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Editorial....

ANUSHEELAN is a peer-reviewed multilingual and multidisciplinary journal produced by the Tribhuvan University Teachers' Association (TUTA), Bhaktapur Multiple Campus Unit. The journal's major goal is to contribute to the knowledge-building process in education by offering a forum for academic discussion on the role of education in improving people's abilities and well-being. To this end, the journal publishes original research and other scholarly works of academic value that contribute to human understandings of education and its processes. We seek to share knowledge, values, and skills among individuals and communities, with the ultimate goal of spreading knowledge. To attain this goal, we encourage critical discourse on various elements of education, localized analysis, and comparative viewpoints. Similarly, we encourage studies that consider education from an integrative viewpoint, incorporating local, national, regional, and global contexts. We publish full-length research, opinion, and review papers, as well as brief notes, reflective notes, book reviews, and student research abstracts from several disciplines. We ask for your help in our efforts to create and share information that will improve human capacities and well-being. We also encourage constructive criticism from readers in order to improve the academic quality of the journal's future editions.

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Contingency planning an approach of crisis decision making

Gopal Man Pradhan, Ph.D

Abstract

Contingency planning is formulated by considering probable negative impact due to rapid change of specific environmental factors. The main objective of contingency planning is to prepare an organization in such a way so that it would response effectively to the frequent changing environment. Most of the changing task environmental factors and common threats that are responded by contingency plan include crisis management, business continuity, assets security, mismanagement, and reorganization. For effectiveness of contingency plan, it is necessary to consider resiliency so that an organization can develop strategies and plans based on hazards created by frequent change in environmental factors. Risk management, contingency and continuity planning are individual security and emergency management activities that can support to the managers for development of new strategies, plans and policies by taking timely decision that can support to sustain business in competitive environment.

Keywords: Crisis management, continuity plan, reorganization, resiliency, and risk management.

Introduction

Contingency planning is concerned with developing responses in advance for various situations that might impact business activities of the organization. Developing a contingency plan involves making decisions in advance about the management of human and financial resources, coordination and communications procedures, and being aware of a range of technical and logistical responses (Haddow et.al. 2009). Generally, contingency plan is prepared by considering probable negative events in future. However, a good contingency plan should also address positive events that might disrupt operations.

The main objective of contingency planning is to prepare an organization to respond well to an emergency situation. It is a management tool which can help to ensure timely and effective provision of humanitarian aid to those who are most in need when a disaster occurs. Time spent in contingency planning equals time saved when a disaster occurs. Effective contingency planning should lead to timely and effective disaster-relief operations. The contingency planning process can basically be broken down into three simple questions:

- What is going to happen?

- What are we going to do about it?
- What can we do ahead of time to get prepared?

Contingency planning provides guidance for managing catastrophic events by defining who possess the capabilities, resources and ability to coordinate response to foreseen, unforeseen and extreme disasters (Knight, 2011). Contingency planning is also considered as measures developed to prepare for and to react to possible event change which exceeds normal response efforts but whose impact can severally affect security, resources, assets, human and the society (Alshamsi, 2012). These two definitions indicate the relevance of contingency planning for increasing preparedness for and response to extreme disasters. It also infers that contingency planning needs to be based on realistic parameters for response with detailed planning and preparedness (Choularton, 2007). An understanding of contingency planning is important because lack of understanding of its meaning, application and relevance can potentially lead to in effective response to an extreme event of disaster. According to Choularton (2007), contingency planning has been confused with emergency preparedness and disaster management and as such, the adequate measures which need to be put in place for managing extreme events are omitted. Emergency preparedness is made up of activities which are put in place in anticipation of a risk, hazard or actual or eventual emergency to expedite effective emergency response (Choularton, 2007:p4). Within the context of this definition, emergency preparedness include contingency planning, but not limited to plans, exercise, training, organize and equip, review of plans, early warning, public education and information, etc. (Knight, 2001, Choularton, 2007). Therefore, contingency planning is often used to determine the scope and mechanisms for preparedness in respect to location, potential emergency and the type of organizations that needs to be partnered with to implement the contingency procedures (Boin and Lagadec, 2002). Consequently, the outcome of the contingency planning process leads to developing a contingency plan which is a document. According to Choularton, (2007) this document describes the procedures, response strategy, implementation process, operational support, and which formalizes the commitments of organizations, equipment, and expertise to respond to extreme events.

Thus, the main difference between contingency planning and other types of emergency planning is that while emergency preparedness revolves around planning to respond to known emergency situation and identified risks, contingency planning is planning done based on predictions of previous events and assumptions about potential events which can have significant consequences (Choularton, 2007; UNHCR, 2011). So while emergency preparedness covers normal emergencies and incidents, contingency planning are central to ensuring that extreme events are adequately managed without causing any devastating impacts. The case studies have provided some insights into the characteristics of extreme events which can caused by natural hazards and compounded by human activities due to lack of contingency planning and response.

Roles of Effective Contingency Planning In a world filled with ever-changing activities, emergencies and disasters have occurring any time due to a range of human error or factors to extreme acts of natural large scale hazards events (Haimes, 2009). The role of emergency and

disaster planning in general is to reduce the chances of these emergencies happening and if this cannot be done, the aim becomes to reduce their impacts on people and the environment to the minimum. While planning is based on identified and prioritized risks peculiar to certain areas, contingency planning can be generic in view of any emergency occurring on a larger scale or extreme complexity (Knight, 2001). Therefore, effective contingency planning is considered as a dynamic process which helps to determine which organizations to engage and how to engage them for both planning for and response to extreme disasters (Alshamsi, 2012). As explained in previous sections, contingency planning does not exist in isolation, but in relation to foreseen extreme events which may happen. Although UNHCR (2011) states that some scenarios might not occur, scenario-based planning which contingency planning ensures still helps to approach planning from a more operational perspective. Essentially, contingency plan contains response strategies in addition to some basic concepts which can be activated or used to trigger mechanisms for emergency coordination and to determine what should be prioritized for more effective response to extreme disasters. Hence, contingency planning are process-driven, include regular updates but easy and simple to implement (Choularton, 2007). According to UNHCR (2011:p6), contingency planning process can be conceptualized into four basic steps:

- Preparation
- Analysis
- Response planning
- Implementing preparedness

These basic steps links the role of effective contingency planning with ensuring that preparation involves coordinating and preparing for the process which analyses the context and scenarios which can occur. However, this can only be done by achieving the aim of emergency or disaster preparedness through readiness measures that can expedite response, rehabilitation and recovery based on timely and result-driven assistance for the target people (Alexander, 2002). This expected outcome provides a focus for the entire preparedness phase as a continuous process which is integrated from a wide range of activities and resources and which requires contributions of many different areas, inclusive of contingency planning. Thus, while concept of preparedness covers measures aimed at enhancing safety when emergency occurs (Haddow et al. 2006), effective contingency planning helps to create a synthesis between preparation and analysis of hazards and risks of extreme events (Choularton, 2007; Alshamsi, 2012). A synthesis which is possible by identifying the triggers and early warning indicators of such events during the planning stage and being able to identify them when they occur (Birkland, 2006). This makes effective contingency planning crucial to response strategies and the coordination of arrangements and implementation of preparedness procedures. It is on the basis of the relationship between concepts of preparedness and contingency planning that response strategies are activated, so that responsibilities of response operations are well carried out in response to specified extreme events ((Birkland, 2006). However, being able to understand this relationship as well as the role of effective contingency planning is based on

ability to learn from patterns and dynamics of past extreme events and in-depth understanding of risks and hazard management in built environment.

Large-scale events are subject to a broad spectrum of risks due to the nature of event execution and it is critical that salient responses to unforeseen occurrences are planned for (Getz, 2009). In a study of the Olympic Games, Chappelet (2001) argued that due to the duration, cost, and complexity of large sporting events it is inevitable that unforeseen setbacks will occur because of the almost infinite range of risks that may arise. Similarly Dwyer and Fredline (2008) argued that mass participation sport events face substantial risk associated with human resource management, creating and maintaining brand image, meeting policy objectives, forming business networks to deliver the level of service required, and the challenges of managing crowds and security. Effectively addressing these issues in events requires a strategic approach to risk management and the intertwined notion of contingency planning. A contingency plan is a process that prepares an organization to respond coherently to unplanned events (Stamatakis , Gargalianos, Afthinos, & Nassis,2003). Contingency plans set out an alternative course of action aimed at ameliorating adverse, unforeseen circumstances. Contingency planning therefore involves developing a strategic scaffold designed to limit negative organizational exposure to probable hazards and risks identified through risk assessment (Gnulu & Aktas, 2006). Mallen and Adams (2008) suggest a contingency plan should include a mechanism or trigger point for activating the plan, a list of possible crises that may occur, a set of objectives to be achieved, and an outline of potential worst -case scenarios. Previous research has identified that before a situation emerges simulation exercises should be enacted to test contingency plans according to probable scenarios (Gunlu & Aktas, 2006). Marinstein (1998) identifies upper management support and involvement in developing the planning process as essential for coordinating the plan, ensuring its effectiveness, and securing cooperation of affected stakeholders.

Issues for a Contingency Planner

A contingency planner must be able to construct plans that can be expected to succeed despite unknown initial conditions and uncertain outcomes of nondeterministic actions.

- An effective contingency planner must possess the wing capabilities:
- It must be able to anticipate outcomes of nondeterministic actions;
- It must be able to recognize when an uncertain outcome threatens the achievement of a goal;
- It must be able to make contingency plans for all possible outcomes of the various sources of uncertainty
- That affect a given plan;
- It must be able to schedule sensing actions that detect the occurrence of a particular contingency;
- It must produce plans that can be executed correctly regardless of which contingency arises.

Threats covered in contingency planning

Common threats usually covered in contingency plans are crisis management, business continuity, asset security, mismanagement and reorganization. Brief explanations of these threats are as follows:

Crisis Management: The common types of crises that can affect the well-being of an enterprise include natural disasters, terrorist attacks, fire in the warehouse, on the job injuries or even angry customers and so on. Plans to deal with crises generally include department by department SWOT analysis that attempt to identify potential challenges.

Continuity Plan: Business continuity plans cover a range of situations, such as the death of executive or manager, crisis events that threaten to shut down business operations for an extended period of time. It also involves any other financial situation or unexpected event that threatens to destroy the enterprise and its business activities. Continuity plans generally involve insurance policies that provide for the cost of keeping the institution in operation.

Asset Security: The security plan is essential to save the intellectual property, such as trade secrets or computer programs, key machinery or equipment, or any other valuable assets from theft or destruction. The saving of such proper is necessary for smooth operations of business activities of the enterprise and to maintain its market position. This also includes the security of internal computer network and confidential files of the enterprise. A security plan attempts to block any negative contingencies that might occur. Legal strategies are also included in a contingency plan for the purpose of helping to mitigate the damage created by such events.

Mismanagement: It is required to take necessary measures to save the enterprise from crises such as fraud, theft, operational errors, mismanagement and personal scandal. It requires special public relations strategies as well as various types of insurance to save the resources of the enterprise. The handling of these crises involves careful attention to legal considerations and liability to the shareholders. For this reason, companies create a system of checks and balances to prevent such problems in addition to creating detailed action plans to deal with these contingencies. If such crisis is not handled immediately with efficiency and confidence, they can damage the company's professional image and ability to do business.

Reorganization: The practice of reorganization is required when present system unable to function effectively. Contingency plan also covers how the enterprise will re-establish normal operations and reorganize to limit any future contingencies. Reorganization to meet new challenges is important to an enterprise for dealing with negative events.

Contingency Planning and Resilience

An organization must have the ability to withstand all hazards and sustain its mission through environmental changes. These changes can be gradual, such as economic or mission changes, or sudden, as in a disaster event. Rather than just working to identify and mitigate threats, vulnerabilities, and risks, organizations can work toward building a resilient infrastructure, minimizing the impact of any disruption on mission essential functions.

Resilience is the ability to quickly adapt and recover from any known or unknown changes to the environment. Resiliency is not a process, but rather an end-state for organizations. The goal of a resilient organization is to continue mission essential functions at all times during any type of disruption. Resilient organizations continually work to adapt to changes and risks that can affect their ability to continue critical functions. Risk management, contingency, and continuity planning are individual security and emergency management activities that can also be implemented in a holistic manner across an organization as components of a resiliency program. Effective contingency planning begins with the development of an organization contingency planning policy and subjection of each information system to a business impact analysis (BIA). This facilitates prioritizing the systems and processes based on the FIPS 199 impact level and develops priority recovery strategies for minimizing loss. FIPS 199 provides guidelines on determining information and information system impact to organizational operations and assets, individuals, other organizations and the nation through a formula that examines three security objectives: confidentiality, integrity, and availability.

Confidentiality preserves authorized restrictions on information access and disclosure, including means for protecting personal privacy and proprietary information.

Integrity guards against improper information modification or destruction, and includes ensuring information non-repudiation and authenticity.

Availability ensures timely and reliable access to and use of information. The impact for each security objective is determined to be high, moderate, or low, based on definitions provided in FIPS 199. The highest of the individual security objective impact levels are used to determine the overall information system security impact level.

A contingency is an unexpected event or situation that affects the financial health, professional image, or market share of an enterprise. Generally, contingency plan involves five steps consisting of prepare, analyze, develop, implement and review. The beginning stage of contingency plan is to prepare a plan by considering future unexpected disaster. When any unexpected situation is created then management needs to analyze the situation by considering various outcomes. Again by understanding the situation it is essential to develop an action plan to face the new situation. The action plan developed should be implemented in practice through the support of all the stakeholders. Later on, the outcome of implementation should be reviewed to know about its outcomes.

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Review of Nepal-India Relationship: Nepal for Intellectual Engagement in Higher Education

Jant Raj Karki

Abstract

Though Nepal-India relation is deeply rooted in people's level, minor disputes on border are being created in the name of SSB and local people also adding tension on the relation between the two countries. Particularly the headache to Nepal is the widening trade deficit with India. The visit of CPN (UML) General Secretary Madav Kumar Nepal to India opened the space for ending Monarchy for Nepal as well as to bring Maoists in the political mainstream. As a result of Indian effort, SPA and CPN (Maoist) made 12- point agreement in the Indian territory. For India, the foremost issue with respect to Nepal is China and its evolving relationship with Kathmandu. Obviously other factors are at play as well, including the Indian worries over neglect in the constitution-writing process. Thus, India seems have increased the concern over Beijing's growing engagement in South Asian Countries, including Nepal. The fear of Chinese influence was also the first point raised by the Indian officials and analysts when asked to comment on the problems of the Maoist led government in 2008 and 2009. In addition, some of the Indian media also wrote that China had inspired Maoists to make confrontation with Nepal Army that led to the end of Marxist government too. In such scenario, the study of Nepal-India relation is very much significant and higher education can play effective role to promote relations among different countries.

Keywords: Relations, treaty, government, peace and friendship.

Introduction

Nepal a small nation bordering with two giant nations India and China of Asia extends between 26° 22' N to 30° 27' Latitude and 80° 4' E to 88° 4' E longitude (Everest Atlas, 2002) and Nepal shares its open border in the southern eastern and western sides with India. That is why the relation between the two countries, Nepal and India, is natural. Nepal-India relation goes back to the ancient times, perhaps even before the dawn of human civilization. In the course of bilateral relation spreading over such a long period in several dimensions including culture and history, religion and mythology, language and literature, trade and commerce (Dharamdasani, 2000).

There are different factors that have contributed to the shaping of Nepal-India relations. Geography including open border has played an important role in determining Nepal-India

relations in addition to socio-cultural attachment, lingual intimacy, people-to-people relation as well as the role of India in each political movement if Nepal such factors have contributed to build the relation between two nations very deep which is inevitable as well.

King Prithivi Narayan Shah, the Gorkhali king assumed the status of the monarch of the whole of Nepal since most of his period was spent on wars, conquests and national integration. He could not pay much attention to other national affairs. However, his immortal instruction popularly known as 'Divya Upadesh' is an important code of conduct in the domestic and foreign fronts. Similarly, Divya Upadesh is a source of education which is very meaningful and relevant to our life. Before the rise of Prithivi Narayan Shah, Nepal did not have a coherent and structured foreign and domestic policy as the political situation was in a state of flux. The basic tenet of Nepal's foreign policy was aptly underlined by king Prithivi Narayan Shah in one of his most brilliant expositions of the country's precarious geopolitical status, which dictates a policy of balancing Nepal's relation with India and China.

British India's policy towards Nepal in its initial stage was a projection of the commercial minded policy of the eighteenth century English company. It was promoted by an imaginary economic allurements. After the British took over Bengal in 1764, they soon became interested in the neighboring lands to the North. So-far unexplored and contemplating opportunities these might offer for trade. East India Company had taken Nepal as a transit point for its own trade with Tibet and China. And they tried to enter Nepal by hook or by crook, but Nepal denied their presence. But during the period of Warren Hasting's administration (1776-95) British followed a policy of self-restraint and caution. Any rash step was thoroughly discouraged: provocations were tolerated and attempts were made to bridge the gap between the country and Gorkha kingdom in order to prepare the ground for Anglo-Nepal friendship. The motivational force behind all these efforts was the restoration if not increase, of normal British trade with the Himalayan region. It was the Warren Hasting who first conceived the idea of free commercial intercourse between British India and Tibet through Nepal and worked out the strategy of having some sort of commercial treaty with Nepal. But the Gorkhas did not have trust in British intentions, and they "shunned and invaded the attempt on the part of the British to carry trade negotiations till as late as 1792 (Singh, 1996 p. 92). Anglo-Nepal war succeeded to fulfill the British interest in Nepal that resulted in the rise of Rana Rule in Nepal.

Before the beginning of modern education, there was the system of imparting Sanskrit education based on religion in Nepal. The education was for the Brahmins and Chhetris only. The Brahmins studied Vedas, Upanishada, (Astronomy) and science of rituals and the Chhetris learnt about administration and art of warfare. Education was necessary for those also who helped the king in administration and kept the records in the courts. Others needed no education. Buddhist monks also imparted education based on their religion. When Jung Bahadur Rana grabbed the power he adopted the policy of appeasing India (British East-India Company). The successor of Jung Bahadur Rana also followed same policy towards India either political or trade or others. Jung Bahadur Rana established the first formal school in 1853, named as

Durbar High School, for Rana children. The birth of Nepalese democracy in 1951 opened its classrooms to all children.

The Peace and Friendship Treaty of 1950 between Nepal and India made a turning point in the political relation between the two countries. The Treaty, which recognizes Nepal as a sovereign and independent country, came into force one year before the peoples' movement for democracy, which withdrew the Rana regime (Dharmadasani, 2000).

The Nepal-India Peace and Friendship Treaty signed on 31 July, 1950 has become the hot topic of discussion, discourse and debate in recent days. In fact the treaty triggered a great hullabaloo right after the emergence of the CPN (Maoist) as the largest political force in the election to Constituent Assembly. Maoist Chairman Prachanda said that the 1950 treaty should be abrogated as per the changed context (The Kathmandu post May 15, 2008). But later on, it seemed only vote politics and sentiment politics.

Objective of the Study

The main objective of the study is to analyze the Nepalese international relation with her close neighbors.

Methods Data Sources

This study has used secondary sources of information for the purpose of analyzing Nepal's relations with the neighbors. That's why the researcher spent long time for in collecting the related documents and studied hard. Thus library was used for collecting data, facts and the needy information was used. Books, articles/net articles and journal articles of various prominent authors have been used.

Results and discussions

This section started with results and discussions of the study, data basically related to the secondary sources.

Nepal-India Relation after 1950s

Though Nepal-India made diplomatic relation in 1947 when there was Rana rule in Nepal, significant changes occurred in Nepal-India relation after the 1950's Peace and Friendship Treaty because it has been the better spices to the leftist political parties working in Nepal. This treaty brought Nepal under India's security umbrella evidenced by the fact that the concern over security in the border areas led India send its Military Mission in 1952 and establish its check-posts which were later withdrawn in the late sixties as Nepal's Sovereign status came to be questioned (Dharmadasani, 2000)

Surprisingly, the most vital issue in the 1950 India-Nepal Treaty imbroglio has been the continuation of the regime of open border on which treaty is silent. This treaty is in high criticism due to its unequal provisions. As Baral has stated, this treaty was the extension of the "spirit" of 1923 Treaty, and it tried to encapsulate the entire gut of Nepal-India relations.

The three major aspects of the treaty are special security relations, relation among the people including the free movement of people across the borders without any passport and economic aspects (Baral, 2012). The Nepali politicians who want to link it up with nationalism assail the treaty provisions for being unequal. In their opinion, it smacks of colonialism as Nepal has been tied to Indian Security doctrine that keeps the Himalayan country as its spheres of influence (Baral, 2012).

During the 1960's, the Nepal-India and Nepal-China relation was in crisis. But Nepal adopted the neutral foreign policy during Indo-China war. That was a successful practice of Nepalese foreign policy.

The Nepal-India relation during the 1950s is entitled an era of special relation. Leo E Rose has interpreted the special era of Nepal-India relation saying that Nepal has been the mid-wife of India (Timalsina, 2002). But the successor of King Tribhuvan and King Mahendra adopted the Equi-distance and Equi-proximity foreign policy towards India and China. The best example of the foreign policy was Nepal's neutrality Indo-China War 1962. Late King Birendra continued the same foreign policy with his neighboring countries (Singh 2009). Further, he proposed Nepal as a 'Zone of peace but', India did not support it (Timalsina 2002).

The Indo-Pak war of December 1971 and re-emergence of India as a potential regional power had affected the course of New Delhi-Kathmandu relations in ways more than one. The role of India towards Sikkim was taken as imperialist design by the Nepalese press, and the anti-Indian demonstration and sentiment was made high. Nepalese view on the Sikkim issue clouded Indo-Nepal relations and New Delhi adopted a firm and assertive attitude towards Kathmandu. The visit of Prime Minister Nagendra Prasad Rijal succeeded to remove the misunderstanding between Nepal and India (Singh, 2009). Later on the Pokharan Nuclear test of 1974, May 9th was neither officially welcomed nor denounced by Nepal. Nepal followed equi-distance policy towards its neighboring nations that was continued by Late King Birendra too. The visit of Deng Xiaoping to Nepal signified as directing the Nepalese relation with China towards special relation.

However, given Nepali geopolitics, China probably sees the futility of excessive cursing of Nepal. The sheer reality of India's cultural, geographical and economic proximity with Nepal the consequence makes that it was very difficult to replace India's role in Nepal's economic development. Moreover, with the change in political command and incitation of economic liberalization, China talked about loss of hegemonies and expansion. But Indo- China relation during 1980s has drawn the balanced diplomacy with Nepal.

In 1978, India agreed for separate trade and transit treaties, satisfying a long-term demand of Nepal. In 1988, when the two treaties were up for renewal, Nepal is refusal to accommodate India's wishes on the transit treaty caused India to call for a single trade and transit treaty. Thereafter Nepal took a hard-line position that led to a crisis in India-Nepal relations. After two extensions, the two treaties expired on March 23, 1989, resulting in a virtual Indian economic blockage to Nepal that lasted until late April 1990. Although economic issues remained the

major factor in the confrontation between two countries, Indian dissatisfaction with Nepal's 1988 acquisition of Chinese weaponry played an important role. Such economic/trade issues had political notion with a motive of keeping pressure to the politicians and leaders.

Nepal-India Relation after 1990

The Nepal-India relation during 1987-89 was very much critical. The major reason behind such upsetting relation was the denial of India in Nepalese peace Zone proposal (Singh, 2009), whereas Nepal was restless to have an international guarantee, more or less, on the Swiss model of Nepal's independence, sovereignty and neutrality in the event of war in the region. The Government led by Girija Prasad Koirala formed after general election held in 1991 was blamed as this government was working to serve the interest of India more than Nepal's own interest all the time by CPN (UML), and was blamed not believing NC does not believe in equi-distance foreign policy towards India and China (Singh, 2009).

India tried to follow a policy of good neighboring relations on a one-term basis soon after the establishment of the United Front Government in 1995. The Mahakali Treaty signed between the two nations was the Indian policy of exploiting Nepal's water resources, UML blamed. Later, Gujral doctrine based on liberal neighborhood policy improved India's relation with South-Asian Nations. This policy had succeeded in getting Phulbari Bandargaha as trade rote to Nepal (Upreti, 2009).

The royal takeover of February 2005 by king Gyanendra annoyed New Delhi to a large extent. But India adopted wait and see policy. Later on, India decided to boycott the SAARC Summit, decided to suspend its arms assistance to Nepal. The Indian Prime Minister Dr. Man Mohan Singh met King Gyanendra and advocated for restoration of democracy in Nepal. India disliked the king Gyanendra's attempts of plying the China card. The seven party alliances was seeking direct support from India against king's takeover of Feb. 2005, and the conflicting Maoist since 1995 changed the earlier position of extreme policy on India. Dr. Baburam Bhattarai launched this pro-Indian project in Maoist party (Upreti, 2009). Under the India's direct mediation, the seven party alliance and CPN (Maoist) signed the 12 points agreement, and anti-king movement began in Nepal in April, 2006. Karan Singh Sita Ram Yechuri and other top Indian political leaders took vital steps for the desired political change in Nepal. The 19-day revolution introduced Loktanrta in Nepal, in which India played much more effective and result oriented role. That was due to her fear of Chinese presence in Nepal through king's role.

The Maoist regime in Nepal openly invited China to balance India's excessive role in Nepal. The first country that Pushpa Kamal Dahal "Prachanda" visited after being sworn in the as Prime Minster was China. This event had invited a discourse among the Nepalese as well as Indian press and in intellectuals about Nepal-India relation and new dimension. During the regime of Dahal, the priest issue of Pashupatinath temple also developed anti-Indian voice in Nepal but he took back his decision the issue of changing the priest (Bhatta Pujari). Likewise

Dr. Baburam Bhatarai had given interview to Anand Swoop Verma for think India Quarterly (Popular Indian popular magazine). On the Question ‘who are the friendly forces supporting your ideology?’ Dr. Bhattarai viewed that he would have to carry on only with those forces that were willing to support revolutionary changes and were in favor of empowerment of women and emancipation of Dalits, the tribes and other sections to the exploited lot.

The government led by CPN (UML) leader Madav Kumar Nepal formed after the resignation of Prime Minister Puspa Kamal Dahal due to the case of sacking the army chief: Rukmangat Katuwal was highly criticized by CPN (Maoist) blaming it of being pro-Indian government (termed as Kathaputali Sarkar). But the government of CPN (UML) president J.N. Khanal was highly neglected by India. India did not give in vitation to him for state visit too. Whereas the P.M. Dr. Manmohan Singh had viewed: “I would like to reiterate here that Nepal and India have enjoyed close and cordial relations since ancient times. They have been enriched by age-old bonds of civilization, geography and culture. This long-standing tradition has been re-enforced by successive consolidation of intense and diverse interactions that touch upon various aspects of our lives.

