराला आकार हा भाषेमुळेच येत असतो. किंबहुना समाजजीवनाचे वेगळे अस्तित्व भाषेतून प्रतीत होत असते. ती समाजजीवनातील व्यक्ती-व्यक्तींना सांधण्याचे महत्त्वपूर्ण कार्य करत असते. नानाविध समस्यांच्या, प्रश्नांच्या, विचारांच्या भोवऱ्यात सापडलेल्या समाजाला मार्गदर्शन वा प्रबोधन करून त्यातून मुक्ती मिळवून देण्याची क्षमता भाषेमध्ये असते. त्यातून समाजाजीवनाला जगण्याचे नवे भान, नवी दिशा मिळून जाते. इत्यादी कारणपरत्वे समाजजीवनात भाषेला अनन्यसाधारण महत्त्व आहे असे म्हणता येईल.

समाजजीवनातील एक घटक असणारा प्रतिभावंत लेखक समाजाजीवनातील भले-बुरे अनुभव टिपून त्याला भाषेच्या माध्यमातून अर्थपूर्ण आशयाचा आविष्कार करत असतो. मग तो कोणताही समाज असो. म्हणजे शहरी अथवा ग्रामीण त्याच्या वेदनेवर फुंकर मारण्याचे कार्य आपल्या कलात्मक भाषेतून त्या-त्या समाजघटकातील प्रतिभाशाली कलावंत करीत असतो. मराठवाड्यातील विशेषतः २००५ ते २०१५ या कालखंडातील ग्रामीण समाजजीवनात मोठ्या प्रमाणात स्थित्यंतरे झालेली आढळून येतात. आधुनिकीकरण, सहकारक्षेत्र, जागतिकीकरण इत्यादी कारणांमुळे मराठवाड्यातील ग्रामीण समाजाच्या आचार-विचारांवर किंबहुना एकूणच त्यांच्या जगण्याचा रोखच

वेगवेगळा दिसून येतो. यातून ग्रामीण समाजजीवनात नानाविध प्रश्न आणि समस्या उद्भवल्या गेल्या. त्यांच्या जीवनशैलीत लक्षणीय असा बदल होत राहिला. अशा या समाजजीवनाच्या जीवनजाणिवेला, प्रखर वास्तवतेला भाषेच्या माध्यमातून मराठवाड्यातील ग्रामीण कथाकारांनी कलात्मकतेने प्रकटीकरण केले आहे. यातूनच या दशकातील ग्रामीण साहित्याला नवीन उभारणी मिळालेली आहे. या साहित्याला अर्थपूर्णता प्राप्त करून देण्याची महत्त्वाची भूमिका ही मराठवाड्यातील ग्रामीण कथाकारांना द्यावी लागेल. त्यांनी त्या त्या परिसरातील असणारी भाषा त्याच ढंगात म्हणी, वाक्प्रचार आदी लोकपरंपरेतील घटकांचा यथोचित वापर करून ग्रामीण समाजजीवनातील जीवनानुभवाला उजागर करण्याचा प्रयत्न केला आहे. मुळात "भाषा आणि साहित्य ह्यांना जोडणारी संकल्पना ही शैली असते." असे शैलीचे थोर अभ्यासक डॉ. अशोक केळकर म्हणतात, हे या दृष्टीने महत्त्वाचे वाटते. कारण ग्रामीण जीवनातील वास्तव जीवन जाणिवेला प्रभावीपणे मांडण्याची ताकद त्या त्या कथाकारांच्या लेखनशैलीवर असते असे म्हणता येईल. त्यामुळे भाषा आणि साहित्य परस्परपूरक आणि अविभाज्य अंग आहेत. कोणत्याही साहित्याचे घटित हे भाषाशैलीच्याच आविष्कारावर अवलंबून असते. तो तो कथालेखक आपला अनुभव वाचकमनाला कसा उमजेल, समजेल या दृष्टीने उत्कंठादर्शक अशा भाषाशैलीचा वापर करीत असतो. यातूनच त्या त्या कथालेखकाच्या लेखनाचे वेगळेपण जाणवू लागते. या दृष्टीने मराठवाड्यातील ग्रामीण कथाकारांच्या कथेची भाषा आणि

त्यांच्या लेखनशैलीचे वेगळेपण समजून घेणे अभ्यासाच्या दृष्टिकोनातून महत्वाचे वाटते. या दशकातील मराठवाड्यातील ग्रामीण कथाकारांच्या भाषाशैलीचा विचार करण्यापूर्वी भाषाशैलीच्या संदर्भात विविध अभ्यासकांच्या मतांचा विचार करत लेखनशैलीच्या स्वरूपाचा थोडक्यात विचार करावा लागेल. कारण रा.शं. वाळिंबे म्हणतात की, "शैलीचे प्राणतत्त्व हे गुणाचे प्रकर्ष नसून आशय आणि अभिव्यक्तीची एकरूपता व परिपूर्णता हे समृद्ध आणि उत्कृष्ट आविष्कार शैलीचे प्राणभूत तत्त्व आहे." म्हणून शैलीविषयी विवेचन करणे अगत्याचे वाटते.

### भाषा शैली

भाषाशैलीची निर्मिती ही त्या त्या कथाकारांच्या मानसिकतेच्या दृष्टिकोनातून झालेली असते. कथालेखक ज्या वातावरणात वाढलेला असतो त्यातूनच त्याच्या व्यक्तिमत्त्वाची जडणघडण होत असते. तो त्या समाजजीवनातील अनुभव घेऊन त्याला कलात्मकतेने आपल्या भाषाशैलीतून अभिव्यक्त करीत असतो. त्याच्या या शैलीवर व्यक्तिमत्त्वाचे प्रतिबिंब उमटलेले असते. अशा प्रकारच्या लक्षणीय शैलीला इंग्रजी भाषेत 'Style' असे म्हटले आहे. व्यवहारात तिला 'शैली' असे नामकरण केले आहे. "मराठीमध्ये तिला रीत, पद्धत, लकव, ढब, धाटणी, कौशल्य, तंत्र, वैशिष्ट्ये इत्यादी असे विविध नावे आहेत." पाश्चात्य विचारवंत व्यूफॉने शैली म्हणजेच लेखकाचे (स्टाईल इज द मॅन हिमसेल्फ) हे सूत्रच मांडले होते. यातून शैलीच्या संदर्भात एक गोष्ट प्रतिबिंबित होत जाते की, शैली ही त्या लेखकाच्या व्यक्तिमत्त्वाचा भाग आहे. म्हणून लेखक ज्या स्थल-काल-परिस्थितीत वाढलेला असतो त्याचा आणि एकूण वातावरणाच्या परिणामातून त्याची स्वतःची अशी वेगळी, वैशिष्ट्यपूर्ण शैली निर्माण झालेली असते. शैलीच्या माध्यमातून सभोवतालच्या परिसरातील ग्रामीण समाजजीवनातील अनुभव तो त्याच्या अस्सल भाषेतून अभिव्यक्त करण्याचा प्रयत्न करीत असतो. त्यामुळे त्याच्या सर्जनशील अशा कलात्मक धाटणीमुळे समाजजीवनाला एक प्रकारचे आत्मभान येत असते. समाजाला एक दिशा त्यातून मिळत जाते.

लेखक ज्या समाजघटकात वावरतो त्या समाजाचे तो प्रतिनिधी म्हणून तो त्या समाजातील चांगले-वाईट अनुभव व नात्यागोत्यातील, कुटुंबातील ताणतणाव, गुंतागुंत इत्यादी गोष्टीमुळे तो अंतर्मुख होऊन अस्वस्थ होतो आणि त्याचे विवेचन शैलीच्या माध्यमातून साहित्यकृतीतून अभिव्यक्त करीत असतो. यामुळे त्याची शैली सुहृदय वाचकांना चिंतनासाठी प्रवृत्त करत जाते. त्याच्या भावनेला सहजपणे हात घालण्यास यशस्वी होते. या संदर्भात प्रा.ना.सी. फडके म्हणतात की, "भाषेच्या शैलीचा गुण वाचकांच्या अगर श्रोत्यांच्या बुद्धीस प्रतीत होणारा नसून भावनेस कळणारा असतो." "ज्या वाङ्मयात शैलीचा गुण नसतो त्याचा वाचकावर संपूर्णत्वाने परिणाम होणे शक्य नाही. तो व्हावयाचा असल्या बुद्धीला विचारसौंदर्य आणि

अंतःकरणाला भाषा सौंदर्य लुटता आले पाहिजे" अशा प्रकारे मराठी भाषाशैलीचा अभ्यास करणाऱ्या थोर मीमांसकांनी शैलीच्या संदर्भात विविधांगानी जे भाष्य केलेले आहे ते अत्यंत महत्त्वपूर्ण आहे. तसेच काही पाश्चात्य साहित्य मीमांसकांचे शैलीच्या संदर्भातील मतेही लक्षणीय आहे. उदा. शैलीच्या संदर्भात स्तांधाल म्हणतात की, "ज्या आशयाची अभिव्यक्ती अभिप्रेत असेल त्या आशयातून अपेक्षित असलेल्या त्या सर्व साधनांचे साह्य त्या आशयाला मिळवून दिले म्हणजे शैली निर्माण होते." तर 'Style' चा संबंध समग्र कलाकृतीशी असतो. म्हणजे कलाकृतीचे माध्यम, तिचे रूप आणि तिच्यात व्यक्त झालेला आशय या सर्वांच्या समुच्चयातून निर्माण होणाऱ्या कलात्मक संघटनेशी शैलीचा संबंध असतो. असे टी. एन. ग्रीन यांचे प्रतिपादन आहे. मराठी भाषाशैलीचे साक्षेपी अभ्यासक डॉ.वा.के. लेले म्हणतात की, "लेखन पूर्व स्थितीत विद्यमान असलेल्या विचाराला अथवा कल्पनेला वेढणारे भाषिक कवच म्हणजे शैली होय." तसेच साहित्याची मीमांसा करणारे थोर समीक्षक, अभ्यासक डॉ.रा.शं. वाळिंबे म्हणतात की. "लेखकाच्या वैयक्तिक अनुभूतीचा प्रत्यक्ष झालेला जो आविष्कार असतो त्याला त्यांनी शैली हे नावे दिले." व त्याचप्रमाणे ना.सी. फडके यांनी शैलीच्या संदर्भात आपले मत उद्धृत करीत असताना म्हटले की, "भाषेचा अर्थ आणि ध्वनी या दोन अंगाची परस्पर अनुरुक्ती म्हणजेच शैली." तर आधुनिक भाषाशैली विज्ञानाचे चिकित्सक दृष्टीने अभ्यास करणारे अभ्यासक डॉ. रमेश धोंगडे म्हणतात की, "आविष्कारणाच्या पर्यायांपैकी विशिष्ट पर्यायांची निवड म्हणजे शैली." आणि साहित्याचे साक्षेपी समीक्षक डॉ. भालचंद्र नेमाडे शैलीच्या संदर्भात आपले मत अभिव्यक्त करताना म्हणतात की, "एखाद्या द्रव्याला विशिष्ट वापरल्या जाणाऱ्या तंत्रसमुच्चयाची पद्धती म्हणजे शैली होय." अशा प्रकारे विविध अभ्यासक-समीक्षकांनी शैलीच्या संदर्भात महनीय असे विचार मांडलेले दिसून येतात. या अनुषंगाने चिंतन केले असता असे म्हणता येईल की, कथा-साहित्यामध्ये जी अर्थपूर्ण अशी शैली आविष्कृत झालेली असते त्यापाठीमागे त्या कलावंताची व्यक्तिनिष्ठा असते. म्हणून तर त्या त्या कलावंत लेखकाच्या व्यक्तिमत्त्वाचा आणि शैलीचा अन्ययसाधारण असा संबंध असलेला आढळून येतो.

इ.स. २००५ ते २०१५ या कालखंडातील मराठवाड्यातील ग्रामीण कथाकारांच्या भाषाशैलीकडे दृष्टीक्षेप टाकला तर त्यांच्या शैलीचे वेगळेपण लक्ष वेधून घेत जाते. ग्रामीण समाज जीवनाचे वास्तव चित्र जिवंत उभे करण्याचे कसब त्यांच्या लेखनशैलीत आहे. विशेष म्हणजे या शतकातील मराठवाड्यातील कथेसंदर्भात डॉ. आनंद यादव म्हणतात, "वैशिष्टपूर्ण भाषा ज्या समाजात बोलली जाते, ज्या संस्कृतीचा तिचा सततचा संदर्भ असतो. ज्या स्त्री-पुरुषांच्या वापरात ती नेहमी असते; त्या सर्वांचे सत्व त्या

भाषेला लाभलेले असते, त्यातून तिला सर्व व्यक्तिमत्त्व प्राप्त झालेले असते. साहित्यिक, कलावंत जेव्हा तिला वापरू लागतो तेव्हा कलावंताच्या व्यक्तिमत्त्वाचा संस्कार तर तिच्यावर होतोच; पण ती भाषा आपले सत्त्व काही सोडायला तयार नसते." याची प्रचिती या शतकातील ग्रामीण कथाकारांच्या कथेची भाषा पाहिल्यानंतर येत जाते. त्यामुळे २००५ ते २०१५ या दशकातील मराठवाड्यातील ग्रामीण कथाकारांच्या भाषाशैलीच्या वेगळेपणाचा विचार करणे महत्त्वाचे आहे.

### मराठवाड्यातील ग्रामीण कथात्म साहित्याची भाषा व अभिव्यक्तीची मिमांसा

प्रत्येक प्रदेशाची त्याची म्हणून काही वैशिष्ट्ये असतातच. त्याचा प्रदेश, निसर्ग आणि ऐतिहासिकतेचे काही एक संदर्भ त्या त्या प्रदेशाला लाभलेली असतात. या सर्वांच्या परिणामातून त्या समाजघटकाची जडण-घडण होत असते. त्यामुळे त्याची जीवन जगण्याची रीत, परंपरा, रूढी, लोकसमज, श्रद्धा इत्यादी गोष्टीमध्ये निराळेपणा आपोआपच आलेला दिसून येतो. या गोष्टींचा विचार केल्यानंतर मराठवाड्यातील कथेच्या भाषाशैलीचे वेगळेपण दिसण्याची कारणे शोधणे सोपे जाते.

मुळात अनेक काळ निजाम राजवटीच्या अधिपत्याखाली गुजराण करणारा हा प्रदेश १७ सप्टेंबर १९४८ रोजी स्वतंत्र झाला. आणि तो महाराष्ट्र राज्याचा अविभाज्य भाग बनत गेला. अशा या मराठवाड्यातील समाज प्रदीर्घ काळ निजाम राजवटीच्या अन्याय-अत्याचाराचे चटके सहन करत आपले जीवन व्यतीत करीत दुःख सहन करणारा गोदावरीच्या खोऱ्यात आणि आसपासच्या परिसरात विस्तीर्ण झाल्याचे दिसते. मराठवाडा हा आज एकूण आठ जिल्ह्याने विस्तारला आहे. त्यामध्ये औरंगाबाद, जालना, बीड, परभणी, नांदेड, हिंगोली, लातूर आणि उस्मानाबाद ह्या जिल्ह्यांचा समावेश होतो. हे सर्व जिल्ह्यांचा विचार केल्यानंतर नैसर्गिक दृष्ट्या मागास असल्याने व्यापार, आणि औद्योगिक सोयी अपुऱ्या, त्यामुळे येथील बहुतांशी समाजाच्या उपजीविकेचे साधन शेतीशिवाय दुसरे काहीच नाही. निसर्गाची अवकृपा, नापिकी, मालाला योग्य भाव नाही अशा विविध अडचणीतला येथील ग्रामीण समाज तोंड देत देत जीव मुठीत घेऊन जगत असलेला दिसून येतो.

प्रत्येक प्रदेशाला जशी विशिष्ट सीमा असते तशी मराठवाड्याची सीमा ६४,८११ चौ.कि.मी. इतकी आहे. या मराठवाड्याला गोदावरी बरोबर मांजरा, तेरणा, दुधना, तावरजा इत्यादी उपनद्या लाभल्या असल्या तरी नैसर्गिक पर्जन्याचे प्रमाणच अल्प असल्याने ह्या नद्या फारशा कधी दुथडी भरून वाहताना दिसत नाहीत. म्हणूनच शेतीदृष्ट्या हा भाग मागास राहिला गेला. शैक्षणिक आणि पर्यटनदृष्ट्या औरंगाबाद, नांदेड, लातूर हा भाग अपवाद सोडला तर मराठवाड्यात शैक्षणिकदृष्ट्याही फार विकास झाला असे पूजा संजय मोरे

म्हणता येणार नाही. अशा अनेक अंगांचा विचार केला असता मराठवाड्यातील भूप्रदेशात वावरणारे समाजजीवन अनेकविध दृष्टीने ग्रासून गेलेले आहे. यासंदर्भात डॉ. प्रल्हाद लुलेकर म्हणतात, "आद्य महाराष्ट्र म्हणजेच मराठवाडा प्रदेश हे आजही महाराष्ट्राच्या विभागवार नावावरून लक्षात घ्यावे लागते. उत्तर महाराष्ट्र, पश्चिम महाराष्ट्र, दक्षिण महाराष्ट्र अशी भौगोलिक नावे महाराष्ट्रातील प्रदेशाला दिली जातात. ही नावे असलेला उत्तर महाराष्ट्र पश्चिमेस असलेला पश्चिम महाराष्ट्र आणि दक्षिणेस असलेला दक्षिण महाराष्ट्र अशी नावे आहेत. त्यामुळे मूळ महाराष्ट्र हा मराठवाडा प्रदेशच आहे." हे मराठवाड्याच्या निराळेपणाविषयीचे मत चिंतन करणारे वाटते.

एकूणच मराठवाड्याच्या भौगोलिक, नैसर्गिक आणि ऐतिहासिकतेमुळे तिची एक भाषेची निराळी अशी शैली बनलेली आहे. तिच्यामध्ये भेद जाणवतात. कारण डॉ. कल्याण काळे म्हणतात त्याप्रमाणे "कोणतेही भाषा स्थिर आणि एकरूप नसते. तिच्यामध्ये तिने व्यापलेल्या प्रदेशातील भौगोलिक आणि सामाजिक भेदानुसार अनेक भेद निर्माण होतात त्याच 'बोली' असे म्हटले जाते." याची प्रचिती मराठवाड्यातील विविध परिसरातील ग्रामीण कथाकारांच्या कथेची भाषा निरनिराळ्या बोलीमधून साकार झालेली आढळून येते. त्याचबरोबर मराठवाड्याच्या बोलीचे आणखीन एक विशेष म्हणजे मराठवाडा हा तेलंगणा, कर्नाटक या राज्याच्या सीमाजवळ असलेल्याने तेथील भाषेतील काही शब्द, लकब, हेल हे मराठवाडी बोली भाषेवर प्रतिबिंबित झाले असल्याने येथील भाषा वेगळी दिसून येते. एकूणच त्या प्रदेशाची भाषा ही महाराष्ट्रातील विविध प्रदेशातील बोली उदा. खानदेशी, विदर्भ, नागपुरी, कोकणी, कोल्हापुरी इत्यादी भाषेने जशी स्वःच्या अस्तित्वाची ओळख निर्माण केलेली आहे. त्यापेक्षाही लक्षवेधक अशी भाषाशैली मराठवाड्यातील आहे असे म्हणता येईल.

वाङ्मयीन दृष्टिकोनातून कथासाहित्याचा विचार करावयाचा झाल्यास भाषाशैलीचा विचार करणे अगत्याचे ठरते. कारण भाषेमधून तेथील समाजजीवन, संस्कृती, रूढी-परंपरा, चालीरीती, रिवाज, लोकजीवन, निसर्ग आणि एकूणच सभोवतालचे वातावरण त्या त्या परिसरातील संवेदनशील कलावंताच्या व्यक्तिमत्त्वाला अस्वस्थ करीत असते. तेथील अनुभव कलावंत टिपून कलात्मक अशा भाषाशैलीमधून अभिव्यक्त करत असतो. मुळात तो त्या समाजाचा घटक असल्याने त्या समाजजीवनातील सुख-दुःख, दारिद्र्य, समस्या, ताणतणाव, मानसिक गुंतागुंत, बकालपण, तेथील परिस्थिती इत्यादींचे आकलन करून तो अस्सल बोलीभाषेतून अभिव्यक्तीचा आविष्कार करत असतो. त्यामुळे त्या आशयाला एक प्रकारचा जिवंतपणा आलेला असतो. म्हणून तर डॉ. वासुदेव मुलाटे म्हणतात, "ग्रामीण कथेच्याच नव्हे तर एकूण ग्रामीण आविष्कारात



भाषेला अतिशय महत्त्वाचे स्थान असते. भाषा हा सामूहिक आविष्कार असल्याने तेथील परिसर, त्या परिसरातील देवदेवता, संस्कृती आणि माणसाची ठेवण त्यामधून प्रकट होते, त्या-त्या प्रदेशातील भाषेमधून वेगवेगळे वाक्प्रचार, म्हणी तर येतातच पण कधी-कधी शेजारच्या प्रदेशातील शब्दवैभवही सापडते." यावरून मराठवाड्यातील भाषाशैलीचे वेगळेपण लक्षात येते.

अशा प्रकारे मराठवाड्यातील ग्रामीण कथाकारांच्या कथांच्या आशय अभिव्यक्तीला बोलीभाषेमुळे जीवंतपणा आलेला आहे. ज्येष्ठ समीक्षक नरहर कुरंदकर यासंदर्भात म्हणतात, "ग्रामीण कथेला सगळा जीवंतपणा आला आहे. तो तिच्यातील अस्सल बोलीभाषेमुळे" आणि हे यथार्थ आहे. कारण बोलीभाषेच्या माध्यमातून अभिव्यक्त झाल्यामुळे मराठवाड्यातील कथा वाचकमनाला लवकर भिडते. यादृष्टीने मराठवाड्यातील बोलीभाषेच्या स्वरूपाचा विचार करणे महत्त्वाचे ठरू शकेल.

समाजजीवनात स्थल-काल-परिस्थितीनुसार स्थित्यंतरे घडत असतात. मग तो कोणताही समाज असो. त्या त्या परिस्थितीनुसार त्याच्या जगण्याची शैली ही बदलत असते. आणि ते अपरिहार्य असते असे म्हणता येईल. २००५ ते २०१५ ह्या कालखंडातील मराठवाड्यातील कथाकारांच्या कथेची भाषाशैली लक्षणीय बदललेली आहे. तिच्यातून अभिव्यक्त होणाऱ्या जीवनजाणिवेतही अनन्यसाधारण असा बदल आढळून येईल. याचे महत्त्वाचे कारण म्हणजे ग्रामीण समाजजीवनावर आधुनिकीकरण, यांत्रिकीकरण, सहकारक्षेत्र, जागतिकीकरण इत्यादी कारणाने त्याच्या जगण्यात बदल झाला त्याचा परिणाम त्याच्या भाषेवर झाला. अशी भाषा या दशकातील कथाकारांनी आपल्या कथेत वापरली त्याहीपेक्षा ग्रामीण जीवनातील प्रखर वास्तव प्रयोगशील अशा शैलीच्या माध्यमातून आविष्कृत केले. जेणेकरून या दशकातील कथा अर्थपूर्ण अशी निर्माण झाली.

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## महिलांचा राजकीय सहभाग व सबलीकरणाचे वास्तव विशेष संदर्भ वाशिम जिल्हा

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### सारांश :

भारत हे जगातील लोकशाहीवादी राष्ट्र, अनेक रूढी प्रथा, परंपरा, चालीरीतीने समृद्ध असा देश आहे. त्याच प्रमाणे सामाजिक, आर्थिक, राजकीय, सांस्कृतिक चळवळीतीने समृद्ध झालेला देश आहे. भारताचा इतिहास ज्याप्रमाणे शूरवीरांनी घडविला, त्याचप्रमाणे भारताच्या इतिहासात राणी लक्ष्मीबाई पासून तर इंदिरा गांधीसारख्या सक्षम महिलांनी परिवर्तनवादी चळवळीत महत्त्वाची भूमिका बजावल्याची नोंदीत अजरामर आहे.

**मुख्य शब्द:** लोकशाहीवादी राष्ट्र, रूढी प्रथा, परंपरा, चालीरीती, सामाजिक, आर्थिक, राजकीय, सांस्कृतिक चळवळ.

### प्रस्तावना :

इतिहास काळापासून तर आजपर्यंत महिलांना प्रत्येक क्षेत्रात दुय्यम स्थान दिले गेले. निसर्गाने बुद्धि, कौशल्य सर्वांना समान दिलेली आहे. तरी पण स्त्रियांच्या मूलभूत अधिकार व हक्कांबाबत शासनाने जनतेत जागृती निर्माण होणे आवश्यक आहे. राजाराम मोहन राय, सावित्रीबाई फुले, महत्मा ज्योतीबा फुले यांनी महिलांमध्ये शिक्षणाच्या माध्यमातून जागृती निर्माण केली. स्त्री मुक्ती चळवळीला आंदोलनाला चालना दिली. आधुनिक काळात महिलांचे राजकीय, सामाजिकीकरण व सबलीकरण व्हावे हा विचार पुढे आला. जेणेकरून स्त्रीशक्तीचा योग्य उपयोग करून त्यांचा फायदा देशाच्या सामाजिक पुनर्बांधणीत होईल. देशाच्या ग्रामपंचायतीपासून तर संसदेत महिलांना जास्तीत जास्त प्रतिनिधित्व देऊन. त्यांच्यावर होणारा अन्याय व अत्याचारावरही वाचा फुटेल म्हणून महिलांनी राजकीय सबलीकरणासाठी विविध चळवळी सुरू केल्या. ज्यामुळे आज स्त्रियांची स्थिती पुरी पूर्वीपेक्षा चांगली दिसून येते. असे असले तरीही स्त्रियांच्या राजकीय सबलीकरणाची व सामाजिक समाजिकीकरणाची स्थिती जाणून घेणे तेवढेच आवश्यक ठरते.

### संशोधन पद्धती :

प्रस्तुत संशोधन निबंधासाठी विश्लेषणात्मक संशोधन पद्धतीचा उपयोग करण्यात आलेला आहे. त्याचबरोबर संशोधनाची दुय्यम स्रोत, ग्रंथ, पुस्तके, शोधनिबंध, नियतकालिके यांचा उपयोग करण्यात आला आहे.

### गृहीतक :

1. राजकीय सबलीकरणाची स्त्रियां महत्त्वाची भूमिका बजावतात.
2. समाजीक आणि राजकीय उदासीनता मोठ्या प्रमाणात आहे.
3. महिलांच्या राजकीय इच्छाशक्तीचा जो पर्यंत योग्य उपयोग होणार नाही, तोपर्यंत महिलांचे राजकीय सबलीकरण होणार नाही.
4. स्वातंत्र्यानंतर महिलांचा राजकीय सहभाग व इतर प्रगत राष्ट्रांच्या तुलनेत भारतात कमी आहे.

### राजकीय सबलीकरण व समाजीकरणाची भूमिका.

राजकीय सामाजीकरण ही एक संकल्पना तसेच ही एक प्रक्रिया देखील आहे. सामाजीकरणाच्या प्रक्रियेद्वारे व्यक्तिमूहाच्या चालीरीती, परंपराचा विचार करण्याची पद्धत आणि अंगीकारणे व स्वतःस समूहाचा शारीरिक व मानसिक हिंसा होतो. काहींच्या मते सामाजिकरण हे शिक्षण आहे. या शिक्षणाबरोबर व्यक्ती समाजातील भूमिकापार पाडण्याचे ज्ञान मिळवितो. राजकीय सामाजिकीकरण आणि सबलीकरण एकाच नाण्याच्या दोन बाजू आहेत. कारण राजकीय सामाजिकरणाच्या यशस्वी प्रक्रियेतूनच राजकीय सबलीकरण होत असते. त्यामुळे त्याचा अभ्यास करणे अगत्याचे ठरते.

आलमंड व पॉवेल यांच्यामते, ज्या प्रक्रियेद्वारे राजकीय, संस्कृतीची अंगभूत मूल्ये श्रद्धा संकेत दृष्टिकोण भावी पिढ्यांना संक्रमित होतो. त्यास राजकीय सामाजिकीकरण म्हणतात.

राजकीय सामाजिकरण झाले असेल तर राजकीय उदासीनता नष्ट होऊन. राजकीय विकासाचे मार्ग मोकळे

होतात. राजकीय उदासीनता सत्ता प्राप्त करण्यासाठी लोकशाही राजकीय व्यवस्थितची प्रक्रिया चालू आहे. त्या राजकीय प्रक्रियेत सहभागी न होता. सहभागी न होणे म्हणजेच राजकीय उदासीनता होय म्हणून महिलांच्या राजकीय उदासीनतेच्या कारणांचा शोध घेणे अगत्याचे आहे असे दिसून येते.

### महिलांच्या राजकीय चळवळीचा इतिहास :

महिलांचा राजकीय सबलीकरणाचा व समाजीकरणाचा अभ्यास करण्या अगोदर महिलांच्या राजकीय चळवळीच्या इतिहासचा अभ्यास करणे महत्त्वाचे आहे. स्त्रियांना मतदानाचा हक्क विसाव्या शतकाच्या प्रारंभी मिळाला १९१३ मध्ये चीन यासारख्या मागास देशातील स्त्रियांना मतदान हक्क प्राप्त करून घेतला. इंग्लंड मध्ये. १९६४ निवडणुकीनंत वुमन सोशल अँफोस्कल युनियन महिला संघटना एक शक्ती म्हणून उदयास आली. या संघटनेचा पाया श्रीमती. क्रिस्तो बेल फ्रँक हर्ट्झ आणि तिची आई ईमेली यांनी केली. श्रीमती. कॉकेट यांच्यापूर्वी नॅशनल युनियन ऑफ विमेन्स सफ्रेज सोसायटी ही संघटना महिलांच्या हक्कासाठी लढत होती. या प्रखर लढाईतून इ.वी.सन १९३२ मध्ये. ब्रिटनमध्ये मताधिकार सुधार कायदा झाला? १९९८ मध्ये ३० वर्षांपेक्षा जास्त वय असलेल्या स्त्रियांना मताधिकार भेटले.

१९२० मध्ये अमेरिकन राज्य घटनेने १९ वी घटनादुरुस्ती करून राजकारणात लिंगभेद करणार नाही, असे स्पष्ट करून सर्व महिलांना मतदानाचा हक्क दिला. भारतीय महिलांचा राजकीय चळवळीचा इतिहासचा अभ्यास १९१८ मध्ये शासनाने मॉन्टेस्क्यू आणि चेंस्पॉर्ट यांच्या अध्यक्षतेखाली भारतीय राजकीय चळवळीसाठी महिलांचे सहभाग असावे म्हणून तेव्हा सरोजिनी नायडू व मार्केटा. कंजूझ यांच्या नेतृत्वाखाली महिलांच्या एका छोट्याशा मंडळाने. घटनेत महिलांना पुरुषांच्या बरोबर हक्क बहाल करावे, असे निवेदन दिले. परंतु ब्रिटिशांनी त्यास विरोध दर्शविला. त्यांच्या मते भारतीय महिला अशिक्षित, मागास आहेत हा विचार पुढे केला. तरीदेखील महिलांचे शिक्षण व मालमत्ता यांचा विचार करून १९२९ मध्ये प्रादेशिक शासनामध्ये महिलांना पुरुषांच्या बरोबरीने अधिकार देण्याचे मान्य केले. महिला संघटनेने सर्व सज्जान महिलांना समान असावे असा मसुदा १९३२ मध्ये सादर केला. त्यावेळी तो टाळण्यात आला. परंतु १९३१ च्या कराची काँग्रेस अधिवेशनात राजकारणात महिला व पुरुष सर्व दृष्टिकोनातून समान राहतील हा ठराव पूर्ण बहुमत आणि मंजूर झाला. इतिहासातील महिलांच्या या चळवळीमुळे महिलांच्या जागृती जून १९७५ चे दशक महिला वर्ष आणि महिला दशक म्हणून पाळण्यात आली. भारतात ८ मार्च हा दिवस महिला दिन म्हणून पाळण्यात आला. न्याय भेटावा म्हणून ३० ऑगस्ट १९८५ मध्ये चौथ्या संपूर्ण राष्ट्र परिषदेच्या निमित्ताने बीजिंग शहरात महिला एकत्र आल्या यापूर्वीसुद्धा १९८० मध्ये एकत्रित जमल्या होत्या.

प्राचार्य डॉ. सुभाष गवई, जया श्रीराम राठोड

### महिलांचे मुलभूत हक्क व अधिकार :

महिलांच्या मुलभूत हक्क व अधिकार कोणते हे पाहतांना स्त्री-पुरुष हे हक्काच्या सार्वत्रिक जाहीरनाम्यात स्पष्टपणे नमूद केलेली आहे. संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघटनेच्या आमसभेत ६ नोव्हेंबर १९६७ मध्ये महिला विरुद्ध होणाऱ्या पक्षपाताचे निर्मुलन करण्यासंबंधी एक जाहीरनामा सार्वमताने मंजूर करण्यात आला. या जाहीरनाम्यात असेही सांगितले आहे की, सर्व नागरिकांना हक्काबाबत लिंगभेद न करता समान वागणूक मिळाली पाहिजे. परंतु असे असून २१व्या शतकात बहुसंख्य देशामध्ये महिलांना अन्याय व पक्षपाती अनेक वागणूक दिली जाते. असा भेदभाव अन्याय, पक्षपात अनेक गोष्टीमध्ये दिसून येतो. महिलां विरुद्ध होणारा भेदभाव पक्षपात

### राजकारणातील महिलांचा सहभाग:

महिलांचे राजकारणातील सक्रीय भाग हा नेहमीच चर्चेचा विषय राहिला आहे. महिलांचा राजकारणातील सहभाग हा खूप व्यापक विषय असून त्याचा केवळ मतदानाशी संबंध जोडणे हिताचे ठरणार नाही. खूप वेळा महिलांचा राजकीय सहभाग संबोधताच त्याचा विपर्यास केला जातो. त्याचा संबंध महिलांच्या मतदानाच्या अधिकाराशी जोडला जातो, असे करणे कदाचित योग्य ठरणार नाही. कारण इतिहासात महिलांच्या सक्रीय राजकारणाचे खूप सारे संदर्भ आढळून येतात. इतिहासातील नोंदीचे विश्लेषण केले असता असे दिसून येते की, महिला राजकारणात नुसत्या सक्रीय नव्हत्या त्यांनी जो निर्णय प्रक्रीयामध्ये सहभाग राजकीय व सामाजिक योजना प्रफुल्लीत करण्यामध्ये मोलाचे योगदान आहे हे विसरता कामा नये.

पूर्वी पासूनच भारतीय महिला मतदानात आवजून सहभागी असल्याचे दिसून येते. तसेच राजकीय क्षेत्रात लैंगिक समानता आणण्यासाठी भारत सरकारने स्थानिक स्वराज्य संस्थामध्ये राजकीय आरक्षण सुरु केले आहे. त्याचा परिणाम म्हणून गाव पातळीपासून ते देशांच्या राजकारणापर्यंत महिला राजकारण्याचे प्रमाण वाढविण्यास सुरुवात झाली आहे .

भारतात अगदी आर्यांच्या काळापासून स्त्रियांना समाजात महत्त्वाचे स्थान आहे. ऋग्वेदात महिलांना राजकारणात स्थान असल्याचे ही दर्शविली आहे. उपनिषद, पुराणकाळात ते कायम होते. परकीय आक्रमणा नंतरही काही स्त्रिया राजकारणात दिसतात. स्वातंत्र्यापूर्वी व स्वातंत्रोत्तर काळात अनेक भारतीय महिलांनी अनेक क्षेत्रात आपल्या कामाने ठसा उमटविला आहे. भारताचा इतिहासात महिलांचा राजसत्तेत जसा सहभाग होता त्याचप्रमाणे स्वातंत्र्याच्या लढाईत ही त्यानंतर भारतीय स्वातंत्र्यानंतर अनेक महिलांनी राजकारणातील अनेक महत्त्वाची पदे भूषवली आहेत.

प्राचीन भारतातील अनेक गणराज्य होती व ह्या गणराज्यांचा कारभार स्वातंत्र्य होता. राजेशाही भोवतीच त्यांचे राजकारण केंद्रित होते. हीच प्रथा नंतरच्या काळातही चालू होती. इ.स.वी. सन १२ व्या शतकानंतर अधून मधून राज्यकारभाराची सूत्रे महिलांच्या हाती असल्याचे

आपणास दिसून येते. जसे की रझिया सुलतान, महाराणी दुर्गावती, चांदबीबी व १७ व्या शतकात प्रत्यक्ष राज्यकारभार न करताही राजकारणाला नवी दिशा देणारी राजमाता जिजाबाई शहाजी भोसले त्याच्या नंतर ताराबाई भोसले होत्या. याचबरोबर १७६६ ते १७९५ काळात आपल्या कार्य कर्तुत्वाने पुण्यक्षोक अहिल्याबाई होळकर व १७७८ ते १८२९ हा काळ कर्नाटकातील किचूरची राणी चिन्नामा असल्याचे दिसून येते.

स्वातंत्र्योत्तर काळात भारतीय राजकारणातील स्त्री नेत्या म्हणून इंदिरा गांधी, सोनिया गांधी, ममता बॉनर्जी, मायावती, जयललिता, प्रतिभा पाटील, सुषमा स्वराज, शालिनीताई पाटील, सुप्रिया सुळे, शीला दीक्षीत, वसुंधराराजे सिंदिया ही नावे सुपरिचित आहेत. माघील वीस वर्षात सुविधा, स्वच्छतागृह, बचतगट, महिला सुरक्षितता, लिंगनिदान करून स्त्री-भ्रूणहत्या, स्वच्छता,

यांसारख्या प्रश्नांवर लक्ष वेधले गेले. शहरांसोबातच माघील दहा वर्षात ग्रामीण भागातील महिला सरपंचांपैकी काहींनी दारूबंदीच्या लढाईला ही मूर्तस्वरूप दिले. महिला सरपंचानी व ग्रामपंचायत सदस्यांनी ग्रामसभा घेतल्या, दारूबंदीचे ठराव विजयी केले व गावपातळीवर समाज सुधारायचा प्रयत्न केला आहे.

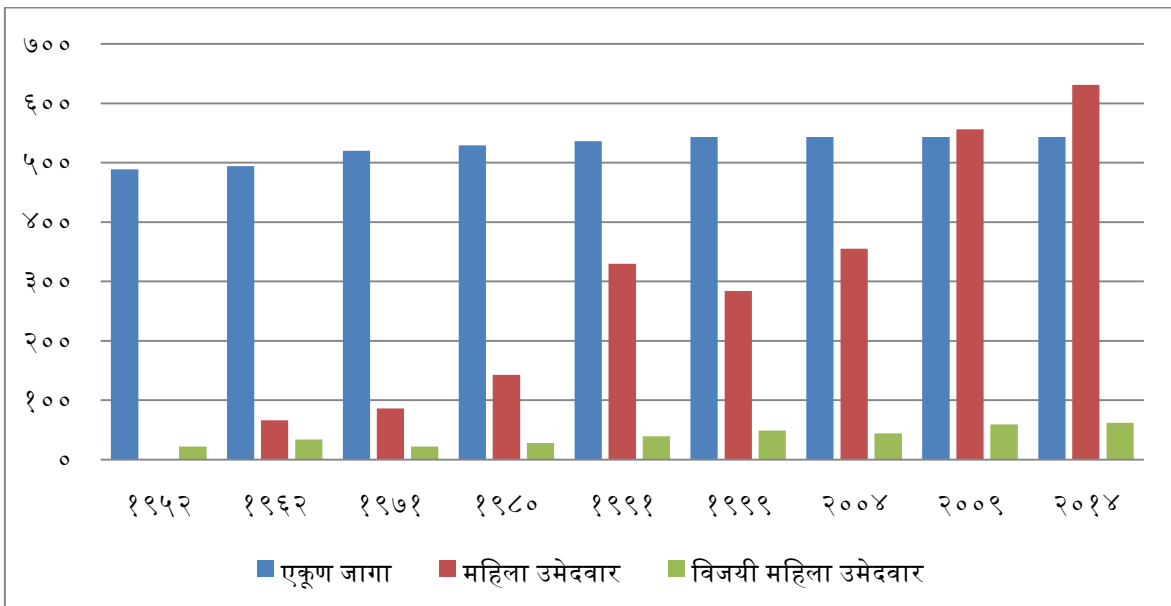
स्थानिक स्वराज संस्थांमध्ये महिलांना राजकीय आरक्षणाचे कवच प्राप्त झाल्यानंतर व राजकारणात त्यांचा वावर वाढल्या नंतर महिला आत्मविश्वासाने बोलताहेत , काहीतरी करून दाखवण्यात महिलांमधील जिद्द वाढली आहे. स्त्रिया राजकारणातील सहभागाविषयीच्या वाढणाऱ्या प्रतिकूलतेला स्त्रियांनी एक शक्ती बनवण्यात यश मिळवले आहे. महिलांनी राजकारणाविषयी नकारात्मकता न बाळगता राजकारणात येत आहेत.

### लोकसभेतील महिलांचा सहभाग

अ.क्र	वर्ष	एकूण जागा	महिला उमेदवार	विजयी महिला उमेदवार	लोकसभेतील टक्केवारी	एकूण महिला उमेदवारांच्या तुलनेतील टक्केवारी
१	१९५२	४८९	-	२२	-	-
२	१९६२	४९४	६६	३४	६.२७	४६.९७
३	१९७१	५२०	८६	२२	४.०५	२४.४१
४	१९८०	५२९	१४३	२८	४.२९	१९.५८
५	१९९१	५३६	३३०	३९	७.११	११.५१
६	१९९९	५४३	२८४	४९	९.०२	१७.२५
७	२००४	५४३	३५५	४४	८.२९	१२.६८
८	२००९	५४३	५५६	५९	१०.६८	१०.६१
९	२०१४	५४३	६३१	६२	११.००	-

आधार-विचारलाका- ऑगस्ट २०१४ ते जानेवारी २०१५ पृष्ठ क्र. ५८

### लोकसभेतील महिलांचा सहभाग



आधार-विचारलाका- ऑगस्ट २०१४ ते जानेवारी २०१५ पृष्ठ क्र. ५८

वरील सर्व आकडेवारी राजकारणातील महिलांचे प्रमाण पुरुषापेक्षा किती पाठीमागे आहेत ते स्पष्ट करते. महात्मा बसवेश्वर १२ व्या शतकात स्थापन केलेल्या संसदरूपी अनुभव मंटपात ७७० सदस्या पैकी ७० महिलांना सभासदत्व दिले व महिलांना आत्मनिर्भर बनवल्याचे तेही राजेशाही व सरंजामशाहीच्या युगात दिसून येते. लोकशाहीत आपणास ७४ व्या वर्षानंतर १०% महिलांना संसदेत प्रतिनिधित्व देता येत नाही. ज्या देशात महिला मतदाराची संख्या एकूण लोकसंख्येच्या जवळपास अर्धी आहे. परंतु लोकसभेत त्यांची १०%ही प्रतिनिधित्व नाही ही लोकशाहीची चेष्टा आहे असे दिसते. राजकीय पक्ष निवडणुकादरम्यान उमेदवारी देतांना महिलांना भेदभाव करतात. त्यामुळे महिला बॉकफुटावर असल्याचे आढळते. एका बाजूने महिलाला ३३ व ५०% आरक्षण देण्याच्या विषयावर चर्चा होतानी दिसल्या. २००९ मध्ये काँग्रेस पक्षाने आपल्या पक्षाच्या संघटनेत पदाधिकारी स्तरावर महिलांना ३३% आरक्षण देण्याचा निर्णय घेतला. परंतु ४५३ जागेत फक्त ५० महिलांना तिकीट दिले त्यापैकी फक्त १५ महिलाच निवडणुका जिंकल्या. भारतीय जनता पार्टीने तर फक्त ७.५% महिलांना तिकीट दिली. ३३९ मध्ये फक्त २५ महिलांना तिकीट दिले व सर्वात जास्त महिला याच पक्षाकडून निवडून आल्या. मार्क्सवादी कम्युनिष्ट पार्टी ने

७३ जागांपैकी ५ महिलांना उमेदवारी दिल्याचे दिसले. समाजवादी पार्टीतून ३, तेलगु देसम पक्षात ३, तृणमूल काँग्रेसचे २ आणि राष्ट्रीय जनता दल, शिवसेना व राष्ट्रवादी काँग्रेस पार्टीच्या एक-एक महिला उमेदवार निवडणूक जिंकल्या होत्या. जेंडर डेव्हलपमेंटच्या टर्म मध्ये १६२ देशात ११५ क्रमांकावर भारताचे स्थान दिसून आले. निवडणूक सहभागी झालेल्या मतदारांच्या टक्केवारी चा अभ्यास केला असता १९६२ च्या निवडणुकीत ६२.७% पुरुष ५५.५% स्त्रिया सहभागी झाल्या. तर २०१४ च्या निवडणुकीत ५४३ जागांपैकी ६२ महिला विजयी झाल्या. म्हणजे स्वातंत्र्य नंतर प्रगत राष्ट्रांच्या तुलनेत भारतीय लोकसभेत स्त्री-प्रतिनिधित्व १०.६१% वर गेलेले नाही. याचा अर्थ महिलांच्या राजकीय हक्क व अधिकाराचे मोठे हनन समाज व शासनाकडून होतांना दिसून येतो. स्त्रिया निवडणुकीत सहभागी झाल्या म्हणजे राजकीय मतदानाच्या व सहभागच्या बाबतीत स्त्रिया पुरुषापेक्षा थोड्या उदासीन आहेत किंवा समाज, रूढी, परंपरा चालीरीती व पुरुषप्रधानता इत्यादी मुळे महिला राजकीय सहभाग होऊ दिला जात नाही. तसेच राज्यसभेच्या काही महत्त्वाच्या निवडणूक आकडेवारीत महिलांच्या प्रतिनिधित्वाचा सहभाग खालीलप्रमाणे दर्शविता येते:

वर्ष	एकूण जागा	महिला प्रतिनिधी	टक्केवारीत महिलांचे प्रमाण
१९८०	२४४	२९	११.८%
१९८४	२४४	२४	०९.८%
१९८८	२५४	३६	१०.२%
१९९३	२३३	१७	००.३%

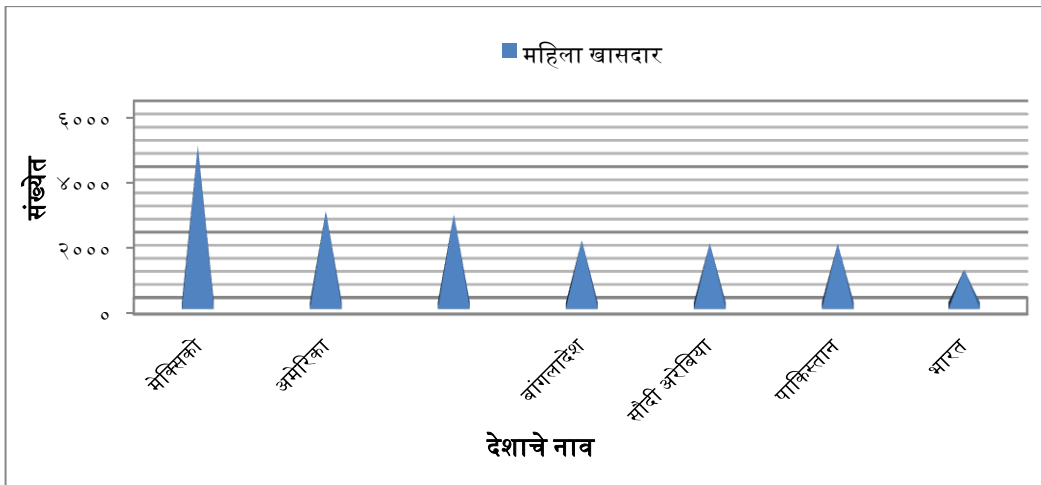
Women and human right -s.k.panchori, Aph publikeshan-New Delhi, 2010P.N.18-19

थोडक्यात वरीलप्रमाणे लोकसभेचा निवडून आलेल्या महिलांचा राजकीय सहभागाचा तुलनात्मक अभ्यास केला असता असा निष्कर्ष निघतो की,

१. प्रगत राष्ट्रांच्या तुलनेत भारतीय महिलांचा लोकसभेतील सहभाग व निवडणू येण्याचे प्रमाण कमी आहे.

२. तसेच भारतीय महिलांमध्ये राजकीय नितिमुल्य, तत्वे, क्रियाव प्रक्रियांचे ज्ञान कमी असल्यामुळे त्यांचे राजकीय सबलीकरण होत नाही त्यामुळे महिलात उदासीन असतात.

संसदेतील महिलांचे प्रमाण तक्ता क्र. २



**महाराष्ट्र विधान सभेतील महिलांचा सहभाग :**

लोकशाहीत महिलांना प्रतिनिधित्व अल्पमतात असल्याचे दिसते. देशात माजी पहिल्या महिला राष्ट्रपती श्रीमती प्रतिभाताई पाटील यांनी १९६२च्या निवडणुकीत विधिमंडळातील महिला प्रतिनिधीची मुहूर्तमेढ रोपली. १९७२ ते १९७७ या काळात एकूण २८ महिला आमदार म्हणून निवडून येण्याचा विधानसभेतील हा उच्चांकच म्हणावा लागेल. कारण त्यानंतर सातत्याने महिला आमदारांची संख्या कमी झाली. रजनीताई पाटील, सुप्रिया

सुळे, अमिता चव्हाण, डॉ. नीलम गोरे, प्रा.फौजिया खान, मीरा रेंगे, पंकजा मुंडे, प्रणिता शिंदे, वर्षा गायकवाड, प्रिया दत्त, पुनम महाजन, भावना गवळी, अंजली दालमिया, शालिनी ठाकरी इत्यादी महिला महाराष्ट्राच्या राजकारणात सक्रीय सहभागी असल्याच्या दिसतात. महाराष्ट्रातील विधान सभेतील महिला उमेदवारांची संख्या खालील तक्ता प्रमाणे :

**महाराष्ट्र विधानसभेतील महिलांचा सहभाग**

वर्ष	एकूण आमदार	महिला आमदार	टक्केवारी
१९६२-१९९७	२६५	१७	६.४१%
१९६७-१९७२	२७१	१२	४.४२%
१९७२-१९७७	२७१	२८	१०.३३%
१९७७-१९८०	२८९	०८	०२.७६%
१९८०-१९८५	२८९	२०	०६.९२%
१९८५-१९९०	२८९	१६	०५.५३%
१९९०-१९९५	२८९	०६	०२.०७%
१९९५-१९९९	२८९	१३	०४.४९%
१९९९-२००४	२८९	१२	०४.१५%
२००४-२००९	२८९	११	०३.८०%
२००९-२०१४	२८९	११	०३.८०%
२०१४-२०१९	२८८	१२	०४.१६%

महाराष्ट्रातील हे औद्योगिक दृष्ट्या प्रगत राज्य असून अनेक सामाजिक, आर्थिक व राजकीय चळवळीचा उगम याच महाराष्ट्रातून झाला आहे. सावत्रीबाई फुले यांनी स्त्री शिक्षणाची चळवळ महाराष्ट्रातून सुरु करून सर्वांगीण महिला प्रबोधनाचे कार्य केले. त्यामुळे राजकीय हक्क व अधिकार जागृतीबाबत महाराष्ट्रातील महिला या थोड्याफार जागृत आहे. तसेच राजमाता जिजाबाई यांचे राजकीयदृष्ट्या केले कार्याचे महिलांच्या विकासासाठी लढणाऱ्या अनेक संघटना आहेत. यातूनच काही पक्षाची निर्मिती झालेली दिसून येते. अनेक महिला प्रत्यक्ष राजकारण आणि निवडणुकीत विविध पक्षांच्या अधिकृत किंवा अपक्ष मनून महिलांनाच लोकसभा व विधान सभा मध्ये प्रवेश मिळाला असल्याचे दिसून आले.

इतर राज्याशी तुलना केली असता महाराष्ट्राच्या महिला उमेदवार संख्या अल्प असल्याचे दिसून येते. उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, राजस्थान राज्याची महिला उमेदवार संख्या जास्त आढळतात. थोडक्यात असा निष्कर्ष निघतो की, महाराष्ट्रा च्या तुलनेत अप्रगत असलेल्या उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, राजस्थान, मध्य प्रदेश, आंध्रप्रदेश, तामिळनाडू, गुजरात, दिल्ली या सारख्या राज्याने नेतृत्व करण्याची संधी विविध राजकीय पक्षानी महिलांना करून दिलेली आहे. परंतु प्रगतशील महाराष्ट्रात हे अध्याप ही घडू शकले नाही.

**महिलांच्या राजकीय व सहभागाची व सबलीकरणाची वास्तवता विशेष संदर्भ वाशिम जिल्हा :**

महिलांची राजकीय सहभागाची व सबलीकरणाची वास्तव विशेष संदर्भ वाशिम जिल्ह्यात शोधनिबंध प्रस्तुत करताना भारतातील स्त्रीवादी चळवळ ही मुलगामी चळवळ होती. त्यांनी राजकीय समाज आणि शैक्षणिक क्षेत्राकरिता वैयक्तिक आणि कौटुंबिक जीवनात स्त्रियांना समानतेची मागणी केली होती. भारतातील स्त्रीवादी चळवळीचा राजकीय मागण्या ह्या खालील प्रमाणे होत्या.

१. स्थानिक सरकारमध्ये अधिक महिला प्रतिनिधित्व.
२. दोन महिला प्रतिनिधी निवडून आणून महिलांसाठी अधिक राजकीय प्रतिनिधित्व.
३. लोकसभा आणि विधानसभेतील किमान एक तृतीयांश जागा महिलांसाठी राखीव ठेवणे.

वाशिम जिल्ह्याची स्थापना १ जुलै १९९८ रोजी झाली. १९०५ मध्ये ब्रिटिश राजवटीत वाशिम जिल्ह्याचे विभाजन करून अकोला जिल्हा आणि यवतमाळ जिल्हा असे दोन स्वतंत्र जिल्हे करण्यात आले होते. तेव्हा वाशिम हा अकोला जिल्ह्याचा भाग होता. वाशिम जिल्हा राजकारभारासाठी अकोला जिल्हावर अवलंबून होता. १९९८ मध्ये हा पुन्हा जिल्हा बनला जेव्हा अकोला जिल्ह्यातील लोकांना त्यांच्या विकासासाठी वाशिम पासून वेगळे व्हायचे होते.

वाशिम मध्ये महिला राजकीय निर्णय घेण्याचे खरे प्रतिनिधी बनले आहेत. महिला राजकीय अधिकाराबद्दल जागरूक झाल्या आहेत. वाशिम जिल्ह्याच्या राजकारणात महिलांचा सहभाग वाढला आहे. स्थानिक स्वराज्य संस्थांसाठी म्हणजे पंचायत आणि नगरपालिकांमध्ये ही महिलांचे प्रमाण वाढत आहे. तसेच स्थानिक स्वराज्य संस्थांमध्ये महिलांसाठी ५० टक्के आरक्षणासाठी कायदा केला आहे. त्यामुळे राजकारणात महिलांचा सहभाग वाढत आहे. तसेच आपल्या निर्णयाने स्वतःचे अधिकार बद्दल जागृत झाले आहे, असे सामाजिक कार्यकर्त्या प्रांजली पाध्ये यांनी वाटते.

आधुनिक मध्ये महिला प्रतिनिधी त्यांच्या राजकीय अधिकाराबद्दल अधिक जागरूक झाल्या आहेत. शासनाचा अनुभव परिचित झाल्यामुळे त्यांना भारतातील तळागाळातील राजकीय निर्णय घेण्याचे खरे प्रतिनिधि बनले आहे, असे सामाजिक कार्यकर्त्या प्रांजली पाध्ये यांनी सांगितले. तसेच महिला राजकारणातून देश पातळीवर मोठे निर्णय घेत आहेत. तिसऱ्या स्तरातील स्थानिक स्वराज्य संस्थांसाठी म्हणजेच पंचायत आणि नगरपालिकांमध्ये १९९२ मधील ७३ व्या आणि ७४ व्या दुरुस्ती कायद्याच्या संमताने या संस्थांमध्ये महिलांसाठी एकूण जागांपैकी एक तृतीया जागा राखीव ठेवण्याची तरतूद केली आहे. अभ्यासांनी असे सुचविले आहे की, महिलांसाठी जागा राखीव ठेवण्याच्या धोरणामुळे स्थानिक पातळीवरील शासकीय संस्थांमध्ये महिलांच्या राजकीय सहभागामध्ये अद्भुत पूर्व वाढ झाली आहे. महिलांसाठी एक तृतीयांश जागा राखून ठेवल्याचा सकारात्मक परिणामांचा आधार घेत उडीसा सारख्या काही राज्यांनी त्यांच्या स्थानिक स्वराज्य संस्थांमध्ये महिलांसाठी ५० टक्के जागा आरक्षणासाठी कायद्याने केले आहे.

वाशिम मधील महिलांचा राजकीय दृष्ट्या फार जागृत नाही. कारण राजकीय सामाजिककरण त्यांचे झाले नसल्यामुळे राजकीय सबलीकरणाची व सहभागाची परिस्थिती गंभीर आहे. त्याचबरोबर महिलांचे समाजात शिक्षणाचे प्रमाण देखील अल्प आहे. वाशिम जिल्ह्यात महिलांची संख्या २००१ च्या जनगणनेनुसार ती आधी अधिक आहे. यातील ग्रामीण महिलांची लोकसंख्या ही शहरी महिलांच्या लोकसंख्येपेक्षा जास्त आहे. राज्यघटनेने विधानसभा लोकसभा स्थानिक संस्थेत महिलांसाठी राखीव जागा ठेवल्या असल्या तरी मूठभर लोकांनी आरक्षणाचा फायदा घेतला. वाशिम जिल्ह्यातील महिलांच्या राजकीय प्रबोधनाची व सहभागाची प्रक्रिया सुरू झाली. वाशिम जिल्ह्यात शिवसेना पक्षाच्या लोकसभेच्या उमेदवार पहिल्या महिला खासदार भावना गवळी १९९९ पासून आजपर्यंतराहिल्या आहेत. मनाबाई खिराडे ह्या वाशिम विधानसभा मतदारसंघातून सन १९५६ ते १९७२ पर्यंत होत्या, कारंजा मतदारसंघाच्या उमेदवार कुसुमताई कोरपे ह्या १९५७ ते १९६२ व प्रतिभाताई तिडके १९६७ ते १९७६ होत्या. तत्कालीन मंगरूळपीर विधानसभा मतदार संघाचे नेतृत्व शांताबाई पागे ह्या १९६२ ते १९६७ आणि मालतीबाई सरनाईक यांनी १९५८ तर १९६४ मध्ये प्राचार्य डॉ. सुभाष गवई, जया श्रीराम राठोड

विधान परिषदे नेतृत्व केले. याकाळात सर्व काँग्रेस महिला आमदार नेतृत्व करित होत्या. वरील सर्व महिलांनी जिल्ह्यांच्या राजकारणात महत्वाची भूमिका बजावलेली दिसून येते. महिलांमध्ये मूलभूत अधिकार व हक्काचे जाणीव निर्माण व्हावी म्हणून महिलात राजकीय जागृती होणे गाजेचे होते. पण ही जागृती अल्प प्रमाणात झालेली दिसून येते. महिलांवर होणाऱ्या अन्याय व अत्याचार निवारणासाठी व आधुनिक स्थानिक स्वराज्य संस्था व जिल्हा परिषद व पंचायत समितीमध्ये महिला जिल्ह्याच्या राजकारणात सक्रिय होऊन यशस्वीपणे राजकारणाची धुरा सांभाळित आहे

जरी महिलांचा प्रतिनिधित्व बाबत सुरुवातीच्या काळात चिंता होती. परंतु कालांतराने महिला प्रतिनिधित्व त्यांच्या राजकीय अधिकाराबद्दल अधिक जागरूक झाल्या आणि शासनाच्या अनुभवाशी परिचित झाल्या आहेत. त्यामुळे त्यांना भारतातील तळागाळातील राजकीय निर्णय घेण्याची खरे प्रतिनिधित्व मिळाले आहे.

### महिलांच्या राजकीय सबलीकरणाच्या जाणीवा :-

महिलांच्या राजकीय व्यवस्थेत जास्तीत जास्त सहभाग वाढवा व त्यांचे राजकीय सामाजीकरण घडून यावे म्हणून महिलांनी काही आवश्यक जाणीवा पुढीलप्रमाणे शिक्षण :

शिक्षण हे व्यक्तीमत्व विकासासाठी एक साधन आहे. " शिक्षणाचे सामाजीकरण झाले कि उच्चशिक्षणाची पायाभरणी करून शिक्षण हे तळागाळातील सर्व लोकांना पर्यंत पोहचेल. ज्या प्रक्रियेने समाजातील वर्तन, मूल्य, समाजातील उपेक्षित विशिष्ट भूमिका स्वीकारण्याची क्षमता शिकेल त्यातूनच खरे सामाजीकरण होताना दिसून येईल."३ म्हणून भारतीय राज्यघटनेतील कलम २९ व्या मध्ये स्त्री पुरुषांना शिक्षणाचा समान अधिकार आहे. याचीच माहिती महिलांना नसल्याचे दिसते यामुळे महिलांचे सामाजिक, आर्थिक, राजीकय प्रबोधन कसे होणार असे वाटते. विशेष म्हणजे ग्रामपंचायत, पंचायतसामिती, जिल्हा परिषदांमध्ये आरक्षण लागू करण्याचे धोरण सरकारने राबविले असल्यामुळे राजकीय सबलीकरणासाठी शिक्षण आवश्यक घ्यावे असे दिसून येते.

### मुलभूत हक्क व अधिकाराची जाणीव :

भारतीय राज्यघटनेने समतेचे मूल्य स्वीकारलेले असल्याचे दिसून येते. राज्यघटनेच्या १४ व्या कलमात 'समान दर्जा व संधी' चे धोरण आहे. यामुळे महिलांना मुलभूत हक्काची जाणीव असावी लागते तरच राजकीय जागृती महिलांमध्ये मोठ्या प्रमाणात घडून येईल.

### महिलांच्या राजकीय सबलीकरणाचे फायदे :

- महिलांचे राजकीय सबलीकरण व सहभाग वाढवा म्हणून महिलांना राष्ट्रीय व आंतरराष्ट्रीय पातळीवर कार्य करण्याची संधी प्राप्त होईल.
- शासनाच्या नियोजन व निर्णय प्रक्रियेत सहभागाची संधी प्राप्त होईल.
- दलीत, आदिवासी, अल्पसंख्यांक महिलांना नेतृत्वाचा उदय घडून येईल.

- महिला संघटना आपल्या समस्या व प्रश्न राष्ट्रीय पातळीवर मांडण्याची संधी प्राप्त होईल.
- महिलांच्या आरोग्याविषयी व दारिद्र्य निर्मुलन, शिक्षण व समाजरचनेत सुधारणा घडून आणण्याच्या प्रक्रियेला चालना मिळेल.
- प्रचलित समाज व्यवस्थेकडून महिलांचे होणारे सामाजिक, मानसिक, शारीरिक शोषण थांबेल व प्रचलित हुंडाबळी, सतीप्रथा, बलात्कार सारख्या कुप्रथेवर नियंत्रण वसेल.

#### राजकीय सहभागाच्या उदासिनतेची कारणे :

महिलांचे संखेच्या प्रमाणात राजकीय प्रक्रियेतील योगदान फार कमी आहे. आपला सहभाग, प्रशासकीय क्षमता व अचूक निर्णय निर्धारणाने जनतेच्या प्रगती व विकासात योगदान देवू शकते. परंतु निर्णय निर्धारणाने महिलांचे प्रतिनिधित्व फक्त १०% आहे. महिलांची व्यक्तिगत, सामाजिक आणि आर्थिक स्थिती त्यांच्या अत्यल्प राजकीय सहभागाचे महत्वाचे कारण आहे. महिला राजकारणाप्रती उदासीन राहतात. कारण महिलांची समाजातील कमजोर स्थिती, अज्ञान, आर्थिक स्थिती, महिलांचे सामाजिक बंधने, असुरक्षित वातावरण असल्याचे दिसून येते. आजपर्यंतच्या राजकीय जीवनात महिलांच्या सहभागाचे प्रमाण अत्यल्प आहे. महिला राजकारणाकडे गांभीर्याने पाहत नाहीत असे म्हटल्या जाते. युनेस्कोद्वारा अलीकडेच दक्षिण-पूर्व आशिया देशात निवडणुक लढणे आणि मतदान करण्यासारख्या महिलांच्या राजकीय वर्तनाबाबत सर्व्हे करण्यात आला. ज्यातून महिला राजकीय सहभागापासून दूर असल्याचे जाणवते. १९५२ साली ३८% महिलांनी मतदान केले. तर २००९च्या लोकसभा निवडणुकीत ३४:२२ करोड महिलांनी मतदान केले. २०१४च्या लोकसभा निवडणुकीत ८१ कोटी ४५ लाख मतदाराने मतदान केले त्यात साधारणपणे ४०% महिलांनी मतदान केलेले दिसून येते.

वर्तमान अंतरराष्ट्रीय राजकारणासह भारतीय राजकारण, समाजकारण किंवा कौटुंबिक जीवनातील प्रत्येक व्यक्तीच्या जीवनात प्रसार माध्यमांचे महत्व वाढत आहे. राजकीय पक्षांनी निवडणुकीत कोट्यावादी रूपाये खर्च केल्याचे दिसून येतो. याचा अर्थ ज्याच्याकडे पैसा तोच निवडणूक लढवतो व निवाडून येतो. कुटुंब व समाजात महिलांचे दुय्यम नागरिकत्व, राजकारणावर पैसा खर्च न करण्याची स्त्री मासिकता. जात, धर्मीय बंधनामुळे महिला सामाजिक, कौटुंबिक आणि सांस्कृतिक कार्य पाडणारी वस्तू बनली. त्यामुळे ती योग्य निर्णय घेऊ शकत नाही. महिलांचे योगदान सामाजिक परंपरा व मूल्यांना टिकवून ठेवण्यात महत्वाचे आहे. महिलांना राजकारणात आपले स्थान स्वतः बनवावे लागेल. सर्व राजकीय पक्षात आपली जागा व स्थिती महिलांना बनविणे महत्वाची आहे. बऱ्याच काळापासून मिळणारे दुय्यम दर्जाचे नागरिकात्व आणि सामाजीची महिलांविषयी उदासीनता फक्त दोन दशकात नष्ट होणार नाही.

