



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Vol. 4. Issue.4., 2017 (Oct-Dec)



INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD
SERIAL
NUMBER
INDIA

2395-2628(Print):2349-9451(online)

THE PHILOSOPHY OF “BOND OF HUMANITY” IN THE WORK OF “THE POST MASTER”
BY RABINDRANATH TAGORE

RAMBABU GULAGATTU

Lecturer in English

E – Mail: pavanram.19756@gmail.com



ABSTRACT

Rabindranath Tagore reshaped Bengali literature and music, as well as Indian art with Contextual Modernism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Author of *Gitanjali* and its "profoundly sensitive, fresh and beautiful verse", he became the first non-European to win the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1913. Rabindranath Tagore's writing is deeply rooted in both Indian and Western learning traditions. Apart from fiction in the form of poetry, songs, stories, and dramas, it also includes portrayals of common people's lives, literary criticism, philosophy, and social issues. In the history of human civilisation man's life began with the collaboration later on there was this integrity and was divided into several communities. Indeed man is always in the need of dependence in the context of "socio, economic, political, cultural, traditional, and scientific life." the bond of human relation is the most significant aspect in the modern life. The same is emphasised in Tagore's "The Post Master." The era of globalisation, privatisation, modernisation, liberalisation has more impact on humans. So the human relations became materialistic and artificial. In this context the bond of human relations is significant to unite the world. So philosophy of Tagore attracted the western world to bring the peace to the world. The story also promoted the same idea for the welfare of the unity of the world.

Key words: Philosophy, Globalisation, Modernity, Peace, Bond

Discussion

In the human civilisation man was free, he could enjoy the nature without any limitations, but later on he try to invent the materials for his comfortable life. in the course of time there were stages of developments in the human civilisation. The human civilisation was segregated into several communities later on the people were this integrated through their division of labour. In this way kingdoms were established. Man travelled to the corners of the world and occupied the land. In his human journey it became inevitable for him to fight with his fellow beings. In fact man is a social animal and man is a political animal as commented by Greek Philosopher 'Aristotle.' SO in his long life he invented to face many wars; the same doctrine was written by 'Charles Darwin' in 1859 with the title of 'Origin of Species.' He commented in the book that was "survival of the fittest." Indeed man always struggled with himself with nature, with environment, and with fellow beings for his existence. In the terms of socio, economic, political, cultural, traditional, scientific, and religious life.

The struggle for existence began in the community when there was the thought of accumulation of wealth and establishment of the institution of family. Later on the thought of "Social Contact" came into

existence. In this way the group of individuals of the society made a man to be king for them. He fought with enemies on behalf of the kingdom. In this way the olden days were in the control of the respective kings. The kings dis integrity among the nations was so natural to exist. In deed the mighty kingdoms used to invade on the week kingdoms rob wealth of the nation.

The thoughts of disintegration and conflict eclipsed the medical ages with the concepts of feudalistic dominations and the tyranny of the Christian Catholic Church clergy man. The dictator ship was fully in the control of king and the Pope. Because of this reason the Middle Ages were known a 'Dark Ages.' The same atmosphere existed in the entire world in the middle ages.

These ages were with wars to determine one another. But the modern age gave grand opening with the close of Constantinople to travel from Europe to Asian countries. The concepts of renaissance, reformation, Counter Reformation, restoration became tremendous changes in all fields of the respective age. The post middle man rejected the past ideologies of and philosophy. The worlds the master piece of literature were re read by Europeans such as 'Homer's "The Iliad and Odyssey" the Roman epics where also read. It was known as humanism. It was the only the age of discoveries of origins of social sciences and natural sciences. The knowledge made efforts to integrate the world with the unity of knowledge and was also felt as "world is a one family."

The modern life of man brought comforts through the industrialization and technology. In this context man could not forget his thoughts in relation to "Race, Tribe, Caste, Clan, and Religion." because of these underlining terms the result was the first and second world wars. Indeed Tagore's life was interrelated to the modern age of Europe. In this continuation since his childhood he loved solitude, peaceful and happy life. The religious and spiritual life of Indian tradition and culture has great significance and impact on the life of Tagore. His thoughts and imagination was produced in the form of the drama like "The Post Master." In the description of the book he explicitly depicted the ambiance and characterisation with the theme of bond of love between the Post Master and a girl called Ratan. In fact India is a peace loving nation with traditional values and progressive culture. The Post Master felt the same as his experience in the past life in his native place when he was appointed for the post of Post Master. He was in loneliness because the people were busy with their daily life and he was not integrated with the society as a part of it. The concept of Post Master is a modern western thought. Indeed the correspondence between elite and kings used to be happened by doves and secret agencies in Indian context. So, since India was in disharmony as it is rightly said by Jawaharlal Nehru "India is in unity with diversity."

India is the land of mysteries, spiritual thinkers, religious monks, gurus various philosophies of Hinduism, Sikh, Christianity and Islamic religions; the ladder system of caste clans sub divisions among all these concepts. Post Master is not a part of a ritual of any community, so he was not included within the society. He was always remembered and considered as an outsider. His integrity can be interrelated through only Indian segmented relations such as caste and clan.

Tagore interrelated the western and the eastern civilisations and cultures. He introduced the two characters that are about the relation. He was related to the girl known as Ratan. Even though she is his helper, she did not immediately connect herself with him. At the end of the play she was closer to the Post Master. The bond of relationship was made on the basis of human relations. In fact Rabindranath Tagore's "Gitanjali" was awarded the prestigious priceless wonderful Nobel Prize on the central theme of relations.

His present work is also based on the bondage between two characters in the Indian context. Most of the Tagore's literatures is based on the human emotions and inter relation among the people. Tagore was from the elite social back ground e enjoyed the modern liberal democratic life in England while he was child but he could not trace the same characteristics in the British Indian kingdom. He expressed his thoughts in his writings such as the 'Post Master' in the modern 21st century its relevancy seen through the 'Human Relationships.' Today's world is more materialistic and technologically advanced. At this movement people migrate to the foreign countries and settle there and they are unable to interrelate with their family members and relatives because of 'The living style' and 'The cost of human living.' So it is inevitable to work more in the industries, private in the capitalisation world

In this way the human relations are deteriorated. The importance of human bondage is explicitly expressed in the mechanic modern life. This life was already experienced during the industrial revolution. In this way the human relations are significantly expressed in the work of Tagore- that is Post Master.

Works cited

Christian Welzel and Ronald Inglehart, *Modernization, Cultural Change, and Democracy: The Human Development Sequence*, C U P, U K, 2005

Rabindranath Tagore *The Postmaster*, Createspace Publications, United States, 2014

Rabindranath Tagore and William Radice, *The Postmaster*, Penguin Publications, 2000.

<http://www.culturalindia.net/>, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Culture_of_India

<http://www.online-literature.com/tagore-rabindranath/stories-from-tagore>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Western_civilization