As a consequence, the deep reservoir of goodwill has generated admiration, respect and understanding between us. Mutual respect for sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity has further underpinned our engagement. People to people relations have added a profound and important dimension in our relationship (Collections from M.K. Nepal’s Interviews). But in reality, the relation between two nations is not actually what he said because India becomes happy with the Congress led government than Communist governments in Nepal. On the other hand, King Gyanendra’s proposal for membership of SAARC to China, after India proposed Afghanistan in Nov, 2005, Dhaka Summit, did not go well with King’s policy. Discretely showing its annoyance to the King who had already become a *bête noire* following the latter’s is decision to impose a state of emergency in Nepal on Feb. 1, 2005. India was unhappy with the king’s move for bringing China in the SAARC. Ultimately, Monarchy was wiped out from Nepal by the people’s Movement II, and the 12-point agreement had been the base for India to play her desired role in the politics of Nepal.

New Era of Relationship

After April Revolution, 2006, the relationship between Nepal and India has entered into the new era because Nepal’s dealings with India and China during 1950 to 2006 were more guided by the Monarchical system. The policies and programmes of Government of Nepal announced for the fiscal year 2010/11.

India was uncomfortable with Maoist government and its policy of sacking the “equal ties” with Beijing, as it was seen by the Indian media and analysts as a diplomatic code for an end to the very “special relationship” between India and Nepal. The Indians perceived Prime Minister Prachanda’s visit to China as the indication of shifting balance of power in China’s

favor. But the Maoist government got further support from Indian government when they formed their government in August 2008 in Nepal. Likewise, the government of CPN (UML) leader Madav Kumar Nepal was also criticized as pro-Indian government saying 'Kathputali Sarkar' by Maoists and Dr. Baburam Bhattarai who highly criticized as pro-Indian leader in CPN (Maoist) who ruled the nation haphazardly by appearing Indian through BIPPA and the process of security management of TIA.

The government of Dr. Bhattarai remained in post for 18 months due to being highly pro-Indian blamed by the opponents. The government formed under the chairmanship of Khil Raj Regmi was also somehow criticized as Indian grand design. It seems India came openly in Nepali politics with the second mass movement. But when it was denied, Nepal had to bear unofficial blocked during the BJP led government.

Conclusion

Nepal-India relation is very old as well as highly fluctuating because the role and interest of India in every political change of India is very high compared to the Chinese interest. But Nepal tries to remain indifferent here. The visit of CPN (UML) General Secretary, Madav Kumar Nepal to India opened the space for ending Monarchy as well as to bring the Maoist in political mainstream. As a result of Indian effort, the seven party alliance and CPN (Maoist) made 12 point agreement with the Indian mediation. This situation was up thrust due to the attitude of King Gyanendra on 6th Jetha, 2062. King Gyanendra called Mr. Shiva Shankar Mukharji at foreign ministry and suggested him not to talk in Nepalese internal affairs. This incident widened the gap between the neighboring countries.

The Loktantric movement known as April Movement in Nepal was openly supported by Indian leaders and the 11th Baishakh's achievement was welcomed by India. For India, the foremost issue with respect to Nepal is China and its evolving relationship with Kathmandu. Obviously other factors are at play as well, including Indian worries over neglect and mismanagement of the constitution-writing process and a view even within the Indian Communist party that the Maoist when in power and since "lost the plot" with respect to the main mandate of the CA poll 2008. Indeed Sita Ram Yechury, a member of Indian's upper house of parliament as well as the key communist party of India (Marxist) had advocated for assertive/positive role of India in resolving Nepal's crisis during the years 2004-2006 (Einsiedel Malove and Pradhan, 2012). Thus, India is increasingly concerned by Beijing's growing engagement in South Asian Countries, including Nepal. The fear of Chinese influence is also the first factor, Indian officials and analysts cite when asked to comment on the problems of the Maoist led government in 2008 and 2009. In addition, some of the Indian media also wrote that China had prompted the Maoists for confrontation with Nepal Army that led to the end of Marxist government too.

In such scenario, the study of Nepal-India relation is very much significant and higher education can play effective role to promote relations among different countries the neighboring

countries of Nepal. In the contemporary scenario of Nepalese higher education, however, the programmes offered by the higher education institutions of Nepal have not been so influential in creating awareness on the affairs related to international relation-particularly regarding the concerns on Nepal's relation to the neighboring countries. In this connection, the universities of Nepal need to play important role for promotional Nepal-India relation on "equality basis". For this purpose, they can raise awareness on the contemporary concerns related to the relations through intellectual engagement such as seminars, publications, interaction with the press, interaction with the government, and so on. The university curricula also need to be adjusted to accommodate this issue-e.g. by engaging the students in the tasks of seminar presentation on relevant themes etc.

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Students Perception and Satisfaction about Internal Assessment System

Gyani Malla, Ph.D

Abstract

Campuses need to understand students' perception and satisfaction about internal assessment system to make more effective for learning. This research has studied students' perception and satisfaction towards campus internal assessment system. Total 150 BBA students of four constituent campuses of Tribhuvan University are taken through using simple random sampling. Five likert scale (1= Very Unimportant, to 5= Very Important) is used to get perception of respondent regarding the home assignment, internal exam, group presentation and field visit, and another Five likert scale (1= Strongly Dissatisfied, to 5= Strongly Satisfied) is used to measure students' satisfaction. This study has found that students of BBA program do not prefer home assignment. Regarding the internal exam and group presentation, they have showed their perception on neutral and important or they have preferred little bit on these two criteria for learning and assessment. Regarding the satisfaction of students towards the internal assessment, 40% students have put their rate value on "satisfied" and aggregate mean of satisfaction is found 3.85, it indicated that that most of the students are satisfied. Campuses need to be modified in teaching learning method as well as assessment system for improving academic quality of students. Effective internal assessment system is strength of campus that support to cultivate the inner talent of students, makes differentiate from its competitors and makes own image in this competitive market place.

Keywords: BBA program, Internal assessment system, Perception, Constituent Campuses, Satisfaction

Introduction:

Students are the key stakeholders of campuses. they are source of revenue. Campuses need to understand the perception and satisfaction of students about every activities of academic program. It is essential to modify in the internal assessment system. If students are satisfied with internal assessment system, they pass positive messages about the campus academic program to other people that supports to build the image of campus in the market. This research has taken perception and satisfaction of students about internal assessment system of Constituent campuses of Tribhuvan University. Perception is the customer's judgment about the service encounter (Zeithaml et al., 1990). Students are the customer of campuses. Perception emerged after customer experienced the service. Students' perception about internal assessment system should be known to modify in the existing system of campuses as a result campus can face the market competition. It is one of the major components of education system of campuses. The education process in

any discipline of learning ends with assessment of learning and examinations. The entire effort put in by the teachers on teaching and the students' learning is centered on getting good results in the examinations through using effective internal assessment system. In BBA (Bachelor in Business Administration) program, various methods like home assignment, class test, internal exam, pre-board, group presentation, attendance, field visit, seminar, project work etc. are done for learning as well as assessment. Internal assessment is very essential for campuses to improve the level of knowledge and behavior of students. It is also importance to improve the academic quality of constituent campuses. Constituent Campus means a University Campus maintained and administered by the university. Tribhuvan University (TU) consists of various constituent campuses that are dedicated to providing quality education in Nepal. These campuses specialize in diverse academic disciplines, ranging from medicine and engineering to social sciences and management. Each constituent campus contributes to the university's mission of imparting knowledge, fostering research, and preparing students for successful careers in their respective fields. These campuses collectively form the backbone of Tribhuvan University, ensuring the availability of comprehensive educational opportunities for students across Nepal.

UGC Report (2014/15) The Tribhuvan University (TU) is the first university of Nepal was established in 1959 AD. Under the TU, The FOM offers instruction to Bachelor of Business Studies (BBS), Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), Bachelor of Travel and Tourism Management (BTTM), Bachelor of Hotel Management (BHM), Bachelor of Information Management (BIM), Post Graduate Diploma in Police Science (PGDPS), Master of Business Studies (MBS), Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Public Administration (MPA), Master of Travel and Tourism Management (MTTM), Master of Hospitality Management (MHM) and Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.). The FOM also offers doctoral program in management leading to a degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D).

BBA program of Tribhuvan University is semester program that consists of 48 month or 8 semesters covering with 120 credit hours. Each semester consists of 15 credit hours. In case of examination and evaluation system, the internal (ongoing) evaluation and external (end of the semester) examination carry 40 percent and 60 percent weightage respectively. For 40 percentage internal evaluation, class assignment, home assignment, attendant, case study and presentation, research work, project work, discipline etc. are to be considered for evaluation. Students have to obtain 50 percent to pass in the both internal and external board exam. Students must pass in internal exam to appear in semester exam. In case, the percentage of marks obtained in internal exam is found exceeded by 20 percent than the external board exam, the marks obtained in the internal exam will be reduced to 80 percent. Semester exam will be held two times in a year. Semester exam will be conducted by the concerned office of the dean. Evaluation Method of BBA is GPA (Grade Point Average). Students must secure a minimum of grade "C" or Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 in the internal evaluation in order of qualify to appear in the semester examination along with minimum 80% attendance of students. In order to pass the semester examination, the students must secure a minimum "C" grade.

Literature Review

Literature review about internal assessment of students, perception and satisfaction of students about are done. They are given here;

Internal Assessment

"Assessment is a broad phrase that encompasses a whole range of processes to learn more about student learning, and the formation of value judgments concerning the learning process" (Robert & Norman, 2000, cited in Khanal; Ghimire, Bhattarai, Niure, & Ghimire, 2019). According to the Cambridge English Dictionary, "assessment is the act of judging or deciding the amount, value, quality, or importance of something." As a result, assessment is a tool for determining the outcomes of the learners. Today, the word "evaluation" has been changed to "assessment," because "assessment measures the process and outcomes of the learners" (Khanal et al. 2019). This is the definition of assessment, and to get this definition, we have to determine what are the tools to measure it and how students perceive the tools.

According to Behera (2017), "assessment" refers to the process of gathering pieces of information about learners' skills, abilities, and knowledge. It also provides feedback on students' performance to encourage them to further learn. Internal assessment is one main aspect of the overall assessment of teaching learning and examination system.

Internal assessment is connected with the formation of better knowledge, it allows the students to improve their learning performance, the students make their evaluation, classrooms are student-friendly, etc. if you want to score higher, you can do, by doing the assignment. All the marks obtained by the student by doing the assignment will be added to the final result. So, students are engaged in the internal assessment process, and what they do they get results immediately and a chance to get better. But if the student takes it in a normal way, then it could be harmful to the student. As a result, student's perception is inseparably linked to the internal assessment system (Bastola, 2023).

Perceptions: Perception refers how do students feel about the overall services which they receive. Strydom, Jooste and Cant (2000) have defined that customer perception as the process of receiving, organising and assigning meaning to information or stimuli detected by the customer's five senses and believe that it gives meaning to the world that surrounds the customer. Schiffman and Kanuk (1987) have also defined perceptions as the process by which an individual selects, organizes and interprets stimuli into a meaningful and coherent picture of the world. Athiyaman (1997) noted that service quality perception is an attitude derived from an evaluation of a product or service after the consumption experience. Perception is also considered relative to expectation. Here, perception means what students have perceived about internal assessment system designed by campuses. It is important to know whether students' perception regarding internal assessment system lead to satisfaction or not?

Satisfaction: Satisfaction has been defined as the perception of pleasurable fulfillment of a service (Oliver, 1999). Oliver (1997) argues that customer satisfaction can be described as a

judgment that a product or service feature, or the product or service itself, provides pleasurable consumption.

Parasuraman, Zeithaml, and Berry (1985) described customer satisfaction as the difference between observed and expected quality. Today students (customer) satisfaction is an important subject and is also often discussed in marketing literature. Satisfaction can be described as a number of post experience decisions.

Zeithaml and Bitner (2003) argue that customer satisfaction has become a major contributor for enhancing a service company such as long term profitability, customer loyalty, and customer retention. The results of previous research reveal that students who are satisfied may attract new students by engaging in speech of positive word-of mouth communication to inform their friends and acquaintances, and they could go back to the university to further continue their study or take other courses (Helgesen & Nasset, 2007; Gruber et al., 2010). Internal assessment system of campuses is also major component of each academic program that play vital role to make program more attractive and reliable.

Research Methodology

The study is conducted at four constituent campuses of Tribhuvan University of Kathmandu valley. It is the descriptive research design. Respondents are students of BBA program of seventh and eighth semester. Population is total BBA students of Kathmandu valley and sample size is 150 respondents (students). Among the total 150 respondents, 75 students of seventh and 75 students of eighth semester are taken for the study. Simple random sample was employed in selecting respondents from BBA program. Total 177 questionnaire were distributed directly as well google form to respondents, among them 161 questionnaires were received and 150 questionnaires were used for the study, which were completed. Structured questionnaire was used to receive response of respondents. In questionnaire, five likert scale [1= Very Unimportant (VUI), 2=Unimportant(UI), 3=Neutral (N), 4=Important (I) and 5= Very Important(VI)] was used to get perception of respondent regarding the home assignment, internal exam, group presentation and field visit, and another five likert scale [1= Strongly Dissatisfied (SD), 2=Dissatisfied (D), 3=Neutral (N), 4=Satisfied (S) and 5= Strongly Satisfied (SS)] was used to measure students' satisfaction towards the internal assessment system. Percentage, mean, significance of t value are used through SPSS 13 to analyze the data.

Presentation and Analysis of Data

Home assignment is given by the teacher to students to evaluate their level of learning and understanding about the subject matter which is taught either inside the class room or outside the class room. Internal exam is done by the administration of BBA program as determined schedule. Generally, first term internal, second term internal and pre-board exam are done to assessment the students' academic level. Group presentation on subject matter or current issue is assigned by the subject teacher to students for group presentation and discussion. Students prepare and make the

power point and present in the class room and discuss over the topic. Presentation build up the confidence level of students for presentation and helps to improve academic level also. Field visit is off class room activities, industrial visit, market visit, or visit of different places and cities are done to enhance students' knowledge about the real field, activities, market, places and overall environment. Like-wise, students' satisfaction about these four variables is measured. Students' perception and satisfaction of BBA program have measured by using Five likert scale (1= Very Unimportant to 5= Very Important) for perception and another Five likert scale (1= Strongly Dissatisfied, to 5= Strongly Satisfied) for satisfaction. Home assignment, internal exam, group presentation and field visit are used to measure students' perception whereas satisfaction regarding these five variables is measured. The table 1 has shown the result;

Table 1
Students Satisfaction about Internal Assessment

| Students Perception and Satisfaction about Internal Assessment | | | | | | |
|---|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Total sample: 150 | Percentage (%) | | | | | |
| Perception Variables/Rate Value | 1. VUI | 2. UI | 3. N | 4. I | 5. VI | Mean |
| Home Assignment | 16.7 | 14.7 | 47.3 | 21.3 | 000 | 2.73 |
| Internal exam | 10% | 6% | 26% | 27.3% | 30.7% | 3.62 |
| Group Presentation | 6.7% | 7.3% | 36% | 43.3% | 6.7% | 3.36 |
| Field visit and reporting making | 000 | 4% | 16.7% | 51.3% | 28% | 4.03 |
| Satisfaction Variable/Rate Value | SDS | DS | N | S | SS | Mean |
| Satisfaction | 000 | 15.3% | 14.7% | 40% | 30% | 3.85 |
| All five variable (Home assignment, Internal exam, Group presentation, Field visit and Satisfaction) are found Significance at 95% confidence level (2-tailed sig. 0.000) | | | | | | |

Regarding the home assignment, highest 47.3% students of BBA program have put their perception on "neutral" whereas no one has put in "very important". 16.7%, 14.7% and 21.3 % students have given their perception in very unimportant, unimportant and important respectively. In case of internal exam, highest 30.7% and lowest 6% students have put their perception in "very important" and "unimportant" respectively. They have put their 10%, 26%, and 27.3% perception in "very unimportant", neutral, and important respectively. Similarly, for group presentation, highest 43.3% students have given their perception on "important" and lowest "6.7" % students have given their perception on both "important" and "very unimportant" regarding the group presentation. Likewise, 7.3% and 36% students' perception about group presentation found in "unimportant" and "neutral" respectively. Likewise, highest 51.3% students have put their perception rate value in "important" and no one has put on "very unimportant" regarding the field visit and report making. Similarly, 4%, 16.7% and 28% students' perception regarding the field visit and report making found in "unimportant", "neutral" and "very important" respectively. It has showed that maximum students have preferred field visit and reporting making for learning. In case of satisfaction, highest 40% students of BBA program have found in the "satisfied" rate value

and 30% students are in "strongly satisfied" regarding the internal assessment system of campus.

Mean value of home assignment (2.73), internal exam (3.62), group presentation (3.36), field visit (4.03) and satisfaction (3.85) have found that indicates that students have put their rate value on "unimportant and neutral" for home assignment. It also shows that they do not prefer home assignment. Similarly, Students have given their perception on "neutral" and "important" for both internal exam and group discussion. Likewise, they have given their perception on "important and very important" for the field visit. It has indicated that students prefer field visit for the learning. Similarly, mean value of satisfaction has showed that students are "neutral and satisfied with the internal assessment of campuses. Likewise, mean value of all five variables home assignment, internal exam, group presentation, field visit and report making and satisfaction are found significant at 95% confidence level.

Conclusion and Implication

Students of BBA program have perceived that field visit and report making are "important" and "very important" for learning and internal assessment also. They do not prefer home assignment. Regarding the internal exam and group presentation, they have showed their perception on "neutral" and "important" or they have preferred these two criteria also for learning and internal assessment. To some extent, students are found satisfied with all these four criteria/variables because 40% students have rated in "satisfied" whereas 30% students have rated in "strongly satisfied" and aggregate mean of satisfaction is found 3.85, it has supported that most of the students are satisfied. However, campuses need to improve and modified in their teaching-learning and assessment system for making more effective to BBA program to fit with the changing competitive environment. Students of 21 century have multiple options, they can choose different academic program in different campuses as well as universities. The result of this study regarding the group presentation looks similar with the study of Bastola (2023), he found that students are "undecided and disagree" about the "Participation and Presentation" statement. Likewise, regarding the home assignment, the result of this study also found very close with the study of Bastola (2023). He found aggregate mean value of home assignment is 3.60 that has indicated that students are undecided and disagree regarding this statement.

Result of the study helps to take right strategic decision in modification in the teaching learning method and assessment system of campuses. Internal assessment system of BBA program should be more effective to satisfy students. Students of BBA prefer to get knowledge from outside the class room, not only from inside the class room activities. The result of this study has revealed that students prefer to field visit to get new knowledge, to be familiar with real world, and environment.

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Brand Packaging and Consumer Buying Behavior: A Case of Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG)

Sanu Babu Bhujel

ABSTRACT

This study analyzed how of packaging influence on the consumer buying behavior. The research adopted the descriptive research design. Data has been collected through primary sources. Using 5 point likert scale, the study found Packaging is the essential and significant factor which largely persuades the consumer buying behavior. It can be considered as one of most valued tool in today's marketing communications, acquiring additional detail analysis of its elements and an influence of such elements on consumers buying behavior. Mostly consumer wants products that have attractive shape and which are easy to use and carry. It also implies that using attractive packaging shape can capture customer attention.

Keywords: Brand Packaging, Conjumer, Buying Behaviour, Products

INTRODUCTION

The packaging is one of the most essential points of interaction between the brand and consumer. Packaging has thus gained extreme importance in this marketing mix since consumers scrutinize many products, displayed on retail shelves before purchasing any one. Taking into consideration this important fact, packaging is now being assessed and necessary changes are being made in retail packaging design. Packaging is the technology of enclosing or protecting products for distribution, storage, sale, and use. Packaging contains, protects, preserves, transports, informs, and helps product to sell. Most commercial packaging serves two basic purposes: protecting the product from damage throughout shipping, and promoting the product to ultimate consumers.

The packaging is one of the most essential points of interaction between the brand and consumer. Packaging has thus gained extreme importance in this marketing mix since consumers scrutinize many products, displayed on retail shelves before purchasing any one. Taking into consideration this important fact, packaging is now being assessed and necessary changes are being made in retail packaging design.

The significance of consumer packaging was elevated in the United States during the late 1970s and 1980s. Speedy post-war economic expansion and market growth waned during that period, forcing companies to focus increasingly on luring consumers to their product or brand at the expense of the competition. Package design became a marketing science. And, as a new corporate cost-consciousness developed in response to increased competition, companies began to alter packaging techniques as a way to cut production, storage, and distribution expenses.

Furthermore, marketers began to view packaging as a tool to exploit existing product lines by adding new items and to pump new life into maturing products.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Since packaging directly connects to the quality of the product and since it affects whether or not a product is noticed on the store shelf, it can impact the purchase for all four of the types of consumer buying behavior. As such, it needs to be fully utilized for communicating the brand message through design and messaging. Product packaging and product labels are the ultimate opportunity for marketers to relay the brand's message and visually convey that the product is a better choice than its competitors. All most of the organizations have a very insufficient knowledge about packaging, its components and how it affects consumer buying behavior. Despite of the researches regarding packaging repeatedly undertaken worldwide, proper studies on this subject in Nepal are still lacking in consumer non-durable sector. The right research and right knowledge about the major factors that can affect the purchasing behavior can help the organization succeed.

The aim of the study is to determine how brand packaging influence on consumer buying behavior in perspective of FMCG (Detergents, soap, shampoo, milk and soft drinks), to identify the most importance aesthetic element of brand packaging that are most appealing to consumer in the sale of product and to identify whether any change in product packaging changes consumer buying pattern. Research is conducted in Kathmandu valley

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objective of the study will be to analyze how of packaging influence on the consumer buying behavior. And other objectives will be as follows

To find out whether packaging elements effect on the consumer buying behavior. Namely, to check how consumer perceives and values colors, shape, size and labeling of the package.

To know how color of packaging matters consumer in purchase of product.

To estimate the preference of consumer for the product packaging having attractive shape.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Although this research was prepared carefully, the period of time is not sufficient for the researcher to observe large respondents from different areas of city; research can be further conducted in other cities of Nepal also but it only focused mainly on one city. This study will be totally based on the views and responses received from consumers of Kathmandu valley only. The findings of the study may not be applicable for other products and other parts of the country.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Alice Louw (2006) has studied The Power of Packaging the people belonged to Age 20-30 years old University graduates were taken for research.20 respondents were asked to rank 5

water bottles in terms of their overall appeal. Following this, they were given a questionnaire and asked to rate each of the bottles on 20 statements related their packaging. For the remaining 20 respondents, the order of the process was switched: they rated the bottles first and then ranked them. The statements ranged from functional attributes (e.g. easy to drink from, right size) to more emotive, non-functional attributes (e.g. I like the colors, high quality). For both groups there was a clear winner and a clear loser in terms of the rankings. However, although the top brand chosen was consistent in both groups, the worst brand differed. The group that ranked the bottles first showed more variance in terms of their responses (Variance 1.33) than the second group who rated the attributes first (variance 0.89). This Packaging plays an important role in the marketing context. His research results that right packaging can help a brand carve a unique position in the marketplace and in the minds on consumers.

Agariya, Johari, Sharma, Chandraul and Singh (2012) conducted their research in India taking a sample size 103 responders for questionnaire and 15 responders for pulse rate. Research says that packaging is studied as fundamental component of the ‘Product’ of marketing mix. This paper is aimed to measure the role of packaging in brand awareness and considering the factors of packaging to deliver the brand importance to final users. Packaging assists as a promotional instrument besides other basic functions. Through suitable and correct packaging can benefit a brand to shape a particular place in minds of consumer as well as in market place that’s why companies nowadays are creating new tactics and techniques to acquire and retain customers by its unique packaging strategies.

Mitul Deliya & Bhavesh Parmar (2012) has studies the “Role of Packaging on Consumer Buying Behavior – Patan District”. The aim of this article is to get the A study to point towards role of packaging on consumer buying behavior. The basic purpose of this it is to find out how such factors are behind the success of packaging. The purpose of this research is to know the relationship between independent variable and dependent variables. The research is based in Patan District of Gujarat (India). The packaging is the most important factor. The consumer buying behavior is dependent on the packaging and on its features. Packaging elements like Packaging color. Background Image, Packaging Material, Font Style, Design of wrapper, Printed Information and Innovation is taken as predictors. Due to increasing self-service and changing consumers’ lifestyle the interest in package as a tool of sales promotion and stimulator of impulsive buying behavior is growing increasingly. So package performs an important role in marketing communications, especially in the point of sale and could be treated as one of the most important factors influencing consumer’s purchase decision.

Hiremath and Jagtap (2012) have developed an article, “Consumers’ buying behavior and brand loyalty of tetra packed juices with reference to Pune city”. The article was designed to examine the consumer behavior and brand loyalty for tetra packed juices in Pune City, Maharashtra, India. The study of consumer behavior is a very complex process, as it involves not only the economic factors, but also the emotional factors. However, marketers need to study the consumer behavior, as it helps them for better positioning of their products and develop effective marketing

strategies. Buying Habits and buying decision constitute consumer's decision-making behavior. The objective of the study was to study brand preference brand loyalty of the consumers with respect to tetra packed fruit juices in Pune city. The conclusion of the research concluded that maximum respondents are aware with brand of the product.

Rundh (2013) worked on the different aspect of consumer buying behavior on the different place of Pakistani market. They found that packaging is important factor for the consumer buying decision and communication of information about the product. Packaging displays whole of the information regarding any product like where they are manufactured, who are the manufacturer, what are ingredient, what are their weight, when was made, types etc. The packaging elements like (color, size, design, labeling, material,) are extremely important for product, keep customer satisfied and for the manufacturer who used printed information in packaging as a product promotion compared with that of very expensive advertisement.

RESEARCH METHOD

The research adopted the descriptive research design. Data has been collected through primary sources. Self-structured questionnaire is used to collect data and questionnaire was distributed to all users, buyers and deciders of FMCG having different education level and age. Sample size is 50. To make analysis of data, STATA software has been used to find the influence of brand packaging elements on consumer buying behavior and to determine whether any change in packaging changes the consumer buying behavior or not.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF DATA

This research is based on primary data only. The data used in this research paper quantitative in nature. Self-designed closed ended questionnaires were administered to gauge the preferences of respondents. The questionnaires were rated on the 5 point likert scales with 1 for definitely not and 5 for definitely yes. The questionnaires were administered online as well as offline to seek responses.