#### महिलांच्या राजकीय सबलीकरणाचे उपाय :

- स्थानिक स्वराज्य संस्था, संसदेमध्ये व निर्णय प्रक्रियेत सहभाग वाढविणे.
- आधुनिकीकरणातील, जागतिकीकरणातील सेवा सुविधा महिलांना पुरविणे.
- महिलांच्या आर्थिक दर्जा सुधारण्यासाठी व त्या स्वतःच्या पायावर उभे राहण्यासाठी रोजगार निर्मिती करणे.
- प्रसार माध्यमांच्या वापरातून महिलांचे हक्क प्राप्तीसाठी जनजागृती करणे.
- महिलांच्या संवेदनशील धोरणांना प्रोत्साहन देण्यात यावे.
- महिलावरील अत्याचाराचे निराकरण करण्यासाठी व दारिद्र्याचे उच्चाटन करण्यासाठी सक्षम बनवणे.
- मागासवर्गीय महिलांच्या साक्षरता वाढविण्याचे प्रयत्न करणे.

#### निष्कर्ष :

प्रस्तुत शोध निबंधात महिलांच्या राजकीय अधिकाराची संवैधानिक तरतूद असून ही प्रगत राष्ट्रांच्या तुलनेत भारतीय महिलांचे राजकीय सबलीकरण व सहभाग पाहिजे त्या प्रमाणात वाढला नाही. समता हे तत्व स्विकारलेले आहे. भारतीय परंपराचा जनमानसावर असलेल्या विचारांच्या पगड्याचे स्त्रियांचे सक्षम राजकारण या प्रक्रियेला चालना मिळना. म्हणून महिलांच्या ग्राम पंचायतीपासून ते लोकसभेपर्यंत जास्तीत जास्त महिलांचा सहभाग वाढणे महत्वाचे आहे.

आज महिलांना संसदेत केवळ १५ टक्क्यांपेक्षा कमी महिला प्रतिनिधित्व असेल तर ही एक समस्या आहे. अनेक बाबतीत तर महिला राजकारणात पोचू शकत नाही. सामाजिक, मानसिक बंधनाबरोबरच आर्थिक बळ, कुटुंबाचे पाठबळ देखील नसते. या गोष्टी महिलांना राजकारणात येण्यापासून रोखतात. अशा स्थितीत सध्या राजकीय पक्षांकडून उमेदवारी जाहीर केली जात आहे. त्यामुळे महिलांचे स्थान तेवढेच राहते की आणखी कमी होते, हे पाहणे महत्वाचे आहे एकूणच या रणधुमाळीत राजकीय पक्षांच्या बोलण्यात आणि करण्यात फरक दिसून येईल की आशेचा नवीन किरण दिसेल, हे पाहावे लागेल.

म्हणून महिलांसाठी १९८५ मध्ये महिला व मुलांच्या विकाशासाठी स्वतंत्र मानव साधन संपत्ती मंत्रालय खोलण्यात आले. १९९० मध्ये भारतात तर १९९३ मध्ये राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोगाची स्थापना महाराष्ट्रात झाली. सरकारने ८० कलमी महिलांचे विकासाचे धोरण ठरविले परंतु त्याचा फारसा उपयोग झाला नाही. याला कारण महिलांची राजकीय इच्छा शक्तीची कमतरता व त्याचे पुरुषांकडून झालेले दमण होय. महिला आरोग्यची हेळसांड, हुंडाबळी, लैंगिक अत्याचार, कौटुंबिक हिंसा या घटना वाढतच आहे आणि हे थांबवायचे असल्यास महिलांना सक्षम राजकीय व्यासपीठ मिळवून देणे व महिलांना राजकीय सबलीकरण करणे हे सरकारचे आद्यकर्तव्य ठरते तरच



समता, न्याय आणि स्वातंत्र्याची खरी मूल्ये रुजली जातील असे म्हणणे खरे ठरेल असे वाटते.

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## भारत में श्रम संबंधी कानून

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### सारांश:

भारत में श्रम संबंधी कानून ट्रेड यूनियनों के उदय के पहले ही बने। मार्को की बात यह है कि श्रम संबंधी कानून पहले पहल ब्रिटिश सूती कपड़ा विनिर्माताओं के दबाव के परिणामस्वरूप बने। उनको इस बात की चिंता थी कि उनके प्रतिस्पर्धी बंबई के विनिर्माता बाल श्रमिकों और काम के घंटों पर कोई पाबंदी न होने के कारण अनुचित फायदे उठा रहे हैं। उन्होंने भारत मंत्री को बार-बार ज्ञापन देकर इस संबंध में कार्रवाई की मांग की। इसी दबाव के फलस्वरूप सरकार ने 1875 में मजदूरों की स्थिति की जांच के लिए कारखाना आयोग (फैक्टरी कमीशन) की नियुक्ति की। आयोग की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर कोई कार्रवाई नहीं की गई, क्योंकि उसके सदस्यों के बीच कोई मतैक्य नहीं था। बहुसंख्यक सदस्य कुछ भी करने के खिलाफ थे। फिर भी ब्रिटिश विनिर्माताओं ने अपना आंदोलन जारी रखा और उनका साथ बंबई की कुछ सामाजिक कार्यकर्ताओं ने दिया जो बच्चों के शोषण के विरुद्ध थे। अंततः भारत सरकार को कार्रवाई करनी पड़ी और 1881 का फैक्टरीज ऐक्ट बना।

### प्रस्तावना:

देश के औद्योगिक श्रमिकों को सीधे प्रभावित करने वाला यह पहला कानून था। यह उन सब विनिर्माता संगठनों पर लागू हो गया, जो विद्युत शक्ति परिचालित मशीनरी का इस्तेमाल करते थे, जहां 100 या उससे अधिक मजदूर काम करते थे और जहां साल में 120 दिनों से अधिक काम होता था। इस कानून के अनुसार 7 वर्ष से कम आयु के बच्चों को किसी कारखाने में नहीं लगाया जा सकता था और 12 वर्ष से कम के व्यक्ति से हर रोज 9 घंटे से अधिक काम लेना जुर्म करार दिया गया। हर रोज एक घंटे विश्राम और महीने में 4 छुट्टियों का प्रावधान किया गया। खतरनाक मशीनों की चारों ओर बाड़ा बनाना अनिवार्य कर दिया गया जिससे दुर्घटनाओं में कमी की जा सके। यह कानून बागानों और कपास ओटाई के कारखानों पर लागू नहीं था। कारखानों में दुर्घटनाओं की सूचना देना अनिवार्य बना दिया गया और जहां कहीं जरूरी समझा जाए वहां कारखानों के कार्य-कलाप की जांच के लिए कारखाना निरीक्षकों की नियुक्ति की जा सकती थी।

इस कानून से न तो ब्रिटिश विनिर्माता और न ही भारतीय सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता संतुष्ट हुए। बंबई सूती मिलों की स्थितियों के संबंध में एक नई जांच की गई और 5,000 से अधिक लोगों द्वारा हस्ताक्षरित एक ज्ञापन एन. एम. लोखडे की ओर से दिया गया। 1887 में एक अंग्रेज कारखाना निरीक्षक ने भारतीय कारखानों का दौरा कर एक रिपोर्ट पेश की। 1890 में बर्लिन में एक अंतर्राष्ट्रीय श्रम सम्मेलन हुआ जिसमें प्रस्ताव पारित कर सदस्य देशों में महिलाओं और बच्चों के कार्य-दिवस को विनियमित (रेगुलेट) करने की मांग की गई। उसी वर्ष भारतीय कारखानों की स्थितियों के संबंध में एक और जांच हुई।

परिणामतः एक नया कानून, फैक्टरीज ऐक्ट, 1891 पारित हुआ। इसे उन औद्योगिक इकाइयों पर लागू किया गया जो विद्युतशक्ति का इस्तेमाल करते थे और 50 या अधिक लोगों की मदद से उत्पादन करते थे। साथ ही यह

प्रावधान किया गया कि यदि प्रांतीय सरकार चाहे तो इसे 20 व्यक्तियों की सहायता से काम करने वाली इकाइयों पर भी लागू कर सकती है। इसने बाल श्रमिकों की आयु बढ़ा कर 9 साल कर दी और 14 साल से कम उम्र के बच्चों के लिए काम के घंटे 7 प्रति दिन कर दिए। महिला श्रमिकों के सिलसिले में कार्य दिवस 11 घंटों का कर दिया गया जिसमें डेढ़ घंटे के अवकाश का प्रावधान भी रखा गया। बच्चों और महिलाओं के 8 बजे सायंकाल से लेकर 7 बजे सुबह के दौरान काम करने पर पाबंदी लगा दी गई। हफ्ते में एक दिन के विश्राम और प्रति दिन आधे घंटे के भोजन अवकाश का प्रावधान किया गया। इस कानून ने प्रबंधन को स्वच्छ पेय जल तथा वायुसंचार और सफाई की व्यवस्था के लिए जिम्मेदार ठहराया।

फ्रेरे स्मिथ की अध्यक्षता में गठित कारखाना आयोग की सिफारिशों के परिणामस्वरूप 1911 का फैक्टरीज ऐक्ट बना। इसने अपने दायरे में उन कारखानों को भी लिया जो साल में 120 दिनों से भी कम समय काम करते थे। बच्चों के लिए काम के घंटे घटाकर 6 प्रति दिन कर दिए गए। बच्चों और महिलाओं से 7 बजे शाम से लेकर 5.30 बजे सुबह के बीच काम लेने पर पाबंदी लगा दी गई। कपड़े के कारखानों में वयस्क पुरुष श्रमिकों के लिए काम के घंटे प्रति दिन 12 रखे गए और बीच में आधे घंटे के अवकाश की भी व्यवस्था की गई। सुरक्षा और स्वास्थ्य संबंधी उपायों को पहले की अपेक्षा सख्त बनाया गया। ऐक्ट के प्रावधानों को अमल में लाने पर नजर रखने के लिए पूर्ण कालिक कारखाना निरीक्षक नियुक्त किए गए। खानों में काम की दशाओं को विनियमित करने के लिए इंडियन माइंस ऐक्ट, 1901 पारित हुआ। उसने खानों में महिलाओं और बच्चों से काम लेने पर पाबंदी लगा दी। कानून को अमल में लाने के लिए एक चीफ इंस्पेक्टर आफ माइंस नियुक्त किया गया।

प्रथम विश्व युद्ध के बाद अंतर्राष्ट्रीय श्रम संगठन (आई. एल. ओ.) की स्थापना और ट्रेड यूनियनों के गठन के प्रभाव के कारण 1922 का फैक्टरीज ऐक्ट पारित किया

गया। उसने बच्चों से 12 साल की उम्र तक काम लेने की मनाही कर दी। वयस्क मजदूरों के लिए काम के घंटे 11 प्रति दिन अथवा 60 प्रति सप्ताह तय किए गए। हफ्ते में एक दिन विश्राम की व्यवस्था की गई। दैनिक भोजनावकाश एक घंटे का कर दिया गया। वायु संचार और सफाई का मानक निर्धारित किया गया। कारखाने के निरीक्षण को अधिक प्रभावकारी बनाया गया।

1923 में वर्कमेंस कंपेनसेशन ऐक्ट लाया गया जिसके तहत मजदूरों के अपने काम के दौरान दुर्घटनाग्रस्त होने पर क्षतिपूर्ति के लिए मालिकों को जिम्मेदार बनाया गया। क्षतिपूर्ति का पैमाना मजदूरों की मजदूरी तथा अशक्तता की किस्म पर निर्भर था। इस कानून को लागू करवाने के लिए हर प्रांत में एक आयुक्त की नियुक्ति की गई। सभी दुर्घटनाओं के संबंध में आयुक्त को सूचित करना अनिवार्य बना दिया गया। क्षतिपूर्ति संबंधी दावों के निपटारे की जिम्मेदारी भी उसी पर डाली गई। अपने कार्यकाल के दौरान अगर किसी मजदूर को अपने काम के चलते कोई बीमारी हो जाए तो मालिक से मजदूर को क्षतिपूर्ति दिलाने की व्यवस्था की गई।

इसी वर्ष इंडियन माइंस ऐक्ट में संशोधन कर बच्चों और महिलाओं से संबंधित प्रावधानों को अधिक सरल बनाया गया। 13 साल से कम के बच्चों को काम में लगाने पर रोक लगा दी गई। भूमिगत कार्यों में 54 और सतह पर होने वाले कार्यों में 60 घंटे प्रति सप्ताह से अधिक काम लेने पर पाबंदी लगा दी गई। सब मजदूरों को सप्ताह में एक दिन विश्राम के लिए अवकाश देने का प्रावधान किया गया।

1920 के दशक के दौरान आल-इंडिया ट्रेड यूनियन कांग्रेस (ऐटक) के जन्म के बाद मजदूरों को अपनी शिकायतें रखने तथा उनको दूर करवाने का एक शक्तिशाली माध्यम मिल गया। भारत सरकार ने जे. एच. व्हिटले की अध्यक्षता में रायल कमीशन आन लेबर का गठन किया जिसे औद्योगिक मजदूरों की दशाओं की जांच-पड़ताल करने तथा उनमें सुधार के लिए कदम सुझाने को कहा गया। सरकार का खयाल था कि सुधारों के जरिए ही श्रम-असंतोष की लहर को शांत किया जा सकता है। कमीशन की रिपोर्ट 1931 में आई जिसके बाद 1930 के दशक में ही अनेक कानून बने।

फैक्टरीज ऐक्ट, 1934 बना। उसने मौसमी और बारहमासी कारखानों में फर्क किया। मौसमी कारखानों में काम के घंटे 11 प्रतिदिन और 60 प्रति सप्ताह नियत किए गए। बारहमासी कारखानों में वे 10 प्रति दिन और 54 प्रति सप्ताह तय किए गए। बच्चों से प्रति दिन 5 घंटे से अधिक काम लेना गैरकानूनी करार दिया गया। ओवर टाइम कार्य को विनियमित किया गया। उसके लिए अधिक भुगतान निर्धारित किए गए। किसी भी स्थिति में किसी वयस्क मजदूर से 13 घंटे और किसी बच्चे से लगातार साढ़ सात घंटे से अधिक काम नहीं लिया जा सकता। मालिकों को आदेश दिए गए कि वे प्राथमिक उपचार तथा महिला मजदूरों के बच्चों के लिए शिशुगृहों की उपयुक्त व्यवस्था करें। वायुसंचार और सफाई की सुविधाओं में सुधार लाने तथा सुरक्षा विनियमों को सख्त बनाने की भी बात की गई। कारखाना-निरीक्षकों के अधिकारों और शक्तियों को बढ़ा दिया गया।

रायल कमीशन आन लेबर ने सरकार का ध्यान चाय बागान के मजदूरों की ओर दिलाया, जिन्हें बहुत कम मजदूरी मिलती थी और जिनके साथ अच्छा सलूक नहीं

किया जाता था। इनमें से अधिकतर मजदूर बिहार और यू. पी. के थे। इन सिफारिशों के परिणामस्वरूप सरकार ने दि डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स एमिग्रेंट ऐक्ट 1932 पारित किया। इंडियन माइंस ऐक्ट 1935 भी कमीशन की सिफारिशों का ही परिमाण था। इस ऐक्ट ने 15 साल के कम के बच्चों को काम पर लगाने पर पाबंदी लगा दी। साथ ही प्रति सप्ताह काम के घंटों की अधिकतम संख्या 54 कर दी। स्वास्थ्य और सुरक्षा संबंधी प्रावधानों को अधिक सख्त बना दिया गया। इंडियन रेलवेज ऐक्ट 1890 में संशोधन किया गया तथा गोदी और जहाज-घाट पर कार्यरत मजदूरों की स्थिति में सुधार लाने के लिए इंडियन डाक लेबरर्स ऐक्ट, 1934 पारित किया गया। अनेक प्रांतों में प्रसूति सुविधाओं से संबंधित कानून बने।

कमीशन ने सरकार का ध्यान समय पर मजदूरी का भुगतान नहीं करने तथा उसमें मनमानी कटौतियां करने की समस्या की ओर दिलाया था। फलतः पेमेंट आफ वेजेज ऐक्ट, 1936 बना।

अनेक कानूनों के जरिए खतरनाक और जोखिम भरे धंधों में 15 वर्ष से कम उम्र के बच्चों से काम लेने पर प्रतिबंध लगा दिया गया तथा उन पर जुर्माना लादना गैरकानूनी करार दिया गया।

औद्योगिक विवादों के सौहार्दपूर्ण तरीके से निपटारे के लिए ट्रेड डिस्प्युट्स ऐक्ट, 1929 लाया गया, जिसमें, यदि दोनों पक्ष सरकार से विवादों को सुलझाने के लिए सहायता मांगें, तो समझौता बोर्डों और जांच पड़ताल की अदालतों के गठन का प्रावधान किया गया। 1938 में इस ऐक्ट में संशोधन किया गया और प्रांतीय सरकारों को पूर्णकालिक समझौता अधिकारियों का एक स्थायी समूह बनाने का अधिकार दिया गया। ट्रेड डिस्प्युट्स ऐक्ट ने ऐसे राजनीतिक और अन्य उद्देश्यों के लिए हड़ताल करने पर रोक लगा दी जिनका औद्योगिक विवादों से कोई लेनादेना नहीं था। इसी प्रकार सार्वजनिक उपयोग की सेवाओं में भी हड़ताल पर पाबंदी लगा दी गई। 1939 में बंबई इंडस्ट्रियल डिस्प्युट्स ऐक्ट लाया गया जिसने अनिवार्य समझौते और स्वैच्छिक मध्यस्थता और उनके आधार की व्यवस्था की। श्रम-संबंधी विवादों में अंतिम फैसला देने वाली अदालत के रूप में एक औद्योगिक न्यायालय गठित किया गया।

प्रांतों में कांग्रेसी मंत्रिमंडलों के कार्यकाल के दौरान औद्योगिक श्रम की दशाओं की छानबीन कर उपयुक्त विधाई कदम सुझाने के लिए बिहार, कानपुर और बंबई में जांच समितियां गठित की गईं। दुर्भाग्यवश, उनकी सिफारिशों को अमली जामा पहनाने के पहले ही प्रांतीय सरकारों ने त्यागपत्र दे दिए। द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध के दौरान भारत सरकार ने डिफेंस आफ इंडिया ऐक्ट के तहत सभी प्रकार की हड़तालों और तालाबंदी पर रोक लगा दी। किंतु मजदूरों को प्रसन्न रखने के लिए जिससे युद्ध प्रयासों में बाधा न पहुंचे उसने वीकली होलीडेज ऐक्ट 1942 पारित किया जिसके तहत साल में 10 दिनों के सवैतनिक अवकाश का वयस्क मजदूरों और 14 दिनों के सवैतनिक अवकाश का बाल श्रमिकों के लिए प्रावधान किया गया। रायल कमीशन आन लेबर की सिफारिशों के परिणामस्वरूप सेंट्रल मेटरनिटी बेनिफिट ऐक्ट, 1941, माइका माइंस लेबर वेलफेयर फंड ऐक्ट, 1946, कोल माइंस लेबर वेलफेयर फंड ऐक्ट, 1947 और कोल माइंस प्राविडेंट फंड एंड बोनस स्कीम्स ऐक्ट, 1943 बने।

सितंबर 1943 के त्रिपक्षीय श्रम सम्मेलन की सिफारिश पर 1944 में भारत सरकार डी. आर. रेगे, आई.

सी. एस. की अध्यक्षता में लेबर इनवेस्टिगेशन कमिटी का गठन किया। उसकी सिफारिशों के आधार पर ही 1940 के दशक के उत्तरार्ध में अनेक श्रम कानून बने।

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## ईट भट्टों पर कार्य करने वाले झज्जर जिले के श्रमिक परिवारों का समाजशास्त्रीय अध्ययन

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### शोधसार:

ईट बनाना एक पारंपरिक असंगठित उद्योग है। जो आमतौर पर ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों तक ही सीमित है। यह सबसे बड़े रोजगार पैदा करने वाले उद्योगों में से एक है। वर्तमान अध्ययन हरियाणा जिला झज्जर के बादली ब्लॉक के विशेष संदर्भ में ईट भट्टा श्रमिक परिवारों के सामाजिक-आर्थिक स्थिति के घटक, कार्य प्रतिरूपों, मजदूरी संरचना, स्वास्थ्य मुद्दे, ऋण बंधन और ऋण बंधन के दुष्चक्र की विचारधारा के माध्यम से चरों के बीच परिणाम की परीक्षा शामिल है। गरीबी और बेरोजगारी को समाप्त करने के लिए राज्य सरकारों के साथ-साथ केंद्र सरकारों द्वारा कई विकास योजनाओं को सफलतापूर्वक लागू किया गया है या नहीं परिणाम की पड़ताल को भी शामिल किया गया है। भारत में गरीबी और बेरोजगारी के मुद्दे सदाबहार और बारहमासी है। इसकी प्रतिकूलता और प्रभाव बहुत अधिक है।

जब कृषि और कृषि संबंधित क्षेत्र ग्रामीण श्रम शक्ति को स्थाई आजीविका सहायता प्रदान करने में विफल रहती है तो ग्रामीण श्रम शक्ति को अपने पैतृक गांव से अपने राज्य के दूसरे जिलों के हिस्सों में या अन्य राज्यों में स्थाई रूप से पलायन के साथ-साथ रोजगार और आय सृजन के उद्देश्यों ने उन्हें मौसमी प्रवास के लिए मजबूर किया है। इस प्रकार विस्थापित श्रमबल ने ईट भट्टों निर्माण उद्योग को रोजगार और आजीविका के प्रमुख स्रोत के रूप में चुना है। हरियाणा के ईट भट्टों पर कार्य करने वाले श्रमिक परिवारों के सामाजिक-आर्थिक जनसांख्यिकीय, रहन-सहन, काम करने की प्रकृति और स्वास्थ्य सुविधाओं की स्थिति जैसे कई मुद्दों का भी विचार विस्तार से पता लगाया जाएगा।

इसके अलावा कई ईट भट्टों पर महिला श्रमिकों एवं बाल मजदूरी की समस्याएं बहुआयामी और उनके जीवन के सभी पहलुओं को शामिल करते हुए उनका समग्र रूप से अध्ययन किया जाएगा। वर्तमान अध्ययन व्यापक स्तर पर और अधिक शोध को प्रोत्साहित कर सकता है। यह सरकारी, गैर सरकारी और सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता चिकित्सकों को ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों की सामाजिक-आर्थिक स्थिति को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए हस्तक्षेप रणनीतियों को विकसित करने में भी मदद कर सकता है। इसके अलावा यह अध्ययन योजनाकारों और नीति निर्माताओं को प्रतिक्रिया प्रदान करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करेगा। ताकि देश की उद्योगिक अर्थव्यवस्था में महिला श्रमिकों की महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सेदारी और उनके जीवन स्तर में सुधार के लिए उपयुक्त उपचारात्मक उपाय किए जा सकें। शोध का विषय हरियाणा जिले झज्जर के बादली ब्लॉक में ईट भट्टों पर कार्य करने वाले श्रमिक परिवारों की स्थिति का विस्तार पूर्वक अवलोकन करने के लिए सबसे पहले खाद्य एवं आपूर्ति निदेशालय हरियाणा सरकार से ईट भट्टों का आंकड़ा प्राप्त किया गया। जिससे वर्तमान अध्ययन प्रक्रिया को समुचित रूप से पूरा करने के लिए विशिष्ट सामाजिक शोध प्रारूप को तैयार किया जाएगा। जिसमें वैज्ञानिक पद्धतियों एवं सांख्यिकीय प्रविधियों का प्रयोग किया जाएगा।

**संकेत शब्द:** ईट भट्टा उद्योग, श्रमिक परिवार, सामाजिक-आर्थिक स्थिति, मजदूरी संरचना, , स्वास्थ्य मुद्दे, ऋण बंधन, गरीबी, बेरोजगारी, मौसमी प्रवास

### परिचय:

ईट निर्माण उद्योग उतना ही प्राचीन है जितना स्वयं मानव सभ्यता। रोजगार और आय सृजन के उद्देश्यों ने

श्रम शक्ति को मौसमी प्रवास के लिए मजबूर किया। इस प्रकार के प्रवास के माध्यम से, विस्थापित श्रम बल ने ईट भट्टों, निर्माण को रोजगार और आजीविका के प्रमुख स्रोत के

रूप में चुना है। हालांकि, अग्रिम ऋण सुविधा, मुफ्त की उपलब्धता के कारण ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के प्रवासी श्रमिक ईट भट्टा उद्योग में शामिल होने के लिए बेहद इच्छुक हैं। ज्वाइनिंग समय के दौरान, मजदूर ईट भट्टा मालिक से अग्रिम भुगतान के लिए अनुरोध करते हैं। ईट भट्टा मालिक मजदूरों को अग्रिम भुगतान की पेशकश भी इस आश्वासन के साथ करते हैं कि राशि ब्याज दर के साथ मजदूरी से काट ली जाएगी। यह ईट भट्टा मालिक के लिए ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों को नियंत्रित करने के लिए नियंत्रण तंत्र है। भारत में और विशेष रूप से हरियाणा में ईट भट्टों में शामिल महिला श्रमिकों के एक प्रमुख मुद्दे पर बहुत कम ध्यान दिया गया है जो भी साहित्य उपलब्ध है, यह स्पष्ट रूप से बताता है कि ईट भट्टा उद्योग में कई दशक बीत जाने के बावजूद महिला श्रमिक अभी भी विभिन्न सामाजिक-आर्थिक समस्याओं से पीड़ित है। इनमें से अधिकांश श्रमिक निचली जातियों और समाज के आर्थिक रूप से कमजोर वर्गों के हैं तथा काम करने की स्थिति बहुत कठिन है। क्योंकि उन्हें कार्यस्थल पर बुनियादी सुविधाओं के बिना चिलचिलाती गर्मी में अधिक समय तक काम करना पड़ता है। इन श्रमिकों के रहन-सहन की स्थिति काफी दयनीय है। बहुत कम अध्ययनों ने ईट भट्टा महिला श्रमिकों के ऐसे मुद्दों की जांच की है। सामान्य तौर पर, ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों के लिए आवास ईट भट्टा मालिक द्वारा प्रदान किया जाता है और ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों के प्रवेश के समय ईट भट्टा मालिक द्वारा इसका वादा किया गया था। आवास जो श्रमिकों को दिया जाता है वह रहने के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं होता है। यह एकल प्रकाश के साथ और स्वच्छता और पानी की आपूर्ति की सुविधा के बिना होता है। आवास की सुविधा और स्वच्छ परिस्थितियों के अलावा, ईट भट्टों का कार्य वातावरण प्राथमिक चिकित्सा सुविधा, जल आपूर्ति और स्वच्छता सुविधाओं और कार्यस्थल में उचित शेड के बिना है। असुरक्षित और अस्वास्थ्यकर कामकाजी वातावरण दोनों ही ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों की स्वास्थ्य स्थिति को और भी खराब करते हैं और उनके आर्थिक उत्पादन को बुरी तरह प्रभावित करते हैं। अंत में, यह ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों को उनके पूरे परिवार या उनके पति पत्नी वयस्क सदस्यों बच्चों को ऋण चुकाने के लिए ईट भट्टों पर लाने और दैनिक जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए मजबूर करता है। यह स्थायी रूप से श्रमिकों की पीढ़ी

को ऋण बंधन के नियंत्रण में रखता है। उपयुक्त समस्याएं ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों के आर्थिक विश्लेषण पर नए सिरे से अध्ययन की आवश्यकता की पुष्टि करता है। इस पृष्ठभूमि के साथ, वर्तमान अध्ययन, ईट भट्टा उद्योग के प्रवास और चयन, मजदूरी और कार्य संरचना, स्वास्थ्य मुद्दों और आर्थिक परिणामों पर उनके प्रभाव, ऋण बंधन और ऋण के दुष्चक्र के संदर्भ में आर्थिक आयामों के पूर्ववलोकन के तहत ईट भट्टा श्रमिक परिवारों का विश्लेषण करता है।

### हरियाणा में ईट भट्टा उद्योग:

हरियाणा, पंजाब और पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश उत्तर भारत में हरित क्रांति के प्रमुख केंद्र थे। भारत को खाद्यान्न के मामले में आत्मनिर्भर बनाने में इस क्षेत्र का महत्वपूर्ण योगदान रहा है। खाद्यान्न उत्पादन पर ध्यान देने के कारण इस क्षेत्र के औद्योगीकरण पर पर्याप्त ध्यान नहीं दिया गया। जब यह संयुक्त पंजाब का हिस्सा था, तब वर्तमान हरियाणा विकास के लिए आवश्यक संसाधनों और सुविधाओं से वंचित था। लेकिन हरियाणा के अलग राज्य बनने के बाद औद्योगीकरण की गति तेज हो गई। 1966 में राज्य के निर्माण के समय, हरियाणा में 1,169 पंजीकृत कारखाने थे जिनमें 71,016 श्रमिक कार्यरत थे। 2004 तक, कारखानों की संख्या 9,164 हो गई थी और उन्होंने 552924 श्रमिकों को रोजगार दिया था। आज, राज्य एक विनिर्माण केंद्र बन गया है, जिसमें साइकिल से लेकर मारुति कारों तक और माइक्रो इलेक्ट्रिकल घटकों से लेकर हाई-टेक रेफ्रिजरेटर तक कई तरह के सामान का उत्पादन होता है। मारुति उद्योग, हीरो होंडा, एस्कॉर्ट्स ट्रेक्टर, केल्विनेटर्स इंडिया लिमिटेड आदि विदेशी भागीदारों के सहयोग से राज्य में कई कारखाने चलाए जा रहे हैं। राज्य में कई पीएसयू इकाइयां भी आई हैं, जिनमें एचएमटी लिमिटेड और भारत इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स लिमिटेड के विनिर्माण संयंत्र शामिल हैं और इंडियन ऑयल कॉर्पोरेशन की एक रिफाइनरी। हरियाणा में औद्योगीकरण की अपार संभावनाएं हैं, जिसका अभी तक दोहन नहीं किया जा सका है। दिल्ली से राज्य की निकटता इसे अन्य राज्यों पर एक अलग बढ़त देती है। कृषि संकट की स्थिति में औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में बेरोजगारी को कम करने की क्षमता है। लेकिन राज्य में बिजली और ईंधन की उपलब्धता अभी भी एक बड़ी समस्या है।

## “हरियाणा में जिलों के अनुसार ईट भट्टा इकाइयों की संख्या विवरण”

क्रमांक	जिलों के नाम	ईट भट्टा इकाइयों की संख्या
1	भिवानी	137
2	फरीदाबाद	109
3	गुडगांव	09
4	जींद	143
5	झज्जर	365
6	करनाल	118
7	नूँह	81
8	नारनौल	72
9	पानीपत	95
10	पलवल	154
11	रेवाड़ी	90
12	रोहतक	114
13	सोनीपत	239
14	चरखी दादरी	23
15	अंबाला	120
16	फतेहाबाद	63
17	हिसार	220
18	कैथल	96
19	कुरुक्षेत्र	70
20	पंचकूला	53
21	सिरसा	152
22	यमुनानगर	85
		2608

ईट भट्टा उद्योग में, मजदूरों के दस अलग-अलग समूह हैं, जो मोल्डिंग से लेकर बेकिंग तक, निर्मित ईंटों को खरीदारों तक पहुंचाने के लिए अलग-अलग काम करते हैं। नीचे दी गई तालिका विभिन्न कामों को सूचीबद्ध करती है, उन्हें संभालने के लिए आवश्यक कौशल। प्रत्येक कार्य के लिए

मजदूरों की संख्या और क्या उन्हें दैनिक, मासिक या टुकड़े दर पर भुगतान किया जाता है। तालिका में विभिन्न कार्यों, उनकी प्रकृति और आवश्यक मजदूरों की संख्या के बारे में विस्तार से बताया गया है।

## “ईट भट्टा उद्योग में कार्य की प्रकृति और श्रम विभाजन”

क्रमांक	श्रेणी	भर्ती करने की प्रक्रिया (प्रत्यक्ष या जमादार/ ठेकेदार के माध्यम से)	काम करने की प्रकृति	भुगतान (दैनिक, मासिक)	मजदूर काम को चाहे समूहों में या व्यक्तिगत रूप से	मजदूरों की कुल संख्या
1	पाथेर	जमादार के माध्यम से	मोल्ड(कच्ची ईट)करने वाले मजदूर	ऑन पीस रेट (प्रति 1000 ईट)	समूहों में 40-45 मजदूर	90
2	भराई वाले	जमादार के माध्यम से	खच्चरों या रेहड़ी पर कच्ची ईटों को भट्टों तक ले जाने वाले मजदूर	ऑन पीस रेट (प्रति 1000 ईट)	समूहों में 6-7 मजदूर	14
3	बेलदार	सीधे मालिक द्वारा; स्थानीय श्रमिकों	वे भट्टे के अंदर कच्ची ईटों की व्यवस्था करते हैं।	महीने के वेतन पर	3 मजदूर	3
4	जलाई वाले	जमादार के माध्यम से	ईटें सेंकने (पकाने) वाले मजदूर	महीने के वेतन पर	10-12 मजदूर	10
5	निकासी वाले	जमादार के माध्यम से	पक्की हुई ईटें को निकालने वाले मजदूर	ऑन पीस रेट (प्रति 1000 ईट)	समूहों में 6-7 मजदूर	14
6	केरी वाला	जमादार के माध्यम से	पकी हुई ईटें हटाने के बाद, जो राख अंदर रह जाती है। ये इस राख को इकट्ठा करते हैं	ऑन पीस रेट (प्रति 1000 ईट)	3-4 मजदूर	4
7	लदाई- उतराई	सीधे मालिक द्वारा; स्थानीय श्रमिकों	वे ट्रैक्टर-ट्रॉलियों या ट्रकों में ईट लोड करते हैं और खरीदार के उतार देते हैं।	ऑन पीस रेट	8-10 मजदूर	10
8	मुंशी	सीधे मालिक द्वारा; स्थानीय श्रमिकों	कच्ची ईटों और पकी हुई ईटों का हिसाब रखते हैं।	महीने के वेतन पर	2 मजदूर	2
9	चौकीदार	सीधे मालिक द्वारा; स्थानीय श्रमिकों	वे चौबीसों घंटे पहरा देने के लिए बारी- बारी से खड़े होते हैं	महीने के वेतन पर	2 मजदूर	2
10	चालक	सीधे मालिक द्वारा; स्थानीय श्रमिकों	ट्रैक्टर/ट्रक चलाना	महीने के वेतन पर	2-3 मजदूर	3
						156



इस प्रकार, प्रत्येक भट्टे में लगभग 150 -160 मजदूर काम करते हैं, जिनमें 60-70 महिलाएं हैं। प्रत्यक्ष अवलोकन के आधार पर यह कहा जा सकता है कि प्रत्येक भट्टे में औसतन 5-14 वर्ष आयु वर्ग के 15-20 बाल श्रमिक हैं और छह वर्ष से कम आयु के लगभग 15-20 बाल श्रमिक हैं। 14-18 आयु वर्ग के लगभग 10-15 युवा अपने माता-पिता के साथ पूर्णकालिक कार्य करते हैं। आमतौर पर लगभग 40-50 परिवार ईट भट्टों में रहते हैं और वे हर साल नौ महीने यहां काम करते हैं। 175 पूर्णकालिक मजदूरों में से, मालिक केवल 45-50 मजदूरों का लिखित रिकॉर्ड एक रफ कॉपी में रखता है, जिन्हें उनकी मजदूरी का अग्रिम भुगतान किया गया है।

#### अध्ययन के उद्देश्य:

1. ईट भट्टों पर काम करने वाले श्रमिक परिवारों की सामाजिक-आर्थिक स्थिति का अध्ययन करना।
2. ईट भट्टा उद्योग में संलग्न श्रमिक परिवारों की कार्यस्थल स्थितियों का विश्लेषण करना।
3. ईट भट्टा उद्योग में सक्रिय श्रमिक परिवारों पर असुरक्षित कार्य दशाओं के समग्र प्रभावों व परिणामों को समझना।

#### शोध विधि एवं अध्ययन क्षेत्र

वर्तमान शोध का क्षेत्र हरियाणा के झज्जर जिले के बादली नामक ब्लॉक में ईट भट्टे पर कार्य वाले श्रमिक परिवारों की स्थिति का अवलोकन करना है। प्रस्तावित शोध में ईट भट्टा उद्योग में सक्रिय श्रमिक परिवारों की जीवन दशाओं का विश्लेषण करने के क्रम में अन्वेषणात्मक, विवरणात्मक एवं निदानात्मक शोध अभिकल्प का प्रयोग किया जाएगा। वर्तमान अध्ययन में ईट भट्टा श्रमिक परिवारों का डाटा एकत्रित किया जाएगा। उनकी स्थिति का पता लगाने के लिए नमूने की स्तरीकृत यादृच्छिक तकनीक का इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा। सबसे पहले गांव में ईट भट्टों पर कार्य करने वाले श्रमिकों की सूची ठेकेदारों व मुंशी के माध्यम से प्राप्त की जाएगी। फिर उनमें से श्रमिक परिवारों के डाटा को एक एकत्र किया जाएगा और फिर उतरदाताओं से संपर्क करके उनका साक्षात्कार करना प्रारंभ किया जाएगा। विभिन्न स्रोतों से प्राप्त जानकारी व फील्ड वर्क के माध्यम से प्राप्त तथ्यों का विधिवत् सारणीकरण कर उनका विश्लेषण करते हुए सांख्यिकीय आधार पर निष्कर्ष निकाले जायेंगे। प्रतिदर्श एवं सर्वेक्षण द्वारा भी तथ्य संकलन किया जाना है। साथ ही सामाजिक विज्ञानों में अनुसंधान की

जिन प्रचलित आधुनिक पद्धतियों का प्रयोग किया जा रहा है, उनका उपयोग कर प्रस्तावित शोध कार्य को वैज्ञानिक ढंग से संपन्न किया जाएगा।

#### अंतर्राष्ट्रीय साहित्य समीक्षा:

1. भट्टी, रब नवाज़ (2024) अध्ययन पंजाब, पाकिस्तान में ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों के व्यावसायिक कल्याण की खोज करता है, गुणात्मक और मात्रात्मक विश्लेषण के माध्यम से श्रमिकों के कल्याण के साथ समाजशास्त्रीय कारकों के सकारात्मक सहसंबंध पर जोर देता है।
2. कर्टिस, कैटरीना (2024) अध्ययन भक्तपुर, नेपाल में ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों में भड़काऊ प्रतिक्रियाओं की जांच करता है, जिसमें साइटोकाइन के उच्च स्तर का पता चलता है, जो खतरनाक कण पदार्थ के संपर्क में आने के कारण प्रणालीगत सूजन का संकेत देता है।
3. निकोलाउ, एल. (2023) ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों को श्वसन संबंधी समस्याओं और मस्क्युलोस्केलेटल शिकायतों सहित खराब स्वास्थ्य परिणामों का सामना करना पड़ता है, जो कि अप्रभावित व्यक्तियों की तुलना में उनके जीवन पर महत्वपूर्ण सामाजिक और आर्थिक प्रभाव दर्शाता है। ईट भट्टा प्रदूषण श्रमिकों और आसपास के निवासियों के स्वास्थ्य को प्रभावित करता है। अध्ययन पारंपरिक ईट भट्टों से उच्च उत्सर्जन दिखाते हैं।
4. पेलेनक, कैथरीन (2022) अध्ययन पाकिस्तान और अफ़गानिस्तान में बाल ईट श्रमिकों पर मनोवैज्ञानिक प्रभावों की जांच करता है, जिसमें उम्र, लिंग और शिक्षा के स्तर के आधार पर अनुरूप हस्तक्षेप के महत्व पर प्रकाश डाला गया है।
5. अकीला, सारा नूरिजा (2022) शोध पत्र ईट उद्योग के श्रमिकों के बीच मस्क्युलोस्केलेटल शिकायतों पर कार्य मुद्रा के प्रभाव का विश्लेषण करता है, समाजशास्त्रीय पहलुओं के बजाय एर्गोनोमिक चिंताओं और स्वास्थ्य निहितार्थों पर जोर देता है।
6. डेली, एंजेला (2020) यह शोधपत्र नेपाली ईट भट्टों में काम करने वाले मौसमी प्रवासी श्रमिकों के बच्चों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली कमजोरियों पर केंद्रित है, जिसमें बाल श्रम, प्रवास, रहने की स्थिति और मनोसामाजिक संकट पर प्रकाश डाला गया है।
7. तुशे, तन्मयरॉय (2020) बांग्लादेश में ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों पर किए गए अध्ययन में ईट भट्टा संचालन के कारण त्वचा रोग, अस्थिमा और फेफड़ों की समस्याओं जैसी

प्रचलित स्वास्थ्य समस्याओं का पता चला है, जिसमें स्वास्थ्य शिक्षा कार्यक्रमों की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया गया है।

8. रोड्रिगेज, एलेजांद्रा अबीगैल बेरुमेन (2021) ईट भट्टों में काम करने से श्रमिकों को उच्च स्तर के प्रदूषकों के संपर्क में आना पड़ता है, जिससे श्वसन स्वास्थ्य प्रभावित होता है। अध्ययन में मेक्सिको में स्वास्थ्य जोखिमों, निगरानी प्रणालियों और आर्थिक प्रभावों को संबोधित करने की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डाला गया है।
9. मुकवेवो, एम.एच. (2014) के लेखकों ने जांच की और बताया कि दक्षिण अफ्रीका के लिम्पोपो प्रांत के वेम्बे जिले में पकी हुई ईट भट्टी उद्योग में काम करने की स्थितियां किस प्रकार श्रमिकों के स्वास्थ्य को प्रभावित करती हैं। ईट भट्टों में काम करने से श्रमिकों के स्वास्थ्य को खतरा होता है, जिससे शारीरिक बीमारियां होती हैं और अनुपस्थिति की दर अधिक होती है, जिससे बेहतर सुरक्षा मानकों और डिजाइन संशोधनों में श्रमिकों की भागीदारी की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डाला गया है।
10. डेविड (2020) पाकिस्तान में ईट भट्टों पर काम करने वाली व्यावसायिक महिलाओं के रक्त में भारी धातु के बोझ और इसकी संभावित क्रियाओं को समझने के लिए वर्तमान अध्ययन की योजना बनाई गई थी। अध्ययन में कुल 232 महिलाओं को शामिल किया गया, जिनमें से 114 ने नियंत्रण विषयों को प्रस्तुत किया। जनसांख्यिकीय डेटा, प्रजनन संकेतक और बॉडी मास इंडेक्स (बीएमआई) के संग्रह के अलावा, उन विषयों से रक्त एकत्र किया गया था जो बाद में परमाणु अवशोषण स्पेक्ट्रोस्कोपी और हेमेटोलॉजिकल प्रोफाइल का उपयोग करके भारी धातु सांद्रता के निर्धारण के लिए उपयोग किया गया था।

#### राष्ट्रीय साहित्य समीक्षा:

1. अली, शाहीन एफ़रा (2024) यह अध्ययन भारत के उत्तर प्रदेश के रोहिलखंड क्षेत्र में ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों की कार्य स्थितियों पर केंद्रित है, जिसमें खराब स्वच्छता, स्वास्थ्य जोखिम और ठेकेदारों द्वारा उत्पीड़न जैसे मुद्दों पर प्रकाश डाला गया है, जो अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से श्रमिकों के परिवारों को प्रभावित करते हैं।
2. रोशनिया, रेशमा (2023) यह अध्ययन बिहार के ईट भट्टों में रहने वाले प्रवासी परिवारों के बीच भोजन के वातावरण, सुरक्षा और उपलब्धता की पड़ताल करता है, जिसमें प्रवास के दौरान बेहतर भोजन की सामर्थ्य और पुरानी ख़ाद्य असुरक्षा को दूर करने की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डाला गया है।
3. लाकड़ा, नीलिमा रश्मि (2023) अध्ययन में तेलंगाना में ईट भट्टों पर काम करने वाले दलित परिवारों की जांच की गई है, जो अत्यधिक शोषण, बुनियादी जरूरतों से वंचित और जाति आधारित भेदभाव का सामना कर रहे हैं, जो भारत में श्रम प्रवास की कठोर वास्तविकताओं को उजागर करता है।

4. सागर, सादिया (2023) शोध पत्र भारत के भागलपुर जिले में ईट भट्टों में बाल श्रम पर केंद्रित है, जो इन उद्योगों में काम करने वाले परिवारों की गंभीर स्थितियों पर प्रकाश डालता है, जो बच्चों की शिक्षा और स्वास्थ्य दोनों को प्रभावित करता है।
5. रोशनिया, रेशमा (2023) यह अध्ययन बिहार के ईट भट्टों में रहने वाले प्रवासी परिवारों के बीच भोजन के वातावरण, सुरक्षा और उपलब्धता की पड़ताल करता है, जिसमें प्रवास के दौरान बेहतर भोजन की सामर्थ्य और पुरानी ख़ाद्य असुरक्षा को दूर करने की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डाला गया है।
6. पवार, राजेंद्र सीताराम (2022) महाराष्ट्र के अहमदनगर में ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों पर किए गए शोध में कम आय, कुपोषण, नशे की लत और सीमित शिक्षा सहित खराब सामाजिक-आर्थिक स्थितियों पर प्रकाश डाला गया है, जो बेहतर सहायता प्रणालियों की आवश्यकता का सुझाव देता है।
7. भुइयां, विभीषण (2022) अध्ययन पश्चिमी ओडिशा में प्रवासी ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों के बीच मानसिक स्वास्थ्य विकारों का आकलन करता है, जो शुष्क क्षेत्रों से ईट भट्टों में आजीविका की तलाश में वंचित परिवारों के संकट से प्रेरित प्रवास को दर्शाता है।
8. साहू (2022) 10 फरवरी 2021 को तेलंगाना राज्य में बलांगीर जिले की लगभग 22 वर्षीय आदिवासी महिला कार्यकर्ता के साथ बलात्कार का मामला सामने आया। प्रवासी महिला श्रमिक एक ईट भट्टा निर्माण इकाई में काम कर रही थी और पेड्डापल्ली जिले के गौरेडुपेटा में ईट भट्टा मालिकों द्वारा उसके साथ सामूहिक बलात्कार किया गया। यह मामला महिलाओं की व्यक्तिपरकता और यौन उत्पीड़न और बलात्कार सहित महिला श्रमिकों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली हिंसा के दैनिक रूपों पर प्रकाश डालता है। यह वर्ग, जातीयता और लैंगिक मुद्दों की भेद्यता के प्रतिच्छेदन पर केंद्रित है। लेख बंधुआ मजदूरी के उन्मूलन के मिथक को उठाता है। इसके अलावा यह अंतर-राज्य प्रवासी कामगार (रोजगार और सेवा की शर्तों का विनियमन) अधिनियम, 1979, बंधुआ श्रम प्रणाली (उन्मूलन) अधिनियम, 1976, बाल श्रम (निषेध और विनियमन) अधिनियम जैसे विभिन्न अन्य कृत्यों के उल्लंघन को चित्रित करता है।
9. श्रेष्ठ, कुमार परिमल (2021) यह पत्र भारत में ईट भट्टों पर काम करने वाले परिवारों के समाजशास्त्रीय पहलुओं के बजाय उत्तर प्रदेश के आजमगढ़ जिले में ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों के बीच उपचार की मांग करने वाले व्यवहार और उपचार के स्तर पर केंद्रित है।

10. सुदर्शन, एस. (2019) अध्ययन तिरुवल्लूर जिले के पूनमल्ली तालुका में ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों की मनोसामाजिक स्थितियों की पड़ताल करता है, जिससे पता चलता है कि भारत में तेजी से हो रहे विकास के कारण बुनियादी जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए परिवार कर्ज में डूब रहे हैं।
11. पाटिल, सुजाता (2017) यह अध्ययन ग्रामीण भारत में ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों की सामाजिक-जनसांख्यिकीय प्रोफाइल, रूग्णता और जीवन स्थितियों के बारे में जानकारी प्रदान करता है, जो इस असंगठित क्षेत्र में काम करने वाले परिवारों के सामने आने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालता है।
12. खान और मोरे (2015) ने महाराष्ट्र में महिला ईट भट्टा श्रमिकों की सामाजिक-आर्थिक स्थिति का अध्ययन किया। अध्ययन में अधिकांश उत्तरदाता मुख्य रूप से दो गतिविधियों में शामिल थे। ईटों की मोल्डिंग और लोडिंग, अनलोडिंग व श्रमिकों की सामाजिक-आर्थिक स्थिति बहुत खराब थी। उनमें से अधिकांश पिछड़ी जातियों के थे, उसके बाद अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के लोग थे। उन्होंने अपने जीवन के शुरुआती दौर में ही ईट भट्टों में काम करना शुरू कर दिया था। इस श्रेणी के श्रमिकों में बाल विवाह भी प्रचलित थे। परिवार का आकार भी बड़ा पाया गया क्योंकि उनमें से अधिकांश के दो से अधिक बच्चे थे। इन श्रमिकों के ईट भट्टों में शामिल होने का प्रमुख कारण गरीबी और अशिक्षा को पाया गया। भट्टों से निकलने वाला जहरीला धुआ गंभीर बीमारियों का कारण बना। उत्तरदाता कठोर वातावरण में अधिक समय तक काम कर रहे थे, जिसमें उनके काम में कोई दिलचस्पी नहीं थी। सभी तनावपूर्ण स्थिति, बेचौन काम, ईट भट्टा और लतय घरेलू दबाव ने महिला श्रमिकों के स्वास्थ्य को बुरी तरह प्रभावित किया। महिला श्रमिकों की सामाजिक-आर्थिक स्थिति में सुधार के लिए राज्य के हस्तक्षेप की सख्त जरूरत है।

#### निष्कर्ष:

साहित्य समीक्षा और उपरोक्त चर्चा के आधार पर यह कहा जा सकता है कि व्यक्ति जीवन यापन के लिए विभिन्न कार्यों में संलग्न रहता है परंतु ईट भट्टों पर एक ही व्यक्ति की तीन पीढियां एक साथ काम करती हुई पाई गई है जिन में पति-पत्नी उनके बच्चे तथा बूढ़े माता-पिता भी शामिल हैं। आर्थिक क्रियाकलापों के लिए जितनी आवश्यकता श्रम की है उतनी आवश्यकता ईट भट्टों पर कार्य

कर रहे श्रमिक परिवारों के स्वास्थ्य एवं पोषण, शिक्षा की भी है। जो व्यापक रूप से सामाजिक न्याय के रूप में ध्यान केंद्रित करती है। ऐसे कई मुद्दे हैं जो ईट भट्टों पर कार्य कर रहे श्रमिक परिवारों की समस्याओं को उजागर करते हैं। जिनमें प्रमुख रूप से श्रमिक परिवारों के रहने की उचित व्यवस्था, पीने योग्य पानी, शौचालय स्वास्थ्य एवं पोषण, उचित वेतन तथा उनके बच्चों की शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण की योजनाओं का लाभ इत्यादि यह शोध पत्र इसलिए भी महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि यह ईट भट्टों पर कार्य कर रहे श्रमिक परिवारों की स्थिति को समाज के पटल पर रखकर एक नया दृष्टिकोण प्रदान करता है। इसके अतिरिक्त यह शोध-पत्र भारत में ईट भट्टा उद्योगों के संदर्भ में हमारी सरकार की कमजोर नीति व्यवस्था प्रणाली के बारे में गहन जानकारी भी प्रदान करता है जो हमें स्थानीय और राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर बुनियादी उद्योग प्रणाली में आवश्यक परिवर्तन के बारे में फिर से सोचने पर मजबूर करता है। ईट भट्टा उद्योगों में कार्य कर रहे श्रमिक परिवारों की समस्याओं उनके स्वास्थ्य-पोषण शिक्षा तथा जीवन स्तर को ऊंचा उठाने का प्रयास करेगा और यह एक प्रभावी तरीका भी सुजाता है। साहित्य समीक्षा की चर्चा के दौरान ऐसे साक्ष्य भी मिले हैं जो दर्शाते हैं कि ईट भट्टों पर श्रमिक परिवारों का निम्न जीवन स्तर, ऋण बंधन, बधुआ मजदूरी, बाल-श्रम तथा शारीरिक एवं मानसिक शोषण की स्थिति बहुत दयनीय है। इसलिए इस शोध पत्र के द्वारा ईट भट्टा उद्योगों में कार्य कर रहे श्रमिक परिवारों की समस्याओं के प्रति गहनता के साथ सरकारी तथा गैर सरकारी संगठनों को ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है।

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## सिल्ली राज का ऐतिहासिक अध्ययन (1400 ई. से 1947 ई. तक)

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### सारांश:

झारखण्ड क्षेत्र के इतिहास और इस क्षेत्र के विभिन्न राजवंशों की गौरवशाली ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि रही है जोकि अभी भी पूरी तरह सामने नहीं आयी है। विख्यात विद्वान डॉ० विश्वेश्वर प्रसाद केशरी ने भी लिखा है कि वास्तव में आज तक छोटानागपुर का कोई सिलसिलेवार प्रमाणिक इतिहास नहीं लिखा गया है। छिटपुट प्रयास हुए हैं। सामग्रियों भी नाना रूपों में सा बिखरी पड़ी है। मगर उनका संकलन और विधिवत् अनुग्रंथन नितांत कष्टप्रद है। छोटानागपुर के इतिहास एवं वास्वविक स्वरूप का दस्तावेजीकरण वान अत्यन्त अल्पमात्रा एवं धीमी गति से हुई है। जबकि इस क्षेत्र की ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि पर दृष्टि डाली जाए तो यह न केवल प्राचीन भारतीय इतिहास की एक मजबूत कड़ी है बल्कि कई ऐतिहासिक तथ्यों को उजागर करने वाली है। यह इतिहास की एक ऐसी महत्वपूर्ण कड़ी है जो न केवल छोटानागपुर के संदर्भ में महत्वपूर्ण है बल्कि भारतीय इतिहास के संदर्भ में भी अत्यन्त आवश्यक तथ्यों को उजागर करने वाली है।

### प्रस्तावना:

विभिन्न इतिहासकारों ने छोटानागपुर क्षेत्र को एक औपनिवेशिक क्षेत्र के रूप में विश्लेषित किया है परन्तु यह औपनिवेशिकता क्या है एवं इसका चरित्र या प्रवृत्तियाँ कैसी रही है, यह एक विवेच्य विषय है। परन्तु ऐसी विवेचनाएं झारखण्ड क्षेत्र के संदर्भ में पूर्णत यथोचित नहीं मानी जा सकती हैं क्योंकि छोटानागपुर खास कर अपना प्राचीनतम इतिहास है। जिसकी प्रतिछाया पूरे ऐतिहासिक घटनाक्रम को प्रदर्शित करती है। यह ऐतिहासिक, परिदृश्य छोटानागपुर के विभिन्न राजवंशों एवं उनकी पूरी शासन व्यवस्था में परिलक्षित होती है। परन्तु छोटानागपुर के इतिहास के संदर्भ में औपनिवेशिक विचारधारा को पूरी तरह अनदेखी भी नहीं किया जा सकता है। औपनिवेशिक प्रवृत्ति के संदर्भ में प्रशासनिक सेवा के अधिकारी एवं विख्यात लेखक श्री रणेन्द्र ने लिखा है कि केन्या के प्रसिद्ध साहित्यकार नगुगीवा थ्योगों ने बड़े विस्तार से औपनिवेशिक संस्कृति का विश्लेषण किया है। उनके अनुसार शासित समूह की संस्कृति, भाषा, कला, इतिहास को नष्ट कर देना या जानबुझकर उपेक्षा करना औपनिवेशिक शक्तियों का सांस्कृतिक आधार है। यह सांस्कृतिक आक्रमण उपनिवेशों की जनता की संस्कृति के खिलाफ लम्बे समय तक जारी रखता है। नव औपनिवेशिक स्थितियों में यह संस्कृतिक हथियार और भी तेजी से काम करता है ताकि औपनिवेशिक शासकों के हितों की रक्षा करने वाली मानसिकता का निर्माण कर सके। नगुगीवा की अवधारणाओं के परिप्रेक्ष्य में हम झारखण्ड के इतिहास संस्कृति की उपेक्षा की नीति को आसानी से विश्लेषित कर सकते हैं।

छोटानागपुर के ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि में भारतीय इतिहास के तथ्य भी गर्भित है परन्तु इस ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि का संकलन, लेखन एवं शोध अध्ययन एक अत्यन्त कठिन परिश्रम का कार्य है। प्रसिद्ध इतिहासकार श्री बालमुकुन्द वीरोत्तम ने छोटानागपुर की ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि के संदर्भ में लिखा है कि झारखंड का इतिहास अद्यतन

लगभग उपेक्षित रहा है। पाश्चात्य एवं भारतीय विद्वानों द्वारा गत दो सौ वर्षों से यदा-कदा इससे सम्बद्ध सामग्री प्रस्तुत की जाती रही है, किन्तु क्रमबद्ध एवं गवेषणात्मक निरूपण का प्रायः अभाव रहा क्षेत्रीय इतिहास के इस महत्वपूर्ण अंश पर हिन्दी सहित किसी भी भारतीय भाषा में कोई भी प्रामाणिक पुस्तक नहीं लिखी गई। हिन्दी में सहायक सामग्री का अभाव, क्षेत्रीय इतिहास पर मौलिक लेखन की आधारभूत कठिनाईयाँ तथा कार्य का अत्यधिक श्रम साध्य होना ही संभवतः प्रमुख बाधाएं थीं। ब्रिटिश काल में झारखंड विषयक अध्ययनों में रुचि रखने वाले तीन प्रकार के लोग थे नृतत्वशास्त्रीय ब्रिटिश अधिकारी ईसाई धर्म प्रचारक ने और शुद्ध नृतत्वशास्त्री। ब्रिटिश पदाधिकारी कानून एवं व्यवस्था के प्रति बार-बार होने वाले स्थानीय उपद्रवों से उत्पन्न खतरों के कारण विशेषतः जनजातियों में रुचि लेते थे। ऐसे लोगों में ई०जी० मैन तथा डब्ल्यू डब्ल्यू० हंटर प्रमुख थे। नृतत्वशास्त्रीय दृष्टिकोण से प्रभावित लेखकों में ई०टी० डाल्टन तथा एच०एच० रिसले अग्रणी थे। ईसाई धर्म प्रचारकों ने अपने सीमित दृष्टिकोण एवं आवश्यकताओं के अनुरूप इस क्षेत्र का अध्ययन किया। ऐसे लोगों में जान हॉफसन तथा एल०ओ० स्क्रैफर्सड का उल्लेख किया जा सकता है। झारखंड संबंधी विशुद्ध नृतत्वशास्त्रीय लेखन में अग्रणी नाम एस०सी० राय का है जिन्होंने कई पुस्तकों के लेखन के अतिरिक्त "मैन इनके इंडिया" के माध्यम से झारखंड के इतिहास एवं संस्कृति के अनेकानेक पक्षों को उजागर किया। इन सभी विद्वानों की कृतियों के पारायण से दो बातें स्पष्ट होती हैं। प्रथम, ब्रिटिश भारत में जनजातीय प्रश्न अर्थात् जनजातीय विद्रोहों की ओर लेखकों का ध्यान गया और इस तरह जनजातीय अध्ययन आरंभ हुआ। विजित लोगों का वर्गीकरण, इनके प्रति सामाजिक नीतियों का निर्धारण तथा इनका औपनिवेशिक व्यवस्था के अंतर्गत संलयन इन अध्ययनों के उद्देश्य थे। द्वितीय, जनजातियों की जानकारी प्राप्त करना उनके इतिहास एवं संस्कृति से आत्मिक लगाव की देन न होकर सामाजिक प्रभुसत्ता को अक्षुण्ण बनाये रखने के उद्देश्य से था। 1771 ई० में राजा

सिताय राय द्वारा फारसी में लिखा गया छोटानागपुर संबंधी वृत्तांत भी सरकारी उपयोग के लिए ही था, न कि ऐतिहासिक अभिरुचि के कारण। 19वीं शती के उत्तरार्ध में विशुद्ध ऐतिहासिक दृष्टिकोण से लिखा गया छोटानागपुर विषयक आलेख एच०एच० ब्लाखमन का था वह भी मध्यकालीन फारसी इतिहास ग्रंथों से झारखंड विषयक उद्धरणों का अनुवाद मात्र था। इस तरह 20वीं शदी के प्रथम दशक तक झारखण्ड ब्रिटिश साम्राज्य का एक अल्प ज्ञात प्रदेश बना रहा। झारखण्ड के इतिहास एवं संस्कृति का वास्तविक अवगाहन स्वंत्र भारत में ही शुरू हुआ।

वस्तुतः झारखण्ड क्षेत्र की ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि प्राचीनतम होने के साथ-साथ विशिष्ट भी है क्योंकि यह भूमि मूल रूप से आदि मानव की भूमि रही है जोकि बाकि दुनिया से दूर रहने के बावजूद भारतीय इतिहास की अहम कड़ी रही है। इस संदर्भ में श्री बालमुकुन्द वीरोत्तम लिखते हैं कि प्रागैतिहासिक काल में झारखंड घनघोर महावनों से आच्छन्न था। वृक्षों की सघनता ऐसी थी कि धरती पर पाँच-छु मीटर से अधिक कुछ भी नहीं छन दिखाई देता था। उस समय यहाँ अन्य स्थानों की ही तरह ऐसे मानवों का निवास था जो अध-मानव थे। यह स्थिति आज से प्रायः बीस हजार वर्ष पूर्व की थी। झारखंड जंगलों पहाड़ों से आच्छादित होते हुए भी बाहा जगत बा से सर्वथा कटा हुआ कभी नहीं रहा। अनन्त काल से देश के अन्य भागों से इसका जातीय और सांस्कृतिक आदान-प्रदान होता रहा है। फिर भी प्रबल भौगोलिक प्रभाव के कारण यह क्षेत्र भारत के अन्य भागों से ऐतिहासिक एवं सांस्कृतिक दृष्टिकोण से बहुत कुछ भिन्न रहा है। यहाँ एक विशिष्ट सभ्यता का प्रादुर्भाव एवं विकास हुआ जिसने बाह्य प्रभावों के बावजूद अपनी एकात्मकता को अक्षुण्ण बनाए रखा। विन्ध्य और कैमूर की श्रेणियों ने इसे उत्तर से होने वाले आक्रमणों से सदैव अभयदान दिया। वस्तुतः गुप्त शासकों एवं बाद में शशाक को छोड़कर प्राचीन भारत के किसी राजवंश ने इस भाग पर अधिक समय तक राज नहीं किया। तुर्क विजेता अपने तीन सौ वर्षों के शासनकाल में इस क्षेत्र को कभी भी आक्रांत न कर सके। मुगल सम्राट भी कभी-कभी ही यहाँ प्रवेश कर सके। इन विशेष परिस्थितियों के कारण ही इस प्रदेश के इतिहास का तथा सांस्कृतिक प्रगति का एक विशेष दिशा में झुकाव हुआ। इसके वनों और पर्वतों ने भारतीय आदिम निवासियों के समुदायों को शरण दी जैसे मुण्डा, हो, उराँव, संताल, चरो तथा खरवार आदि द्राविडों और आर्यों द्वारा अधिक उपजाऊ प्रदेशों से निकाले जाने पर ये यहीं आकर बस गए। यहाँ उत्तरपाषाण युग के अनेक अवशेष पाए गए हैं। यहाँ की आदिम जातियों की संख्या दिन प्रति दिन क्षीण होती जा रही है, परन्तु इनके रहन-सहन में एक ऐसी सभ्यता का परिचय मिलता है जो आर्यों के पहले से अब तक थोड़ा-बहुत परिवर्तनों के साथ ज्यों-की-त्यों चली आ रही है। पुनः ऐतिहासिक युग में यहाँ पर कांकजोल शासकों, नागवेशियों, सिहों, रकसेलों तथा चेरों के प्रायरू छोटे-छोटे स्वतंत्र राज्य ही रहे हैं। इसकी प्राकृतिक बनावट ने स्थानीय स्वतंत्रता के पनपने में सहायता पहुँचाई। पहाड़ी भूमि तथा वनों के कारण यहाँ के निवासी अत्यधिक मितव्ययी, सहनशील, परिश्रमी तथा युद्धप्रिय रहे हैं। आदिमकाल में झारखण्ड में निवास करने वाले अनार्य प्रजातियों में से कोल नाम जो साधारणतः आदिवासी समुदाय को कहा जाता था जिसमें मुण्डा हो, बिरहोर असुर सबर, खड़िया, भूमिज, संथाल, गोड माल पहाड़िया, पान, नो बासी घासो, कुडमी, बेदिया, बिझिया,

कुमारी पुष्पांजली

बिरजिया, बड़ाईक, चीक बड़ाईक, चरो, ब्लो करमाली, खरवार, कोरवा, लोहरा, माहली. बाउरी, तुरी, भुईयाँ, किसान, कोडा, कोडा बाथुडी, बैगा आदि अनार्य प्रजातियों झारखण्ड में निवास करती है।

इन प्रजातियों में कई ऐसे प्रजाति है जो सैकड़ों वर्षों से एक साथ काम के आधार पर इनके भी कई उप शाखायें बन गई भाषा एक दूसरे से मिलती जुलती है। ये सभी अपने कबीला के साथ झारखण्ड के इस वन, जंगल, पहाड़ी दुर्गम क्षेत्र में आये और बाघ भालू जानवरों से लड़ते हुये इस वन क्षेत्र को साफ किया, गाँव बसाया और जीविका के लिए खेत बनाया। ये कबीला अपना-अपना क्षेत्र चुनकर बसते गये। जैसे- मुण्डा लोग खूंटी जिला और पश्चिमी सिंहभूम के सीमांचल में बहुतायत में निवास करते हैं। इसके अलावे ओडिसा के सुन्दरगढ़ जिला में भी मुण्डाओं का स्थान है। राँची डिस्ट्रिक्ट गजेटियर (1970). च्हम छव-129, बँचजमत च्मवचसम (डनदक) पर है- "जैमल सपअम उंपदसल पद जीम वनजी - म्जमतद) वनजीमतद दक उपककसम म्जमतद चंतजे वि जीपे कपेजतपबज- जैमल तम उवेज दनउमतवने पद जीम ज्जीनदजप जंत दक ज्वतचं जीदें म्मतम जीमल वितउ दमंतसल 75 चमतबमदज वि जीम ज्वजंस चवचनसंजपवद. कोल के नाम पर कोल्हान बना, जो बाद में कोल लोगों ने हो (होड़)/ मनुष्य कहलाना अधिक पसन्द किया। हो लोगों ने कोल्हान क्षेत्र को अपना निवास स्थान बनाया! इसी प्रकार संथालों ने भागलपुर और बीरभूम (अब पश्चिम बंगाल) क्षेत्र को चुना। यह क्षेत्र हजारों वर्षों बाद 1855 में भागलपुर और बीरभूम क्षेत्र के हिस्सों से अलग कर संथालपरगना जिला बना। जिला बनने के काफी वर्षों पूर्व से ही वे मेदनीपुर, बांकुडा, सिंहभूम, हजारीबाग, संथालपरगना, मानभूम और मयूरभंज के क्षेत्रों में पलायन कर अपना सामाजिक प्रशासन माझी परगना के द्वारा शासित होते रहे। बिरहोर एक ऐसी प्रजाति है जो वन क्षेत्र को ही अपना घर समझता है, ये वन क्षेत्र में घुमन्तु आदिमजाति हैं। उराँव लोग, द्रविड मूल के आदिवासी हैं, जो पूर्व काल में कोकण (महाराष्ट्र) क्षेत्र के रहने वाले थे। वहाँ से पलायन कर ये लोग रोहतासगढ़ में आये और अपना राज कायम किये। ये भी सदियों पहले झारखण्ड के क्षेत्र रोहतास से पलामू, राँची जिला के लोहरदगा, गुमला, सिमडेगा होते हुये सरगुजा, रायगढ़ और सुन्दरगढ़ को अपना घर चुना। चरो और खरवार जातियों का पूर्वज पलामू में आये और पलामू के कई हिस्सों में राज-पाट किया। प्राचीन समय में चरो शासक कौन था इसका स्पष्ट उल्लेख नहीं है, लेकिन चरो शासकों में सबसे प्रमुख नाम मेदिनी राय का नाम जाना जाता है। ऐसे तो कहा जाता है कि मेदिनी राय का शासन गया के दक्खिन और सरगुजा के हिस्सों में था, जिन्हें सर्वशक्तिमान राजा के रूप में जाना जाता था।

