

Contribution of Literature in Developmental Aspects of Society



* Twinkle Hareshbhai Shah

* Ph.D. Research Scholar

Importance of the Literature

Like all other romantic comedies by Shakespeare, the world of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is a fantasy of romance, love, humor, music, dance, song, and poetry. The influence of literature on society is felt directly or indirectly. Thus Miss Stowe's 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' was directly responsible for a movement against slavery in literature and life in USA of those days. The novels of Dickens had an indirect influence in creating in society a feeling for regulating and removing social wrongs, calling for get better grades and necessary reforms. Sarat Chandra's novels have gone a long way in breaking disliking of change as regards women in our society. It is, however, clear that if we are interested in literature, and its influence is bound to move people.

Literature is made out of the lore of life. No doubt, the realistic artist brings to a focus the oddities and cruder aspects of life overmuch. But to know life fully, not only the bright side but also the seamy and dark side of life is to be known. Literature can influence society in that it can add to the person which participates in society, but it should be remembered that it has some limit in the matter of changing the society.

The Ramayana, The Geeta, The Mahabharata, The Quran and The Bible have a great influence on the people. Their dialogues pass into everyday usage in English and other languages. Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, and other literatures have given many words to the English people and society. Mahatma Gandhiji was influenced by the Bhagwat Geeta. Tolstoy was influenced by Thoreau, Lenin was influenced by Marx. The sixteenth president of America, Abraham Lincoln was also influenced by a book. Having read the book, Abraham Lincoln raised his voice against oppressive act done with Black.

The great writers emphasize the important place literature holds in the society and the ability it has to initiate change. Literature must be radical, rebellious, and extreme to be considered great, and that only those who share in this spirit can truly enjoy literature. It is a story of the inexplicable nature of our society and its overwhelming sense of self importance and lack of selflessness.

Review of the Related Literature

Literature can serve as an effective non-violent way of addressing issues in a society. These issues, however, may be troubling to the way things are in the society. Consequently, some people may feel these issues are best left untouched and condemn the power of literature to bring them to the surface. The fact that a large number of people find the issues raised in literature compelling should mean that the literature in which these issues are raised should not be ignored. Literature has had a major impact on the development of society. It has shaped civilizations, changed political systems and exposed injustice.

Literature gives us a detailed preview of human experiences, allowing people to connect on basic levels of desire and emotion. Judith Caesar, English professor at the American University of Sharjah said- (AUS). "By reading narratives, we can empathize and understand others. Literature is thought provoking; it allows us to raise questions and gives us a deeper understanding of issues and situations."

M.K. Gandhi says, "I have nothing new to teach the world. Truth and non-violence are as old as the hills." In most theories of the relationship of literature and society reflection, influence, and social control are implied. Literature is interpreted as reflecting norms and values, as revealing the ethos of culture, the processes of class struggle, and certain types of social "facts." "Influence" is not strictly the reverse of reflection, since social stability and cultural ideals are involved. Social control, however, articulates closely with one version of reflection, though to a limited extent in complex, dynamic societies.

Literature is said to be the mirror of the society. It is fact that society operated in the past, it is due to the literature of the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, the Romantics, and even today. When people relate through a piece of literature, it really makes one think that you're not alone and that someone else has been through what you are going through. The way authors are able to grab you with how the characters are feeling or what they are looking at brings the reader into that story. If one reads a piece of literature that contains information on other cultures he then sees how they

live, what works for them and what doesn't. As a reader, people learn how other cultures live, which in turn makes readers as a society think about the way that we live our own lives. Literature describes social fact that is observed to happen in politics. Literature may create an ideal world for people to follow. Short fiction, poetry, drama and nonfiction selections written by a diverse group of writers represent different social classes, races, genders, cultures, and sexual orientations.

Organizes selections around five socially relevant themes, Growing Up and Growing Older; Women and Men; Money and Work; Peace and War; and Varieties of Protest. Shows how literary technique serves larger purposes, the recreation of experience, the exploration of ideas, the analysis of social issues, and how these larger purposes themselves shape literary form and its effects are seen on the society. Misery is

a story for all society. Novels are known to have changed the direction of the human mind and set in motion movements that have altered our ways of life.

Useful Literature in the Society

The author is a soul of any society. He thinks and contemplates on contemporary traditions, changes. He expresses his perceptions, feelings, realizations, sensibilities and experiences with the help of literature. Literature is the representation of the feeling of people so it is rightly called that literature is the mirror of society. The author does not present it as it is found in the society but he makes it true, fully welfare and beautiful which is impressive and inspiring. It is a society that is drastically different from any society in history, both in the past or present. While the principals of the society may be very similar to those espoused by communist doctrine, in practice they have worked out successfully which we know was not the case in the communist regimes of our time.

REFERENCE

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