DATA ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

Descriptive statistic

Table 1

Gender of the Respondents

| | Demographic features | No. of respondents | Percentage |
|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Gender | Male | 30 | 28.00% |
| | Female | 78 | 72.00% |
| | Total | 108 | 100.0% |
| Age Group | Below 20 years | 28 | 26.00% |
| | 20-30 | 60 | 56.00% |
| | Above 30 years | 20 | 18.00% |
| | Total | 108 | 100.0% |

| Education | | No of respondents | Percent |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| | Below SLC | 11 | 10.00% |
| | Higher education | 28 | 26.00% |
| | Bachelor | 60 | 56.00% |
| | Master and anove | 9 | 8.00% |
| | Total | 108 | 100.00% |
| Occupation | Government and Private Jobs | 35 | 32.00% |
| | Students and Others | 48 | 44.00% |
| | No Job and business | 25 | 24.00% |
| | Total | 108 | 100% |
| Monthly Income | Below Rs 10,000 | 41 | 38.00% |
| | Rs10,000-20,000 | 35 | 32.00% |
| | Above Rs20,000 | 32 | 30.00% |
| | Total | 108 | 100.00% |

Table 1 presents the descriptive statistics of the 108 respondents. The first row of the table shows the gender of the respondents. Out of total 108 respondents, 30 are male and 78 respondents are female, which come 28% male and 72% female. The second reveals age distribution of the respondent. Out of total 108 respondents, 28 are from below 20, 60 are from 20-30 years and 20 respondents are from above 30 years. The third row presents education level of respondents. Most of the investors are well educated as majority of respondents have Bachelor degree & above representing 64.00 percent of total respondents and the investors having higher secondary degree are in second place with 26.00 percent of the total respondents. The fourth row of table 2 reports the composition of respondents based on profession. 31 percent of respondents are government and private job holder. The last row reveals that respondents with income less than Rs. 10,000 are highest with 38 percent followed the respondents with income between Rs. 10,000 to 20,000 with 31 percent.

Table 2
Color of Packaging Matters Customer in Purchase of Product

| | | Frequency | Percent |
|-------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Valid | Definitely not | 9 | 8.33 |
| | Probably not | 18 | 16.67 |
| | Possibly | 31 | 28.70 |
| | Probably yes | 26 | 24.07 |
| | Definitely yes | 24 | 22.22 |
| | Total | 108 | 100 |

Table 2 presents the customer perception towards the Color of Packaging Matters Customer in Purchase of Product. Based on the table, out of 100%, 28.9% respondents says that color of packaging possibly influence on consumer buying behavior, 23.4% says probably yes, 21.6% says definitely yes, 17% says probably not and only 8.7% says definitely not. This shows that if the packaging has attractive, right tone of colors that delivers clearly the message of your product then it will influence consumer buying behavior and consumer will purchase that product.

Table 3

Consumer prefers the product having attractive shape.

| | | Frequency | Percent |
|-------|----------------|-----------|---------|
| Valid | Definitely not | 7 | 6.48 |
| | Probably not | 16 | 14.81 |
| | Possibly | 29 | 26.85 |
| | Probably yes | 31 | 28.70 |
| | Definitely yes | 26 | 24.07 |
| | Total | 108 | 100 |

Table 3 presents the customer preference towards attractive shape of product. According to Table 3, 28.7% people say probably yes, 26.85% says possibly, 24.07% says definitely yes, 14.81% says probably not and 6.48% says definitely not. Based on this, mostly consumer want a product that have attractive shape and which are easy to use and carry. It also implies that using attractive packaging shape can capture customer attention. So attractive packaging shape can make a brand unique, can create an iconic brand image, supports in affirming brand name, retain its distinctiveness, and stands out on the shelf. Shape increases the value of physical appearance of a brand and intensifies its aesthetics components.

Table 4

Consumer purchase products that have adequate size

| | | Frequency | Valid Percent |
|-------|----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Valid | definitely not | 18 | 16.67 |
| | probably not | 48 | 44.44 |
| | possibly | 68 | 62.96 |
| | probably yes | 64 | 59.26 |
| | definitely yes | 17 | 15.74 |
| | Total | 215 | 100.0 |

Table 4 presents the respondents' opinion regarding the size of product. According to Table 4 62.96% people says that they possibly, 59.26% people probably yes, 44.44% people probably not, 15.74% people definitely not and 16.67% people purchase the product that have adequate size. This result shows that package size, that is one of the utmost accessible and easy-to-process product cues to which customer are exposed, can have a significant impact on consumer buying pattern. Increase in size increases the sales volume by increasing the number of consumers who purchases a product.

CONCLUSION

This study examined the influence of brand packaging elements on consumer buying behavior. Packaging is the essential and significant factor which largely persuades the consumer buying behavior. It can be considered as one of most valued tool in today's marketing communications, acquiring additional detail analysis of its elements and an influence of such elements on consumers buying behavior. The influence of package and its elements on consumer's buying decision can

be demonstrated by evaluating an importance of its separate elements for consumer's preference. For this objective main package's elements determines are: color, size, shape and material of packaging are considered most important. Mostly consumer wants products that have attractive shape and which are easy to use and carry. It also implies that using attractive packaging shape can capture customer attention. So attractive packaging shape can make a brand unique, can create an iconic brand image, supports in affirming brand name, retain its distinctiveness, and stands out on the shelf. Shape adds value in the physical appearance of a brand and intensifies its aesthetics components. Results shows that most of the people will not change the product as the packaging changes they will continue to buy the same product. Minor packaging material or dimension changes to the FMCG item do not significantly affect the buying pattern of consumer for FMCG products on the retail shelf. But an enchanting and good quality change in a packaging of a product significantly improves the sales volume.

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Migration trend in Nepal

Suman Kumar Shrestha

Abstract

Migration is the process or act of migrating, i.e. the movement from one region or place of habitat to another. This study identifies the migration trend in Nepal. Labor migration is amovement of persons from their home State to another State for the purpose of employment. The factors of migration are economic, socio-cultural, demographic, political and miscellaneous. Likewise wise, impact of migrations are economic development, human development, health, education, skills, gender and environment. Especially, it seems that the India is the first share of employment country of because that is a neighboring country and open boarder between Nepal and India. Lumbini province is the highest (410,751) people and Karnali province is the lowest (67,582) people respectively were emigrated in Nepal. Nepal's economy is associated with the increase in foreign employment trends. Even though current trends have shown continuous increase in the pattern, there is much uncertainty on how long the trend can maintain or at what levels. Studies suggest that the demand for labor migrants in GCC (Gulf Co-operative Council) countries and Malaysia will continue in the near future, although multiple factors (not just the demand in the international market) influence any one worker's decision for foreign employment. The on the whole increasing number of labor permits issued is only one aspect of the foreign employment trend. Understanding linked trends is also essential from a national development point of view: foreign employment and national development. There is need for a more comprehensive understanding of how the profit of foreign employment can be optimized for use in national development beyond 2019.

Keywords: Labour migration, Remittance, GDP, Pull factors and Push factors.

Introduction

Human migration involves the movement of people from one place to another with intentions of settling, permanently or temporarily, at a new location (Wikipedia.). The National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) of 20065 defines “migrant” as: A household member who had moved away in the 12-month period prior to the survey.

The NDHS Survey of 2016 defines “migrant” as: A person who has migrated away from the household in the 10 years prior to the survey.

The National Labour Force Surveys (NLFS) of 2003/4, 2008 and 2017/18 count migrants at the destination, namely Nepal, and define “migrant” as: Any household member who was not born in their current place of residence but who moved to their current residence from another VDC or municipality or from another country (i.e. internal migrants and immigrants).

People frequently migrate to places with better pull factor to escape places with push factors, such as natural disasters, persecution, poor opportunities etc. Pull factors: Factors which attract

the migrants to an area to the country of destination such as, opportunities for better employment, higher wages, facilities, better jobs opportunities better working conditions, amenities religious freedom, political freedom and others. Push factors: Factors which drive people to leave their place and go to some other place or country (such as economic, social, or political problems or natural calamities, conflict, drought, famine, or extreme religious activity, low economic activity and lack of job opportunities). Other push factors include race and discriminating cultures, political intolerance, and persecution of people. Migration impacts both the place left behind and on the place where migrants settle. These impacts can be both positive and negative.

Some people decide to migrate, e.g. someone who moves to another country to improve their career opportunities. Some people are forced to migrate, e.g. someone who moves due to famine or war.

A refugee is someone who has left their home and does not have a new one. Often refugees do not carry have possessions with them and do not know where they will finally settle.

The National Living Standards Survey (NLSS-III) specifies that: A person who has changed his/her residence from previous place (another VDC or municipality or another country) to the present place (VDC or municipality) is considered a migrant in this survey. There are two commonly known and accepted types of migration i.e. internal migration, and international migration.

Internal migration: Refers to changes of residence within a nation.

Internal migrant worker: (i) A Nepali national who resides at the time of interview in his or her usual residence, but works in another location in the same country; (ii) A Nepali national who moved from his or her usual residence to another location in the same country for employment purpose.

International migration: The movement of persons away from their place of usual residence and across an international border to a country.

In other words, International migration occurs when people cross state boundaries and stay in the host state for some minimum length of time. Migration occurs for many reasons. Many people leave their home countries in order to look for economic opportunities in another country

Nepal has 77 districts. The study of migration in Nepal frequently addresses inter-district migration. This increases the volume of migration substantially and represents intra-provincial migration because one province has several districts.

The objectives of this paper are (i) to introduce the history of emigration of Nepalese people, and (ii) to highlight the role of emigration in Nepalese socio economic sectors.

DATA AND METHOD /METHODOLOGY

This paper is developed by the secondary sources of data. The researcher used different data sources in the previous national documents, policies, plans, strategies, booklets, reports, programs, projects related to migration in Nepal were collected from the concerned, office, projects as well as official websites reports. Data were collected mainly the Department of Foreign Employment, the Foreign Employment Promotion Board on in Nepal, Migration in Nepal, A Country Profile

2019. The trends in foreign employment are presented. Accordingly the approach is analytical.

Discussions and Results

Migration trends in Nepal

The history of formal labor migration begins in 1814-1816, after the Nepal-British India war. The Sugauli Treaty ended the war, and Nepal lost about one third of its territory. After the treaty of Sugauli the Britain started to recruit Nepali Gurkhas to join the East India Company. It was the start of a significant trend of Nepali Gurkhas being recruited into the British and Indian armies and, more generally, young Nepali men going abroad for work. In the First World War about 100,000 Nepali men served the British, a sacrifice that was recognized by the signing of the British-Nepal Treaty of Friendship in 1923 (Brown, Rana & Raj, 2012).

Likewise, the migration of Nepalese people for other objectives of employment, such as working in the tea states of Darjeeling and Assam of India began in the second half of the 19th century. Especially Nepali young people migrated for the Economic activities to the Middle East from South Asia and other parts of the world were encouraged in oil natural resources countries in early 1970s. International labor migration, mostly to Gulf States (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates), Malaysia and other South East Asian countries is a new phenomenon of migration in the Nepali context with about a 30 years' history. Due to the foreign labor migration has developed in such a way that it has changed the agricultural-based Nepali economy towards remittance-based economy (DoFE, 2014).

Nepal's migration condition is conquered by migration of Nepalis for foreign employment. According to CBS, 2011 on population and housing showed that about 50 percent member of Nepal's household had

who were either working overseas or had returned. While this labor migration has a significant positive effect on Nepal's economy, it also has a series of socio economic impacts on the welfare of Nepali nationals and their communities. Exploitation of migrant workers is rife and a spiraling labor or migrants may find themselves in a situation of irregular migration or trafficking. Due to climate change, environmental degradation, natural disaster and man-made disasters also help to internal and international migration. The causes of open border Nepal and India many Nepalese people migrate in India. Although the lack of data on this issue is of concern, it is recognized that there are frequent and extensive cross-border movements, which have significant impacts for Nepal, both positive and potentially negative.

Usually, Nepali migrant workers required employment mainly in India. But from the mid-1980s, Nepalis started also to migrate to the Gulf countries and Malaysia for work which resulted in an increase in migrant workers as well as in an increase of labour employment agencies and brokers. During past two decades, Nepal has also witnessed an increase in the number of Nepali women. The danger of misuse and cruelty of women migrant workers is high, particularly in largely unregulated sectors such as domestic work and the Government has put in place a series of measures looking for to protect women migrants. The Government has required reflecting increased protections for Nepali labour migrants into two-sided agreements with countries of

destination. The Government of Nepal has also made legislative changes designed to offer protections, including in the regulation of recruiting companies as well as instituting a “free visa free ticket” scheme where by employers are to bear the visa and air travel expenses for workers going for employment in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain and Malaysia. While there are labour laws and standard in place in countries of destination, their full implementation is needed.

Labour Migration in Other Countries

The change in migration pattern to destinations away from India obviously coincides with the formulation of the first Foreign Employment Act in 1985. It is obvious that the Act made likely the mobility of Nepalis for employment to destinations beyond India by, among other things, location out events to obtain employment abroad. (Sinjapati & Limbu, 2012).

The DoF issued 4,099,926 labour permits between 2008/2009 and 2018/2019 that comprised 3,888,035 male and 211,891 females. (MOLE, 2008/9-2019/20). In FY 2018/2019 only, DoFE issued 236,211 labour permits, a sharp decline from FY 2017/2018 when 354,082 labour permits were issued.

Table 1: Labour permits issued by place of destination and sex, 2018/2019

| Place of destination | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|----------------------|--------|------------|--------|------------|--------|------------|
| | No. | Percentage | No. | Percentage | No. | Percentage |
| Qatar | 71,322 | 30.2 | 3702 | 1.6 | 75,024 | 31.76 |
| United Arab Emirates | 55,444 | 23.5 | 7,332 | 3.1 | 62,776 | 26.58 |
| Saudi Arabia | 44,493 | 18.8 | 1587 | 0.7 | 46,080 | 19.51 |
| Kuwait | 14,417 | 6.1 | 1578 | 0.7 | 15,995 | 6.77 |
| Malaysia | 9,828 | 4.2 | 171 | 0.1 | 9,999 | 4.23 |
| Bahrain | 4,198 | 1.8 | 435 | 0.2 | 4,633 | 1.96 |
| Oman | 2,401 | 1.0 | 321 | 0.1 | 2,722 | 1.15 |
| Japan | 870 | 0.4 | 89 | 0.0 | 959 | 0.41 |
| Maldives | 1,484 | 0.6 | 490 | 0.2 | 1,974 | 0.84 |
| Cyprus | 194 | 0.1 | 1,536 | 0.7 | 1,730 | 0.73 |
| Afganistan | 1,824 | 0.8 | 6 | 0.0 | 1,830 | 0.77 |
| Malta | 1,060 | 0.4 | 657 | 0.3 | 1,717 | 0.73 |
| Jordan | 85 | 0.0 | 1,373 | 0.6 | 1,458 | 0.62 |
| Turkey | 1,143 | 0.5 | 438 | 0.2 | 1,581 | 0.67 |
| Romania | 1,084 | 0.5 | 94 | 0.0 | 1,178 | 0.50 |
| Poland | 981 | 0.4 | 127 | 0.1 | 1,108 | 0.47 |

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---------|------|--------|-----|---------|-------|
| Seychelles | 330 | 0.1 | 35 | 0.0 | 365 | 0.15 |
| Israel | 14 | 0.0 | 44 | 0.0 | 58 | 0.02 |
| Brunei Darussalam | 139 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.0 | 143 | 0.06 |
| China | 371 | 0.2 | 77 | 0.0 | 448 | 0.19 |
| Macao SAR, China | 699 | 0.3 | 40 | 0.0 | 739 | 0.31 |
| Portugal | 453 | 0.2 | 8 | 0.0 | 461 | 0.20 |
| Czechia | 359 | 0.2 | 41 | 0.0 | 400 | 0.17 |
| USA | 262 | 0.1 | 69 | 0.0 | 331 | 0.14 |
| Newzealand | 175 | 0.1 | 76 | 0.0 | 251 | 0.11 |
| Russian Federation | 160 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.0 | 161 | 0.07 |
| Srilanka | 207 | 0.1 | 25 | 0.0 | 232 | 0.10 |
| Singapore | 196 | 0.1 | 10 | 0.0 | 206 | 0.09 |
| Republic of korea | 83 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 | 84 | 0.04 |
| Australia | 94 | 0.0 | 11 | 0.0 | 105 | 0.04 |
| Canada | 82 | 0.0 | 18 | 0.0 | 100 | 0.04 |
| Others | 1,181 | 0.5 | 182 | 0.1 | 1,363 | 0.58 |
| Total | 215,633 | 91.3 | 20,578 | 8.7 | 236,211 | 100.0 |

Source: DoFE website www.dofe.gov.np/yearly.aspx.

The table 1 shows that a total number of labor were 236,211 permits issued in the FY 2018/2019. The majority of them (91.3%) being issued to males and the remaining (8.7%) to females. The number of permits issued during this period by country and the sex of the migrant worker.

According to data confirm that Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Malaysia are the popular destinations for Nepali migrant workers, though the order may be different over the period of time. Based on table nearly one-third (31.8%) of all permits are issued to labor migrants going to Qatar, followed by the United Arab Emirates (26.6%), Saudi Arabia (19.6%), Kuwait (6.8%) and Malaysia (4.2%). Qatar and the United Arab Emirates are the most popular destinations in 2019, together comprising 58 per cent of the total number of permits issued.

Province wise emigration

Emigration is the take achievement of departure an inhabitant country or place of residence with the objective to settle away. On the other hand, immigration describes the movement of people into one country from another.

An act or instance of emigrating means departure from a place of abode, natural home, or country for life or residence elsewhere (Merriam-Webster, 1828).

The Provinces of Nepal were formed on 20 September 2015 in accordance with Schedule 4 of the Constitution of Nepal. There are seven provinces in Nepal. Province-wise the number of young generations emigrated from Nepal that is given below in table 2

Table 2: Number of emigrants and countries of destination by province, 2011

| Countries | 1 | Madhes | Bagmati | Gandaki | Lumbini | Karnali | FW Prov. | Total |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|-----------|
| India | 61,346 | 33,722 | 48,173 | 105,077 | 219,050 | 48,214 | 206,673 | 722,255 |
| SAARC | 2,747 | 770 | 3,898 | 2,823 | 1,455 | 144 | 231 | 12068 |
| ASEAN | 75,402 | 47,614 | 43,201 | 27,689 | 40,894 | 9,473 | 5,616 | 249,889 |
| Middle East | 187,104 | 134,688 | 116,514 | 142,372 | 126,360 | 7,566 | 7,187 | 721,791 |
| Other Asian | 8,011 | 687 | 15,515 | 13,414 | 6,040 | 231 | 668 | 44,566 |
| EU | 9,527 | 936 | 26,585 | 15,273 | 5,742 | 286 | 533 | 58,882 |
| Other European | 712 | 289 | 1,330 | 678 | 469 | 50 | 163 | 3691 |
| North America | 4,648 | 1,152 | 31,889 | 6,234 | 3,135 | 275 | 744 | 48,077 |
| South America/ Caribbean | 470 | 237 | 775 | 378 | 283 | 59 | 113 | 2,315 |
| African | 948 | 259 | 1850 | 1015 | 784 | 67 | 201 | 5124 |
| Pacific ocean Region | 2,594 | 486 | 17,509 | 4,130 | 2,199 | 99 | 349 | 27,366 |
| Others | 1,448 | 713 | 1,103 | 871 | 738 | 87 | 198 | 5,158 |
| Not stated | 2690 | 2,926 | 3,858 | 2,808 | 3,602 | 1,031 | 3,397 | 20,312 |
| Total | 357,647 | 224,479 | 312,200 | 322,762 | 410,751 | 67,582 | 226,073 | 1,921,494 |

Source: Public Use Micro-Data Set based on 2011 census data.

Note: Nepal has seven provinces. Out of them, Province 1, have yet to designate their names.

The table 2 shows the Number of emigrants and countries of destination by province of 2011. India is a top destination country of Nepal. whereas 722, 255 Nepalese people were emigrated in India and lowest people only 2315 people in south Africa. Most of the Nepalese people emigrated in India due to the neighboring countries they can easily go their without visa because open border of Nepal and India. Similarly, the number of marriages is more with Terai region of India, so there are more Nepalese in that country.

Factors of Migration

The important factors which encourage people shift can classify into five major categories. They are economic factors, socio-cultural factors, demographic factors, political factors and miscellaneous factors.

Economic factors: Most of the studies indicate that migration is mainly motivated by economic factors. In developing countries, low agricultural income, agricultural unemployment and low employment are considered essential factors pushing the migrants towards developed area with great job opportunities. Thus, regarding all studies concur that most of migrants have moved in search of improved economic opportunities. The essential economic factors which motivate migration may be further classified as ‘Push Factors’ and ‘Pull Factors’.

The push factors are factors that induce a person, due to different reasons, to go away from that place and go to some other place. The common push factors are low productivity, unemployment and low development, poor economic conditions, lack of opportunities for advancement, collapse of natural resources and natural calamities. The non-availability of alternative sources of income in rural area is also important factor for migration. The pull factors are factors which attract the migrants to an area. Opportunities for better employment, higher wages, facilities, better working conditions and attractive facilities are pull factors of an area.

Socio-cultural factors: Socio-cultural factors are customs, lifestyles and values that characterize a society. In particular, cultural aspects consist of aesthetics, education, language, law and politics, religion, social organizations, technology and material culture, values and attitudes. Social and cultural factors are an essential role in migration. Sometimes family conflicts, the quest for independence, also cause migration mainly, of those in the younger generation. Enhanced communication facilities, such as, transportation, impact of television, good network communication, the cinema, the urban oriented education and resultant change in attitudes and values also promote migration.

Demographic Factor: These are factors that are used to describe the characteristics of a person or a population. Several generally used demographic factors consist of variables such as marital status, race, income, age, and educational achievement, among others. The differences in the population growth rates of the different regions of a nation have been found to be a determinant in the internal migration. Fertility and the natural increase in population are commonly higher in rural areas which drift the population towards the city.

iv. **Political Factors:** Political factors relate to how the government intervenes in the economy. In particular, political factors have areas including tax policy, labor law, environmental law, trade restrictions, tariffs, and political stability. Sometimes, political factors encourage or discourage migration from region to another. Hence, the political background, attitudes and individual position of the people influenced on the migration of people.

(v) **Miscellaneous factors:** Other factors such as the presence of relations and friends in urban areas, desire to recognize education which is available only in urban areas are factors responsible for migration. Closeness of cultural contacts, cultural diversity, great vitality, individual attitudes are also associated with migration.

Impact of migration

Economic development: In 2018, Nepal ranked fifth highest remittance recipient as a share of GDP amongst all countries in the world (World Bank, 2018). It was the highest recipient in

the SAARC countries. The Nepal Development Update, issued by the World Bank in November 2018 states that remittances grew by 10 per cent in FY 2018 to USD 7.2 billion, but as a share of GDP declined from 26.3 per cent in FY 2017 to 25.1 per cent in FY 2018 (World Bank, 2018). In the FY 2018/19, the remittance inflow grew by 7.8 per cent to USD 7.8 billion and the contribution of remittance to GDP stood 25.4 per cent (Nepal Rastra Bank, 2019). Given the slight downturn in the number of labour permits issued during the same period, the increased remittance amounts may be due to the depreciation of the Nepali currency against the US dollar. Additionally, migrants are increasingly going to, and remitting money from, Japan and the Republic of Korea where wage rates are much higher than in traditional destination countries.

Human development: The United Nations Human Development Index is a measure for assessing long-term progress in three basic dimensions of human development. These are:

Along and healthy life, determined by life expectancy;

Access to knowledge, measured by mean years of education for adults and expected years of schooling for a child of school-entry age;

A decent standard of living, measured by Gross National Income (GNI) per capita. According to the United Nations Human Development Index (HDI) Nepal's HDI value is 0.574 which ranks it 149th out of 189 countries. It has increased by 51.9 per cent between 1990 and 2017. Migrants send not only money, but also social remittances. When they travel home or talk with their families in their countries of origin, migrants often convey the values and behaviors observed in host countries, precipitating a decline in fertility rates, increased women empowerment or a growing demand for responsible institutions. Remittances have had a dramatic impact on poverty levels in Nepal. According to the World Bank, most poverty reduction has occurred because of labour migration, with a correlation to remittance receipts (World Bank, 2018).

Health: There are some dimensions to the impact of migration on health. Firstly, migration can impact the health of the individuals involved. There are many health-related risks throughout the migration cycle, together with lack of access to health services in the countries of target. The migration process can also worsen health vulnerabilities, both physical and mental.

Education: Education is the process of facilitating learning, or the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, morals, beliefs, habits, and personal development. Educational methods include teaching, training, storytelling, discussion and directed research (Wikipedia). Nepal has made significant progress in terms of access to education in the past decades. The wish to obtain an enhanced education and opportunities for their children is a key motivator for labour migrants. The most important objective for sending remittances among Nepali foreign workers (De Zwager, N. and R. Sintov, 2017).

Skills: A skill is the learned ability to perform an action with determined results with good execution often within a given amount of time, energy, or both. Skills can often be divided into domain-general and domain-specific skills (Wikipedia). Most migration for foreign employment is tied to a contract for a specific duration and the worker returns to Nepal either temporarily between contracts or permanently. However, there is very little data on how long migrants are generally

away and when and if they return to Nepal. Recognizing this important data gap, the authority for preparatory work for the 2021 census is planning to ensure that the census questions can capture this information. Nearly 75 per cent of Nepal’s migrant workers are “unskilled” (DoFE, 2013/14). The Government of Nepal is aware of the risks being faced by unskilled workers, who generally find only low-paying jobs, often with insecure working conditions. It is directing attention to the provision of skills training and pre-departure orientation. Foreign labour migration can have an impact on the education levels and skills of the migrants. It is considered that in addition to financial remittances, they obtain “social remittances” from migration such as skills, ideas and languages that also contribute to development.

Gender: Migration of the family members has both positive and negative impacts.

As is the case in many traditionally agrarian societies, land ownership has a significant effect on social, economic and political relations in Nepal throughout its history. The landless, ethnic and religious minorities and Dalits have historically been marginalized and power has been held by those with landholdings. Migration too has a role in bringing about economic independence, meaning that traditional relations of dependency between landowners and the landless have weakened. The 2009 Nepal Migration Surveys showed that minority groups such as Muslims and Hill Dalits show the high probability of having a labour migrant in their household. While this may be a result of exclusion of these groups from domestic labour market opportunities, it also is. (IMO, 2019).

points to potential for migration and remittances to enhance their future social and economic opportunities. (Sijapathi, Bhattarai, & Pathak, 2015). Table 3 shows the caste wise labor migration of Nepal.