उपरोक्त विभिन्न शासकों द्वारा प्रजाहित एवं राज्यहित में व्यापक स्तर पर काम किए जाते थे। कांकजोल, नागवंशी, सिंहदेव, रकसौल और चेरों के राज्य आकार में छोटे अवश्य थे परन्तु इनके राजकाज की शैली एवं व्यवस्था रही। हालांकि इन राज्यों का परस्पर संबंध सदा ही अच्छा था, ऐसी बात नहा है। इनके बीच भी कई मुद्दों पर विवाद था एवं आपसी संघर्ष के भी वृत्तांत मौजूद हैं।

प्राचीनकाल के अंत तक झारखंड भारतीय इतिहास की गतिविधियों से सुरक्षित रहते हुए भी बाह्य

जगत् से अप्रभावित नहीं रह गया था। छोटानागपुर खास में नागवंशी सुस्थापित हो चुके थे। निकटर्ती हजारीबाग एवं मानभूम में किन्हीं मान राजाओं का शासन था। धनबाद के निकट गोविंदपुर में कवि गंगाधर (1373-78 ई०) द्वारा रचित प्रस्तर शिला लेख एवं हजारीबाग के दूधपानी नामक स्थान में आठवीं सदी के शिलालेख में इनका उल्लेख है। प्रसिद्धि यह भी है कि मानभूम की शवर जाति अपनी नारियों पर मान राजाओं नारीय के अत्याचार के कारण ही पंचेत आकर बस गई थी। दसवीं शताब्दी के भूमिज स्वराज्य आन्दोलन का प्रमुख कारण संभवतः मान राजाओं का अत्याचार ही था। संथाल परगना क्षेत्र में कांकजोल का राज्य नष्ट हो चुका था और राजमहल का इलाका उजाड़ हो गया था।

पूर्व मध्यकाल में रामगढ़, कुड़ा, केंदी, छै तथा खड़गडीहा उस क्षेत्र के प्रमुख राज्य थे जो आज हजारीबाग, चतरा, गिरिडीह, कोडरमा और बोकारो जिला में शामिल हैं। रामगढ़ राज्य की स्थापना 1368 ई० के लगभग बाघदेव सिंह ने की थी। अपने बड़े भाई सिंहदेव के साथ वह नागवंशी महाराजा की सेवा में था। कालान्तर में दोनों भाइयों का अपने स्वामी से मतभेद हो गया और वे बढ़कागांव क्षेत्र में परगना कर्णपुरा चले आये। स्थानीय राजा को पराजित कर उन्होंने कर्णपुरा पर अधिकार कर लिया। धीरे-धीरे उन्होंने अन्य 21 परगनों पर कब्जा कर लिया। बाघदेव सिंह की राजधानी सिसिया में थी। बाद में राजधानी बदल कर पहले उरदा, फिर बादम तथा अंत में रामगढ़ चली गई। कहा जाता है कि खड़गडीहा राज्य की स्थापना पंद्रहवीं शताब्दी में हुई। दक्षिण भारत से आये हंसराज देव नामक व्यक्ति ने इसकी स्थापना की। उसने बंदावत जाति के एक शासक को परास्त कर गया तथा हजारीबाग के बीच 90 किलोमीटर लम्बे क्षेत्र पर अधिकार कर लिया। इस राज परिवार ने उत्तरी बिहार के ब्राह्मण जमींदार परिवारों से वैवाहिक संबंध स्थापित किये।

जमा निकटवर्ती पलामू के दक्षिणी पूर्वी भाग पर रक्सेलों का आधिपत्य था। ये अपने को राजपूत कहते थे। उनका शासन दीर्घकाल तक बना रहा। बाद में ये चेरों द्वारा अपदस्थ किये गये। कई शताब्दी पूर्व कुदरी (वर्तमान व लेस्लीगंज थाना के अंतर्गत) के एक रक्सेल शासक ने सरगुजा पर आक्रमण कर उस पर अधिकार कर लिया था ऐसा लगता है कि इस काल में खरवार, गोड, मार्ड, कोरवा, परहिया तथा किसान पलामू की प्रमुख जनजातियाँ थीं। इनमें खरवारों की संख्या सर्वाधिक थी और सरगुजा से लगे पहाड़ी क्षेत्र पर इनका एकाधिकार था। इनकी कुल आबादी प्रायः 90 हजार थी। जपला क्षेत्र में प्रताप धवल नामक खरवार शासक महाप्रतापी सिद्ध हुआ। इसके कई

शिलालेख तिलौथु (1158 ई०), फुलवारी (1169 ई०) तथा ताराचंडी (1169 ई०) आदि स्थानों में मिले हैं। लगभग इसी समय दहला के कलचुरियों ने पलामू के सीमावर्ती इलाकों पर कब्जा कर लिया था। किन्तु पलामू के शेष भाग कुछ में रक्सेलों की ही प्रधानता थी। राजपुताना से रोहतासगढ़ होते पलामू पहुँचे थे। पलामू में प्रविष्ट होने से पहले वे दो दलों में बँट गये थे। एक दल हरिहरगंज तथा महाराजगंज होता हुआ देवगन में आकर बस गया। दूसरा दल चतरा-पाकी होता हुआ कुडेलवा में आकर बसा। रक्सेलों ने क देवगन तथा कुडेलवा में किले बनवाये और इन्हें अपना मुख्यालय बनाया। सोलहवीं शताब्दी के प्रारंभ में चेरों के आगमन तक पलामू में रक्सेलों की ही प्रधानता बनी रही।

कुमारी पुष्पांजली

पलामू के प्रमाणिक और व्यवस्थित इतिहास का प्रारंभ चेरों वंश से माना जाता है। इस वंश के संस्थापक भगवंत राय थे, जिन्होंने रकसौल वंश के राजा मान सिंह को अपदस्थ कर 1613 ई० में ई० गौरवशाली वंश की नींव डाली थी। भगवंत राय रोहतास के जागीरदार सहबल राय के पुत्र थे जिनकी राजधानी चौनपुर (भोजपुर) में थी। सहबल राय प्रभावशाली जागीरदार और स्वतंत्र व्यक्तित्व के छती प्रशासक थे। उनका प्रभाव चंपारण तक था। चेरों वंश के कुर्सीनामा के अनुसार भगवंत राय की मौत के बाद उसका पुत्र अनंत राय (1630-61 ई०) सतासीन हुआ।

अनंत राय के उपरांत उसका पुत्र भूपाल राय चेरों शासक बना, परन्तु शीघ्र ही उसकी मौत हो गयी। इसके बाद उसके छोटे भाई मेदिनी राय (1661-74) को राजा बनाया गया। यह चेरों वंश का सबसे शक्तिशाली शासक था। अपने राज्य का विस्तार करने के क्रम में उसने नागवंशी राजधानी डोइसा नगर पर आक्रमण किया और वहां से प्रसिद्ध नागपुरी दरवाजा उठा लाया। इस दरवाजे को उसने पलामू के नये किले में स्थापित करवाया जिसका निर्माण उसने स्वयं करवाया था। उसे मुगल बादशाह औरंगजेब का कोपभाजन बनना पड़ा, जब इस बादशाह के आदेश पर दाउद खां ने उसके राज्य पर आक्रमण किया। इस आक्रमण में पलामू का किला नष्ट हो गया था। चेरों सेना ने वीरतापूर्वक मुगल सेना का मुकाबला किया। लेकिन वे पराजित हुए और मेदिनी राय को सुरगुजा में शरण लेने के लिए विवश होना पड़ा। विजय की स्मृति में दाउद खां ने पुराने किले के भीतर एक मस्जिद का निर्माण करवाया तथा किले का सिंह दरवाजा अपने साथ ले गया। मुगल सूबेदार मनकली खां के तबादले के बाद 1666 ई. में मेदिनी राय पुनः पलामू लौट आया। उसने नये सिरे से अपने राज्य का प्रशासन संभाला और चहुँओर उन्नति की। वह न्यायप्रिय और प्रजावत्सल शासक था और उसने अपनी प्रजा से कोई अतिरिक्त कर नहीं वसूली। यही कारण है कि उसके शासन काल को चेरों शासन का स्वर्ण काल कहा जाता है।

मेदिनी राय पलामू के चेरों राजवंश का सर्वाधिक योग्य एवं कुशल शासक था। चेरों परम्परा के अनुसार उसने सन् 1658 से 1674 ई० तक शासन किया। मेदिनी राय का शासन काल शाहजहाँ के शासनकाल के अंतिम दिनों में था। उसने उस काल में उत्तराधिकार के संघर्ष के कारण मुगल काल में फैली अव्यवस्था का पूर्ण लाभ उठाया। औरंगजेब के शासन के प्रारंभिक वर्षों में पलामू में चेरों राजा मेदिनी राय का ही शासन था। अन्य पूर्ववर्ती चेरों शासकों के समान ही उसने भी परम्परागत मुगल-विरोधी नीति का पालन किया। पलामू किले को अभेद्यता में विश्वास होने के कारण चेरों लोग प्रायः आस-पास के मुगल प्रदेशों में लूटपाट करते थे। मेदिनी राय का न केवल मुगल प्रदेशों वरन् अन्य पड़ोसी राज्यों से भी संघर्ष चलता रहा। मेदिनी राय का शासन काल पलामू में चेरों शासन का स्वर्ण युग था। दाऊद के आक्रमण के उपरान्त पलामू की जनर क्षीण अवमा स्थिति जर्जर/क्षीण अवस्था एवं विपन्नता की थी किन्तु मेदिनी राय ने पलामू को शीघ्र ही समृद्धि के शिखर पर बिठा दिया। उसने कृषि को प्रोत्साहित कर आर्थिक समृद्धि को आगे बढ़ाया। उसके काल में प्रजा को सुख-समृद्धि में कोई कमी नहीं थी। वह प्रजा की सही स्थिति की जानकारी हेतु वेश बदलकर घूमता था। उसने प्रजा से कभी भी कर की वसूली नहीं की। यही कारण कि जब आवश्यकता पड़ने पर उसने प्रत्येक गाँव से एक कौड़ी वसूलने का निश्चित किया तो प्रत्येक गाँव के मुखिया ने



उसे एक सोने की कौड़ी दी। वह प्रजा के प्रति अत्यधिक दयालुता का व्यवहार करता था तथा उसका काल शान्ति एवं समृद्धि का काल था। मेदिनी राय की मृत्योपरान्त रुद्रराय उसका उत्तराधिकारी बना जिसने पलामू में सन् 1674 ई० में से 1680 ई० तक शासन किया। तत्पश्चात् दिकपाल राय सिंहासनारूढ़ हुआ जिसने सन् 1680 से 1697 ई० तक शासन किया। इसके बाद साहेब राम की मृत्यु हो जाने के बाद रणजीत राय ने 1722 ई० तक शासन किया।

रणजीत राय का व्यवहार पटना के अधिकारियों के प्रति अवज्ञापूर्ण था। यही कारण है कि फरुखसियर के शासनकाल में जब सरबुलंद खाँ ने झारखंड में प्रवेश किया तो सर्वप्रथम पलामू के विरुद्ध अभियान किया। यद्यपि सरबुलंद व रणजीत राय के मध्य कोई युद्ध न होकर समझौता हो गया था। रणजीत राय ने रामगढ़ के शासक की सहायता से छोटानागपुर खास के नागवंशियों से टोरी परगना छीन लिया। सन् 1722 में रणजीत राय की मृत्योपरान्त जयकृष्ण राय चैरो राज बना। उसके द्वारा दिया जाने वाला कर अत्यन्त कम एवं अनियमित था। अतः सन् 1730 ई० फखरुद्दौला (बिहार का सूबेदार) पलामू की ओर बढ़ा किन्तु मार्ग में उसे अत्यधिक प्रतिरोध का सामना करना पड़ा। चैराओं के द्वारा किए जाने वाले इस प्रतिरोध के दौरान मुअजमखों रोहिल्ला (अजीज खाँ रोहिल्ला का पुत्र) की मृत्यु हो गई। विवश होकर फखरुद्दौला ने जयकृष्ण राय से समझौता कर लिया जिसके तहत पालमू शासक जयकृष्ण राय पाँच हजार रुपये वार्षिक कर देने के लिये सहमत हो गया। किन्तु जब फखरुद्दौला बिहार के सूबेदार के पद से हटा यह कर भी मिलना बन्द हो गया।

पलामू में मराठों के हस्तक्षेप के सम्बन्ध में यह अनुमान लगाया जाता है कि जिस समय बालाजी राव पेशवा छोटानागपुर से होकर मिर्जापुर जा रहा था, तब वह पलामू से अवश्य गुजरा होगा। यद्यपि इस बात के कोई स्पष्ट प्रमाण प्राप्त नहीं होते हैं किन्तु पलामू के कुछ गाँवों का नामकरण मराठा जान पड़ता है जिससे ऐसी संभावना प्रतीत होती है। मराठों का सीमावर्ती सुरगुजा पर भी नियन्त्रण स्थापित हो गया था। जहाँ से वे पतामू गाँवों में लूटपाट करते रहते थे।

पलामू परवर्ती मुगल बादशाहों के समय चैरो राज जयकृष्ण राय की शक्ति, क्षीण हो गई थी जबकि पलामू के राजपूत जमीनदार दिन-प्रतिदिन शक्तिशाली होते जा रहे थे। इस काल में ऊँटारी के भैया व रंका तथा चौनपुर के ठकुराई पलामू के सर्वाधिक शक्तिशाली राजपूत जमींदार थे। चैनपुर

इसके अतिरिक्त मनातू, देवगन एवं विक्रमपुर भी चैरो खरवार जागीरदारों के आधीन थे। इस प्रकार पलामू में केन्द्रीय नियन्त्रण का अभाव हो गया था तथा राजनीतिक अव्यवस्था व्याप्त थी। चैरो राज जयकृष्ण राय चैरो का दरबार षड्यन्त्रों का अखाड़ा बना हुआ था। वाह्य शक्तियों के लिये यह स्थिति सर्वाधिक अनुकूल थी। ऐसे में हो पलामू में ईस्ट इंडिया कम्पनी का प्रवेश हुआ।

सिंहभूम को पोरहाट के सिंह राजाओं की भूमि कहा गया है। सिंह-वंश के सदस्यों का कहना है कि वे हो जाति के आगमन से पहले ही अपने राज्य की स्थापना कर चुके थे किन्तु हो इसका प्रतिवाद करते हैं। उनके अनुसार इस क्षेत्र का नामकरण ही उनके देवता सिंगबोंगा के नाम पर हुआ है। स्पष्ट है कि दोनों ही मत सही नहीं

हो सकते हैं। यदि प्रमाणों का गौर के साथ विश्लेषण किया जाय तो हो लोगों की बात ही सही जान पड़ती है। सम्पूर्ण छोटानागपुर में जनजातियाँ पर्वतों पहाड़ों का नामकरण अपने देवी-देवताओं के नाम पर करती हैं। इसलिए बहुत संभव है कि अपने निवास स्थल का नामकरण भी इन्होंने अपने सर्वोच्च देवता सिंह-बोंगा (सूर्य) के नाम पर किया हो।

सिंह-वंश के परिवारिक इतिहास वंश प्रभा-लेखन के अनुसार सिंह लोग सिंहभूम के भुइयों तथा सरको के सम्पर्क में संवत् 750 अर्थात् 693 ई० में आये। सिंह-वंश की पहली शाखा ने आठवीं शताब्दी में ही इस क्षेत्र पर अधिकार कर लिया था। वे पश्चिमी भारत से आये राठौर राजपूत थे और उन्होंने पोरहाट राज्य की स्थापना की उनपर बहुत दिनों तक छोटानागपुर खास के नागवंशियों का प्रभाव बना रहा है दुर्भाग्यवश सिंह, वंश की पहली शाखा के क्रिया-कलाप का कोई वर्णन उपलब्ध नहीं है। फिर भी जान पड़ता है कि उनका शासन संभवतः तेरहवीं शताब्दी के प्रारम्भ तक चलता रहा। परम्परा के अनुसार सिंह वंश की पहली शाखा का संस्थापक काशीनाथ सिंह था। उसके बाद तेरह राजाओं ने शासन किया। उसके द्वितीय एवं तृतीय पुत्र क्रमशः खरसव और आसनतली के शासक बने। किन्तु उत्तराधिकारी के अभाव में आसनतली का राज्य भी खरसवों में मिल गया। कुछ इतिहासकारों के मुताबिक राठौर राजपूतों ने 693 ई. में पोरहाट राज्य की स्थापना की थी। इतिहासकार काशीनाथ के अनुसार 13 पीढ़ियों तक शासन हुआ जबकि ओमाली एल. एस. एस. के अनुसार 52 पीढ़ियों का शासन चला।

छोटानागपुर क्षेत्र का एक महत्वपूर्ण राजवंश रामगढ़ राजवंश था जिसका शासन काल 1367 ई० से 1953 ई० तक चला। इस राजवंश के प्रमुख शासक और उनका शासन काल इस प्रकार हैं। बाघ देव सिंह (1368 ई० 1402 ई०) राम सिंह प्रथम (1402 ई० 1536 ई०), माधो सिंह (1537 ई० 1554 ई०) जगत सिंह (1554 ई०-1604 ई०) हिम्मत सिंह (1604 ई० 1661 ई०), राम सिंह द्वितीय (1661 ई०-1677 ई०), दलेल सिंह (1677 ई- 1724 ई०) (विष्णु सिंह 1724 ई०-1763 ई०), मुकुंद सिंह (1763 ई०-1772 ई०), तेज सिंह बहादुर (1772 ई०-1775 ई०) पारस नाथ सिंह (1774 ई० - 1784 ई०) मणिनाथ सिंह (1784 ई० 17811 ई०) सिद्ध नाथ सिंह बाहदुर (1811 ई०-1835 ई०) लक्ष्मी नाथ सिंह (1835 ई०-1841 ई०), शंभु नाथ सिंह (1841 ई०-1855 ई०), राम नाथ सिंह (1855 ई० 1866 ई०) त्रिलोक नाथ सिंह (1866 ई०), राजा राम नारायण सिंह (1866 ई०-1899 ई०) राम नारायण सिंह (1899 ई०-1913 ई०), लक्ष्मी नारायण सिंह (1913 ई०-1919 ई०), कामाख्या नारायण सिंह (1919 ई०-1953 ई०)। इन सभी राजाओं ने अपने शासन काल में रामगढ़ राज को बढ़ाने का काम किया। हालांकि रामगढ़ राज के शासकों की समीक्षा की जाए तो यह स्पष्ट हो जाता है कि रामगढ़ राज सदैव संघर्ष में ही रहा।

मुगलकाल और उत्तर मुगलकाल में भी लंबे समय तक (1687-1724 ई. तक) रामगढ़ राज्य का राजा दलेल सिंह था। इसने अपने 57 वर्षों के राज्यकाल में रामगढ़ राज्य का अभूतपूर्व विकास किया था।

इस समय पुराने हजारीबाग जिला क्षेत्र में चार राज्य थे कुडा या केन्द्री, रामगढ़ केन्द्री, खडगडीहा या चाइ छै। रामगढ़ का राजा छै राज्य पर कब्जा कर लिया था। यही नहीं 1718 ई. में छै राजा मगर खाँ की उसने हत्या भी

कर दी थी चरो 19 में चरो राजा रणजीत सिंह को दलेल सिंह ने मदद की थी और राजा से टोरी परगना छीन लिया गया था। रामगढ़ राजा और जाओं का आपस में मेल नहीं था।

24 में मगर खान का पुत्र अन्य राजाओं की मदद से (अली हमीद खों और उसरे खों) अपना राज्य वापस ले लिया दलेल सिंह हार गया। उसकी मृत्यु 1732 में हुई। उसका पुत्र विष्णु सिंह रामगढ़ का राजा बना। 1732 में मगर खों का पुत्र रणभस्त खों भी चेचक से मर गया तो उसका पुत्र महीपत खों राजा बना लेकिन विष्णु सिंह ने पुनः उससे सत्ता छीन ली। महीपत खों भागकर इटखोरी के राजा शत्रुघ्न सिंह के पास पहुँच गया। शत्रुघ्न सिंह टेकारी के राजा के साथ सुन्दर सिंह से मिलकर रामगढ़ राजा विष्णु सिंह पर आक्रमण कर उसे बंदी बना लिया। लेकिन टेकारी के लेकिन राजा को दस हजार रुपये देकर बंदी मुक्त हो गया। अब टेकारी का राजा ही महीयत के कई (आठ) ताल्लुकों पर कब्जा जमा लिया था। रामगढ़ राजा विष्णु सिंह धीरे-धीरे इतना शक्तिशाली बन गया कि अब वह बंगाल के नवाब की भी उपेक्षा करने लगा था। लेकिन अलीवर्दी खों ने आक्रमण कर उसे परास्त किया और कर लेना शुरू कर दिया।

इन्हीं दिनों नरहत समया के जमींदार कामगर खों काफी शक्तिशाली, चतुर एवं सक्रिय व्यक्ति के रूप में उभर रहा था। उसने महीपत खों का पुत्र लाल खों को राज्य वापस दिला दिया था। उसने विष्णु सिंह को पराजित किया था। यह समय 1747 का था। इसी समय यहाँ मराठों का आगमन होता है। भास्कर राव से विष्णु सिंह ने कहा कि बीघा, इटखोरी, रामपुर, जागोडीह आदि पर अगर वे कब्जा करा दे तो मुँहमाँगा रुपये देगा। मराठों ने सीधे-सीधे कब्जा तो नहीं दिलाया लेकिन एक प्रपंच रचा। मराठों ने कामगर खों से इन इलाकों पर विष्णु सिंह को दो माह के लिए कब्जा दिला दी तो बीस हजार रुपये देंगे, बाद में तुम कब्जा कर लेना। ऐसा ही हुआ था। 1751-1752 में कामगर ने सम्पूर्ण रामगढ़ को ध्वस्त कर दिया था। अंततः समझौता यह हुआ कि बराकर से उतर कामगर खों तथा दक्षिण में विष्णु सिंह का कब्जा रहेगा। लेकिन 1763 में बंगाल के नवाब को विष्णु सिंह के नवाब विरोधी हरकत की सूचना मिली। उसने विष्णु सिंह पर आक्रमण कर दिया और उसे परास्त किया। विष्णु सिंह की मृत्यु इसी समय होती है और उसका भाई मुकुन्द सिंह रामगढ़ का राजा बनता है।

1764 में कामगर की मृत्यु हो गयी। इससे पूर्व वह रामगढ़ राजा से अपने छीने हुए सभी सामान वापस मांग रहा था। वह लौटाने के लिए तैयार भी था। 1765 में कामगर खों का पुत्र अकबर अली खों ने खड़गडीहा पर आक्रमण किया। इस समय खड़गडीहा की राजधानी धनवार कर दी गयी। 1769 में कैप्टन कैमक ने ले गोडाई की सहायता से खड़गडीहा पर आक्रमण किया और मुकुन्द सिंह को वहाँ से हटाकर रामगढ़ राज्य में भिला लिया। प्रसिद्ध इतिहास डॉ० बाल मुकुन्द वीरोतम और लेखक डॉ० राम कुमार वीरो- तिवारी का मानना है कि रामगढ़ राज की स्थापना सम्भवतः 1367 ई. में बाघदेव सिंह ने की थी। बाघदेव सिंह के ही वंशज थे राजा मुकुन्द सिंह, जिन्हें कंपनी सरकार ने रामगढ़ राज से 1772 ई. में निष्कासित कर ठाकुर तेज सिंह को राजा बनाया था। तेज सिंह की सितम्बर 1774 में मृत्यु में हो छीन ली। महीपत खों भागकर इटखोरी के राजा शत्रुघ्न सिंह के पास पहुँच गया। शत्रुघ्न

कुमारी पुष्पांजली

सिंह टेकारी के राजा के साथ सुन्दर सिंह से मिलकर रामगढ़ राजा विष्णु सिंह पर आक्रमण कर उसे बंदी बना लिया। लेकिन टेकारी के लेकिन राजा को दस हजार रुपये देकर बंदी मुक्त हो गया। अब टेकारी का राजा ही महीयत के कई (आठ) ताल्लुकों पर कब्जा जमा लिया था। रामगढ़ राजा विष्णु सिंह धीरे-धीरे इतना शक्तिशाली बन गया कि अब वह बंगाल के नवाब की भी उपेक्षा करने लगा था। लेकिन अलीवर्दी खों ने आक्रमण कर उसे परास्त किया और कर लेना शुरू कर दिया।

इन्हीं दिनों नरहत समया के जमींदार कामगर खों काफी शक्तिशाली, चतुर एवं सक्रिय व्यक्ति के रूप में उभर रहा था। उसने महीपत खों का पुत्र लाल खों को राज्य वापस दिला दिया था। उसने विष्णु सिंह को पराजित किया था। यह समय 1747 का था। इसी समय यहाँ मराठों का आगमन होता है। भास्कर राव से विष्णु सिंह ने कहा कि बीघा, इटखोरी, रामपुर, जागोडीह आदि पर अगर वे कब्जा करा दे तो मुँहमाँगा रुपये देगा। मराठों ने सीधे-सीधे कब्जा तो नहीं दिलाया लेकिन एक प्रपंच रचा। मराठों ने कामगर खों से इन इलाकों पर विष्णु सिंह को दो माह के लिए कब्जा दिला दी तो बीस हजार रुपये देंगे, बाद में तुम कब्जा कर लेना। ऐसा ही हुआ था। 1751-1752 में कामगर ने सम्पूर्ण रामगढ़ को ध्वस्त कर दिया था। अंततः समझौता यह हुआ कि बराकर से उतर कामगर खों तथा दक्षिण में विष्णु सिंह का कब्जा रहेगा। लेकिन 1763 में बंगाल के नवाब को विष्णु सिंह के नवाब विरोधी हरकत की सूचना मिली। उसने विष्णु सिंह पर आक्रमण कर दिया और उसे परास्त किया। विष्णु सिंह की मृत्यु इसी समय होती है और उसका भाई मुकुन्द सिंह रामगढ़ का राजा बनता है।

1764 में कामगर की मृत्यु हो गयी। इससे पूर्व वह रामगढ़ राजा से अपने छीने हुए सभी सामान वापस मांग रहा था। वह लौटाने के लिए तैयार भी था। 1765 में कामगर खों का पुत्र अकबर अली खों ने खड़गडीहा पर आक्रमण किया। इस समय खड़गडीहा की राजधानी धनवार कर दी गयी। 1769 में कैप्टन कैमक ने ले गोडाई की सहायता से खड़गडीहा पर आक्रमण किया और मुकुन्द सिंह को वहाँ से हटाकर रामगढ़ राज्य में भिला लिया।

प्रसिद्ध इतिहास डॉ० बाल मुकुन्द वीरोतम और लेखक डॉ० राम कुमार वीरो- तिवारी का मानना है कि रामगढ़ राज की स्थापना सम्भवतः 1367 ई. में बाघदेव सिंह ने की थी। बाघदेव सिंह के ही वंशज थे राजा मुकुन्द सिंह, जिन्हें कंपनी सरकार ने रामगढ़ राज से 1772 ई. में निष्कासित कर ठाकुर तेज सिंह को राजा बनाया था। तेज सिंह की सितम्बर 1774 में मृत्यु में हो नागवंशी राजवंश एवं शासन व्यवस्था के संस्थापक फणि मुकुट राय के समय यद्यपि छोटानागपुर की अधिकांश जनता जनजातीय थी। किन्तु अन्य जातियों एवं ब्राह्मणों की संख्या में भी निरन्तर वृद्धि हो रही थी। नागवंशी राज्य के पूर्व में पंचेत का राज्य था। फणि मुकुट राय का विवाह पंचेत के गोवंशी राजपूत घराने में हुआ था। उसने पंचेत के राजा की सहायता से दक्षिण की ओर स्थित क्योझर के शासक को पराजित भी कर दिया। इस क्रम में नागवंशियों के कई राजा हुए जिनमें दुर्जनशाल एक उल्लेखनीय नाम है जिसे जहाँगीर ने कैद कर लिया था परन्तु असली हिरे की पहचान करने के कारण प्रसन्न होकर जहाँगीर ने दुर्जन साल को मुक्त कर दिया। साथ ही उसका खोया राज्य भी उसे लौटा दिया। दुर्जन साल के उदार एवं निर्भीक आचरण से प्रभावित होकर

उसे शाह की उपाधि भी प्रदान की गई। दुर्जन साल ने छः हजार रुपये सालाना कर देना स्वीकार किया तथा बदले में उसे राज्य का पट्टा प्रदान कर दिया गया। कोकरह की गद्दी इस दौरान दुर्जन के एक सम्बन्धी ने अधिकृत कर लिया था। अतः उसे पुनः प्राप्ति हेतु संघर्ष करना पड़ा। बन्दीगृह से मुक्त होने के बाद उसने दोइसा को कोकरह की नवीन राजधानी बनाया। तीन ओर से पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों से तथा दक्षिण में कोयल से घिरा यह एक सुरक्षित एवं सामरिक दृष्टि से महत्वपूर्ण स्थान था। दोइसा में अनेक भवनों का निर्माण कराया गया। जिनमें सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण नवरतनगढ नामक राजप्रसाद है। यह महल पाँच मंजिला था। जिसकी वर्तमान में तीन मंजिले शेष हैं। सन् 1640 में दुर्जन साल की मृत्यु हो गई।

दुर्जन साल के उत्तराधिकारी रघुनाथ शाह ने सन् 1640 से 1690 ई० तक शासन किया। दुर्भाग्यवश रघुनाथ शाह के शासन काल के प्रारंभिक भाग की घटनाओं का उल्लेख प्राप्त नहीं होता है। किन्तु बाद के उपलब्ध साक्ष्यों के विश्लेषण के आधार पर कहा जा सकता है कि शाहजहाँ के शासन काल में संभवतः कोकरह के विरुद्ध अभियान किया गया था जिसके उपरान्त रघुनाथ शाह ने मुगल शासक को मामूली कर देना स्वीकार कर लिया था। इसके काल में नागवंशियों के मुगलों के साथ मधुर सम्बन्ध बने रहे। औरंगजेब के शासन काल में भी यही स्थिति बनी रही। इस काल में भी कोकरह की राजधानी दोइसा थी।

रघुनाथ शाह का सन् 1690 ई० में मृत्यु हो जाने के बाद रामशाह उसका उत्तराधिकारी बना। रामशाह ने सन् 1690 ई० से 1715 ई० तक शासन किया। इस नागवंशी शासक के भी मुगलों के साथ मधुर सम्बन्ध रहे।

सन् 1715 में रामशाह की मृत्योपरान्त यदुनाथ शाह छोटानागपुर के नागवंशीय राज्य का शासक बना। वह एक कर्मठ शासक था जिसने सन् 1724 ई० तक शासन किया। औरंगजेब की मृत्योपरान्त मुगलों में फैली अराजकता का लाभ उठाते हुए उसने मुगलों को कर देना बन्द कर दिया। परिणामस्वरूप बिहार के सूबेदार सरबुलन्द खँ ने 1717 ई० में यदुनाथ शाह पर आक्रमण कर दिया। यदुनाथ शाह द्वारा एक बड़ी धनराशि दिए जाने पर

रुपये सर बुलन्द खँ वापस लौट गया। इस आक्रमण ने दोइसा राजधानी की असुरक्षित स्थिति को सिद्ध कर दिया था। अतः यदुनाथ शाह ने पालकोट में नवीन राजधानी स्थापित की। यद्यपि प्रारम्भ में यह राजधानी सुरक्षित रही किन्तु दो दशकों के उपरान्त यहाँ मराठों के आक्रमण होने लगे। सन् 1724 में यदुनाथ शाह की मृत्यु हो गई।

यदुनाथ शाह के उपरान्त उसके बारह पुत्रों में से सबसे बड़ा पुत्र शिवनाथ शाह सन् 1724 में गद्दी पर बैठा जिसने सन् 1733 ई० तक शासन किया। उसके शासन के प्रथम छः वर्षों में कोई उल्लेखनीय घटना घटित नहीं हुई। नागवंशी राजा ने सालाना कर देना भी बन्द कर दिया था। सन् 1727 में फखरुद्दौला बिहार का सूबेदार बना जिसने नागवंशी राजा का दमन करने का निश्चय किया किन्तु सफलता नहीं मिली सकी।

1733 में उदयनाथ शाह नागवंशीय शासक बना। उसने 1740 तक शासन किया। उसने फखरुद्दौला की सैनिक असफलता का लाभ उठाया। झारखंड के अन्य राजा व जमींदार भी इस दौरान विद्रोही बन गए।

उदयनाथ शाह के छोटे भाई श्यामसुन्दरनाथ शाह ने सन् 1940 ई० तक शासन किया। उसके राज्यारोहण के

साथ ही छोटानागपुर के इतिहास का एक नवीन युग प्रारम्भ हुआ। इस काल में मराठों के आक्रमण आरम्भ हो गए। ये आक्रमण उन्नीसवीं शताब्दी के प्रथम दशक तक चलते रहे। मराठा आक्रमण का प्रमुख कारण यह था कि मराठों के बंगाल तक पहुंचने का मार्ग झारखंड से होकर जाता था। मराठा आक्रमणों के परिणामस्वरूप झारखंड पर मुस्लिम शासन सत्ता समाप्त हो गई। इसके प्रभावस्वरूप छोटानागपुर के शासकों ने अपने-अपने क्षेत्रों में स्थिति मजबूत करने के लिए पूरा लाभ उठाया। जमींदारों का दमन करके उन्हें अपनी आधीनता स्वीकार करने के लिये विवश किया। उदाहरणार्थ नागवंशी राजा मणिनाथ शाह ने बन्ता राहें, तमाड़ आदि क्षेत्रों के जमींदारों का दमन किया। उन्हें विवश किया गया कि वे नागवंशी राजा को अपना अधिपति स्वीकार करें।

मराठा आक्रमणों का एक दूरगामी परिणाम यह हुआ कि झारखंड, विशेषरूप से छोटानागपुर में अंग्रेजों के प्रवेश का मार्ग प्रशस्त हो गया। छोटानागपुर में अंग्रेजों के प्रवेश के समय दर्पनाथ शाह यहाँ का शासक था। उसका तीस वर्षों का शासन काल घटनाओं से परिपूर्ण रहा। दर्पनाथ शाह कोलों को तो ध्वस्त नहीं कर सका। इसके विपरीत कोलों ने नागवंशी प्रदेशों पर आक्रमण करने आरम्भ कर दिए। उन्होंने अनेक स्थानों पर लूट की कई गांवों की आबादी पूर्णतया नष्ट कर दी। नागवंशीय राज्य का दक्षिणी भाग निरन्तर इन आक्रमणकारियों से आक्रान्त बना रहा। नागवंशी शासक मुस्लिम अधिकारियों को अपना सालाना कर रामगढ़ के राजा के माध्यम से देते थे। बकाया कर की वसूली के लिये रामगढ़ का शासक भी निरन्तर हमले करता रहता था। इन परिस्थितियों से विवश होकर

दर्पनाथ शाह ने कम्पनी सरकार की आधीनता स्वीकार कर ली तथा 12,000 रुपये सालाना कर के रूप में देना स्वीकार किया। उसने मराठों के विरुद्ध कम्पनी को सहायता देने का वचन दिया। इसके शीघ्र बाद ही मानशाह प्रकरण के कारण दर्पनाथ शाह की चिन्ता में पुनः वृद्धि हो गई। कप्तान कार्टर नानशाह नाम व्यक्ति को नागवंश की गद्दी पर बिठना चाहता था। यह प्रकरण एक लम्बे समय तक चला। इसके अतिरिक्त मराठा आक्रमणों ने भी दर्पनाथ की समस्याओं को बढ़ा दिया था। ये आक्रमण नौ वर्षों के उपरान्त पुनः प्रारम्भ हो गए थे। मराठे छोटानागपुर में प्रविष्ट हो गए तथा दर्पनाथ को स्वयं को पालकोट में छिपाना पड़ा। 20 जुलाई, सन् 1772 को पटना काउन्सिल ने दर्पनाथ को सहायता देने का निर्णय लिया। उल्लेखनीय है कि दर्पनाथ ने कम्पनी को आधीनता को कभी भी मन से स्वीकार नहीं किया। नागवंशी राजा दर्पनाथ शाह के उत्तराधिकारी देवनाथ शाह ने अंग्रेजों को वार्षिक कर देना लगभग बन्द हो कर दिया था। इसके अतिरिक्त मराठे नागवंशी राज्य की सीमा पर सरगुजा, जशपुर व गंगपुर इत्यादि को अधिकृत कर चुके थे। सन 1792 ई० से 1798 ई० के मध्य भी मराठा में तीन आक्रमण किए तथा इनका विरोध करने में देवनाथ शाह को अपनी सम्पूर्ण शक्ति लगानी पड़ी। देवनाथ मराठी आक्रमणों को रोकने में असफल रहा। साथ ही वह कम्पनी का बकाया चुकाने में भी असफल रहा। परिणामस्वरूप इंटर ने नागवंशी राज्य की नीलामी का प्रस्ताव रखा किन्तु कोलकाता स्थित बोर्ड ऑफ रेवेन्यू ने यह प्रस्ताव अस्वीकृत कर दिया। मराठा आक्रमणों के कारण देवनाथ बकाया देने में निरन्तर असमर्थ रहा। सन् 1806 में देवनाथ शाह की मृत्यु हो गई।

देवनाथ शाह के तीन पुत्र थे—गोविन्दनाथ शाह, गोपीनाथ शाह एवं विश्वनाथ शाह द्य देवनाथ शाह का उत्तराधिकारी गोविन्दनाथ शाह बना तथा उसने 1822 तक शासन किया। उसके काल में उत्तराधिकार सम्बन्धी झगडा उत्पन्न हो गया। अन्ततः इस झगई को शान्तिपूर्ण ढंग से सुलझा लिया गया।

गोविन्दनाथ शाह के पश्चात् जगन्नाथ शाह शासक बना। अपनी सत्ता को प्रभावी बनाने में वह अक्षम सिद्ध हुआ वह अनिश्चित स्वभाव का था, साथ ही गैर-आदिवासी के हाथों को कठपुतली बना रहा। उसकी रुचि धार्मिक क्षेत्र में अधिक थी तथा इस क्षेत्र में वह फिजूलखर्चा भी करता था। उसके काल में आदिवासियों पर अत्याचार किए गए। उन्हें उनकी भूमि से भी वंचित किया जाता रहा उसके शासन काल में कोल विद्रोहियों ने छोटानागपुर क्षेत्र के कई परमनों को अधिकृत कर लिया। विद्रोह के कारणों एवं स्वरूप का पता लगाने के लिये सरकार ने एक संयुक्त आयुक्त (श्रवपदज बबउउपेपवदमत) को नियुक्ति की आयुक्त के प्रतिवेदन के आधार पर विद्रोहियों को सजा दी गई। संयुक्त आयुक्त के परामर्शों के आधार पर छोटानागपुर खास पलामू तथा जंगल महाल एवं मिदनापुर के समीपवर्ती क्षेत्रों को एक पृथक प्रशासन के अधीन रखा गया। इन्हें एक नवीन प्रान्त के रूप में गठित किया गया जिसे साऊथ-वेस्टर्न फ्रॉण्टियर एजेंसी (वनजी मेजमतद थतवदजपमत [हमदबल) की संज्ञा दी गई। इस प्रशासनिक क्षेत्र के लिये गर्वनर जनरल के प्रथम एजेन्ट के रूप में कप्तान विल्किन्सन को नियुक्त किया। मजबूत छोटानागपुर क्षेत्र पर अंग्रेजों की पकड़ मजबूत होने के साथ-साथ इस क्षेत्र में नागवंशियों की पकड़ कमजोर होती चली गई। नागवंशी राजाओं के कार्यपालिका एवं पुलिस सम्बन्धी अधिकारों को शनैरू शनैः अंग्रेजों ने अपने शनैः गर्ने हाथों में ले लिया। जागीरदारों एवं जनता के मन में इसे लेकर असन्तोष व्याप्त था। यही कारण है कि सन् 1857 के विद्रोह में छोटानागपुर की जनता में बढ़-चढ़कर हिस्सा लिया। यहाँ की जनता ने विदेशियों के समर्थक जमींदारों पर भी हमले किए। छोटानागपुर में विद्रोह का स्वरूप अत्यन्त उग्र था।

विख्यात विद्वान एवं लेखक डॉ० सुनील कुमार सिंह की पुस्तक झारखण्ड परिदृश्य में उल्लेख है कि मध्यकाल के प्रारम्भ में छोटानागपुर में कई छोटे-मोटे हिन्दू और अर्द्ध हिन्दू शासकों के राज्य थे जिसमें प्रमुख पलामू के रकसौल, कोकरा के नागवंशी और सिंहभूम के सिंहवंश। इसी प्रकार ढ रामगढ राज, चरो राज, हो राज, पंचेत राज, खडगडीहा राज आदि जैसी देशी राज व्यवस्था चल रही थी। इन सभी राज व्यवस्थाओं में समान रूप से कई तथ्यों में एकरूपता थी। मध्यकाल के प्रारम्भिक अवधि में ये सभी देशी राज बिना किसी बाहरी हस्तक्षेप के निर्बाध रूप से संचालित थे।”

छोटानागपुर खास में नागवंशी राजाओं की शासन व्यवस्था रही है। नागवंशी शासन में पन्द्रहवीं शताब्दी तक पारम्परिक राजव्यवस्था कायम रही जिसमें किसी तरह का बाहरी हस्तक्षेप नहीं रहा है। विख्यात लेखक डॉ० लेखक राम कुमार तिवारी ने अपनी पुस्तक झारखण्ड की रूपरेखा में लिखा है कि प्रथम शताब्दी (64 ई०) में मुण्डाओ की राज व्यवस्था नागवंशियों को – हस्तातरित होती है। नागवंशियों ने पडहा व्यवस्था को समाप्त नहीं किया न ही कोई परिवर्तन किया बल्कि इसे विस्तार देने का ही प्रयास किया। इस विस्तार से तात्पर्य है कि नागवंशियों ने

आस-पड़ोस के राज्यों से अपना संपर्क बढ़ाया। विभिन्न क्षेत्रों से आये या निर्वासित किए गए। राजवंशियों को अपने यहाँ प्रश्रय दिया और अपने राज क्षेत्र के परगनाओं में उन्हें पदस्थापित कर छोटे-छोटे क्षेत्रों की राज व्यवस्था का दायित्व प्रदान किया।

सिल्ली राज परिवार नागवंशी राजाओं द्वारा प्रदत्त क्षेत्र का दायित्व – निर्वाहन करने हेतू पदास्थापित हुआ जो मूलतः उज्जैन राज से संबंधित थे और इन्हें परमार राजवंशियों ने खदेड़ दिया था। उज्जैन राज से खदेड़े गए राजवंशियों को नागवंशी महाराज तिहुलीकाम ने 1398 ई० में सिल्ली, क्षेत्र में बसाया और 1427 ई० में नागवंशी महाराज शिवदासकाम ने अपने अधीन सिल्ली राज को इस क्षेत्र का कार्यभार सौंपा। इस प्रकार सिल्ली राज

व्यवस्था कायम हो गई जो भारतीय स्वतंत्रता तक संचालित रही। नागवंशियों के अधीन रहने के बावजूद सिल्ली राज में चतुर्दिक विकास हुआ। प्रसिद्ध लेखक डॉ० बी०पी० केसरी ने अपनी पुस्तक छोटानागपुर का इतिहास—कुछ सूत्र, कुछ संदर्भ में भी सिल्ली राज व्यवस्था के उल्लेखनीय कार्यों पर प्रकाश डाला है।

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झारखण्ड में भूमि समस्या और बिरसा आन्दोलन (1830-1900 ई.)

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सारांश:

झारखण्ड में भूमि सांप्रदायिक स्वाभित्व के अन्तर्गत होता था। मुडा और मानकी के आदिवासी संस्थान अस्तित्व में थे। गैर-खेती योग्य भूमि, और जंगल के पदार्थ सभी के लिए स्वतंत्र थे। लेकिन ब्रिटिश शासन उनके इस सांप्रदायिक स्वाभित्व की पुरानी प्रणाली को नष्ट कर दिया। और भूमि मालिक को उसी भूमि पर किरायेदार में बदल दिया। ब्रिटिश हुकूमत के खिलाफ जो विद्रोह और आंदोलन हुए, उनके दो सिरे थे। एक सिरा जंगल जमीन जैसे जीवन यापन के मुद्दों की वजह से स्थानीय और प्रजाति विशेष के नेतृत्व से जुड़ा था और दूसरा सिरा समाजिक-सांस्कृतिक मुद्दों की वजह से आजादी के सार्वदेशिक आंदोलन का आनिवार्य हिस्सा बना। 19वीं शताब्दी के पूर्वार्द्ध में छोटानागपुर के जनजातीय क्षेत्र में अंग्रेजी सरकार द्वारा सड़क निर्माण के कारण विभिन्न प्रकार के व्यापारी, सौदागर इत्यादि का आगमन हुआ। और आदिवासियों के सामाजिक, आर्थिक, धार्मिक, सांस्कृतिक, राजनैतिक और शासन प्रथा पर कुठारघात किया बल्कि 18वीं शताब्दी के पूर्वार्द्ध (1820-1850) में हुई व्यापक पैमाने पर जमीन की लूट की प्रक्रिया को उत्कर्ष तक पहुँचा दिया जिसकी परिणति कालांतर में विभिन्न ब्रिदोहों के रूप में हुई।

इन विद्रोहों के फलस्वरूप ईस्ट इंडिया कम्पनी ने कई सुधार प्रक्रिया किया। लेकिन वह एक मृत पत्र के समान ही था। कुछ सुधार अधिनियम इस प्रकार हैं भूमिहारी सर्वेक्षण संचालन (1860-62), पंजीकरण अधिनियम (1869), 1876 का छोटानागपुर एनकाउंटर एस्टेट अधिनियम, छोटानागपुर मकान मालिक और किरायेदार प्रक्रिया अधिनियम 1879, पर सुधार का अधिक प्रभाव झारखण्ड के आदिवासियों पर नहीं पड़ा।

छोटानागपुर में इसाई मिशनो की स्थापना के साथ इस क्षेत्र में एका नया कारक सामने आया, वह उनके मदद करने की बात करते थे लेकिन मिशनरियों द्वारा भी आदिवासियों का मोहभंग किया गया, जो उसी रंग से संबंधित थे, आदिवासी अब अपने स्वयं के संसाधनों के लिए तत्पर थे और अपने पुराने दिनों को पुनर्जीवित करने की मांग की जब उनके पूर्वजों ने भूमि पर शासन किया, असफलता, आत्मनिरीक्षण और पुनरुत्थानवाद के आग्रह ने आदिवासी नेताओं को उनकी पुरानी महिमाओं को वापस लाने और अपने राज्य को पुनः प्राप्त करने के लिए तत्पर थे। बिरसा आंदोलन, पुनरुत्थानवाद और विद्रोह का एक विश्लेषण, प्राकृतिक परिणाम था।

**विशिष्टशब्द:** दिक्कू सार्वदेशिक, जनजातीय विद्रोह, पुनरुत्थानवाद

शोध प्रविधि :

प्रस्तुत शोध आलेख विश्लेषणात्मक एवं वर्णानात्मक प्रकृति का है, शोध कार्य के लिए प्राथमिक एवं द्वितीयक स्रोतों का उपयोग किया गया है, इसके लिए मुख्यतः प्रकाशित ग्रंथ, पत्र-पत्रिकाओं, रिपोर्ट, में छपे विवरण, निबन्ध एवं लेख तथा विभिन्न शोध ग्रंथों को अध्ययन का आधार बनाया गया है।

भूमिका:

12 अगस्त 1765 ई. को मुगल बादशाह शाह आलम द्वितीय से अंग्रेजी कंपनी को बंगाल बिहार और उड़ीसा की दीवानी मिली।<sup>1</sup> बिहार, बंगाल-उड़ीसा के दीवान के रूप में कंपनी का छोटानागपुर से भी कर वसूलने का दावा कानूनी दृष्टि से अवैध था।<sup>2</sup> छोटानागपुर में अंग्रेजों का प्रवेश, सर्वप्रथम सिंहभूम की ओर से हुआ। कंपनी के अधिकारियों ने छोटानागपुर के इस पठारी एवं जंगली इलाके को अनुर्वर तथा समस्याओं से भरा हुआ माना था तथा उनकी व्यवसायिक बुद्धि का विचार था कि इस क्षेत्र के प्रशासन में सुरक्षा व्यवस्था बनाए रखने में जितना व्यय आयेगा उतनी आय लगान से नहीं हो सकती। उनका यह भी मानना था कि यहाँ की जनजातीय आबादी आर्थिक दृष्टि से कमजोर है जमीन खेती योग्य नहीं है तथा मैदानी भाग से जिस प्रकार लगान की आय होती है, उस प्रकार छोटानागपुर के किसानों से लगान की आय संभव

नहीं है। राजस्व की दृष्टि से इस क्षेत्र को कंपनी अधिकारियों द्वारा दुर्बल माना गया था।<sup>3</sup> छोटानागपुर के भूमि व्यवस्था को लेकर लगभग अराजकतापूर्ण स्थिति बनी रही। कुछ अफसर चाहते थे कि खालसा गाँवों को सालाना लीज के आधार पर ठीकेदारों को दे दिया जाय, लेकिन रामगढ़ का कलक्टर सालाना ठीका के खिलाफ था और पंचवर्षीय बंदोबस्त को पक्ष में था।<sup>4</sup>

1811ई. में उन्होंने 'स्थायी बन्दोबस्त' का स्पष्ट विरोध किया जिसका आश्वासन 1803ई. और 1805ई. में विजित और सतांतरित प्रदेशों (आधुनिक उत्तर प्रदेश, अवध को छोड़कर) के जमीन्दारों को दिया जा चुका था। तब शायद उन्होंने सोचा होगा कि कृषि के विस्तार पर देय राजस्व के अधिकार को छोड़ना बुद्धिमानी न होगी, मगर शताब्दी के दूसरे और तीसरे दशको में हुई मूल्य वृद्धि ने उनकी असहमति पर मुहर लगा दी होगी। मूल्य वृद्धि का यह आलम था, कि 1800 ई. में जो कीमतें थी उन पर 1830 ई. 50 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हो गई।<sup>5</sup>

छोटानागपुर में कंपनी शासन के प्रथम छः दशको में स्थानीय असतोष अलग-अलग विद्रोहों के रूप में अभिव्यक्त हुआ था। छोटानागपुर खास, सिंहभूम, पलामू, तथा मानभूम के कुछ भागों की जनजातियों ने 1831-32 ई. के कोल-विद्रोह में खुलकर भाग लिया। थॉर्नटन तथा मिल के अनुसार "आदिवासी इस विद्रोह के माध्यम से जंगल का

कानून पुनर्स्थापित करना चाहते थे।" इन लेखकों की दृष्टि में ब्रिटिश भारत को अधिकांश निवासी नियम कानून के विरोधी थे।<sup>6</sup>

यह समझना भी गलत होगा कि सरकार के विरुद्ध असंतोष केवल विभिन्न राजाओं और जागीदारों के बीच व्याप्त था। समान्य रैयत और किसान भी सरकार की अल्पकालिक राजस्व निर्धारण नीति से त्रस्त थे। इन नीति के फलस्वरूप जमींदार एवं किसान दोनों की अत्यंत असंतुष्ट और द्रिद्र बनकर रह गए थे। राजस्व विभाग के अधिकारियों की धोखाधड़ी ने अनेक प्रतिष्ठित परिवारों को भी आर्थिक दृष्टि से पंगु और अनाश्रित बना दिया था, अधिकारी वर्ग के शोषक दृष्टिकोण तथा राजस्व नियमों की संकुलता के फलस्वरूप बकाया मालगुजारी के नाम पर कई जमींदारियों नीलाम की जा चुकी थी। ब्रिटिश कानूनी प्रक्रिया बहुप्रचारित रूप से समतावादी, समदर्शी एवं प्रजातंत्रिक होते हुए भी आदिवासियों को लिए अरुचिकर एवं अग्राह्य थी।<sup>7</sup>

संथालों की ऋणग्रस्ता के बारे में पी.सी. रॉय चौधरी लिखते हैं अपनी आदतों के कारण आरंभ में महाजन उनके लिए वदान बनते थे लेकिन इसका अंत विनाशकारी होता था। यह एक ऐसा दुराचक्र था जिसमें संथालों के पतनोन्मुख दशा पर ही महाजनों की समृद्धि की फसल पनपती थी।<sup>8</sup>

बंगाल में असंतुष्ट किसानों के विद्रोहों की रिपोर्ट 1783 से मिलनी शुरू होती है इसके साथ लगे बिहार और उड़ीसा राज्यों में कोल और भूमिज विद्रोह 1831-33, के दौरान हुए थे। संथाल विद्रोह में हजारों आदिवासी मारे गए थे। 1857 के विद्रोह का अगदूत था। किसान-आंदोलन नये सिरे से उभरे और उनके आक्रोश के केन्द्र ग्रामीण समुदाय में निकटवर्ती उत्पीड़क बने। आगे चलकर यह आन्दोलन और भी उग्र रूप के साथ बढ़ता गया और कुछ-कुछ समय अंतराल के बाद किसान-आन्दोलन होता रहा। बस नाम अलग-अलग है।<sup>9</sup>

#### तथ्य विश्लेषण:

छोटानागपूर में प्रारंभिक ब्रिटिश शासन स्थानीय जनजातियों<sup>10</sup> के विद्रोह के साथ शुरू हुआ और इस तरह के हर पल के पीछे भूमि के शोषण की समस्या थी जिसके समाधान को टाल दिया गया, ब्रिटिश प्रशासन छोटानागपूर में प्राप्त दीवानी के कारण फैला हुआ था और तब से ईस्ट इंडिया कम्पनी के शासन ने एक लुटेरों की अर्थव्यवस्था का प्रशासन में पालन किया था, न्यूनतम व्यय, अधिकतम लाभ, आदर्श वाक्य था, और इस तरह की सभी बुराइयों प्रशासन के सामने आ गई थी, बहुत से आदिवासी, जैसे मुण्डा, हो खड़ीया, उरॉव तथा अन्य जनजातियों तो वस्तुतः भोजन जुटाने की अवस्था का नेतृत्व कर रही थी। आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में भूमि सांप्रदायिक स्वाभित्व में थी। और समुदाय ने उस श्रेष्ठ जमींदार को सदस्यता या चंदा दिया, जिसके उद्देश्य से मुंडा और मानकी के आदिवासी संस्थान अस्तित्व में थे।<sup>11</sup> गैर-खेती योग्य भूमि या उपवन और जंगल के पदार्थ सभी के लिए स्वतंत्र थे। ब्रिटिश प्रशासन के ईडन के बगीचे में एक नाग की तरह क्षेत्र में प्रवेश किया। यह क्षुद्र अधिकारियों इसके कानूनों और अदालतों और आदिवासी भाषाओं, रीति-रिवाजों, परम्परा और संस्कृति से पूर्ण अज्ञान थे। इसकी ट्रेन में अपरिहार्य पूंजीपति, ठेकेदार और इजारेदार ने राजस्व संग्रह की प्रणाली में बदलाव लाया, जिसने सांप्रदायिक स्वाभित्व की पुरानी प्रणाली को नष्ट कर दिया, जिसने भुइन्हारों को जमीन मालिक के बजाए उसके

आदित्य कुमार

अधीनस्थ के किरायेदारों में बदल दिया।<sup>12</sup> चंदा से चलने वाले सांप्रदायिक कानूनों को ब्रिटिश कानूनों ने समाप्त कर दिया। ब्रिटिश अधिकारियों और आदिवासियों के बीच बहुत कम तालमेल था और शुरूआत में चतरा या शेरघाटी में ब्रिटिश अदालतें स्थापित थीं।<sup>13</sup> जो आदिवासीयों के लिए बहुत दूर थी, और उत्पीड़ित आदिवासीयों के लिए किसी भी कानूनी मुकदमों की कुल अनुपस्थिति के लिए अग्रणी थी एक समकालीन लेखक ने अनुसार, "जब अत्याचारी घोड़ा चाहत है, तो कोलों को भुगतान करना चाहिए जब वह एक पालकी की इच्छा करता है तो कोलों को भुगतान करना होगा और उसके बाद उसे सहन करना होगा। उसे अपने संगीत के लिए, और दुधारू गायों के लिए, उसके दर्द के लिए भुगतान करना होगा। उसका घर वह उन पर कर लगाता है एक बच्चा पैदा हुआ फिर से एक कर क्या कोई शादी या पूजा है, एक कर है, क्या ठेकेदारों को कचहरी में दोषी पाया गया और उसे सजा दी जानी चाहिए, कोलों को जुर्माना भरना चाहिए और एक मृत्यु होती है एक कोल के घर में गरीब आदमी को जुर्माना देना होगा, एक बच्चा पैदा हुआ है, एक बेटा है या बेटा है, शादी है, गरीब को कर लगाया जाता है और लूट, दंड, लूट को तब तक जारी रखा जाता है जब तब कोल भाग नहीं जाते।"<sup>14</sup> आदिवासीयों के पास पाषण युग के अपने हथियारों को सहारा लेने के सिवाय चारा नहीं थे, वे तीरों और धनुषों के साथ अंग्रेजों के विकसित हथियारों को सामना करना था। कोल विद्रोह (1831-32), तथा प्रसिद्ध भूमिज विद्रोह परिणाम स्वरूप हुए। विद्रोह के बाद ब्रिटिश शासकों ने एक नए प्रकार के प्रशासन को स्वीकार किया और प्रशासन की एक गैर-विनियमन इकाई के रूप में दक्षिण पश्चिम सीमा एजेंसी का निर्माण किया। हालांकि बेईमान जमींदारों और ठेकेदारों द्वारा आदिवासियों पर भयानक प्रतिशोध की वजह से आदिवासियों की स्थिति बिगड़ती गई क्योंकि इस अवधि के दौरान भूमि की सबसे बड़ी संख्या में भूमि की निकासी हुई।<sup>15</sup> जिन आदिवासियों ने अपना गांव छोड़ दिया था, वहाँ उन्हें वापस जाने की अनुमति नहीं है और उन्होंने खुद को अपनी भूमि से दूर पाया। इसी तरह की हवा बह रही थी, संथाल परगना में नेता सिंधु और कान्हु ने विद्रोह किया, भूमि की समस्या उनके विद्रोह के पीछे-फिर से केन्द्रीय कारक थी।<sup>16</sup> इन परिस्थितियों के कारण ही आदिवासियों ने 1857 के संघर्ष का नेतृत्व किया इस विद्रोह में कुछ असंतुष्ट जमींदारों ने नेतृत्व का बागडोर अपने हाथों में लिया। छोटानागपूर में इसाई मिशनरों की स्थापना के साथ इस क्षेत्र में एक नया कारक ने जन्म लिया, जिन्होंने धर्मनिरपेक्ष आदिवासियों को उनकी धर्मनिरपेक्ष समस्याओं में मदद की।<sup>17</sup>

ईस्ट इंडिया कम्पनी के प्रशासन के प्रतिस्थापन हुआ ताज सीधे तौर पर क्राउन के हाथों में आ गया। इससे प्रत्यक्ष नियम में सुधार हुआ। भुइन्हारी सर्वेक्षण संचालन (1860-1862), की सुगबुगाहट हुई, पंजीकरण अधिनियम 1864 का अधिनियम XVI, छोटानागपूर राज्य कार्यकाल 1869 अधिनियम II, 1876 का छोटानागपूर एनकाउंटर एस्टेट अधिनियम, 1879 का छोटानागपूर मकान मालिक और किरायेदार प्रक्रिया अधिनियम, 1887 का छोटानागपूर ग्रामीण पुलिस अधिनियम<sup>18</sup> हालांकि, केन्द्रीय समस्या एक नए आंदोलन के कारण बनी रही, क्योंकि सरदार आंदोलन या मुलकुई लड़ाई को उखाड़ दिया गया।<sup>19</sup> आदिवासी या सरदार जिन्होंने प्रार्थना और याचिका की विधि की कोशिश की, आदिवासियों की दुनिया के अंदर तनाव बढ़ता गया,

क्योंकि सरदार अपनी भूमि सत्तारूढ़ महारानी से वापस चाहते थे। उन्होंने कलकता के बाबू (वकील) पर लाखों रुपये खर्च किए और मिशनरियों द्वारा भी उनका मोहभंग किया गया, जो उसी रंग से संबंधित थे।<sup>20</sup> सरदार अपनी भूमि को प्राप्त करने में विफल रहे। आदिवासी अब अपने स्वयं के संसाधनों के लिए तत्पर थे और अपने पुराने दिनों को पुनर्जीवित करने की मांग की, जब उनके पूर्वजों ने भूमि पर शासन किया, उनमें से कुछ ने 1818 में जाँ द बैस्टिस्ट के तहत छोटानागपूर राज की पुरानी राजधानी दोसा में एक मंच का आयोजन किया।<sup>21</sup> मंच बाहरी व्यक्ति दिकु को उखाड़ फेंकने का निर्माण लिया, जो लंबे समय से आदिवासियों को समाप्त कर रहे थे। हालांकि पहले से ही संधाल परगना में भागीरथ मांझी के नेतृत्व में खरवार आन्दोलन (1871) का प्रयास किया गया था।<sup>22</sup> हालांकि असफलता, आत्मनिरीक्षण और पुनर्स्थापनवाद के आग्रह ने आदिवासी नेताओं को उनकी पुरानी महिमाओं को वापस लाने और अपने राज्य को पुनः प्राप्त करने का निर्णय लिया। बिरसा आंदोलन, पुनरुत्थानवाद और विद्रोह का एक विश्लेषण प्राकृतिक परिणाम था।

बिरसा मुंडा (1875-1900) जैसा कि हम जानते हैं नब्बे के दशक के शुरुआती दिनों में छोटानागपूर के दक्षिण खुंटे और तमाड़ के पहाड़ी इलाके में एक चमत्कारिक व्यक्ति के रूप में उभरा, जो उन आदिवासियों को आकर्षक करता था, जो मनोगत सेवाओं के लिए उनके आस-पास इकट्ठा होते थे।<sup>23</sup> बिरसा के जन्म स्थान के आस-पास के क्षेत्र में तुलनात्मक रूप से सबसे कम अशांत जनजातीय क्षेत्र थे, हालांकि बिरसा के करिश्माई दृष्टिकोण को आदिवासियों के खोए हुए कारणों की सेवाओं में दबा दिया गया और नेता जल्द ही लाइन में पड़ गए। सरदारों द्वारा बोया गया आंदोलन का बीज बिरसा के नेतृत्व में एक पूर्ण पैमाने पर विद्रोह के रूप में सामने आया, जिसने एक गुप्त नेता और चमत्कारिक व्यक्ति की अपनी भूमिका को समाप्त कर दिया और राजद्रोह का प्रचार करना शुरू कर दिया। सरदार जिसने इतनी लंबी लड़ाई लड़ी थी। अब उसके आस-पास इकट्ठा हो गए और एक विद्वान शिक्षक का नाम **gidiun** वास्तव में शे में कामयाब रहा।<sup>24</sup> एक समकालीन लेखक के अनुसार, धार्मिक रंग तेजी से लुप्त होने लगे और "बिरसा एक नई उम्मीद का प्रतीक बनकर आए"<sup>25</sup>

राजनीतिक उद्देश्य स्पष्ट हो रहे थे, उन्हें धरती आबा या "पृथ्वी का पिता" और खसरा कोरा या असुरो का संहारक कहा जाता था, और कुछ ही समय में लोग उन्हें सिंग बोंग या सूर्य भगवान कहते थे, और उन्हें बिरसा भगवान के रूप में जाना जाता था।<sup>26</sup> मुंडाओं के उद्धारकर्ता के रूप में बिरसा ने अब अपने नेतृत्व में एक नए मुंडा राज के पुनरुद्धार की योजना बनाई, जहाँ मुंडाओं के पुराने विशेषधिकार और संपत्ति को बहाल किया जा सके।<sup>27</sup> उन्होंने विदेशियों को बाहर निकालने और भूमि को किराए से मुक्त रखने का आह्वान किया।<sup>28</sup> सरकार के खिलाफ लोगों की भावना जिसने मिशनरियों, राजस और जमींदारों का समर्थन किया और किराया बढ़ाया और आदिवासियों को सरकार से किसी भी तरह का पालन का नहीं करने के लिए कहा गया, बढ़ते आंदोलन ने सरकार को नाराज कर दिया उसने बिरसा को गिरफ्तार करने के लिए एक पुलिस पार्टी को अगस्त 1895 के दुसरे सप्ताह में भेजा गया। अब ट्राइबल बेल्ट में एक महान हंगामा हुआ। 24 अगस्त 1895 को बिरसा को गिरफ्तार कर लिया गया। तनावपूर्ण माहौल के बीच एक निर्णय पारित किया, जिसमें उन पर आदित्य कुमार

सरकार-विरोधी प्रचार करने और लोगों को किराया देने या किसी और आज्ञाकारिता का पालन करने से परहेज करने का अनुरोध करने का आरोप लगाया गया। ब्रिटिश सरकार ने ढाई साल के कारावास की सजा सुनाई गई।<sup>31</sup>

नवंबर 1895 में बिरसा और उसके उत्पीड़न और गिरफ्तारी के बाद सरकार द्वारा प्रेडिंसल केडीशन (1897 के अधिनियम VI) के अनिवार्य संचार के लिए कानून बनाया गया था, जो कि एक मृत पत्र बना रहा।<sup>23</sup> इसके बाद 1897-98 में बड़े अकाल का सामान करना पड़ा जब आदिवासी इलाको में भुखमरी से व्यापक मौते हुई, कृषि संबंधी अंशति केवल बढ़ जाती है और फसलों की लूट की घटना कई गुना बढ़ जाती है आदिवासी ने सरकार को अपनी घरती आबा को जेल से रखने के लिए शाप दिया।<sup>33</sup> आरिखकार जब उन्हें 30 नवंबर 1897 को रिहा किया गया तो असंतोष की बीज व्यापक रूप से बोए गए।<sup>34</sup>

बिरसा ने मुंडा राज के पुनरुद्धार की योजना जेल में ही बनाई और एक प्रस्तावनों के रूप में, चुटिया, जआथनुपर और वनरतनगढ में प्राचीन पवित्र सीटों का दौरा किया और मुंडा देश के केन्द्र में अपने मुख्यालय को को डौबरी में स्थानांतरित कर दिया।<sup>35</sup> 1898 में होली के त्यौहार पर बिरसा के अनुयायियों ने रावण (ब्रिटिश) और मेंदोदरी (रानी) का पुतला जलाया।<sup>36</sup>

हर जगह बिरसा के अनुयायियों की बैठक आयोजित की गई क्योंकि मुंडा का मानना था कि उनकी खोई हुई भूमि और विशेषधिकारों को मुंडा राज के तहत ही वापस हांसिल की जा सकता है।<sup>37</sup>

1899 में विशेष रूप से राँची जिले के मुंडा बेल्ट में एक्स-मास की पूर्व संध्या पर जलने वाले तीर से प्रहार किया गया। तथा आतंक का शासन शुरू हुआ, जिसमें बाहरी व्यक्ति सरकारी कर्मचारी और मिशनरी मुख्य लक्ष्य थे।<sup>38</sup>

सरकार की प्रतिशोधात्मक भाषा थी, और इसका समापन 9 जनवरी 1900 को एक पहाड़ी 'सईल रकब में इकट्ठे हुए बिरसौतो के खूनी नर नरसंहार में हुआ, जिसमें महिलाओं और बच्चों को अंधधुंध गोलिया मारी गई और बड़ी संख्या में विद्रोहियों को बंदी बना लिया गया, हालांकि, बिरसा खुद बच गए।<sup>39</sup> और अनुयायियों का एक जंगली शिकार शुरू हो गया। अतत: बिरसा को 3 फरवरी 1900 को पकड़ा गया और राँची जेल में रखा गया, जहाँ 9 जून को उनकी मृत्यु हैजा के कारण हो गई और उनके अनुयायियों को बाद में अलग-अलग सजा सुनाई गई।<sup>40</sup>

#### निष्कर्ष:

अग्रजों के अगमन जब झारखण्ड प्रदेश में हुआ उसी समय से उनका विरोध शुरू हो गया क्योंकि आदिवासियों को उनके समाज में किसी दुसरे का हस्तक्षेप पसंद नहीं आता है। इसलिए अग्रजों को दीवानी मिले के कुछ वर्षों में पहाड़ियों बिद्रोह (1772) तमाड़ विद्रोह (1782) तिलका आंदोलन (1783-85), चुआर विद्रोह (1798) कोल विद्रोह (1820-21) में होते रहे हैं इन सभी विद्रोह में भूमि की समस्या कारण बना। आमतौर पर विद्रोह के भड़कने का मुख्य कारण जातीय लोगों को जमीनों का बाहरी व्यक्तियों को हस्तांतरण और जमींदारों महाजनो व अन्य लोगों के द्वारा उनका शोषण था। जनजातीय लोगों के द्वारा अनाधिकृत कब्जा तथा मानकी और मुंडा के साथ दुर्व्यवहार के कारण जनजातीय के बीच असंतोष बढ़ा जिसके कारण विद्रोह भड़का। 19वीं सदी के काल में हालांकि हुकूमत एवं कुछ बागियों के कारण इसका दमन



कर दिया गया। आदिवासी स्वशासन, स्वसंस्कृति एवं समर्थन के लिए उस समय धुस हुआ, जब अंग्रेजों और सदानों को प्रथम दिक्कत कहकर उनका प्रतिकार किया। अपने जीवन मूल्यों, जीवन पद्धतियों और जीवन-दर्शन पर किसी अन्य के प्रभुत्व का प्रतिकार, विरोध और अवसर अपने पर संघर्ष की तत्परता उस क्षेत्र विशेष को एक ईकाई के रूप में स्थापित करता है। इन सम्मिलित मानदंडों से ही उन जातीय समूहों की पहचान अस्तित्वमय निर्धारित होता है। यहा विद्रोह आदिवासीयों की एक जुटता एवं राजनैतिक जागरूकता का संशक्त विद्रोह एवं स्वशासन का ज्वलंत एवं जीव का प्रयाच है।

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## सोनभद्र का उद्गम से पलामू (जपला) तक का सफर का ऐतिहासिक अध्ययन

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### सारांश:

सोनभद्र भारत के प्रमुख नदियों में मध्यभाग में बहने वाली सदाबह अथवा बारह मासी नदी है। इसे स्वर्ण नदी, सोनभद्र शिला, सोन संस्कृत में सोण आदि नामों से जाना जाता है। यह मध्यप्रदेश के अनूपपुर जिले में अमरकंटक के पास से उत्पन्न होती है। इसी स्थान के दुसरी तरफ नर्मदा नदी भी उत्पन्न होती है। सोन नदी की उत्पत्ति को लेकर मान्यता है कि यह ब्रह्मा के मानस पुत्र है। जो ब्रह्मा के तप के फलस्वरूप उनके बाएँ आँख से सोन तथा दाएँ आँख से भद्र अश्रु धारा के रूप में निकले थे। जिन्हें सोन-भद्र कहा जाता है। परन्तु प्रचलित नाम सोन है। यह नाम इसके पीले रंग के बालु के कारण पड़ा जो सोने के समान चमकते हैं। यह मध्य प्रदेश, उत्तरप्रदेश, छत्तीसगढ़, झारखण्ड से होती हुई बिहार के पटना जिले के दीनापुर में मनेर स्थान पर गंगा से मिल जाती है। सोन का गंगातक के मिलन का सफर 784KM (487मील) है। यह गंगा की दक्षिणी दुसरी सहायक नदी है। सोन की सहायक नदियों में घाघर, जोहिला, छोटी महानदी, बनास, गोपद, रिहंद, कन्हर, उत्तरी कोयल नदी है। इस नदी का जिक्र हमें पुराणों, आदि में भी मिलते हैं। इसके किनारे पर प्राचीन सभ्यता भी विकसित थी जो आज भी है। आज के दौर में पर्यावरण परिवर्तन का असर सोन नदी पर भी देखने को मिल रहा है।

**मुख्य शब्द :** सोन, जल धारा, बांध, मौसम, बारहमासी, नहर।

### प्रस्तावना:

सोनभद्र नदियाँ हमारे जीवन में महत्वपूर्ण स्थान रखती हैं। भारत में छोटी बड़ी बहुत नदियाँ हैं। भारत के मध्य तथा पलामू से होकर बहने वाली नदियों में प्रमुख नदी है। सोन, बह्मपुत्र तथा दामोदर को पुरुष रूप माना जाता है इसलिए इन्हें नद्य कहा जाता है। झारखण्ड की प्रमुख नदियों में सोन को कभी-कभी नजर अंदाज कर दिया जाता है। सोन का पलामू के क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण स्थान रखता है। सोन को संस्कृत में शोण, सोहन, सोनभद्र, हिरण्यवाह आदि नामों से भी जाना जाता है। सोन नदी के तट पर पाई जाने वाली पीली रेत जो स्वर्ण समान लगते हैं इस कारण इसका नाम सोन पड़ा। इस नदी की चर्चा मार्कण्डेय पुराण, रामायण, महाभारत आदि ऐतिहासिक ग्रंथों के साथ-साथ विदेशी यात्रियों के पुस्तकों में भी चर्चा मिलती है जैसे हेन्त्सांग की भारत यात्रा में तथा मेगास्थनीज की पुस्तक में भी।

सोन को भारत की मध्य में बहने वाली नदियों के श्रेणी में है। यह गंगा की दुसरी बड़ी सहायक नदी माना जाता है परन्तु यह कहना ज्यादा सही लगता है

कि सोन गंगा के साथ पटना बिहार से मिलकर समुद्र तक का सफर तय करता है। ऐसा है कि भारत गोण्डवाना भूखण्ड है जो अतिप्राचीन माना जाता है। यह क्षेत्र लम्बे भौगर्भिक काल में अनेक भौगर्भिक हलचल व परिवर्तन देखता रहा है। मध्यप्रदेश का मैकाल पर्वत भी अति प्राचीन हुआ साथ ही अमरकंटक से निकलने वाली सोन नर्मदा नदियाँ भी। हिमालय का निर्माण बाद में हुआ और हिमालय के निर्माण के साथ गंगा का अवतरण हुआ जो फिर आगे मिलकर अपना सफर तय किया। अर्थात् गंगा से भी पुराना सोन नदी है। अमरकंटक को स्कंदपुराण (रेखाखण्ड) में देवताओं का शरीर कहा गया है।

*अमर देवता प्रोक्ता शरीर कृत उच्चते।*

*अमरकंट इत्येवं तेन प्रोक्तो मनीषिभिः।।*

सोनभद्र के उद्गम मध्यप्रदेश के अमरकंटक से माना जाता है। अमरकंटक का वो क्षेत्र जहाँ से सोन का उद्गम हो रहा है इसके चित्रण दृश्य में पहले और आज में अन्तर देखने को मिलता है। इसके साथ ही सोन और नर्मदा के उद्गम के भी पौराणिक कथाएँ भी प्रसिद्ध हैं। सोन के उद्गम के बारे में मार्कण्डेय पुराण में कहा गया है कि शोण, महानदी और नर्मदा

सुरथाद्रि से तथा मन्दाकिनी और दशर्णा यह दोनों चित्रकूट से निर्गत हुई है।

**शोणो महानदश्व व नर्मदा सुरथाद्रिजा।  
मन्दाकिनी दशर्णा च चित्रकूटा तथा परा।<sup>1</sup>**

प्राचीन भारतीय वाङ्मय में कहीं-कहीं शोण को मेकलसुत (सोन को पुरुष माना गया है) और नर्मदा को मेकलकन्या कहा गया है। जिससे ज्ञात होता है कि सोन का उद्गम मैकाल पर्वत ही है। यह मैकाल विन्ध्य-सतपुड़ा का संधिपर्वत और पुराण कालीन ऋक्ष पर्वत का अंग है। इसी मैकाल के पश्चिमी छोर पर बसा हुआ अमरकंटक है। नर्मदा और सोन नदियों का उद्गम स्थल एक दूसरे के निकट है। इसके बारे में महाभारत में महाभारतकार कहते हैं कि शोण और नर्मदा का उद्गम 'वंशगुल्म तीर्थ' है, जहाँ स्नान करने, आचमन या मार्जन करने यहाँ तक कि जह स्पर्श से भी धाजिमेध यज्ञ करने का फल मिलता है—

**शोणस्य नर्मदायाश्च प्रभवे, कुरूनन्दन।  
वंशगुल्म उपस्पृश्य वाजिमेधफलं लभेत्।<sup>2</sup>**

सोन और नर्मदा के एक पर्वत से उद्गम है परन्तु दोनों दो दिशाओं में सफर करते हैं। साथ ही उद्गम की घटना के परिणाम स्वरूप लोकश्रुति प्रसिद्ध है कि ब्रह्मा की आँखों से दो आँसू गिरे, जिनसे नर्मदा और सोन नदियों की उत्पत्ति हुई।<sup>3</sup> आमतौर पर भी सोन को ब्रह्मा के मानस पुत्र माना जाता है। ब्रह्मा के तप के फलस्वरूप उनके बाएँ आँख से सोन तथा दाएँ आँख से भद्र अश्रु धारा के रूप में निकले थे। जिन्हें सोनभद्र कहा जाता है। इसी प्रकार नर्मदा और सोन की और भी जनश्रुति सुनने को मिलती है। इस लोकगाथा के अनुसार "राजा मेकल ने निश्चय किया कि जो कोई राजकुमार बकावली के फूल ला देगा, राजकन्या नर्मदा उसी से ब्याही जायगी। राजपुत्र शोणभद्र राजा मेकल की राजधानी अमरकंटक में बकावली के फूल लाया तो सही, लेकिन उसे कुछ देर हो गयी। फिर भी उसकी रूप और गुणों के कारण नर्मदा ने सोन ही विवाह करने का निश्चय किया। इसके निमित्त उसने अपनी नाइन जोहिला को भेजा। जोहिला राजमहल की नाइन होने के कारण सजी-धजी थी। जब सोन ने जोहिला को देखा तो उसे नर्मदा समझकर उससे हँसी मजाक करने लगा। जब जोहिला को देर हुई तो नर्मदा स्वयं देखने चली। नर्मदा जब दोनों को एक-दूसरे के साथ हँसी-मजाक करते देखा तो गुस्सा होकर अमरकंटक के कुंड में कुद गई जिसे आजकल 'नर्मदा कुण्ड' कहते हैं तथा पश्चिम की ओर बह चली। उधर जब सोन को इसकी जानकारी हुई तो नर्मदा के व्यवहार से चिढ़ गये और

क्रोध में अमरकंटक पहाड़ से वह कूदा और असफल प्रेमी की तरह वन-वन, पहाड़-पहाड़ में भटकने के लिए विपरीत दिशा पूरब की ओर चल पड़ा। जोहिला नदी भी अमरकंटक से निकलकर दशरथ घाट पर सोन नदी में मिल जाती है जिसकारण यह भी कहा जाता है कि सोन नदी ने जोहिला से विवाह कर लिया।<sup>5</sup>

सोन के उद्गम की प्रचलित लोककथा जो पूर्वी कैमूर क्षेत्र में भी प्रचलित है कि पहले सोन का निवास अमरकंटक के विशाल कुण्ड में था, जिसके तट पर जमदग्नि ऋषि रहते थे। एक बार कोई किसान एक बड़े बछड़े और उसकी प्रेमिका बछिया को हल में बाँधकर अपना खेत जोतने लगा। इस अत्याचार से क्रोधित बछड़े ने किसान के छाती में अपना सींग घुसा दिया जिससे उसकी मौत हो गई। नरहत्या के पाप से बछड़े की चमड़ी काली हो गयी। किसान का खून धोने के लिए बछड़ा कुण्ड में कुदा तो उसकी चमड़ी पुन सफेद हो गई। ऋषि पुत्र परशुराम ने यह सब देखा तो सोचा, ऐसा पाप नाशक जल अमरकंटक तक ही सीमित क्यों रहे? इसलिए उन्होंने अपने फरसे से एक ही प्रहार में कुंड का किनारा तोड़ दिया और सोन बह निकला।<sup>6</sup> आज भी यह स्थान ऋषिमुनियों के लिए सिद्धि पाने का स्थान माना जाता है और पिण्डदान का भी यहाँ काफी महत्व बताया जाता है। इसी प्रकार अनेक तरह की लोककथाएँ प्रचलित है।

पुरातत्व विभाग के भूतपूर्व अधिकारी जे0 डी0 बेगलर लिखते हैं— "सोन का उद्गम पेडरा और केदा के बीच, सोनमुंडा में है। एक लम्बी संकरी घाटी है, दो सामान्तर ऊँची-नीची डोंगरियों के बीच। यह घाटी को काटती है यहाँ एक पक्की बावली है। यहाँ कई मूर्तियों के टुकड़े हैं— कुछ उसकी दीवालों में चुने हुए और शेष सटे छोटे-चबूतरे पर ढेर किये या छितराये हुए हैं। इस बावली में हरा गंदा, बंधा धिरा जल रहता है जिसे सोन का उद्गम बताया जाता है— हालांकि बावली से आगे दलदलोवाली गड़हियों की पॉट का सिलसिला लगातार दूर तक चला गया है।"<sup>7</sup> यह बेगलर के द्वारा बताया समयानुसार चित्रण था। इसी पुस्तक में शम्भुनाथ शुक्ल नो भी कहा है कि सोन का उद्गम पेडरा के निकट सोनकुण्ड में है। बेगलर ने जिस सोनमुंडा के बारे कहा है, आज उस क्षेत्र को सोनमुंडा कहा जाता है और यहाँ से सोन का उद्गम माना जाता है उसे सोनकुण्ड कहा जाता है। जहाँ के गोमुख से सोन का उद्गम होता है। पेड़ों तथा अन्य वनस्पतियों के कट जाने से अब दलदल समाप्त होते जा रहे हैं।

पं. शम्भुनाथ शुक्ल बताते हैं कि अमरकंटक के निकटवाले सोनमुंडा के कुण्ड से काफी बड़ा यह पक्का

कुण्ड सोनबचरवार गाँव की सरहद में पड़ता है। इस पक्के कुण्ड का जल एक पतली नाली के द्वारा बारह महीने निकलकर खेतों से आगे बढ़ता रहता है। यही है सोनकुण्ड का सोन उद्गम, जिसकी चर्चा बेगलर ने भी कि है। छितरायी या ढेर की हुई मूर्तियाँ नहीं है। कुण्ड के एक कोने पर शिवालय है और दूसरे कोने पर सोन तथा नर्मदा की तथाकथित मूर्तियाँ। तीसरे कोने के निकट मण्डपाच्छादित चबूतरा है, यज्ञशाला के लिए। कुण्ड का जल काई सैवाल मिश्रित हरा जल था अवश्य, लेकिन उतना गंदा नहीं।<sup>8</sup> आज के समय से कुण्ड के पास भद्रसेन सोन की मंदिर बनाई गई है तथा कुण्ड में शिवलिंग भी स्थापित है और साफ रहता है। यहाँ के आस-पास के क्षेत्रों में आज भी प्राकृतिक औषधियों के भंडार मौजूद है।

सोन कुण्ड से निकलकर पहाड़ से समतल स्थान की ओर जाते हुए एक झरना जैसे पहाड़ से निचे गिरती हुए यह पर्वतों व पेड़ों के बीच गायब सी हो जाता है और आगे जाकर पेन्ड्रा में जाकर दिखना शुरू करता है। सोन भारत की पाँच राज्यों से होकर चलता हुआ गंगा के साथ मिलकर आगे की सफर तय करता है। मध्यप्रदेश में अनूपपुर, शहडोल, उमरिया, सीधी, रीवा जिलों से गुजरता है। छत्तीसगढ़ में सोन नदी लगभग 50Km बहने के बाद मादवहि क्षेत्र में समाप्त हो जाता है। उत्तर प्रदेश के दक्षिण-पूर्वी भाग से गुजरता है जिसमें यह सोनभद्र और मिर्जापुर जिलों को कवर करता है। उत्तर प्रदेश को छोड़ते हुए यह बिहार झारखण्ड में सीमा का निर्धारण करता है फिर पलामू प्रमण्डल के दो जिले गढ़वा तथा पलामू से होकर गुजरात है और फिर बिहार में प्रवेश कर जाता है।

सोन की छोटी-बड़ी सहायक नदियों के साथ अपनी यात्रा और सुगम बनाता है जिसमें अनेक नदियाँ मिलकर इसका जलधारा को बड़ी और चौड़ी करती है। अमरकंटक से पतली सी रास्ता से शुरू करता सोन पलामू प्रवेश करते वक्त चौड़ा हो गया होता है। जिसमें इसमें मिलने वाली सहायक नदियों का प्रमुख योगदान होता है। सहायक नदियों में जोहिला, रिहन्द, कोयल, गोपद, कन्हर, खान, गम्भीर, छोटी महानदी, घाघर, बनास, कुनहड इत्यादि है। इन नदियों के भी सहायक नदिया है जो मिलकर ढेर सारा क्षेत्र को बढ़ाती जाती है। जैसे-जैसे सोन में सहायक नदियाँ मिलती जाती है सोन का दायरा बढ़ता जाता है डेहरी ऑन सोन (बिहार) में इसकी चौड़ाई 3 से 5Km तक हो जाता है। डेहरी ऑन सोन नाम इसी नदी के कारण पड़ा है।

इस नदी पर एनीकट बाँध ब्रिटिश सरकार द्वारा 1876 में निर्माण कराया था, इंद्रपुरी बैराज भारत ममता कुमारी

के सबसे लंबे बांधों में से एक है जो 1968 में बनाया गया था। मध्यप्रदेश में बाणसागर बाँध एक बहुउद्देशीय नदी घाटी परियोजना है। इन बाँधों के पानी के उपयोग पर राज्य सरकारों के बीच बंटवारा भी किया जाता है।

पलामू में सोन नदी 45 मील लगभग 72Km तक बहता है। मिर्जापुर से पूर्व की ओर बहता हुआ पलामू को स्पर्श करता है। उत्तर पश्चिम कोने में कैमूर को छूते हुए यह भवनाथपुर पहुँचता है, हैदरनगर के नजदीक कोयल को अपने में समेट लेता है। कोयल से मिलते ही इसका पाट चौड़ा हो जाता है।<sup>9</sup>

पलामू, सोन घाटी में लोग प्राचीन काल से रहते आ रहे हैं जिसके प्रमाण यहाँ जगह-जगह से प्राप्त अवशेषों से होता है। पलामू प्रमण्डल के भवनाथपुर में प्रागैतिहासिक काल के दुर्लभ शैलचित्र मिले हैं। यहाँ कई गुफाओं के अन्दर आखेट की चित्रकारी उकेरी गई है। इन रॉक पेंटिंग्स की तुलना सिन्धु-घाटी सभ्यता की पेंटिंग्स से की गई है।<sup>10</sup> भवनाथपुर आज के समय में गढ़वा जिला में आता है। पलामू जिला के अंतर्गत जपला के पास सोन घाटी में कबरा कला स्थित है जो हुसैनाबाद प्रखण्ड के अंतर्गत है। यहाँ से अतिप्राचीन सभ्यता के प्रमाण मिले हैं जिसे भी हड़प्पा सभ्यता के तुलनार्थ माना जाता है। इसके आस-पास के क्षेत्रों में आज भी पुरातत्विक वस्तुएँ मिलते हैं। यहाँ किसी समय नगरीय सभ्यता विद्यमान थी क्योंकि यहाँ से पक्की हुई ईंटों के दीवार नालियाँ, रिंगवेल आदि नगरीय सभ्यता के समान ही प्राप्त हो रही है। यहाँ से प्राप्त ईंटों का आकार हड़प्पा मोहनजोदड़ो से प्राप्त ईंटों के साम्य है।<sup>11</sup> इसके अलावा मिट्टी के बर्तन, मृदभांड, चुंडीयां, पत्थरलौटी, हस्तकुठार (प्रागैतिहासिक) टेराकोटा, बाट इत्यादि। इन प्रमाणों पर और भी कार्य की आवश्यकता है। इन क्षेत्रों पर अध्ययन की जरूरत है।

कुषाण काल में बिहार में कनिक्क के क्षत्रप का नाम वंशफर था। बौद्ध धर्म का यहाँ समुचित प्रभाव था किन्तु मगध में गुप्त साम्राज्य की स्थापना के बाद बौद्ध धर्म का अवसान आरम्भ हो गया। शशांक ने बंगाल, बिहार और उड़ीसा पर अधिकार कर लिया तथा बौद्ध विरोधी मानसिकता का परिचय देते हुए बौद्धों का उत्पीड़न आरम्भ किया। कालान्तर में पूर्व और पश्चिम दिशा से क्रमशः भास्करवर्मन और हर्ष द्वारा दबाव बढ़ाये जाने पर अपनी राजधानी पौड्रवर्धन को छोड़कर वह दक्षिण बिहार के पर्वतीय क्षेत्र में चल गया। यहाँ वारुणीका आधुनिक बरुणा या सोन-ईस्ट बैक उसकी शक्ति का नवीन केन्द्र बनी।<sup>12</sup>

मध्यकाल में सोनघाटी क्षेत्र खरवारों के अधीन था। जिसके प्रमाण यहाँ के क्षेत्रों से प्राप्त शिलालेख से ज्ञात होता है। खरवारों को चेरों ने अपदस्थ किया, फिर चेरों राजाओं ने इस क्षेत्र पर राज किया। ब्रिटिश काल में इन क्षेत्रों का ब्रिटिश सरकार ने दोहन किया, चूँकि सोन घाटी के जपला में इस क्षेत्र का एक मात्र सीमेन्ट फैक्ट्री 1920 में डालमिया समूह ने शुरू किया गया था। जिससे इस क्षेत्र का विकास अच्छा हो रहा था परन्तु किन्हीं कारणों से 1980 में बंद किया गया। औद्योगिक स्तर पर यह क्षेत्र बहुत विकसित हो सकता था। गढ़वा कैमूर श्रेणी में चुना पत्थर की प्रमुखता है। पलामू में खनिज के भंडार मौजूद है।

सोन नदी के बीच में मौजूद दशशीशा महादेव इस क्षेत्र के लिए काफी लोकप्रिय स्थान है जो रामायण काल के माने जाते हैं। चूँकि मान्यता है कि इस शिवलिंग की स्थापना रावण के हाथों हुई है। यहाँ हर साल शिवरात्रि में मेला लगता है। इस स्थान की महत्व इसलिए है चूँकि सोन में बाढ़ आने पर भी यह स्थान जलमग्न नहीं होता। यहाँ मंदिर नहीं बना है मात्र एक चबुतरा है जिसके बिच में शिवलिंग स्थापित है। शिवलिंग के पास शिलालेख भी है। बाढ़ इस स्थान का कुछ नहीं बिगाड़ पाती। यह हुसैनाबाद (जपला) से करीब 20 मील दूर सोननद के मध्य बालू के ऊँचे छाँडन पर स्थित है।<sup>13</sup> इसी स्थान के बगल में खरवार शासकों के चट्टानों पर शिलालेख प्राप्त हुए हैं। जिसमें खरवार शासक के क्रमों की जानकारी भी मिलती है।

जैसा कि बताया गया है यहाँ अतिप्राचीन काल से लोग रह रहे थे, जिसका पुरातात्विक स्रोत से ज्ञात होता है साथ ही सोन घाटी में किले भी हैं जिसमें सोनपुर का किला जो सोनपुरा गढ़वा जिला में सोनपुरा राज्य बाढ़ से प्रायः ग्रसित रहता। इसकी अधिकांश भूमि सोन के गर्भ में चली यगी। यहाँ किला भी बाढ़ में ध्वस्त हो गया।<sup>14</sup> इसी प्रकार सोन वैली पोर्ट लैण्ड सिमेन्ट फैक्ट्री से साढे सात मील पूर्व अलीनगर ग्राम है। इस ग्राम में रोहिल्ला का एक किला है। रोहिल्ला अफगान के थे। इस किले को रोहिल्ला नवाब मुजफ्फर खाँ ने बनवाया था।<sup>15</sup>

सोनघाटी पलामू में महत्वपूर्ण स्थान रखता है। यह आज बिहार झारखण्ड का सीमा बनाती है। कुछ दुरी तक पहले भी पलामू को बाहरी आक्रमण से एक ओर से सुरक्षित करती थी। साथ ही पलामू की सभी नदियाँ सिधे या सहायक रूप में पानी सोन में जाती हैं। सोन के उद्गम से पलामू तक सफर में सोन में बहुत बदलाव आ चुका होता है। इन क्षेत्रों में सिंचाई हेतु इसका इस्तेमाल होता है। यहाँ अतिप्राचीन काल से लोग निवास कर रहे हैं। यहाँ आदिकाल के भी

ममता कुमारी

प्रमाण मिल रहे हैं साथ ही हडप्पा सभ्यता के समकालीन भी। प्राचीन काल की लिखित प्रमाण नहीं प्राप्त होते हैं परन्तु शासकों के अधिनस्थ यह क्षेत्र था इसकी जानकारी प्राप्त होती है। इस क्षेत्र की लिखित प्रमाण अच्छे से चेरों काल से ही प्राप्त होते हैं। सोन नदी का परिवहन के रूप नाव चलती है।<sup>16</sup> यह पहले भी जारी था और आज भी लोग रोहतास जाने के लिए जल यात्रा के रूप में नाव का इस्तेमाल करते हैं। सिंचाई के लिए भी इस क्षेत्र में सोन का महत्वपूर्ण स्थान है।

इस प्रकार छोटे लेख के रूप में सोन नदी का विस्तृत अध्ययन करने का प्रयास किया गया है। सोन के उद्गम से पलामू तक का सफर के बाद यह सफर जारी रहता है और बिहार के पटना जिला के दीनापुर में गंगा के साथ मिलकर समुद्र तक का सफर तय करता है।

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## 1857 के विद्रोह में नीलाम्बर–पीताम्बर के योगदान का खरवार जनजाति पर प्रभाव

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### सारांश:

1857 के विद्रोह को भारत की आजादी का प्रथम स्वतंत्रता संग्राम कहा जाता है। भारतीय स्वतंत्रता संग्राम के इस प्रथम विद्रोह का प्रभाव सबसे अधिक झारखण्ड के पलामू में हुआ, जो अब तीन जिलों में बंट गया है, लातेहार, गढ़वा एवं पलामू यहाँ अंग्रेजों के पिढू जागीरदारों के खिलाफ जन विद्रोह टूट पड़ा। इस विद्रोह के नेता थे नीलाम्बर और पीताम्बर भोक्ता समुदाय के इस दोनों बंधुओं ने अंग्रेजों के समर्थक जमींदारों और थानों पर हमला कर दिया, विद्रोह तो अंदर-अंदर वह सतह पर आ गया जहाँ पूरा पलामू ही नहीं इसकी आँच में तबके दक्षिण बिहार और अबके मौजूदा पूरा झारखण्ड शामिल था।

### प्रस्तावना:

देश की स्वतंत्रता वेदी पर इन दो शाही भोगता वीरों ने अपने जीवन, अपनी जागीरें, अपने गढ़, अपने पुत्र, अपने समस्त परिवार, अपने पड़ोसियों और उनके घरों को स्वाहा कर दिया। 1857-60 तक अंग्रेजों को दोनों ने पानी पिला दिया। इनके कारनामों 1857 के विद्रोह सम्बन्धी नेशनल आर्काइव दिल्ली, छोटानागपुर के कमिश्नर के रेकॉर्ड रूम तथा अन्य कागजात जो सिपाही विद्रोह से संबंधित हैं में उल्लेखित हैं। नीलाम्बर-पीताम्बर पलामू के दो महान स्वतंत्रता सेनानी थे। जिन्होंने अंग्रेजों के खिलाफ विद्रोह किया। वे दोनों सहोदर भाई थे। उनके बचपन के बारे में विशेष जानकारी उपलब्ध नहीं है।<sup>1</sup>

डोरंडा के सिपाहियों के विद्रोह के समय भोगता-बंधुओं में छोटा पीताम्बर, राँची में ही था, वह शीघ्रतापूर्वक अपने अग्रज नीलाम्बर से मिलने पलामू चला गया। दोनों ने मिलकर क्रांति का शंखनाद किया और अपने को स्वतंत्र शासक घोषित कर दिया, दोनों भाइयों के नेतृत्व में भोगताओं और समस्त खरवार समुदाय को मिलाकर एक विशाल शक्तिशाली संगठन बनाया गया। नीलाम्बर-पीताम्बर गुरिल्ला युद्ध में बड़े निपुण थे, 21 अक्टूबर 1857 को उन्होंने 500 भोगताओं के साथ शाहपुर पर हमला किया वहाँ से रानी (राजा चूड़ामन राय की विधवा पत्नी) से चार बंदूके हाथ लगीं। विद्रोहियों ने शाहपुर थाना पर भी आक्रमण किया और सभी कागजात जला डाले तथा एक

बरकंदाज को मार डाला, थाना के दारोगा ने भागकर बंगाल कोल कम्पनी के राजहरा गोदाम में आश्रय लिया। दूसरे दिन नीलाम्बर-पीताम्बर के 500 लोग डालटनगंज से पूर्व स्थित लेस्लीगंज की ओर बढ़े इन्हें देखते ही पुलिस और आर्टिलरी ने भागकर नवागढ़ के जागीरदार शिवचरण राय के यहाँ शरण ली। विद्रोहियों ने लेस्लीगंज में थाना, आबकारी तथा तहसीलदार भाग खड़े हुए। कुछ लोगों की हत्या भी कर दी गयी और पांच निकटवर्ती गांवों को लूट लिया गया, देखते ही देखते पलामू का विद्रोह भयंकर हो गया।<sup>2</sup>

कमिश्नर डाल्टन ने विद्रोह को नियंत्रित करने के लिए सरकार से शेखावती बटालियन की मांग की लेकिन यह बटालियन उस समय मानभूम में व्यस्त थी, 7 नवम्बर 1957 को ले0 ग्राहम चैनपुर पहुँचा, भोगता विद्रोही जो सरगुजा की सीमा की ओर चले गये थे, शीघ्र ही चैनपुर लौट आये, ग्राहम की स्थिति काफी कमजोर पड़ गयी। विद्रोहियों ने उसे चैनपुर गढ़ में घेर लिया और बेबस ग्राहम को रघुवर दयाल सिंह के निवास में छिपकर 24 नवम्बर तक सरकारी सहायता की प्रतीक्षा करनी पड़ी। इधर शाहाबाद के विद्रोही पलामू में हुए विद्रोह को सुनकर उनकी मदद के लिए आने लगे थे। समर्थन पाकर उत्साहित भोगता विद्रोहियों ने पीताम्बर के नेतृत्व में रंकागढ़ पर हमला कर दिया, ठाकुराई किशुनदयाल सिंह का महल जला दिया गया, इस घटना से गवर्नर जनरल काफी चिंतित हो उठा और दो तोप, दो कंपनी सिपाही की मांग की,

मेजर कॉटर को अकबरपुर भेजा गया। उधर 27 नवम्बर को प्रायः 5000 लोगों ने बंगाल कोल कम्पनी के राजहरा कोयला-खानों पर आक्रमण कर दिया, इस आक्रमण में भोगता खरवारों के अतिरिक्त खान के निकट के गांवों के हजारों ब्राह्मण भी शामिल थे, बाद में लगभग 500 ब्राह्मणों को गिरफ्तार किया गया, विद्रोही सोन नदी को पार करके पलामू पहुँचे। इससे उनकी उत्साह और ताकत और अधिक बढ़ गया। अब वे रंका समेत अनेक गांवों पर आक्रमण करना शुरू कर दिये जहां उन्हें अंग्रेज समर्थक होने का संदेह था।<sup>3</sup>

ले0 ग्राहम की मदद के लिए सेना की दो कम्पनियाँ सासाराम से भेजी गईं। ग्राहम की सेना ने विद्रोहियों को पकड़ना शुरू कर दिया लेकिन नीलाम्बर-पीतांबर को वे नहीं पकड़ सके। कमिश्नर डाल्टन काफी चिन्तित हो उठा था। प्रलोभन और दबाव के बावजूद किसी ने भी अपने सर्वोच्च नेताओं के गुप्त स्थल की जानकारी नहीं दी। अतः उसने पलामू के विद्रोहियों को कुचलने के लिए चल पड़ा। परगनैत जगत पाल सिंह ने भी अपनी फौज के साथ ग्राहम की सहायता की। डाल्टन ने पलामू किला पर आक्रमण किया लेकिन उसे विशेष सफलता नहीं मिली। 1858 ई0 के जनवरी-फरवरी महीना में उसने जागीरदारों से बातचीत की तथा उन्हें सैनिक सहायता के लिए कहा। उसने नीलाम्बर-पीतांबर के गाँव चेमों सेनेया पर भी आक्रमण किया लेकिन कोई विशेष लाभ नहीं हुआ। डाल्टन हर कीमत पर नीलाम्बर-पीतांबर को पकड़ना चाहता था और उसने पकड़वाने वाले को जागीर और अन्य पुरस्कार देने की घोषणा भी कर दी थी, भोगताओं को पला पछने के लिए निर्दयतापूर्वक मारा-पीटा जा रहा था। अंततः एक बार ये दोनों भाई अपने परिवार वालों के साथ किसी गुप्त स्थान पर भोजन कर रहे थे तो अपने गुप्तचरों की सूचना पाकर डाल्टन उन्हें पकड़ने के लिए दौड़ पड़ा डाल्टन ने उक्त गुप्त स्थान को घेर लिया।<sup>4</sup>

नीलांबर-पीतांबर ने मिलकर भोक्ता और खरवार समुदाय को मिलाकर एक शक्तिशाली संगठन बनाया। उल्लेखनीय है कि पलामू जिले में चरो और खरवार जाति की प्रधानता है इसमें भोक्ता खरवार जाति की एक उपजाति है। 1857 की क्रांति के समय नीलांबर-पीतांबर भी स्वतंत्रता संग्राम में कूद पड़े। अपनी शक्ति को मजबूत करने के उद्देश्य से उन दोनों ने चरो जागीरदार से दोस्ती की और उन्हें अधिकार वापस दिलाने के शर्त पर उनका समर्थन प्राप्त किया। 21 अक्टूबर 1857 को उन दोनों के नेतृत्व में चैनपुर, शाहपुर, लेस्लीगंज पर आक्रमण किया गया जिससे वे काफी हद तक सफल रहे।<sup>5</sup>

**Shalini Kumari**

पलामू विद्रोह मूलतः अंग्रेजी राज और ठकुराई के खिलाफ छोटे खरवार जागीरदारों तथा रैयतों का जन विद्रोह था। इस जन विद्रोह का नेतृत्व भोक्ता जागीरदार नीलांबर-पीतांबर कर रहे थे। इस विद्रोह को कितना जन समर्थन हासिल था, इस बात का अंदाजा इसी बात से लगाया जा सकता है कि एक समय विद्रोही सेना की संख्या 12000 तक जा पहुँची थी, विद्रोह के प्रति आम जन समर्थन की बात खुद अंग्रेज अधिकारी स्वीकार करते थे। मुकदमे के दौरान अपनी तमाम शक्ति के बावजूद ब्रिटिश सरकार कोई महत्वपूर्ण नहीं जुटा पायी थी। लगभग सारे गवाह या तो सरकारी मुलाजिम थे, ठकुराई के खास आदमी अथवा डरा-धमका कर लाए गए गरीब लोग। बड़े-बड़े इनामों की घोषणा के बावजूद विद्रोही नेताओं की गिरफ्तारी में कोई आम आदमी सामने नहीं आया।<sup>6</sup>

खरवार रैयत तथा छोटे-मझोले जागीरदार थे जो जमीन और आजादी के लिए ठकुराई तथा अंग्रेजी शासन से लोहा ले रहे थे। इसमें कुछेक बड़े राजा और जागीरदार थे जो अपनी जागीर की रक्षा और आजादी के लिए संघर्ष में कूद पड़े थे। इसमें कुछ ऐसे पूर्व राजा और जागीरदार भी थे जो विद्रोह की स्थिति का लाभ उठाकर अपनी खोई जागीर को पुनः प्राप्त करने अथवा जागीर पर अपनी दावेदारी के लिए लड़ रहे थे।<sup>7</sup>

डाल्टन ने भोगता खरवारों के दमन की याजना बनाई। ठकुराई किशुनदयाल सिंह को एक सेना देकर बघमारा घाट की ओर रवाना किया। किशुन दयाल सिंह ने विद्रोहियों पर कसकर छापा मारा। नीलांबर-पीतांबर भाग चले दल के दो-तीन मुखिया पकड़ लिए गये जिनमें से दो को फांसी दे दी गई और एक को भेद लेने के विचार से बन्दी बनाकर रखा गया। नीलांबर-पीतांबर अब तब कर्नल डाल्टन की पकड़ में नहीं आ सके। इसलिए वह बड़ा क्षुब्ध था इस बार उसने दोनों भाईयों को पकड़ने का दृढ़ प्रण किया। चारों ओर गुप्तचरों के जाल बिछ गये। सैनिकों को खुले लूट-मार और आगजनी का आदेश दिया गया। भोगता जाति के लोग बड़ी निर्दयता से मारे-पीटे और लूटे जाने लगे। नीलांबर और पीतांबर को पकड़ने वाले के लिए बड़ी जागीर और इनाम की घोषणा की गई।<sup>8</sup>

कहा जाता है कि अपने निरपराध भाई-बन्धुओं का सर्वनाश होते देखकर दोनों भाईयों को बड़ा खेद हुआ। उन लोगों ने सोचा जब सबों का नाश ही हो जाएगा तो हम एक दो बचकर करेंगे ही क्या? अतः बहुत सोच-विचार के बाद दोनों भाईयों ने एक रात अपने एक गुप्त निवास में सगे संबंधियों और परिवार

के बाल-बच्चों से अन्तिम भेंट की योजना बनाई। खाने-पीने का आयोजन किया गया। किन्तु इसका गुप्त भेद अंग्रेजों को मिल गया। स्वयं डालटन साहब ने अपने कुछ चुने वीरों के साथ वहां पहुँच कर उनके उस गुप्त आवास को घेर लिया। दोनों भाइयों ने अपने चलते सबों का नाश पसंद नहीं किया। अतः तलवारें चमकाते हुए अंग्रेजी सेना से सामना करने के लिए निकल पड़े और दुश्मन के सिपाहियों पर टूट पड़े। किन्तु अंग्रेजों की सेना का सामना अकेले दोनों के लिए कोई आसान न था। तुरंत ही पकड़ लिए गये। डालटन ने इन्हें अपनी अधीनता स्वीकार करने और शांतिपूर्वक रहने की शपथ लेने पर मुक्त करने का प्रस्ताव रखा। उत्तर में दोनों भाइयों ने कहा कि उन्हें मौत स्वीकार है किन्तु पराधीनता स्वीकार कर आदिकाल से स्वतंत्र रहनेवाली भोगता जाति के मुख पर वे कलंक की कालिख पुताना नहीं चाहते। कर्नल डालटन ने समझा था कि नीलांबर-पीतांबर के अंत से ही विद्रोह शांत हो जाएगा परन्तु इन पहाड़ी भागों में जो क्रांति की आग लग चुकी थी, वह इतनी जल्दी बुझानेवाली न थी।<sup>9</sup>

काली किंकर दत्त की पुस्तक "बिहार में स्वतंत्रता आंदोलन का इतिहास भाग-1" के अनुसार भोगता कबीलाइयों को पूरी तरह दबाने में 1859 के अन्त तक सफलता नहीं मिल सकी थी। 1957 के विधान 15 के अन्तर्गत विद्रोही नेताओं की जमींदारियाँ जब्त कर ली गई थी।<sup>10</sup>

सन् 1880 तक पलामू की कर वसूली रामगढ़ के विभिन्न अंग्रेज कलक्टरों के द्वारा होती रही। 1860 ई0 में थॉमस कैम्पवेल ने 3 साला बन्दाबस्ती की, जिसका माल 263 खालसा गाँवों के लिए 22,293 रु 3 आना 2 पाई माल बांध दिया। 1870 ई0 से अवर उपायुक्त एन0 आर0 फौरबिस ने 26 साला बन्दोबस्ती की जिसका माल 40,843 रु0 निश्चित हुआ। फौरबिस ने "परई आदारी" और "उटक्कर" के आधार पर माल बांधा। माल वसूलने के लिए 4413 रुपये कमीशन पर ठीकेदार नियुक्त किये गये। इस काम में लगे ठीकेदारों को भूमि दी जाती थी जो "मथवाना" कहलाता था। ठीकेदारी प्रथा 1 अप्रैल 1896 ई0 में समाप्त होकर सीधे सरकारी नियंत्रण में चली गई। पलामू को एक अलग जिला बन जाने के कारण बन्दोबस्ती का भार उपायुक्त पर छोड़ दिया गया उपायुक्त ने सलाना बन्दोबस्ती को ही उपयुक्त समझा।<sup>11</sup>

समस्त अंग्रेजी सरकार नीलांबर-पीतांबर को पकड़ने के लिए कोशिश करते रहे लेकिन वे बार-बार भागने में सफल होते गये। अंत में कर्नल डालटन ने इन दोनों भाइयों को एक भोज के सुअवसर पर

गिरफ्तार कर लिया और एक संक्षिप्त मुकदमा की कारवाई करते हुए उन्हें फाँसी की सजा दे दी गई। इसके बाद दोनों भाइयों की संपत्ति भी जब्त कर ली गई।<sup>12</sup>

नीलांबर-पीतांबर के 1857 के विद्रोह का परिणाम था कि ईस्ट इंडिया कम्पनी का शासन समाप्त हो गया और ब्रिटेन की साम्राज्यी ने शासन का बागडोर अपने हाथ में ले लिया। साम्राज्यी की उद्घोषणा से ऐसा लगा कि जनजातियों की समस्याओं में कुछ सुधार होगा, लेकिन ऐसा कुछ नहीं हुआ। जनजातियों का शोषण तथा उनकी भूमि संबंधी समस्या जो ईस्ट इंडिया कंपनी के शासनकाल में हुए विद्रोह की मुख्य समस्या थी, ताज के शासन काल में भी यथावत बनी रही। परिणाम स्वरूप खरवार आंदोलन ने अपने हक अर्थात् जंगल और जमीन की लड़ाई शुरू की। जनजातियों के इन विद्रोहों के कारण भारत रक्षा कानून को कठोरता से लागू किया गया।<sup>13</sup>

अखिल भारतीय कांग्रेस के झंडे के नीचे जब राष्ट्रीय आंदोलन शुरू हुआ तो पलामू के खरवार जनजाति ने भी इसमें हिस्सा लिया। महात्मा गांधी के व्यक्तित्व से प्रभावित यहाँ के जनजातियों ने महात्मा गांधी के असहयोग आंदोलन, सविनय अवज्ञा आंदोलन तथा भारत छोड़ो आंदोलन में भाग लेना शुरू कर दिया। सम्पूर्ण पलामू में नव-जागरण दिखाई पड़ने लगा था। कहीं समाज सुधार तो कहीं विदेशी वस्तुओं का बहिष्कार हो रहा था। जगह-जगह पर धरना, प्रदर्शन तथा अंग्रेजों के विरुद्ध असहयोग के कार्यक्रम चलाये जा रहे थे। लोग अंग्रेजी सेवा का बहिष्कार कर रहे थे तो छात्र सरकारी स्कूलों तथा कॉलेजों का बहिष्कार करने में जुटे थे। वकील कचहरियों का बहिष्कार करते थे शिक्षक स्कूल और कॉलेज का बहिष्कार कर रहे थे। 30 अगस्त को मनातु डाकखाना और शराब खाना तथा पथरा शराब की दूकान पर आक्रमण हुए। उसी दिन भीतरी इलाकों से लगभग 500 खरवार चैनपुर आए। पुलिस को आशंका थी कि ये लोग अगले दिन डालटेनगंज पर आक्रमण में सम्मिलित होंगे। अतः सशस्त्र दल की सहायता से अनेक लोगों को गिरफ्तार कर लिया गया। भारत रक्षा अधिनियमों के अंतर्गत जिन लोगों को सजा मिली उनमें मुख्य थे गणेश प्रसाद कमलापुरी, रामटहल गुप्त, सुदामाप्रसाद, बदरी नारायण, मनमोहन खरवार और नन्हकू सिंह आदि।<sup>14</sup>

स्वदेशी आंदोलन चलाया जा रहा था जिसमें खादी वस्त्र का निर्माण एवं चरखा चलाकर सूत काटने का काम तेज से चल रहा था। श्रीमती सरला देवी चर्खा और खादी वस्त्र पर व्याख्यान देती थी, इससे



संबंधित प्रदर्शनियाँ लगायी जाती थी। नशाखोरी का विरोध हो रहा था। शराब की दुकानों पर धरना का कार्यक्रम चलाया जा रहा था। महात्मा गांधी के झारखण्ड की यात्रा से लोग बहुत उत्साहित थे। उनके भाषणों में जन सैलाब उमड़ पड़ता था। भारत छोड़ो आंदोलन में पलामू ने अजब भागीदारी निमायी। जगह-जगह पर थानों डाकघरों तथा रेलवे स्टेशनों को क्षतिग्रस्त किया जाने लगा। सरकारी भवनों में आग लगायी जाने लगी। तार काटे जाने लगे तथा रेल की पटरियाँ उखाड़ी जाने लगी। अंग्रेजों के लिए यह एक चुनौती थी। अंग्रेजों ने इस आंदोलन को सेना के बल पर दबाने का भरसक प्रयास किया। नेताओं को पकड़कर जेल में डाला जाने लगा लेकिन यह आंदोलन नहीं रुका और अंत में भारत आजाद हुआ जिसमें पलामू के जनजातियों की भी अहम भूमिका रही। पलामू जिला में आंदोलन के लिए भारी उत्साह था। यहाँ का जनजातीय नेता भागीरथ नामक प्रख्यात खेरवार था जिसे 1940 में आदिवासी आंदोलन शुरू कराने के प्रयत्न के सजा दी गई थी, पहली जुलाई 1942 को जेल से रिहा हुआ। 11 सितंबर को कुछ लोगों ने लातेहार स्थित शराब की दूकान में आग लगा दी। 12 को उँटारी थाना के अंतर्गत धुरकी शराबखाना के मालिक को अपनी दूकान बंद करने को कहा गया। संभवतः जिला के बाहर से भी कुछ क्रांतिकारी नेता आए थे और स्थानीय लोगों के साथ मिलकर गुप्त रूप से काम कर रहे थे।<sup>15</sup>

आजादी के बाद अपनी सरकार ने जनजातियों की समस्याओं को सुलझाने के लिए प्रयास किये हैं फिर भी यह अपर्याप्त है। समाज में अभी भी असंतोष है। सरकार का यह दायित्व है कि उन समस्याओं का सामाधान ढूँढ़ निकाले। भले ही यह आंदोलन विफल हो गया हो लेकिन इसने खरवारों के जीवन में अनेक सुधारवादी दृष्टिकोण का संचार किया था।

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निबन्धकार आचार्य रामचन्द्र शुक्ल : एक मूल्यांकन

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सारांश:

आचार्य शुक्ल के निबन्धों की संख्या अधिक नहीं है। उनके तीन निबन्ध ऐसे हैं, जो बहुत पहले प्रकाशित हुये थे, किन्तु अभी तक उन्हें किसी संकलन में स्थान नहीं मिला है। ये शुक्ल जी की प्रारम्भिक निबन्ध-कला के स्वरूप को प्रकट करते हैं। इनके नाम हैं— साहित्य, उपन्यास और अपनी भाषा पर विचार। 'साहित्य' में साहित्य की परिभाषा, धर्म, लक्षण, व्याप्ति, विज्ञान आदि से उसका संबंध तथा उसके विविध निर्माणकारी तत्वों पर संक्षेप में विचार किये गये हैं। इससे शुक्ल जी की उस मौलिक विचारधारा का पता चलता है, जिसके आधार पर वे भारतीय और पाश्चात्य समीक्षा सिद्धान्तों तथा प्रणालियों का समन्वय करने के लिये प्रयत्नशील रहे हैं। इस निबन्ध का आधार है न्यूमन का लिटरेचर नामक निबन्ध, फिर भी इसमें शुक्ल के प्रधान समीक्षा संबंधी सिद्धान्तों के बीच विद्यमान हैं। इससे पता चलता है कि वे प्रारम्भ से ही साहित्य के दोनों पक्षों (भावपक्ष और कलापक्ष) को महत्व प्रदान करते थे तथा साहित्य के बारे में संतुलित दृष्टिकोण लेकर ही उन्होंने आलोचना के क्षेत्र में पदार्पण किया था।

प्रस्तावना:

उपन्यास में उपन्यास के आधार, कार्य, लाभ, सत्य तथा कसौटी पर उनके संतुलित विचार व्यक्त हैं। उनके अनुसार वास्तविक जीवन उपन्यास का आधार है, वस्तु, चित्रण, मानवीय अन्तःकरण के सौन्दर्य का उद्घाटन, पाठकों का नयनोन्मीलन तथा सदाचार का स्वाभाविक सौन्दर्य-वर्णन, कार्य, समाज के कल्याण की सिद्धि-लाभ, मानव जीवन की अनुरूपता सत्य तथा तत्कालीन सामाजिक स्थिति की अनुकूलता आदि कसौटी। अन्त में एक ऐतिहासिक उपन्यासकार की योग्यता एवं उसकी विशेषताओं का भी उद्घाटन किया है। संक्षेप में यह निबन्ध उपन्यास के संबंध में मौलिक सिद्धान्तों एवं संतुलित दृष्टिकोण को प्रकट करता है।

अपनी भाषा पर विचार उनके भाषा संबंधी मौलिक विचारों एवं सिद्धान्तों का परिचायक है। इसमें भाषा के सैद्धांतिक तथा व्यावहारिक पक्षों पर सूत्रात्मक शैली में विचार हुआ है। सैद्धान्तिक पक्ष पर विचार करते हुये उन्होंने भाषा के उद्देश्य, प्रयोजन, महत्व, बोधनशक्ति, उसका सभ्यता और संस्कृति से संबंध आदि पर महत्वपूर्ण विचार प्रकट किये हैं। भाषा के स्वरूप का भी विवेचन हुआ है और राष्ट्रभाषा पर गर्भित विचार भी। भाषा के व्यावहारिक पक्ष के संदर्भ में इन्होंने हिन्दी की शब्द-योजना, शब्द-विस्तार, दूसरी भाषाओं के शब्दों को पचाने आदि से संबद्ध मौलिक चिन्तन दिया है। यह निबन्ध भी उनके भाषा विषयक मौलिक चिन्तन एवं संतुलित दृष्टिकोण का प्रमाण है।

सर्वमान्य रूप से आचार्य शुक्ल हिन्दी साहित्य के सर्वश्रेष्ठ निबन्धकार माने जाते हैं। आचार्य हजारीप्रसाद द्विवेदी ने इन्हें भारतीय साहित्य का प्रमुख निबन्धकार माना है। वस्तुतः शुक्ल विश्व स्तर के महान् निबन्धकार हैं। वे औपचारिक निबन्ध के वैसे ही सम्राट हैं, जैसे मिश्र अनौपचारिक निबन्ध के। उनके विचारात्मक निबन्ध अपने उपमान आप ही हैं उनकी गूढ़गुफित विचार सरणि और

गहन गम्भीर भाषा शैली का योग एक समग्र प्रभाव छोड़ जाता है। आचार्य शुक्ल के निबन्धों की तीन कोटियां हैं—

1. भाव केन्द्रित निबन्ध

इसमें प्रमुख रसों के स्थायी भावों पर विशद, गम्भीर और मौलिक विवेचन-विश्लेषण प्राप्त होता है। उत्साह, श्रद्धा-भक्ति, करुणा, लोभ, प्रीति, घृणा, भय, क्रोध इत्यादि इसी प्रकार के निबन्ध हैं। संख्या की दृष्टि से ऐसे निबन्ध अधिक लिखे गये हैं।

उनके भावात्मक निबन्धों के केन्द्र में लोकमंगल है। वे मनुष्य के भावों में विशेष प्रकार के अनुशासन या संगठन पर बल देते हैं, क्योंकि मानव-जीवन का विकास उसके भावों पर ही निर्भर करता है। यदि मनुष्य लोक के विरुद्ध भावों को धारण करता है, तो उसकी गति विपरीत दिशा में होगी। यदि मनुष्य लोक मंगल को धारण करता है, तो व्यक्तिगत और सामाजिक दोनों प्रकार से उसका अनुकूल दिशा में विकास होगा। शुक्ल जी कहते हैं 'भाव क्षेत्र अत्यन्त पवित्र है। उसे गंदा करना लोक के प्रति भारी अपराध समझना चाहिये।'

शुक्ल जी मानते हैं कि समाज से प्राप्त जिन-जिन् भावों को मनुष्य धारण करता है, उनसे व्यक्तिगत तौर पर वहीं नहीं, बल्कि सम्पूर्ण समाज भी प्रभावित होता है। ये भावनाएं मनुष्य के कर्मक्षेत्र को प्रभावित करती हैं अगर मनुष्य उदात्त भावनाओं को धारण करता है, तो उसका कर्म भी उदात्त होगा और उदात्त कार्य से पूरा समाज या लोक प्रभावित होगा। उन्होंने 'कर्म-सौन्दर्य के उपासक को सच्चा उत्साही स्वीकार किया है।' वे इस बात पर बल देते हैं कि वास्तविक सुख लोकहित में किये गये कर्म से उत्पन्न भावों को धारण करने में ही है—' अत्याचार का दमन और क्लेश का शमन करते हुये चित्त में जो उल्लास और तुष्टि होती है, वहीं लोकोपकार कर्मवीर का सच्चा सुख है। कर्म भावना ही उत्साह उत्पन्न करती है, वस्तु या व्यक्ति की भावना।'

## 2. सैद्धांतिक निबन्ध

इसमें भावबोध, रसबोध, काव्य के स्वरूप, काव्य में लोकमंगल, साधारणीकरण, व्यक्ति वैचित्र्यवाद, रहस्यवाद जैसे गम्भीर विषयों पर उच्चतम स्तर से वैचारिक निबन्ध हैं। वैयक्तिक स्पर्श से उर्जस्वित स्थापनाएं भी हैं। **भाव या मनोविकार, कविता क्या है, रसात्मक बोध के विविध रूप, काव्य में रहस्यवाद** इत्यादि इसी प्रकार के निबन्ध हैं। संख्या की दृष्टि से अल्प होने पर भी इस वर्ग के निबन्ध संभवतः सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण हैं। 'कविता क्या है? निबन्ध को शुक्ल जी का सर्वश्रेष्ठ निबन्ध माना जाता है। इस स्फीत निबन्ध में लोकोत्तर आनन्द अथवा रस समेत कविता के प्रायः समग्र महत्वपूर्ण तत्वों का सर्वोच्चस्तरीय विवेचन किया गया है। कविता की परिभाषा और उसके स्थान पर उनकी उक्ति ध्यातव्य है 'जिस प्रकार आत्मा की मुक्तावस्था ज्ञानदशा कहलाती है, उसी प्रकार हृदय की यह मुक्तावस्था रसदशा कहलाती है। हृदय की इसी मुक्ति साधना के लिये मनुष्य की वाणी जो शब्द विधान करती आई है, उसे कविता कहते हैं। इस साधना को हम भाव योग कहते हैं और कर्मयोग और ज्ञानयोग के समकक्ष मानते हैं।'

## 3. व्यक्तिपरक निबन्ध

ऐसे निबन्ध मात्र तीन हैं— **भारतेन्दु हरिश्चन्द्र, तुलसी का भक्तिमार्ग, मानस की धर्मभूमि**। इन तीनों में से एक मानस की धर्मभूमि के दर्शन 'गोस्वामी तुलसीदास ग्रंथ के अन्तिम निबन्ध के रूप में हैं। ये तीनों निबन्ध उत्कृष्ट हैं। भारतेन्दु हरिश्चन्द्र पर जितने गम्भीर एवं उत्कृष्ट विचार शुक्ल जी ने व्यक्त किये हैं, उतने डॉ. रामविलास शर्मा समेत किसी आलोचक ने नहीं।'

इनके प्रायः सभी निबन्धों में उच्चकोटि की विचार-शक्ति, स्थापना-शक्ति, संवेदनशीलता एवं आदर्श प्रवणता के दर्शन होते हैं। उनके निबन्धों में बुद्धि और हृदय तथा विषय और व्यक्ति का अद्वितीय समन्वय हुआ है। विचारात्मक निबन्धकार की दृष्टि से ये हिन्दी या भारत के ही नहीं, समग्र विश्व के एक अग्रणी साहित्य सृष्टा हैं। उनके निबन्धों की प्रधान विशेषताएं हैं— परिभाषावाद, वर्गीकरणवाद, विश्लेषणवाद, आत्माभिव्यक्ति, हास-परिहास एवं व्यंग्य का सफल प्रयोग, प्राणवान भाषा, समास एवं व्यास शैली का समन्वय।

इनकी भाषा में विषयानुकूल भाव प्रकाशन की अलौकिक शक्ति है। इतनी सम्मत, परिष्कृत, प्रौढ़, विशुद्ध और सुष्ठ भाषा कम ही मिलेगी। विवेचना की गम्भीरता के अनुपात से भाषा भी गम्भीर और प्रौढ़ रूप धारण करती है। मनोवेगों और साहित्य सिद्धान्त संबंधी निबन्धों में आपका रूप अधिक गुंफित, गंभीर और गहन है।

## 4. आलोचनात्मक निबन्ध

शुक्ल जी के आलोचनात्मक, समीक्षात्मक निबन्धों में उनके प्रखर, चिंतक आलोचक को देखा जा सकता है। जिस प्रकार प्रेमचन्द उपन्यास तथा जयशंकर प्रसाद नाटक के केन्द्र पुरुष हैं, उसी प्रकार शुक्ल जी आलोचना के अपनी असाधारण प्रतिभा, अपनी स्फीत ग्रहण शक्ति, अपने अगाध अध्ययन एवं अपनी अचूक स्थापना प्रणाली के कारण वे हिन्दी के सर्वश्रेष्ठ आलोचक हैं। परवर्ती आलोचक शुक्लोपजीवी ही सिद्ध हुये हैं। श्री नंददुलारे वाजपेयी, हजारीप्रसाद द्विवेदी, नगेन्द्र आदि शुक्ल जी की लीक पर ही चल रहे हैं। जिन बिन्दुओं को शुक्ल जी ने उपेक्षित किया था, जिन पर प्रहार किया, जिन कवियों के प्रति शुक्ल जी ने अन्याय किया, उसको लेकर ही ये लॉग आगे बढ़े।

**हिन्दी साहित्य की इतिहास** आचार्य शुक्ल का आलोचक के रूप में कीर्ति स्तम्भ है। बाद में बहुत इतिहास लिखे गये। शुक्ल जी की आलोचना भी खूब हुई, पर सभी का ढांचा और कलेवर शुक्ल जी का ही दिया रहा। उन्होंने त्रिवेणी की भूमिका में स्वीकार किया कि तृतीय उत्थान में आलोचना की छानबीन आदर्श भी बदला। कवियों के गुण दोष कथन से आगे बढ़कर उनकी अन्तवृत्तियों की छानबीन की ओर ध्यान दिया जाने लगा। शुक्ल जी यह स्वयं कैसे कहते कि इस तृतीय उत्थान के जनक वे ही हैं। इस प्रकार साहित्येतिहास लेखन के साथ उन्होंने आलोचना के क्षेत्र में क्रांति की।

**गोस्वामी तुलसीदास, जायसी ग्रंथावली** की भूमिका अच्छे खासे ग्रंथ जैसी है। सूर की आलोचना, भ्रमरगीतसार की भूमिका जैसी आलोचना आज तक नहीं लिखी गई। यह उनके मौलिक चिन्तन का परिणाम है।

**गोस्वामी तुलसीदास** ग्रंथ में आचार्य शुक्ल ने तुलसी-काव्य के अनुभूति एवं अभिव्यक्ति पक्षों के प्रायः सभी महत्वपूर्ण बिन्दुओं पर प्रकाश डाला है। तुलसी के लोकसंग्रह और प्रबंधत्व पर वे विरमते हैं और उन्हें आसमान में उठा देते हैं और सूरदास को तुलसी से छोटा बना देते हैं। यह कहीं-कहीं उनके पूर्वग्रह का द्योतक है। **चिन्तामणि** (भाग-1) के सत्रह निबन्धों में तुलसी पर ये दो निबन्ध प्राप्त होते हैं **तुलसी का भक्तिमार्ग** और **मानस की धर्म भूमि** जिनमें दूसरा 'गोस्वामी तुलसीदास' में भी विद्यमान है। तुलसी की ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि उन्हें प्राप्त सांस्कृतिक परम्परा, उनके समय की धार्मिक एवं सामाजिक स्थिति, उसमें उनका योगदान, उनकी भक्ति पद्धति, उनका शीलनिरूपण और मर्यादावाद, उनकी लोकमंगल साधना, उनकी भाषा-शैली, अलंकार विधान, हिन्दी-साहित्य में उनका स्थान आदि आचार्य शुक्ल पांडित्यपूर्ण शैली में विवेचित किये गये हैं। गिर्यसन, मिश्रबंधु आदि के समान उन्होंने भी तुलसी की सर्वश्रेष्ठता प्रतिपादित की है।

जायसी ग्रंथावली की स्फीत भूमिका में उन्होंने सूफी-दर्शन, उस पर भारतीय अद्वैतवाद के प्रभाव, सूफी रहस्यवाद, जायसी के प्रबंध कौशल, उनके अद्वितीय विरह वर्णन उनकी ठेठ अवधी आदि पर नीर-क्षीर विवेकी दृष्टि से प्रकाश डाला है। जायसी की राम, लक्ष्मण, पांडव, कौरव, नारद, इन्द्र इत्यादि पर निराधार अपमानसूचक शब्द लिखे हैं और इस्लाम को सर्वोपरि धर्म घोषित किया है। अतएव शुक्ल द्वारा जायसी की उदारता की प्रशस्ति निराधार है।

सूरदास शुक्ल की छोटी-सी किन्तु उल्लेखनीय आलोचना-कृति है। वस्तुतः यह भ्रमरगीत सार की भूमिका है। इसमें ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि, युगस्थिति, वात्सल्य-वर्णन, शृंगार-वर्णन तथा भ्रमरगीत इत्यादि पर सम्यक् प्रकाश डाला गया है।

आचार्य शुक्ल शास्त्रवादी लोकमंगलवादी आलोचक हैं। शास्त्रवाद से अभिप्राय उनके रसवादी होने से तो है ही, अलंकार निरूपण, गुण-दोष निरूपण, लक्षणा-व्यंजना, प्रशस्ति इत्यादि से भी है। यहां तक वे मिश्रबंधु की परंपरा के विकास-मात्र सिद्ध होते हैं। किन्तु तब उनका शास्त्रवाद सैद्धांतिक शास्त्रवाद का स्वरूप ग्रहण करता हुआ मिश्रबंधु के पारम्परिक शास्त्रवाद से भिन्न हो जाता है, जब वे साधारणीकरण को महत्व प्रदान करते हैं, व्यक्ति वैचित्र्यवाद की विगर्हणा करते हैं। शुक्ल जी ने व्यक्तिवादमूलक क्रोचे के अभिव्यंजनावाद का प्रत्याख्यान किया है। इसी दृष्टि से उन्होंने ब्रैडले की भी आलोचना की है। रिचर्ड्स ने उन्हें अवश्य प्रभावित किया है। रस, अलंकार, रीति, वक्रोक्ति,

ध्वनि और औचित्य में शुक्ल जी रस और ध्वनि को विशेष महत्व प्रदान करते हैं, यद्यपि अलंकार एवं वक्रोक्ति का भी सम्मान करते हैं।

उन्होंने एक हितैषी आचार्य की भांति आलोचना के क्षेत्र में नई पीढ़ी का पथ-प्रदर्शन किया है। उनके सुझावों में ईमानदारी और सहानुभूति है। यद्यपि उन्होंने नये कवियों की कठोर आलोचना भी की है। व्यंग्य भी किये हैं। परन्तु दोनों व्यवहार एक सजग पिता की तरह हैं, जो अपनी संतान का लालन-पालन करना जानता है, पर गलतियों के लिये क्षमा नहीं कर पाता।

आचार्य शुक्ल निबन्ध को गद्य की कसौटी मानते हैं और उसका चरम उत्कर्ष वहाँ स्वीकार करते हैं, जहाँ एक-एक पैराग्राफ में विचार दबा दबाकर दूसे गये हों और एक-एक वाक्य किसी सम्बद्ध विचार-खंड के लिये हो। स्पष्ट है कि शुक्ल जी विचारों की सघनता तथा भाषा की सामासिकता को महत्व देते हैं, साथ ही निबन्ध तत्व की अनिवार्यता भी स्वीकारते हैं। उन्होंने निबन्ध, सम्पादन, भूमिका, समीक्षा, आलोचना आदि के द्वारा न केवल हिन्दी निबन्ध को गति और दिशा दी, वरन् ऐसी परम्परा का प्रवर्तन किया, जो आज तक विद्यमान है।

आचार्य शुक्ल के निबन्धों में वैविध्य के दर्शन होते हैं। एक व्यक्ति के लिये इतना सृजन आश्चर्य मिश्रित सुखद अनुभूति जगाता है। उनके प्रकाशित ग्रंथों, निबन्धों, भूमिकाओं आदि का विवरण इस प्रकार है—

आचार्य शुक्ल द्वारा रचित एवं उनके जीवन काल में प्रकाशित पुस्तकें—

1. बाबू राधाकृष्ण दास का जीवन चरित्र (जीवन साहित्य), नागरी प्रचारिणी सभा, काशी, 1913 ई.
2. हिन्दी साहित्य का इतिहास, नागरी प्रचारिणी सभा, काशी 1928 ई. (प्रथम संस्करण) कुल पृ. 684
3. काव्य में रहस्यवाद, साहित्यभूषण कार्यालय, वाराणसी. 1929 ई. (बाद में यह निबन्ध चिन्तामणि-2 में संकलित)
4. विचार वीथि (निबन्धों का संग्रह), इंडियन प्रेस, इलाहाबाद, 1930 ई. (मनोविकार संबंधी लेखों के साथ ही 'कविता क्या है?' 'भारतेन्दु हरिश्चंद्र' तथा 'तुलसी का भक्ति मार्ग' लेखों का संग्रह।
5. इन्हीं में कुछ और लेखों को जोड़कर चिन्तामणि भाग-1 प्रकाशित)।
6. गोस्वामी तुलसीदास, नागरी प्रचारिणी सभा, काशी, 1963 ई. (प्रथम संस्करण) तुलसी ग्रंथावली की भूमिका को ही संशोधित-परिष्कृत करके आलोचनात्मक पुस्तक का रूप दिखाया गया।
7. हिन्दुस्तान का उदगम, नागरी प्रचारिणी सभा, काशी, 1938 ई. (एक लघु पुस्तिका के रूप में प्रकाशित)
8. चिन्तामणि भाग-1, इंडियन प्रेस, प्रयाग, 1939 ई. (प्रथम संस्करण)
9. हिन्दी साहित्य का इतिहास, (संशोधित एवं प्रवर्द्धित संस्करण) नागरी प्रचारिणी सभा, काशी 1940 ई. पृ. 862
10. हिन्दी साहित्य का इतिहास (संशोधित संस्करण) नागरी, प्रचारिणी सभा, काशी 1940 ई. पृ. 623 (पंजाब संस्करण)

#### आचार्य शुक्ल की दूसरों द्वारा सम्पादित पुस्तकें

1. सूरदास, सम्पादक-विश्वनाथ प्रसाद मिश्र, नागरी प्रचारिणी सभा, काशी 1943 ई. (प्रथम संस्करण)
2. चिन्तामणि भाग-2, सम्पादक-विश्वनाथ प्रसाद मिश्र, 1935 ई. (प्रथम संस्करण)

3. चिन्तामणि, भाग-3, सम्पादक नामवर सिंह, राजकमल प्रकाशन, दिल्ली-2, 1983 ई. (प्रथम संस्करण)

#### आचार्य शुक्ल द्वारा सम्पादित पुस्तकें

1. चन्द्रावती या नासिकेतोपाख्यान, 1906 ई.
2. बाबू श्यामसुन्दर दास ने शुक्ल जी से सम्पादित कराया और अपने नाम से छपवाया (सूचना-चन्द्रशेखर शुक्ल) किन्तु सम्पादन की योजना एवं योजना से संबद्ध धारणा, बाबू साहब की ही थी।
3. तुलसी ग्रंथावली (भूमिका सहित) नागरी प्रचारिणी सभा, काशी, सं. 1989 (1929 ई.)
4. जायसी ग्रंथावली (भूमिका सहित), नागरी प्रचारिणी सभा, काशी सं. 1981 (1924 ई.)
5. भ्रमरगीतसार (भूमिका सहित), साहित्य सेवा सदन, वाराणसी, 1925 ई. (इसकी भूमिका 'सूरदास' पुस्तक में संकलित)
6. वीरसिंह देवचरित, नागरी प्रचारिणी सभा, काशी, 1926 ई. (केशवदास के ग्रंथ 'वीरसिंह देवचरित' के चौदहवें प्रकाशन का सम्पादन) सूचना-सुधाकर पाण्डेय, आचार्य शुक्ल के प्रतिनिधि निबन्ध।
7. हिन्दी शब्द सागर (करीब 300 पृष्ठों की भूमिका सहित), नागरी प्रचारिणी सभा, काशी, 1929 ई.। सम्पादन काल-1908-1927 ई. तथा भूमिका 1929 जनवरी। यह भूमिका संशोधन परिवर्धन के साथ आगे चलकर 'हिन्दी साहित्य का इतिहास' के रूप में परिवर्धित।
8. भारतेन्दु साहित्य (17 पृष्ठों की भूमिका सहित), पुस्तक भंडार, लेहरिया सराय, 1928 ई.
9. अनुराग बाँसुरी, हिन्दी साहित्य सम्मेलन, प्रयाग, 1950 ई. सम्पादक के रूप में दो लोगों का नाम है-रामचन्द्र शुक्ल तथा चन्द्रबली पाण्डेय। शुक्ल जी मात्र इस योजना में शामिल थे। पुस्तक उनके निधनोपरांत श्री चन्द्रबली पाण्डेय द्वारा तैयार हुई।

#### आचार्य शुक्ल द्वारा लिखी गई भूमिकाएं और पुस्तक-परिचय

1. हिन्दी गद्य शैली का विकास जगन्नाथ प्रसाद शर्मा, नागरी प्रचारिणी सभा, काशी 1930 ई. (प्रथम संस्करण) ग्रंथ का परिचय- रामचन्द्र शुक्ल।
2. शेष स्मृतियां डॉ. रघुराज सिंह, प्रवेशिका-रामचन्द्र शुक्ल, 1938 ई. (शेष स्मृतियों की प्रवेशिका चिन्तामणि, भाग-3 में संकलित)।
3. मानसरोवर और कैलाश श्री सुशील चन्द्र भट्टाचार्य, अनुवादक- रामचन्द्र वर्मा, नागरी प्रचारिणी सभा, काशी 1939 ई. पुस्तक परिचय रामचन्द्र शुक्ल।
4. विनय पत्रिका (वियोगी हरि कृत टीका), साहित्य सेवा सदन, बनारस, परिचय-रामचन्द्र शुक्ल, काशी 5.1. 1924 ई. (दस पृ.)
5. कुसुम संग्रह-बंग महिला, भूमिका रामचन्द्र शुक्ल
6. प्रेमधन सर्वस्व (सम्पादित पुस्तक) भूमिका रामचन्द्र शुक्ल, पुस्तक, समीक्षा और सम्मति
7. 'दुलारे दोहावली' पर शुक्ल जी की प्रशंसात्मक टिप्पणी। प्रकाशित सुधा, दिसम्बर 1934 ई.।
8. 'रस कलस' हरिऔध, समीक्षक पं. रामचन्द्र शुक्ल, प्रोफेसर हिन्दू यूनिवर्सिटी, समीक्षा का शीर्षक 'स्वर्ण कलश' (दो पृष्ठों में) प्रकाशित 'प्रेमपत्र' विशेषांक, अरुणोदय पब्लिशिंग हाउस, वर्ष-4-5 पूर्णांक-5. सम्पादक, गिरिजादत्त शुक्ल (गिरीश) नोट-इस विशेषांक पर प्रकाशन तिथि नहीं है।

**पेंफलट**

1. 'हिन्दी प्रेमियों से अनुरोध'— रामचन्द्र शुक्ल, सभापति, काशी नागरी प्रचारिणी सभा। मुद्रित ई. प्रेस, बनारस। (एक पृष्ठ का यह पेंफलेट शुक्ल जी ने 'हिन्दी' नामक पत्रिका के प्रकाशन के उपलक्ष्य में लिखा था। यह पत्रिका शायद 1939-40 में नागरी प्रचारिणी सभा से निकली थी।)

**साक्षात्कार**

1. 'अभ्युदय'— प्रतिनिधि द्वारा प्रकाशित अभ्युदय, 11 जून, 1934 ई.