Table 3: Caste wise labor migration

| Caste/ Ethnicity | Households with at least one migrant abroad | India | Gulf countries | Malaysia | Others |
|-------------------------|--|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Brahmin/Chettri | 33.1 | 13.6 | 12.5 | 4.2 | 3.7 |
| Madhesi Middle caste | 30.6 | 15.1 | 10.9 | 7.4 | 0.0 |
| Hill Dalit | 39.4 | 27.6 | 9.2 | 1.5 | 2.5 |
| Tarai Dalit | 24.0 | 8.2 | 15.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Newar | 20.9 | 5.4 | 6.1 | 4.5 | 4.9 |
| Hill janajati | 34.5 | 9.1 | 17.4 | 6.5 | 5.4 |
| Taraijanajati | 22.0 | 8.0 | 12.0 | 1.9 | 0.4 |
| Muslim/other minorities | 44.1 | 10.8 | 34.3 | 2.3 | 2.0 |

Source: GIZ and ILO (Ibid).

Table 3 shows the caste wise labor migration of Nepal. Among the caste wise emigration 44.1 percent Muslim/other minorities, and 20.9 percent Newar are respectively emigrated in different countries of world. Firstly, remittance earnings are gradually more relied upon as income,

instead of agriculture-based production. Secondly, there are some facts that remittances have allowed some migrants to purchase land.

Environment: Migration can have an effect on the way that land is used, impacting the environment in both positive and negative ways. The large-scale out-migration of Nepali for foreign employment or to urban areas has an effect on land management and land resources. The foreign labour migration (mostly male) led to increased financial resources for the household which in turn led to the internal migration of entire families away from the hill areas. This results in land being left behind, an increase in forest cover in the upper part of the watershed as well as increased pressure on the land and coverage to flooding in the lower part. (Jacquet, Kohler & Gudrun, (2016). Once “downhill” there was more variety of income sources, and households relied less on agriculture.

Conclusion

This paper focuses on migration trends in Nepal and examines the results of various phases of the study – quantitative with an aim to make sense of user-generated secondary data. Migration is, first and foremost, a normal human activity. Human beings have always moved from ‘one country, locality, and place of residence to settle in another’. Migration for foreign employment has become a major source of income for many Nepali households. Labour migration is defined as the movement of persons from their home state to another state for the purpose of employment. Nepal has a long history of emigration and it is in increasing trends. The factors of migration are economic, socio-cultural, demographic, political, miscellaneous etc. Likewise, the impact of migration includes economic development, human development, health, education, skills, gender, environment etc. Especially, it seems that India is the first employment country because that is a neighboring country and open border between Nepal and India. Province five is the highest (410,751) people and lowest (67,582) people respectively were emigrated from Nepal. Due to the migration, economic activities have shifted from an agricultural-based economy towards a remittance-based economy in Nepal. The migration trend has gradually increased and its share of contribution to GDP. It has contributed 19.4 percent in 2009/10 and its share is 25.4 percent in 2018/19. The Ministry of Labour and Employment recently developed a five-year National Strategic Action Plan (2071-2076) to carry out the Foreign Employment Policy. This plan along with a committed team should ensure that the policy is fully implemented. Based on past experiences, a policy of any type should be backed by the simultaneous formulation of an appropriate law and action plan to follow through in letter and spirit. The Ministry of Labour and Employment, the Department of Foreign Employment and the Foreign Employment Support Board should consider provincial-based offices to assist workers wanting to migrate abroad for employment. The need for incentive packages, which the Ministry of Finance and the banking sector should develop, to motivate Nepali workers abroad to use the formal remittance channel to capture a larger volume of remittances while ensuring security and reliability of their money transfers. These days our economic condition depends on the remittance. If we couldn't change such a type of economic condition, the country couldn't develop permanently. Therefore, the government should implement an attractive and effective program in agriculture

and non-agriculture sector. Otherwise labor migrations gradually increase and we always depends on remittance.

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A Brief Assessment of Nepal-India Relations

Saroj Kumar Timalina

Abstract

Nepal and India have a long and unique relationship. Following the political upheaval of the 1990s, Nepal-India ties grew more open and amicable as a result of India's increasing engagement in Nepal's political developments, which further enhanced bilateral relations. It is said that India's backing was important in the success of the twelve-point pact and the April Movement in Nepal. With the political upheaval brought about by the April Movement, India came to Nepal openly. The unofficial economic blockade put on Nepal, as well as India's support for Madhesi protesting groups, increased to Nepalese skepticism about India's meddling in Nepali politics and administration. However, Nepal-India relations have endured a number of ups and downs. From a historical standpoint, this article has highlighted Nepal-India ties.

Keywords: Geo-politics, National interests, Nepal- India relations, India's Influences

Introduction

The geography and geolocation of a state are essential factors in determining a country's foreign relations. An uncontrolled and open border, socio-cultural ties, lingual intimacy, trade and business, people-to-people relations, and India's role in each and every political shift have all been lauded and criticized in the context of Nepal-India relations. In response to the geo-sensitivity, King Prithvi Narayan Shah, the founder of modern Nepal, declared that his country is a "yam between two boulders." Great friendship should also be maintained with the Emperor of the North (China), as well as with the Emperor of the South (India), whose dwelling was overseas but shrewdly held Hindustan under servitude (Dharamdasani, 2001, p. 17).

Later, British-India's first stance toward Nepal was a reflection of the commercial-minded policy of the eighteenth-century English corporation. However, after the British took over Bengal in 1764, they quickly got interested in the surrounding areas to the north. Nepal had become a transit hub for the East India Company's trade with Tibet and China. They attempted to enter Nepal under this pretext, which drew the British East India Company into an Anglo-Nepal war in 1814-1816. Furthermore, this fulfilled the British interest in Nepal and resulted in the rise of the Rana rule. The Rana rule remained in power for 104 years owing to the British East India Company Government's appeasement strategy toward them and keeping Nepal isolated from the rest of the world (Singh, 2009, p. 92). That is why Nepal remained a British India puppet state.

However, the relationship with the British administration was not without its scars of disenchantment. Jung Bahadur was unable to obtain assurances from London regarding the amendment of the Treaty of Sugauli. He saw the return of Oudh Terai as a meager reward for his assistance in the Sepoy Mutiny and Rebellion of 1857, and wanted the Elaka of Khyreegarch (terai regions lost to Nepal in the Anglo-Nepal War) (Singh, 1996, p. 31).

This scenario demonstrates Jung Bahadur Rana's dissatisfaction with British India's presence in Nepal, yet he had little choice. Nepal was heavily influenced by British India. For example, when Ranodeep Singh was slain and his power was unchallenged by Bir Shumsher (1885-1901), the British Government accepted Bir Shumsher as the new Prime Minister, causing deep indignation and sadness in Nepal. Actually, Jung Bahadur despised the plan to enlist Gurkhas into the Indian Army. Perhaps it was retaliation against Jung Bahadur and his family.

Nepal's sovereignty was recognized in a treaty signed in December 1923 between Nepal and British India (Rose & Scholz, 1980, p. 39). Independent India had a significant impact on Nepal's political transition in 1951. Prior to that, they signed the Peace and Friendship Treaty with Nepal in 1950, which became a watershed moment in Nepal-India relations. This treaty also emphasized Nepal's position for democracy, which was opposed by the Rana administration, as a sovereign and independent country that entered into force one year before the Armed Revolution (Dharmadasani, 2001, p. 24).

This pact has long been a source of debate and discourse in Nepal. In fact, the treaty sparked a major controversy shortly after the CPN Maoists emerged as the largest party in Constituent Assembly I (CA, 2008), and Maoist leader Prachanda believed that the treaty of 1950 should be repealed in light of the new circumstances. Whereas Man Mohan Adhikari, the president of the Communist Party Nepal, United Marxist-Leninist (CPN-UML), discussed the idea of revising the 1950 Nepal-India treaty when he was Prime Minister (1994-95). Nonetheless, it appears that merely vote politics and sentimental politics were demonstrated by Prime Minister Baburam Bhattarai's April 4, 2012 Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (BIPPA), which is no longer endorsed and not enforced.

Because, prior to the 1950s, Nepal was under the Rana dynasty, whose foreign policy was pro-British-India, and it had placed Nepal under its direct authority, Nepal-India ties began to evolve on the basis of political identification. This dynamic was jeopardized in 1960, when the king's role shifted from being at the forefront of modernity and political change to being the protector of traditional authority and interests. It was impossible for the Indian state and society to modify their character in order to keep up with Nepal's regressive transformation. If this had occurred, India-Nepal relations would have remained harmonious and peaceful (Muni, 1992, p. 8). In fact, the treaty's stipulations are frequently violated.

In the 1951 political movement, the Congress Socialists of India, i.e., those on the left of the center, asked for all-out support for the democratic forces and carried the momentum of change generated in Nepal at the time to the extent of turning the kingdom into a republic, but those on the right of the center, who did not want to disturb the Ranas and thus sought a pragmatic alliance

with them to protect, did not see security interests. For all these years, these poles in India's political culture have reflected that Nepali predisposition wherever the need to take a position has arisen. These poles existed even within the Janta government, with socialist MPs pressuring the government to align more closely with BP Koirala and his Nepali Congress. Even traditionalists such as the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Prime Minister Morarji Desai supported a cordial relationship with the king.

In the early 1970s, BP Koirala made loud calls for an armed revolution in Nepal, but in 1976, developments in India, such as the imposition of an emergency and the estrangement between Indira Gandhi and Jaya Prakash Narayan, BP Koirala's close associate, compelled him to return to Nepal from exile, resulting in a call for "national reconciliation" from him. In response to this call, he acknowledged the king as a symbol of nationality and a source of political stability, and asked him to accept democratic forces' cooperation. The crisis eventually led to a referendum and the king's liberalization of the system, but the multi-party system was defeated, apparently with much conspiracy.

The formal announcement of King Birendra's projected Zone of Peace (ZoP) occurred on February 25, 1975, in a farewell address to the foreign dignitaries who had gathered in Kathmandu to celebrate his coronation. The plan was supported by the majority of the world's countries (130 by 2020), but India ignored it. They said that the relationship between the King of Nepal and the leaders of India had cooled. In response, King Birendra rejected the idea of a buffer state, claiming that Nepal was not a part of the subcontinent. He answered that it was that area of Asia that was shared by both China and India.

Nepal and India concluded a separate trade and transit accord in 1978. However, despite the intentions of the king, India put an embargo on Nepal in 1989, which aided in the restoration of democracy (www.isrj.net/publish.article/1876.pdf, accessed on May 12, 2013). This also contributed to India's growing influence in Nepal.

Nepal-India Relations (1990-2018)

Following the political upheaval of the 1990s, Nepal-India ties grew more open and amicable as a result of India's increasing engagement in Nepal's political developments, which further enhanced bilateral relations. The opposition dragged the issue of Nepal-India relations into the election campaign. The opposition used security treaties (1965 & 1991), trade and transit concerns, the Tanakpur Pancheshwor Project, and other issues to blame the Nepali Congress for its pro-India posture that "betrayed" Nepal's national interests. Because of its assistance in Nepalese political transformation, India became a suitable whipping boy, blamed for all of Nepal's difficulties and attempts to bridge Nepalese sovereignty (Pandey, 2005).

Similarly, the Tanakpur Treaty in 1991 strained Nepal-India relations, but it was later resolved through mutual accord by both countries. The CPN (UML) administration founded in 1994 raised its voice in support of updating the 1950s treaty and adopting equal friendship between India and China (Dharmadasani, 2001, pp. 28-30). However, Nepal's political leadership was unaware of the country's geopolitical reality.

The most problematic aspect of bilateral ties is that they are inextricably linked to Nepal's domestic politics. The contentious Mahakali Treaty, signed between Nepal and India in 1996, became a hot topic in Nepalese politics. This deal has been interpreted as India exerting undue influence in Nepal. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Indra Kumar Gujral introduced the "liberal neighborhood" doctrine, which changed India's foreign policy. With this bilateral relationship, Nepal gained access to Bangladesh's Phoolbari port for trade (Upreti, 2009, pp. 25-26). However, subsequent Prime Ministers did not favor this program and instead emphasized PM Nehru's 1950s foreign policy.

The February 2005 royal coup by King Gyanendra irritated New Delhi greatly. Gyanendra took over all powers and proclaimed that he would run the country personally for the next three years. India interpreted the coup as a rejection of a negotiated settlement with the Maoist insurgency. India reacted angrily, deciding to skip the SAARC summit conference. On February 25, 2005, India agreed to halt its arms support to Nepal (P. 32). Natwar Singh, India's then-foreign minister, stated in parliament on March 4, 2005:

"The developments in Nepal are a significant setback to democracy, bringing the king and mainstream political parties into direct conflict. This can only assist those who want to destroy not only Nepal's democracy but also the institution of democracy" (p.32).

Man Mohan Singh, the Indian Prime Minister, met King Gyanendra in April 2005 during the Jakarta Asian-African Summit. The Indian Prime Minister called for the restoration of democracy in Nepal, and the King agreed to help. India also objected to King Gyanendra's attempts to play the China card by seeking armaments from her. India encouraged the King to take steps toward restoring democracy once more, and only when King Gyanendra took specific moves in that direction could India resume arms support to Nepal. (P.33) But it was not the 2005 royal takeover that irritated India; rather, it presented an opportunity to weaken the King's initiative, which resorted to dragging China into South Asian politics through SAARC.

In this scenario, the twelve-point agreement reached between insurgent Maoists and the Seven Party Alliance (SPA) campaigning for the restoration of democratic rights led to the success of Mass Movement II, which was founded on that agreement and held time and place. According to Muni (2012), the April Movement in Nepal was successful due to India's assistance (pp. 92-94). Maoist insurgency that has long been viewed as a threat to India's security A part of the inside umbrella becoming soaked by the intense rain could render the entire umbrella inoperable. If it treats the entire rain situation too lightly. During the decade, the significance of India in Nepalese political changes was abundantly visible in the peace process addressing the Maoist war and its resolution.

According to Peshal Dhakal (Interview 8, September 2021), "independent India still has the legacy of British rule, and people living in Nepal's Eastern Terai are discriminated against by Hilly-Brahmin rule in Kathmandu." The claim is further supported by India's support for Terai-Madhesh since the emergence of Terai-based political parties.

India has long wished to subjugate Nepal. When a new government emerges in Nepal, India

feels it is entitled to the first state visit of the new Nepali Prime Minister, but Prime Minister Prachanda's official visit to China was seen suspiciously by India, and it became a major issue in Nepalese neighbor relations (Lima, March 7, 2014). Prime Minister Prachanda was forced to resign, forcing him to confront the matter of General Rookmangud Katawal's departure. Similarly, Prachanda was drawn into confrontation with India when he attempted to disrupt the centuries-old tradition of placing the Bhatta Pujari issue of Pashupatinath temple (www.idsa.in/system/files/jde-S-2-skumar/pdf, accessed on February 20, 2015).

According to Narayan Man Bijukchhe (Interview, November 3, 2020), "following Prachanda's resignation, the government of Madav Kumar Nepal, CPN (UML) leader, was formed. The UCPN (Maoist) branded this government as pro-India's Kathaputali Sarkar (hand puppet government). As previously stated, the government constituted under the prime ministership of CPN (UML) leader Jhalnath Khanal did not receive an invitation to India for a state visit. It appears that the Khanal government was founded autonomously, implying that Nepal attempted but failed to remove India's influence here. After 7 months, UCPN Maoist leader Baburam Bhattarai formed a government that signed a contentious Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Arrangement (BIPPA) agreement with India and attempted to offer India the security management contract for Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA).

However, because to the failure of political parties to reach an agreement to form an election administration, the Supreme Court's top judge, Khil Raj Regmi, was elevated to power and successfully held the second CA elections (2013). It is also said that India engineered the entire situation, and that the circumstances that emerged following the announcement of the constitution in 2015 forced us to accept this culpability (Pandey, 2072 B.S., pp. 504-505).

The unofficial economic blockade imposed on Nepal, as well as India's support for Madhesi protesting groups, increased to Nepalese skepticism about India's meddling in Nepali politics and administration. Through worldwide lobbying and different diplomatic channels, India's Prime Minister Modi made every effort to avoid Nepal's blockade. However, Nepal-India ties have had many ups and downs (<https://www.jstor.org/stable/44145716>, viewed on August 22, 2021).

4. Objectives:

- To outline Nepal- India Relations through historical perspective
- To present ways forward in Nepal India relations

5. Methodology

Although primary data has been acquired through key informant interviews and government publications and MOUs were followed, this study relies significantly on secondary sources of information. That is why the library approach of gathering data, facts, and useful knowledge is employed. Various notable authors' books, essays, web pieces, and journal publications have been used truthfully. This article is based on descriptive and analytical research methodologies.

Findings

Nepal-India connects are as old as Aryan culture and may be justified by numerous scholars'

publications (Dharmadasani, 1997). The relationship between two nations has been unique, shaped by the subcontinent's lengthy history and weaved into fabric threads as well as religious-cultural, linguistic, and resale threads. No two countries share as many similarities in terms of people and traditional interactions as India and Nepal (Bahadur & Lama, 1996).

In terms of political change in both countries, Nepal-India ties are very bilateral. For example, Nepalese MPs and other Nepalese living in India were active participants in India's national independence movement. As a result of this move, British officials had detained several of them. Similarly, before and after the armed revolution, India resolved the controversy between the leaders of the Nepali Congress and its support for King Tribhuvan's actions in November 1950 (Joshi & Rose, 2004).

During the reign of King Mandev (521-562 B.S.), Nepal made every effort to maintain relations with its neighbors. On the other hand, King Narendra Dev attempted to reclaim his power with the assistance of his northern neighbors. The unifier of contemporary Nepal, King Prithivi Narayan Shah, saw this country as a yam between two boulders. Great friendship should be maintained with the emperor of the north (China), as well as with the emperor of the south (India), whose home is overseas. But he is cunning and cunning, and he has kept Hindustan in subjection (Dharamadasani, 2001). It signifies that Nepal's foreign relations were guided by a coherent foreign strategy.

Later, British-India's attitude toward Nepal was a projection of the commercial-minded agenda of the British East India Company administration in the eighteenth century. However, BEICG's goal of improving trade links with Nepal and China was not met with the intended success (Singh, 1996). Similarly, Anglo-Nepal achieved the desired political change (the process of installing a puppet government) in Nepal in 1814-1816 A.D. through Rana monarchs who followed an appeasement policy toward BEICG and isolated Nepal from the rest of the world. Ranas aided the British in both world wars as a result of the British exposing them to Nepali politics. Through the Treaty of 1923, Nepali aided the British in World War I, when the United Kingdom recognized Nepal as an independent state (Timalina, 2002).

During British sovereignty in India, the 1816 Treaty of Sugauli governed Nepal's relations with India, which was replaced by the 1923 "Treaty of Perpetual Peace and Friendship." However, Nepal-India ties are presently governed by the 1950 Peace and Friendship Treaty. The pact, which acknowledged Nepal as a sovereign and independent nation and entered into force one year before the people's democratic arms rebellion that ended more than a century of authoritarian Rana rule (Dharamadasami, 2000). The key point to remember here is that the British exploited Nepal as much as they could, yet the Nepali people got ready for political change. Independent India supported the Nepali Congress's armed revolution in order to influence Nepal's government to alter in their favor. Through the Delhi pact, they demonstrated their vested interest in Nepali politics, and they resolved to make Mohan Shumsher the first prime minister of democratic Nepal, which was unfair and unjust to the Nepali people who struggled for democracy and were martyred.

The 1950s treaty is viewed as uneven and influenced by India. Those who oppose the pact

argue that Nepalese law prohibits open borders and that Indians cannot buy land and property in Nepal or do business in their names. They further say that the 1950 treaty was signed by Nepal's weak leadership and that it can be terminated with a one-year notice. The deal has been criticized by the same groups in Nepal, who see it as a violation of sovereignty (www.igg.sagepub.com).

Delhi gave a direct blessing to bring about the political revolution of the 1950s in Nepal. The Rana system was overthrown, but only a weakened democratic process could be launched. According to India's strategic aims, it will only go step by step, gradually, in enabling the institutionalization of democracy in Nepal, with success measured in terms of minimal mutual consent between India and the inclusive Nepal political consensus. However, India's dual role has been plainly demonstrated in several cases, including as the 1960's Royal Coup de' ta', which was also readily taken by India (www.thinkinelia.quarterly.org). However, the 30-year panchayat rule did not take any moves to alter the 1950s treaty (*Gorkhapatra Daily*, 2066 Magh 6th).

The 1950 peace and friendship pact places Nepal under India's security umbrella, which is why relations between the two countries are in such bad shape. As a result, the Indian military mission on Nepal's border and its checkpoint at the Nepal-China border were established in 1952. As Nepal's sovereign status was called into question, this mission and checkpoint treatment were withdrawn in the late 1960s (Dharmadesani, 2000). However, Kalapani remains under Indian paramilitary control. It implies that the Nepal-India relationship was dominated by India's great brotherhood strategy.

At the conclusion of the Rana regime, the crucial topic of the 1950 India-Nepal peace and friendship treaty was debated. It is accompanied by the Soviet Finish Treaty of 1948 and the Soviet-Mangol Treaty of 1966, both of which call for coordinated action against foreign assault on Soviet territory. The same situation developed between Nepal and India, which is unjust and unpleasant. India took advantage of the weaker Rana, who has been an iron nail in the heart of Nepal from its inception, despite the fact that Nepal-India diplomatic relations had already been established in 1947, under the reign of Rana Prime Minister Padhma Shumsher.

Nepal-India relations entered a new chapter following the creation of democracy. Leo E. Rose has described Nepal-India ties in a unique age as Nepal as India's midwife. Timalisina (2002). Nonetheless, Nepal's neutrality in the 1962 Indo-China War was maintained by King Mahendra, the successor to King Tribhuvan. The Indo-Pak wars of 1965 and 1971, as well as the 2017 Indo-China standoff at Doklam (August/September letter to King Birendra), continued the same foreign and regional strategy (Singh, 2009). King Birendra advocated Nepal as a zone of peace, highlighting the geopolitical sensitivity between Nepal and India and Nepal and China (Timalisina, 2002). It indicates that India is aware of the presence of foreigners.

India's foreign policy has always centered on security concerns and vested interests in establishing puppet administrations in Nepal. The 1951 political transition was supported by India and received gratitude from the NC government, much as the Royal Coup da' ta' of Poush 1st 2017 was viewed as India's success since India was concerned about Prime Minister Biseswor Pd. Koirala's growing popularity. The Indo-Pak war of December 1971, on the other hand, and India's

re-emergence as a regional political power had influenced the history of New Delhi-Kathmandu ties in a variety of ways.

The failure of China's presence in South Asia, combined with the Soviet Union's support for India, altered South Asian relations. Various state visits were exchanged by friendly nations, but the role of India in Sikkim was interpreted as an imperialist plot by the Nepalese press, and anti-Indian demonstrations and emotion were strong. The Sikkim issue muddled Nepal-India relations, and New Delhi took a tough and uncompromising stance toward Kathmandu. Nepali Prime Minister Nagendra Prasad Rijal's visit was successful in resolving misunderstandings between Nepal and India (Singh, 2009).

However, that does not appear to be the case because Nepal's peace zone proposal and the reactions of India's two opponents and competitors in the region were expected because the USSR, China, and Pakistan frequently accepted and admired it. Relationships between India and Nepal are being exported. According to Mr. S.D. Muni, "Indo-Nepal relations are obviously unequal" (Muni, 1992). It is because Nepalese political changes have been effective as a result of India's assertive position, but such influences Nepal will not have in Indian political change that occurred in 1947, despite the fact that many Nepalese politicians and civilians battled against the British to drive them out of India.

The Nepal-India relationship is volatile because India agreed to separate trade and transit treaties in 1978, satisfying a long-standing Nepali demand, but when the two treaties were up for renewal in 1988, Nepal's refusal to accommodate India's wishes in the trade and transit treaty prompted India to call for a single trade and transit treaty. Following that, Nepal took a hardline stance, resulting in a crisis in Nepal-India relations. The two accords expired on March 23, 1989, following the extensions, resulting in a virtual Indian economic embargo of Nepal that lasted until late April 1990. The procurement of Chinese weapons by Nepal was the catalyst, but India's political unhappiness with the panchayat system was the root cause (www.isrjlnet). To colt draw the Panchayati government, that played an Indian role (Roy, 2010). Thus, India has and continues to play a significant part in Nepal's political upheavals.

The researcher's literature assessment did not clearly prove India's direct participation in Nepali political changes, but it does provide a stronger indication that India does have a role in Nepalese political upheavals. Furthermore, Pandey (2005) considers India to have a larger-than-life presence in South Asia. Its borders are shared by all six SAARC countries. Furthermore, India is a strongly disputed and debated issue in almost all of the smaller states' elections, although these countries are rarely key electoral issues in India. Similarly, disagreements between two close neighbors, such as India and Nepal, or any other smaller South Asian country, are frequently explained away in terms of India's bigness and large brotherly behavior.

Mr. S.D. Muni, an expert on Indo-Nepal relations, believes that "Indo-Nepal relations are obviously unequal relations" (Muni, 1990). He believes that Nepalese political changes have been effective as a result of India's forceful participation, but that Nepal will not have such influence in Indian political developments. It implies that we have a one-sided dominating influence, namely

Indian intervention in Nepali political reforms. The Indian rejection of Nepal's peace zone proposal (Singh, 2009) demonstrates India's inherent interest in Nepalese affairs. Nepal was eager to have an international assurance of Nepal's independence, sovereignty, and neutrality in the region's battle, but the Indian school of thought regarding its position in Nepal has always been prominent. For example, the Mahakali treaty (an unofficial economic block imposed in 2015, as well as recent open criticism of the Nepali constitution) was signed in 1996 with the primary purpose of developing a DPR within six months after the treaty's conclusion.

It means that, in the perspective of civilians, the unilateral and imposed Nepal-India-dominated relations and treaties, including accords, were unequal and against Nepal's sovereignty and independence. Under the Gujral concept, India attempted to preserve good neighborly relations with liberal bordering countries. In 1997, the so-called "Gujral Doctrine," which is strengthening the spirit of neighboring South Asian countries, also required significant group effort, a quality unlikely to be found in a weak and endangering the administration.

In a flurry of positive moves, India repaired relations with a number of countries, including Nepal. In the same decade, on May 31, 1999, the Nepali Congress won a simple majority in the general election, which pleased New Delhi because it represented the victory of a democratic pro-India organization. Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarria stated that Nepal and India have the closest connections of any two independent countries. It hints at the 2007-2011 B.S. special relationship notions, but not exactly.

However, the plane hijacking incident in 1999 strained Nepal-India relations. The sad tragedy between the two friendly countries strained bilateral relations. Similarly, the royal massacre on June 1, 2001, ignited pure basis for India's inherent interest in Nepal. On the other side, India's role in bringing rebel Maoists into the peace process is assertively accepted (Singh, 2009).