**लेख**

1. भाषा का विस्तार, आनन्द कादम्बिनी, 1899 यह शुक्ल जी का पहला लेख है। (सूचना चन्द्रशेखर शुक्ल)
2. प्राचीन भारतीयों का पहनावा, सरस्वती, दिसम्बर 1902
3. ह्वेनसांग, सरस्वती, जुलाई और अगस्त, 1904 (दो किस्तों में)
4. 'दुर्गावती', आनन्द कादम्बिनी, 1905 (गोंडवाने की रानी दुर्गावती पर ऐतिहासिक लेख)
5. 'मनस्ताप' काशीप्रसाद जायसवाल के विवाद संदर्भ में क्षमा-पाना, प्रकाशित सन् 1905 ई.
6. पारसीकों का इतिहास, नागरी प्राचारिणी पत्रिका, अप्रैल 1907
7. महाराज कनिष्क, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, अक्टूबर 1909 (सुधाकर पाण्डेय) सरस्वती 1907 (चन्द्रशेखर शुक्ल)
8. उत्तरी ध्रुव, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, अक्टूबर 1909
9. बुद्धदेव की हड्डियाँ, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, सितम्बर 1909
10. हेली का पुच्छल तारा (हेली के जीवन पर खोजपूर्ण निबन्ध), नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, 15 अक्टूबर 1909
11. उर्दू राष्ट्रभाषा, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, दिसम्बर 1909
12. भाषा की उन्नति तथा हमारा ढंग, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, जनवरी, 1910
13. जापानी खोज, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, फरवरी 1910
14. भारतीय शिल्पकला, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, फरवरी 1910
15. उर्दू साहित्य सम्मेलन, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, मार्च 1910
16. 'पैसा' अखबार का आक्षेप, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, मार्च 1910
17. भाटा खंडहर, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, मार्च 1910
18. मान्य भाषा, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, मार्च 1910
19. हिन्दी साहित्य सम्मेलन, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, अप्रैल-मई 1910
20. बंगाल में उर्दू, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, जून 1910
21. एक लिपि विस्तार कांफ्रेंस, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, जनवरी 1911
22. हिन्दी में लिंग नियम, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, अप्रैल 1911
23. हरिश्चन्द्र समीक्षा, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, 1911
24. भाषा की शक्ति, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, जनवरी 1912
25. प्राचीन फारस का संक्षिप्त इतिहास, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, (त्रैमासिक, भाग-1. संवत् 1917) 1920 ई.।
26. गोस्वामी तुलसीदास और लोक-धर्म, माधुरी, श्रावण, 1923 (यह लेख मूल रूप में नहीं विकसित रूप में 'गोस्वामी तुलसीदास' पुस्तक में रखा गया। (सूचना चन्द्रशेखर शुक्ल)

**रेणुका रानी**

27. सभ्य संसार का भावी धर्म, प्रताप, अगस्त सितम्बर 19241
28. भारतेन्दु साहित्य, नागरी प्रचारिणी पत्रिका, जनवरी 1928 (सम्भव है भारतेन्दु हरिश्चन्द्र पर शुक्ल जी की यह समीक्षा उनके द्वारा सम्पादित पुस्तक 'भारतेन्दु साहित्य' 1928 की भूमिका ही हो।)
29. गोस्वामी तुलसीदास (एक विवेचनात्मक निबन्ध)। दो खण्डों जीवन खंड और आलोचना खंड में विभाजित यह निबन्ध आगरा विश्वविद्यालय की बी.ए. की परीक्षा का पाठ्य ग्रंथ था। सितम्बर 1932 की 'माधुरी' में इस निबन्ध के विरुद्ध एक प्रतिक्रिया छपी है, जिसमें शुक्ल जी की तुलसी संबंधी समझ एवं विवेचन की कड़ी आलोचना हुई है।
30. युग प्रवर्तक भारतेन्दु हरिश्चन्द्र, वीणा 'सितम्बर 1935' (करीब ढाई पृष्ठों का यह लेख शुक्ल जी की फोटो के साथ छपा है। सम्भवतः यही लेख चिन्तामणि भाग-1 में संकलित हुआ है।)
31. हिन्दी की परम्परा, 'हिन्दी' वर्ग 1 अंक 4 मार्च, 1941 (नोट 'अन्य असंकलित सामग्रियों में 5. 28, 30, 31 और 32 के अलावा अन्य सूचनाएं प्रायः स्व. चन्द्रशेखर शुक्ल की 'आचार्य रामचन्द्र शुक्ल' (जीवन और कृतत्व) तथा सुधाकर पाण्डेय की 'आचार्य शुक्ल के प्रतिनिधि निबन्ध' पुस्तक पर आधारित है।)

**संदर्भ:**

1. उषा शर्मा, स्वातंत्र्योत्तर हिन्दी निबन्ध साहित्य में व्यंग्य, आत्माराम एण्ड संस, दिल्ली, 1985
2. उषा सिंहल, निबन्धकार हजारीप्रसाद द्विवेदी, प्रथम संस्करण, परमेश्वरी प्रकाशन, दिल्ली, 1993
3. मृत्युंजय उपाध्याय : हिन्दी निबन्ध का इतिहास, तक्षशिला प्रकाशन, नई दिल्ली, प्रथम संस्करण, 2005
4. अष्टभुजा पांडेय : हिन्दी गद्य उद्भव और विकास, साहित्य प्रकाशन, नई दिल्ली, 1990
5. गंगा प्रसाद गुप्त, हिन्दी साहित्य में निबन्ध और निबन्धकार



## मुगलकालीन भारत में प्रशासनिक शहर

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### सारांश :

मुगल साम्राज्य की स्थिरता ने नगरीकरण के विकास में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया था। मुगलकालीन भारत में आगरा, फतेहपुर सिकरी, और शाहजहाँनाबाद प्रमुख राजधानी शहर थे। मुगल शासकों के द्वारा एक के बाद एक शहरों को राजधानी के रूप में निर्माण किया गया था। राजधानी शहर के रूप में आगरा, फतेहपुर सिकरी, और शाहजहाँनाबाद प्रमुख थे। आगरा लगभग एक सौ बरसों तक मुगल साम्राज्य की राजधानी बना रहा, जबकि अकबर ने 15 वर्षों के लिए 1571 ईस्वी से 1586 ईस्वी तक फतेहपुर सिकरी को राजधानी बनाया था। इसके बाद के रूप में काफी शक्तिशाली शहर थे और वाणिज्य-यापार के भी दृष्टिकोण से काफी महत्वपूर्ण था।

**मुख्य शब्द :** नगरीकरण, आगरा, फतेहपुर सिकरी, शाहजहाँनाबाद, राजधानी शहर,।

### प्रस्तावना:

मुगलकाल में शहरों का विकास प्रशासनिक केन्द्र के रूप में हुआ था। अकबर के द्वारा 1580 ई. में राजस्व तथा प्रशासनिक के रूप में साम्राज्य को 12 सूबों में विभजित किया गया था।<sup>1</sup> इन सूबों का नामकरण, जिस क्षेत्र में वह प्रभाग पड़ता था, उसके भूभाग के नाम पर या वहाँ की राजधानी के नाम पर किया गया। यह सूबे थे 1. अजमेर, 2. लाहौर, 3. अवध, 4. इलाहाबाद 5. अहमदाबाद, 6 बिहार, 7 बंगाल, 8 देहली, 9 काबुल, 10 आगरा, 11 मुल्तान 12 मालवा था। जब बरार, खानदेश और अहमदनगर जीत लिए गया, तब इन सूबों की संख्या 12 से 15 हो गई थी।<sup>2</sup> इन सूबो को सरकार में, सरकार को परगनों में बाटा गया था। सूबे के मुख्यालय में काजी, सूबेदार, और कर्मचारी रहते थे। सरकार के मुख्यालय में फौजदार और परगनों में शिकदार एवं अन्य अधिकारी एवं सेना निवास रहते थे। इन सबों की आवश्यकताओं के लिए बाजारों का विकास प्रशासनिक नगरो के रूप में हुआ।<sup>3</sup> मुगलकाल में बादशाह अकबर के द्वारा दहशाला बन्दोवस्ती ने राजस्व का निर्धारण 'दस्तुर-उल-अमल' में प्रचलित मूल्यों के द्वारा नकदी को प्रोत्सहन किया गया था। जिसके फलस्वरूप दस्तुर तथा प्रशासन के क्षेत्र में परगना और सरकार का विकास कस्बा तथा शहरों के रूप में हुआ था।<sup>4</sup> मुगलकालीन अर्थव्यवस्था की सवृद्धि में मुगलों के राजस्व नीति का महत्वपूर्ण योगदान रहा था।

मुगल साम्राज्य में पंजाब, दिल्ली, आगरा, अवध, इलाहाबाद और गुजरात जैसे भूभाग में भूराजस्व की वसूली नकद किया जाता था। इस व्यवस्था के कारण ग्रामीण अन्न विक्रेता तथा सौदागर की स्थिति को मजबूती प्रदान की गई। हमेशा ऐसी श्रृंखला थी, जो अनाज को इकट्ठा करने में कार्य करती थी।<sup>5</sup> यहाँ पर सह-सौदागर जैसे महाजन, बनिया तथा सर्राफ इत्यादि कार्य करने लगे थे। आगरा, दिल्ली, बालासोर (उड़ीसा) और बंगाल में भी अनेक धनी सौदागर थे। इनमें से कुछ सौदागर तो

तड़क-भड़क का जीवन जीते थे और चाल-ढाल में अमीरों की नकल करते थे।

यूरोपीय यात्रियों ने ऐसे फेलावदार और मजबूत मकानों का उल्लेख किया है जिनमें दिल्ली और आगरा के धनी सौदागर रहते थे। लेकिन मामूली व्यापारी अपनी दुकानों के ऊपर बने मकानों में रहते थे। फ्रांसीसी यात्री बर्नियर कहता है कि "व्यापारी अपने को गरीब जताते रहते थे, क्योंकि उन्हें इस बात का डर था कि कहीं उनकी दौलत निचोड़ ली जाएगी। यह बात पूरी तरह सच नहीं लगती।"<sup>6</sup> शेरशाह के समय से ही बादशाहों ने व्यापारियों की संपत्ति की रक्षा के लिए अनेक कानून बनाए थे। मुगलकाल में महाजन के रूप में मारवाड़ी देश के अधिकतर भागों में उभर चुके थे। लेन-देन मोटे रूप से अपनी-अपनी जाति में ही करते थे। हिन्दू महाजन मुस्लिम व्यापारियों के लिये बैंकरों के रूप में कार्य करते थे और कभी-कभी उनके जहाजों को भी किराये पर ले लेते थे। इसके अतिरिक्त दोनों समुदायों के व्यापारियों के बीच कोई अधिक सम्पर्क नहीं होता था। वाणिज्य व ऋण मुगल काल में बढ़ती हुई वाणिज्यिक गतिविधियों के लिये ऋण एक आवश्यक शर्त थी।<sup>7</sup> आर्थिक गतिविधियों के अन्य क्षेत्रों में जहां वर्ग-विशेष ने अपना एकाधिकार जमा लिया था, वैसी ही इस क्षेत्र में भी विशेष जातीय वर्ग ने अपनी श्रेष्ठता स्थापित कर रखी थी। इन वर्गों में जगत सेठ अधिक प्रसिद्ध थे। आर्थिक गतिविधियों में रुचि की अपेक्षा ये अधिकतर ब्याज पर धन देने में ही निपुण थे।

17वीं शताब्दी में वीर जी वीरा ऐसा ही एक महाजन था। वाणिज्यिक ऋण में हुन्डी का प्रचलन अधिक था। जिसके अन्तर्गत एक निश्चित अवधि के बाद निश्चित स्थान पर रकम का भुगतान किया जाने लगा था। इसमें ब्याज, बीमा व संचारण के अन्तर्गत कुछ कटौती भी की जाती थी। दूरस्थ व्यापार में न केवल ये बढ़ते हुये ऋण की मांग को पूरी करती थी अपितु नकदी भेजने में जो जोखिम थे उनसे ये मुक्त होती थी।<sup>8</sup> हुन्डी की विश्वसनीयता का अन्दाजा इसी से लगाया जा सकता है कि जहां 17वीं शताब्दी में बंगाल से आगरा बैलगाड़िया में खजाना भेजा

जाता था, वही 18वीं शताब्दी के मध्य तक यह हुण्डी द्वारा भेजा जाने लगा था। हुण्डी का समस्त कारोबार मोटे रूप से सर्राफों के हाथों में होता था। जिन्होंने वाणिज्यिक बैंकों के रूप में एक नई व अहम भूमिका निभाने की नीति की शुरुआत की थी। हुण्डियों के अलावा वाणिज्यिक गतिविधियों में धन लगाने का दूसरा स्रोत सर्राफों या बैंकों द्वारा अमानत के रूप में धन रखना होता था। ये अमानत मांगने पर मिल सकती थी। आगरा तथा सूरत में ऐसी अमानती रकमों पर प्रति वर्ष ब्याज भी मिलता था। सर्राफ अपनी जोखिम पर इसे 12 से 30 प्रतिशत वार्षिक ब्याज पर लगा देते थे। कभी-कभी ये अत्यधिक उंचे ब्याज की दर पर सम्मानित व्यक्तियों को उधार भी दे दिया करते थे। सरकारी अधिकारी भी सरकारी धन को गैर कानूनी रूप से सर्राफों को उधार देकर उससे लाभ कमाते का काम करते थे।<sup>9</sup> इस प्रकार मुगल काल में इन वर्गों के द्वारा व्यापार को संचालित किया जाता था।

मुगल साम्राज्य में राजधानी शहर के रूप में 1. फतेहपुर सिकरी, 2. आगरा, 3. शाहजहाँनाबाद जैसे नगर का विकास तथा स्थापना हुआ। सूबा की राजधानी शहर के रूप में बंगाल में गौड़, टांडा, राजमहल, ढांका तथा मुर्शिदाबाद, बिहार में पटना जैसे शहर, वही अवध में फैजाबाद, लखनऊ का वर्णन मिलता है।<sup>10</sup> इसके अतिरिक्त अजमेर, इलाहाबाद, दिल्ली, लाहौर, काबुल, अहमदाबाद, शहरों का नाम पर प्रांतीय सूबे का नाम तथा राजधानियों का विकास हुआ था। आगरा जैसे शहरों को पुनः निर्मित मुगल बादशाह अकबर के द्वारा यमुना नदी के पश्चिमी किनारों पर किया था। आगरा शहर के संदर्भ में अकबर ने अदेश दिया था कि आगरा शहर हिन्दुस्तान के मध्य में स्थित ऐसे दुर्ग का निर्माण किया जाय, जो साम्राज्य के प्रतिष्ठा तथा गौरव के अनुकूल हों सके।<sup>11</sup> इस निर्माण के बाद यह किला अत्यधिक आकर्षक हो गया था।

फतेहपुर सिकरी नामक शहर का स्थापना अकबर के द्वारा किया गया था। यह शहर आगरा से 12 मील के पर थी, तथा इसे अपने साम्राज्य की राजधानी लगभग 15 वर्षों के लिए 1571 ई.-1586 ई. बनाया गया था।<sup>12</sup> शाहजहाँ के समय में दिल्ली में शाहजहाँनाबाद नामक नगर की स्थापना की हुआ था और 1648 ई0 में आगरा से दिल्ली को राजधानी बनाया गया था।<sup>13</sup> इसी प्रकार प्रान्तीय शासकों के द्वारा भी अपनी राजधानी को विकसित किया गया था। 1565 ई. में बंगाल के शासक सुल्तान सुलेमान कर्रानी ने टांडा से राजधानी बदलकर पुनः गौड़ वापस कर लिया।<sup>14</sup> लेकिन किसी कारण राजधानी पुनः टांडा वापस बनाई गयी थी।

मुगल शासक अकबर के शासन काल में गंगा नदी किनारे अकबरनगर नामक किला का निर्माण राजा मान सिंह के द्वारा किया गया। राजा मान सिंह को बंगाल का सूबेदार 1594 ई. में बनाया गया था। यहाँ पर गंगा नदी पश्चिम की तरफ मुड़ती है और इसके किनारे वाले भागों को जलमग्न कर देती थी। यही कारण था कि मानसिंह ने इसके विपरीत किनारे पर राजधानी बनाया था। इसके बाद यह शहर साम्राज्य के उत्तरी भागों से संचार का करता था।<sup>15</sup> यह शहर बाद में 'राजमहल' के नाम से जाना गया। बंगाल की राजधानी ढाका शहर को 1657 ई0 में बनाया गया था। इसका विस्तार दो कोस तक होने के कारण यह वृहत् शहर के रूप में परिणत

हो गया था।<sup>16</sup> इस प्रकार मुगलकालीन भारत में यह एक महत्त्वपूर्ण शहर था।

बंगाल के दीवान मुर्शिदकुली खॉ के वहाँ के नवाब अजीम-उस शान से तालमेल अच्छा नहीं होने के कारण वह ढाका छोड़कर मख्सूसबाद रहने लगा था। उसने इस शहर का नाम बदलकर मुर्शिदाबाद कर दिया और मुर्शिदकुली खान ने इस शहर को न केवल बंगाल की राजधानी बनाया। इस शहर में टकसाल और बहुत सी इमारतों का निर्माण किया गया।<sup>17</sup> मुगल भारत में शासक अकबर के शासनकाल में गंगा तथा यमुना के संगम पर प्रयाग के पास 'इलाहाबाद' का शहर निर्माण किया गया था जिसे पहले 'इलाहाबास' कहा गया लेकिन बाद में 'इलाहाबाद' के नाम से जाना गया। 'इलाहाबाद' को सूबे की राजधानी बनाया गया था।<sup>18</sup> मुगलकालीन भारत में बड़े नगरों में अयोध्या शहर सरयू नदी के तट पर विकसित हुआ था। यह व्यापार का मुख्य केन्द्र और हिन्दू तीर्थयात्रियों का पवित्र स्थल के रूप में विकसित हुआ था।<sup>19</sup> मुगल बादशाह अकबर ने अजमेर शहर पर अधिकार स्थापित करने के बाद इस अजमेर प्रान्त को राजधानी बनाया था।<sup>20</sup>

अजमेर राजपूत राज्य के मध्य में स्थित था और यह शहर पहाड़ों पर से ढलाता है। अकबर के शासनकाल में यह अजमेर शहर उभरा था। 1556 में अजमेर अकबर के कब्जे में आया। 1569 ई. में शाहजादे सलीम के जन्म के बाद शेख के प्रति अपनी कृतज्ञता व्यक्त करने के लिए अकबर ने आगरा से अजमेर तक की पैदल यात्रा की थी। इसके पश्चात् 1580 ई. तक लगभग प्रत्येक वर्ष अकबर अजमेर और शेख की पवित्र दरगाह की यात्रा करता रहा था। आश्चर्य इस बात का है कि 1580 के पश्चात् अगले 25 वर्षों के लम्बे शासनकाल में अकबर ने एक बार भी अजमेर की यात्रा नहीं की। एक प्रमुख सूफी केन्द्र होने के अलावा भी कई अन्य तथ्य इस शहर को महत्त्वपूर्ण बनाते थे। इस शहर की अवस्थिति सामरिक महत्त्व की थी तथा यह वाणिज्यिक दृष्टि से भी काफी महत्त्वपूर्ण था।<sup>21</sup> दिल्ली का कोई भी शासक गुजरात के व्यापार को नियंत्रित नहीं कर सकता था यदि उसने अजमेर से होकर गुजरने वाले व्यापार मार्ग पर नियंत्रण स्थापित नहीं कर लिया हो, अजमेर राजपूताना का सर्वाधिक महत्त्वपूर्ण नाभिकीय केंद्र था जहाँ से मेवाड़ और मारवाड़ पर नजर रखी जा सकती थी।

यह स्पष्ट होता है कि अपने धार्मिक झुकावों के कारण अकबर अपने शासन के प्रारंभिक काल में अजमेर शहर की प्रत्येक वर्ष यात्रा क्यों करता था और 1580 के बाद उसने शहर की यात्रा करना क्यों बंद कर दी। 1580 तक मेवाड़ को छोड़कर पूरा राजपूताना अकबर के अधीन आ गया।<sup>22</sup> अकबर ने अपनी स्थिति को मजबूत किया जो उसके द्वारा सूबों का गठन करके प्रशासन के पुनर्गठन में परिलक्षित होता है। 1580 में अकबर ने अजमेर सूबे का गठन किया और इसके प्रशासन की जिम्मेदारी एक सूबेदार को सौंप दी। इससे यह भी स्पष्ट होता है कि 1580 के बाद से उसने अजमेर की प्रतिवर्ष की जाने वाली अपनी यात्रा क्यों बंद कर दी।

मेवाड़ के शासकों और मुगलों के बीच एक असहज शांति मौजूद थी और इसी कारण से एक बार फिर मुगल बादशाह जहाँगीर अजमेर की ओर कूच करता है। जहाँगीर ने मेवाड़ के राणा अमर सिंह के खिलाफ अपने अभियान के लिए अजमेर को अपना मुख्यालय बनाया।

जहाँगीर तीन वर्षों 1613 ई०-1616 ई० तक अजमेर में रहा। 1615 में राणा और मुगल बादशाह जहाँगीर के बीच ऐतिहासिक संधि हुई। तत्पश्चात् इस क्षेत्र में शाहजहाँ के शासनकाल तक शांति कायम रही। शाहजहाँ अपनी बेटी जहाँ आरा बेगम के साथ शहर तथा शेख की दरगाह का नियमित जाता रहता था। यह यात्रा उसकी बेटी की ख्वाजा और दरगाह के प्रति श्रद्धा के कारण की जाती थी।

अजमेर क्षेत्र में हो रहे उथल-पुथल को शांत करने के उद्देश्य से औरंगजेब ने अजमेर की यात्रा की अजमेर के आस-पास के क्षेत्रों में औरंगजेब को तीन मुठभेड़ों का सामना करना पड़ा। प्रथम मुठभेड़ 1659 में शहर के दक्षिण में चार किलोमीटर दूर देवराई में दारा शिकोह के खिलाफ दूसरा 1679 में राजा जसवंत सिंह की मृत्यु के पश्चात् मारवाड़ पर कब्जा करने के उद्देश्य से और तीसरा मुठभेड़ 1680-81 में जब शाहजादे अकबर ने अपने पिता औरंगजेब के खिलाफ विद्रोह किया।<sup>23</sup> अजमेर में अपने निवास के दौरान औरंगजेब नियमित रूप से दरगाह के दर्शन के लिए जाता था। लेकिन 1681 के बाद औरंगजेब दक्कन की ओर चला गया और फिर कभी वापस नहीं आया। 18वीं शताब्दी के पूर्वार्ध में अजमेर पर कब्जे को लेकर कछवाहा शासकों और मुगलों के बीच निरंतर संघर्ष होता रहा। अंत में, 1756 में मराठों ने अभय सिंह से इसे छीन लिया और इसके बाद बापू सिंधिया ने 1818 में इसे डेविड ऑक्टरलोनी को सौंप दिया।

मध्यकालीन भारत में नगरीकरण-2 ने धार्मिक नगर स्थल अजमेर, बनारस, पंढरपुर, इन राजनीतिक घटनाओं ने शहर के परिदृश्य को काफी हद तक बदल दिया। अकबर के शासनकाल में प्रमुख निर्माण किए गए। अकबर ने इस शहर को मजबूत दीवारों, मजबूत प्राचीर और गहरी खाई प्रदान की। शहर में पाँच अलंकृत ऊँचे गेट थे। दिल्ली, मदार, उसरी आगरा और त्रिपोलिया पहाड़ी पर निर्मित किले थे, जो भारत के सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण किलों में एक बताया है।<sup>24</sup> इसके अतिरिक्त अकबर ने खासबाजार, दरगाह बाजार और दरगाह में एक मस्जिद का निर्माण करवाया था।

मुगलकाल भारत में जागीरदारों, जमींदार एवं अधिकारियों के द्वारा अनेक कस्बों तथा शहर की स्थापना की गई थी। मुगल बादशाह अकबर के शासनकाल में अनेक नए शहरों का स्थापना किया गया था। यह शहर इस थे— तिलहर, अकबरपुर तथा जलालपुर जलालाबाद, थे।<sup>25</sup> गुजरात अटक, और नवशहर प्रमुख थे।<sup>26</sup> फरीदाबाद की स्थापना शेख फरीद बुखारी द्वारा की गई थी।<sup>27</sup> खान-ए-जमान जो अकबर के दरबार के अधिकारी था उसने उजबेक द्वारा जमानिया शहर की स्थापना की।<sup>28</sup> अनुपशहर का विकास जहाँगीर के शासनकाल में हुआ था। मुगल बादशाह शाहजहाँ के शासनकाल में भी अनेक शहरों का विकास हुआ था। इसके शासनकाल में मुजफ्फर खाना मुजफ्फरपुर की स्थापना की। 1633 ई. में मुरादाबाद की स्थापना रूस्तम खान ने की।<sup>29</sup> नजीबुद्दौला ने नजीबाबाद की स्थापना लगभग 1775 ई. में की थी। जबकी फैजुल्लाह खान ने रामपुर की स्थापना की थी। मुजफ्फर खान बंगश ने मुगल बादशाह फर्रुखसियर के नामकरण पर फर्रुखाबाद की स्थापना की।<sup>30</sup> इस प्रकार मुगलकालीन भारत में अनेक छोटे-बड़े शहरों का विकास हुआ था।

मुगल प्रशासनिक व्यवस्था के अन्तर्गत सूबों को सरकारों में और सरकार को परगनों में बाटा गया था। इन सूबों में रहने वाले कर्मचारियों तथा अन्य लोगों की

आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति के लिए बाजारों का विकास प्रशासनिक शहरों के रूप में किया गया था। आइन-ए-अकबरी में लिखा गया है कि बिहार सूबा में बिहार, सारण, तिरहुत, रोहतास मुंगेर, चंपारण, हाजीपुर, सरकार था।<sup>31</sup> इलाहाबाद सूबे में 1. इलाहाबाद 2. जौनपुर 3. मानिकपुर 4. चुनार 5. गाजीपुर 6. बनारस 7. भाटखोरा 8. कुराह 9. कराह सरकार थी। अवध सूबा के अन्तर्गत 1. अवध 2. बहराइच 3. खैराबाद गोरखपुर 4. लखनऊ सरकार आती थी। आगरा सूबा में 1. आगरा 2. कालपी 3. कन्नौज 4. कोल 5. ग्वालियर 6. इरीज 7. बयाना 8. मंडरेल 9. नरवर 10. अलवर 11. तिजारा 12. नारनौल था। दिल्ली सूबे के अन्तर्गत 1. दिल्ली 2. बदायूँ 3. सम्भल 4. सरहिंद 5. कुमायूँ 6. सहारनपुर 7. रेवाड़ी 8. हिंसार-फिरोजा, सरकार आते थे। अजमेर सूबा के अन्तर्गत 1. अजमेर 2. चित्तौड़ 3. रणथम्भौर 4. जोधपुर 5. सिरोही 6. नागौर 7. बीकानेर सरकार आते थे।<sup>32</sup> मालवा सूबे में 1. कन्नौज 2. मांडेसर 3. उज्जैन 4. रायसीन 5. चन्देरी 6. सारंगपुर 7. मांडु 8. हिंडिया 9. गागरो 10. कोत्रीपर्या 11. बीजागढ़ 12. नंदूबार सरकार थे। बंगाल सूबा में 1. महमूदाबाद 2. खलीफताबाद 3. बंगाल 4. पूर्णिया 5. उधमपुर 6. जन्नताबाद 7. फतेहाबाद 8. ताजपुर 9. घोराघाट 10. पिंजारा 11. बरककाबाद 12. भजुआ 13. सोनारगाँव 14. सिलहट 15. चटगाँव 16. शरीफाबाद 17. सुलेमानबाद 18. सतगाँव 19. मंदारण सरकार थे। उड़ीसा सूबा के अन्तर्गत 1. जालेसर 2. कटक 3. कलिंग 4. भद्रक 5. महेंद्री सरकार आते थे। मुल्तान सूबा में 1. मुल्तान 2. हजाकान 3. सेविस्तान 4. दिपालपुर 5. भक्खर सरकार थे। थट्टा सूबे में थट्टा, नासिरपुर, चाकरहाला आता था। लाहौर सूबा के अन्तर्गत चिनहर दोआब, जालंधर दोआब, बाकरी दोआब, सिंधसागर दोआब तथा रेचना दोआब सरकार विद्यमान थे।<sup>33</sup> 1595 से 1596 ई. के मध्य सूबा, सरकार और परगना की संख्या में काफी वृद्धि हुई थी।

इस प्रकार मुगलकालीन भारत में राजनीतिक स्थिरता एवं प्रशासनिक एकीकरण के कारण मुगल शासकों के द्वारा एक के बाद एक शहरों को राजधानी के रूप में निर्माण किया गया था। फतेहपुर सिकरी, और शाहजहाँनाबाद प्रमुख राजधानी शहर थे। आगरा आगरा लगभग एक सौ बरसों तक मुगल साम्राज्य की राजधानी बना रहा, जबकि अकबर ने 15 वर्षों के लिए 1571 ईस्वी से 1586 ईस्वी तक फतेहपुर सीकरी को राजधानी बनाया। इसके बाद शाहजहाँ ने दिल्ली, शाहजहाँनाबाद को राजधानी बनाया यह शहर राजधानी के रूप में काफी शक्तिशाली शहर थे और यह शहर उत्पादन एवं वाणिज्य व्यापार के लिए भी प्रमुख केंद्र थे जहां से आंतरिक व्यापार एवं विदेशी व्यापार का संचालन होता था। यह शहर में ना केवल शासकों का महल होता था बल्कि प्रशासनिक अधिकारियों के साथ-साथ वाणिज्यिक-व्यापार के भी आवास होते थे बहुत ऐसे प्रशासनिक शहर थे जो ना केवल प्रशासनिक शहर थे बल्कि व्यापारिक एवं धार्मिक शहर भी थे।

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## बौद्ध धर्म में वज्रयान बौद्ध प्रतीक के स्वरूप

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### सारांश

वज्रयान का नाम वज्र से लिया गया है, जिसका संस्कृत में अर्थ है "हीरा" या "वज्र", जो इसके तरीकों की शक्ति का संकेत देता है। हालाँकि वज्रयान महायान स्कूलों के साथ आम तौर पर यह दृष्टिकोण साझा करता है। तिब्बती बौद्ध धर्म में लोकप्रिय अन्य वज्रयान प्रतीकों में भावचक्र (जीवन का पहिया), मंडल, संख्या 108 और बुद्ध आंखें (या ज्ञान आंखें) शामिल हैं जो आमतौर पर बौधनाथ जैसे नेपाली स्तूपों पर देखी जाती हैं। वज्रयान कला में भी विभिन्न पौराणिक प्राणियों का उपयोग किया जाता है: स्नो लायन, विंड हॉर्स, ड्रैगन, गरुड़ और बाघ। लोकप्रिय मंत्र "ओम मणि पद्मे हम्" का व्यापक रूप से करुणा के प्रतीक के रूप में उपयोग किया जाता है और इसे आमतौर पर चट्टानों, प्रार्थना पहियों, स्तूपों और कला पर अंकित देखा जाता है।<sup>27</sup> जोग्चेन में, दर्पण रिग्पा का एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रतीक है। प्रत्येक मुद्रा का एक प्रतीकात्मक कार्य और एक आंतरिक प्रतीकात्मक कार्य होता है, अभ्यासकर्ता के साथ-साथ इसे समझने वालों के लिए संचार के लिए। बौद्ध समारोहों में, मुद्रा एक दृश्य "मुहर" के रूप में कार्य करता है, जो बुरी आत्माओं को दूर रखने जैसे एक वफादार व्रत की पुष्टि करता है।

**मुख्य शब्द :** बौद्ध धर्म, वज्रयान, प्रतीक, महायान,

### प्रस्तावना

वज्रयान महायान बौद्ध धर्म का एक रूप है जिसकी उत्पत्ति 5वीं शताब्दी ई. के आसपास उत्तरी भारत में हुई, 7वीं और 8वीं शताब्दी में तिब्बत में जड़ें जमा लीं और फिर हिमालय क्षेत्र में फैल गया। इसे व्यापक रूप से तिब्बती बौद्ध धर्म के रूप में जाना जाता है, हालांकि तांत्रिक बौद्ध धर्म जापान में शिगोन और तेंदई परंपराओं में भी पाया जाता है। वज्रयान का नाम वज्र से लिया गया है, जिसका संस्कृत में अर्थ है "हीरा" या "वज्र", जो इसके तरीकों की शक्ति का संकेत देता है। हालाँकि वज्रयान महायान स्कूलों के साथ आम तौर पर यह दृष्टिकोण साझा करता है कि हम पहले से ही पूर्ण हैं और एक ही जीवनकाल में जागृत हो सकते हैं, वज्रयान खुद को ज्ञान प्राप्ति का सबसे तेज तरीका मानता है। इसके कैनन में कंग्युर (सूत्र और तंत्र जिन्हें बुद्ध के शब्द माना जाता है) और तेंग्युर (टिप्पणी) के रूप में जाने जाने वाले ग्रंथ शामिल हैं। महायान की तरह वज्रयान भी संसार और निर्वाण के बीच कोई अंतर नहीं करता: जुनून और घृणा दोनों को ही जागृति के कुशल साधन के रूप में अपनाया जाता है।

वज्र, चाकू और घंटी सहित जापान की पांच गूढ अनुष्ठान वस्तुएं। भूटान के प्रतीक में एक विश्ववज्र या "डबल वज्र" दिखाई देता है मान्त्रिक बौद्ध धर्म (गुह्यमंत्र, "गुप्त मंत्र") या वज्रयान में कई गूढ प्रतीक हैं

जो बौद्ध धर्म के अन्य रूपों में आम नहीं हैं। वज्रयान बौद्ध धर्म में वज्र एक प्रमुख प्रतीक है। यह अविनाशीता (हीरे की तरह), शून्यता के साथ-साथ शक्ति (वज्र की तरह, जो वैदिक देवता इंद्र का हथियार था) का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है।<sup>1</sup> बीयर के अनुसार, यह "पूर्ण वास्तविकता की अभेद्य, अविनाशी, अचल, अपरिवर्तनीय, अविभाज्य और अविनाशी स्थिति का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है, जो बुद्धत्व का ज्ञान है।" (19) वज्र को अक्सर एक घंटी (वज्र-घंटा) के साथ जोड़ा जाता है।

जो ज्ञान के स्त्री सिद्धांत का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है। जब एक साथ जोड़ा जाता है, तो वे ज्ञान या शून्यता (घंटी) और विधि या कुशल साधन (वज्र) के पूर्ण मिलन का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं। वहाँ वह भी है जिसे "क्रॉसड वज्र" (विश्व-वज्र) कहा जाता है, जिसमें एक केंद्रीय केंद्र से निकलने वाले चार वज्र सिर होते हैं। अन्य तांत्रिक अनुष्ठान प्रतीकों में अनुष्ठान चाकू (किला), तांत्रिक कर्मचारी (खटवंगा), खोपड़ी कप (कपाल), लहराता चाकू (कार्तिक), हाथ ड्रम (डमरू) और जांघ की हड्डी तुरही (कंगलिंग) शामिल हैं।<sup>2</sup> तिब्बती बौद्ध धर्म में लोकप्रिय अन्य वज्रयान प्रतीकों में भावचक्र (जीवन का पहिया), मंडल, संख्या 108 और बुद्ध आंखें (या ज्ञान आंखें) शामिल हैं जो आमतौर पर बौधनाथ जैसे नेपाली स्तूपों पर देखी जाती हैं। वज्रयान कला में भी विभिन्न पौराणिक प्राणियों का उपयोग किया जाता है: स्नो लायन, विंड हॉर्स, ड्रैगन,

गरुड़ और बाघ। लोकप्रिय मंत्र “ओम मणि पद्मे हम्” का व्यापक रूप से करुणा के प्रतीक के रूप में उपयोग किया जाता है और इसे आमतौर पर चट्टानों, प्रार्थना पहियों, स्तूपों और कला पर अंकित देखा जाता है।<sup>7</sup> जोग्चेन में, दर्पण रिग्पा का एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रतीक है।

वस्त्र और गंजापन, किसी मठवासी के वस्त्रों की शैली और डिज़ाइन अक्सर बौद्ध धर्म के संप्रदाय, परंपरा या देश का संकेत देते हैं, जिससे वे संबंधित हैं।<sup>3</sup> अधिकांश बौद्ध संस्कृतियों में, बौद्ध मठवासी वस्त्र एक त्यागी मठवासी का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है। विभिन्न परंपराओं, बौद्ध धर्म के संप्रदायों (और विभिन्न देशों) में अलग-अलग रंगों के वस्त्र होंगे और साथ ही उन्हें पहनने के तरीके में भी अलग-अलग शैलियाँ या तरीके होंगे। एक बार छठी शताब्दी ईसा पूर्व में बौद्ध धर्म पूरे चीन में फैल गया<sup>4</sup> इतनी अधिक त्वचा दिखाना गलत माना जाता था, और तभी लंबी आस्तीन के साथ दोनों बाहों को ढकने वाले वस्त्र चलन में आए। तिब्बत में, समय के साथ इसमें बदलाव आया है और वे अपने दोनों कंधों के साथ-साथ एक के बजाय दो टुकड़ों वाली पोशाक पहनते हैं।<sup>5</sup> इसके तुरंत बाद, जापान ने अपने लंबे बाजू वाले वस्त्र के साथ एक बिब भी शामिल कर लिया जिसे कोरोमो कहा जाता है। यह विशेष रूप से उनके ज़ेन स्कूल के लिए बनाया गया एक परिधान था, जिसका अभ्यास वे ताकाहात्सू में करते हैं, जिसमें जापान के भिक्षु पुआल टोपी पहनते हैं।<sup>6</sup>

अपना सिर मुंडवाना एक और अनुष्ठान और प्रतीकात्मक कार्य है जिसे अधिकांश बौद्ध मठवासी मठवासी व्यवस्था में प्रवेश करने से पहले पूरा करते हैं। किसी का सिर मुंडवाना केवल मठवासी मार्ग में प्रवेश करने और सांसारिक जीवन को त्यागने की तैयारी का प्रतीक है।

बौद्ध भिक्षु पारंपरिक रूप से भीख मांगने का कटोरा लेकर चलते हैं, और यह दुनिया भर में बौद्ध भिक्षुओं का एक और आम प्रतीक है (भले ही सभी आधुनिक बौद्ध परंपराएं अपने भोजन के लिए भीख मांगने की पारंपरिक प्रथा का उपयोग नहीं करती हैं)।

बौद्ध धर्म के सभी संप्रदायों में, अनुष्ठानों की शुरुआत का संकेत देने या समय चिह्नित करने के लिए अक्सर घंटियों का उपयोग किया जाता है। वे बुरी आत्माओं को दूर रखने के लिए घंटी का उपयोग करते हैं और उनके अनुष्ठान के समय बुद्ध उनकी रक्षा करते हैं। कुछ संप्रदाय इसे “रहस्यवादी कानून” का हिस्सा कहते हैं जो बौद्ध अनुष्ठान की शुरुआत है।<sup>7</sup> (बेहतर स्रोत की आवश्यकता) अन्य अनुष्ठान उपकरणों में ड्रम, लकड़ी की मछली, तुरही, कीसाकु, और तांत्रिक वज्र और घंटी शामिल हैं।

बौद्ध धर्म के प्रतीकवाद का दूसरा रूप प्रार्थना के समय या अनुष्ठान (अंजलि मुद्रा) के समय अपने हाथों को एक साथ जोड़ना है। बौद्ध अपनी उंगलियों की तुलना कमल के फूल की पंखुड़ियों से करते हैं।

डॉ. कालिंदी कुमारी, पुष्पा कुमारी

झुकना अनुष्ठान के कार्य में प्रतीकात्मक स्थिति का एक और रूप है, जब बौद्ध बुद्ध या किसी अन्य व्यक्ति के सामने झुकते हैं तो वे भौतिक (मानव या मूर्ति) के सामने नहीं झुकते हैं, बल्कि वे अंदर के बुद्ध के सामने झुकते हैं उनमें से (मानव) या यह (प्रतिमा) मुद्राएं बौद्ध आस्था में शारीरिक हाथ की अभिव्यक्ति का एक और रूप है, जिसका उपयोग बौद्ध अभ्यास में मन की एक विशेष स्थिति को उत्पन्न करने के लिए किया जाता है। सबसे अधिक पहचाने जाने वाले मुद्रा बुद्ध के कलात्मक चित्रण में देखे जाते हैं।<sup>8</sup> प्रत्येक मुद्रा का एक प्रतीकात्मक कार्य और एक आंतरिक प्रतीकात्मक कार्य होता है, अभ्यासकर्ता के साथ-साथ इसे समझने वालों के लिए संचार के लिए। बौद्ध समारोहों में, मुद्रा एक दृश्य “मुहर” के रूप में कार्य करता है, जो बुरी आत्माओं को दूर रखने जैसे एक वफादार व्रत की पुष्टि करता है। जब अभ्यास में उपयोग किया जाता है तो वे अक्सर मंत्रों के साथ आते हैं।<sup>9</sup>

इस प्रकार वज्रयान बौद्ध धर्म में विशिष्ट वंशों से जुड़े हुए हैं, वंश धारकों की शिक्षाओं के माध्यम से। अन्य लोग आमतौर पर इन ग्रंथों को बौद्ध तंत्र के रूप में संदर्भित कर सकते हैं। इसमें मंत्रों, धरणियों, मुद्राओं, मंडलों और देवताओं और बुद्धों के दृश्यांकन का उपयोग करने वाली प्रथाएँ शामिल हैं।

**संदर्भ—सूची :**

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## पूर्व वैदिक काळातील सामाजिक इतिहास

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### प्रस्तावना

ऋग्वेदातील अनेक सुक्तांवरून पूर्व वैदिक काळातील आर्यांच्या समाज जीवनाची माहिती मिळते त्यावरून आर्य लोक हे सुसंस्कृत होते असे दिसते. वेदातील सुतावरून ज्या संस्कृतीचा उल्लेख मिळतो त्या संस्कृती लोक उत्साही प्रसन्न व्यक्तिमत्त्वाचे युद्धप्रिय आणि सालस प्रवृत्तीचे आणि काही गोष्टीत अप्रगत होते. मात्र आर्यांच्या समाज जीवनात कुटुंब यास फार महत्त्वाचे स्थान होते. व्यक्ती पेक्षा कुटुंब हे श्रेष्ठ होते. सर्वांनी कुटुंबाचे नाव उज्वल राखण्यासाठी प्रयत्न करावा ही आर्यांची इच्छा होती. अनेक कुटुंबे मिळून खेडेगाव बनत असे. आर्यांच्या कुटुंबाचा प्रमुख गृहपती असे. पितृ सत्ता कुटुंब पद्धती अस्तित्वात असल्याने घरातील ज्येष्ठ पुरुष हा प्रमुख असे. तो पराक्रमी उदार व प्रेमळ असे. काही प्रसंगी कठोर होत असे. कुटुंब प्रमुखा नंतर हा गृहपती होत असे. ग्रह पतीला घरातील धर्मकृत्ये पार पाडावी लागत असत. अतिथींचे स्वागत करावे लागेल. अतिथी सत्काराला वैदिक काळात फार महत्त्व होते. अतिथी हा देवा समान मानला जाई. अति तिची सेवा करणारा किंवा अन्नदान करणारा मनुष्य हा मरत नाही किंवा त्याला कधी दुःख सहन करावे लागत नाही म्हणजे अन्नदात्याला स्वर्ग प्राप्त होतो असे उल्लेख ऋग्वेदात आहेत

### उद्देश :

1. पूर्व वैदिक काळातील आर्यांच्या संस्कृतीचा अभ्यास करणे.
2. पूर्व वैदिक काळातील आर्यांच्या समाज जीवनाचा अभ्यास करणे.
3. वैदिक काळातील स्त्रियांचे श्रेयांची स्थान याविषयी माहिती जाणून घेणे.
4. विवाह संस्थेची माहिती घेणे.
5. आहार व मनोरंजनाची साधने जाणून घेणे.
6. वेशभूषा व अलंकार याविषयी माहिती घेणे इत्यादी.

### विषय आराखडा :-

#### 1) आर्यांची कुटुंबव्यवस्था –

आर्यांच्या कुटुंब व्यवस्थेत गृहपती बरोबर गृह पत्नीला ही तेवढाच मान होता. नना व तत या प्रेमळ नावाने आई-वडिलांना संबोधिले जात असे. स्त्री म्हणजे घराचे सर्वस्व म्हणून स्त्रीला मानाचे स्थान असे. त्यामुळे वीर पुत्राला जन्म देणाऱ्या इंद्र देवाच्या पत्नीची पूजा केली जात असे. स्त्री ही धार्मिक कृत्यात सहभागी होत असे. धार्मिक कृत्या बरोबरच रणांगणात देखील भाग घेत असे. रणांगणात श्रेया पुरुषांच्या बरोबरीने असा ऋग्वेदात उल्लेख सापडतात.

#### 2) पूर्व वैदिक कालीन स्त्रियांची परिस्थिती –

स्त्रियांना विवाहपूर्वी पित्याच्या अज्ञात राहावे लागे. पिता नसेल तर त्यांचे पालन पोषण भाऊ करीत असे. या काळात स्त्रियांना शिक्षा घेण्याची पूर्ण सवलत होती.

अनेक स्त्रियांनी शिक्षण घेतल्याचे उल्लेख ऋग्वेदात येतात. अपाला, घोषा, विश्ववरा, इंद्राणी यासारख्या विद्वान स्त्रियांनी वेदाचे शिक्षण घेतले होते. यापैकी काही स्त्रियांनी ऋग्वेदाची सुक्ते रचली आहेत. स्त्री जर सुशिक्षित असेल तर कुटुंब ही सुशिक्षित होईल अशी आर्यांची श्रद्धा होती. त्यामुळे स्त्रियांना शिक्षण घेण्याचा हक्क मिळत असे.

#### 3) विवाह संस्था-

स्त्रीच्या जीवनातील सर्वात महत्त्वाचा प्रसंग म्हणजे विवाह होय. बालविवाहाची प्रथा अस्तित्वात नव्हती. श्री चा विवाह पंधराव्या किंवा सोळाव्या वर्षी होत असे. विवाह पाश्चिमात्य देशाप्रमाणे करार मानला जात नव्हता. तर तो एक पवित्र संस्कार मानला जाई. सर्व स्त्रियांनी विवाह केला पाहिजे अशी शक्ती केली जात नव्हती. तर काही स्त्रिया विद्यार्थ्यांसाठी अविवाहित राहत असत. विवाहाचा प्रमुख हेतू संतती निर्माण करावी हा होता. त्याचबरोबर चार पुरुषार्थ धर्म म्हणजे धर्म अर्थ काम मोक्ष यांचे पालन करणे व मोक्ष प्राप्ती करून घेणे आणि पितृ ऋणातून मुक्त होणे हा हेतू होता. विवाह हा ग्रह पतीच्या सल्ल्याने ठरवला जाई. परंतु त्याची कन्येवर शक्ती नसे. काही प्रसंगी करण्या स्वतःचा वर निवडीत अस. हुंडा पद्धती अस्तित्वात होती.. वर वधूला किंवा वधू-वराला अशा दोन्ही पक्षाकडून हुंडा दिल्याचे उल्लेख सापडतात. हुंड्यामध्ये जनावरे व सोने देण्याची पद्धत होती. विवाह समारंभ वधूच्या घरी पार पाडला जात असे. अग्नीच्या साक्षीने विवाह होत असत. विवाहानंतर श्री ही खऱ्या अर्थाने

अर्धांगी होत असे. स्त्रीला 'जाया' असेही म्हणतात. कारण पत्नीच्या योग्य पती पुन्हा जन्माला येतो म्हणून ती जाया ठरते. पत्नी म्हणजे घर पत्नी म्हणजे आनंद पत्नी म्हणजे संसारिक जीवन होय. तिचे प्रमुख कर्तव्य म्हणजे अपत्य संगोपन व गृह करणे होय. घरातील संपत्तीच्या भागीदारीत स्त्री असे. सर्वांबरोबर तिलाही संपत्तीचा वाटा मिळत असे. दत्तक पुत्र घेण्याची प्रथा वैदिक काळात होती. पुत्र जर नसेल तर मुलीच्या मुलाला पित्याची सर्व मालमत्ता मिळत असे. एक पत्नीत्वाची प्रथा सर्वसामान्यपणे प्रचलित होती.. मात्र राजे क्षत्रिय किंवा श्रीमंत घराण्यातील पुरुषांमध्ये बहुपत्नीत्वाची पद्धत होती. स्त्रीच्या जीवनाचा शाप म्हणजे वैधव्य होय. विधवांना पुनर्विवाहाची परवानगी होती. मात्र सतीची चाल नव्हती.

#### 4) आहार व मनोरंजनाची साधने -

आर्य लोक आपल्या आहारात दूध तूप दही ताक यांचा अधिक उपयोग करीत असत. कारण पशुपालन हा त्यांचा प्रमुख व्यवसाय होता. म्हणून पशु पासून मिळणारे दूध ते आहारात अधिक प्रमाणात वापरत असत. दूध आणि इतर पदार्थ मिसळून नवीन पदार्थ तयार करून खात असत. याला पुरवठा असे म्हणत असत. पुरोडाश हे देवाचे आवडते खाद्य होते. म्हणून देवाला अर्पण करत असत. थोडक्यात पुरोडाश खीर सारखा पदार्थ होय. बैलाचा नांगरण्यासाठी शेतात उपयोग केला जात असे. धान व तीळ पदार्थांचा वापर करीत असत. स्वयंपाकासाठी लोखंडाची किंवा लाकडाची भांडी आर्य लोक वापरत असत. अरे जेवणात मास्क असेल फळांचा उपयोग करीत असत. विवाह किंवा उत्सव प्रसंगी आर्य लोक नृत्याचा कार्यक्रम आयोजित करत. त्यात स्त्री पुरुष दोघेही भाग घेत. नृत्याला संगीताची साथ देण्यात येई. गायनाला महत्त्व होते. वैदिक काळात मनोरंजनाचे दुसरे साधन म्हणजे जुगार होते. रथांची शर्यत शिकार कुस्त्या घोड्यांची शर्यती याद्वारे लोकांचे मनोरंजन केले जाई.

#### 5) वेशभूषा आणि अलंकार -

अलंकार किंवा दागिने अंगावर धारण करण्याची आवड स्त्री व पुरुष या दोघांना होती. अलंकार हे सोने चांदी हिरे माणिक पाचू चांदी व तांबे यांचे पासून तयार करीत. स्त्रीया कर्णफुले गळ्यातील कंठा अंगठ्या कंकणे इत्यादी अलंकार वापरीत. स्त्रिया ओठ हात तळपाय मेंदीच्या साह्याने रंगवीत. अरे हे भारतात येण्यापूर्वी थंड प्रदेशात राहत असत. म्हणून थंडी पासून रक्षण करण्यासाठी ते अग्नी व सुती आणि लोकरी कपड्यांचा जास्त वापर करीत. रिकाम्या वेळात स्त्रिया विणण्याचा व्यवसाय करीत. अरे लोकांना पांढरे शुभ्र कपडे आवडत. स्त्रिया घागऱ्यासारखे वस्त्र कमरे भोवती गुंडाळीत. व अंगावर उपरण्यासारखे वस्त्र वापरीत. वस्त्राच्या स्वच्छतेबाबतीत कार्य काळजी घेत. नीटनेटकेपणा त्यांना आवडत असे.

#### निष्कर्ष/ समारोप -

पूर्व वैदिक काळाच्या समाज जीवनाचा अभ्यास करताना आपणास असे दिसून येते की आर्य संस्कृतीत स्त्रियांना मानसन्मान मोठ्या प्रमाणात दिला जात असे.

प्रा. डॉ. चित्रा सुकदेव पाटील

स्त्रियांना आताच्या काळात दिला गेला पाहिजे. बलात्कार छेडछाड मानहानी यावरून स्त्रियांमध्ये हिनतेची भावना निर्माण होते. भारतात सध्याच्या परिस्थितीत भारतीय समाज जीवनात स्त्रियांवर मोठ्या प्रमाणात अन्याय अत्याचार होत आहेत. कोट केसेस होत आहेत. तरीदेखील गुन्हेगार समाजात फिरताना दिसतात. गुन्हेगारांना कायद्याचा धाक राहिला नाही. त्यामुळे मोठ्या प्रमाणावर स्त्रियांवर जुलूम अत्याचार होताना दिसत आहेत. दोन वर्षांच्या मुली पासून ते 70 80 वर्षांच्या म्हाताऱ्या वयस्कर महिला आजच्या काळात भारतात सुरक्षित नाहीत. केव्हाही कोणताही नराधम रस्त्यावर किंवा घरात येऊन स्त्रीवर अत्याचार करेल हे सांगता येत नाही. म्हणून स्त्रियांना सरकारने त्यांचा आत्म सन्मान मिळवून दिला पाहिजे. कुटुंबाच्या उदरनिर्वाहासाठी प्रत्येक स्त्रीला घराबाहेर जावे लागते काम करावे लागते त्यामुळे आजची स्त्री सुरक्षित राहिली नाही. पुन्हा वैदिक काळासारखी कुटुंब व्यवस्था निर्माण होणे गरजेचे आहे. त्यामुळे कुटुंब व्यवस्था ही ढासळणार नाही. यातच प्रत्येकाचे तसेच राष्ट्रहित आहे असे मला वाटते.

#### संदर्भसूची :

1. डॉक्टर जी बी शहा - प्राचीन भारताचा इतिहास इसवी सन पूर्व 3000 ते इसवी सन पूर्व 1200 जून प्रशांत पब्लिकेशन जळगाव.
2. डॉक्टर संजय पाटील डॉक्टर मधुकर पाटील - प्राचीन भारत प्रारंभ तर इसवी सन पूर्व 600 अथर्व पब्लिकेशन जळगाव 2013
3. अ रा कुलकर्णी 2007 - प्राचीन भारत संस्कृती आणि इतिहास- स्नेहवर्धन प्रकाशन पुणे
4. ए वाय कोंडेकर 2006 प्राचीन व मध्ययुगीन भारताचा इतिहास निराली प्रकाशन पुणे
5. अनुप कुमार पांडे 2011 मेकाग्राह हिल
6. वी के अग्निहोत्री भारतीय इतिहास एलाईड पब्लिशर्स लिमिटेड नवी दिल्ली
7. डॉक्टर अनिल कठारे प्राचीन भारताचा इतिहास प्रारंभ ते इसवी सन 1318 प्रशांत पब्लिकेशन जळगाव
8. विवेकानंद स्वामी- भारतीय व्याख्याने वेदांत कार्य भारत
9. बी महादेवान वी आर भट पी आर एन 2024 इंद्रोड्यूसिंग तो इंडियन नॉलेज सिस्टीम प्रायव्हेट लिमिटेड दिल्ली



## आदिवासींच्या आर्थिक विकासात शासनाच्या योजनांची भूमिका - एक अभ्यास

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### सारांश:

आदिवासी कल्याणच्या योजनांची परिणामकारक अंमलबजावणी करण्यासाठी सन १९७२ मध्ये समाज कल्याण विभागांतर्गत आदिवासी विकास संचालनालयाची स्थापना करण्यात आली होती. त्यानंतर १९७६ साली आदिवासी विकास आयुक्तालय सुरू करण्यात आले. दिनांक २२ एप्रिल १९८३ रोजी स्वतंत्र आदिवासी विकास विभागाची स्थापना करण्यात आली आणि १९९४ पासून आदिवासी विकास विभाग स्वतंत्रपणे कार्यरत आहे.

महाराष्ट्र राज्यात एकूण ४५ अनुसूचित जमाती असून त्यात प्रामुख्याने भिल्ल, गोंड, कोळी, महादेव कोळी, पावरा, ठाकूर, वारली यांचा समावेश आहे. यवतमाळ जिल्ह्यातील कोलम, रायगड, ठाणे व पालघर जिल्ह्यांतील कातकरी आणि गडचिरोली जिल्ह्यातील माडिया अशा तीन जमाती केंद्र शासनाने अधिक जमाती म्हणून अधिसूचित केल्या आहेत. राज्यातील एकूण ३६ जिल्हे असून त्यापैकी धुळे, नंदुरबार, जळगाव, नाशिक, पालघर व ठाणे सह्याद्री प्रदेश तसेच चंद्रपूर, गडचिरोली, भंडारा, गोंदिया, नागपूर, अमरावती व यवतमाळ (गोंडवन प्रदेश) पूर्वेकडील वनच्छादित जिल्ह्यांमध्ये आदिवासींची संख्या मोठ्या प्रमाणात आहे.

**बीज संज्ञा:-** सानुग्रह अनुदान, व्यावसायिक अभ्यासक्रमात, खावटी कर्ज, शिष्यवृत्ती.

### प्रस्तावना:

राज्यात २९ एकात्मिक आदिवासी विकास प्रकल्प कार्यालय असून त्यापैकी ११ एकात्मिक आदिवासी विकास प्रकल्प कार्यालय अति संवेदनशील म्हणून घोषित करण्यात आले आहेत. त्यामध्ये नाशिक, कळवण, तळोदा, जव्हार, डहाणू, धारणी, किनवट, पांढरकवडा, गडचिरोली, अहेरी व भामरागड यांचा समावेश आहे. खरे तर शासन अनेक योजना आदिवासी विभागातील नागरिकांसाठी व सर्वसामान्य बेरोजगार महिलांसाठी काढत असतात; परंतु या योजना त्या आदिवासी भागातील तळागाळातील लोकांपर्यंत किंवा एकल विधवा व बेरोजगार महिलांपर्यंत कितपत पोहोचतात यावर प्रश्नचिन्ह आहे?

आदिवासी विकास विभागाच्या वळकटीकरणासाठी सन १९९२ मध्ये आदिवासी विकास संचालनालयचे आदिवासी विकास आयुक्तालयात विलीनी कारण करण्यात आले. आदिवासी विकास विभागांतर्गत ठाणे, नाशिक, अमरावती व नागपूर येथे चार आयुक्त व २९ एकात्मिक आदिवासी विकास प्रकल्प कार्यालय असून त्यांच्यामार्फत मागासवर्गीय कल्याणाच्या राज्य आणि केंद्र शासनाच्या योजनांची अंमलबजावणी केली जाते. या योजनेंतर्गत सामाजिक कल्याण, आर्थिक कल्याण,

शिक्षणामध्ये प्रगती, सामाजिक न्याय महिला व बालविकास, आरोग्य, पोषण, रोजगार इत्यादी योजना राबविण्यात येतात. सन २०२३-२४ च्या अर्थसंकल्पामध्ये आदिवासी विकास विभागाकरिता १२६५५.०० कोटी इतका नियत व्यय मंजूर झाला आहे.