However, the subject of Prime Minister Prachanda's state visit to China before India caused a major concern for Indian South Block observers. The government of Prime Minister Jhala Nath Khanal, described as an autonomously formed government, was not welcomed by India and did not invite the Prime Minister on a state visit to India. In such a case, India accuses Nepali communist parties of playing China lard (Finsiedel and Friends, 2012). As we can see, India's influence in Nepali politics is growing. Prime Minister Prachanda's government was also brought down by unfair pressure from several Indian experts. Though the scene problem was the incident involving Army Chief Katuwal (Kathmandu Post, November 1, 2010), the unseen issue was India (The Hindu Time, April 27th, 2010).

According to S.D. Muni, India is certainly playing a role in Nepal's political reforms. In an interview published on April 8th, 2012 in Kantipur Daily, he stated that Nepal is at the center of India's strategic policy. Nepal consistently arrives in India before Pakistan or China (Kantipur Daily, April 8th, 2012). Indian diplomats and politicians accuse Nepali political leaders of constantly seeking spectral relations and India's endorsement, but on good days, they incite anti-Indian sentiment. Mr. Rakesh Sood, the former Indian ambassador to Nepal, was harsher in his criticism of India's Nepal policy (Gorkhapatra Daily, 15th Magh, 2066).

Conclusion

Nepal-India relationships are centuries old. History demonstrates that only after the unification of Nepal in 1796 can we claim Nepal-India links, because prior to unification, Nepal had numerous princes, and the genuine relations of Kathmandu Valley with India were cited. Actually, following the Sugauli Treaty in 1816, Nepalese boundaries had to be set, as did Nepal-India ties. However, the Sugauli Treaty placed us vulnerable. Similarly, the trembling Ranas used the 1950s peace and amity treaty to turn Nepal into India's puppet.

It was typical for Nepali monarchs to appease India. During the Ranarchy, it grew increasingly prevalent. For example, Prime Minister Mohan Shumsher openly stated that Nepal would come to India's help whenever necessary. This suggests that during the Rana administration, Nepalese politicians displayed knee-jerk loyalty to Indian power, even if it was justified as bilateral assistance. Mohan Shumsher was advised by Nehru to For a long time, it appears like India has been meddling in Nepali politics. Congress leader Ganesh Man Singh criticized India's army deployments in Nepal during the 1960s, comparing them to the American Army's actions in Japan after World War II. In reality, the Indian Army mission, who was not deployed to change Nepal, was there with the wrong intentions. Its existence in Kalapani justifies the accusation.

Following equal-distance foreign relations, King Mahendra terminated the era of special connections with India. As retaliation, India's hidden force pulled Nepal's democratic system into party-less panchayat governance. In January 1960, there is claimed to have been an Indian green signal to the King for a coup. Nehru publicly described the royal coup as a step backward, but he followed two pillars of strategy, namely, to support both and benefit from whoever comes to power. However, towards the end of the 1980s, Nepal-India ties had deteriorated due to Nepal's acquisition of Chinese armaments. As a result, India supported the anti-Panchayat movement in order to permeate Nepal's Indian-favored administration. Following the 1990 political transition, India was forced to sign the Tanakpur Treaty in its favor; in 1996, it signed the Mahakali Treaty and attempted to establish special relations with Nepal, as it had done in the 1950s.

In its relations with Nepal, India too pursued a two-pronged strategy. Their guns were transported through and via India at the start of the Maoist struggle, but as the Maoist revolution fell apart, they labeled the Nepali Maoists as terrorists, blaming their connections with Naxalities, the Indian Maoists. Similarly, more than a half-dozen Indian flights have been hijacked, yet we acted wrongly by blaming the December 24, 1999, hijacking of an Indian plane.

Following King Gyanandra's royal coup in 2005, the political scene underwent a drastic swing. The King's tilt toward China, his lobbying for Chinese observer status in SAARC, Chinese arms shipments and so on were interpreted as dangers to India's security. This fear drew India into supporting Nepal's anti-monarchy struggle. India backed the Maoists and the SPA. India felt lost in Nepal and attempted to reestablish its hegemonic and micromanaging duties through the Maoists and SPA, who were opposed to the King's coup.

India provided the essential foundation for the 12-point accord, succeeded in deposing Nepal's monarchy, and arrived in Nepal as the micromanager's agent. The initial step for India

to come to Nepal publicly for micromanagement of Nepali politics and administration was Indian assistance for the revolting Maoists against the Nationalist power, i.e., the Royal Palace. India has an impact on Nepalese politics, government, and other spheres. The appointment of Lok Man Karki as Chief of the CIAA, Khil Raj Regmi's unexpected and unexpected election administration, PM Prachanda's departure, and Baburam Bhattarai's attitude toward India during his prime ministership all validate India's presence in Nepal for micromanagement. According to many commentators, Indian micromanagement has been in Nepal since the 1950s and has become prevalent since the 12-point agreement held with Indian assistance, but India's position is gradually diminishing. Since the issue of the current constitution, the current Oli administration with a comfortable majority has been replaced by a 5-party coalition government led by PM Sher Bahadur Deuba, i.e., blamed as a comfortable majority.

7.1 Ways forward

Because of their shared civilisation, Nepal and India are inextricably linked. We have an easy relationship with China, and we should strike deals with India as well, but our unilateral dependence on India is very significant, mostly in trade and transit. India is infiltrating Nepal in order to micromanage it, but in order to preserve a reciprocal and independent neighborhood policy with India, we must stand on our own feet of sovereignty and independence. We must respect and thank India for its assistance for democracy and progress, but we must not bow down in front of their assistant with vested interest.

Our leaders must abandon their culture of requiring Indian grace to gain and maintain power. They should not prioritize India in our national political and other reforms. While meeting with Indian authorities and even political leaders, we must strictly adhere to diplomatic protocol. For its immediate neighbors, Nepal should adopt an equi-distance or equi-proximity policy. We should recommend that Indian political and administrative authorities renounce the traditional mindset of micromanagement in Nepal, and ultimately, we should abandon our practice of seeking India's assistance in any area other than bilateral security and special interests.

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A Review on Mathematical Contributions of Far Western Nepali Mathematicians (1877-1940 A.D.)

Sher Singh Raikhola

Abstract

This study explores into the noteworthy contributions of Mathematicians from Nepal's Far Western region between 1877 and 1940. Despite facing challenging socio-economic conditions, these scholars played pivotal roles in advancing Mathematical knowledge and education within Nepal. Through meticulous analysis of their creative works and influence on the local Mathematical landscape, this research illuminates their enduring legacy.

Keywords: Far Western Nepali Mathematicians, Ankendushekhari, Aksharanka shiksha, Pahal Man Singh Swar, Jaya Prithvi Bahadur Singh

Introduction:

Mathematics holds a revered position as a foundational subject across disciplines. In the words of Jagadisa in "vedangajyotisa," "Mathematics is at the head of all knowledge, like the peacock's crest, like the gem on a snake's head" (Acharya, 2011). The history of Mathematics traces the evolution of Mathematical systems, theories, and symbolization within cultural contexts, showcasing its development against various landscapes (Boyer, 1968). Despite the rich Mathematical heritage of Nepal, the contributions of Far Western Nepali Mathematicians have received less attention. This study aims to rectify this oversight by exploring the Mathematical endeavors of academics from this region during the late 19th and early 20th centuries (Adhikari & Shrestha, 2018).

The contributions of Far Western Nepali mathematicians between 1877 and 1940 A.D. stand as a testament to human ingenuity and scholarly pursuit amidst challenging circumstances. This review seeks to illuminate the remarkable achievements of these Mathematicians, who, despite facing socioeconomic adversities, made substantial strides in advancing Mathematical knowledge and education within Nepal. Through meticulous analysis of their creative works and influence on the local Mathematical landscape, this review aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of their enduring legacy.

By examining the contributions of Far Western Nepali Mathematicians across various branches of Mathematics, including arithmetic, geometry, algebra, and trigonometry, this review seeks to underscore their significance in shaping mathematical discourse within Nepal and beyond.

Furthermore, the study will delve into the socioeconomic context in which these Mathematicians operated, shedding light on the institutional and educational challenges they faced (Thapa, 2020).

Literature Review:

The literature review highlights the significant contributions of Mathematicians from Nepal's Far Western region between 1877 and 1940, despite facing socioeconomic challenges. These scholars played key roles in advancing Mathematical knowledge and education within Nepal. By analyzing their works and influence on the local mathematical landscape, the study emphasizes their enduring legacy. Despite poverty and limited resources, these Mathematicians excelled in various branches of Mathematics, inspiring future generations through informal teaching and community initiatives. This review underscores the importance of recognizing their contributions in understanding the cultural and historical context of Mathematical development in Nepal. (Shrestha, 2020 and Bhattarai, 2015)

Objectives

To Explore and showcase the significant Mathematical contributions of Far Western Nepali Mathematicians between 1877 and 1940 A.D., shedding light on their pioneering work and its impact on the field.

To Analyze the theoretical innovations and pedagogical methods utilized by prominent Far Western Mathematicians Pahal Man Singh Swar and Jaya Prithvi Bahadur Singh, providing insights into their Mathematical approaches and teaching techniques.

Methodology

This study employs a comprehensive approach, including literature review, biographical analysis, textual analysis, and historical inquiry. Through a synthesis of existing literature and primary sources, it reconstructs the lives and works of Far Western Mathematicians, contextualizing their contributions within Nepal's Mathematical history.

Significance:

The study underscores the crucial role played by Far Western Nepali Mathematicians in advancing Mathematical knowledge and education within Nepal during a pivotal period in its history. By examining the works of Mathematicians such as Pahal Man Singh Swar and Jaya Prithvi Bahadur Singh, the research illuminates their enduring legacy and highlights the importance of acknowledging and preserving Far Western Nepal's Mathematical heritage.

Limitations:

Despite efforts to comprehensively analyze the Mathematical contributions of Far Western Nepali Mathematicians, certain limitations remain. These include potential gaps in historical

records, limitations in access to primary sources, and challenges in interpreting the cultural and social contexts in which these Mathematicians lived and worked. Additionally, the study's focus on the period between 1877 and 1940 A.D., may overlook later developments in Far Western Nepali Mathematics, warranting further research and exploration.

Mathematical Analysis:

"Ankedushekhar," authored by Pahal Man Singh Swar, and "Aksharanka Shiksha" by Jaya Prithvi Bahadur Singh, are seminal works that underscore Far Western Mathematicians' pedagogical acumen and theoretical innovations. These texts provide comprehensive coverage of fundamental Mathematical principles, geometric figures, and practical applications, enriching Mathematical education in Nepal (Swar, 1853, Singh, 1901 and Acharya, 2012).

Mathematical Analysis of "Ankedushekhar"

Pahal Man Singh Swar (1878-1934 A.D.) was born in Ridikot, Achham in Seti zone. He has been fascinated by Mathematics since he was a child. His best known for his magnum opus, "Ankedushekhar". Swar is infact, a Nepali literacy figure. Despite being a literature enthusiast, he wrote "Ankedushekhar," in 1903 A.D. It contains the core concept of Mathematics, which is based on four fundamental process of math. He died in 1934 A.D. in Pahalmanpur ((Pant, 1982 and Acharya, 2015).

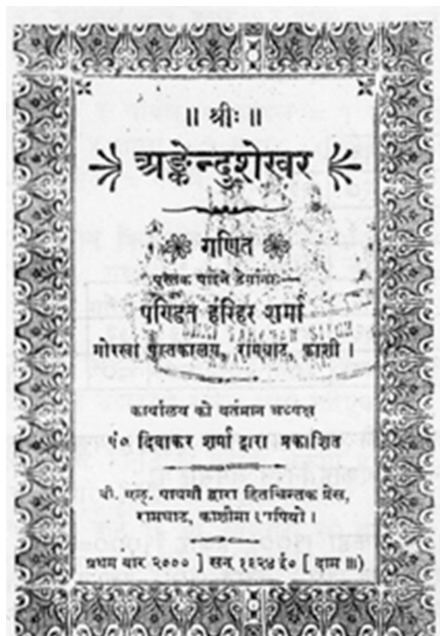


Figure No. 1: "Ankedushekhar" by Pahal Man Singh Swar (Acharya, 2015).

Source: Pahal Man Singh Swar Smriti Pratisthan

"Ankedushekhar," is a 113-pages that book measuring 13 cm by 18 cm, emerges as a valuable resource for aspiring Mathematicians. This book encompasses Mathematical digits alongside a diverse array of figures, rendering it highly beneficial for Mathematical education. Notably, it features techniques for multiplication, aiding learners in grasping fundamental arithmetic principles. One remarkable aspect distinguishing the book is its presentation of Mathematical rules in rhyme, facilitating swift and effortless memorization for children (Pant, 1982; Acharya, 2015; Raikhola, 2022).

Swar, renowned as a prominent figure in Nepali literature, ventured into the realm of Mathematics with his unique creation, "Ankendushekhar". Despite his literary pursuits, Swar's foray into Mathematics yielded a distinct contribution. However, "Ankendushekhar" faces the looming threat of extinction in contemporary times, lacking the necessary incentives for its preservation (Acharya, 2017 and Raikhola, 2022).

In 1953 A.D., a pivotal discovery revived “*Ankedushekhar*” when it was found on copier paper and subsequently reproduced and published. The book's commencement unfolds with a preamble gracing its second page, followed by an elucidation of "Dedication" on the fourth page, where Pahalman Singh Swar's presence is noted at the page's bottom (Swar, 1953; Acharya, 2015).

Here's a breakdown of the Mathematical content and examples found in "*Ankedushekhar*":

Content Overview: "*Ankedushekhar*" spans 113 pages and is sized at 13 cm by 18 cm. It's designed comprehensively to assist budding Mathematicians.

Mathematical Digits and Figures:

The book encompasses a wide array of Mathematical digits and figures, providing learners with a robust understanding of numerical principles and operations.

Arithmetic Operations: Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division.

i.e $3 + 4 = 7$, $8 - 5 = 3$, $6 \times 9 = 54$, $18 \div 3 = 6$

Geometric Figures: Circles, squares, triangles, rectangles, with corresponding formulas for area and perimeter.

Here are the geometric figures along with their corresponding formulas for area and perimeter:

1. Circle:

- Formula for Area $A^2 = \pi r^2$
- Formula for Perimeter (Circumference): $P = 2\pi r$

2. Square:

- Formula for Area: $A^2 = l^2$
- Formula for Perimeter: $P = 4 \times \text{side}$

3. Triangle:

- Formula for Area: $A = 1/2 \times \text{base} \times \text{height}$
- Formula for Perimeter: $P = a + b + c$ Where: a, b, and c are the lengths of the three sides of the triangle. P is the perimeter of the triangle.

4. Rectangle:

- Formula for Area: $A = \text{length} \times \text{width}$
- Formula for Perimeter: $P = 2 \times (\text{length} + \text{width})$

These figures and formulas are fundamental in geometry and are used extensively in various Mathematical and practical applications.

Multiplication Techniques: "*Ankedushekhar*" presents various methods for multiplication,

Long Multiplication: $256 \times 39 = 9984$

- Lattice Multiplication:
- Mental math strategies.

Mental Math strategies involve performing Mathematical calculations mentally, without the aid of pen and paper or a calculator. Here are some examples of mental math strategies:

Number Decomposition: Breaking numbers down into easier-to-manage parts for calculation. For example: $47 + 25 = (40 + 20) + (7 + 5) = 60 + 12 = 72$

Multiplication by Multiples of 10: Simplifying multiplication by multiplying with 10 and adjusting. For example: $7 \times 30 = 7 \times (10 \times 3) = 7 \times 10 \times 3 = 70 \times 3 = 210$

Using Known Facts: Utilizing known multiplication facts to find related calculations. For example: $8 \times 7 = (4 \times 7) \times 2 = 28 \times 2 = 56$

Estimation: Approximating results to facilitate mental calculation. For example: $348 + 197 \approx 350 + 200 = 550$

Using Commutative and Associative Properties: Rearranging numbers to simplify calculations. For example: $18 + 23 + 9 = (18 + 9) + 23 = 27 + 23 = 50$

Halving and Doubling: Halving one number and doubling the other to simplify multiplication. For example:

$$16 \times 25 = (8 \times 50) = 400$$

These mental math strategies enable individuals to perform calculations quickly and efficiently, enhancing their computational fluency and problem-solving skills.

Rhyming Mathematical Rules: Notably, "*Ankedushekhar*" presents Mathematical rules in rhyme, facilitating mnemonic retention and comprehension among learners. This pedagogical approach fosters an engaging learning environment conducive to Mathematical exploration.

Example (Rhyming Rule):

"Seven times eight, feeling great, equals fifty-six."

Mathematically the above example we can solve as similarly. The Mathematical example provided in the mnemonic rhyme "Seven times eight, feeling great, equals fifty-six" corresponds to the multiplication of 7 by 8, resulting in 56.

$$7 \times 8 = 56 \quad 8 \times 7 = 56$$

So, according to the rhyme, when we multiply 7 by 8, then we get 56.

Example (Rhyming Rule):

"Two times two is four, knocking at the door. Three times three is nine, feeling mighty fine."

The given mnemonic rhyme provides multiplication facts in an engaging manner. Let's break it down mathematically:

1. "Two times two is four, knocking at the door." $2 \times 2 = 4$

2. "Three times three is nine, feeling mighty fine." $3 \times 3 = 9$

So, according to the rhyme:

- Multiplying 2 by 2 equals 4.
- Multiplying 3 by 3 equals 9. (Swar, 1953)

Historical Significance: Despite the risk of extinction, the book gained renewed attention and preservation in 1953 A.D., marking its historical significance in Mathematical education.

Contributions to Education: "*Ankedushekhar*" serves as an essential educational tool, providing foundational knowledge and mnemonic aids to learners. Its preservation highlights the importance of accessible educational materials.

"Ankedushekhhar" offers a rich Mathematical tapestry, spanning arithmetic operations, geometric principles, and mnemonic techniques. Its historical significance and contributions to Mathematical education underscore its enduring value in fostering Mathematical literacy.

Mathematical Analysis of "Aksharanka Shiksha"

Jaya Prithvi Bahadur Singh, (1877-1940 A.D.) was the Rana Prime Minister Chandra Shamsher eldest son in law and the grandson of Janga Bahadur Rana through his daughters line (Bhattra, 1999). He completed his primary education in Calcutta and Prayag. He had passed Matriculation Examination from Calcutta University in 1894 A.D. "Aksharanka Shiksha", authored by Jaya Prithvi Bahadur Singh, stands as a significant contribution to Mathematics education in Nepal. Published in 1901 A.D., it went unnoticed until later, when it was recognized and integrated into mainstream education by Jaya Prithvi Anushandhan Adhyan (Acharya 2015, Shrestha 2017). The book covers fundamental Mathematical principles such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, along with practical applications for everyday life. Its content includes tables from 1 to 100, multiplication tables up to 20, square root tables, and other numerical references. Notably, Singh replaced numerical terms with Sanskrit equivalents, adding cultural depth to the Mathematical lexicon. The book, written in Nepali Language, also provides methods for measuring land, weights, and time periods. Despite the author's significant contributions, he remained unrecognized by the ruling Rana dynasty due to his progressive views on education. Dev Shamser, another Rana Prime Minister, aimed to establish 300 schools and distribute free copies of "Aksharanka Shiksha" to students. Although his plans faced opposition, numerous schools were established, and the book became widely disseminated during his tenure. It's considered Nepal's first compulsory arithmetic text (Singh, 1901).



Figure No.2: "Aksharanka Shiksha", by Jay Prithavi Bahadur Singh (Acharya, 2017 and Raikhola, 2022)

Jaya Prithvi Bahadur Singh's legacy extends beyond his Mathematical contributions. His works symbolize a commitment to education and cultural preservation, transcending political obstacles.

The analysis of "Aksharanka Shiksha" reveals its comprehensive coverage of Mathematical principles and its significance in the context of education and cultural preservation. Here's a detailed examination of the book's contents and its impact:

Fundamental Mathematical Principles:

"Aksharanka Shiksha" covers essential Mathematical operations including addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. These foundational concepts form the basis of Mathematical understanding and problem-solving skills.

Example: 1

Addition: $2 + 3 = 5$

Subtraction: $7 - 4 = 3$

Multiplication: $6 \times 8 = 48$

Division: $15 \div 3 = 5$

Numerical References and Tables: The book includes extensive numerical references and tables to facilitate learning and computation. Tables from 1 to 100, multiplication tables up to 20, and square root tables are provided for reference and practice (Singh, 1901).

Example: 2

Multiplication Table:

$1 \times 1 = 1$

$1 \times 2 = 2$

...

$20 \times 20 = 400$

Square Root Table:

$\sqrt{1} = 1$

$\sqrt{2} = 1.414$

...

$\sqrt{20} = 4.472$

Cultural Integration: Jaya Prithvi Bahadur Singh's inclusion of Sanskrit equivalents for numerical terms reflects a cultural integration within Mathematical education. This not only enriches the Mathematical lexicon but also promotes cultural awareness and preservation.

Example: 3

Sanskrit Numerical Terms: '*Yaka*' (One), '*Dasha*' (Ten), '*Shata*' (Hundred), '*Sahasa*' (Thousand), '*Ayuta*' (Ten Thousand), '*Lakshya*' (Hundred Thousand)

Practical Applications: "*Aksharanka Shiksha*" offers practical applications of Mathematics relevant to everyday life. It provides methods for measuring land, weights, and time periods, enabling learners to apply Mathematical concepts in real-world scenarios.

Example: 4

Measurement of Land: Calculating area using square units

Measurement of Weights: Converting between different units such as grams and kilograms

Time Periods: Understanding concepts like years, months, days, and seasons

Educational Impact: Despite initial neglect by the ruling Rana dynasty, "*Aksharanka Shiksha*" gained recognition and became widely disseminated, especially during Dev Shamsar's

tenure. It played a pivotal role in Nepal's education system as the first mandated Mathematics text, contributing to the Mathematical literacy of generations (Singh, 1901).

Example: 5

Establishment of Schools: Dev Shamsar's initiative to establish 300 schools and distribute free copies of the book reflects its educational significance and impact on the broader community.

Results and Discussion:

Far Western Mathematicians played pivotal roles in establishing educational institutions and democratizing access to Mathematical education in Nepal. Their enduring legacy continues to shape educational paradigms, inspiring future generations of Mathematicians. The study advocates for the recognition and preservation of Far Western Nepal's Mathematical heritage, emphasizing its cultural significance and contribution to Nepal's broader Mathematical landscape.

Conclusion:

The Mathematical contributions of Far Western Nepali Mathematicians between 1877 and 1940 A.D., were multifaceted, encompassing theoretical advancements, educational impact, and resilience in the face of challenges. Recognizing their legacy not only honors their achievements but also inspires future generations to pursue mathematical excellence. By acknowledging and preserving Far Western Nepal's Mathematical heritage, we enrich our understanding of Nepal's Mathematical history and inspire continued innovation in the field.

Acknowledgement:

I gratefully acknowledge the profound Mathematical contributions of Far Western Nepali Mathematicians between 1877 and 1940 A.D. Their achievements, spanning theoretical advancements, educational influence, and resilience, serve as a beacon of inspiration for future generations. By honoring and safeguarding Far Western Nepal's Mathematical heritage, I deepen my comprehension of Nepal's Mathematical history and foster ongoing innovation in the field.

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Women Empowerment

Laxmi Bashyal

ABSTRACT

Women empowerment is the condition of women making enable to them to participate each and every sector by removing their weak conditions. Government of Nepal has adopted three pillar (public, private and cooperative) systems for socio-economic development of Nepal. To improve the socio-economic conditions of women and their families, cooperative has made efforts to empower their member by providing opportunities on socio-economic activities as well as on how to boost productive activities and their access to local market. The researcher has chosen a district based saving and credit cooperative to assess the role of cooperative in women empowerment through structured questionnaire. The quantitative data has been processed and analyzed through the SPSS 16.0 and excel program. The chi-square test was used to test the significant association between two attributes in inferential statistics. As the research was focused on three important elements of women empowerment; namely, economic status, decision making power in sexual and reproductive health and mobility of women, it was found that the majority of respondents reported that they felt improvement in these elements due to their involvement in cooperative. Hence, it was concluded that the cooperative plays an important role in women empowerment.

Keywords: Fusion, Inertial Confinement Fusion, National Ignition Facility, Laser Megajoules

1. Concept

The women empowerment is an important issue in the process of development of all developing countries. Historically, women in Nepal are socially and economically neglected compared to men. Inequalities between men and women are distinguish in sectors like education, health, employment and income opportunities and control over assets, personal securities and participation in the political process. This makes the women widespread as disadvantage and less empowered.

The development of a society is measured not only in terms of its material resources, economic growth and wealth creation but also in terms of the opportunities and capabilities of its people to explore the material resources and to contribute equally in the growth of their society. For sustainable socio-economic development of society all round development of all people becomes necessary irrespective of caste, class, religion, region and gender. It is important for all countries in general and for the third world countries in particular

'Empowerment is the most frequently used term in the development literature of recent times. It is also a widely interpreted concept because of its multidimensional and multifaceted character. The literal meaning of women's empowerment is to give power to women to change their status in society. But this meaning of empowerment has narrow implications for women. Some more broader and comprehensive definition are discussed by many scholars.

UNDP (2004) has defined the empowerment as includes the expansion of choices for women and an increase of ability to exercise that choices when women are empowered.

According to Srilatha Batliwala (1995), empowerment means giving women the ability to have more control over the things they need to flourish, like money and education. It process by which women gain greater control over material and intellectual resources, and challenge the ideology of patriarchy and the gender-based discrimination against women in all the institutions and structures of society.

Mayoux (2000), has examined the concept of women's empowerment from a different angle. She defines empowerment as a multidimensional and interlinked process of change in power relations. It consists of four aspects of power which are:

- Power within: enabling women to articulate their own aspirations and strategies for change;
- Power to: enabling women to develop the necessary skills and access the necessary resources to achieve their aspirations;
- Power with: enabling women to examine and articulate their collective interests, to organize, to achieve them and to link with other women and men's organizations for change; and
- Power over changing the underlying inequalities in power and resources which constrain women's aspirations and their ability to achieve them.

The Global Human Development Report of UNDP 2004 also noted that Human Development is a process of enlarging the choice for all people, not just one part of the society. Such a process becomes unjust and discriminatory if most women are excluded from its benefits. And the continuing exclusion of women from many economic and political opportunities is a continuing indictment of modern progress.

While analyzing the views of various scholars on women's empowerment, it is seen that empowerment has been conceptualized as a process based on the participation of women themselves with bottom-up organization of their internal strength for accessing and controlling resources which give women power to challenge the situations and conditions which have placed them on inferiority and subordination.

Empowerment includes the expansion of opportunities and choices for women in all fields, that is, social, economic, political and psychological. It focuses on the practical needs as well as the strategic interests of women and strengthens women to revolution the repressive patriarchal ideology while sharing opportunity and responsibility with men on equal bases.