### गृहीत कृत्य:-

- १) आदिवासींच्या योजनातील अडथळे दूर केल्यास त्यांचा विकास होऊ शकतो.
- २) आदिवासी विकास प्रकल्पा अंतर्गत राबविण्यात येणाऱ्या योजना आदिवासींच्या विकासाला मदत करतात.
- ३) अनुसूचित जमातींच्या उपाय योजना प्रभावीपणे अंमलबजावणी केल्यामुळे विकासावर सकारात्मक परिणाम झाला आहे.

### संशोधनाची उद्दिष्टे:-

- १) आदिवासी समाजांच्या विकास योजनांचा अभ्यास करणे.
- २) विकास योजनांमध्ये सरकारची भूमिका अभ्यासणे.
- ३) योजनांच्या अंमलबजावणीतील समस्यांचा अभ्यास करणे.

४) योजनांच्या अंमलबजावणीसाठी उपाययोजना सुचविणे.

**संशोधन पद्धती:-**

प्रस्तुत शोध निबंधासाठी दुय्यम सामुग्रीचा वापर करण्यात आला आहे. यामध्ये विश्लेषणात्मक संशोधन पद्धतीचा आधार घेण्यात आला आहे. यात क्रमिक पुस्तके, संदर्भग्रंथ, प्रकाशित साहित्य, वर्तमानपत्रे, साप्ताहिके, मासिके आणि इंटरनेट या साधनांचा उपयोग करण्यात आला आहे.

**आदिवासी विकास विभागाच्या विविध योजनां**

**अनुसूचित जमातीच्या मुला/मुलीसाठी शासकीय वसतिगृह सुरु करणे:-**

अनु. जमातीच्या मुला/मुलींसाठी ७५ व १२५ विध्यर्थी क्षमतेचे वसतिगृहे चालविण्यात येतात यामध्ये प्रवेशित मुलां/मुलींना मोफत भोजन, निवास, स्टेशनरी साहित्य, अभ्यासक्रमीय पुस्तके, निर्वाह भत्ता, शालेय साहित्य इत्यादी शासनामार्फत मोफत पुरविले जातात.

**अनुसूचित जमातीच्या मुला/मुलीसाठी शासकीय व अनुदानित आश्रमशाळा सुरु करणे:-**

अनु. जमातीच्या मुला/मुलींकरीता आदिवासी विकास विभागामार्फत शासकीय व अनुदानित आश्रमशाळा व कनिष्ठ महाविद्यालये चालविल्या जातात यामध्ये प्रवेशित विद्यार्थ्यांना मोफत भोजन, निवास, स्टेशनरी साहित्य, अभ्यासक्रमीय पुस्तके, शालेय साहित्य, अंथरुण पांघरून, शालेय गणवेश इत्यादी शासनामार्फत मोफत पुरविले जातात.

**ठक्करबाप्पा आदिवासी वस्ती सुधार योजना:-**

ठक्करबाप्पा योजना अनु. जमातीच्या वास्तव्य असलेल्या गावामध्ये मुलभूत सोयी उपलब्ध करून देण्यासाठी सुरु करण्यात आलेली आहे यामध्ये आदिवासी वस्तीमध्ये अंतर्गत सिमेंट रस्ते, सार्वजनिक शौचालय, मंगल कार्यालय, समाज मंदिर, पिण्याचे पाणी पुरवठा, आरोग्य केंद्र, व्यायामशाळा, शालेय इमारत खोली बांधकामे, स्मशान भूमी शेड, पथदिवे, सोलर सिस्टीम इत्यादी सार्वजनिक सुविधा आदिवासी लोकसंखेच्या प्रमाणात उपलब्ध करून देण्यात येतात यासाठी १५० ते ५०० लोकसंखेकरीता ५ लक्ष रुपये, ५०१ ते १००० साठी १० लक्ष रुपये, १००१ ते १५०० साठी १५ लक्ष रुपये, १५०१ ते २००० साठी २० लक्ष व २००१ ते २५०० साठी २५ लाखाच्या पुढे प्रमाणे प्रति कामास अनुदान दिले जाते. सदर कामे सार्वजनिक बांधकाम विभाग अथवा जिल्हा परिषदेमार्फत करून घेण्यात येतात. एका वेळेस एक गावत दोन कामे घेता

येतात. मंजूर केलेल्या अनुदानामध्ये काम पूर्ण झाले पाहिजे अपूर्ण कामासाठी या योजनेत पुन्हा निधी उपलब्ध करून दिला जात नाही.

**भूमिहीन अनुसूचित जमातीच्या शेतमजूर कुटुंबासाठी स्वाभिमान व सबलीकरण योजना:-**

या योजनेची सुरुवात सन २००७-०८ मध्ये झाली. भूमिहीन अनु. जमातीच्या शेतमजुरी करणाऱ्या दारिद्र्यरेषेखालील कुटुंबांना शासनाचे दराप्रमाणे २ एकर बागायत अथवा ४ एकर जिरायत शेत जमीन खरेदी करून देण्यात येते यासाठी मा. जिल्हाधिकारी यांचे अध्यक्षतेखाली समिती गठीत करण्यात आलेली आहे सदर समितीमध्ये शेतजमिनीचे दर, लाभार्थी निवड, मुल्यांकन इत्यादी बाबत निर्णय घेण्यात येतो. सदर शेतजमीन खरेदीसाठी लाभार्थ्यांस ५० टक्के शासन अनुदान व ५० टक्के कर्ज स्वरूपात अनुदान देण्यात येते. देण्यात आलेल्या कर्जाचे १० वर्ष पर्यंत परत फेडीचे हप्ते ठरविण्यात येतात कर्जाची फेड खरेदी केल्यानंतर २ वर्षांनंतर करण्यात येते व सदर कर्ज बिनव्याजी असते.

**अनुसूचित जमातीच्या शेतकऱ्यांना वीजपंप/तेलपंप पुरविणे:-**

ही योजना सन १९७२-७३ पासून सुरु करण्यात आली आहे. साधारण १.५ एकर शेतजमीन असलेल्या अनु. जमातीच्या शेतकऱ्यांना सिंचनासाठी आदिवासी विकास मार्फत ५ एच पी चा वीजपंप अथवा तेलपंप किंवा गॅसपंप पुरविण्यात येतो. यासाठी शेतकऱ्याकडे पाणी उपलब्धतेचे स्तोत्र आवश्यक आहे.

**अनुसूचित जमातीच्या शेतकऱ्यांना सिंचनासाठी एचडीपीई पाईपचा पुरवठा करणे:-**

ही योजना सन २००७-०८ पासून योजना सुरु झाली प्रत्यक्षात २००८-०९ पासून राबवली जात आहे. अनु. जमातीच्या शेतकऱ्यांना वीजपंप अथवा तेलपंप मंजूर करण्यात आलेला आहे अशा शेतकऱ्यांना सिंचनासाठी एचडीपीई पाईपचा पुरवठा करण्यात येतो. सदर लाभ रुपये १५०००/- चे मर्यादित देण्यात येतो यासाठी शासनमान्य दरपत्रकाप्रमाणे एमएसएसआयडीसी मार्फत खरेदी करण्यात येऊन लाभार्थ्यांना वाटप करण्यात येते.

**भारत सरकार शिष्यवृत्ती प्रदाने योजना:-**

सन १९५९-६० पासून सुरु करण्यात आली आहे. सुधारित दराप्रमाणे शिष्यवृत्ती दर्शविण्यात आलेली आहे. महाविद्यालयात विविध अभ्यासक्रमात शिक्षण घेत असलेल्या अनु. जमातीच्या विद्यार्थ्यांना भारत सरकार शिष्यवृत्ती खालील दर्शविलेल्या तक्त्याप्रमाणे देण्यात येते यासाठी विद्यार्थ्यांच्या पालकाचे उत्पन्न सन २०१३-१४ या शैक्षणिक वर्षापासून २,५०,०००/- पेक्षा जास्त नसावे.

वर्ग	निवासी करिता	अनिवासी करिता
११ वी, १२ वी, बीए, बी. कॉम, बीएसस्सी प्रथम वर्ष	३८०/- प्रती माह	२३०/- प्रती माह
बीए, बी.कॉम, बीएसस्सी द्वितीय व तृतीय वर्षाकरिता	५७०/- प्रती माह	३००/- प्रती माह
एमए, एमकॉम, एमएसस्सी, बीएड, एमएड, बीपीएड, एमएसडब्लू, कृषी डिप्लोमा, पॉलीटेकनिक	८२०/- प्रती माह	५३०/- प्रती माह
मेडिकल, इंजिनिअरिंग, एमएसस्सी ऑग्री	१२००/- प्रती माह	५५०/- प्रती माह

### व्यावसायिक अभ्यासक्रमात शिक्षण घेणाऱ्या अनु. जमातीच्या विद्यार्थ्यांना निर्वाह भत्ता:-

सन २००३-०४ पासून योजना सुरु झालेली आहे. आर्थिकदृष्ट्या परवडत नसल्यामुळे इतर आर्थिक सवलतीशिवाय विद्यापीठाशी संलग्न असलेल्या व्यावसायिक अभ्यासक्रमात शिकत असलेल्या उदा. मेडिकल, इंजिनिअरिंग, कृषी पदवी, डि.एड. बीएड, बीपीएड, एमएसडब्लू, सीए, आसीडब्लूए, पॉलीटेकनिक, इत्यादी अभ्यासक्रमात शिकत असलेल्या विद्यार्थ्यांना विद्यापीठाचे दराने निर्वाह भत्ता अदा करण्यात येतो. ५ वर्षे अभ्यासक्रमासाठी १०००/-, ३ वर्षाकरिता ७००/-, २ वर्षे किंवा कमी साठी ५००/- प्रमाणे निर्वाह भत्ता अदा केला जातो.

### शिक्षण शुल्क/परीक्षा शुल्क प्रदाने:-

सन १९५९-६० पासून ही योजना सुरु झालेली आहे. कोणत्याही स्तरावर शिक्षण घेणाऱ्या आदिवासी विद्यार्थ्यांना मोफत शिक्षण घेता यावे व उत्पन्न मर्यादिते भारत सरकार शिष्यावृत्तीसारख्या योजनांचा फायदा मिळू न शकणाऱ्या विद्यार्थ्यांकरिता शिक्षण विभागाने ठरवून दिलेल्या दराने मान्यता प्राप्त शिक्षण घेणाऱ्या अनु. जमातीच्या विद्यार्थ्यांच्या शैक्षणिक व परीक्षा शुल्काची प्रतिपूर्ती करण्यात येते. इयत्ता १ली ते १० वी साठी समाजकल्याण जि. प यांचेमार्फत देण्यात येते. इयत्ता ११ वी ते पुढे संबधित प्राचार्य अथवा प्रकल्प अधिकारी, एकात्मिक आदिवासी विकास प्रकल्प

### इयत्ता ८ वी ते १० वी मधील अनु. जमातीचा अपंग विद्यार्थ्यांसाठी शिष्यवृत्ती योजना:-

अनु. जमातीच्या अपंग विद्यार्थ्यांना शिक्षण घेण्यासाठी व शाळेत जाण्यासाठी प्रवास खर्चाची अडचण दूर करण्याकरिता सन २००३-०४ पासून इयत्ता ८ वी ते १२ वी पर्यंत शिक्षण घेत असल्यास अनु. जमातीच्या अपंग विद्यार्थ्यांना प्रतिमाहा रुपये ५००/- शिष्यवृत्ती व १००/- प्रती महा वाहतूक भत्ता देण्यात येतो.

### स्वर्णजयंती पूर्व माध्यमिक शिष्यवृत्ती योजना:-

ही योजना शासन निर्णय २०१० अन्वये योजना सुरु झालेली आहे. अनु. जमातीचा मुला /मुलींच्या शाळेतील उपस्थितीचे प्रमाण दिवसेंदिवस कमी होत असल्याने त्यांचे उपस्थितीचे प्रमाण वाढविण्या करिता ज्यांची उपस्थिती ८० टक्के आहे अशा अनु. जमातीच्या मुला /मुलींना खालील प्रमाणे शिष्यवृत्ती अदा केली जाते. इयत्ता १ ली ते ४ थी करीत १०००/- इयत्ता ५ वी ते ७ वी करीत १५००/- इयत्ता

८ वी ते १० वी करीत २०००/- या प्रमाणे शिष्यवृत्ती देण्यात येते. सदर योजना यापूर्वी फक्त मुलीसाठी लागू होती परंतु सन २०१०-११ पासून सदर योजना मुलानादेखील लागू करण्यात आलेली आहे.

### राजीव गांधी अपघात विमा योजना:-

अनु. जमातीच्या विद्यार्थ्यांकरिता अपघातामुळे पोहचलेल्या क्षतिची काही प्रमाणात नुकसान भरपाई देण्याचे दृष्टीने तसेच त्यांना सुरक्षा कवच देण्याकरिता राज्यातील सर्व स्थानिक स्वराज्य संस्थानि चालविलेल्या मान्यताप्राप्त शाळा, महाविद्यालये यांचे मधून शिकत असल्यास विद्यार्थ्यांसाठी सन २००३ पासून लागू करण्यात आलेली आहे यामध्ये पुढील प्रमाणे लाभ दिला जातो. अपघाती मृत्यु - ३०,०००/- कायमचे अपंगत्व (दोन अवयव डोळे किंवा एक डोळा निकामी - ५०,०००/-, अपघातामुळे एक अवयव किंवा डोळा निकामी - २०,०००/-, अपघातामुळे उदभवला वैधकीय खर्च - १२०००/-, पुस्तके हरवल्यास - ३५०/-, परीक्षा शुल्क - ६५०/-, सायकल चोरीस गेल्यास - १५००/-, आपघातामुळे चष्मा हरवल्यास - ७५०/- या प्रमाणे विमा देण्यात सदर विमा ओरीएटल इंशुरन्स कंपनी लि. या कंपनीमार्फत उतरविण्यात येतो

### आश्रम शाळेतील विद्यार्थी मृत्युनंतर पालकासाठी सानुग्रह अनुदान देण्याची योजना:-

आदिवासी विकास विभागामार्फत चालविण्यात येणाऱ्या शासकीय आश्रमशाळा या अतिदुर्गम व जंगलमय प्रदेशात निवासी शाळा कार्यरत आहेत तेथे काही नैसर्गिक आपती व अपघातामुळे शासकीय आश्रमी विद्यार्थी मृत्यु पडण्याच्या घटना घडत असतात. शासकीय पालकत्व जबाबदारी म्हणून व शैक्षणिक विकासातील महत्वाची समन्वय म्हणून टाकण्यात आलेली जबाबदारी या दृष्टीने विद्यार्थी/विद्यार्थीनीचा मृत्यु झाल्यास सामाजिक दृष्टीकोनातून तातडीने अर्थसहाय्य विद्यार्थींच्या पालकास रुपये १,००,०००/- सानुग्रह अनुदान म्हणून देण्यात येते. पूर्वी हे रुपये १५०००/- इतके होते नंतर त्यात वाढ होऊन रुपये १,००,०००/- करण्यात आली

### सेवायोजना/नाव नोंदणी:-

अनु. जमातीच्या उमेदवाराचे नाव कार्यलयातील सेवायोजन शाखेत नोंदवण्यात येते व उमेदवारांना त्याच्या शैक्षणिक पात्रतेनुसार विविध शैक्षणिक संस्था, शासकीय/निमशासकीय संस्थेमध्ये नोकरीसाठी नवे पुरस्कृत करण्यात येतात.



**कन्यादान योजना सन २००५-०६ पासून सुरु झालेली आहे:-**

वैयक्तिक विवाह सोहळ्यावर होणारा भरसाठ खर्च रोखण्यासाठी तसेच बाल विवाह रोखण्यासाठी आदिवासी वधू-वरांचे सामुहिक विवाह सोहळ्यांचे आयोजन केले जाते यासाठी प्रती जोडपे १०००/- चे मर्यादित रोख स्वरूपात लाभ देण्यात येतो व सोहळ्यांचे आयोजन करण्यासाठी प्रति जिडप्यामागे १०००/- स्वयसेवी संथेला खर्च देण्यात येतो. यामध्ये संस्था उपस्थितासाठी जेवण, मंडप, मंच इत्यादी अनुषंगिक बाबीसाठी खर्च करते.

**अनु. जमातीच्या कुटुंबाना दुधाळ जनावरांचे वाटप करणे योजना:-**

सन २००५-०६ पासून ही योजना सुरु झालेली आहे. दरिद्रय रेपेखालील अनु. जमातीच्या कुटुंबास दोन गायी रुपये ३६,०००/- अथवा दोन म्हशी रुपये ४०,०००/- किंवा शेळी गटाचे रुपये २५,०००/- या प्रमाणात वाटप केले जाते. दूधसंकलन केंद्र असल्यास, व क्लस्टर पद्धतीने ही योजना राबविण्यात येते.

**अनु. जमातीच्या कुटुंबाकरिता घरकुल योजना:-**

सन २००३-०४ पासून ही योजना सुरु झालेली आहे. दरिद्रय रेपेखालील अनु. जमातीच्या कुटुंबाना निवाराकारिता घरकुल बांधकाम करून देण्यात येते रुपये १,००,०००/- चे मर्यादित अनुदान तिन टप्प्यामध्ये लाभाध्यांना वितरीत करण्यात येते ज्यामध्ये लाभार्थी स्वतः घरकुलाचे बांधकाम करतांना त्यांना कामाची प्रगती पाहून उवरित निधि अदा केला जातो. यासाठी लाभाध्यांकडे स्वतःच्या मालकीची जागा असणे आवश्यक आहे.

**अनु. जमातीच्या कुटुंबाकरिता घरगुती गॅस संचाचा पुरवठा योजना:-**

सन २००५-०६ पासून ही योजना सुरु झालेली आहे. दरिद्रय रेपेखालील अनु. जमातीच्या कुटुंबाना रूपये ३,०००/- चे मर्यादित घरगुती गॅस संचाचा पुरवठा करण्यात येतो यामध्ये वृक्षतोड थांबणे हा उद्देश आहे.

**केंद्रव्रती अर्थसंकल्प योजना (न्युक्लियस बजेट योजना):-**

सन १९७२ पासून ही योजना सुरु झालेली आहे. या योजनेतर्गत नियमित योजना अदिवासिसाठी स्थानिक गरजासाठी आधरित योजना रबविण्यात येतात या योजना चार गटात रबविण्यात येतात.

१. उत्पन्न वाढीच्या व निर्मितीच्या योजना
२. प्रशिक्षणाच्या योजना
३. मानव संसाधन व संपत्तीच्या योजना
४. आदिवासी कल्याणात्मक योजना

गट अ मधील योजनेतर्गत शासन सहभाग ८५ टक्के व लाभाधी सहभाग १५ टक्के या प्रमाने हिस्सा आहे प्रती लाभाधी १५०००/- चे मर्यादित योजना रबविण्यात येते असल्या मुळे १०० टक्के शासन सहभाग आहे.

**गट अ उत्पन्न निर्मितीच्या योजना:-**

- १) पीठ गिरणी २) मळणी यंत्र ३) मिरची कांडपयंत्र
- ४) ताडपत्री ५) लाउडस्पीकर संच
- ६) मंडप डेकोरेट ७) शेवया मशीन ८) जुस मशीन
- ९) शेळीगट पालन १०) जैविक खताचे वाटप इत्यादी.

**गट ब प्रशिक्षणाच्या योजना:-**

- १) हलके व जड वाहन प्रशिक्षण २) कंडक्टर प्रशिक्षण
- ३) सुरक्षागार्डचे प्रशिक्षण ४) प्लम्बरचे प्रशिक्षण
- ५) इलेक्ट्रॉनिक प्रशिक्षण ६) जैविक तंत्रज्ञानाचे प्रशिक्षण
- ७) स्पर्धा परीक्षा पूर्व प्रशिक्षण ८) एमएचसीआयटी प्रशिक्षण ९) पीएमटी प्रशिक्षण १०) संगणक प्रशिक्षण देणे इत्यादी.

**गट क मानव संसाधन व संपत्तीच्या योजना:-**

- १) हॅण्डबगचे वाटप २) शिलाई मशीन ३) पिको फौल मशीन ४) दूचाकी सायकल ५) अपंगना तिनचाकी सायकल इत्यादी.

**गट ड आदिवासी कल्याणात्मक योजना:-**

- १) नैसर्गिक आपत्तिने पीडित कुटुंबाना अर्थसहाय्य
- २) जळीत कुटुंबाना अर्थसहाय्य देणे.

**विशेष केंद्रीय सहाय्य योजना:-**

ही योजना सन २००३-०४ पासून सुरु झालेली आहे. दरिद्रय रेपेखालील अनु. जमातीच्या कुटुंबासाठी विशेष सहाय्य योजनेतर्गत खालील प्रमाणे योजना राबविण्यात येतात, योजनेतर्गत राबविण्यात येणाऱ्या विविध योजना केंद्रसरकार निधीतून राबविण्यात येतात घरकुल योजना (रु १०००००/- मर्यादा ), विट भट्टी व्यवसाय, दूधाळ जनावरे पुरवठा (दोन गायी/म्हशी), भाजीपाला किटचे वाटप, गांडूळ खत निर्मिती करणे, लघु उपसा सिंचन योजना राबविणे, सिंचनासाठी नविन विहीर खोदुन देणे, शिलाई मशीनचे वाटप करणे, तसेच इलेक्ट्रॉनिक पार्टची असेम्ब्ली करण्याचे प्रशिक्षण देणे, वराह पालन करणे, कुकुटपालन आशा विविध प्रकारच्या योजना राबविण्यात येतात. इंडो जर्मन ट्रल्स व सिपेट या केंद्र शासन अंगीकृत संस्थामधून १०० टक्के जांब गारन्टीवर आदिवासी युवक युवतीना प्लास्टिंग मोल्डिंग, प्रोसेसिंग इत्यादीचे प्रशिक्षण देण्यात येते.

**भारतीय संविधानाचे अनुच्छेद २७५(१) अंतर्गत योजना:-**

सन १९९३-९४ पासून ही योजना सुरु झाली आहे. यामध्ये प्रामुख्याने दोन प्रकारच्या योजना राबविण्यात येतात १) आश्रमशाळा/वसतिगृह इमारती दुरुस्ती २) वैयक्तिक लाभाच्या योजना रुपये ५ लाखाचे मर्यादित आश्रमशाळेची किरकोळ दुरुस्ती उदा. नुतनीकरण, विधुतीकरण, पाणी पुरवठा, खिडक्या, दरवाजे फिटिंग, तारकंपाउंड इत्यादी बाबीसाठी निधी देण्यात येतो व सार्वजनिक बांधकाम विभागामार्फत कामे करून घेण्यात येतात. तसेच वैयक्तिक लाभामध्ये घरकुल बांधकामे करणे,

शेतीविषयक आवश्यक साधन सामग्री खरेदी करून देणे, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक असेम्ब्ली, फॅशन डिजायनिंग, टेलरिंग इत्यादीचे प्रशिक्षण देऊन अर्थसहाय्य देणे या योजना राबविण्यात येतात.

#### खावटी कर्ज योजना:-

सन २०१२-२३ पासून ही योजना सुरु झाली आहे. महाराष्ट्र राज्य आदिवासीची आर्थिक स्थिती (सुधारणा) अधिनियम १९७६ चे तरतुदीनुसार आदिवासी उपयोजना क्षेत्रातील विशिष्ट घटकांकडून आदिवासी बांधवाची होणारी परंपरागत पिळवणुक व शोषण थांबविणे करिता व ऐन पावसाळ्यामध्ये उपासमार होऊ नये म्हणून शेती मजूर व अल्प भूधारक ४ युनिट पर्यंतच्या कुटुंबांन प्रत्येक रूपये २०००/-, ८ युनिट करिता ३०००/- व त्यावरील कुटुंबांकरिता ४०००/- प्रमाणे खावटी कर्ज वाटप करण्यात येते, यामध्ये ९० टक्के धन्य धान्याच्या स्वरूपात व १० टक्के रोख स्वरूपात लाभ देण्यात येतो.

#### निष्कर्ष:-

- १) सरकारने अनुसूचित जमातींच्या आर्थिक विकासासाठी केलेल्या योजनांची अंमलबजावणी प्रभावीपणे होत नसल्यामुळे आदिवासींच्या आर्थिक समस्या आणि प्रश्न कायम आहेत.
- २) भारतीय राज्यघटनेत तरतुदी आहेत, तरीसुद्धा आदिवासींचा आर्थिक विकास झालेला दिसून येत नाही.
- ३) अनुसूचित जमातींसाठी सरकारने अनेक योजना आखल्या आहेत. परंतु त्यापैकी बऱ्याच योजना फक्त कागदावरच आहेत.
- ४) अनुसूचित जमातींच्या लोकामध्ये निरक्षरतेचे प्रमाण जास्त आहे.
- ५) आदिवासी समुदायांची व्यसनाधीनता मोठ्या प्रमाणात आहे.
- ६) अज्ञान, निरक्षरता, मागासलेपणा यामुळे योजनांच्या माध्यमातून विकास साध्य करता आला नाही.
- ७) आदिवासी समाज डोंगर दऱ्या-खोऱ्यात जंगलात आणि शहरापासून दूर असल्यामुळे विकासापासून लांब आहे.
- ८) आदिवासिंसाठीचा विविध विकास योजनाची माहिती शासन/सरकार या समाजापर्यंत पोहोचविण्यासाठी प्रभावीपणे प्रयत्न करतांना दिसून येत नाही. म्हणून अनुसूचित जमातींचा विकास झालेला दिसून येत नाही.

#### समारोप:

आदिवासी समाजातील बेरोजगार महिलांसाठी आणि पुरुषांसाठी विविध योजना सरकारने सुरु केल्या, परंतु प्रत्यक्षात असे निदर्शनास आले आहे की, या योजना बेरोजगार विधवा एकल किंवा आदिवासी लोकांपर्यंत न पोहोचता त्या त्या विभागातील राजकीय नेत्यांना या योजनांचा फायदा होत असतो; परंतु ज्यांच्यासाठी या योजना आहेत, त्यांना खरोखर डावलले जात असल्याने गरजू आदिवासींवर अन्याय होतो. यासाठी

प्रा. अनिल कुंडलिक पठाडे, डॉ. दीपक पंढरीनाथ सोनटक्के

सर्वस्वी राजकीय यंत्रणा जबाबदार आहेत. या योजना मागासवर्गीय, एकल किंवा बेरोजगार महिलांकरिता आणि पुरुषांसाठी असतात त्या योजना या लोकांपर्यंत पोहोचत नाहीत किंवा या योजनांची माहिती त्यांना मिळतही नाही किंवा योजनांची माहिती त्या त्या नागरिकांपर्यंत पोहोचपर्यंत त्या योजनांची अर्ज भरण्याची तारीख सुद्धा संपलेली असते. तसेच आदिवासी बांधवांचे शिक्षण कमी असल्याकारणाने किंवा बेरोजगार आदिवासी या आपल्या उपजीविकेसाठी भटकंती किंवा घराबाहेर पडत असल्याकारणाने त्यांना या योजनांची माहिती मिळत नाही. त्यामुळे त्यांच्यापर्यंत या योजनांची माहिती पोहोचत नाही.

वृत्तपत्र, सोशल मीडिया यांच्या माध्यमातून शासनाच्या साठीच्या विविध आदिवासी योजना आदिवासी बांधवांपर्यंत पोहोचविणे गरजेचे आहे. आदिवासी विकास अधिकाऱ्यांनी योजना शिबिरे घेऊन त्याची माहिती त्यांना दिली पाहिजे. त्यासाठी राज्य शासनाने योजनांची माहिती त्या प्रत्येक तळागाळातील लोकांपर्यंत पोहोचविण्यासाठी पाऊल उचलणे गरजेचे आहे. यासाठी विविध सामाजिक संस्थांना एकत्र करून त्यांच्या माध्यमातून या योजना पोहोचविणे गरजेचे आहे. सरकार जसे शासन आपल्या दारी हा उपक्रम राबवीत आहे, त्याचप्रमाणे राज्यातील विविध आदिवासी भागात शासकीय योजना आपल्या दारी उपक्रम सुरु करावा. जेणेकरून या योजना सर्व तळागाळातील आदिवासी नागरिकांपर्यंत पोहोचतील आणि योजनांचा खरा लाभ त्यांना मिळेल.

#### संदर्भ:-

१. महाराष्ट्र शासन, आदिवासी विकास विभाग, माहिती पुस्तिका २०१५-१६
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## ठाकर आदिवासी स्त्रियांची ओवीगीते

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सावित्रीबाई फुले पुणे विद्यापीठ संलग्नित, पेमराज सारडा महाविद्यालय, अहिल्यानगर.

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### गोषवारा:

ठाकर आदिवासी स्त्रियांची ओवीगीते प्रत्यक्ष ठाकर आदिवासींची वस्ती असलेल्या प्रदेशात क्षेत्रभेट देऊन संकलित केली आहेत. आजही ठाकर स्त्रियांनी मौखिक परंपरेने ओवीगीतांचे जतन केलेले पाहावयास मिळते. एका पिढीकडून दुसऱ्या पिढीकडे हा वारसा मौखिक स्वरूपात दिला जातो. या ओवीगीतांतून पारंपरिक स्त्रीजीवनाचे विशेष अभ्यासता येतात. या ओवीगीतांतून स्त्रियांचे कष्टमय जीवन एकत्र कुटुंबपद्धती स्त्रियांच्या जीवनातील माहेर आणि सासर यांना असलेले विशेष महत्त्व, नात्याबद्दलची ओढ, शेती- प्राणी यांच्याविषयी वाटणारे प्रेम पतीचा सहवास- ओढ, निसर्गाविषयी असणारी कृतज्ञता या ओवीगीतांतून अभिव्यक्त होते. ही ओवीगीते ठाकरी बोलीतून अभिव्यक्त होतात. यातून ठाकरी बोलीची प्राचीनताही लक्षात येते. ही गीते जीवनमूल्ये आणि वाङ्मय मूल्यांनी ओतप्रोत भरलेली दिसतात. रचनाचातुर्य, कल्पनाविलास, शैलीविचार, सौंदर्य आणि बोलीभाषा या दृष्टीनेही ओवीगीते अभ्यासनीय ठरतात.

ठाकर आदिवासींच्या ओवीगीतांतून श्रमपरिहार आणि भावनांचे विरेचन या दोन्ही बाबी साध्य होताना दिसतात. दळण दळताना स्त्रिया आपले दुःख- व्यथा जात्याला सांगत असतात. या ओवीगीतांतून आपल्या देवदेवतांविषयीचा भक्तिभाव, निसर्गाविषयी कृतज्ञता, कुटुंबाविषयी प्रेम व्यक्त होते. ठाकर आदिवासी स्त्रियांच्या ओवीगीतांतून स्त्रीजीवनाचे सामाजिक दर्शन तसेच समूह मनाच्या वैविध्यपूर्ण मनोवृत्ती व भाववृत्ती प्रकट होतात.

निसर्ग सानिध्यात राहणाऱ्या ठाकर आदिवासींचे जीवन हे आजही निसर्गावलंबी असल्याचे दिसून येते. त्यातून त्यांची एक वैशिष्ट्यपूर्ण संस्कृती अस्तित्वात असलेली दिसते. ही संस्कृती नागर संस्कृतीपेक्षा वेगळी असलेली दिसते. म्हणूनच या ओवीगीतांत निसर्गशी एकरूप असलेले आदिवासींचे भावविश्व तीव्रतेने व्यक्त होते. निसर्ग प्रतिमाही तितक्याच सहजतेने अवतरताना दिसतात. ठाकर आदिवासी स्त्रियांच्या ओवीगीतांचे विशेष आणि वेगळेपण प्रस्तुत शोधनिबंधात मांडण्याचा प्रयत्न केला आहे.

**Keywords:** आदिवासी लोकसाहित्य, ठाकर आदिवासी स्त्रियांची ओवीगीते, आदिवासी स्त्रियांचे भावविश्व, ठाकरी बोली.

### प्रास्ताविक :

ठाकर ही महाराष्ट्रातील एक प्रमुख आदिवासी जमात आहे. ठाकरांच्या लोकसाहित्याचा मोठा भाग लोकगीतांनी व्यापलेला आहे. स्त्री आणि लोकगीत यांचा विशेष संबंध आहे. लोकगीतातून व्यक्त झालेले मन हे समग्र समूहाचे प्रतिनिधित्व करते. निर्मितीमधील सहजता हा लोकगीतांचा एक विशेष असतो. सहज आणि उत्स्फूर्त अशी लोकगीतांची निर्मिती प्रक्रिया असते. श्रम हलके होण्याकरिता व मनाला विरंगुळा मिळण्याकरिता अनेक लोकगीतांची निर्मिती झालेली असते.

आदिवासी लोकसाहित्याचा विचार करता स्त्रियांच्या लोकगीतांचे प्रमाण विपुल असल्याचे लक्षात येते. आदिवासी स्त्रियांच्या लोकगीतांमध्ये सभोवतालचा निसर्ग, सामाजिक परिस्थितीचे प्रतिबिंब प्रामुख्याने आढळून

येते. प्रतिकूल परिस्थितीमध्ये खडतर अशा जीवनपद्धतीमध्ये सुखदुःखाची लोकगीते, विशेषतः ओवी वाड. मय मनाला हळुवारपणे स्पर्श करते. ओवी वाङ्मयामध्ये स्त्रियांनी आपला संपूर्ण आत्मा ओतलेला दिसतो. विशेषतः जात्यावर दळण दळताना, पाळणा हलविताना, मुलांना झोपविताना, खेळविताना, झोपाळ्यावर झोके घेताना ओव्या सहजस्फूर्त रचल्या गेलेल्या दिसून येतात.

या मौखिक लोकगीतांत सहाजिकच तालबद्धता, गेयता दिसून येते. त्यातून ठाकर आदिवासी स्त्रियांच्या मानसिकतेचा, भावूक वृत्तीचा प्रत्यय येतो. अत्यंत खडतर अशा परिस्थितीमध्ये जीवन कंठत असतानाही पोटातले शब्द ओठांवर येतात, हे शब्द खडतर जीवनाचे वास्तव, अस्सल अनुभूतीचा प्रत्यय देणारे असतात. स्त्री-

जीवनाचा अनुभव आणि स्त्री-मनाची संवेदना या गीतातून प्रकट होते.ठाकर आदिवासी लोकवाङ्मयात स्त्रीगीतांचे वैपुल्य आहे. ओवीगीते, धर्मविधी -संस्कार विधीची गीते, उपासनागीते, नृत्यखेळगीते अशा प्रकारची गीते स्त्रियांनी मौखिक परंपरेने जतन करून ठेवली आहेत.स्त्री जीवनाच्या आणि समाजजीवनाच्या दृष्टीने या गीतांना महत्त्व आहे.

#### विषय विवेचन:

आदिवासी ठाकर जमातीने सुरुवातीपासूनच एकत्रित कुटुंब पध्दतीचा स्वीकार केलेला आहे. त्यामुळे त्यांच्यात परंपरागत एकत्र कुटुंब पध्दती दिसून येते. त्यामुळे घरातील अनेक कामे स्त्रियांना करावी लागत. सकाळी उठल्यापासून कामाचा भार त्यांच्यावर पडतो. कुटुंबाची जबाबदारी प्रत्येक कर्त्या स्त्री-पुरुषावर असते. आजही अनेक ठाकर कुटुंबे एकत्रित राहताना दिसतात.जुन्या कुटुंबात धान्य जात्यावर दळले जात होते. पहाटे स्त्रिया लवकर उठून जात्यावर दळण दळीत. एकत्र कुटुंब असल्याने पीठ जास्त लागत असायचे, त्यामुळे कामाची जबाबदारी त्यांच्यावर पडते. जात आपल्याला खायला देते.त्यामुळे ठाकर स्त्रिया आजही जात्याला देव मानतात. ठाकरांच्या हळदीच्या कार्यक्रमात जात्याला तर खूप महत्त्व आहे. आपल्या कामातून वेळ मिळाला की, ठाकर स्त्रिया दळताना गाणी म्हणतात. त्यांनाच 'ओव्या' असे म्हणतात. दळण दळताना ती आपले दुःख, व्यथा जात्याला सांगत असते. या गाण्यांमधून आपल्या देवदेवतांविषयी भक्तिभाव, निसर्गाविषयी कृतज्ञता,आपल्या कुटुंबाविषयी प्रेम व्यक्त करताना दिसते.

" वाटं वरील आंबा, आंबा नाही कैरी वं

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

सवतीवं लेक देतो, बाप माझा नाही वयरी वं

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

बापाना दिल्या वं लकी, वाटवरले गोसायालं

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

भावना दिल्या वं, बहेणी गायीचे गोठ्या

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

आमी चवघ्या वं बहेणी,

भावं एकला वं मुहःहाळी

सणामंधी सण आला वं

दिवाळीचा भाव बहिणीचे गावा जाया

सजयीला गाडी-घवाडा

भावा बहिणीचे गावा जाया वाट

नाही र चांगली

लई खोंगाळ, खोंगाळ

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

भाव बहेणीच्या गावा गेला,

थोरल्या दारी उभा वं राहिला

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

धाकलीच्या डोळा पाणी, भाव चिंतावला मनी

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

भाव बोलं बहेणीलं, बाये आवर-सावर

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

दादा कशी मा आवरू, घर माझा खटल्याचा

दळाण लाग पायलीचा

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

पहाटं दळणालं कोंबडा वं आरविला

थोरले वं भावजये उठ-उठ लवकरी

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

उठ-उठ लवकरी, सुखदेव आला वं वरी

दराचे मेडीवं कावळा काव-काव करी

कावळ्याचं काय वं गुण

दारी उतरीलं जीनं

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

थोरले भावजये शिनच्या बसू दोघी

पाहटं वं दळणालं जागू दोघी

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

तुझा माझा एक गळा, तार तुणतुण्यालं चढ

बाप बोलोथो लिकीलं, लाजून-भंजन चालवा

बारीक-मठयाशी गोड हासून बोलावा

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

कपालीचा कुकू हौस केली वं बापाना

थोरली भावजय माझे पायालं वं भजली

इचे कपाळीचा कुकू माझिया जोडिया रंगला

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

माझ्या वं संगतनी गेल्या वं सासऱ्यालं

यांनच्या भेटी व्हती दिवाळ-दसऱ्यालं

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

शिप्याचे दुकानी भाव बसिला हाटूनी

शिपाया दादा चोळ्या फाडीथो दाटुनी

सके गं.. माझे बाई..

चोळी वं लाट-पाट भडक मारी माझी पाट

सके गं.. माझे बाई.."<sup>१</sup>

या ओवीतून ठाकर स्त्रीच्या मनःस्थितीचे वर्णन आलेले आहे. आपल्या कुटुंबाच्या जेवणासाठी ठाकर स्त्रिया पहाटे लवकर उठून दळण दळतात. सोबतीला मोठी भावजय असते. सणाला भाऊ तिला माहेरी न्यायला येतो. परंतु माझे कुटुंब मोठे असल्याने मी माहेरी कशी येवू ? असा उलट प्रश्नपण ती आपल्या भावाला करते.स्त्री जीवनात सासर आणि माहेर यांना विशेष महत्त्व आहे.तिच्या मनात असलेली माहेरची ओढ लक्षणीय आहे.आई-वडिलांविषयी,बहिण-

भावांविषयी,शेतीविषयी,प्राण्यांविषयी,निसर्गाविषयी तिच्या मनात आत्मीयता असते.सासर तिची कर्मभूमी आहे.तेथे विविध नात्यागोत्यांच्या माणसांची मर्जी

सांभाळून,कष्ट करावे लागतात.कुटुंबातील आपली जबाबदारी स्त्री किती व्यवस्थितपणे पार पाडते हे लक्षात घेण्यासारखे आहे.

" दळांग दळीथू वं दळाण दळीथू  
लेक माझी संगतीनी वं  
लेक माझी जल्माची संगतीनी..  
मठ्याच्या नवसा काळ्या वावरी राहिल्या वं  
काळ्या वावरी राहिल्या..  
शंबराचा पागा हाती द्याल हावसना वं  
शंबराचा पागा द्याला हावसना..  
येहीन बाईचा नवरा भल्या नगरात वं  
भल्या नगरात..  
पाय धुवाय परात वं  
परात..  
पराती वाचून मा नाही धुवायचू वं  
घरात नाही यियाचू..".२

जात्यावरचा पारंपरिक वारसा आपल्या पुढील पिढीला मिळावा म्हणून आई तिच्यासोबत मुलीला जात्यावर दळायला घेऊन बसते. त्यातून मुली दळायला शिकतात. यातून लोकसाहित्याचा पारंपरिक वारसा आपोआप पुढील पिढीला मिळत जातो. लेक माझी जन्माची सोबतीण आहे. या लोकगीतातून ही भावना अभिव्यक्त झालेली दिसून येते. या गीतातून ठाकरांच्या लग्नातील पाचव्या दिवशीचे वर्णन आलेले आहे. यांसारख्या ओव्यांतून त्यांची लोकसंस्कृती दिसून येते.

" गावच्या वं गावकुशी चिमणी करी पाणी-पाणी  
दाचे येहरीवं सावऱ्या मोटा दोन  
मोटकऱ्याची आरूळी पाणी मावना थारूळी  
पाटा तुझा पाणी ऊसा संग एरंडालं वं  
सई बाई गं.. सई बाई..  
ऊसाचा वं रस गळ एरंडाचा वं दिवा जळ  
गाव भोजदरी आल्या-गेल्यालं चांघली  
येथीचे वं तोंडी हावशा बारव बांधिली  
गाव भोजदरी आहे वं उलीशी नगर  
पाण्यालं वं निघाली शंभर सवाशे  
घागर वं सई बाई गं.. सई बाई..  
माझे वं गावचा भैरुवा आहे लाल  
धाकले वं जावूबाई हेल दोधी चाल  
माझे गंगवाचा बैरुवा आहे उभा  
सांगते बाळा तुलं बस याचे सावलीलं  
माझे गावचा भैरुवा आहे वं नववा  
सांगते बाळा तुल भोग शेंदूर त्यालं वं  
सई बाई गं.. सई बाई..".३

शेतीला पाणी भरण्यासाठी जुन्या पारंपरिक पध्दतीत मोटेचा वापर ठाकर आदिवासी करत. मोट बैलाच्या साह्याने चालवली जात असे, त्याचप्रमाणे बैलाचा उपयोग वेगवेगळ्या कामांसाठी केला जात होता. या ओवीतून स्थानिक गावाचा तसेच कुलदैवताचा उल्लेख

प्रा.डॉ. माहेश्वरी वीरसिंग गावित

आल्याने त्यांचे गावावरील प्रेम आणि आपल्या देवावरील श्रद्धा दिसून येते.

" सरला-सरला माझा दळाण वं  
सरती-पुरती माझी ववी वं  
सरला दळाण तुलं बाई वं  
माझा उरला आठवा-निठवा बाई वं  
सोन्याची पाच फुला बाई वं  
भीमा शंकरी पाठवा राही बाई वं  
सई बाई गं.. सई बाई..  
सरला-सरला माझा दळाण वं  
देवाना देला भाऊ वं,  
द्याला भाऊ वं  
आमी दोधी बहेणी ववी गाथू वं  
ववी गाथू वं..  
सई बाई गं.. सई बाई..  
सरला-सरला माझा दळाण वं मा  
झे सुपाचे कोण्यालं अशी आवूक मागथू  
माझे कुकवाचे धन्यालं वं  
सई बाई गं.. सई बाई..".४

जात्यावरील ओव्या लांबलचक असतात. दळण संपेपर्यंत संपत नाहीत. या ओवीतून सासर आणि माहेरचे संबध दिसून येतात. यातून आपल्या कुटुंबाविषयी आपल्या नवऱ्या विषयी प्रेम व्यक्त होताना दिसते. प्रामुख्याने बऱ्याच ओव्यांमधून स्त्रीच्या मनःस्थितीचे, तिच्या कुटुंबाचे, सहजीवनाचे वर्णन आलेले असते.

"ठिबकी-ठिबकी पाना वं झुबकी-झुबकी झाडा वं  
रानालं गाय माझी भासली वं  
चाल र मेव्हण्या माझे सांगतीलं  
सई बाई गं.. सई बाई..  
ठिबकी-ठिबकी पाना वं झुबकी-झुबकी झाडा वं  
रानालं बैल माझा भासला वं  
चाल र मेव्हण्या माझे सांगतीलं  
सई बाई गं, सई बाई..  
ठिबकी-ठिबकी पाना वं झुबकी-झुबकी झाडा वं  
रानालं वासरू माझा भासला वं  
चाल र मेव्हण्या माझे सांगतीलं  
सई बाई गं, सई बाई..  
ठिबकी-ठिबकी पाना वं झुबकी-झुबकी झाडा वं  
रानालं माझा बकरू भासला वं  
चाल र मेव्हण्या माझे सांगतीलं  
सई बाई गं, सई बाई....  
ठिबकी-ठिबकी पाना वं झुबकी-झुबकी झाडा वं  
रानालं माझी शेळी भासली वं  
चाल र मेव्हण्या माझे सांगतीलं..".५

ठाकर आदिवासी आपल्या उदरनिर्वाहासाठी अनेक पाळीव जनावरे पाळतात. त्यामध्ये प्रामुख्याने बैल, गाय, शेळ्या, कोंबड्या इत्यादी जनावरे पाळतात. रानावनात

राहत असल्याने बऱ्याच वेळा घनदाट जंगलात आपली जनावरे चारण्यासाठी जातात. त्यावेळी एखादे जनावर हरवते त्यावेळी त्यांचा जीव कासावीस होतो. कारण माणसांपेक्षा जास्त जीव जनावरांना लावतात. या ओवीतून त्यांचे कौटुंबिक जीवन आणि प्राण्यांविषयी प्रेम आणि तळमळ व्यक्त होताना दिसते.

" पाणी पडयो र मिरगा आंधी रोहिणीचा ॥२॥

हालथो पाळणा भाव आंधी बहेणीचा  
पड-पड रं पाण्या वल्ली व्हवूदे वावरा  
माझे का बंधवाचे वावरा जावूदे नांगरा,  
जावूदे नांगरा, गं सई बाई..

पड-पड रं पाण्या वल्ली व्हवूदे वावरा  
माझे का बंधवाचे वावरा जावूदे मोघाड.  
जावूदे मोघाड, गं सई बाई..

पड-पड रं पाण्या वल्ली व्हवूदे साबरी  
माझे का बंधवाचे वावरा जावूदे पाभारी  
जावूदे पाभारी, गं सई बाई..

पहिली पेरणी उडीद-जोंधळ्याची  
बंधू पेरणी वं जशी मोत्याची ववणी,  
मोत्याची ववणी, गं सई बाई..

मुठ टुय चाड्यावरी वं नाव घेई राजा बैलाचा वं  
पाभारण्या बाई जरा वज-वज चाल वं  
गं सई बाई..

मगून येथो वं कोळप्या तुझा दीर  
पाणी पडोथोआसा वं दरडी-कोरडी  
पुण्याची जेजुरी मधी रहिली कोरडी,  
रहिली कोरडी वं, गं सई बाई..

पड-पड रे पाण्या लव गळूदे केवळ दुबळे  
बहिणीचा भाव करीथो सांभाळ गं सई बाई..

पाणी नाही पाऊस लव काहाना गळथे  
भावाचा वं दुबळेपणा बहीण मनात जळथे, मनात जळथे,  
गं सई बाई..

वंवाड्याचा वावार माझे आज्या सासऱ्याचा  
आज्या सासऱ्याचा पाणी वढी कासऱ्याचा,  
वढी कासऱ्याचा, गं सई बाई..

वंवाड्याचा वावार माझे थोरले भायाचा  
वं, थोरले भायाचा थोरले भायाचा  
पाणी वढीते वं दाव्याचा गं सई बाई..

सोन्या बैल माझे घरचे गायीचा वं, घरचे गायीचा  
घरचे गायीचा माझे पाभाऱ्या बाईचा वं माझे पाभाऱ्या  
बाईचा  
गं सई बाई..

सोन्या बैल गेलाहे वंवाडे वावरालं  
वळीवाचे पाण्याना फळी धरली दुरून, आला वंवांडा  
पेरून गं सई बाई..

सोन्या बैल डरोथो पेठलं,

डरोथो पेठलं बैल डरोथो पेठलं,

धनी सावध वाड्यालं गं सई बाई..<sup>६</sup>

शेती हा ठाकर आदिवासींचा मुख्य व्यवसाय आहे.

परंतु अनेक ठाकर भूमिहीन, अल्पभूधारक, कोरडवाहू आहेत. निसर्गाच्या अनियमितपणामुळे पाऊस वेळेत पडत नाही, तर कधी पडला तर अतिवृष्टीमुळे शेतीचे नुकसान होते. त्यामुळे अनेक ठाकर कुटुंब नाईलाजाने स्थलांतरीत शेती आणि रोजगार निवडतात. असे असले तरी शेतात आशेच्या भरवशावर जमिनीची मशागत करतात. त्यासाठी नांगर, पाभार, कुळव, चाडा, कासरा, कोळपा या वस्तूंचा वापर करून बैलाच्या साह्याने वावर पेरतात. या ओवीतून ठाकर कुटुंबाच्या आणि त्यांच्या शेतीचे वर्णन आलेले आहे. आजही अनेक ठाकर आदिवासी जुन्या पध्दतीने शेती करतात. त्यात थोडा बदल झाला आहे. एकूणच निसर्ग, कुटुंब, समाज या सर्व घटकांचा याठिकाणी विचार केलेला दिसतो.

" पंढरी विठूराया येदा नव्हता माझा मन

येदा नव्हता माझा मन...

देव इठलं चिठ्या पाठवल्या दोन  
चिठ्या पाठवल्या दोन..

पंढरी जत्र जाया माही कालची वं तयारी

इठलं बंधुराया, घोडी चारीथो नहरी

पंढरी जत्र जाय संगा घेतु मा बापालं

रावळीच्या तोंडी पाणी घाली वं चाफ्यालं

पाणी घाली वं चाफ्यालं...

पंढरी जत्र जाया बापाचा धोतार

जत्र जाया बापाचा धोतार

भरली चंद्रभागा नाही नईलं उतार

पंढरी जत्र जाया संगा मा घेतु आईलं

रावळाचे तोंडी पाणी घाली वं जाईलं

पाणी घाली वं जाईलं

पंढरी जत्रा जाया संगा आईचा लुगडा

भरली चंद्रभागा नाही धुवायलं दगडा

पंढरीच्या वाटा काहना वली झाली

काहाना वली झाली, रुक्मिणीना धुवली वं

रुक्मिणीना धुवली, क्यास वाळवीत गेली

पंढरीची वाट काहाना शेवाळली दे

व गं इठल चाली कावड हेंदळली

पंढरीची वाट आवढी सोन्याना गोठली

देव गं इठलाची वर पावला वठली

पंढरीची वाट उभी व्हते चिऱ्यावर

नजर काय गेली इठलाचे तुऱ्यावर

भरली चंद्रभागा पाणी लागला वाढायलं

रुक्मिणी बोलं माझा कुंडलिक बुडालाहे

भरली चंद्रभागा पाणी लागलाहे धक्यालं

रुक्मिणी बोलं माझा कुंडलिक येकला

भरली चंद्रभागा पाणी लागलाहे चिचायलं  
रुक्मिणी बोलं माझा कुंडलिक रुसलाहे  
पंढरपुरात एक पैशालं माळा नऊ  
पुराना माझा हात इठुला खाली लवू  
पंढरपुरात बुक्का दळी जनाबाई  
पंढरपुरात बुक्का खपतो शेरानी  
रुखुमाय बसली भारुनी  
तुळस हिंडथे बाई राना-वनात

बसाया जागा देथे अंगणात  
रुसली रुक्मिणी जावून बसं वाळवंटी  
इठुल बंधू राया धरीथो मनगटी  
रुसली रुक्मिणी इचा रुसणा वंगाळ  
देव इठुलालं घाल गार पाण्याची आंधुळ  
पंढरपुरात काय वाजाथ-गाजाथ  
सोन्याचा बाशिंग  
लगीन देवाचा वं लागाय गलुगल्या वं  
निघाय तुळशीबाईची पाना काहाना खळली  
सोन्याचा बाशिंग राती लगीन लागली  
सोन्याची बाशिंगा ह्यात वाऱ्याना फाटली  
इठुलं काय वं बोलं रुखमी माझी काठी  
भरलाय वं शिवारात पंढरीलं लय दाटी  
इठुल काय वं बोलं रुखुमा माही बंडी  
आलं साधू-संत माणसा पंढरीचे दिंडी."७

महाराष्ट्राला वारकरी संप्रदायाची परंपरा  
लाभलेली आहे. अनेक धर्मांचे लोक पंढरपूरला दरवर्षी  
जावून विठ्ठल-रुक्मिणीचे दर्शन घेतात. अनेक ग्रंथांमधून,  
अभंगांमधून पंढरीचे महत्त्व वर्णिलेले आहे. त्यामुळे  
महाराष्ट्रात वारकरी संप्रदायाला खूप महत्त्व प्राप्त झाले आहे.  
ठाकर आदिवासीही काही प्रमाणात पंढरपूरला जावू लागले  
आहेत. या ओवीगीतातून पंढरपूर, विठ्ठल-रुखुमाई यांचे  
आणि भौगोलिक परिसराचे प्रासंगिक वर्णन आलेले आहे.

"झाली वारया वरसं नाही, डोंगरालं दिवा गं सई बाई..

नाही डोंगरालं दिवा...

सीतालं गं सासुरवास सासुना केला गं सई बाई...

सासुरवास केला..

सीताबाईलं सासुरवास झालाहे गं सुकेशी  
सायनालं गं वाटून देलाहे देसो-देशी गं सई बाई..

सीताबाईलं सासुरवास झालाहे गं बहुबहु  
सायनालं गं वाटून देलाहे गहू गहू  
गं सई बाई..

राम गं लक्ष्मण दोघीचा दोन वं वारु  
सीतामाय बोल हार कंच्यालं वं घालू  
गं सई बाई.

असा राम लक्ष्मण निघालाहे वनालं वं वनालं  
आवढी सोनियाची घुंगर याचे धनुलं वं धनुलं  
गं सई बाई..

आवढा आंबाट-चिंबाट, उच झालालं कवूठ  
शंकराचा बेल कुणीक नाही वं दिसं

गं सई बाई..

अशी सीतामाय भोळी गेली कापडा धुवायलं वं  
आरं लक्ष्मण दिरा झोका देयीजो रं बाळालं  
गं सई बाई..

आवं आवं सीता बाळ नाही पाळण्यात  
गेली धावत-पळत कापी नईचा लव्हाळा  
गं सई बाई..

आवढा शाहिरंग टकून बाळ सजीवांत केला  
अशा रामकुंडावं कोण्या उभारल्या धना  
गं सई बाई..

अशी आंधुळीलं आलीहे सितामायची सभा  
सभा आंधुळ करिथी  
गं सई बाई..

हे राम कुंडावं राम करीथो  
आंधुळी सभा बसली मंडपी सीता काढीते रांगुळी  
गं सई बाई..

अशा रामकुंडावं कोण्या वहिली वं क्याळा  
अशा आंधुळीलं आलं लहू-अंकुश दोघ बाळा  
गं सई बाई.."

आदिवासींना पौराणिक कथांबद्दल नेहमीच  
आकर्षण राहिले आहे. पौराणिक गोष्टींचा आणि ठाकरांचा  
खूप जवळचा संबंध त्यांच्या अनेक लोकगीतांमधून दिसून  
येतो. त्यांच्या अनेक लोकगीतांमधून राम, लक्ष्मण, सीता  
यांच्याविषयी श्रद्धा दिसून येते. या ओवीतसुद्धा त्यांचे वर्णन  
आलेले दिसते.

"अशी आळंदी करून मालं देहूलं जायाचा वं  
सई बाई, सई बाई....

अशा आळंदी गावात पाच पाण्याच्या घागरी वं  
सई बाई गं. सई बाई.....

अशा आळंदीत काय नवाल याक झाला वं  
सई बाई गं, सई बाई....

अशा पंढरीच्या साधू-दिंडी भजवालं आलं वं  
सई बाई गं, सई बाई....

अशी आळंदी पसून देहूची वाट वाकडी वं  
सई बाई गं. सई बाई....

देहूची वाट वाकडी वं तुकयाची झोप येडी वं  
सई बाई गं. सई बाई.....

अशा देहूचे माळावरी कोणा फोडिल्या सुपारी वं  
सई बाई गं, सई बाई.....

एकनाथ बंधुराया याना सोडली वारस वं  
सई बाई गं, सई बाई.

देहूचे माळावं एक लावली नांदरुख वं  
सई बाई गं, सई बाई...

एक लावली नांदरुख, वारकऱ्यालं सावली वं  
सई बाई गं, सई बाई..

देहूचे माळावं गाडी भंडाऱ्याची आदळळी वं  
सई बाई गं, सई बाई.....

देहूत ध्यान मालं देवाचा वं देवाचा  
सई बाई गं, सई बाई...."९

ठाकर आदिवासी ओव्यांचा अभ्यास केल्यानंतर असे लक्षात येते की, प्रत्येक ओवीतून स्त्रीच्या सुख- दुःखाचे, कुटुंबाचे, समाजाचे, देवदेवतांचे, निसर्गाचे, शेतीचे वर्णन आलेले दिसते. ठाकर स्त्रीच्या स्वभावाचे दर्शन यातून घडते. आपले कुटुंब, निसर्ग, पशु-पक्षी, देवदेवता यांना आपल्या ओवीतून आदराचे स्थान दिलेले दिसते. ठाकर स्त्रियांचे संपूर्ण जीवन कष्टमय आहे.

#### निष्कर्ष:

- १) ठाकर आदिवासींच्या लोकवाङ्मयामध्ये स्त्रीगीतांचे वैपुल्य आहे. या गीतांत जीवनवादी व पारंपरिकवादी विचारांचे सूत्र आढळून येते. कधी त्यातून हलकाफुलका विनोद, तर कधी मनोरंजन आढळते. तसेच वास्तव चित्रण पाहावयास मिळते.
- २) लोकजीवनातूनच लोकगीतांची निर्मिती झाली असल्यामुळे, लोकजीवनातील नानाविध भावस्पर्शी प्रसंगांचे वर्णन त्यात आढळते.
- ३) ठाकर आदिवासी स्त्रियांच्या ओवीगीतांत स्त्रीजीवनाचे प्रतिबिंब अधिक स्पष्ट आणि विविध स्वरूपी असल्याचे दिसते.
- ४) दळणकांडण करताना म्हटली जाणारी ओवीगीते ही श्रमपरिहारासाठी टली जात असली, तरी मनावरचा भार हलका करण्याचे साधन म्हणूनही ही गीते महत्त्वाची ठरतात. जात्याशी नाते जोडून स्त्री आपल्या मनातील भावना व्यक्त करते.
- ५) स्त्रीजीवनात लोकगीतांना अनन्यसाधारण महत्त्व आहे. या गीतात स्त्रियांनी आपला आत्मा ओतून आजही ही गीते जिवंत ठेवली आहेत. म्हणूनच स्त्रियांच्या भावनांचा आविष्कार करणारी ओवीगीते ऐकणाऱ्यांच्या हृदयाचा ठाव घेतात.
- ६) प्राप्त परिस्थितीशी जुळवून घेण्यात स्त्रिया धन्यता मानतांना दिसतात. याचे प्रत्यंतर ठाकर आदिवासी स्त्रियांच्या ओवीगीतांतून येते. या गीतांतून मानवी मूल्यांचे व मानवी संस्कृतीचे अनोखे दर्शन घडते.
- ७) ठाकर आदिवासी स्त्रियांच्या ओवीगीतांतून स्त्रीजीवनाचे सामाजिक दर्शन तसेच समूहमनाच्या वैविध्यपूर्ण मनोवृत्ती व भाववृत्ती प्रकट होतात. ओवीगीतांत व्यक्ती जीवनाबरोबरच, कौटुंबिक आणि सामाजिक जीवनाचे संदर्भ पाहावयास मिळतात.
- ८) ओवीगीतांत स्त्रियांच्या भावविश्वासह स्त्रीसुलभ स्वभावाचा, आचारविचारांचा, रुढी, प्रथा, समजूती श्रद्धा इत्यादी, तसेच पोशाख, अलंकार याशिवाय स्त्रीजीवनाच्या विविध अवस्थांचा आविष्कार झालेला दिसतो. बालपणीचा मुक्त आनंद, तारुण्यातील नवथर

भावना, लग्न, संसार, एकत्र कुटुंबातील सुखदुःखाचे अनुभव, पती सहवास, तिच्यावरील बंधने, काबाडकष्ट करताना विविध प्रसंगी येणारे सुखदुःखाचे अनुभव या साऱ्यांचा आविष्कार ओवीगीतांत झालेला दिसतो.

- ९) ओवीगीतांतून पारंपरिक आणि आजच्या जीवनाचे चित्रण आढळते. जीवनमूल्य आणि वाड. मय मूल्यांच्या दृष्टीने ओवीगीते लक्षणीय आहेत. ही गीते बोलीतून व्यक्त होतात त्यामुळे सहजता, गेयता ही त्यांची वैशिष्ट्ये आहेत.
- १०) स्त्री जीवनातुभवाचा उत्कृष्ट आविष्कार ओवीगीतांतून झालेला दिसतो. स्त्रियांच्या ओवीगीतांतील प्रत्येक शब्द त्यातील भावनेने ओलाचिंब झालेला दिसतो. म्हणूनच ओवीगीते हृदयस्पर्शी वाटतात.
- ११) रचनाचातुर्य, कल्पनाविलास, शैलीविचार, सौंदर्य आणि बोलीभाषा यादृष्टीनेही ओवीगीते अभ्यसनीय आहेत.
- १२) ओवीगीतांतून पारंपरिक स्त्रीजीवनाचे विशेष अभ्यासता येतात, तसेच ठाकर आदिवासी स्त्री मनातील विविध भावभावनांचा प्रत्यय ओवीगीतांतून ठायी-ठायी येतो.
- १३) ठाकर आदिवासींचा निसर्गाशी असलेला घनिष्ठ संबंध या ओवीगीतांतून व्यक्त होतो. ओवीगीतांत निसर्गातील प्रतिमा वैपुल्याने आलेल्या दिसतात.

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## अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील अनुसूचित जमातींचे लोकसंख्याशास्त्रीय गुणवैशिष्ट्ये - एक भौगोलिक विश्लेषण

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### सारांश:

अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील तहसील निहाय अनुसूचित जमातींचे अभिक्षेत्रीय वितरण व घनता हे असमान स्वरूपाचे झालेले निदर्शनास येते. तसेच यात काळानुरूप सातत्याने बदल सुद्धा झालेला दिसून येतो. जिल्ह्यात धारणी व चिखलदरा या दोन तहसील अंतर्गत अनुसूचित जमातींचे प्राबल्य सर्वाधिक दिसून येते. वर्ष २०११ मध्ये इतर तहसीलच्या तुलनेत धारणी तहसील मध्ये अनुसूचित जमातींचे केंद्रीकरण सर्वाधिक दाट स्वरूपाचे आढळते, तर ५ तहसीलमध्ये मध्यम तसेच सुमारे ६ तहसील अंतर्गत विरळ स्वरूपाचे केंद्रीकरण हे अनुसूचित जमातींचे आढळून येते. जिल्ह्यात अनुसूचित जमातींचे सर्वाधिक लिंगगुणोत्तर हे तिवसा या तहसीलमध्ये आढळून येते. अमरावती जिल्ह्याच्या एकूण क्षेत्रफळापैकी ३३.०९ चौरस किलोमीटर घनता ही अनुसूचित जमातींचे दिसून येते. जिल्ह्याच्या घनदाट जंगलयुक्त क्षेत्रात तसेच सातपुडा पर्वत रांगांमध्ये स्थित असलेल्या धारणी चिखलदरा व वरुड या तहसील अंतर्गत गोंड व कोरकू या दोन अनुसूचित जमातींचे प्राबल्य लक्षणीय स्वरूपाचे दिसून येते. दारिद्र्यता गरिबी निरक्षरता, अपुऱ्या आरोग्यसेवा व इतर मूलभूत सुविधांचा अभाव यामुळे ही जमात मोठ्या प्रमाणात सामाजिक, आर्थिक समस्यांना सामोरे जात आहे. एकंदरीत अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील अनुसूचित जमातींच्या लोकसंख्याशास्त्रीय गुणवैशिष्ट्यांवर तेथील भौगोलिक घटकांचा प्रभाव प्रकर्षाने पडलेला जाणवतो.

**बिज संज्ञा:** अनुसूचित जमाती, वितरण, केंद्रीकरण गुणांक, घनता, लिंगगुणोत्तर.

### प्रस्तावना:

लोकसंख्या संरचनेचा अभ्यास करताना अनुसूचित जमातींच्या लोकसंख्येची इतर गुणवैशिष्ट्ये अभ्यासणे क्रमाप्राप्त ठरते. निकोप सामाजिक जीवनाच्या दृष्टीने अनुसूचित जमातींच्या लोकसंख्येमध्ये स्त्री- पुरुषांचे प्रमाण समान असावे असे मानले जाते. साक्षरता व लिंग गुणोत्तर हे मानव विकास निर्देशांकाचे द्योतक ठरते. आदिवासी बहुल प्रदेशात होणारी सामाजिक संक्रमणे, आधुनिकरणाची वाटचाल, नवविचार प्रवाह, जनन – मरता, स्थलांतर, विवाह, राणीमानाचा दर्जा इत्यादींचा तेथील मानवी जीवनावर विकासात्मक परिणाम घडून येतो. जनगणना २०११ नुसार महाराष्ट्रातील अनुसूचित जमातींची लोकसंख्या राज्याच्या एकूण लोकसंख्येच्या ९.४% होती. एकूण अनुसूचित जमातींच्या लोकसंख्येपैकी ८५.७ % लोकसंख्या ग्रामीण भागात तर १४.०३% लोकसंख्या शहरी

भागात निवास करतात तर अमरावती जिल्ह्यात एकूण लोकसंख्येत अनुसूचित जमातींचे प्रमाण हे १४ टक्के आढळून येते. अमरावती जिल्ह्यात प्रामुख्याने कोरकू, बोपची, माओशी, निहाल, बोथी, गोंड, पारधी, महादेव कोळी कोळी इत्यादी अनुसूचित जमाती स्थित आहेत. मेळघाट मधील आदिवासी समुदाय ऐतिहासिक दृष्ट्या वंचित राहिलेले आढळून येतो. आजही ते अनेक सामाजिक, आर्थिक समस्यांना तोंड देत आहेत अनुसूचित जमातींचे भारतात लक्षणीय ऐतिहासिक अस्तित्व आढळते. या वैशिष्ट्यांना अनुलक्षून प्रस्तुत लघु शोध निबंधामध्ये अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील तहसीलनिहाय अनुसूचित जमातींच्या लोकसंख्याशास्त्रीय गुणवैशिष्ट्यांचे अध्ययन करण्यात आले आहे.