In the process of women empowerment, Kabeer mentioned three interrelated dimensions of power are needed which are access to and control over resources, agency and achievements. Here

resources imply those preconditions necessary to be able to exercise choice; agency stands for participation in decision-making that allows women to define their goals and actions to achieve those goals; and achievements refer to those end results of access to resources and agency which affect women's well-being and status. The third dimension clearly states that empowerment is also an outcome of or end result of a process. Thus, empowerment is not only an end in itself but also a means to enable women to generate more power rather than only to control their existing power.

2. Importance of Women Empowerment

Women empowerment is crucial for achieving gender equality, which is a fundamental human right. When women are empowered, they have the same opportunities as men to access education, employment, and other resources necessary to lead a fulfilling life. Women empowerment can lead to increased economic growth by enabling women to participate fully in the workforce, start their businesses, and contribute to their communities' economic development. Women's empowerment is also critical to reducing poverty. When women have access to education, healthcare, and economic resources, they can lift themselves out of poverty and contribute to their families and communities' well-being. Empowered women can make informed decisions about their health and the health of their families. They are more likely to seek medical care and access reproductive health services, which can improve overall health outcomes. Women's empowerment is also essential for fostering peaceful and inclusive societies. When women are empowered, they can participate in decision-making processes, contribute to peace building efforts, and promote social cohesion and inclusion.

Women's groups across the many country is violence against women, especially in developing countries, in the form of rape and dowry deaths. The women are deprived from education, health services, and employment opportunities, access to property, involvement in decision making level administrative and political sectors and killing of young women for dowry, money, or goods. These barriers prevent women from achieving their full potential and contributing to their families, societies, and nations' development. To be a happy and healthy family, women should be educated and capable. So, for the welfare of family, society and nation, women should be empowered.

Handy and Kassam clarify that women themselves are seen as agents to transform the existing power relations in the society. External agents can only help them with material support and information but they cannot present empowerment on them. Women's empowerment does not mean to disempowering men. Instead it should lead to the liberation of men from false value systems and ideologies of oppression. It should lead to a situation where each one can become a whole being regardless of gender, and use their fullest potential to construct a more human society for all. (in-text citation???)

3. Measuring of Empowerment

The concept of empowerment can be explored through three closely interrelated dimensions:

agency, resources, and achievements. Agency represents the processes by which choices are made and put into effect. It is hence central to the concept of empowerment. Resources are the medium through which agency is exercised; and achievements refer to the outcomes of agency. Above each of these dimensions is considered in turn, as is their interrelationship in the context of empowerment (Kebeer, 1999).

UNDP's Global Human Development Report (1995), introduced the two new indices in addition to the HDI (Human Development Index), the Gender Empowerment Measures (GEM) and the Gender Development Index (GDI). Here, GDI attempts to adjust the HDI for inequalities in the achievement of men and women. A comparison of a country/ states ranking on the HDI and its ranking on the GDI can indicate the existence of gender discrepancy. The indicators like life expectancy, literacy rate and income are used to calculate these indices.

Lopez - Claros and Zahidi (2005), have identified five dimensions to measure women's empowerment which are economic participation, economic opportunity, political empowerment, educational attainment and health and well-being.

Similarly, Kishor (1997) has used national Egyptian data to explore the effects of direct, as well as indirect, measures of women's empowerment on two valued functioning achievements: infant survival rates and infant immunization. These achievements were selected on the basis of her conceptualization of women's empowerment in terms of 'control' which she defined as their ability to access information, take decisions, and act in their own interests, or the interests of those who depend on them. Kishor analyses empowerment associated with positive achievements in terms of the health and survival of their children and it summarized in the following ways;

Direct evidence of empowerment

- Devaluation of women: reports of domestic violence; dowry paid at marriage.
- Women's emancipation: belief in daughters' education; freedom of movement.
- Reported sharing of roles and decision-making: egalitarian gender roles; egalitarian decision-making.
- Equality in marriage: fewer grounds reported for justified divorce by husbands; equality of grounds reported for divorce by husband or wife.
- Financial autonomy: currently controls her earnings; her earnings as share of household income.

Sources of empowerment

- Participation in the modern sector: index of assets owned; female education.
- Lifetime exposure to employment: worked before marriage; controlled earnings before marriage.

Setting indicators

- Family structure amenable to empowerment: does not now or previously live with in-laws.
- Marital advantage: small age difference between spouses; chose husband.
- Traditional marriage: large educational difference with husband; did not choose husband.(better to show in paragraph)

Conclusion

Women empowerment refers to the process of enabling women to have control over their lives and make decisions that affect their well-being, including their social, economic, and political status. Access to resources such as education, employment, healthcare, social services, and political participation is crucial for empowering women and enabling them to make informed decisions about their own lives and those of their families. Women can gain access to these resources through various channels, including family support, community support, and social organizations. When women are able to participate in social, political, and economic activities, the positive impact extends beyond themselves and their families to society and the nation as a whole. Women's increased participation in these sectors promotes gender equality, strengthens the economy, and contributes to the overall well-being of society. It involves providing women with the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to pursue their goals and participate fully in society. From the above philosophies, we can summarize that, Economic Indicators, social Indicators, Health Indicators, Demographic Indicators and Political Indicators are some important indicators of empowerment or inequality experienced by women in a society. These indicators are not comprehensive enough but can throw light on the situation of women in different walks of life. Its aims to promote gender equality and equal participation of women as men in socio-economic and political sectors.

Therefore, it is important to ensure that women have equal access to resources and opportunities, as well as the necessary support to take advantage of them. This requires addressing social and cultural barriers that may prevent women from participating fully in society, and promoting policies and programs that promote gender equality and women's empowerment.

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Plasma State of Matter and its Progress in Fusion

Bhesha Raj Adhikari

Abstract

The plasma state of matter shows some peculiar properties next to a material wall. Due to the higher velocity of the electrons compared with ions, the wall is negatively charged. In nuclear fusion two light nuclei are fused together to create a larger nucleus plus a large amount of energy. Two principal mechanisms for confining the fusion fuel are Magnetic Confinement Fusion (MCF) and Inertial Confinement Fusion (ICF). In MCF, plasma is confined by using magnetic field whereas in ICF high energy lasers are used to compress plasma fuel with very high densities.

Keywords: plasma, quasineutral, collective behavior, Debye shielding, plasma frequency, Nuclear fusion, Tokamak, Iter.

Introduction

Many kinds of matter are in plasma state in the universe. If the temperature of any solid material is increased, the changes of state takes place from solid to liquid and then to gas. As temperature increases, the number of ionized particles increases and different types of behavior shows by the ionized gas. This is plasma, and it is neither solid nor liquid nor gas.

The word “plasma” comes from Greek that means something molded or fabricated [1]. The existence of “the fourth state of matter” was first identified by Sir William Crookes in 1879, however, the term plasma was introduced by I. Langmuir in 1928 to describe the state of matter in the positive column of glow discharge tube [2].

Plasma is defined as quasineutral gas of charge and neutral particles shows collective behavior [5]. Quasineutrality of plasma implies that the electron density n_e and ion density n_i are nearly equal so that we can take $n_e = n_i = n$; where n is called plasma density [1]. The fourth state of matter that was existed in different temperature and density, first pointed out by Crookes in 1879, however, by Langmuir in 1928, the meaning of plasma was introduced [1,2,3]. The Plasma has main property, that is its capability which shield out any external applied electric field given in it. Such phenomenon is the Debye shielding. In plasma, the given external field is shielded within a very small distance called Debye length. The relation of electron Debye length λ_D with the temperature of electron and the plasma density is given below [1, 15];

$$\lambda_D = \left(\frac{\epsilon_0 k T_e}{n e^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (1)$$

where ϵ_0 is free space permittivity, k_B is electron temperature, e is electric charge and k_B Boltzmann constant is T_e . Debye shielding, which is shown in Figure 1 is statistically valid if there are large number of particles in the Debye sphere.

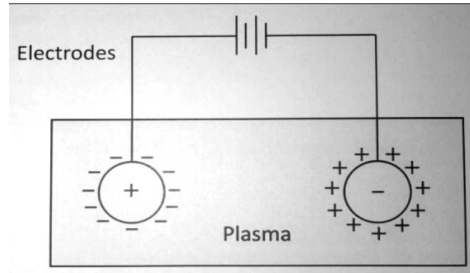


Figure 1: Physical concept of Debye shielding

There are certain conditions that an ionized gas must be satisfied, which we called plasma are [1 – 3, 15]:

- (i) $\lambda_D \ll L$, L is dimension of a plasma region.
- (ii) $N_D \gg 1$, N_D is number of particles remain in Debye sphere.
- (iii) $\omega\tau > 1$, ω is plasma oscillation and τ is mean time between collisions with the neutral atoms.

In the whole universe, it is said that, above 99% of the matter is in plasma state [1]. It is interesting to note that even solar system is dominated by plasma; as the sun is in the plasma state. Plasma is not necessarily always hot. The low temperature plasma which is used in the modification of surface, and organic cleaning, are ionized gases which is generated at pressures between 0.1 and 2 Torr [4,6,7]. Figure 2 shows that, there is existence of plasma in various ranges of temperature, as well as density. The density and temperature both can have ranges much lower to higher than that of any other states. Due to this diverse nature, in different fields, it is found many applications.

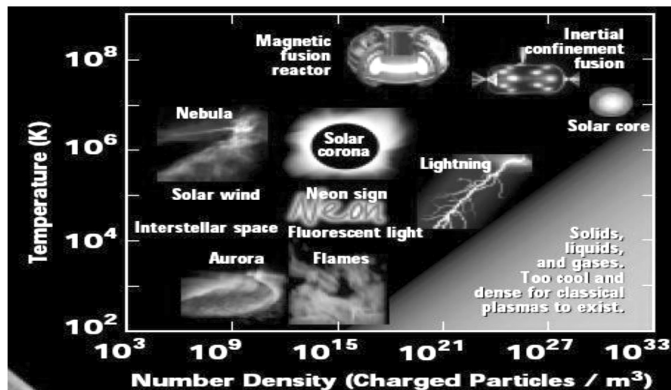


Fig. 2: Plasma existence in diverse ranges of temperature and density

The phenomenon, by which two light nuclei combine to form a heavier nucleus, and releasing

large amount of energy, is the fusion. To achieve this energy high temperature is required Figure 3 [16].

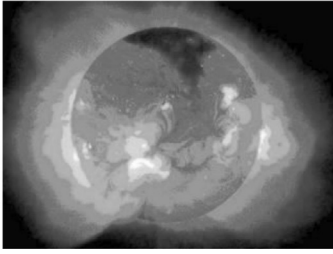


Fig.3: The Sun: Fusion power plant which is 5-billion year old.

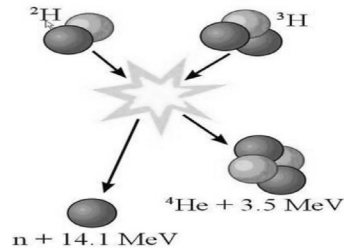


Fig.4: Deuterium (^2H) and Tritium(^3H) fusion.

The favorable fusion reaction which is used on earth is that involving deuterium (2H or D) and tritium (3H or T) as in Figure 4. Deuterium, is the isotope of hydrogen, which is found in seawater. Tritium is another isotope of hydrogen, which may be produced by neutron reactions with lithium, and is broadly available, both from ore from the earth and also from the seawater. In D-T fusion reaction, 17.6 million electron volts (MeV) of energy is released. This energy is one million times the amount of energy, which releases from chemical reaction, like burning of the fossil fuels [1].

Nuclear fusion, which is the source of energy of sun and stars, that was suggested many years back [5, 6, 7]. Then after, fusion energy, is supposed to be specific potential sources of virtually unlimited, energy for humenbeings [6]. Fusion energy is differentiated into two main categories, that is (MCF) and (ICF) [8, 9, 10].

In MCF, there is confinement of plasma, by using a magnetic field at very high temperatures. On the other hand in ICF, plasma is compressed by using lasers, with very much high densities. In both schemes it is desired to achieve the Lawson Criterion [6], which implies that the plasma produced will generate more energy through fusion reactions than is required to create and sustain that plasma [10]. In MCF, a low-density plasma is confined for longer period of time, whereas in ICF a high-density plasma is confined for a short period of time [11]. In MCF, a low-density plasma is confined for longer period of time, whereas in ICF a high-density plasma is confined for a short period of time [14, 15, 16].

Tokamak and Iter

The most successful magnetic device for confining plasma was invented in the Soviet Union in the late 1950s and was called 'tokamak'. The word is derived from the Russian words for 'toroidal chamber magnetic coil', toroidalnaya kamera magnitnaya katuska [13]. After the successful experimental demonstration of tritium burning in the Joint European Torus (JET) in 1991 [13], producing a peak fusion power of 1.7 MW, the magnetic confinement scheme has gained momentum towards the realization of fusion energy.

The research work of tokamak systems begin in 1956 in Kurchatov Institute, Moscow by a group of Soviet scientists . The first tokamak was made by this group, the most successful being

T-3, its bigger version T-4. The version, T-4, in 1968 was tested in Novosibirsk.

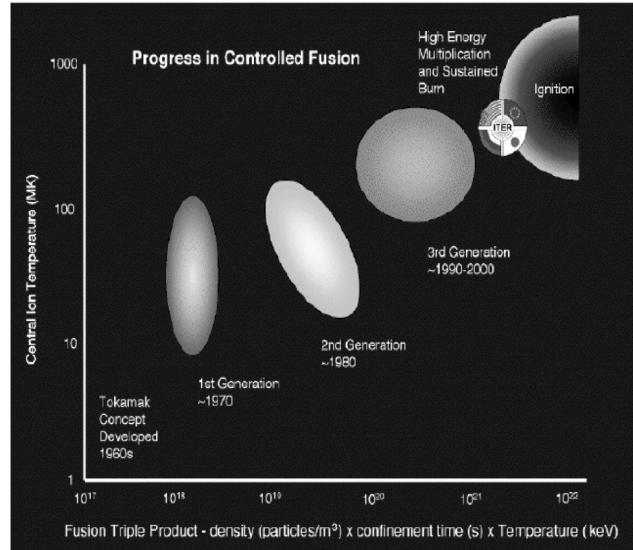


Fig. 5: Progress in Controlled Fusion

The upcoming creation of tokamak “International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER)” is the fusion research project which is internationally recognized, and is the biggest and advanced experimental tokamak, and is recently undergoing construction work at Caderache in France. Such type of project is financed, and run by seven associated entities, like European Union (EU), India, Japan, China, Russia, South Korea and the United States.

This project has been invented to make, 500 megawatts of out-turn power, for 50 megawatts of input power. The project is started in 2007, and it is expected that the first plasma may be produced in 2025. When it is operated, it will be the largest experiment of magnetic confinement in plasma physics, in use. First, business presentation of fusion power plant, named as Demo, is suggested to follow on, from the ITER project to launch the, fusion energy to the business market.

Sun and stars are producing fusion energy for billions of years and nuclear fusion has already been tested as a nuclear weapon (so called hydrogen bomb) but unfortunately it is taking longer than expected for its realization of harnessing as an energy source. As fusion is clean, safe and virtually inexhaustible it is still a challenge for scientists and will be worth spending time and money for its research. Sometimes people argue that “fusion is impossible” but it has already been demonstrated in JET and many other devices across the globe and the progress being made in construction of ITER is encouraging. The success of ITER will not only pave way for future fusion power plants but also demonstrates how science can bring people together to work for the betterment of mankind. As of now we can only hope that everything goes well as planned and fusion energy becomes available and for that we just need to push that date forward as quickly as possible.

Conclusion

In our surroundings, the materials are solid, liquid and gas; although, the plasma state of matter lead in our universe. There are different applications of plasma in lightning, computer chip manufacturing, spaceship propulsion, and many more. Nuclear Fusion gives, major options for the sustainable, or long term energy source. The fuels obtained by fusion, are basically never-ending, easily accessible all over the world. Operation of fusion power plant is naturally out of harms, and has no any risk of long-lasting radioactive decay.

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Untouchable: The Use of the Stream of Consciousness

Bina Adhikari

Abstract

This paper discusses about the use of stream of consciousness in Mulk Raj Anand's novel Untouchable. The stream of consciousness is a fictional technique in which the novelist does not narrate the story, but places us within the mind of some particular character or characters, and gives us the flow of ideas and sensations through the mind of such characters. In this way in the psychological or stream of consciousness novel, the interest shifts from the external to the internal, and the novelist is able to give us a peep into the mind and heart of his pro agonists and reveal what goes on within their troubled souls. He, thus portrays the psychology of his characters, the motive and impulses, conscious or unconscious, which are the springs of sources of their actions. Untouchable is a socially conscious or sociological novel. It focuses attention on a number of customs, traditions, social evils, etc., of Hindu society in the 1930s, more particularly the evils of the caste system. Hindu society is orthodox and caste-ridden and has compelled a large section of its people to live sub-human lives like animals. The novel thus provides a scathing indictment of the caste system and exposes the callousness and hypocrisy of the caste Hindus.

Keywords: Humour, Satire, Realism, Depiction, Caste system, Bakha

Introduction

In Untouchable Anand wanted to depict the suffering and anguish of the Untouchables as a result of oppression and exploitation, and hence "the stream of consciousness technique" was most appropriate for his purposes. Anand had learned this technique from a study of James Joyce's Ulysses and as M. K. Naik point out in his first novel, "he has used it in a much modified and simplified form, in order to realise his objective of presenting a vivid picture both of Bakha's mind and milieu"(Anand 29). There could have been no other more effective method of bring home to us the anguish and torment of these outcastes of society and of enlisting our sympathies for them. Thus there is a perfect integration of theme and technique, of form and content, of Anand's social vision and of the method he has chosen to convey that vision.

Every 'traumatic' Psychological hurt experience that Bakha has, every time he is subjected to one humiliation or the other, we get his "stream of unconsciousness" and in this way we are enabled to form an idea of his intense anguish and inner torture. Thus after he has accidentally touched a caste Hindu in the bazar, he is abused, insulted and slapped and we are given an idea

of his intense suffering through a rendering of his stream of consciousness: "But there was a shouldering rage in his soul. His feelings would rise like spurts of smoke from a half-smothered fire, in pitiful, unbalanced jerks, when the recollection of some abuse or rebuke he had suffered kindled a spark in the ashes of remorse inside him. The picture of the touched man stood in the forefront, among several indistinct faces, his blood shot eyes... his ridiculously agitated manner, his abuse; and there was the circle of the crowd, jeering, scoffing abusing, while he himself stood with joined hands in the centre. Why was all this?" he asked himself in the soundless speech of cells receiving and transmitting emotions, which was his usual way of communicating with himself" (Arora 86). No other way more effective could have been devised to depict with full force the inner anguish of Bakha and arouse our sympathy for him, and others like him.

Similarly, Bakha's nightmarish fear as he thinks of climbing the steps of the temple, his agitated and troubled mental state, has been graphically depicted by giving us a peep into his thought processes. "The temple seemed to advance towards him like a monster, and to envelop him" (Anand 109). When he dozes off in an uneasy half-sleep in the silversmith's lane (where he has gone to ask for food) the "labyrinthine depths of his unconscious" begins to weave strange, weird fantasies and dreams. On such occasions Anand gives us the phantasmagoria that is conjured up by his feverish and agitated brain.

Bakha's stream of consciousness portrays his suffering and anguish, his fears and cogitations. In contrast to this, there is the stream of consciousness of Lakha, which tells us of his greed and his lack of all sense of self-respect and human dignity. In his old age he remembers the left-overs of feasts he used to enjoy in days gone by. He remembers, "the great big piles of cooked food which he had received on the occasion of marriages in the alleys in the city. There were fried bread and chingripuffs, vegetables, curries and sweet smelling pudding, sweets and tasty pickles-remainders from the trays of high-caste men, and sometimes portions direct from the kitchen.

H. C. Harrex has studied the form and structure of the novel in detail and he is rightly of the view that the formal pattern structure of the novel, "combines the moral fable form", and the principle of "interplay, indeed interpenetration, of situation and character" (Arora 94), which Anand saw as the "significant feature of the western short story" Present in Bakha's character is the pathetic incongruity of natural vitality sapped by conditioned docility. In the epiphany-like main touching" scene, we see the interplay of character and incident producing the germ of a new consciousness in Bakha, beginning with a realisation of his social identity. The birth of this consciousness conforms to Gandhi's psychological approach to the problem of untouchability whereby the outcaste is encouraged to develop self-esteem in place of self-abasement. From this point on, the narrative development-involving as it does Bakha's increasing enlightenment regarding work, social discrimination, poverty and the doctrine of pollution-fulfils the requirement of the moral fable, the evil of the social system has been exposed (as in a moral fable) and the novel concludes with a "desire" image suggesting how the evil should be eradicated.

Bakha experiences the "shock" of self-recognition: "It illustrated the inner chambers of his mind...A shock... had passed through his perceptions, previously numb and torpid." After this experience Bakha is developed into something of a fable figure and is endowed with an elementary visionary quality. He has the ability to contrast the familiar with the unknown and this is described in terms of "the impulse which tries to create a new harmony": "he had grown out of this native shoes into the ammunition boots he had secured as a gift. And with this and other strange and exotic items of dress, he had built up a new world, which was commendable, if for nothing else, because it represented a change from old ossified order... He was a pioneer in his own way. Having thus far counterpointed the antithetical elements ("ossified order", "impulse. to create a new harmony)" in the narrative structure, Anand employs two devices to bring Bakha to the brink of a personal and social synthesis.

The ending of *Untouchable* is conceived as prophecy suggesting a choice of possibilities (Christ, Gandhi, Marx, the Machine) because of his belief that the writer, who does not have a romantic as well as a realistic point of view, will not see the whole of life and will be in danger of affirming only negation of life. "The novel of revolutionary romanticism... seeks the desire image, that is to say, to suggest what the writer would like life to be like, by implication, as against what it is" (Singh 53). The second device Anand uses to promote his social vision is the spokesman figure, the young poet, who is introduced in [the final scene and who explains the "choice of possibilities" to a section of the crowd that includes the receptive Bakha. The poet reveres Gandhi as "the greatest liberating force of our age", but suggests that India "has suffered for not accepting the machine". If untouchables can develop a consciousness of self-respect and India adopts the flush-system, then untouchability may be eradicated (Singh 92).

Structurally, this conclusion is reached through a coalescence of "desire image" and spokesman devices. Thus the close of the novel which has generally been regarded as superfluous is seen to be an integral part of the novel. In this part he has projected his own dream of a golden age when there would be no untouchability, as well as an imagined connection between himself as the reformist spokesman-author and the untouchable on whose behalf he was writing. The only fault that can be found with this part is that the speech of the poet is too long and can profitably be shortened, and that everything which follows the appearance of Gandhi comes as an anti-climax. It was a mistake to have introduced him in person.

Humour and Satire in Untouchable

Anand is interested in his novels, like Munshi Prem Chand and Tagore, in the pathetic and the tragic aspects of life, yet like both the Indian novelists mentioned here he also shares their sense of humour (Pradhan 103). Anand uses humour as a powerful tool to provide comic relief in the tragic life of his characters and entertainment to his readers. His humour is richly varied in character. It emanates from three main sources: characters, situations and vulgarity. But everywhere it is an integral part of the scheme of the novel and never appears to be a super

imposition. "A keen observer of human life and manner, Dr. Anand has an intimate knowledge of the lighter and gayer moments in the life of his favourite under-dog"(Berry 201).

Humour Through Characters Anand wonderfully exploits characters to create humour. In the delineation of ludicrous characters, he deserves a comparison with Chaucer. His humorous characters may be compared either to those of Dickens or Munshi Prem Chand. Like Dickens and the Munshi, Anand is also able to blend humour and pathos while dealing with the poor and the downtrodden. Ram Charan in *Untouchable* is a 'lash less brow less' blinking idiot who uses too much soap to whiten his skin and rides a one-eyed ass. Rakha, the younger brother of Bakha, is a wonderful study in shabbiness that arouses both laughter and contempt. With his feet 'dragging a pair of Bakha's old ammunition boots, lace less, noisy and too big for him, he has an 'ever-running nose whose blowing he regularly. wipes off against his tattered flannel sleeves. On his dirty face flies congregate in abundance to taste' the sweet delights of the saliva on the corners of his lips." Even Bakha is sometimes caught in his foolish moments of reverie and idiotic action to amuse us. His nickname 'Pilpali Saheb' and his habit of aping the English provide so many occasions to laugh and smile. Colonel Hutchinson's Cambridge days have also been referred to in a humorous way. A barmaid had fallen in love with him and married him mainly because she had taken a fancy for the gem-like, glistening drops of wine that adorned the hair of Hutchinson's moustache when he had a drink. So a great deal of humour in *Untouchable* arises from the characters portrayed in it. Humorous Situations

The hockey-match is the best example of it in *Untouchable*. The two teams have been described as a 'crowd of boys in the field' that 'hopped to and fro like grass-hoppers.' The scene of marriage at Ram Charan's house is another fine example. His role as a 'ceremonial little mischief maker' for being the bride-groom's brother is quite comic. The place where Bakha talks to Bara Babu's elder son about teaching him some 'tishmish, tishmish' (English) and the discomfiture of the Babu's younger son at being ignored, is also charged with humour. Anand is adept in building up delightful situations. Besides Bakha, Bara Babu's two sons provide us with humor. Bakha requests the elder one who reads in the fifth class to teach him. He hesitates but Bakha promises to pay him for troubles. He agrees because his 'materialistic instinct' is gratified. The younger one's jealousy idea of his brother becoming rich comes to light.

Vulgar Humour Anand's humour may at times offend the classical moralists, literal rendering of Indian abuses and romantic expressions are an abundant source of humour-illegally-begotten', 'brother-in-law', 'dead over her 'sister raperer', 'son of a pig, swine' and the like. But they give somewhat a taste of vulgarity. Invective has been a source of humour from Shakespeare to Solzhenitsyn. The description of Charat Singh's chronic piles or the rumblings in Kali Nath's belly prior to defecating also look vulgar. This vulgarity leads to humour. Anand's stories are richly sprinkled with typical Indian words and phrases. Apart from imparting realism, they give us delight and pleasure, Acha', 'Ham', 'Tum Uda', 'Kala admi', 'Zamin Par Hagneyala', 'Lat Sahab', 'Laften Gornor' and 'Fashun' are some such terms used in *Untouchable*. (Anand 132).

The Knack with which Anand introduces humour in highly pathetic situations is

praiseworthy. When Bakha is standing like an image of sorrow and pity in the middle of a hostile crowd after the touching incident in the bazar, a number of street urchins push their way through people's leg to see the fun. The mention of urchins here is pathetic. In the descriptions of Bakha also there is pathos. There is the blend of humour, irony and satire in the exploitation of the snam and hoax of social evils. Dr. Anand uses the lash of his satire against authority of every sort. Bakha is fed up with his father's ill temper, who abuses and misbehaves with his children in order to impose his authority on them. There is the string of satire in Bakha's thoughts about his father. "He is afraid of the spays. They call him names. He abuses me. He is happy when they call him Jemandar. So proud of his izzat" (Arora 112).