### संशोधनाची ध्येय व उद्दिष्टे:

प्रस्तुत लघुशोध निबंधाचा मुख्य उद्देश हा अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील अनुसूचित जमातींचे

तहसीलनिहाय वितरण, घनता, लिंगगुणोत्तर इत्यादी लोकसंख्याशास्त्रीय गुणवैशिष्ट्ये अभ्यासणे हा आहे  
अभ्यास क्षेत्र:

अमरावती जिल्हा हा महाराष्ट्र राज्याच्या उत्तरे स्थित असून महाराष्ट्र राज्याच्या एकूण क्षेत्रफळापैकी ३.९८% क्षेत्र या जिल्ह्याने व्यापलेले आहे. जिल्ह्याचे विभाजन १४ तालुके आणि ६ उपविभागामध्ये करण्यात आले आहे. विदर्भातील व्यापारी व शैक्षणिक दृष्ट्या प्रगतशील जिल्हा म्हणून हा ओळखला जातो. अमरावती जिल्हा हा २०°३२' ते २१°४६' उत्तर अक्षांश आणि ७६°३७' ते ७८°२७' पूर्व रेखांश दरम्यान वसलेला आहे. जिल्ह्याचे एकूण क्षेत्रफळ हे १२२३५ किमी आहे. जिल्ह्याच्या उत्तरेस मध्य प्रदेश, सातपुडा पर्वतरांगा तसेच दक्षिणेला अकोला, वाशिम, यवतमाळ हे जिल्हे स्थित आहेत. जिल्ह्यातील धारणी, चिखलदरावरुड या तालुक्यात अनुसूचित जमातीचे प्राबल्य इतर तहसीलच्या तुलनेत अधिक आहे.

#### सांख्यिकीय स्रोत व पद्धती:-

सदर लघु शोध निबंधासाठी लागणारी दुय्यम स्वरूपाची सांख्यिकीय आकडेवारी व माहिती ही 'अमरावती जिल्हा जनगणना अहवाल पुस्तिका-२०११', महाराष्ट्राची आर्थिक पाहणी, व आर्थिक- सामाजिक समालोचन तसेच प्रकाशित अहवाल आणि मुद्रित

साहित्याच्या आधारे संकलित करण्यात आली आहे. अनुसूचित जमातींचे केंद्रीकरण, घनता, लिंग गुणोत्तर अभ्यासण्याकरिता पुढील सूत्रांचा अवलंब करण्यात आला.

$$१) \text{ लिंगगुणोत्तर} = \frac{\text{एकूण स्त्री संख्या}}{\text{एकूण पुरुष संख्या}} \times 1000$$

$$२) \text{ लोकसंख्येची घनता} = \frac{\text{एकूण लोकसंख्या}}{\text{एकूण क्षेत्रफळ (चौ. किमी)}}$$

$$३) \text{ LQ}_i = \frac{(P_{ij}/P_i)}{(P_j/P)}$$

#### अनुसूचित जमातींचे अभिक्षेत्रीय वितरण (२०११)

प्रस्तुत सारणी क्रमांक १ मध्ये, वर्ष २०११ मधील अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील तहसील निहाय अनुसूचित जमातींचे वितरण दर्शविण्यात आलेले आहे. सारणीवरून असे लक्षात येते की, अमरावती जिल्ह्यात अनुसूचित जमातींचे वितरण हे असमान स्वरूपाचे झालेले आहे. जिल्ह्यातील एकूण १४ तहसीलपैकी धारणी या तहसीलमध्ये सर्वाधिक अनुसूचित जमातींचे १४५६८४ (३६.०४%) प्राबल्य आढळून येते तर त्या खालोखाल चिखलदरा ९३०५० (२३.०२%), वरुड ३२००२ (७.९१%), अचलपूर २७४१६ (६.७८%), अमरावती २४१३७ (५.९७%) या तहसीलचा क्रमांक लागतो. अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील एकूण लोकसंख्येत अनुसूचित जमातींचे प्रमाण हे १४ टक्के इतके आहे.

#### सारणी क्र. १

#### अमरावती जिल्हा: अनुसूचित लोकसंख्येचे विवरण २०११

अ.क्र.	तहसील	एकूण अनुसूचित जमातींची लोकसंख्या	पुरुष लोकसंख्या	स्त्री लोकसंख्या	लिंग गुणोत्तर	अनुसूचित लोकसंख्येची घनता
१	धारणी	१४५६८४	७३८५७	७१८२७	९७२	९७.४१
२	चिखलदरा	९३०५०	४७२८१	४५७५९	९६८	३७.६२
३	अंजनगावसुर्जी	३९२७	२०५६	१८७१	९१०	७.४४
४	अचलपूर	२७४१६	१३९४९	१३४६७	९६५	४२.१५
५	चांदुरबाजार	१४९७०	७६९७	७२७३	९४५	२१.८७
६	मोर्शी	१८३९९	९४३६	८९६३	९५०	२३.३८
७	वरुड	३२००२	१६३११	१५६९१	९६२	४६.७७
८	तिवसा	३९८६	१९९४	१९९२	९९९	७.३१
९	अमरावती	२४१३७	१२४४३	११६९४	९४०	३०.८४
१०	भातकुली	९२९८	४८५५	४४४३	९१५	१५.९९
११	दर्यापूर	१२५२९	६४५६	६०७३	९४१	१६.०६
१२	नांदगावखंडेश्वर	५५९७	२८४५	२७५२	९६७	७.११
१३	चांदुररेल्वे	४१४१	२१०७	२०३४	९६५	७.४०
१४	धामणगावरेल्वे	८९९२	४५३७	४४५५	९८२	१४.०४
एकूण	अमरावती जिल्हा	४०४१२८	२०५८३४	१९८२९४	९६३	३३.०९

वर्ष २०११ मध्ये अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील एकूण लोकसंख्येपैकी धारणी तहसील अंतर्गत अनुसूचित जमातींचे

प्रमाण हे ५.०४% इतके आढळते. जिल्ह्यातसर्वात कमी अनुसूचित जमातींचे वितरण हे अंजनगाव सुर्जी ३९२७

(०.९७) व तिवसा ३९८६ (०.१३) या दोन तहसील अंतर्गत आढळून येते.

**अनुसूचित जमातींचे केंद्रीकरणाचे प्रारूप :-**

अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील अनुसूचित जातींचे वितरण अभ्यासण्यासाठी स्थान गुणांक (LQ) काढण्यात आला. त्यावरून असे लक्षात येते की अमरावती जिल्ह्यात

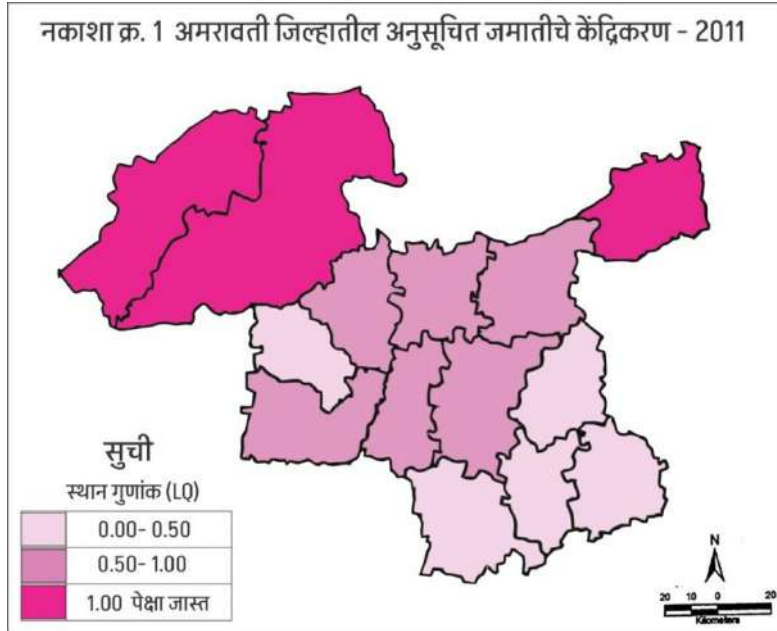
अनुसूचित जमातींचे सर्वाधिक केंद्रीकरण धारणी (५.६३ % ) चिखलदरा (५.५९%) व वरुड ( १.०१% ) या तीन तहसीलमध्ये झालेले दिसून येते तर मध्यम स्वरूपाचे केंद्रीकरण हे ५ तहसील मध्ये तसेच विरळ स्वरूपाचे केंद्रीकरण ६ तहसील मध्ये आढळून येते. अनुसूचित जमातींच्या केंद्रीकरणाचे विवरण पुढीलप्रमाणे

सारणी क्र. २

तहसील निहाय स्थान गुणांकाच्या (LQ) गणना केलेल्या मूल्यांची सारणी

अ. क्र.	केंद्रीकरण क्षमता	स्थान गुणांकाचे गट	तहसीलची संख्या	तहसीलची नावे
१	कमी (Low)	०.५० पेक्षा कमी	६	अंजनगाव सुर्जी(०.१७), अमरावती (०.२१), तिवसा (०.२७), चांदुररेल्वे (०.३०), नांदगाव (०.३०), धामणगाव रेल्वे (०.४८)
२	मध्यम (Moderate)	०.५० - १.००	५	मोर्शी (०.७२), अचलपूर(०.७०), भातकुली (०.५८), चांदुरबाजार (०.५४), दर्यापूर (०.५१)
३	जास्त (High)	१.०० पेक्षा अधिक	३	धारणी (५.६३), चिखलदरा (५.५९), वरुड (१.०१)

स्रोत:- सामाजिक आर्थिक समालोचन, अमरावती जिल्हा २०११



**अनुसूचित जमातींच्या लोकसंख्येची घनता (२०११)**

सारणी क्रमांक १ मध्ये अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील वर्ष २०११ मधील अनुसूचित जमातींची तहसीलनिहाय घनता दर्शवण्यात आलेली आहे. यावरून असे लक्षात येते की, जिल्ह्याच्या एकूण क्षेत्रफळापैकी ३३.०९ चौ. किमी घनता ही अनुसूचित जमातींची आढळून येते. तर तहसीलनिहाय घनतेत धारणी तहसील मध्ये सर्वाधिक घनता ही ९७.४१ चौ. किमी. आढळून येते. तर त्या खालोखाल अनुक्रमे वरुड (४६.७७चौ. किमी), चिखलदरा(३७.६२चौ. किमी),

डॉ. प्रविण म. माटोडे

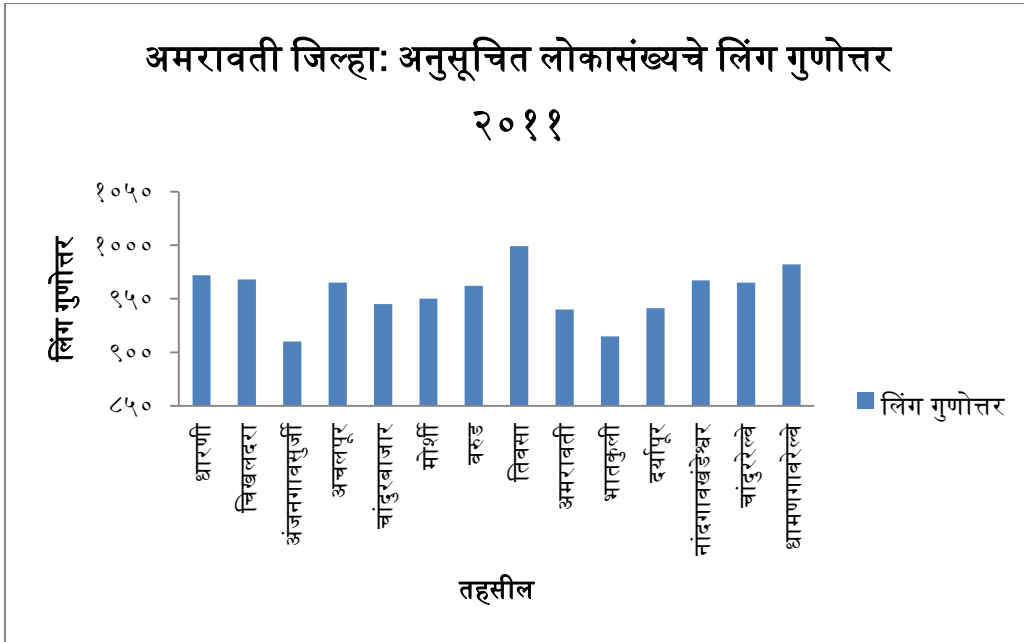
अचलपूर (४२.१५चौ. किमी), या तहसीलचा समावेश होतो. सर्वात कमी घनत्व हे नांदगाव खंडेश्वर (७.११चौ. किमी), तिवसा (७.३१चौ.कि.मी.) चांदुर रेल्वे (७.४०चौ. किमी) या तालुक्यात आढळून येते. एकंदरीत अत्यंत कमी घनत्व असलेल्या गटात (२० कमी) सुमारे सात जिल्ह्यांचा समावेश होतो. तर २० ते ४० या कमी घनतेच्या गटात ३ तहसीलचा समावेश होतो. तसेच ४० ते ६० या मध्यम घनतेच्या गटात केवळ २ तहसीलचा समावेश होतो. ६०

पेक्षा अधिक घनता असलेल्या गटात धारणी या तालुक्याचा अंतर्भाव होतो. एकंदरीत वरील अध्ययनावरून असे निदर्शनास येते की, अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील पर्वतीय, डोंगराळ भागात तसेच मोठ्या बाजारपेठ असलेल्या शहरातील मूलभूत सोयी सुविधा, शिक्षण, आरोग्य, दळणवळण, व्यवसायाच्या संधी, रोजगार इत्यादी अनेक कारणांमुळे अनुसूचित जमातींची घनता या क्षेत्रात अधिक दिसून येते.

### अनुसूचित जमातींचे लिंगगुणोत्तर प्रारूप (२०११)

अमरावती जिल्ह्यात वर्ष २०११ मध्ये अनुसूचित जमातींच्या लिंगगुणोत्तरात विषमता दिसून येते. जिल्ह्यात अनुसूचित जमातींचेदर हजार पुरुषामागे स्त्रियांचे प्रमाण हे ९६३एवढे आढळून येते. अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील एकूण १४तहसील पैकी सर्वाधिक लिंगगुणोत्तर तिवसा तहसील

मध्ये ९९९ एवढा आढळून येतो तर त्या खालोखाल धामणगाव रेल्वे (९८२), धारणी (९२७), चिखलदरा (९६८), नांदगाव खंडेश्वर (९६७) या तहसीलचा समावेश होतो. अंजनगाव सुर्जी येथे मात्र दर हजार पुरुषामागे स्त्रियांचे प्रमाण हे केवळ ९१० इतके आढळून येते. एकंदरीत अनुसूचित जमातींच्या स्त्री - पुरुष प्रमाणात तफावत आढळून येते. जिल्ह्यात ९५०पेक्षा कमी लिंगगुणोत्तर सुमारे सहा तहसील मध्ये तर मध्यम स्वरूपाचे ९५० ते ९७५ लिंग गुणोत्तर सहा तहसील मध्ये तसेच ९७५ पेक्षा अधिक लिंग गुणोत्तर असलेल्या गटात केवळ दोन तहसीलचा समावेश होतो. अंधश्रद्धा, गरीबी, निरक्षरता अपुऱ्या आरोग्यसेवा व मूलभूत सुविधांचा अभाव इत्यादी अनेक कारणांमुळे या जमातींमध्ये लिंग असमानता असल्याचे दिसून येते.



### निष्कर्ष:

उपरोक्त विवेचनावरून असे लक्षात येते की, अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील अनुसूचित जमातींचे अभिक्षेत्रीय वितरण हे तहसीलनिहाय असमान स्वरूपाचे झालेले आढळून येते. मेळघाट हे कोरकू आणि गोंड जमातीचे आश्रय स्थान असल्यामुळे धारणी व चिखलदरा या पर्वतीय, घनदाट जंगलयुक्त क्षेत्रात अनुसूचित जमातीचे प्राबल्य विशेषता अधिक आढळून येते. अचलपूर हे मेळघाटच्या समीपवर्तीय असलेले तर अमरावती हे संपूर्ण जिल्ह्याचे मध्यवर्ती मोठी बाजारपेठ असल्यामुळे येथे रोजगारा निमित्त या जमातींचे स्थलांतर मोठ्या प्रमाणात झालेले दिसून येते सामाजिक, आर्थिक, शैक्षणिक, आरोग्य विषयक सोयी सुविधांच्या पूर्तते करिता या जमातीचे वितरण संपूर्ण जिल्ह्यात विषम स्वरूपात झालेले दिसून येते एकंदरीत अमरावती जिल्ह्यातील अनुसूचित जमातींच्या वितरण व

घनतेवर भौगोलिक घटकांच्या एकत्रित परिणाम झाल्याचे स्पष्ट होते.

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## मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ की कहानियों में आदिवासी स्त्री जीवन

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### सारांश:

स्वतंत्रता प्राप्ति के 75 वर्षों के पश्चात भी भारतीय समाज में स्त्री को आज भी अपने सम्मान एवं अस्तित्व के लिए संघर्ष करना पड़ रहा है। जिसमें आदिवासी समुदाय की स्त्रियों की स्थिति अत्यंत भयावह वह दयनीय है। भारतीय संविधान के अंतर्गत आदिवासी स्त्रियों को पुरुषों के समकक्ष अधिकार प्राप्त है। उन्हें दयनीय स्थिति से उबारने हेतु अनेक प्रावधान किए गए हैं, परंतु फिर भी उनके विकास की गति धीमी एवं चिंतनीय है। बदलते समय के साथ-साथ अनेक समाजों में परिवर्तन होने लगे परंतु आदिवासी समाज के पुरुष एवं महिलाओं को शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य एवं रोजी-रोटी जैसी बुनियादी सुविधाओं के लिए उन्हें संघर्ष करना पड़ रहा है। आदिवासी समाज में आज भी अंधविश्वास, अशिक्षा, विविध सामाजिक कुरितियां विद्यमान हैं, जिसका प्रमुख कारण अंधविश्वास एवं गरिबी है। वर्तमान में आधुनिक युग के इस दौर में देश के मूल निवासी की स्थिति का आकलन करते हैं तो, ज्ञात होता है कि, युगों से जिस स्थिति में यह समाज है, वह आज भी वैसा ही उपेक्षित, वंचित और अभावग्रस्त जीवन जीने के लिए मजबूर है। आदिवासी स्त्रियों की स्थिति तो पंखयुक्त है किंतु पंखहीन पक्षी की भांति है। उनका जीवन आज भी एक विवश आत्मसमर्पण है। आदिवासी स्त्रियों के संघर्ष को हिंदी साहित्य के माध्यम से समाज में लाने का कार्य जागरूक रचनाकारों द्वारा लेखन के माध्यम से किया जाता है। जिसमें लोकप्रिय साहित्यकार मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ का भी योगदान है। मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ की कहानियों में आदिवासी स्त्री जीवन के यथार्थ को व्यक्त करना इस शोधपत्र का उद्देश्य है।

**बीज शब्द:** आदिवासी, जनजाति, यौन-शोषण, बलात्कार, स्वास्थ्य, शिक्षा, आत्महत्या, अंधश्रद्धा।

### प्रस्तावना:

किसी भी रचना की रचनाशैली से उस रचनाकार का व्यक्तित्व उभरकर सामने आता है। क्योंकि भाषा से ही व्यक्तित्व प्रस्फुटित होता है। अर्थात् हम कह सकते हैं कि किसी भी रचना के भावपक्ष को जानने के लिए उस रचनाकार के व्यक्तित्व को जानना आवश्यक होता है। क्योंकि साहित्य समाज का दर्पण है, इसलिए लेखक जो कुछ भी अपने परिवेश में देखता या अनुभव करता है, उसे अपने साहित्य के माध्यम से समाज के सम्मुख लाने का प्रयास करता है। यह कहा जा सकता है कि लेखक के व्यक्तिगत जीवन और अनुभव का ही उसके साहित्य के माध्यम से दर्शन होता है। हिंदी कहानी साहित्य में प्रत्येक वर्ग एवं समाज के लोगों पर आधारित समस्याओं को कहानीकारों ने साहित्य में स्थान दिया है। आचार्य रामचंद्र शुक्लजी कहते हैं कि, “प्रत्येक देश का साहित्य वहाँ की जनता की चित्तवृत्ति का

संचित प्रतिबिम्ब होता है। ऐसे साहित्य में मानव कल्याण की भावना निहित होती है और हिंदी साहित्य इसका प्रमाण है।”<sup>1</sup>

मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ लोकप्रिय व प्रसिद्ध साहित्यकार है। वर्तमान चुनिंदा साहित्यकारों में अपनी विशिष्ट पहचान बनाने में वे सफल हुई हैं। उनके लेखन में विषयों की विविधता के दर्शन होते हैं। वे विगत पच्चीस वर्षों से लेखन के क्षेत्र में सक्रिय हैं, अब तक इनके आठ कहानी संग्रह और छः उपन्यास प्रकाशित हो चुके हैं। कविता तथा अनुवाद लेखन का कार्य भी उन्होंने किया। उन्हें कथा साहित्य के कई महत्वपूर्ण सम्मान प्राप्त हुए हैं। वर्तमान में वे अनवरत रूप से अपना लेखन कार्य कर रही हैं। आदिवासी जीवन की कहानियों को लिखते हुए वह अपना अनुभव व्यक्त करती हैं, “आदिवासी जीवन की कथाओं को आप यूँ ही नहीं कह सकते। इसके लिए वह आदिम मुहावरा, सरल भाषाई

गीतात्मकता, सजीव-मौलिक दृष्यात्मकता, थिरकन, उनके जमीन के पुरखों से मिला कहन, पेड़ों और पशुओं से सखा-भाव और जंगल के लिए वह चिंता लानी होगी।<sup>2</sup> विवाह के पश्चात वह देश के विविध आदिवासी इलाकों में रही। जहाँ आदिवासी समुदाय से उनका सम्पर्क हुआ। आदिवासी स्त्रियों के संघर्ष को कहानी के रूप में लेखनबद्ध करते हुए वे कहती हैं कि, “ मुझे एक भीषण आकर्षण रहा आदिवासी जीवन के प्रति, तमाम संघर्षों के बावजूद इनका बेलौस होना, जीवन और प्रकृत के प्रति घना अनुराग होना। इनका प्रेम और संबंधों के प्रति बंधनहीन दर्शन, रवायतें और आज़ादी। अस्तित्व का संकट इनके लिए इतना गहरा है फिर भी जीवटता चुकती नहीं। आदिवासी भारत में कहीं के हों, पत्रकार-पर्यटक जब भी कोई सवाल इनसे पूछेंगे पहले युवतियाँ हँसती चली जाएगी। हँसी-हँसी के साथ परेशानी बताएंगी-भूख अभाव, घर, स्कूल, सड़क, परिवहन, व्यवस्था का अंधापन। फिर वे कहीं हो, रेगिस्तान में या चायबागान में पत्रकार के इसरार पर खुद गा-गाकर समूह में नाचने लगेगी। वह हँसी, वह नाच इनकी थाती हैं, इन्हें किसी ने नहीं धमकाया होगा-कम हँसो, यूँ मत थिरको।<sup>3</sup> मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ ने अपनी कहानियों में आदिवासी स्त्री जीवन के यथार्थ को प्रस्तुत किया है।

आदिवासी शब्द ‘आदि और ‘वासी’ दो शब्दों से मिलकर बना है, जिसका सामान्य अर्थ है आदिकाल से निवास करने वाला। माना जाता है कि आदिवासी भारत के मूल निवासी है। भारतीय संविधान में आदिवासी शब्द के लिए ‘जनजाति’ शब्द का प्रयोग हुआ है। सदियों से शोषण के शिकार हुए आदिवासी समुदाय आज अपने अधिकारों के प्रति जागरूक हो रहे हैं तथा स्वयं के अस्तित्व के लिए संगठित हो रहे हैं। भारत में ही नहीं बल्कि विश्व में अनेक जनजातियों के समुदाय हैं, जो आदिवासी के रूप में जाने जाते हैं।

स्त्री का संघर्ष सभ्यता की पहली और अन्तिम कहानी है। जब हम आदिवासी स्त्री की बात करते हैं तो मार्क्स का कथन याद आता है कि, “स्त्रियों की सामाजिक स्थिति से सामाजिक प्रगति को ठीक-ठाक मापा जा सकता है।<sup>4</sup> बदलते युग में देश के सबसे पुरानी जनजाति के विषय में जानकारी प्राप्त करने पर ऐसा पाया गया है कि, उनकी जीवनशैली में कोई खास परिवर्तन नहीं आया है। वे आज भी पुरानी परंपराओं, रितीरिवाजों, रहन-सहन के साथ

कु.मधु गोपीकिशन गुप्ता

संघर्षमय जीवन जी रहे हैं। आदिवासी समाज में अर्थव्यवस्था में महिलाएँ एक महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाती हैं और कुछ परिवारों में वे एक मात्र रोजी-रोटी कमानेवाली हैं, जो सार्वजनिक और निजी क्षेत्र में काम करने की दोहरी जिम्मेदारी का प्रबंधन करती हैं। आर्थिक गतिविधियों में उनके जबरदस्त योगदान के बावजूद उन्हें उनका उचित श्रेय नहीं दिया जाता है और उनके काम को अक्सर छोटा काम माना जाता है। यह कहा जा सकता है कि महिलाओं की स्थिति पुरुषों के बराबर नहीं है, भले ही वे आर्थिक गतिविधियों में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान देती हैं और कुछ मामलों में पुरुषों की तुलना में अधिक होती है।

साधारण भारतीय स्त्रियों की तुलना में आदिवासी स्त्रियाँ शारीरिक रूप से सुदृढ़ होती हैं। वे मेहनती तथा कार्य के प्रति ईमानदार होती हैं। परिवार में आर्थिक योगदान देने के लिए वे जंगलों अथवा अन्य भयावह स्थलों पर कार्य करती हैं। जहाँ खतरनाक कीड़े एवं साँपों का डर होता है। फिर भी वे नहीं घबराती हैं। मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ ने ‘नर्सरी’ कहानी में एक गेंद के माध्यम से आसाम के चाय बागानों में कार्य करने वाली मेहनती आदिवासी स्त्रियों का वर्णन किया है जो अपने आर्थिक मजबूरी की वजह से अपने स्वास्थ्य से समझौता करती हैं। लेखिका लिखती है कि, “कुछ दूर पर उसे घिसी चप्पलों वाले कई जोड़ा पैर दिखे और उपर झाड़ पर जल्दी-जल्दी चलते हाथ। चाय की ताज़ा पत्तियाँ तोड़ते हुए। ये चाय बागान की स्थायी कामगार आदिवासी स्त्रियाँ थीं, कोई संधाल, कोई उरांव, कोई गांडेड, मुंडा, भूमिज। जिनकी पाँच-छः पीढियाँ इन बागानों में जन्मी, खपीं और मर गयी। क्योंकि इनके हाथ पारंगत थे, चाय की ढाई पात तोड़ने में, ढाई यानि एक अधखुली पत्ती और दो खुली हुई ताजा पत्तियाँ। गेंद उन मेहनतकश पैरों के पास पड़ी रही। वे पैर धूल-धूसरित थे मगर उनमें गरम लहू बहता है यह बात जौंके ज्यादा अच्छी तरह जानती थीं, बजाय मालिकों और मनीजर साहिबों के।<sup>5</sup> चाय बागानों में जहरीले साँपो के बीच यह आदिवासी स्त्रियाँ अपने कार्य को बखूबी करती हैं। लेखिका लिखती है कि, “दूर कोई चिल्लाया, संभलकर! इधर एक करैत साँप दिखा है। सब पैर थपथपाएँ जमीन पर।<sup>6</sup> विरासत में मिला डर अब आदत से बन गया है। साँप क्या, तेंदुआ तक चला जाता है। परंतु आर्थिक तंगी की वजह से यह स्त्रियाँ इन सबसे बेखबर अपने कार्य करती रहती हैं।

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के कई युवक-युवती शहर की चकाचौंध से आकर्षित होकर तथा आर्थिक तंगी के कारण गाँव छोड़कर शहर में काम करने जाते हैं। कई बार शहर में नौकरी दिलाने के का लालच देकर आदिवासी स्त्रियों को गाँव से शहर ले जाकर बेंच दिया जाता है। मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ ने 'नर्सरी' कहानी में आदिवासी स्त्री की इस पीड़ा को व्यक्त किया है। कहानी में नारी पात्र सुमिता का दोस्त उसे दिल्ली चलने को कहता है, तो सुमिता मनोहर नामक युवक के विषय में कुछ याद करते हुए कहती है कि, "उन्होंने तुलु ओरांव से पूछा किया क्या वह अपनी बेटी को शोहोर में जाकर काम करने देना चाहेंगे। तभी उसकी माँ को चलते-फिरते स्कूल वाली दीदी की बात याद आ गई कि, लड़कियों को शोहोर ले जाकर बेच देते हैं और....।"<sup>7</sup> आदिवासी स्त्रियों के जीवन के यथार्थ अभिव्यक्ति को लेखिका ने कहानी में चित्रित किया है।

भारत देश में कई आदिवासी जनजातियाँ हैं, जो देश के अलग-अलग प्रांतों में रहती हैं। इन जनजातियों में आसाम के गोहाटी क्षेत्र में पाई जाने वाली 'न्यिशि' जनजाति पाई जाती है। जिसमें विवाह करने के लिए वधु पक्ष को एक तय मूल्य देना पड़ता है। जिस वर ने मूल्य ज्यादा दिया तो स्त्री का विवाह उससे हो जाता है। इस प्रथा का वर्णन मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ ने 'नीला-घर' कहानी में किया है। कहानी में स्त्री पात्र मिती की माँ उसके विवाह की बात याबोम सोरा नामक युवक से चलाती है, परंतु छः महिनों के पश्चात एक रिश्तेदार के साथ आए तोसिरो नामक युवक से उसका विवाह तय कर देती है, क्योंकि तोसिरो के पास संतरों के दो बगीचे हैं और वह अमीर है। इस बात से खफा होकर याबोम सोरा मिती का अपहरण कर लेता है और उसे अपने गाँव ले जाता है। परिस्थिति को देखते हुए मिती समझौता कर लेती है। लेखिका लिखती है कि, "याबोम ने महीने भर के भीतर ही आस-पास के दोनों गाँवों को भोज देकर, कहीं से उधार लेकर मिती की माँ को वधू-मूल्य चुका कर इस अपहरण को जायज बना लिया।"<sup>8</sup> न्यिशि जनजाति में अपहरण की प्रथा बंद हो चुकी थी, बल्कि अब तो अपराध है। आदिवासी समाज में फैली इस कुरिती की वजह से पीड़ित स्त्री का वर्णन लेखिका ने कहानी में किया है।

जंगलों में बसी निरक्षर, आदिवासी स्त्री कभी विस्थापन की त्रासदी सहती है, तो कभी पूंजीपति, ठेकेदार और अपने समाज की कुप्रथाएँ उसका दोहन करती हैं।

कु.मधु गोपीकिशन गुसा

जंगल से भलिभाँति परिचित होने की वजह से उन्हें बीमारियों में उपयोग होनेवाली कई जंगली जड़ी-बूटीयों का ज्ञान होता है। जिसके माध्यम से वह अपने परिवार का गुजर-बसर करती है। परंतु समाज में फैले अंधविश्वास व अंधश्रद्धा की वजह से इन आदिवासी स्त्रियों को अन्य सामाजिक तबकों के द्वारा सताया जाता है, उन्हें जादूगरनी एवं डायन कहकर समाज से बहिष्कृत किया जाता है। उनके बच्चों को शिक्षा जैसे मौलिक अधिकारों से वंचित किया जाता है। मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ ने 'कुरंजा' कहानी में राजस्थानी सीमावर्ती क्षेत्र में रहनेवाली घुमंतू कबीले की आदिवासी स्त्री की इसी पीड़ा का चित्रण किया है। यह कहानी राजस्थान के सीमावर्ती पीछड़े क्षेत्र जीवसर गाँव की है। जिसमें एक आदिवासी स्त्री कुरंजा अपने बेटे जुगनू का सरकारी स्कूल में दाखिला कराने के लिए स्थानांतरण होकर आए स्कूल के नए हेडमास्टर से उसके घर जाकर संपर्क करती है, परंतु हेडमास्टर उसे स्कूल में आने को कहते हैं। हेडमास्टर के चपरासी को कुरंजा के विषय में बताने पर वह कहता है, "कौन कुरंजा ? वो डाकण रांड ! डाकण याने कि डायन है...वो कुछ समझे माट्साब।"<sup>9</sup> आदिवासी स्त्री कुरंजा को स्कूल में नहीं आने देने के संदर्भ में चपरासी कालू से बात करते हैं तो वह कहता है, कि डाकणों की औलादों को स्कूल में रखोगे तो बाकि के लोग बच्चे भेजना बंद कर देंगे।" अंधविश्वास से ग्रसित कालू चपरासी बताता है कि, "मेरी ही औरत के जब तीसरा बच्चा होने को था तो हम देवता के यहाँ से लड़का होने की भभूत लाए। ये रांड सामने पड़ गयी कि तिसरी भी लड़की पैदा हो गयी।" गाँव में हुए सामूहिक विवाह के दौरान खराब खाना खाने की वजह से लोगों की तबीयत बिगड़ जाती है। जिसके लिए भी कुरंजा को जिम्मेदार ठहराया जाता है। इस संदर्भ में चपरासी कालू हेडमास्टर से कहता है कि, "साबजी बजी जल्दी चलो, रेबाडियों के ब्याव में डाकण के आने से खाना ज़हर हो गया। लोग उल्टी-दस्त कर रहे हैं। कितनेक तो बेहोस हैं। कुछ बच्चे तो लग रहा है के नहीं बचपे के साबजी।"<sup>10</sup> निश्चित ही अंधविश्वास के कारण एक अच्छा भले इंसान को शैतान बनाकर उसका जीवन बर्बाद हो जाता है।

विश्व में महिलाओं, किशोरियों यहाँ तक की नन्हों बच्चियों के साथ भी यौन-शोषण, बलात्कार व हत्या की घटनाएँ हो रही हैं। आदिवासी जंगली क्षेत्रों में इन घटनाओं का पता तक नहीं चलता है। कई आदिवासी स्त्री समाज के

डर, आरोपी के धमकाने के कारण तथा मौत के डर की वजह से इन घटनाओं को व्यक्त नहीं करती है और शोषित होती रहती है। मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ ने 'एक थी लीलण' कहानी में बलात्कार और हत्या की शिकार भील जाति की आदिवासी युवती का चित्रण किया है। कहानी में 'लीलण' एक 19 वर्षीय भील आदिवासी युवती है, जिसका विवाह एक वनराज नामक गडरिये से तय होता है। दोनों एक दिन शहर में फिल्म देखकर देर रात गाँव लौट रहे होते हैं। रास्ते में पास के गाँव के कुछ असामाजिक तत्व उन्हें घेर लेते हैं और जंगल के सुनसान क्षेत्र में ले जाकर वे वनराज को खूब मारते हैं और लीलण के साथ सामूहिक बलात्कार जैसे धिनौना कृत्य करते हैं तथा पत्थर से उसका चेहरा कुचल कर मार डालते हैं। अपने उपर हुए इस अनैसर्गिक कृत्य के संदर्भ में लीलण जो अब एक मृतदेह है, कहती है कि, "जब मेरी पहली चीख उठी, आकाश और जंगल के कायर देवताओं ने अपने लोहे के दरवाज़े बंद कर लिए थे। हाँ दर्जनभर चमगादड़ जरूर फड़फड़ा कर चक्कर काट रहे थे, मानो मेरे उपर से इन दरिंदों को छिटका कर अलग करना चाहते हों। कुछ गिधद नज़दीक के टीलों पर बेचैनी से उनकी हरकतें देख रहे थे। वे नज़दीक के टीले पर लपके...लड़के एक पल को उन गिधदों से डर गए। जिस्म की सबल-सहज भूख में प्रकृति साथ होती है। यह क्रूरतम संभोग तो दाँतों और नाखूनों, चाकुओं, लातों से हो रहा था। मुझ पर छाए मरियल जिस्मों ने मेरी आत्मा खंसोटी दी थी, गालियों और मेरी छातियों को दाँतों से काट कर।"<sup>11</sup> कहानी में लीलण के साथ हुए इस कुकर्म एवं उसकी दयनीय दशा का मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ ने कहानी में इस प्रकार वर्णन किया है कि पाठक वर्ग की रूह कॉप उठती है, वे इन राक्षसों के प्रति अपने आक्रोश को व्यक्त करने से नहीं चुकते।

शिक्षा प्रत्येक नागरिक का मौलिक अधिकार है। उच्च शिक्षा हेतु लड़कियों के लिए छात्रावास की व्यवस्था की गई है। आदिवासी लड़कियाँ भी शिक्षा के लिए इन छात्रावासों में रहती हैं। परंतु यहाँ भी वे असुरक्षित हैं। इन्हीं छात्रावासों में वे कर्मचारियों की कुदृष्टि से नहीं बच पाती और उनके द्वारा यौन-शोषण अथवा बलात्कार की शिकार होती हैं। जिससे वे डरी-सहमी तथा आत्मकुंठित सी हो जाती हैं और उनके पूर्ण व्यक्तित्व का विकास नहीं हो पाता। मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ ने 'अवक्षेप' कहानी में सरकारी आदिवासी कन्या छात्रावास का वर्णन किया है। जिसमें राजस्थान के

कु.मधु गोपीकिशन गुसा

भील, कंजर, गड़ियालोहार आदि जनजाति की लड़कियाँ रहती हैं। जिन्हें छात्रवृत्ति की पूर्ण रकम भी नहीं प्राप्त होती। छात्रवृत्ति की रकम मांगने पर छात्रावास के इंचार्ज कर्मचारी द्वारा इन आदिवासी कन्याओं का यौन शोषण किया जाता है। विरोध करने पर छात्रावास की कन्या चिरमी के साथ हुए कृत्य को बताते हुए छात्रावास की लड़की बेनु कहती है, "बताया नहीं आपको पैले.... छोटकी चिरमी.... दस बरस की... इंचारज के पास फीस के पैसे लेने गयी और पूरी चड्डी लाल।"<sup>12</sup> आदिवासी लड़कियाँ खेल-कूद में भी नाम रोशन करती हैं परंतु छात्रावास के कर्मचारियों की वजह से उन्हें कई बार आगे बढ़ने का मौका नहीं मिलता और विरोध या शिकायत करने पर जान पर बन आती है। इस संदर्भ में लेखिका द्वारा बेनु को पूछने पर की जैपुर गई थी। तो बेनु कहती है, "कहाँ जा सकी। आते ही इंचारज और मैटन ने खूब मारा... हाथ छुड़ा के रात के अँधेरे में भागी थी मैं... वो हॉस्टल के पीछे की टूटी दीवार ... से कूद के ...शहर के उस तरफ... माथे पे चोट लगी.... लहू ही लहू... पर पकड़ लिया...उस हडक्ये कुत्ते ने, दोनों ने मिलकर गला टीप दिया। फिर रस्सी लटका दी गले में।"<sup>13</sup> प्रस्तुत कहानी में लेखिका ने आदिवासी छात्राओं की पीड़ा से समाज को अवगत कराया है। निश्चित ही प्रशासन को आदिवासी कन्या छात्रावासों का निरीक्षण करना चाहिए ताकि कोई भी छात्रा अपने हक से वंचित न रह सके।

#### निष्कर्ष:

निष्कर्षतः कहा जा सकता है कि मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ सदी की एक लोकप्रिय, सशक्त एवं प्रचलित रचनाकारों में एक हैं। इनकी कहानियों में विचारधारा और प्रतिबद्धता इस प्रकार विन्यस्त है कि कहानी का विन्यास विचारधारा और प्रतिबद्धता की आभा से ग्रस्त नहीं होता। उन्होंने स्त्री को अग्रणी मानकर अपनी कहानियों में उनको केन्द्र में रखा है। मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ ने कहानियों में आदिवासी स्त्रियों के संघर्षमय जीवन को नज़दीक से देखा है। अपनी कहानियों के माध्यम से समाज एवं प्रशासन को उनकी पीड़ाओं और समस्याओं के विषय में जाग्रत किया है। आदिवासी स्त्रियों के स्वास्थ्य, शिक्षा, सुरक्षा एवं उनके विकास के विषय में वे चिंतनशील हैं। वे स्त्रियों के विषय में इतनी गहराई से सोचती हैं कि लगता है कि जैसे उनका साहित्य स्त्रियों के लिए ही सृजित होता है। मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ एक सजग एवं सचेत साहित्यकार हैं। वह समय, समाज और उसके विद्रूपों



तथा चुनौतियों के प्रति जागरूक रहती है। उनके द्वारा रचित कहानियाँ स्त्री-अस्तित्व के पक्ष में हमेशा खड़ी रहती है और उसके सामाजिक शोषण के भयावह परिणतियों पर भी सवेदनशील है।

**संदर्भ:**

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## ‘पार’ उपन्यास में अभिव्यक्त आदिवासी समाज की सांस्कृतिक चेतना

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### सारांश:

‘पार’ उपन्यास में लेखक वीरेंद्र जैन जी ने आदिवासी संस्कृति रीति-रिवाज, पूजा-पाठ आदि का सूक्ष्मता से वर्णन किया है। आदिवासियों का रहन-सहन, विवाह प्रथाएँ, पहनावा, मनौतियाँ, अंधश्रद्धाएँ आदि का संजीदगी से चित्रण किया है। वीरेंद्र जैन द्वारा रचित ‘पार’ उपन्यास आदिवासी संस्कृति का महत्वपूर्ण दस्तावेज है। आदिवासी संस्कृति ग्रामीण तथा शहरी संस्कृति से अलग दिखाई देती है। आदिवासी शिक्षा- दीक्षा, जीवन की मूलभूत सुविधाओं से वंचित पहाड़ों पर अपना जीवन यापन करते हुए नजर आते हैं। लेखक ने जीरोन खरे के माध्यम से आदिवासी लोगों के आचार-विचार, त्योहार-उत्सव, परंपराएँ, भाषा आदि को हमारे सामने सजीवता के साथ चित्रित किया है।

**कुंजीभूत शब्द** – संस्कृति, वीरेंद्र जैन, ‘पार’ उपन्यास, आदिवासियों का रहन-सहन, गौड बब्बा, मडवा, विवाह प्रथाएँ, डोर बँधाई, मनौतियाँ, अंधश्रद्धाएँ।

### प्रस्तावना –

समाज और संस्कृति का परस्पर गहरा संबंध है। संस्कृति जीवन जीने की एक विधि है। संस्कृति हमारे जीने और सोचने का एक तरीका भी है, वह हमारी प्रकृति की एक अभिव्यक्ति है। संस्कृति मनुष्य की भावनाओं से जुड़ने के साथ-साथ मनुष्य को निरंतर प्रेरित तथा प्रोत्साहित करती है। संस्कृति मनुष्य के व्यक्तित्व और चरित्र का निर्माणक होती है। संस्कृति एक प्रकार से राष्ट्र के अतीत को भविष्य के साथ जोड़ने वाला सेतु भी है। कला, संगीत, साहित्य, वास्तु विज्ञान, शिल्प कला, दर्शन, धर्म, और विज्ञान सभी संस्कृति के पक्ष हैं। संस्कृति के अंतर्गत परंपरा, आचार-विचार, श्रद्धा-अंधश्रद्धा, पहनावा, खान-पान, कला-नृत्य एवं भौतिक वातावरण सम्मिलित होते हैं। संस्कृति देश की आत्मा होती है। संस्कृति में किसी राष्ट्र के धर्म, दर्शन, संस्कार, मान्यताएँ, लोक कलाएँ आदि सभी पक्ष समाहित हो जाते हैं। “संस्कृति जिंदगी का एक तरीका है, और यह तरीका सदियों से जमा होकर समाज में छाया रहता है, जिसमें हम जन्म लेते हैं।”<sup>१</sup>

भारतीय संस्कृति का एक अलग रूप ग्रामीण परिवेश में देखा जा सकता है। भारतीय संस्कृति अति प्राचीन एवं भव्य है। भारतीय संस्कृति का सही रूप हमें शहरों के बजाय गाँव में ही देखने को मिलता है। ग्रामीण भोले-भाले लोग, आदिवासी संस्कृति एवं पर्वतीय अंचलों में भारतीय संस्कृति और परिवर्तनशील रहकर उसने अपना अस्तित्व आज भी दिखाया है। ग्रामीण जीवन की संस्कृति एक अमूल्य जीवन तत्व है। ग्रामीण जीवन अभाव, विसंगतियों, अनेक कठिनाइयों के बावजूद भी समाज के भीतर एक अटूट आस्था दिखाई देती है। आज आधुनिक युग

में व्यक्ति का जीवन पूरी तरह परिवर्तित हो गया है। “उसके मानदंड भी संस्कृति मुलक न होकर सभ्यता मुलक हो गए हैं। यदि संस्कृति का स्रोत ग्राम जीवन है, तो सभ्यता का स्रोत नगर जीवन है। सांस्कृतिक अवमूल्यन ने नए आयाम गाँवों के नागरिकरण के परिप्रेक्ष्य में उद्घाटित हो रहे हैं। धर्म, दर्शन, साहित्य, संस्कार, विश्वास, स्नान, नदी, तीर्थ, शिक्षा-दीक्षा, वर्ग, मूर्तिपूजा, मंदिर, त्योहार, विवाह, रीति, पोशाख, गीत, कला, कृषि, भोजन, शास्त्र, वाद्य, नृत्य आदि के सांस्कृतिक क्षेत्र आधुनिक जीवन क्रम में एक मनोरंजन के साधन मात्र या अंध परंपरा का पालन है। उनमें जीवन के प्रति गहन, गंभीर दृष्टिकोण एवं उत्कर्ष का शील संवेदित नहीं है।”<sup>२</sup>

वीरेंद्र जैन द्वारा रचित ‘पार’ उपन्यास आदिवासी संस्कृति का महत्वपूर्ण दस्तावेज है। आदिवासी संस्कृति ग्रामीण तथा शहरी संस्कृति से अलग दिखाई देती है। आदिवासी शिक्षा- दीक्षा, जीवन की मूलभूत सुविधाओं से वंचित पहाड़ों पर अपना जीवन यापन करते हुए नजर आते हैं। लेखक ने जीरोन खरे के माध्यम से आदिवासी लोगों के रहन-सहन, आचार-विचार, त्योहार-उत्सव, परंपराएँ, भाषा आदि को हमारे सामने संजीदगी के साथ चित्रित किया है।

‘पार’ उपन्यास के शुरुवात में ही लेखक ने आदिवासी संस्कृति से हमारा परिचय करवाया है। एक दिन मूसर खरे के मुखिया ने जीरोनखरे के मुखिया से बिनती की कि वह गाय-भैंसे, बकरीयाँ रख ले और बदले में कुछ जनी उसे दे दे। अपने खरे की औरतों की तुलना भेड़- बकरीयाँ तथा गाय-भैंसों से करना उसे पसंद नहीं आता है। अपने खरे की औरतों के अधिकारों की रक्षा करते हुए वह कहता है-

एक जमाना था जब मवेशी के बदले मौड़ी कि मौड़ी के बदले मवेशी लेते-देते रहे हमारी विरादरी में | पर कब? जब इक्का-दुक्का डेरा डालकर रहते रहे, तब | अब यह मुमकिन नहीं | अब नहीं लेखते हम अपनी मौड़ी को मवेशी विरोबर |”३

जीरोन खेरे के मुखिया ने यहाँ आने का कारण पूछा जवान मुखिया को | फिर मूसर खेरे के मुखिया ने अपनी राम कहानी सबको सुनाई | “कुछ बरस से हमरे खेरे के दिन अच्छे नहीं चल रहे हैं मुखियाजू | गौड बब्बा खफा है कि जाने कोई ऊँच-नीच हो गई खेरे के किसी जन से या जनीं से | किसी देवता को पथरा समझ कर तोड़ दिया, कि फोड़ दिया, कि फेंक दिया, कि थान बदल दिया उनका, की हग-मूत दिया उन पर, की देख कर भी अनदेखा कर दिया उनको, कि मान गिरा दिया उनका, खबर नहीं |”४ मूसर खेरे को इन सब घटनाओं के पीछे दूसरे खेरे के लोगों का हात नजर आता है | यहाँ हमें अंधश्रद्धा नजर आती है | आदिवासी समाज में अंधश्रद्धा प्रत्येक व्यक्ति के मन में किस प्रकार घर कर गई है | मूसर खेरे के मुखिया के अनुसार-“ किसी और खेरे वाले ने जप-तप करवा दिया, कि रिद्धि-सिद्धि कर दी, कि खेरे को किल दिया, कि शाप दे दिया, कि मेटने का कौल भर लिया, खबर नहीं |”५

जीरोन खेरे के आदिवासी विरादरी का एक नियम है कि जिस नारी के बेटे को मुखिया बनाया जाएगा, उस नारी को दूसरे बेटे को जन्म देना, या पुरुष के साथ शारीरिक संबंध रखने पर पाबंदी होती थी | मुइया ने जब एक लड़के को जन्म दिया, तब जीरोन खेरे के मुखिया ने यह घोषित किया था कि मुइया का लड़का ही खेरे का अगला मुखिया होगा | उसका नाम 'गुनिया' होगा | परंतु मुइया को यह नियम सताने लगा | उसे यौन चिंताएँ सताने लगी थी | वह देह के विरह में जलने लगी थी। वह शारीरिक सुख से वंचित रहती थी | वह अपनी शारीरिक तृप्ति को रोक न सकी | अपनी इसी वासना तृप्ति के लिए वह एक दिन जीरोन खेरा छोड़कर मूसर खेरे में भाग गयी। उसने की खातिर सब कुछ त्याग दिया | अपना पति, अपना बेटा, अपनी विरादरी सबको छोड़कर वह भाग गयी | उसे केवल अपने देह की पुकार ही सुनाई देती रही | “मोरे जन को काहे का टोटा । मैं रही, न रही एक-सी | अब आस-औलाद तो मैं दे नहीं सकती थी | कहीं दे न दूँ इसीलिए तो दस कदम दूर छिटका रहता था मुझसे | मैं खेरे में रही आई होती तो देह से हारती ही हारती | अपने जन को भी ले डूबती |”६ मूसर खेरे में मुइया का स्वागत-सत्कार हुआ | जीरोन की मुखिया-माई चल कर आई थी मूसर खेरे में | मुइया ने मूसर खेरे को कई मौढा-मौड़ी दिए | पर वह किसी की भी जनी नहीं हो पाई | “देह की मंशा तो पूरी हुई लेकिन देह को सुख नसीब नहीं हुआ | देह की जरूरत ही पूरी नहीं हुई, देह से ज्यादाती भी हुई |”७ मूसर खेरे के सब पुरुष सब स्त्रियों के है, और स्त्रियाँ सारे पुरुषों की | कोई किसी की पत्नी नहीं, कोई किसी का पति नहीं। मूसर खेरे की ऐसी रीति-नीतियाँ, परंपराएँ देखकर

मुइया निराश हो गयी | उसे हरदम जीरोन खेरे की याद सताने लगी थी |

वीरेंद्र जैन जी ने 'पार' उपन्यास में आदिवासी संस्कृति तथा रीति-रिवाजों, परंपराओं का सटीकता से वर्णन किया है | शादी ब्याह के अवसर पर आदिवासी लोग एक मंडप के नीचे इकट्ठा होते है | वहाँ जो जन शादी करना चाहते है, वह गौड बब्बा को, मुखिया को प्रणाम कर ढोल बजाने का कार्यक्रम करते हैं, फिर जिस जनी को ढोल बजाने वाला जन पसंद आता है, तो वह अपने जगह से उठकर उसके सामने बैठ जाती है | तभी दोनों की शादी होती है | पार उपन्यास में इसी शादी के रिवाज का वर्णन किया गया है | एक दिन मुखिया ने दुनिया को शादी के लिए तैयार कर ही लिया | दुनिया की तरफ से हाँ होते ही मुखिया ने गौड बब्बा के स्थान पर एक मडवा गडवा दिया | खेरे में बिसौ बार ढोल पिटवा दिया | ढोल के साथ डोर बँधाई की उम्र पाई चार मौढियन की फेरी फिरवा दी | पूरे चाँद की रात डोर बँधाई की रस्म तय की | “जब तक वह दिन नहीं आया, खेरे में खूब रास-रंग रहा | ढोल और गीतों के स्वर आकाश गुंजाते रहे | अँधीयाई के सातों पहाड़ ढोल की आवाज पर थर-थर काँपते रहे | तांडव करते रहे | वह दिन भी आ गया | पूरा खेरा गौड बब्बा के थान पर जमा हो गया | मुखिया और गुनिया मडवा के नीचे आ विराजे | मडवा के एक तरफ पछिया, परिया, टिनिया, छिकिया को बैठा दिया गया | दूसरी तरफ गुरया, मनया और बनया को |”८

मुखिया का इशारा पाते ही गुनिया अपनी जगह से उठा और गौड बब्बा और मुखिया को प्रणाम किया और जोर-जोर से ढोल बजाने लगा | हर व्यक्ति को अपनी-अपनी डोर बँधाए की रस्म याद आने लगी | सबके पाँव थिरकने लगे। सबको मंत्रमुग्ध कर गुनिया ने ढोल बजाना बंद किया | गौड बब्बा को प्रणाम कर मुखिया को प्रणाम करके वह अपनी जगह जा बैठा | उसके बाद मुखिया ने गुरया को ढोल बजाने का संकेत किया | गुरया ने गौड बब्बा तथा मुखिया को प्रणाम कर जोर से ढोल बजाना शुरू किया | सबकी नजरें मडवा में बैठी लड़कियों पर टिकी थी | सबको एक ही उत्सुकता थी की गुरया की पुकार पर कौन-सी लड़की खड़ी होगी | तभी पछिया गोल में से उठी और गुरया के सामने जाकर खड़ी हुई | मुखिया का इशारा पाकर गुरया ने ढोल बजाना बंद कर दिया | दोनों ने मडवा के दो फेरे लगाए | गौड बब्बा तथा मुखिया को प्रणाम किया, गुनिया को प्रणाम किया | सभी खेरे को प्रणाम किया और नीचे सबसे आगे बैठ गए | मुखिया ने फिर मनया को ढोल बजाने का इशारा किया | मनया के ढोल बजाते ही परिया खड़ी हुई | फिर दोनों ने सभी को प्रणाम कर पहले जोड़े के साथ बैठ गए | इसके बाद बनया ने ढोल बजाना शुरू किया | बनया के ढोल बजाते समय उसके सामने टिनिया और छिकिया अधबैठी हालत में खड़ी थी | बनया जोर से ढोल बजाता रहा | पूरा खेरा सास रोखकर गोल में बैठी टिनिया और छिकिया की ओर ध्यान से देखने लगा | बनया ढोल बजाता रहा परंतु दोनों युवतियों में से कोई भी उसके पास नहीं आयी | मुखिया ने फिर हरिया को ढोल बजाने के लिए कहा |

हरिया के ढोल बजाते ही टिनिया उसके पास आकर खड़ी हुई। इसका मतलब टिनिया हुई हरिया की और छिकिया हुई बनया की। इन सब के बाद मुखिया ने मुइया को ढोल बजाने के लिए कहा। यह दृश्य देखकर पूरा खेरा ही हैरान हो गया। खेरे को लगा कि जरूर मुइया मुखिया के पास फरियाद लेकर गई होगी। मुखिया ने उसकी फरियाद सुनकर उसे ढोल बजाने का और अपना वर चुनने का और एक मौका दे दिया। मुइया जोरो-जोरो से ढोल बजाती रही। परंतु उसकी थाप में न लई थी, न तरंग, न उत्साह उसके ढोल की आवाज कर्कश लग रही थी। खेरे पर उसका कुछ भी असर नहीं हुआ। तभी दुनिया अपने जगह से उठा। मढवा के नीचे पहुँचकर दुनिया ने गौड बब्बा और मुखिया को प्रणाम किया। मुइया को साथ लेकर उसने मढवा के दो फेरे लगाए। गौड बब्बा, मुखिया, गुनिया को फिर से प्रणाम किया। “गुनिया ने अपने बाप की डोर बँधाई रस्म पर पूरे मन से ढोल बजाया। खूब बजाया। अँधियायी की सातों पहाडियों को तरंगित कर पाने के क्षण तक बजाया। अंत-अंत तक बजाया। पूरा खेरा रास-रंग में डूब गया। सारी रात नाच-गान हुआ। उस नाच में, गान में, रास में, रंग में नहीं रंगी तो केवल फुलिया।” ९

ग्रामीण जनता धर्म के अंधविश्वास में इस कदर डूबी हुई है कि वह अधर्मी, कलंकी, भ्रष्ट चरित्र वाले व्यक्ति की बातों पर भी बड़ी सहजता से विश्वास कर लेती है। ‘पार’ उपन्यास में कैलाश महाराज एक कुकर्मी, दुराचारी व्यक्ति के रूप में चित्रित हुआ है। इसके बावजूद भी गाँव वाले उसकी सभी बातों पर आँख मूँदकर विश्वास रखते हैं। गाँव का हित चाहने वाले राम दुलारे पर कोई भी विश्वास नहीं करता। ग्रामीण लोगों के इसी अंधविश्वास का फायदा उठाकर कैलाश महाराज राम दुलारे और उसकी पत्नी यशस्विनी के बारे में नई-नई अफवाहे गाँव में फैलाता रहता है। वह राम दुलारे का मित्र अरविंद और यशस्विनी के बारे में अनाब-शनाब बातें फैलाता है। उन को बदनाम करना ही उसका लक्ष्य था। गाँव के जो लोग बाँध पर काम करने जाते हैं उनको भी वह बहकाता है। कैलाश महाराज ने ऐलान किया - “जो बाँध पर काम करने जाएगा, वह पाप का भागी बनेगा। जो बाँध हमें बर्बाद करने के लिए बनाया जा रहा है, उसमें मदद करना घोर पाप है।” १०

कैलाश महाराज ने मंदिर में आने वाली भोली-भाली गाँव की औरतों को समझाया कि यदि तुम उस कुएँ का पानी भगवान के लिए लाए जिससे यशस्विनी पानी भरती हैं, तो हम उसे कुबूल नहीं करेंगे। जो हमसे झूठ बोली उसे अंतर्दामी तो देखेंगे ही वे उसे ऐसा शाप देंगे कि पूरा वंश नष्ट हो जाएगा। कैलाश महाराज की यह चाल इतनी यशस्वी हुई कि यशस्विनी का राह चलना दूभर हो गया। औरतें अपने बच्चों को यशस्विनी की परछाई से भी दूर रखने लगी। घूरेसाव खेरे की आदिवासी नारियों का शोषण करते हैं। वे उन्हें फुसलाकर शहर ले जाते हैं। शहर में इन औरतों को बेच देते हैं। शहर में इन औरत के खरीददार सबसे ज्यादा हैं। औरतें ही नहीं बच्चियाँ भी खरीदी जाती हैं। अलबत्ता

उनका प्रतिज्ञापत्र नहीं बनता। उनका लेनदेन गुपचुप होता - है उन बच्चियों को कुछ खास गाँवों में रखा जाता है। वहाँ मारपीट कर उन्हें पतुरियाँ के लक्षण सिखाए जाते हैं। नचनीया बनाया जाता है, फिर बाजार में बिठाया जाता है।

इस प्रकार ‘पार’ उपन्यास में लेखक वीरेंद्र जैन जी ने आदिवासी संस्कृति रीति-रिवाज, पूजा-पाठ आदि का सूक्ष्मता से वर्णन किया है। आदिवासियों का रहन-सहन, विवाह प्रथाएँ, पहनावा, मनौतियाँ, अंधश्रद्धाएँ आदि का संजीदगी से चित्रण किया है।

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## भारतीय लोकतंत्र में 18वीं लोकसभा चुनाव का एक विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन

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### सारांश

लोकतंत्र दुनिया में सर्वाधिक लोकप्रिय शासन प्रणाली है। लोकतंत्र एकमात्र शासन प्रणाली है जिसमें प्रत्येक व्यक्ति के स्वतंत्रता, समानता, अधिकार, सामाजिक न्याय और व्यक्ति की गरिमा को महत्वपूर्ण स्थान दिया जाता है। लोकतंत्र की इन्हीं खूबसूरती को देखकर भारत ने स्वतंत्रता पश्चात लोकतंत्र को अपनाया। भारत में हुए प्रथम आम चुनाव से लेकर वर्तमान में संपन्न हुए 18वीं लोकसभा चुनाव तक के सफर ने दुनिया के समक्ष एक मजबूत लोकतंत्र की उत्पत्ति, विकास और सफलता का उदाहरण प्रस्तुत किया है। हाल ही में हुए 18वीं लोकसभा चुनाव के परिणाम ने राष्ट्रीय और अंतरराष्ट्रीय जगत को फिर से एक बार आश्चर्यचकित कर दिया। इस आम चुनाव में भारत की छः राष्ट्रीय पार्टियां, 58 राज्य पार्टियां और हजारों अन्य पार्टियां दो ध्रुवों में बटे हुए नजर आए प्रथम एनडीए समर्थित पार्टियां और दूसरा इंडिया गठबंधन के साथ जाने वाली पार्टियां। चुनावी प्रचार के दौरान दोनों गठबंधन अपने-अपने मुद्दों के साथ जनता के बीच गए। इंडिया गठबंधन के घटक दलों ने मोदी सरकार के गत 10 वर्षों के शासन काल को असफल बताते हुए कहा कि देश में बेरोजगारी और महंगाई चरम सीमा पर है। उन्होंने कहा संविधान खतरे में है। देश के प्रतिष्ठित संस्थानों का दुरुपयोग हो रहा है। दलित, शोषित, पीड़ित और वंचितों के अधिकार छीने जा रहे हैं वहीं सत्ता पक्ष और एनडीए दल के नेताओं जिनमें मुख्यतः नरेंद्र मोदी, जेपी नड्डा, अमित शाह, योगी आदित्यनाथ, नीतीश कुमार और चिराग पासवान ने चुनावी सभा में बताया कि देश प्रधानमंत्री मोदी के नेतृत्व में विकसित राष्ट्र की ओर कदम बढ़ा रहा है। उन्होंने कहा सरकार की योजनाएं जैसे उज्वला योजना, आयुष्मान योजना, किसान सम्मान निधि योजना, गरीब कल्याण अन्न योजना आदि के माध्यम से देश के हर व्यक्ति, परिवार व वर्गों को लाभ पहुंचाया जा रहा है। इस दौरान चुनावी सभा में कई बार सत्ता पक्ष और विपक्ष के नेताओं ने शब्दों की मर्यादा को भी लांघते नजर आए। अंततः 1 जून 2024 को 8 राज्यों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों के 57 सीटों पर मतदान के बाद 18वीं लोकसभा चुनाव सफलतापूर्वक संपन्न हुआ। मंगलवार 4 जून को चुनाव नतीजे आए जिसमें एनडीए गठबंधन ने 293 लोकसभा सीटें प्राप्त कर बहुमत का आंकड़ा पार कर लिया, हालांकि बीजेपी 63 सीटों के नुकसान के साथ 240 पर आ गई जबकि इंडिया गठबंधन 115 सीटों के छलांग के साथ 234 पर पहुंच गई जिसमें कांग्रेस की सीटें 52 से बढ़कर 99 हो गई।

**कीबर्ड:** लोकतंत्र, व्यक्तिगत गरिमा, ध्रुवीकरण, गठबंधन और आत्म निरीक्षण

### प्रस्तावना

भारत विविधताओं में एकता का देश है जहां अलग-अलग धर्म, संप्रदाय, जाति, हिंदू, मुस्लिम, सिख, ईसाई, बौद्ध, जैन, और पारसी आदि धर्म को मानने के साथ-साथ विभिन्न प्रकार की क्षेत्रीय भाषा, बोली, त्योहार और संस्कृति पाई जाती है। परिणामस्वरूप भारतीय संविधान निर्माताओं ने भारत में संसदीय लोकतंत्र को अपनाने का निर्णय लिया, ताकि सरकार के निर्माण में देश के प्रत्येक व्यक्ति की भागीदारी हो और सभी वर्ग तथा समुदाय का प्रतिनिधित्व हो, भारत के इस निर्णय से जहां पूरा विश्व आश्चर्यचकित था वहीं अनेक विद्वानों ने भारत की विविधताओं और जटिलताओं को देखते हुए कहा कि इतनी अनेकताओं वाले देश में लोकतंत्र की स्थापना और सफलता केवल कल्पना मात्र है। भारत ने इन सभी आलोचनाओं को

नजर अंदाज करते हुए 25 अक्टूबर 1951 से 21 फरवरी 1952 के बीच प्रथम आम चुनाव की सफलतापूर्वक पूर्ण होने की घोषणा की। इस आम चुनाव में 14 राष्ट्रीय पार्टियों के साथ-साथ 53 राज्य पार्टियों ने भाग लिया। कुल 489 सीटों के लिए मत डाले गए जिसमें से भारतीय राष्ट्रीय कांग्रेस को 45% मतों के साथ कुल 364 सीटों पर प्रचंड बहुमत प्राप्त हुआ इस चुनाव में भारतीय कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी 16 सीटें जीतकर मुख्य विपक्षी पार्टी के रूप में दूसरे स्थान पर रही। यह आम चुनाव केवल इसलिए ही ऐतिहासिक नहीं था कि इसने अपने आलोचकों के कथनों को असत्य सिद्ध किया बल्कि इसलिए ऐतिहासिक रहा कि विश्व की जनसंख्या का छठवाँ भाग लगभग 17.2 करोड़ मतदाताओं ने इसमें भाग लेकर भारत को दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा लोकतांत्रिक देश के रूप में स्थापित कर दिया।

प्रथम आम चुनाव से लेकर 18वीं आम चुनाव तक परिस्थितियों चाहे एक दलीय प्रभुत्व की रही हो, गठबंधन सरकार की या वर्तमान स्वरूप की, भारत में लोकतंत्र ने अपना पांव मजबूती से जमा रखा है। इस आलेख में भारत की 18वीं लोकसभा चुनाव का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन किया गया है जो भारतीय लोकतंत्र की सफलता और भारतीय लोकतंत्र की खूबसूरती की ओर हमारा ध्यान आकर्षित करता है। 16 मार्च, 2024 को मुख्य चुनाव आयुक्त राजीव कुमार शुक्ला ने मीडिया के समक्ष 18वीं लोकसभा चुनाव की घोषणा करते हुए, 18वीं लोकसभा चुनाव को कुल 7 चरणों में 19 अप्रैल से 1 जून तक मतदान समाप्त कराने तथा मंगलवार 4 जून को परिणाम घोषित करने का निर्णय सुनाया। चुनाव आयुक्त ने लोकसभा चुनाव के साथ-साथ आंध्र प्रदेश, उड़ीसा, सिक्किम और अरुणाचल प्रदेश में विधानसभा चुनाव की भी घोषणा की। श्रीकुमार ने मतदाताओं का आंकड़ा प्रस्तुत करते हुए कहा भारत में कुल 96.8 करोड़ पंजीकृत मतदाता हैं जिनमें से 49.72 करोड़ पुरुष और 47.1 करोड़ महिलाएं हैं उन्होंने नए मतदाताओं का आंकड़ा भी प्रस्तुत किया जिसमें कुल 1.82 करोड़ में से 85 लाख महिलाओं के होने की बात कही इस प्रकार चुनाव आयोग के घोषणा के बाद ही पूरे भारत वर्ष में 'आचार संहिता' लागू हो गया।