The description of the Hindus, conscious of their superiority and authority, hurrying to the latrines, scrubbing their brass jugs with clay, chewing little twigs bitten into the shapes of brushes, gargling and spit ting noisily into the brook and bathing to the tune of 'Ram re Ram' and 'Hari Ram' is satirical. The high caste Hindus who think that the untouchable's touch would contaminate the water of the brook, pollute the water they drink and bathe in by spitting and gurgling in it. Bakha feels disgusted at the sight of all those Hindu men and women who could be seen squatting in the open, outside the city, every morning. He humorously thinks that they really qualify the white men's remark: "Kala log zamin per hagnewala." (Black man, you relieve yourself on the ground).

The description of Pandit Kali Nath, the temple priest, who stops to draw water from the well for the untouchable is also a mixture of humour and satire. He affects kindness to them but, in fact he wants to do some exercise in order to relieve the rumblings in his belly. The sight of the Pandit drawing water from the well with a great difficulty is humorous. "To draw out a can, full of water, required limbs which had been used to exercise more strenuous than the Pandit had ever per formed, his whole life revolving round endless recitation of sacred verses and the writing of and occasional charm or horoscope with a red pen" (Khan 67). We laugh at the Pandit's inclination to be kind the sweeper girl, Sohini. The devil, Pandit Kali Nath citing the importance of patience from the scriptures offers to give her water first of all because he has lustful eyes on her fascinating beauty. The high caste Hindus are not afraid of the pollution complex in lusting with the untouchable women. How satirical it is: Dr. Anand uses the combination of humour and satire only for highlighting social evils and exposing the hollowness of the various manifestations of authority. In Untouchable the authority of the caste Hindus has been exposed. The main aim underlying his humour is to reform society and human beings, and thus, to introduce sanity and fair play and justice in human life. He has sympathy for the poor, he is a champion of the under-dog despite his humour and satire.

A Real Picture of the Treatment of the Untouchables

The novel portrays the conditions of the sweeper in the Indian society as very sad. He remains isolated from the privileged ones whose dirt and excreta he cleans. He is treated as an outcaste who is deprived from social intercourse and the consolations of his religion. Unclean

himself he pollutes others when he touches them. They have to purify themselves, and to rearrange their plans for the day. Thus he is a disquieting as well as disgusting object to the orthodox as he walks along the public road, and it is his duty to call out and warn them that he is coming. This also is a true picture of the outcastes in India.

The outcastes live on the outskirts both of the town, Bulashah, and the cantonment. The scavengers, the leather-workers, the washermen, the barbers, the water carriers, the grass-cutters and other out-castes from Hindu society inhabit the outcastes' colony. It is full with the odour of hides and skins, human excreta and the dung of donkey, sheep, horses, etc. There is no drainage system and the water of the brook running through the colony has been soiled by the dirt and filth of the public latrines. The ugliness, the squalor and the misery which lay within it; pass into the souls of its dwellers. Bakha, the hefty young man of eighteen, lives along with his father, Lakha, younger brother, Rakha and sister, Sohini in this uncongenial place. He is fond of aping the manners of Englishmen. Bakha represents the sweeper's community. The sweepers have not learnt decency and decorum. Lakha always calls his son, Bakha, 'the son of a pig', "swine", etc. His day is packed with the business of cleaning latrines and when someone does not find a clean latrine in the early morning, he abuses the sweeper. Hawaldar Charat Singh abuses Bakha and holds him responsible for his piles. He thinks that he caught the contagion sitting on one of those unclean latrines.

The outcastes were not allowed to draw water from the well because the caste Hindus would think it to be polluted. They could not take water even from the brook because their touch would contaminate its water. They did not have their own well because they were poor. With their empty pitchers they had to wait for some generous caste Hindu to draw water and pour it into their pitchers. With servile humility, they entreated every passerby to take pity on them. After the morning's hard work, Bakha feels thirsty. His tongue and throat are parched. Sohini, his sister tells him that there is not a drop of water in the house. She goes to fetch water. She and other outcastes have to wait for many hours but nobody turns up to help them. Sohini is badly perturbed on account of her brother's thirst. At last Pandit Kali Nath who is fascinated by her ravishing beauty draws water for her. This also is a real account.

Not only the distinctions and gulf between the high caste Hindus and untouchables are made clear in the novel, but also the superiority-inferiority complex among the members of the low castes themselves. The superior among the outcastes ill-treated those whom they thought inferior. Gulabo, the washer woman in *Untouchable* "thought herself superior because she claimed a high place in the hierarchy of the castes among the low castes" (Anand 95). She shamelessly humiliates and insults Sohini. Through Gulabo and Sohini, Mulk Raj Anand has given us a real picture of the outcaste women. The caste Hindus who were always conscious of their superiority and were polluted by the touch of an untouchable, loved the women of the low castes. What a hypocrisy! Perhaps, they were not contaminated by the physical contact with low caste woman. A well-known Hindu gentleman in the town had been Gulabo's lover and was still kind to her in her middle age.

The untouchables live in Kuchcha, mud-walled, single roomed cottages, in extremely dirty and unhygienic surroundings. The same small room is used as kitchen, as sleeping room, as sitting room, as well as a room for placing baskets, brooms and other tools of their trade. There is no proper system of drainage, water stagnates, and often diseases like malaria break out. There is foul smell everywhere. The untouchables are not only poor and under-fed, they are also sick and diseased. Thus Lakha suffers from Asthma, he coughs and coughs, and Bakha's mother died because they were too poor to arrange for suitable treatment or medicine. During childhood, once Bakha became seriously ill, and it was with great difficulty that Lakha could persuade a Muslim Hakim to come to his cottage to examine him. None of the Hindus would come to the colony of the untouchables for it would pollute them. Not only are the untouchables compelled to live like pigs in a sty, they are also subjected to great hardships by the callous caste Hindus. They cannot draw water from the well, even climb its steps, for this would pollute the well. Sohini, Gulabo and others have to wait for hours for a pitcher of water, which they can get only if some caste Hindu is obliging enough to draw water for them. They cannot cook, or have tea, or clean their utensils till they have got a pitcher of water after a long wait. They are entirely at the mercy of their superiors even for their daily bread and their daily supply of water. When Bakha goes to the city to collect food, a loaf of bread is thrown at him from an upper-window as if he were a dog. Bakha feels extremely humiliated, and hot anger burns within him. It is on these crumbs that they feed, crumbs and left overs which are often slimy and dirty.

When Bakha accidentally touches a caste Hindu in the Bazar he is slapped on the face, abuses are showered upon him, and jalebies in his hand-jalebies over which the shop-keeper had cheated him and which had been given to him as to a leper fall down in the dust. Bakha feels much humiliated and tears well up in his eyes. According to custom, he then walks through the bazar crying, "Posh, Posh, sweeper coming"(Anand 58). Nothing could be more humiliating for a sensitive soul like Bakha. He is indignant but is helpless, before the devilish age-old customs and traditions. When in the evening a little boy is injured during the hockey-match he takes him to his mother so that his wound may be bandaged, and he may be properly looked after. But instead of thanking him, the ungrateful mother showers abuse on him for having polluted her house and her son. Contrasted with this callousness is the humanity of Havildar Charat Singh who treats him kindly, asks him to have tea with him, and gives him a new hockey stick to play with. Equally kind to him is the Muslim tongawalla. By contrast they highlight the inhuman nature of caste Hindus who, is armed with the feeling of six thousand years of social and class superiority-a feeling which refuses to accept the fact that the untouchable is a human being, but insists on treating him like a sub-human creature, to be ignored or bullied or exploited as the occasion demands. It is this that makes the temple priest Pandit Kali Nath treat Sohini, Bakha's sister, like a juicy morsel of girlhood to be molested with impunity: and this same attitude prompts the betel-leaf seller from whom Bakha buys cigarettes to fling the packet at the untouchable "as a butcher might throw a bone to an insistent dog sniffing round the corner of his shop"

The caste Hindus are hypocrites of the first water. They do not allow the untouchables to draw water from their wells, to climb even the steps of their temples, and the very shadow of an untouchable is supposed to pollute them (Hutton 77). If an untouchable, even brushes against their clothes they must wash themselves and purify themselves with the water of the holy river Ganges. But they do not hesitate to molest a sweeper-girl if they like her. Thus Pt. Kali Nath in the novel treats Sohini, Bakha's sister, as a juicy morsel to satisfy his lust. When he fails in his attempt he raises the cry "Polluted! Polluted!" and all the caste Hindus in the temple rally round him.

Bakha is indignant he would like to revenge himself on the Pandit, but the servility of centuries, which is ingrained in him paralyses him even when he vaguely thinks of retaliation". When he accidentally touches and pollutes a man on the street, a crowd gathers round him. Then, his first impulse was to run, just to shoot across the throng, away, away, far away from the torment, but then he realized that he was surrounded by a barrier, not a physical barrier, because one push from his hefty shoulders would have been enough to unbalance the skeleton-like bodies of the Hindu merchants, but a moral one". Similarly, when, at the temple, Sohini tells Bakha about her molestation by the priest, his first reaction is: "I will go and kill him" (Anand 83). Next moment, however, he felt the cells of his body lapse back chilled. His eyes caught sight of the magnificent sculptures over the doors extending right up to the pinnacle. They seemed vast and fearful and oppressive. He was cowed back. The sense of fear came creeping into him. He bent his head low. His eyes were dimmed. His clenched fists relaxed and fell loosely by his side. He felt weak and he wanted support. "Weakness corrupts and absolute weakness corrupts, absolutely. Centuries of social ostracism have degraded the untouchable, his mind and heart have been damaged and he has grown incapable of self-assertion and absolutely passive and helpless" (Anand 136). He has come to accept his place in society as divinely ordained and the caste Hindus as his natural superiors. Bakha, now and then, may resent, but even he fails to transform his resentment into overt action.

Conclusion

Anand's novel is relevant even today. It has not grown outdated or superfluous. Moreover, it is not a mere pamphlet or propaganda tract, but a great work of art which gives artistic form and expression to the novelist's felt experience. Hence it would continue to give aesthetic pleasure as long as English literature is read and enjoyed. In short, Anand has made effective use of the stream of consciousness technique to depict the psychological states of various characters. Use of this technique is fraught with one great danger: it often results in incoherence, confusion and unintelligibility. As the novelist follows the tortuous and meandering course of the thought-process of his characters, the readers get lost and are confused and puzzled. Anand has skillfully avoided such incoherence by alternating the account of inner tensions and conflicts of which the theatre is Bakha's mind and soul-with the account of Bakha's social milieu and his external

environment. The contours of the principal characters are clear and definite, the passing of time clearly indicated, the setting in which each traumatic experience takes place is graphically described, the movement of action is on the whole direct, chronological, swift and straight forward. Brisk and direct movement, economy in the selection of incidents, and definiteness of the contours of the characters, makes the novel not only compact and well-knit but also a triumph of the use of "the interior monologue" (stream of consciousness) for rendering the disturbed, restless, and paranoiac, mental states.

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Physicochemical Analysis of Detergents Found in Local Market of Bhaktapur

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Abstract

Physicochemical properties determine the quality. Seven commercial detergents were analyzed for weight, pH, moisture, surface tension, matter insoluble in alcohol (MIA), total fatty matter (TFM) and free caustic alkali (FCA), total free alkali (TFA), and free carbonate alkali. The value of net weight difference ranged between -5.70 gm to +18.47gm. The value of pH ranged between 11.45 to 11.92, moisture ranged from 4% to 10.77%, surface tension ranged from 24.420 dyne/cm to 29.989 dyne/cm, matter insoluble in alcohol (MIA) ranged from 57% to 77%, total fatty matter ranged between 28.9% to 43.44%, free caustic alkali (FCA) ranged from 3.16 to 7.93 and total free alkali ranged between 3.627 to 8.401 and free carbonate alkali ranged from 0.223 to 1.951. This study shows there are differences in the values of observed parameters. This clears that all detergents are of different quality. Parameters like moisture, matter insoluble in alcohol, and free caustic alkali were compared with the standard value of Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology (NBSM), and it was found that the value of moisture% is nearly equal to the standard value but Sample 7 had a maximum difference with the standard value. Similarly, matter insoluble in alcohol and free caustic alkali of all detergents did not match with the standard value of NBSM.

Keyword: Detergent, Moisture content, Total Fatty Matter, Free Caustic Alkali, Matter Insoluble In Matter, Surface Tension

INTRODUCTION

Laundry detergent or washing powder is a type of surface active agent that is added for cleaning laundry. It is commonly a mixture of chemical compounds including alkyl benzene sulfonates which are similar to soap but are less affected by hard water. Laundry detergent has been traditionally used in powder form as well as is being used in liquid form in modern times. Although liquid detergent is taking all markets since it is soft to fibers, powder detergent is still in use in the Bhaktapur district. There are two types of detergents: phosphate detergent and another surfactant detergent. Phosphate detergents contain phosphates and are highly caustic while surfactant detergents contain surfactants and are very toxic to nature. Surfactants detergents are used to enhance the wetting, foaming, dispersing, and emulsifying whereas phosphate detergents are used in laundry detergent to soften hard water and help to suspend dirt (Bajpai and Tyagi, 2007). 'Detergency' is used to describe the process of cleaning by the surface agent. It is defined as

the removal of unwanted substances that are the soil from the solid surface brought into contact with a liquid. The word 'soil' in connection with textile surfaces most frequently denotes the unwanted accumulation of oily and particular materials on the surfaces or interior of the fibrous structure. A detergent contains one or more surfactants formulated with other components to enhance detergency where removal of soils is difficult due to the strong attraction of soil to the fabric, poor penetration and adsorption of surfactant molecules on the soil and fabric interface (Kissa, 1987). The first synthetic detergent was developed in Germany in response to world war I due to the shortage of fats for making soap (Spitz, 1990). Soaps have an advantage over in-built synthetic surfactant systems regarding soil deposition and whiteness maintenance. It acts as its water softener (Cutler and Davis, 1972). The need for anti-redeposition agents began with the introduction of multi-component laundry detergents based on synthetic surfactants although it helps to prevent soil redeposition to some extent, this effect is not very pronounced, making a whiteness retention aid a necessity (Jakobi and Lohr, 1987).

It was discovered that chemical technology could change the molecular structure of water with the introduction of the very first laundry detergent. It was discovered that detergent lowers the surface tension of water that is needed for better cleansing and this was achieved by using chemical surfactants. The very first laundry product consists of sodium and potassium neutralized fatty acid soaps. The first synthetic detergents were produced in Germany during world war II in the replacement of shortage of soap. These were branched-chain alkyl benzene sulfonates and short-chain alkyl naphthalene sulfonate like soap they could take hard minerals out of the water, leaving it soft. In general, laundry detergents contain water softeners, surfactants, bleach, enzymes, brighteners, fragrances, and many other agents. The formulation is strongly affected by the temperature of the cleaning water and varies from country. The major components of laundry detergents are anionic surfactants, alkaline builders, water softening agents, and anti-redeposition agents. Higher-end detergents contain enzymes and optical brighteners. Some liquid detergents contain non-ionic surfactants (Smulders et al., 2002). Detergent molecular structures consist of a long hydrocarbon chain and a water-soluble ionic group. Most detergents have a negative ionic group and are called anionic detergents. The majority are alkyl sulfates. Other are surfactants (from surface-active agents) which are generally known as alkylbenzenesulfonate. Likewise, Physicochemical properties of soaps determine the quality of soap. Soap quality is determined by the aggregate result of total fatty matter, free total alkali values, free caustic alkali, moisture and many more (Koju and Karmacharya, 2020).

2. METHODS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Study Area

The study area of the proposed study is Bhaktapur. Seven samples of laundry detergent were obtained as finished products from the local markets of Bhaktapur for the physicochemical analysis of detergent.

2.2 Data Collection

Primary data were generated from the laboratory work. Different parameters like pH, Surface tension, Total Fatty Matter, Total Free Alkali, Free Caustic Alkali, Free Carbonate Alkali, Moisture were considered for determining detergent quality. The data were compared with Nepal Standard (NS).

2.3 Sampling Procedure

Samples were randomly chosen and collected randomly.

2.4. Analysis of the Physicochemical properties of detergent

2.4.1. Weight:

Weight was observed by weighing each packet in the weighing machine and compared to the given weight in packets.

2.4.2. Moisture

1 gram of samples was accurately weighed using the digital weighing machine. Then it was heated in an oven at 100°C-101°C for making dry. The weight of the sample was taken every 1-1 hours interval until a constant weight was reached. The % moisture was calculated by using the following formula (AOCS, 1997):

$$\% \text{ Moisture} = \frac{C_S - C_L}{C_S - C_W} \times 100\%$$

Where,

C_W = weight of watch glass

C_S = weight of watch glass + detergent sample

C_L = weight of watch glass + sample after dry

2.4.3. pH

The pH of the detergent solution was determined using a pH meter. 0.5 grams of detergent was dissolved in 10 mL of distilled water and retained till the sample dissolved. The pH was determined with the same instrument. pH was determined by calibrating pH 4 and pH 7.

2.4.4. Surface Tension

0.05 gm of the sample was dissolved in 50 mL of distilled water. The empty dry and clean pycnometer was weighed and then filled with the solution and weighed. Then with the help of a stalagmometer, the surface tension was determined by the drop number method. The surface tension of the solution was calculated using the following formula (Khadka, 2013):

$$\frac{\gamma_s}{\gamma_w} = \frac{\eta_s \times d_s}{\eta_w \times d_w}$$

Where,

γ_s = surface tension of the detergent sample,

γ_w = surface tension of water at room temperature,

η_s = number of drops made by Stalagmometer for some volume of solution,

η_w = number of drops made by Stalagmometer for the same volume of solution,

d_s and d_w are the densities of detergent solution and water respectively.

Also, for the same volume of solution,

$$\frac{d_s}{d_w} = \frac{M_s/V}{M_w/V}$$

$$\frac{d_s}{d_w} = \frac{M_s}{M_w}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\gamma_s}{\gamma_w} = \frac{\eta_w \times M_s}{\eta_s \times M_w}$$

2.4.5. Matter Insoluble in Alcohol

For the determination of moisture insoluble in alcohol, 1 gram of detergent samples were dissolved in 10 mL of hot ethanol (60°C) and quantitatively transferred in a pre-weighed filter paper. The residue was dried in the oven at 105°C for 30 minutes and cooled and weighed again then the reading was taken. The calculations were carried out by using the following formula (AOCS, 1997):

$$MIA = \frac{W_s - F_p}{W} \times 100\%$$

Where,

W_s = Weight of sample + filter paper

F_p = Weight of filter paper

W = Weight of sample

2.4.6. Total Fatty Matter

The total fatty matter test was carried out by reacting the different detergents with acid in the presence of hot ethanol and measuring the fatty acids obtained. About 1 gm of soap was weighed and 10 ml of warm neutralized ethanol was added and heated. The total fat matter was obtained by using the following formula (AOCS, 1997):

$$TFM = 100 - \frac{MC + MIA}{1.085}$$

Where,

MC = Moisture content

MIA = Matter insoluble in alcohol

2.4.7. Free Caustic alkali

Free caustic alkali was determined by the method described by Milwidsky and Gabriel (Milwidsky and Gabriel, 1994). 1 gram of finished detergent was weighed and dissolved in 10 mL of ethanol. Few drops of phenolphthalein indicator and 1 mL of 20% BaCl₂ were added. The resulting solution was then titrated against 0.1 M H₂SO₄ (aq). Free caustic alkali was calculated by using the following formula;

$$\text{FCA} = \frac{0.31}{W} \times V_A$$

where; V_A = Volume of acid, W = Weight of detergent.

2.4.8. Total Free Alkali

According to this method, 1 gram of finished detergent was weighed and dissolved in 10 mL of ethanol. Few drops of phenolphthalein indicator. The resulting solution was then titrated against 0.1 M H₂SO₄ (aq). Total free alkali was determined by using the following formula:

$$\text{TFA} = \frac{0.31}{W} \times V_A$$

where, V_A = Volume of acid, W = Weight of detergent

2.4.9. Free Carbonate alkali

Free carbonate alkali is calculated by subtracting free caustic alkali from total alkali. It is calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Free Carbonate Alkali} = \text{TA} - \text{FCA}(\text{caustic})$$

2.5 Data Collection

The obtained data were compared with the value of the Nepal Standard given by Nepal Bureau Statistics and Metrology 2036.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

After completing the entire laboratory work, calculations, and discussion of the detergent test, following physicochemical parameters of detergents were determined.

Table 1: Physicochemical parameters of detergents

| S.N | Physiochemical parameter | Sample 1 | Sample 2 | Sample 3 | Sample 4 | Sample 5 | Sample 6 | Sample 7 |
|-----|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1 | Moisture (%) | 4.000 | 6.180 | 4.374 | 4.391 | 5.148 | 5.189 | 10.770 |
| 2 | pH | 11.450 | 11.7300 | 11.810 | 11.670 | 11.920 | 11.750 | 11.690 |
| 3 | Surface tension (dyne/cm) | 29.124 | 25.808 | 26.601 | 29.989 | 28.807 | 24.420 | 29.520 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 4 | Matter Insoluble in Alcohol (%) | 60 | 69 | 57 | 71 | 72 | 77 | 60 |
| 5 | Total Fatty Matter (%) | 41.02 | 30.71 | 43.44 | 30.52 | 28.9 | 24.25 | 34.78 |
| 6 | Total Free Alkali (%) | 7.562 | 8.401 | 8.153 | 3.627 | 7.750 | 6.758 | 6.758 |
| 7 | Free Caustic Alkali (%) | 5.611 | 6.541 | 7.930 | 3.162 | 6.479 | 5.301 | 5.301 |
| 8 | Free Carbonate Alkali(%) | 1.951 | 1.860 | 0.223 | 0.465 | 1.271 | 1.457 | 1.457 |

3.1. Weight:

Weight is not a physicochemical parameter. But the weight of detergent powder packets was also observed. It was found that the actual weight was to be less than that of the net weight given on the packet. In some cases, actual weight was found to be more than that of net weight. The result was shown in a given diagram.

Table: 2 Weight analysis of detergents found in the market

| Sample | Net weight in gm(when Packed) | Actual weight in gm | Difference | % Difference |
|----------|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------|--------------|
| Sample 1 | 275 | 261.32 | -13.68 | -5.2 |
| Sample 2 | 250 | 244.5 | -5.5 | -2.2 |
| Sample 3 | 275 | 289.78 | +14.78 | +5 |
| Sample 4 | 275 | 269.30 | -5.7 | -2.1 |
| Sample 5 | 275 | 258.21 | -16.79 | -6.5 |
| Sample 6 | 300 | 318.47 | +18.47 | +5.7 |
| Sample 7 | 250 | 251.58 | +1.58 | +0.62 |

The result obtained from Table 2, analysis of weight was done. There seems to be a difference in the actual weight and the net weight labeled in packets of detergent powder.

Such difference in the industrial product shows that their promise in their product is not accurate. Consumers are being betrayed on their products.

3.2. Moisture

The results obtained from the analysis of different physicochemical parameters of different detergents are given in Table 1. Moisture content is a parameter that is used in assessing the shelf life of a product. High moisture content in soap would lead to the reaction of excess water with unsaponified fat to give free fatty acid and glycerol in a process called hydrolysis of soap on storage. From the values obtained in the analysis, Sample 7 had the highest moisture content with 10.77% and Sample 1 had the least moisture content with 4%. Hence, Sample 1 has more self-time, which means the period up to which soap can be used. That detergent can be stored for a long time.

3.3. pH

pH is the parameter that tests the alkalinity of the given matter. Analyzing table no 1, it was found that all detergent samples had the same range of pH values. The highest value of pH was found in Sample 5 with 11.92 and Sample 1 with the least pH value of 11.45. The same range of pH value shows the consistency of their alkalinity value. High pH values are a result of

incomplete hydrolysis resulting from the saponification process. It can be overcome by adding excess fat or oil or any other super fatting agent to reduce the harshness of soap. This indicates that the analyzed detergents are corrosive for the skin especially the hand. As the salt of a weak acid (fatty acid) and a base, detergent is alkaline to the aqueous solution. Alkaline substances neutralize the body's protective acid mantle that acts as a barrier against bacteria and viruses. Healthy skin has a pH of 5.4 to 5.9.

3.4. Surface Tension

The surface tension of a molecule is defined as the force acting along the surface of the liquid at the right angle to any line of unit length. From Table 1, an analysis of surface tension was done. In addition to detergent in water, it decreases the surface tension of water which directly affects on cleansing action of detergent. The highest surface tension was found in Sample 4 with the value of 29.989 dyne/cm. Sample 6 had the lowest surface tension with a value of 24.420 dyne/cm. Detergent molecules have two ends that make them able to break through the surface tension of water. The end of the detergent molecule which attaches to fat (grease) repels water molecules. It is known as hydrophobic, meaning "water fearing". By attempting to move away from the water molecules, the hydrophobic ends of the detergent molecules push up to the surface. This weakens the hydrogen bonds holding the water molecules together at the surface. The result is a break in the surface tension of the water (Hessong, 2018).

Surface tension directly affects cleansing action. Surface tension is indirectly proportional to cleansing action. That's why detergent having high surface tension have low cleansing action and detergent with low surface tension will have high cleansing action. From the analysis of surface tension of each detergent sample, it was concluded that Sample 6 with the lowest surface tension will clean up dirt more easily and Sample 2 with the highest surface tension will clean up dirt hardly.

3.5. Matter Insoluble in Alcohol

Analyzing Table 1, it was found that Sample 6 had the highest MIA % content that is 77%, and the least MIA value in Sample 3 with 57%. Since MIA determines the purity of soap or detergent it seems that detergent with a low MIA value will have more purity. The purity of Sample 6 is very low. Matter insoluble in alcohol (MIA) is a parameter that is used to determine the purity of soap (detergent). It is the measure of non-soap ingredients known as builders or fillers such as sodium silicate, sodium phosphate, sodium carbonate, and minor constituents such as bleachers, whitening agents, and fluorescing agents in the finished product. The soap with high MIA values suggests that it contained a high level of impurities which may be attributed to the level of impurities of alkali used for producing the soap. The slight difference in hardness could be accounted for by the presence of impurities that contributed to the bulkiness of soap (Vivian et al., 2014).