प्रथम चरण में 21 राज्यों की 102 संसदीय सीटों पर 19 अप्रैल को मतदान संपन्न कराया गया। इस दौरान गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने मतदाताओं से अपील करते हुए कहा कि "आपका वोट अमूल्य है और आपके प्रत्येक वोट में सुरक्षित, विकसित और आत्मनिर्भर भारत बनाने की शक्ति है" इसलिए अधिक से अधिक संख्या में घर से बाहर निकले और मतदान करें। दूसरी तरफ अखिलेश यादव, बसपा प्रमुख मायावती और कांग्रेस प्रमुख ने मतदाताओं से लोकतंत्र को सुदृढ़ बनाने के लिए मतदान करने का आवाहन किया। पत्रकारों द्वारा मतदाताओं से साक्षात्कार के दौरान युवा मतदाताओं ने जहां एक ओर विकास की सराहना की वहीं दूसरी ओर वे बेरोजगारी की भयावह स्थिति से चिंतित नजर आए। मतदाताओं की इस प्रकार के रुझानों और संकेतों को आंकना कठिन हो चुका था ऐसे में राजनीतिक दलों में घबराहट बनना लाजमी था। अंततः 19 अप्रैल, 2024 को शाम 7:00 बजे तक 63.89% मतदान होने की घोषणा चुनाव आयोग द्वारा किए जाने के बाद प्रथम चरण का चुनाव सफलतापूर्वक संपन्न हुआ। प्रथम चरण के मतदान में सत्ताधारी पार्टी एनडीए (नेशनल डेमोक्रेटिक एलाइंस) एक तरफ विकास के मुद्दों पर आगे बढ़ रही थी वहीं दूसरी तरफ विपक्षी पार्टियों ने मिलकर आई. एन. डी. आई. ए. (इंडियन नेशनल डेमोक्रेटिक इंकलूसिव एलाइंस) का निर्माण किया था, लोकतंत्र को बचाने के मुद्दे पर आगे बढ़ रही थी। दूसरे चरण में राजनीतिक दलों ने महिलाओं के मुद्दों पर अपना प्रचार अभियान केंद्रित किया, कारण प्रथम चरण में मतदान प्रतिशत का कम होना था। परिणामस्वरूप दूसरे चरण में

विक्रम दास

मतदान प्रतिशत में वृद्धि हुई परंतु 2019 में हुए प्रथम दो चरणों में हुए मतदान प्रतिशत से कम ही रहा। इसप्रकार कम मतदान प्रतिशत ने सत्ता पक्ष और विपक्ष दोनों की चिंताएं बढ़ा दी। सत्तापक्ष, विपक्ष पर निशाना साधते हुए कहा कि विपक्ष पहले ही हार स्वीकार कर चुके हैं। जबकि विपक्ष का कहना था कि जनता परिवर्तन के लिए आतुर है। मेरा बूथ सबसे मजबूत कहने वाले लोग एक-एक वोट के लिए तरस रहे हैं।

प्रथम दो चरणों के मतदान संपन्न होने के बाद तीसरा चरण जो 7 मई 2024 को 11 राज्यों की 93 सीटों पर होनी थी, से पहले चुनावी मुद्दे बदल चुके थे। एनडीए दल के नेताओं ने कांग्रेस द्वारा जारी किए गए न्याय पत्र की आलोचना शुरू कर दी। यद्यपि कांग्रेस ने 'न्याय पत्र' को सर्व-समावेशी कहा जिसमें उन्होंने हिस्सेदारी न्याय, युवाओं के लिए रोजगार, महिला सशक्तिकरण, किसानों के लिए न्याय, संवैधानिक न्याय, आर्थिक व सामाजिक न्याय आदि विषयों को कांग्रेस ने अपने 'न्याय पत्र' में शामिल किया था। एनडीए और उसके घटक दल ने इस न्याय पत्र को तुष्टिकरण की राजनीति से प्रेरित बताया और मतदाताओं के बीच इस मुद्दे को बढ़-चढ़कर उठाया उन्होंने कहा कांग्रेस देश को धर्म और जाति के नाम पर बांटना चाहती है इसलिए इस तरह का न्याय पत्र लेकर आई है। यहाँ हम भाजपा द्वारा जारी किए गए 'संकल्प पत्र' जिसे मोदी की गारंटी नाम दिया गया को नजरअंदाज नहीं कर सकते। इस संकल्प पत्र में जनता के लिए और विकसित भारत के लिए लगभग 29 विषयों को रखा गया जिनमें कुछ महत्वपूर्ण हैं- गरीब कल्याण योजना, नारी शक्ति बंधन अधिनियम, आयुष्मान योजना, किसान सम्मान निधि, लघु उद्योग को बढ़ावा, CAA लागू करना, समान नागरिक संहिता(UCC) लाना आदि विषयों को आगे बढ़ाना व नए विषयों पर काम करने का संकल्प पत्र जारी किया गया। भाजपा द्वारा जारी किए गए इस संकल्प पत्र को I.N.D.I.A. घटक के नेताओं ने धुवीकरण की राजनीति बताया इस प्रकार आरोप-प्रत्यारोप में कई नेता शब्दों की मर्यादा को लांगते नजर आए। इस बीच विपक्ष कई जीवंत मुद्दों को भुनाने में सफल हुई, जिसका यहां अति सूक्ष्मता से अध्ययन किया गया है: 'अग्निवीर' यह युवाओं के बीच एक अत्यंत जीवंत मुद्दा था जिस पर युवा वर्ग असमंजस की स्थिति में नजर आ रहे थे, विपक्ष ने इस मुद्दे को बड़ी प्रमुखता से उठाया, दूसरा मुद्दा भी युवाओं से जुड़ा हुआ था जिसमें देश के युवाओं पर बेरोजगारी की मार पड़ रही थी। तीसरा गंभीर मुद्दा पेपर लीक का था NEET और UGC (NET) जैसे प्रतिष्ठित परीक्षा का लीक होना युवाओं के लिए चिंता का विषय बन चुका था। इसके अलावा विपक्ष ने महंगाई, निजीकरण और किसान आंदोलन को जनता के समक्ष रखने का प्रयास किया। चुनावी सरगर्मी के बीच

उछला 'आरक्षण' के मुद्दों को विपक्ष ने इस भांति जनता के बीच पहुंचाया कि सत्ता पक्ष की जड़े हिल गई। हालांकि प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेंद्र मोदी जी ने मुद्दे को संभाला और कहा कि "स्वयं बाबा साहब भीमराव अंबेडकर भी प्रकट होकर आरक्षण को समाप्त करने को कहे तब पर भी आरक्षण समाप्त नहीं की जाएगी"। इसके साथ ही प्रधानमंत्री ने "इस बार 400 पार" के नारे को ऐसे बुलंद किया कि विपक्ष अपने मुद्दों को छोड़कर शेष चरणों के मतदान में "इस बार 400 पार" के नारे के इर्द-गिर्द घूमती नजर आई और अपने मुख्य आरोपों से परे इंडिया गठबंधन के नेता EVM पर सवाल उठाने लगे, चुनाव आयोग को संदेह की दृष्टि से देखने लगे, कभी धीमी मतदान कराने के आरोप लगाते दिखाई दिए तो कभी मतदाता सूची पर सवाल दागते रहे और उनके महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दे जैसे निजीकरण, किसान आंदोलन, इलेक्ट्रोरल बॉन्ड, संविधान और संस्थाओं के दुरुपयोग जैसे मुद्दे पीछे छूट गए।

आम चुनाव 2024 के सातवें चरण के लिए 1 जून 2024 को 8 राज्यों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों के 57 सीटों पर मतदान के बाद 18वीं लोकसभा चुनाव के सफलता पूर्वक समाप्त होने की घोषणा की गई। मुख्य चुनाव आयुक्त राजीव कुमार ने कहा कि भारत ने 2024 में लोकसभा चुनाव में विश्व रिकॉर्ड बनाते हुए 31.2 करोड़ महिलाओं सहित 64.2 करोड़ मतदाताओं ने भाग लिया। चुनाव आयोग ने लोकसभा चुनाव 2024 में कुल वोटिंग का आंकड़ा जारी किया जिसके अनुसार कुल 65.79% मतदान दर्ज किया गया। 18वीं लोकसभा चुनाव 2024 के परिणाम 4 जून 2024 को घोषित किए गए। चुनाव परिणाम ने सत्तापक्ष और विपक्ष दोनों को आश्चर्यचकित कर दिया, परिणाम सभी के लिए आशा और उम्मीद के विपरीत रहा। भाजपा के "चार सौ पार" के नारे को बहुत बड़ा झटका लगा वहीं इंडिया गठबंधन का भी सत्ता में आने का सपना पूरा नहीं हो सका परंतु 2019 के 17वीं लोकसभा चुनाव के तुलना में इंडिया गठबंधन को 115 सीटों के सुधार के साथ कुल 234 सीटें प्राप्त हुई जिसमें समाजवादी पार्टी (SP) को 37 सीटें, तृण मूल कांग्रेस (TMC) को 29 सीटें, द्रविड़ मुनेत्र कडगम (DMK) को 21 सीटों का सहयोग रहा। गठबंधन की सबसे बड़ी पार्टी कांग्रेस ने 99 सीटों पर जीत हासिल की। अगर इंडिया एलायंस के घटक दलों के वोट शेयर की बात करें तो लगभग गठबंधन के सभी पार्टियों को लाभ मिला। एलायंस के सबसे बड़े घटक दल कांग्रेस ने 2019 के लोकसभा चुनाव में 19.49% वोट शेयर के साथ सिर्फ 52 सीटों पर जीत हासिल की थी इस बार कांग्रेस पार्टी को 21.19% वोट मिले अर्थात् 1.70% की वृद्धि हुआ और सीटों का नंबर 52 से सीधा 99 पहुंच गया। दूसरी तरफ बीजेपी और एनडीए गठबंधन को बहुत बड़ा नुकसान होता हुआ दिखाई दिया। 2019 के चुनाव में एनडीए को 360 सीटें प्राप्त हुई थी वहीं 2024 में 67 सीटों के नुकसान के साथ केवल 293 सीटें ही प्राप्त कर सकी। गठबंधन में बीजेपी को 240 सीटों से ही संतोष करना पड़ा। बीजेपी को 2019 के मुकाबले में पार्टी के वोट शेयर में मामूली गिरावट देखने को

मिली पिछले चुनाव में जहां बीजेपी को 37.7% वोट मिले थे वहीं इस बार 36.56 फ्रीसदी वोट मिले, वोट प्रतिशत में भले ही यह गिरावट कम हो लेकिन इसी कारण बीजेपी की सीटें 303 से घटकर 240 हो गई, हालांकि एनडीए गठबंधन को पूर्ण बहुमत प्राप्त हो गया जिसमें तेलुगू देशम पार्टी (TDP) की 16 सीटें, जनता दल यूनाइटेड (JDU) की 12 सीटें और लोक जनशक्ति पार्टी (LJP) की पांच सीटों की मुख्य भूमिका रही। नरेंद्र मोदी ने एनडीए की इस जीत को ऐतिहासिक और अद्वितीय बताते हुए पार्टी, सहयोगी दल और कार्यकर्ताओं के मेहनत की सराहना की और एनडीए की सरकार बनने का आश्वासन दिया, जबकि कांग्रेस पार्टी के अध्यक्ष मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे ने कहा कि चुनाव मोदी के लिए नैतिक और राजनीतिक हार है तथा लोकतंत्र और जनता की जीत है। विपक्ष के हाथ मजबूत बनाकर जनता ने मोदी सरकार को चेतावनी दे दी है। इस बीच 5 जून को एनडीए के घटक दलों का बैठक बुलाया गया जिसमें नरेंद्र मोदी को औपचारिक रूप से फिर से प्रधानमंत्री बनने का समर्थन किया गया। 7 जून को उन्हें बहुमत दल के नेता के रूप में चुना गया और 9 जून को शपथ ग्रहण समारोह का आयोजन किया गया जिसमें राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मु के द्वारा उन्हें प्रधानमंत्री पद का शपथ दिलाया गया। इस प्रकार नरेंद्र मोदी, पंडित जवाहरलाल लाल नेहरू के बाद लगातार तीन बार प्रधानमंत्री पद पर आसीन होने वाले देश के दूसरे प्रधानमंत्री बने। दो अतिरिक्त निर्दलीय विधायक पप्पू यादव और विशाल पाटिल के शामिल होने के साथ विपक्षी गठबंधन की संख्या प्रभावी रूप से 236 हो गई 8 जून को कांग्रेस पार्टी के नेतृत्व ने सर्वसम्मति से राहुल गांधी को विपक्ष का नेता बनने के लिए नामित किया। यह पद 2014 से खाली था। उन्होंने औपचारिक रूप से 25 जून को पद भार संभाला।

### निष्कर्ष

शासन की एक ऐसी व्यवस्था जो लोगों के द्वारा बनाई गई हो तथा लोगों के हित में हो लोकतांत्रिक व्यवस्था कहलाती है। लोकतंत्र का अर्थ केवल लोगों का शासन मात्रा नहीं है, बल्कि लोकतंत्र लोगों के लिए वह हथियार है, जिसका प्रयोग रूढ़िवाद, सामंतवाद और निरंकुशवाद के विरुद्ध बिना हिंसा के किये जा सकने वाला कार्यवाही है। राष्ट्रीय व अंतरराष्ट्रीय शांति के लिए लोकतंत्र की स्थापना व विकास अनिवार्य है, यहां ध्यान देने योग्य विषय यह है कि जनता की राजनीति में सक्रिय भागीदारी से लोकतंत्र का विकास हो सकता है ना कि केवल मतदान करने से यदि इसे मतदान तक सीमित रखा जाता है तब रूसो के कथन सत्य सिद्ध हो जाते हैं कि "इंग्लैंड के लोग 5 वर्षों में एक बार स्वतंत्र होते हैं"। भारत के मतदाता चुनाव को एक उत्सव के रूप में मानाते हैं। वे चुनाव के दौरान हर गली, चौराहे, बस, ट्रेन, दुकान और कार्यालय आदि स्थानों पर चुनावी बातें करते हुए नजर आते हैं, इसके अलावा समाचार, अखबार, पत्रिका व सोशल मीडिया के माध्यम से राजनीतिक

क्रियाकलाप में सक्रिय भागीदारी निभाते हैं। भारत के चुनाव आयोग जनता की राजनीतिक भागीदारी को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए देश के प्रतिष्ठित व्यक्तियों जैसे सचिन तेंदुलकर, आमिर खान, आयुष्मान खुराना, मैथिली ठाकुर आदि को वोटरो को जागरूक करने की जिम्मेदारी सौंपते हैं। भारत में हुए 18वीं लोकसभा चुनाव का उत्सव भी इसी प्रकार रहा परंतु वोटिंग प्रतिशत में कमी एक चिंता का विषय बना, जिसका मुख्य कारण चुनाव आयोग ने तेज धूप, लू और अत्यधिक गर्मी को बताया और भविष्य में व्यवस्था में सुधार लाने का आश्वासन दिया। भारत के लोकतंत्र को और अधिक सुदृढ़ तथा मजबूत बनाने की आवश्यकता है। निर्वाचन आयोग को और अधिक मजबूत बनाने तथा संसाधनों से परिपूर्ण करने की जरूरत है। राजनीतिक दलों के नेताओं के द्वारा अमर्यादित भाषा, धार्मिक विभाजन, तुष्टिकरण की नीति, धनबल व बाहुबल का प्रयोग तथा कभी ना पूरे किए जा सकने वाले वायदे पर नियंत्रण के उपाय ढूंढने की जरूरत है। भारत में 18वीं लोकसभा चुनाव के परिणाम भी राजनीतिक दलों को अपनी-अपनी विचारधारा, चुनावी रणनीति और कार्य प्रणाली के प्रति आत्म-निरीक्षण, चिंतन व आत्ममंथन करने को मजबूर करती है।

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## शेतमजूर स्त्रियांचे प्रश्न : एक दृष्टीक्षेप

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### सारांश:

भारतामध्ये शेती हा आजही उपजीविकेचा प्रमुख स्रोत असून ग्रामीण भागातील 70% कुटुंब शेतीवर अवलंबून आहेत. क्षेत्रातस्त्री शेतमजुरांचे महत्त्वपूर्ण योगदान असूनही त्यांना दुर्लक्षित केले जाते. पेरणी, निंदण, कापणी, मळणी यांसारख्या महत्त्वाच्या शेती कामांत सहभागी असूनही त्यांना कमी वेतन, असमान कामाचे विभाजन, कायदेशीर संरक्षणाचा अभाव, हिंसाचार, दुहेरी कामाचे ओझे, स्थलांतरन आणि शिक्षण व आरोग्य विषयक समस्यांचा सामना करावा लागतो. जात, वर्ग, आणि पितृसत्ताक व्यवस्थेमुळे त्यांचे शोषण अधिक तीव्र स्वरूपाचे होते. या संशोधन निबंधात स्त्री शेतमजुरांच्या सामाजिक, आर्थिक, सांस्कृतिक आणि लिंगभेदात्मक समस्यांचा अभ्यास करण्यात आला आहे. शासकीय- निमशासकीय अहवाल, संशोधन पत्रिका, जनगणना अहवाल यांसारख्या दुय्यम स्रोतांचा आधार घेत त्यांची सद्यस्थिती आणि आव्हाने समजून घेण्यात आली आहेत. या समस्यांच्या सोडवणुकीसाठी लिंगभाव समानता, शिक्षण व कौशल्य प्रशिक्षण, कृषी कर्ज, आरोग्य सेवा, समान वेतन, महिला बचत गट, आणि पोषण यांसारख्या धोरणात्मक उपायांची शिफारस करण्यात आली आहे. तसेच त्यांच्या विकासासाठी सामाजिक सुरक्षा योजना व कामगार अंमलबजावणी यावर भर देण्यात आला आहे. या संशोधनाचा उद्देश स्त्री शेतमजुरांच्या समस्या उजेडात आणून त्यांना सशक्त आणि स्वावलंबी बनवण्यासाठी उपाय योजना सुचवणे होय.

**Keywords:** लिंगभाव समानता, शेतमजूर स्त्रिया, दुहेरी काम, असमान वेतन)

### प्रस्तावना :

भारतात आजही शेती आणि शेतीशी निगडित व्यवसाय उपजीविकेचा सर्वात मोठा स्रोत आहे. ग्रामीण भागातील 70 टक्के कुटुंब अजूनही त्यांच्या उदरनिर्वाहासाठी प्रामुख्याने शेतीवर अवलंबून आहेत. शेती व्यवसायामध्ये काम करणारे कामगार हे असंघटीत क्षेत्रात मोडतात. त्यातीलच शेतीवर मजुरी करणाऱ्या स्त्रिया या दुर्लक्षित घटक आहेत. त्या ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्थेचा एक महत्त्वाचा भाग असल्या तरी त्यांच्या मुलभूत गरजा देखील पूर्ण होत नाहीत हे वास्तव आहे. दुष्काळग्रस्त भौगोलिक प्रदेश, आर्थिक अस्थिरता, पायाभूत सुविधांचा अभाव आणि पितृसत्ताक व्यवस्था यामुळे शेतमजूर स्त्रियांचे प्रश्न अधिक तीव्र स्वरूपाचे दिसून येतात. त्यांच्या समस्यांचा अभ्यास करताना सामाजिक, आर्थिक, सांस्कृतिक आणि लिंगभेदात्मक पैलूंचा वेध घेणे आवश्यक ठरते. या संशोधन निबंधात शेतमजूर स्त्रियांच्या समस्यांचा अभ्यास करून त्यांच्या उन्नतीसाठी उपाययोजना सुचविण्याचा प्रयत्न करण्यात आलेला आहे.

### संशोधनाचा उद्देश :

1) शेतमजूर स्त्रियांना भेडसावणाऱ्या समस्यांचे अध्ययन करणे.

2) शेतमजूर स्त्रियांच्या विकासासाठी उपाययोजना सुचविणे.

### संशोधन पद्धती :

प्रस्तुत शेतमजूर स्त्रियांना समस्यावरील संशोधन निबंधाकरिता दुय्यम स्रोतांचा आधार घेण्यात आलेला असून त्यामध्ये शासकीय आणि निम-शासकीय संस्थांचे अहवाल, संशोधन पत्रिका, पुस्तके, जनगणना अहवाल यांचा समावेश करण्यात आला आहे.

### शेतमजूर स्त्रियांचे स्थान :

शेतमजूर स्त्रियां म्हणजे 'ज्या शेती कामांमध्ये सक्रियपणे सहभागी असतात, जसे की शेतकरी किंवा मजूर, बहुतांशवेळा त्या भूमिहीन असतात. त्यांच्या भूमिकांमध्ये पेरणी, निंदण, रोप लावणे, कापणी, मळणी आणि इतर संबंधित शेती विषयक कामांचा समावेश होतो.' या स्त्रिया शेती क्षेत्रातील महत्त्वपूर्ण घटक असून, अन्न उत्पादनात मोठा वाटा उचलतात. तरीही, त्यांना दुहेरी काम, कमी वेतन, सामाजिक सुरक्षिततेचा अभाव आणि लिंगभेदाच्या समस्यांना सामोरे जावे लागते. त्यांच्या शेती विषयक कामातील महत्त्वपूर्ण योगदानानंतरही त्यांना प्रतिकूल परिस्थितीत काम करावे लागते, जसे की कमी वेतन, हंगामी

रोजगार आणि नोकरीची असुरक्षा, जमीन मालकी नसणे, आर्थिक संसाधने आणि निर्णय प्रक्रियेमध्ये सहभागी न करून घेणे इत्यादी, जात आणि वर्ग व्यवस्थेकडून होणारे शोषण

त्याची स्थिती अधिक विकट करते, ज्यामुळे गरीबी आणि उपेक्षा या न संपणाऱ्या चक्रात त्या अडकतात. परिमाणी त्या अधिक दुर्लक्षित ठरतात.

### तक्ता क्र. : 01

भारतातील एकूण (शहरी आणि ग्रामीण) कामगारांपैकी शेती करणारे व शेतमजूर यांचे प्रमाण (टक्केवारीत)

जनगणना अहवाल	एकूण कामगारांपैकी शेती करणाऱ्या कामगारांचे प्रमाण			एकूण कामगारांपैकी शेतमजुरी करणाऱ्या कामगारांचे प्रमाण			शेती आणि शेतमजुरी करणाऱ्या कामगारांचे एकूण प्रमाण		
	एकूण	पुरुष	स्त्रिया	एकूण	पुरुष	स्त्रिया	एकूण	पुरुष	स्त्रिया
2001	31.65	31.06	32.93	26.55	20.85	38.87	58.2	51.91	71.08
2011	24.65	24.93	24.04	29.95	24.93	41.07	54.6	49.86	65.11

स्रोत: जनगणना अहवाल 2001 व 2011.

उपरोक्त तक्ता क्र.01 मध्ये जनगणना अहवाल 2001 व 2011 मधील शेती व शेतमजुरी करणाऱ्या स्त्रियांचे प्रमाण दिले आहे. भारतीय जनगणना अहवाल

2011 नुसार शहरी आणि ग्रामीण भागात शेती आणि शेतमजुरी करणाऱ्या स्त्रियांचे प्रमाण एकूण कामगारांच्या तुलनेत 54.06 टक्के राहले आहे.

### तक्ता क्र.02

(फक्त ग्रामीण भागातील एकूण कामगारांच्या तुलनेत शेती आणि शेतमजुरी करणाऱ्या कामगारांचा तपशील)

जनगणना अहवाल	एकूण कामगारांपैकी शेती करणाऱ्या कामगारांचे प्रमाण			एकूण कामगारांपैकी शेतमजुरी करणाऱ्या कामगारांचे प्रमाण			शेती आणि शेतमजुरी करणाऱ्या कामगारांचे एकूण प्रमाण		
	एकूण	पुरुष	स्त्रिया	एकूण	पुरुष	स्त्रिया	एकूण	पुरुष	स्त्रिया
2001	40.24	41.98	37.12	33.05	27.51	42.95	73.28	69.49	80.07
2011	33.00	35.22	28.87	39.28	34.36	48.45	72.28	69.58	77.32

स्रोत: जनगणना अहवाल 2001 व 2011.

उपरोक्त तक्ता क्र. 02 नुसार फक्त ग्रामीण भागातील एकूण कामगारांच्या तुलनेत स्त्री मजुरांचा विचार करता, त्यांचे प्रमाण जनगणना अहवाल 2001 नुसार 42.98 टक्के तर 2011 नुसार 48.45 टक्के इतके आहे. यामध्येच शेती आणि शेतमजुरी करणाऱ्या स्त्रियांचे एकूण प्रमाण 2001 नुसार 73.28 टक्के तर 2011 नुसार 72.28 टक्के इतके आहे. यावरून शेती विषयक कामांमध्ये स्त्रियांच्या मोठ्या प्रमाणात असलेल्या सहभागाची प्रचिती येते.

#### शेतमजूर स्त्रियांसमोरील समस्या आणि आव्हाने :

इतर कामगारांच्या तुलनेत शेतमजूर स्त्रिया या अधिक दुर्लक्षित घटक असून जात-वर्ग-लिंगभाव या त्रिस्तरीय शोषण व्यवस्थांच्या बळी आहेत. त्यांचे एकंदरीत आयुष्य दारिद्र्य आणि असमानतेने व्यापले असून त्यांच्या काही प्रमुख समस्या खालीलप्रमाणे आहेत.

#### 1. असमान कामाचे विभागणी :

शेतमजूर स्त्रियांची मुख्य समस्या म्हणजे कामाची लिंगभावानुसार विभागणी होय. शेती हे एक श्रमप्रधान क्षेत्र आहे, परंतु ते परंपरागतपणे पितृसत्ताकतेने व्यापलेले दिसते. लिंगभावात्मक श्रमविभाजनामुळे पुरुषांना जास्त तांत्रिक, धोरणात्मक किंवा उच्च दर्जाचे काम (जसे की जनावरांची

देखरेख, यंत्र वापरणे किंवा पीक व्यवस्थापनाच्या निर्णयात भाग घेणे) दिले जाते. त्याउलट, स्त्रियांना कमी दर्जाचे, शारीरिकदृष्ट्या जास्त कष्टदायक काम जसे की शेतात तण काढणे, रोपे लावणे, पिक गोळा करणे ही कामे दिली जातात. कामाच्या अश्या विभागणीमुळे स्त्रियांच्या श्रमाची किंमत कमी होऊन ते दुय्यम मानल्या जाते.

#### 2. असमान वेतन आणि आर्थिक शोषण:

असमान वेतन ही शेती विषयक कामातील एक गंभीर आणि सगळीकडे अस्तित्वात असलेली समस्या आहे. स्त्रियांचे योगदान शेतीच्या उत्पादनात महत्त्वाचे असले तरी त्यांचे काम नेहमीच कमी मूल्य असलेले मानले जाते. परिणामी, स्त्रियांना पुरुषांच्या तुलनेत खूप कमी वेतन किंवा मजुरी दिली जाते. त्यांचे काम अतिरिक्त अतिरिक्त ठरविले जाते. त्यामुळे त्यांच्या मजुरीतही भेद केला जातो. ही वेतनातील दरी केवळ फक्त आर्थिक समस्या नसून एक सामाजिक समस्या आहे, जी स्त्रियांविषयीच्या आर्थिक उपेक्षेला आणि असमानतेला दर्शवते. स्त्रियांच्या जमीन मालकी आणि आर्थिक साधनांवर हक्क नसल्यामुळे, त्या शोषणात्मक वेतनावर अवलंबून राहतात.

### 3. कायदेशीर संरक्षणाचा अभाव :

स्त्री शेतमजुरांना कामगार म्हणून मूलभूत कायदेशीर संरक्षण मिळत नाही. शेतीतील कामगार, सामान्यतः, कामगार कायद्यांपासून वगळले जातात. उदाहरणार्थ, स्त्री शेतमजुरांना गर्भवती रजा, आजारपणातील रजा किंवा सुरक्षित कामाचे ठिकाण अश्या कायदेशीर संरक्षणांपासून वंचित ठेवले जाते. परिणामी त्याचे शोषण होण्याचे प्रमाण अधिक वाढते त्या संभाव्य पिडीत बनतात. शेत मजूर स्त्रिया असंघटीत क्षेत्रात मोडत असल्यामुळे त्यांच्या कामगार संघटना नसतात परिणामी त्या आपल्या हक्कासाठी आवाज उठवू शकत नाहीत.

### 4. लैंगिक छळ आणि लिंगआधारित हिंसा :

लैंगिक छळ आणि लिंग आधारित हिंसा स्त्री शेतमजुरांसाठी एक मोठे आव्हान आहे. कामाच्या ठिकाणी पुरुष आणि स्त्री यांच्यातील उच्च-नीच संबंधामुळे स्त्रियांना हिंसाचाराला सामोरे जातात. या हिंसाचाराचे स्वरूप आर्थिक, मानसिक, शाब्दिक असू शकते. या हिंसेद्वारे पुरुष स्त्रियांचे शरीर आणि श्रमावर नियंत्रण ठेवतो. स्त्री शेतमजुरांमध्ये, विशेषतः ज्या स्त्रियांचा रोजगार अस्थायी आहे किंवा त्या स्थलांतर करतात त्यांना अधिक अत्याचार सहन करावे लागतात. त्या विरोधात तक्रार केली तर बदनामी आणि रोजगार गमावण्याची भीती त्यांना असते.

### 5. दुहेरी कामाचे ओझे :

शेतमजुरांवर शेतीमधील कामासोबतच घरकामाचा देखील मोठा भार असतो. स्त्री म्हणून घरकाम हे नैसर्गिक आहे असे भासविले जाते. ज्यामध्ये स्वयंपाक, स्वच्छता, मुलांची देखरेख आणि वयोवृद्धांचे पालन इत्यादींचा समावेश होतो. ग्रामीण भागात दुष्काळी काळात कित्येक मैल पैदल चालून पाणी गोळा करण्याचे काम देखील स्त्रिया करतात. शेतीवरील काम आणि घरकाम या दुहेरी कष्टामुळे स्त्रियांना विश्रांती, वैयक्तिक विकास किंवा सार्वजनिक जीवनात भाग घेण्याचा असंत मिळत नाही. दुहेरी कामाच्या ओझ्यामुळे त्यांना अनेक आजारांना सामोरे जावे लागते.

### 6. स्थलांतरण आणि अस्थायी रोजगार :

अनेक शेत मजूर रोजगाराच्या शोधात स्थलांतरण करतात उदा. असतोड कामगार होय. स्थलांतरण करणाऱ्या स्त्री शेतमजुरांना खूप प्रतिकूल परिस्थितीमध्ये काम करावे लागते आणि त्यात त्यांच्या शोषणाचा धोका वाढतो. या दरम्यान रोजगार मिळवून देणारा ठेकेदार आणि मध्यस्थी व्यक्ती त्यांचे आर्थिक शोषण करतो. हंगामी किंवा अस्थायी रोजगारामुळे दारिद्र्य कायम तसेच राहते, कधी हाताला काम आहे कधी नाही या स्थितीमुळे मुलभूत गरजांचा प्रश्न

देखील सुटत नाही. परिणामी मुलांचे शिक्षण, आरोग्य आणि इतर गरजा अपूर्ण राहतात.

### 7. शिक्षण व आरोग्यविषयक समस्या :

भारतात सामाजिक आणि सांस्कृतिक व्यवस्था पितृसत्ताक आहे. या पितृसत्ताक मानसिकतेमुळे स्त्रियांना घरगुती आणि कामाच्या ठिकाणी दुय्यम वागणूक दिली जाते. शारीरिक शोषण आणि मानसिक त्रास यांमुळे त्यांचे जीवन अधिक अवघड होते. शेतमजूर स्त्रियांमध्ये साक्षरतेचा दर खूपच कमी आहे. शिक्षणाच्या अभावामुळे त्यांना त्यांच्या हक्कांची जाणीव नसते. पोषणाचा अभाव, अधिक कष्टाचे आणि दुहेरी काम, आणि आरोग्य सेवांचा उपभोग घेण्यावरील मर्यादा यामुळे महिलांचे आरोग्य दिवसेंदिवस खालावत जाते. कुपोषण, मातामृत्यू, रक्तक्षय, आणि सांधेदुखी यांसारख्या आरोग्यविषयक समस्यांचा त्यांना सामना करावा लागतो.

### धोरणात्मक उपाययोजना :

शेतमजूर स्त्रियांसाठी धोरणात्मक उपाय योजना किंवा निर्णय घेतांना विविध सामाजिक, आर्थिक आणि शेतकी घटकांचा विचार करून निर्णय घेतले जाणे अत्यावश्यक आहे. शेतमजूर स्त्रिया ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्थेच्या महत्त्वाच्या घटक आहेत म्हणून त्यांच्याविषयीचे धोरणात्मक निर्णय हे त्यांचे जीवनमान सुधारण्यासाठी, शेतकी उत्पादनात सहभाग वाढवण्यासाठी आणि सामाजिक व आर्थिक सक्षमीकरणाच्या दिशेने व्हायला हवेत. स्त्री शेतमजुरांच्या विकासासाठी खालील काही धोरणात्मक निर्णयांचा आणि उपाय योजनांचा अवलंब करता येऊ शकतो.

1. **लिंगभाव समानतेचे मूल्य रुजविणे:** स्त्रियांचे दुय्यमत्व नष्ट करून स्त्री-पुरुष समानतेवर आधारित समाज व्यवस्थेच्या निर्मितीकरिता लिंगभाव समानतेचे मूल्य रुजविणे आवश्यक आहे. ही प्रक्रिया कुटुंब, शाळा, पाठ्यपुस्तके इत्यादी मधून राबविणे शक्य आहे. स्त्रियांसंबंधी असलेल्या विषमप्रथा, परंपरा, चालीरीती नष्ट करून त्या जागी लिंगभाव समानतेवर आधारित समाज निर्माण करण्यासाठी प्रयत्न करणे.
2. **शैक्षणिक व कौशल्य प्रशिक्षण:** सामान्यतः शेतमजूर स्त्रिया या अल्पशिक्षित किंवा अशिक्षित असतात. त्यामुळे त्यांना शेतीसाठी आवश्यक असलेले तंत्रज्ञान, शेतकी कौशल्ये, व अन्नपदार्थ उत्पादनातील नवीन तंत्रज्ञान शिकवण्यासाठी प्रशिक्षण शिबिरे आयोजित केली पाहिजेत. यामुळे त्यांच्या उत्पादन क्षमता वाढेल.
3. **कृषी कर्ज व सहाय्य:** शेतमजूर स्त्रियांना कृषी कर्ज मिळवण्यासाठी योग्य सुविधा उपलब्ध करणे महत्त्वाचे आहे. त्यांना कर्ज घेण्यासाठी ओळखपत्र, बँकेसाठी पुरेसे कागदपत्र, गॅरंटी व इतर कठोर अटींचा सामना करावा

लागतो. हे टाळण्यासाठी विशेष कर्ज योजना तयार करून, ज्यात सुलभ प्रक्रियांसह कर्ज मिळवता येईल, अशी व्यवस्था करणे.

4. **स्वास्थ्य व सुरक्षितता:** शेतमजूर स्त्रियांना दुहेरी कामामुळे अनेक आरोग्य विषयक समस्यांचा सामना करावा लागतो. त्यांना सुरक्षित कामाचे वातावरण, आरोग्य सेवा, सुरक्षितता प्रशिक्षण व आरोग्य विमा योजनांची आवश्यकता आहे. सोबतच त्यांच्यावरील दुहेरी कामाचे ओझे कमी करण्यासाठी लिंगभावात्मक भूमिकांची पुर्नरचना करणे आवश्यक असून घरकाम ही संकल्पना फक्त स्त्रियांशी निगडित नसून पुरुषांचा घरकामातील सहभाग वाढविण्यासाठी प्रयत्न करणे आवश्यक आहे.
5. **मजुरी व वेतनवाढ:** शेतमजूर स्त्रियांसाठी मजुरी आणि वेतनमान योग्य असावे. त्यांना पुरुष शेतमजूरांच्या तुलनेत कमी वेतन दिले जाते. समान कामासाठी समान वेतन, तसेच किमान वेतन ठरवण्यासाठी धोरणात्मक निर्णय घेणे आवश्यक आहे. हे स्त्रियांच्या आर्थिक सक्षमीकरणात मदत करेल. स्त्रियांना पुरुषांच्या तुलनेत समान मजुरी मिळावी, यासाठी कडक कायदे करणे व अस्तित्वात असलेल्या कायद्यांची प्रभावी अंमलबजावणी करणे हे देखील आवश्यक आहे.
6. **महिला बचत गट (SHGs):** शेतमजूर स्त्रियांसाठी महिला बचत गट (Self-Help Groups - SHGs) तयार करणे आणि त्यांना प्रोत्साहित करणे. यामुळे स्त्रियांना आर्थिक स्वावलंबन मिळवता येईल, तसेच त्यांचा सामाजिक व आर्थिक दर्जा सुधारेल.
7. **अन्न सुरक्षा व पोषण:** स्त्रियांच्या पोषण स्थितीचे आरोग्यावर तसेच त्यांच्या कार्यक्षमतेवर मोठे परिणाम होतात. म्हणून शेतमजूर स्त्रियांसाठी अन्न सुरक्षा योजना लागू करणे आणि त्यांना पोषणासाठी आवश्यक असलेली मदत प्रदान करणे.

या धोरणात्मक निर्णयांद्वारे शेतमजूर स्त्रियांना अधिक सक्षमीकरण, जीवनमान सुधारणा, आणि ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्थेत अधिक महत्त्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभावण्यासाठी संधी मिळू शकतात.

#### समारोप :

शेतमजूर स्त्रियांच्या समस्यांचा अभ्यास केल्यावर असे दिसून येते की, त्यांची स्थिती सुधारण्यासाठी समग्र दृष्टिकोन आवश्यक आहे. केवळ आर्थिकच नाही, तर सामाजिक आणि सांस्कृतिक स्तरांवरही सकारात्मक बदल होणे गरजेचे आहे. शेतमजूर स्त्रियांच्या विकासासाठी आणि त्यांचे अस्थायी रोजगारावरील अवलंबित्व कमी करून त्यांना सातत्यपूर्ण उत्पन्नाचा स्रोत देण्यासाठी योग्य शिक्षण आणि कौशल्य विकासाच्या योजना राबविल्या पाहिजेत. स्त्रियांना स्वयंरोजगाराच्या संधी उपलब्ध करून दिल्यास त्यांचे आर्थिक स्वावलंबन वाढेल. असंघटीत क्षेत्रातील

प्रा. मंगेश भुताडे

मजुरांना कामगार कायद्याच्या कक्षात आणले जावे. त्यांच्यासाठी सामाजिक सुरक्षा योजना जसे कि, आरोग्य विमा, वृद्धापकाळ पेन्शन आणि बालसंगोपन यांसारख्या सुविधांचा विस्तार करण्यात यावा. महिला संघटनांचा विकास आणि त्यांचे संघटन व्हावे यासाठी त्यांना एकत्रित करून त्यांच्या हक्कांसाठी आवाज उठविण्यास प्रवृत्त करणे गरजेचे आहे. याद्वारे त्यांचे अवलंबित्व, शोषण आणि दारिद्र्य कमी होऊन त्यांना हक्क आधारित आयुष्य व्यतीत करता येईल.

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ತಮ್ಮದೆ ಆದ ಸಾಂಸ್ಕೃತಿಕ ಚೌಕಟ್ಟನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಿಕೊಂಡ ಜನಪದರು ಕೆಲ ಧಾರ್ಮಿಕ, ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಮೌಲ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಕಟ್ಟುನಿಟ್ಟಾಗಿ ಪಾಲಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಬಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಅವುಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಯಮ, ನಿರ್ಬಂಧ, ಕಟ್ಟಳೆ, ಕಟ್ಟಾಜ್ಞೆ ಮೊದಲಾದ ಹೆಸರುಗಳಿಂದ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ನಿಯಮ ಅಥವಾ ನಿಷೇಧಗಳು ಜನಪದರ ನಿತ್ಯ ಜೀವನದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾನೂನುಗಳಂತೆ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತವೆ. ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಷೇಧಗಳನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸಿದವರಿಗೆ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆ ನೀಡುವ ಮತ್ತು ಬಹಿಷ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಕ್ರಮ ಉಂಟು. ಹೀಗೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಒಂದು ಜನಸಮುದಾಯ ಅಥವಾ ಇಂದು ಪ್ರದೇಶದ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಮೌಲ್ಯವನ್ನು ಕಾಪಾಡುವಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಷೇಧಗಳು ಮಹತ್ವದ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ವಹಿಸುತ್ತವೆ. ವ್ಯಷ್ಟಿಯಿಂದ ರೂಪಗೊಂಡರು ಸಮಷ್ಟಿ ಹಿತದಂತೆ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಮೌಲ್ಯವನ್ನು ಕಾಪಾಡುವುದರ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಧಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾಂಸ್ಕೃತಿಕ ಮೌಲ್ಯವನ್ನು ಕಾಪಾಡುವುದು ಅಗತ್ಯವಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಈ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಧಿ ನಿಷೇಧಗಳು ಇಂದಿಗೂ ಜನಪದರಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾನೂನಿನ ಮಹತ್ವವನ್ನು ಪಡೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಪಾರಂಪರಿಕ ಜ್ಞಾನದಂತೆ ಮೌಖಿಕವಾಗಿಯೇ ಮುನ್ನಡೆಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಬಂದಿರುವುದನ್ನು ಗಮನಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಜನಪದರ ಜೀವನದಲ್ಲಿ ನಂಬಿಕೆ, ಆಚರಣೆ, ಪದ್ಧತಿ, ಸಂಪ್ರದಾಯ, ವಿಧಿನಿಷೇಧಗಳು ಪರಸ್ಪರ ಸೋದರ ಸಂಬಂಧವುಳ್ಳ ಬಗೆಗಳಾಗಿವೆ. ಇವುಜನಪದರ ಬದುಕಿನೊಂದಿಗೆ ಬೆಸೆದುಕೊಂಡುಬಂದಿವೆ. ನಂಬಿಕೆಯು ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಯ ಒಂದು ಬಗೆಯ ಸಂಪ್ರದಾಯ. ವಿಧಿನಿಷೇಧಗಳು ನಂಬಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡಂತೆ ಒಂದೊಂದು ಪ್ರದೇಶದ ಒಂದೊಂದು ಸಮುದಾಯದ ಉಡುಗೆ ತೊಡುಗೆ ಊಟೋಪಚಾರಗಳಮೇಲೆ ತನ್ನದೆಯಾದ ಹಿಡಿತವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿ ಮುನ್ನಡಿಸುತ್ತವೆ ಎನ್ನಬೇಕು.

ಇಂಗ್ಲಿಷ್ ಭಾಷೆಯ Taboo ಶಬ್ದ ಮತ್ತು ಪಾಲಿನೀಷ್‌ನ Tapu ಎಂಬುದರಿಂದ ನಿಷೇಧ ಎಂಬ ಶಬ್ದ ಬಂದಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಸುನಂದ ಎಮ್ ಅವರ ವಿಧಿನಿಷೇಧಗಳು ಮತ್ತು 'ಲಿಂಗವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ' ಎಂಬ ಗ್ರಂಥದಲ್ಲಿ ಇ ಪದವನ್ನು "ಟಾಂಗಾ ಚಾಲಕನೊಬ್ಬನ ಬಾಯಿಂದ ಕೇಳಿದ ಟಪು ಎಂಬ ಶಬ್ದವನ್ನು ಕ್ಯಾಪ್ಟನ್ ಕುಕ್ ೧೭೭೦ರಲ್ಲಿ ಬಳಕೆಗೆ ತಂದನೆಂದು ಆಂಗ್ಲ ಭಾಷೆಯ ಈ ಶಬ್ದವು ಜಗತ್ತಿನಾದ್ಯಂತ ಬಳಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬಂದಿತೆಂದು ಹೇಳಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಇಂಗ್ಲೀಷ್‌ನ ಟಬು ಅಥವಾ ಟಪುವನ್ನು ಕನ್ನಡದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಷೇಧ ಎಂಬ ಅರ್ಥದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಳಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ನಿಷೇಧ ಎಂದರೆ ನಿರಾಕರಣೆ, ಅಲ್ಲಗಳೆಯುವಿಕೆ, ಇಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ಹೇಳಿಕೆ ಎಂದು ಅರ್ಥವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ನಮ್ಮ ಪ್ರಾಚೀನ ಕಾವ್ಯಗಳಾದ ಪಂಪನ ಆದಿಪುರಾಣ, ವಿಕ್ರಮಾರ್ಜುನ ವಿಜಯ, ಪೊನ್ನನ ಶಾಂತಿ ಪುರಾಣ, ಹರಿಹರನ ರಗಳೆ ಮುಂತಾದವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಷೇಧ ಎಂಬ ಶಬ್ದ ನಿರಾಕರಣೆ, ಮಾಡಬಾರದು ಎಂಬ ಅರ್ಥದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಆನಪದರು ನಿಷೇಧವನ್ನು ಬಹಿಷ್ಕಾರ ಎಂದು ಕರೆದಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ನಿಷೇಧಗಳು ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿ ಕೆಲವೊಂದು ನಿಯಮ ಅಥವಾ ಕಟ್ಟಾಜ್ಞೆಗಳನ್ನು ಅನುಸರಿಸಿ ಆತನನ್ನು ಹಾಳಾಗುವುದರಿಂದ ಅಥವಾ ಒದಗಿ ಬರಬಹುದಾದ ಅಪಾಯದಿಂದ ರಕ್ಷಿಸುವವು. ಉದಾ : ಕಲವು ಬಗೆಯ ಆಹಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಸೇವಿಸುವುದರ ಮೂಲಕ ಉದ್ಭವಿಸಬಹುದಾದ ಅಪಾಯಕಾರಿ ತೊಂದರೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಿವಾರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು ಇತ್ಯಾದಿಯಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಆಹಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ವಿಧಿ-ನಿಷೇಧಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ವಿಂಗಡಿಸಬಹುದು.

- ರೊಟ್ಟಿ, ಚಪಾತಿ, ಹೋಳಿಗೆ ಮಾಡುವಾಗ ಮೊದಲಿಗೆ ಬಿಲ್ಲೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಹಂಚಿನ ಮೇಲೆ ಹಾಕಿ ಆಕಳಿಗೆ ಕಡುವರು. ಮೊದಲು ಮಾಡಿದ ಈ ಮೂರು ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳು ಗಂಡಸರು ಸೇವಿಸಿದರೆ ಪುರುಷತ್ವ ಹೊಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂಬ ನಂಬಿಕೆ ಇರುವುದರಿಂದ ಗಂಡಸರಿಗೆ ಕೊಡುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.
- ಕುದಿಸಿದ ಕೊಡಬೇಳೆ, ಕಡುಬು/ದಿವಡಿ ಮಾಡುವಾಗ ಮುಟ್ಟುಕಿ ಗೋಲಿ ಮಾಡಿ ಹಾಕುವರು. ಇದು ಸ್ತ್ರೀ ಪುರುಷರ ಲೈಂಗಿಕತೆಯನ್ನು ಸೂಚಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಗೋಲಿ ಮುಟ್ಟುಕಿ ಮಾಡದೆ ಕಡುಬು ಮಾಡಬಾರದೆಂಬ ನಿಷೇಧಗಳಿವೆ.
- ರಾತ್ರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಉಪ್ಪು, ಅರಷಿಣ, ಮೊಸರು, ಮಜ್ಜಿಗೆ ಯಾರಿಗೂ ಕೊಡಬಾರದು.
- ರಾತ್ರಿ ಉಪ್ಪು ಅನ್ನಬಾರದು.
- ಸಂಜೀರಗಿ ರಾತ್ರಿ ಹೊತ್ತು ಮಾರಾಟ ಮಾಡಬಾರದು.
- ಶನಿವಾರದಂದು ಉದ್ದೀನ ಬೇಳೆ, ಎಣ್ಣೆ ಹೊರಗಿನಿಂದ ತರಬಾರದು.

- ಹೈನವಿದ್ಯವರ ಮನೆಗೆ ಹೈನ (ಹೆಪ್ಪು) ಕೊಟ್ಟರೆ ತಮ್ಮ ಮನೆಯ ಹೈನ ಕಡಿಯುತ್ತದೆ.
- ರಾತ್ರಿ ರೊಟ್ಟಿ ಹಂಚು ತೊಳೆಯಬಾರದು, ತೊಳೆದರೆ ತವರು ಮನೆಗೆ ಬಡತನ ಬರುವುದೆಂಬ ನಂಬಿಕೆ.
- ಮಜ್ಜೆಗೆ ಕಡಗೋಲು (ರೇವಗಿ) ಬೆನ್ನಿಗೆ ಬಡಿದರೆ ಫೇಪ್ರಿ/ಫೀಟ ರೋಗ ಬರುವುದು.
- ರಾತ್ರಿ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಸ, ಮುಸುರೆ ಹೊರಗೆ ಚಲ್ಲಬಾರದು, ಹಾಗೆ ಚೆಲ್ಲಿದರೆ ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀ ಮನೆಯಿಂದ ಹೊರಗೆ ಹೋಗುವಳು. ಅಂರೆ ಬಡತನ ಬರುತ್ತದೆಂಬ ನಂಬಿಕೆ.
- ರಾತ್ರಿ ಊಟ ಮಾಡದೆ ಮಲಗಬಾರದು.
- ಊಟ ಮಾಡುವಾಗ ಉಣ್ಣುವ ತಟ್ಟೆ ದಾಟಬಾರದು.
- ಮೈನೆರದವರ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಊಟ ಮಾಡಬಾರದು.
- ತಿಥಿ ಊಟ ಮಾಡಬಾರದು.
- ರಾತ್ರಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಜೋಳ ಹಸನು ಮಾಡಬಾರದು.
- ಮಕರ ಸಂಕ್ರಮಣ ಹಬ್ಬದ ಸಂದರ್ಭದ ಈ ಮೂರು ದಿನಗಳು ಅತೀ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಎಂದು ಜನಪದರು ನಂಬಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಈ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಜಗಳ ತಂಟೆಗಳಾಗಬಾರದು. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಸಂಭವಿಸಿದರೆ ಮೂರು ವರ್ಷ ಪುನರಾವರ್ತನೆಯಾಗುತ್ತವೆ ಎಂಬ ನಂಬಿಕೆ. ಹೀಗೆ ಮಾನವ ಸಮಾಜವು ಜಡವಾದುದಲ್ಲ, ನಿರಂತರ ಪರಿವರ್ತನೆಯುಳ್ಳದ್ದಾಗಿದೆ. ಹಾಗೂ ಚೈತನ್ಯ ಸ್ವಭಾವವುಳ್ಳ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳ ಪರಸ್ಪರ ಸಂಬಂಧಗಳ ಬಲೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಸಂದರ್ಭಾನುಸಾರವಾಗಿ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳ ಸಂಬಂಧಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯಾದಂತೆ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಆಹಾರ ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿಯಲ್ಲೂ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳಾಗುವುದು ಸಹಜ ಮತ್ತು ಅನಿವಾರ್ಯ ನಿಯಮವಾಗಿದೆ. ಅಂತಹ ಅನಿವಾರ್ಯತೆಯನ್ನು ವಿಧಿ-ನಿಷೇಧಗಳು ರೂಢಿಸುತ್ತವೆ.

#### ಪರಾಮರ್ಶನ ಗ್ರಂಥಗಳು :

೧. ಮುತ್ತಯ್ಯ ಎಮ್ .ಎಸ್ (ಡಾ) ಕನ್ನಡ ಜನಪದ ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಪುಟ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ೩ ಪ್ರಸಾರಂಗ ಕುವೆಂಪು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ.
೨. ಭಾನುಮತಿ ವೈ.ಸಿ. ಜನಪದ ಅಡುಗೆ ಪುಟ ೧ ಪ್ರಸಾರಂಗ ಮೈಸೂರು ವಿ.ವಿ.ಮೈಸೂರು.
೩. ದೇಶಾಂಶ ಹುಡುಗಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಕಾರ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೇಳಿದ್ದು ೨೫/೦೧/೨೦೧೧ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಹುಡುಗಿ, ತಾ; ಹುಮನಾಬಾದ.
೪. ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಕಾರ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಜನಪದರಿಂದ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಿದ ನಂಬಿಕೆಗಳು. ೬/೬/೨೦೧೧ ಗ್ರಾಮ - ರಾಜೇಶ್ವರ, ತಾ: ಬಸವಕಲ್ಯಾಣ



ಆದ್ಯ ವಚನಕಾರ ವೈದ್ಯ ಸಂಗಣ್ಣ

ಡಾ. ಸುರೇಖಾ ಬಿರಾದಾರ

ಕನ್ನಡ ಉಪನ್ಯಾಸಕರು

ಬೀದರ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಬೀದರ

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ಕನ್ನಡ ನಾಡಿನ ಚರಿತ್ರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ೧೨ನೇ ಶತಮಾನವು ಸುವರ್ಣಾಕ್ಷರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿಶ್ವ ಗುರು ಬಸವಣ್ಣನ ನೇತೃತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ಜರುಗಿದ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕ್ರಾಂತಿ ಜಗತ್ತಿನ ಇತಿಹಾಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಭೂತಪೂರ್ವವಾದದ್ದು. ಬಸವಣ್ಣನವರು ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಿದ ಅನುಭವ ಮಂಟಪದಲ್ಲಿ ೭೭೦ ಶರಣ ಶರಣೆಯರ ಅನುಭಾವದಿಂದ ಹೊರಹೊಮ್ಮಿದ ವಚನ ಸಾಹಿತ್ಯ ಶರಣರ ಚಿಂತನೆ, ಬದುಕಿನ ರೀತಿ, ಕಾಯಕ ಮತ್ತು ದಾಸೋಹ ತತ್ವ ಜಾತಿ ವರ್ಗ ವರ್ಣಗಳನ್ನು ಮೀರಿದ ಮಾನವೀಯತೆಯ ಮಿಡಿತ ಮಾನವ ಬದುಕಿಗೆ ಹೊಸ ರೂಪ ರೇಷಗಳನ್ನು ಕೊಟ್ಟ ವಚನ ಸಾಹಿತ್ಯ ಇಂದು ಜಗತ್ತಿಗೆ ದಾರಿ ದೀಪವಾಗಿದೆ. ಅಂದಿನ ಶರಣ ಶರಣೆಯರು ತಾವು ಮಾಡುವ ಸತ್ಯ ಶುದ್ಧ ಕಾಯಕದಿಂದಲೇ ಗುರುತಿಸಿಕೊಂಡವರು. ಗುರುವಾದರೂ ಕಾಯಕದಿಂದಲೇ ಮುಕ್ತಿ ಎಂದು ಸಾರಿದರು. ಇಂತಹ ಅಭೂತಪೂರ್ವ ಚಳುವಳಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದೇಶದ ಮೂಲೆ ಮೂಲೆಯಿಂದ ಬಸವಣ್ಣನ ಸಾಮಿಪ್ಯವನ್ನು ಬಯಸಿ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದರು. ಅಂತಹವರಲ್ಲಿ ಆದ್ಯ ವಚನಕಾರ ವೈದ್ಯ ಸಂಗಣ್ಣ ಒಬ್ಬರಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಸಂಗಣ್ಣ ಎಂದರೆ, ವೈದ್ಯ ಸಂಗಣ್ಣ ಎಂದು ಹೆಸರುವಾಸಿಯಾದ ಇವರ ೨೧ ವಚನಗಳು ಲಭ್ಯವಾಗಿವೆ. ಮರುಳಶಂಕರಪ್ರಿಯ ಸಿದ್ಧರಾಮೇಶ್ವರಲಿಂಗವು ಇವರ ವಚನಗಳ ಅಂಕಿತ. ಸಂಗಣ್ಣನ ವಚನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವೈದ್ಯಶಾಸ್ತ್ರವನ್ನು ಕುರಿತ ಆಳವಾದ, ಅಧ್ಯಯನಶೀಲವಾದ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾಣಬಹುದು. ದೇಹದ ರಚನೆ, ಅಂಗಾಂಗಗಳ ವಿವರ, ದೇಹಕ್ಕೆ ರೋಗ ಬರಲು ಕಾರಣ ಪರಿಹಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಕುರಿತ ಚಿಂತನೆ ಕಾಣಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ವೈದ್ಯ ಸಂಗಣ್ಣನು ದೇಹದ ರಚನಾವಿನ್ಯಾಸವನ್ನು ಅದರಲ್ಲಿಯ ನಾಡಿಗಳು, ಗತಿಗಳು, ನಾಳಗಳು, ಸಂದುಗಳು, ಚಕ್ರಗಳು ಎಲ್ಲವನ್ನು ಬಹು ಸೂಕ್ಷ್ಮವಾಗಿ, ವಿವರವಾಗಿ ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾನೆ. ಆತನಿಗೆ ವೈದ್ಯ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿದ್ದ ಅನುಭವ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ವಿಸ್ತಾರ ನಮ್ಮ ಅರಿವಿಗೆ ಬರುತ್ತದೆ. ಮಾನವ ಶರೀರದಲ್ಲಿ ನಾಡಿಗಳೆಷ್ಟಿವೆ, ಎಲ್ಲಿವೆ ಎನ್ನುವುದನ್ನು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾನೆ.

\*ಅಂಗಾಲ ಮೇಲಣ ದೊಡ್ಡಂಗುಷ್ಟ ಮಧ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಪೃಥ್ವಿನಾಡಿ,  
ನಾಭಿ ಮೂತ್ರನಾಳದ ನಾಲ್ಕುಗುಲ ಮಧ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪ್ಪು ನಾಡಿ,  
ಉಡಸೂತ್ರ ನಾಭಿ ಮೊದಲಾದ  
ಪಂಚಾಗುಲ ಮಧ್ಯದ ಮೇಲ್ದೇಹಿಯಲ್ಲಿ [ತೇಜನಾಡಿ]  
ಇಡಾ ಪಿಂಗಳ ಮಧ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಯುನಾಡಿ,  
ಸುಷುಮ್ನನಾಳದ ಅಂಗುಲ ನಡುಮಧ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ  
ಆಕಾಶಕೈದಿದನಾಡಿ,  
ಇಂತೀ ಪಂಚಪಥವನ್ನೆದುವ ನಾಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಡುವ  
ಆತ್ಮನ ವಿವರದದೆಯನರಿದು  
ಇಂತೀ ಐದು ಮುಚ್ಚಿ ಮೇಗಳ  
ಬ್ರಹ್ಮರಂಧದಲ್ಲಿಯಿದ್ದರೆಮ್ಮ ವೈದ್ಯರು.  
ಮರುಳಶಂಕರಪ್ರಿಯ ಸಿದ್ಧರಾಮೇಶ್ವರಲಿಂಗವು.\*

ಶರೀರದ ರಚನೆ ನಾಡಿಗಳ ಸ್ಥಾನದ  
ವಿವರವನ್ನೊಳಗೊಂಡು ಐದು ನಾಡಿಗಳು ಅವುಗಳ

ಶಕ್ತಿಸಂಚಯವು ಆತ್ಮ ಸಂಚಾರದ ಮೂಲಕ ಮನಸ್ಸನ್ನು  
ವಿಕಾಗ್ರಗೊಳಿಸಿದಾಗ ಅದು ಅತೀತವಾದ ಅಧ್ಯಾತ್ಮದ  
ಅನುಭವವನ್ನು ಕೊಡುತ್ತದೆ. ಶರೀರ ಶಾಸ್ತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಗಣ್ಣನದು  
ಸೂಕ್ಷ್ಮವಾದ ತಿಳುವಳಿಕೆ ಇರುವುದನ್ನು ಗಮನಿಸಬಹುದು.

\*ಹೊರನಾಳ ಎಂಟು ಕೋಟಿ ಒಳನಳ ನೈರೆಂಟು  
ಹೊರದ್ವಾರ ಒಂಬತ್ತು ಒಳದ್ವಾರ ಸರ್ವಾಂಗಮಯ  
ಆಷ್ಟಗುಣಗಳ ಕಷ್ಟೋತ್ತರದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಿಕ್ಕಿದ ಆತ್ಮಂಗೆ  
ನಾನೊಂದು ನೀಹಿತದಮದ್ದು ಕಂಡೆ.  
ಅದು ಅರೆವಡೆ ಅಸಾಧ್ಯ ಸುಮ್ಮನೆ ಮೆಲುವಡೆ ಸವೆಯದು  
ದೃಷ್ಟಿ ನಟ್ಟು ಮುಚ್ಚಿರಲಿಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ರೋಗ ರುಜೆ ಬಚ್ಚ ಬಯಲು  
ಮರುಳಶಂಕರಪ್ರಿಯ ಸಿದ್ಧರಾಮೇಶ್ವರಲಿಂಗವನರಿಯಲಾಗಿ

ಮನುಷ್ಯ ದೇಹದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊರನಾಳಗಳು  
ಒಳನಾಳಗಳು ಜೊತೆಗೆ ದ್ವಾರಗಳು ಅಷ್ಟಗುಣಗಳು  
ಪಂಚತತ್ವಗಳು ಇವೆಲ್ಲಾ ಕೂಡಿ ಆಗಿರುವ ದೇಹ  
ಅನಾರೋಗ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಗಾದರೆ ಅದಕ್ಕೊಂದು ಮದ್ದು ಇದೆ.  
ನಮ್ಮ ಮನಸ್ಸು ನಿರ್ಮಲಚಿತ್ತದಿಂದ ಇಟ್ಟುಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು  
ಸಂತೃಪ್ತಿ ಸಮಾಧಾನ ಶಾಂತಿಯಿಂದ ಜೀವನ  
ನಡೆಸಬೇಕಾದರೆ ಪೂರ್ಣತ್ವ ಗಳಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಮನಸ್ಸು  
ಪ್ರಸನ್ನವಾಗಿರಬೇಕಾದರೆ ಜ್ಞಾನ ಬೇಕು. ಜ್ಞಾನವೆ ಶಕ್ತಿ ಎಂದು  
ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾನೆ. ಆತ್ಮನಿಗೆ ಧ್ಯಾನ ಬೇಕು ಶಿವನ ನೆನಪು ಬೇಕು.  
ಶರೀರಕ್ಕೆ ಅನ್ನ ಮನಸ್ಸಿಗೆ ಜ್ಞಾನ ಆತ್ಮಕ್ಕೆ ಧ್ಯಾನ ಬೇಕು. ಈ  
ಮೂರು ಪಡೆದುಕೊಂಡಾಗ ಪರಿಪೂರ್ಣ ಜೀವನ  
ಎನಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಮನಸ್ಸು ಸ್ವಚ್ಛವಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ ನಮ್ಮ ಶರೀರವು  
ಆರೋಗ್ಯವಂತವಾಗಿರಯತ್ತದೆ.

\*ಅರಿಯದಂಗೆಅರಿಹನೆಂಬ ಬಯಲುರೋಗ ಹುಟ್ಟಿ  
ಕಾಲುಗೆಟ್ಟು ದೃಷ್ಟಿನಷ್ಟವಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ನೋಡಾ!  
ದೇಹ ಮನಸ್ಸುಗಳ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಅನ್ಯೋನ್ಯವಾದದ್ದು.  
ಒಂದನ್ನು ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಇನ್ನೊಂದಕ್ಕೆ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಯನ್ನು ನೀಡಲು

ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ. ಅದರಿಂದ ಯಾವುದೇ ಪ್ರಯೋಜನವಿಲ್ಲ. ಮನಸ್ಸು ಪ್ರೀತಿಯಿಂದ ನಿರಾಳವಾಗಿದ್ದಾಗ ಆರೋಗ್ಯವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕೋಪ ಬಂದಾಗ ಮನಸ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಗುಟ್ಟುಗಳು ಅನಾರೋಗ್ಯದಿಂದ ದೇಹ ತತ್ತರಿಸುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತವೆ. ಮಿತಿಯಿಲ್ಲದ ಆಸೆಗಳು ಅತೀಯಾದ ಅಹಂ ಇದರಿಂದ ನಮ್ಮನ್ನು ನಾವು ತಿಳಿಯುವ ದೃಷ್ಟಿ ನಷ್ಟವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಗಣ್ಣ ಹೇಳುವ ಮದ್ದು 'ಇಂದ್ರಿಯ ಗುಣ ಪರಾಮರ್ಶನ ಗ್ರಂಥಗಳು :

- ೧) ವಚನ ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ : ಸಂಪಾದಕರು ಡಾ. ಗಂಗಾಂಬಿಕೆ.ಕೆ.ಪಾಟೀಲ್ ಪ್ರಸಾರಾಂಗ ಗುವಿಗು - ೧೯೯೮.
- ೨) ಬಸವಣ್ಣ : ಸಂಪಾದಕರು- ಡಾ. ಎಮ್.ಎಸ್.ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಿ ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿದ್ದಲಿಂಗೇಶ್ವರ ಪ್ರಕಾಶನ ಗುಲ್ಬರ್ಗಾ-೨೦೦೪.
- ೩) ವಚನ ಕಾವ್ಯ ಚಿಂತನೆ : ಸಂಪಾದಕರು ಡಾ. ಎಸ್.ಎಮ ಹಿರೇಮಠ ಕನ್ನಡ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಗುಲ್ಬರ್ಗಾ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಕಲ್ಬುರ್ಗಿ ೨೦೧೧.

ರೋಗಕ್ಕೆ ಜ್ಞಾನ ವೈದ್ಯ ನೋಡಾ' ನಮ್ಮನ್ನು ನಾವು ಅರಿಯುವ ಮಾರ್ಗ, ತಿಳಿಯುವ ಮಾರ್ಗ, ಸರಿಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಮಾರ್ಗ ನಮ್ಮಲ್ಲಿ ಹುಟ್ಟಬೇಕು. ನಮ್ಮ ತಪ್ಪುಗಳನ್ನು ಕಂಡುಕೊಳ್ಳುವ, ತಿದ್ದಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಉದಾರ ಚಿಂತನೆಗಳು ನಮ್ಮಲ್ಲಿ ಬಂದಾಗ ಈ ದೇಹಕ್ಕೆ ಅದೇ ಮದ್ದು. ನಿಶ್ಚಿಂತ, ನೀರಾಳತೆ ಆರೋಗ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ದಾರಿಗಳು.



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**Chief Editor**  
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