3.6. Total Fatty Matter

The result obtained in this study showed that Sample 3 in 1 had the highest TFM value with 43.44% and Sample 6 had a low TFM value of 28.9% and 24.25% respectively. These differences

in the TFM are responsible for high moisture content and the kinds and quantities of the used fatty materials and also perhaps due to the differences in the saponification method. The lower TFM value is due to the presence of unreacted NaOH in the mixture. However, dry skin needs soap which is high in TFM of 80%. This rehydrates the skin making it smooth, and additionally the high oil content within the soap acts as a lubricant throughout the day (Vivian et al., 2014).

3.7. Free Caustic Alkali

Free caustic alkali is one of the parameters that determine the abrasiveness of any given soap. This mostly results from improper or incomplete saponification. From the current analysis of free caustic alkali, Sample 3 in 1 had the highest FCA value with 7.93% and Sample 4 with an FCA value of 3.162%.

3.8. Total Free Alkali

The result from this study shows that Sample 2 had the highest total free alkali with a value of 8.401% and the lowest value is in Sample 4.

3.9. Free Carbonate Alkali

Free Carbonate Alkali was determined by subtracting free caustic alkali from free total alkali. That's why the value of free carbonate alkali depends on the value of free caustic alkali and free total alkali. The result from this study showed that Sample 1 had the highest free carbonated alkali with 1.951%. Sample 3 had the lowest free carbonate alkali with a value of 0.223%.

3.10. Comparison of results with Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology(NBSM)

The result of the different physicochemical parameters of detergent powder samples collected from the different markets of Bhaktapur was compared with the Standard recommendation of NBSM which is given in Table 3.

Table 3: Comparison of some parameters with Standard value given by NBSM

| S.N. | Parameters | NBSM | Sample 1 | Sample 2 | Sample 3 | Sample 4 | Sample 5 | Sample 6 | Sample 7 |
|------|---------------------------------|------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1 | Moisture (%) | 4 | 4 | 6.18 | 4.374 | 4.391 | 5.148 | 5.189 | 10.77 |
| 2 | Matter insoluble in alcohol (%) | 30 | 60 | 69 | 57 | 71 | 72 | 77 | 60 |
| 3 | Free caustic alkali (%) | 0.2 | 5.611 | 6.541 | 7.93 | 3.162 | 6.479 | 5.301 | 5.301 |

Moisture, Matter insoluble in alcohol and free caustic alkali were compared with the standard value given by NBSM. Remaining other parameters are not standardized by NMBS. According to the study, it was found that parameter moisture only seems to be comparable with the standard value. Further matter insoluble in alcohol and free caustic alkali has a vast difference in their value compared with NBSM.

From this study, it was concluded that the locally found detergents were not standardized. The manufacturing companies don't seem to make a promise as they do. Such unstandardized detergents may harm our skin.

4. CONCLUSION

The skin is the sensible organ. Hand laundry may harm the skin of the palm resulting in the roughness of the palm. Likewise, the detergent also harms the fiber and texture of clothes which degrades the quality of clothes. The results obtained in this study were compared with the standard data given by the Nepal Bureau of Statistics and Metrology. Finally, it can be concluded that most of the detergents did not meet the standard value given by Nepal Standard for standard detergent therefore can be classified as substandard detergent.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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Measures to reduce labor migrations

Bin Bahadur Tamang & Santosh Kafle

Abstract

Labor migration towards the foreign country supports daily lives of Nepalese households. It is a burning issue from the beginning to now. It creates number of problems in the Nepalese society. Nepalese people are financially so poor; only elite group has better life and majority of people struggle for basic needs. Youth are unemployed, frustrated and trapped in social problems. These youth group are engaged in gambling, robbery to fulfill their needs. Low access to employment makes Nepalese youth's future dark. These youths are capable to do something but lack of proper direction to utilize their skills & energy; they decide to go abroad for employment. It is a burning issue for developing country Nepal. Effective monitoring can bring them in right way, help them to recognize their strengths and make them their own success by conducting business in their own society/country and by utilizing their available resources. This paper tries to describe the methods of reducing labor migration through the possible sectors like self employment, self entrepreneurs, effective implementation of decentralization e.t.c. Labor migration towards the foreign country is a survival strategy of the rural people in response to insufficient job creation. Development of entrepreneurship has been most effective method to reduce labor migration.

Keywords: Labor migration, Entrepreneurship, Empowerment, Reduce, Community

Introduction

Lack of gainful employment coupled with poverty in rural areas has pushed people out of their countries in search of a better existence. These migrants do not possess the skills or the education to enable them to find better paid secure employment in their nation and they have to settle for work in abroad countries like Dubai, Qatar, Malaysia, India, Oman, Korea, etc. In Nepal, there is another section of the population which is compelled to join the informal sector. They are conflict affected people who are migrated to urban centers for safe living and secure subsistence livelihoods. Studies have shown that the low skilled rural migrants live in all countries of Asia, but they are more prevalent in the poorer countries such as Nepal, India, Bangladesh, Cambodia & Vietnam (Bhowmiok, 2005).

In this research, those who go abroad for the purpose of earning an income are called labor migration and also known as abroad employers. Those people are researched by coordination with the ward office as well as nearby locals. The community is so close that each of the people knows

the condition of other. So it has been very simple to identify the people who have gone for the abroad employment or the one having the history of abroad employment or also the one intending to plan for the abroad employment.

Abroad employment has grown rapidly in developing countries and has consequently attracted increasing attention among academics, researchers, socio development activists & policy planners. In the recent decade, the sector has grown around the world. Due to lack of knowledge and skills among the people living in the rural village areas, people take the last alternatives of living and that is simply the abroad employment. It is also based on some kind of trends that almost all people in rural areas take the final decision of living after reaching some matured age group. It is found that developed countries like Arab countries need all sorts of manpower for operating their works and the companies in Arab sectors are interested to provide the job to the people living in undeveloped and developing countries like Nepal, Bangladesh, Vietnam, and Philippines etc. as they can hire the people in less paid salary.

Nepal is an agricultural country and almost 70% of total people are dependent upon the agriculture. Still Nepalese farmers focus upon the food crops rather than cash crops. Whole year harsh work in the field is only based upon the hand to mouth purposes. This is why Nepalese people lack the cash in their hands, especially in the rural areas. At present more than 80% of uneducated and even educated people think of going abroad for their employment. Remittance has somehow fulfilled the economy of the people and country, but this is not the entire solution and is not permanent anyway. It can bring a problem to the nation some day. The government of Nepal should resist the flow of people to the abroad employment and bring various packages to motivate the people to work in their own country; otherwise someday the manpower will finally get low in the nation.

The entrepreneurship development is the basic methods of economically uplifting the people of rural areas with small budgets. The cost of going abroad for employment works (application cost, Transportation costs, shopping) can be utilized in entrepreneurship initial investments. Still Nepal spends lots of money to import goods from the Neighboring countries like China and India. If government brings some programs like trainings regarding manufacturing goods from cottage industries, rural people can invest some of their amount in such work and it can economically help both people and a country as a whole.

Entrepreneurship helps the economic growth and development of the nation. It is the process of creating something new with value by devoting the necessary time and effort, assuming the accompanying risks, and receiving the resulting output. Low employment opportunities for youth as per their qualifications, capabilities, and competences, an unsupportive business environment, and a lack of adequate resources to conduct business force youth to migrate abroad. If Nepal is getting more in the form of remittance from foreign employment/labor migration, it is surely a positive aspect. But it will adversely affect the Nepalese social and economic environment in the future.

Sindhupalchok is diverse in ethnicity and caste, mother tongue and in religion. Brahmin,

Chettri, Tamang and few Newar are the major ethnic and caste groups within Bhotechour Sindhupalchok. These different groups make up the municipality having its own physical, socio-economic and cultural identity. Brahmins contains higher percent of influence in this area. Hinduism is predominant religion that accounts around 96%. Bhotechour is renowned for its elegant beauty, Tea Farming, Culture and tradition. Agriculture is predominant occupation as nearly 85% of the economically active population is dependent on it (Municipality Annual Report, 2021).

Study area Melamchi Municipality ward no. 1, Bhotechour is located 14 km from the Kathmandu, Sankhu. It is directly touched with the Kathmandu District on the south i.e Sankharapur Municipality. Bhotechour is divided into the Melamchi Municipality ward No. 1 and 2. Our study thus is based on Melamchi Municipality ward no.1. It has an area of 9.33 Square Kilometer. According to the latest population census of A.D. 2011, Melamchi Municipality has 11832 Households with Population 58814. Among them male population is 29125 and female population is 29689. The population density for the entire Municipality is 366/ sq. Km . The average family member is thus 4.97 per Households.

Objectives of the study

The general objective of the study is to examine the status of labor migration people travelling abroad for employment of the study area and the specific objectives of the study are as follows:-

- (i) To analyze the current flow of labor migration travelling abroad.
- (ii) To explore the possible methods on reducing labor migration travelling abroad.

Limitation of the Study

In this study, simple random sampling has been used for the data collection that has described here. There were 22 abroad employers altogether have been interviewed. Besides the availability of entrepreneurship activities also discussed in the Ward office. Study focused on travelling for labor migration of Bhotechaur, Sindhupalchowk district Melamchi Municipality ward no.1 only. Among the different types of people travelling to abroad the study is included only those people travelling for employment (not for studies and people gone after lottery visas).

Research Methodology

Research methodology is one of the most important elements in all types of research work. The researcher uses various tools and techniques during field work for collecting primary data and securing available secondary data whenever needed. The research design is a analytical as well as descriptive in nature. It tries to evaluate different sectors such as condition of rural people, reasons of foreign/ abroad employment, and the availability of income generating activities in the local land.

In the study, both primary and secondary sources of data have been used and in the case of nature, both qualitative and quantitative data have been used. Primary data were collected from directly from the family having people who travelled for the abroad employment or labor migration. This study utilized field observation, questionnaire survey, focus group discussion and key informant interview to obtain required primary data. The secondary data and information have been obtained through books, thesis, ward office, journals, reports and e.t.c..

Tools and Techniques of Data Collection

Tools and techniques of data collection are the key factor of research which determines the purity of data and information. Response of the respondent is the major focus of the study which is directly related with the output of the study. During the research work, the following methods of data collection have been used. Field Visit, Observation, Questionnaire, Survey, Key Informant Interview, and Focus Group Discussion After collecting data (qualitative and quantitative) and information, they were carefully edited and tabulated to make the data set suitable for analysis. All collected data are presented in various forms in order to convey relevant information in most lucid and vivid manner to fulfill the set of objectives.

Result and Analysis

Foreign Employment Enrollment

In Sindhupalchok district there are different types of occupation adopted by people living in there. At present most people are found to enroll to the abroad employment. In previous days, people used to go Kathmandu for the search of job which is 25km far from the Bhotechour. Now people find it easy to get job to the foreign land on variety of service title like Hotel, Driver, Mechanic, manager, Cleaner, Helper, and Mason etc. Most of people find that, it is easy to go abroad than to enroll in Nepal.

Distribution of Foreign employees

All the parts of Bhotechour (Malamchi Municipality -1) are not fully enrolled on foreign employment. Most of the people who have fulfilled basic needs from small service are found to be satisfied. People with large family members, rent, less lands, etc. have been found access in foreign employment. During the field work it was found that there is some fluctuation in the numbers of foreign employee.

Causes of labor migration

The Rural people are struggling for their survival and they are obliged to be foreign employee because of their poor economic condition. Even the Educated people have adapted this occupation to make economic crisis less. Marriage at low age, failure in school level also forces people to adopt this occupation. Furthermore lack of capital, skill and job opportunities in other sector have forced to labor migration travelling abroad.

Sex Composition

As a component of demography, sex is important variable. In the present scenario the issue of inclusiveness is arising in the context of sex. It is equally important for both male and female to run their house and to earn livelihood but in the context of Nepal there are problems in equal gender participation. Sex composition of the study area has been shown in table 1.

Table 1
Sex Composition of foreign employment

| Sex | Number of foreign employee (%) |
|--------|--------------------------------|
| Male | 100 |
| Female | 0 |
| Total | 100 |

Note; N=22, Source: Field Survey, 2021

Table 1 show that participation of male is almost full. However, involvement of male and female differs from one occupation to another. Out of total 22 people involved in foreign employment all of them are found to be male.

Age Structure

Age is one of the important characteristics of population studies. Human interest, right, duties, socio-economic activities, political propensities and attitudes are affected by their age (Ghosh, 1985). Age reflects the maturity of the people. Age factor helps people to make economically dependent and independent. Age wise involvement of foreign employee in this occupation is shown in table 2.

Table .2
Age Structure of Foreign employee

| Age Group | Number of Foreign employees (%) |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| 20-25 | 13.63 |
| 26-30 | 9.09 |
| 31-35 | 31.81 |
| 36-40 | 40.90 |
| 41-45 | 0 |
| Above 45 | 4.54 |
| Total | 100 |

Note; N= 22, Source: Field Survey, 2021

Table 2 shows the age composition of FEs of the study area which is divided into six groups. The average age of street vendor is about 36 years and the age group of 36 to 40 years comprises 40.90 percent of the total employee's population. Altogether above 80 percent of the employees are of working age 26-40 year which shows the over flow of the youths.

Educational Composition of Foreign Employees

Human life is made qualified, skilled, wise and efficient with educational qualification.

Education is the most important social aspect of life. It makes us easy to earn and live a better life. It qualifies us and develops power of right judgment to evaluate events and things. Education is one of the dominant factors which help to determine occupation & other living strategies of the people. But there are other obstacles of the adopting own wiling jobs and people are compelled to adopt other jobs though they do not have their interest in such jobs. Education status shows that all of the employees are literate and have primary, secondary and high level of education. Out of 22 respondents, 9.09 percent are just literate; 22.72 percent has primary education, Most of them have secondary education with 31.81 percent. None of the vendors has studied above bachelor level. Person who have higher levels' education are also engaging in Foreign occupation due to the lack of opportunities in other sector and some are engaged to earn and save money for further study. Most important things are that nobody is illiterate. Almost all of them can read and write.

Expenditures for the foreign employment

To do any business, everybody needs proper suggestions, help, guidance and resources. Otherwise, he/she should face different types of problems. Generally the exact expenditures are not measurable. The expenditures also depend upon the country and also depend upon the Nation policy. For example in most of the Gulf country, people have been facilitated with free ticket and Visas. The expenditure generally includes The Ticket and visa fees, Accommodation, Pocket money in case any emergency, etc. So normally, in common sense, the expenditures ranges from 50,000 to 150,000 for applying till the departure for the foreign land. Most of the people take loan from the relatives or sell the land in cheap price for some amount.

Monthly Income

As someone involves in any service, he has to get some economic profit. All the service is income generating. So foreign employees are also enrolled, Here is the monthly income of the foreign employees.

Table 3
Monthly Incomes of Foreign employees

| Incomes NRs | Foreign employees (%) |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| Below 20000 | 13.63 |
| 20001-30000 | 13.63 |
| 30001-40000 | 13.63 |
| 40001-50000 | 22.72 |
| Above 50001 | 36.36 |
| Total | 100 |

Note; N=22, Source: Field Survey, 2021

The table no.3 has mentioned only 13.63 percent earn less than NRs 20000 per month. While 22.72 percent of the employees' earning capacity is between 40 and 50 thousand per month, and 36.36 percent of them earn above 50 thousand. The employee involved in some skilled service earns more than that of unskilled. The skilled job refers to the service like mason, mechanic, driver

hotel etc. while the unskilled service refers to the job like waiter, security, helper etc. The income thus also differs from the type of country. It is found that country like South Korea, Saudi Arab, Cyprus, etc. have larger income than the UAE, Malaysia etc.

Monthly Saving of Foreign employees

In the context of employees they have less expenditure and they have good income as well. Saving is also an important variable analyzing one's lifestyle. Table 4 shows the monthly saving of street vendors.

Table 4

Monthly Cash saving or amount sent to family by foreign employees

| Saving NRs | Foreign employees (%) |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| Below 5000 | 4.54 |
| 5001-10000 | 13.63 |
| 10001-20000 | 27.27 |
| 20001-30000 | 22.72 |
| 30001-40000 | 27.27 |
| Above 40000 | 4.54 |
| Total | 100 |

Note; N=22 Sources: Field Survey, 2021

While observing the table 4, we found that 4.54 percent employees almost can't save the money i.e. below Rs.5000. 13.63 percent employees save up to NRs 10000 per month; 27.27 percent employees save up to NRs 20000 and 40000 respectively per month; 22.7 percent employees save NRS 30000 per month. It is found that 4.54 percent of the employees of the total 22 save above NRs. 40000 per month. The average saving from all employees came around 22000 which can be somehow good saving from the foreign employment. This saving can be good in comparison with other sort of normal services in Nepal. The saving is done only after all the income Tax and other expenditures. So, good income holder can only save the good amount of money.

Country and types of labor occupation for the foreign employment by employee

Nepal being the least developed country in the world has to depend upon the other gulf/developed country for the employment. We found that Malaysia is the country of many people choice. Also if we research whole country, Malaysia will be accounted the 1st choice of the Nepali People in Numbers. Saudi Arab and Qatar have equal number of enrollment of foreign employees. Dubai has 13.63 percent of people while all Israel, India, and other country like South Korea, Australia, and Cyprus etc. have only 9.09 percent each enrollment of foreign employees. India also is a main choice of Nepali people due to free border but we find higher flow of people from the Terai and Far western development region higher flow to India. At present the Hilly area people are found to apply most of the gulf country for the rural employment. Foreign employment agency has so many services that we can see either in the magazines or in the internet or the

manpower's. We observed more percent of people are involved in labor almost 22.72 percent. We hear that labor jobs are easy to find and takes less time for visas. So people are first attracted to labor, mason, cook and security jobs due to lack of information.

Rural Entrepreneurship

Rural Entrepreneurship defines the entrepreneurship the origin of which lies in the rural areas whereas has a lot of potentials to undertake various business, industry, agriculture and play a significant role in the economic growth of the nation. Entrepreneurship is the backbone of economic growth and development. Entrepreneurship is the process of creating something different with value by devoting the necessary time and effort, assuming the accompanying risks, and receiving the resulting rewards. It is important to note that Entrepreneurs are made and anyone can become an Entrepreneur. As people are migrating from rural areas to urban and foreign land due to lack of job opportunities and rural youth is unable to find any options for their growth.

Rural Entrepreneurship and utility

Importance of rural entrepreneurship which results in the enhancement of socio-economic conditions of a nation and especially in study areas: where, proper utilization of resources as a result can create better employment opportunities as well as rural entrepreneurship directly concern that improvement of traditional culture norms and values. Norms and values are organs of society which give the structure of society. Now we can say that the rural entrepreneurship focus on foster economic development and increase in standard life of poor. Rural entrepreneurship can earn more getting foreign exchanges and entrepreneurial development in these study areas.

In the study areas, the development of entrepreneurship is enhancing by the rural entrepreneurship. At the same token, it encourages the young generation and talented people to come up with something new and carry out the entrepreneurial tasks in the study area. Hence, it develops the rural areas also.

Enrollment of People in Various sector for Income

All people are doing some kind of profession for the fulfillment of basic need or at least for the food and shelter. Bhotechour is a rural area. Although it has now been the Municipality, the living condition of the people has not been like that of living in the municipality. Out of the total people living in the Bhotechour, It is hard to find the exact data of the people enrolling in different services. Thus during the research work done with the family of the people enrolled in foreign employment, we analyzed some condition of the village economic status.

Possibility of Entrepreneurship in Melamchi-1

As from the discussion above, we can easily find that Bhotechour is an emerging Place in case of economy. Due to its dynamic location, climate, terrain, temperature and weather, it has higher prospects for the entrepreneurship. It can be considered as the prospects for entrepreneurship in this ward, which is the best way to reduce the amount of overseas employment also. So, the various possibilities of entrepreneurship in the study areas like tea farming and kiwi farming Animal Husbandry, Hotel and Tourism, and Home Stay are all options.

Conclusion

Labor migration towards the foreign employment has become the one of the first choice of the adult people. Nepal government has also not brought the big packages for the adult people. The industries and factories are closing day by day. The people are being unemployed and not even getting chance to involve somewhere. Entrepreneurship can only be the start from the zero economy to prosperous life of the people in the study area.

From the research we found that most of the foreign employees are at present happy with their income but still they are interested to start their career in their home land or local areas. In Bhotechour, People rarely find any scope of living with economy here and the employees are searching for the opportunities here. Talking about gender, only males are found to go for immigration for foreign employment. Research shows that out of 22 people surveyed, all of them are male. There has not been a good environment in Nepalese society for women to go outside the country for work. The study shows that more than 80% of the age group of 26–40 is found to be involved in foreign employment, which shows the overflow of youths. This age group is a very active age group for both social and economic reasons, and the decrease of that age group in the country is not a good symptom of the nation.

Recommendation

Based on the information gathered during the field study and the analysis of this study, We wish to make the following recommendations: Unemployed people in Melamchi Municipality-1, is still searching for the service in foreign country due to more income and saving, so it is necessary for the Municipality itself to bring so many packages to aware the youth and encourage them for the entrepreneurship. Youth in the respective wards should be discouraged about immigration to foreign land for income and encourage them by showing the prospects of entrepreneurship through various awareness programs like in Bhotechour, some work like Tea farming, Kiwi Farming, organized Animal Husbandry, Trout fish Farming, Home stay etc. are still very much possible and good income is guaranteed.

The people who have returned from the employment from the foreign land, the skilled types of work they have done there should be inherited to our land as well so that people will be aware about the foreign technology and others can still learn from there. Government of Nepal should know one thing that Millions of youths who are now abroad will create a lot of problem in the future. The country will have to depend open the remittances and this is always not certain. Nation shouldn't teach and encourage the youths to go foreign land for employment. They should be able to explore the possibility of income generation in their own land. The Nation can take the aid with other developed country about the entrepreneur development.

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Advancements in Medicinal Chemistry: From Rational Drug Design to Cardiovascular Therapeutics

Shyam Raj Subedi

Abstract

Medicinal chemistry, at the intersection of chemistry, biology, and pharmacology, drives the discovery and optimization of bioactive molecules for therapeutic use. This article explores recent innovations in the field, focusing on rational drug design, structure-activity relationship studies, and multidisciplinary approaches to drug discovery. Techniques such as X-ray crystallography and computational modeling enable precise manipulation of molecular structures, while genomic and proteomic insights inform target identification and validation. Additionally, the article discusses the development of prodrugs and strategies to overcome challenges like drug resistance and optimize drug delivery systems. In the context of cardiovascular drugs, various classes and their mechanisms of action are elucidated, emphasizing their importance in treating cardiovascular disorders. From cardiac glycosides to calcium channel blockers, each drug class is examined in terms of origin, mechanism, and therapeutic applications, underscoring the dynamic role of medicinal chemistry in advancing healthcare.

Keywords: Medicinal chemistry, drug discovery, rational drug design, structure-activity relationship, multidisciplinary approaches, prodrugs, drug resistance, drug delivery systems, cardiovascular drugs

Introduction:

Medicinal chemistry is a dynamic and interdisciplinary field that encompasses the design, synthesis, and optimization of bioactive molecules for therapeutic purposes. The rapid pace of research in medicinal chemistry has led to the discovery of numerous drugs that have revolutionized the treatment of various diseases, ranging from infectious diseases to cancer and neurological disorders. In recent years, advances in technology and methodologies have expanded the scope of medicinal chemistry, enabling researchers to explore new avenues for drug discovery and development.

The article delves into the dynamic field of medicinal chemistry, which stands at the intersection of chemistry, biology, and pharmacology. It highlights recent progress and innovations driving drug discovery and development. One key aspect discussed is rational drug design, which involves designing new drugs based on a deep understanding of biological mechanisms

and molecular interactions. Advanced techniques like X-ray crystallography and computational modeling enable researchers to visualize and manipulate molecular structures to develop more effective drugs. Structure-activity relationship (SAR) studies are also explored, which aim to establish connections between a compound's chemical structure and its biological activity. By systematically modifying different parts of a molecule, scientists can optimize its potency, efficacy, and safety. The article also touches upon the integration of multidisciplinary techniques such as genomics and proteomics in drug discovery, as well as the importance of addressing challenges like drug resistance and optimizing drug delivery systems.

Furthermore, the development of prodrugs, which are inactive compounds that are converted into active drugs within the body, is discussed. Prodrugs offer advantages in terms of stability, bioavailability, and reduced side effects.

Overall, the article underscores the pivotal role of medicinal chemistry in addressing medical needs and improving human health, driven by continuous innovation and collaboration across various scientific disciplines.

Phases in Prodrug Action:

a. Pharmaceutical Phase:

In this phase, considerations include:

Aesthetic Concerns: Issues related to the appearance and smell of the medication due to its chemical composition. For instance, ethylmercaptane is a dual-action therapy effective against both leprosy and tuberculosis.

Physicochemical Issues: Some drugs may present physicochemical challenges. For example, the sodium salt of ampicillin can form a degraded polymer when exposed to highly concentrated solutions.

b. Pharmacokinetics Phase:

In this phase, challenges arise related to:

Absorption: Difficulty in the absorption of the medication through the gastrointestinal tract and other membranes.

Elimination: Prolonged elimination time, resulting in longer-lasting physiological effects.

Drug Metabolism: Rapid conversion of the active ingredient into inactive metabolites.

Potential Toxicity at Administration Site: Risk of toxicity at the site where the medication is administered.

c. Pharmacodynamics Phase:

This phase involves the formation of prodrugs containing various chemical groups, such as mercaptans. Mercaptans can be synthesized as ester prodrugs similar to alcohols but with increased reactivity due to the sulfur atom's higher chemical activity compared to the oxygen in alcohols.

In order to release the insect propellant undecylenic acid, two types of chemicals were designed as

insect repellants, represented by the chemical formula $\text{CH}_2 = \text{CH}(\text{CH}_2)_8\text{-COOH}$.

- I. The first type includes a quaternary ammonium group as an "anchoring group." This group helps the molecule adhere to skin tissue, ensuring effective application and retention.
- II. The second type contains an alkyl group, also found in the aforementioned compounds. This alkyl group aids in the binding of esters to dermal tissues and facilitates their hydrolysis.

Configurational Properties:

When an acid combines with a racemic alcohol, an ester is formed with a mixture of 50% (+) and 50% (-) isomers. During the hydrolysis of this ester by esterases, if the (+) alcohol is involved, the acid is released rapidly. Conversely, if the (-) alcohol is involved, the release of the acid occurs more slowly.

Formation of Amines from Amino Acids:

Levodopa, an amino acid, is converted into dopamine in the brain by the enzyme decarboxylase. Dopamine is the active form of L-dopa, serving as a prodrug.

Double Prodrug:

A double prodrug presents two potential drawbacks:

- (a) The bond between the drug and the carrier component may be unstable both in vivo (inside the body) and during storage.
- (b) The carrier component of the prodrug may not adequately release the prodrug at the desired site of action.

Triple prodrugs

Triple prodrugs are designed to release the active drug from both a double prodrug and a single prodrug. In the case of cephalosporin, which is a type of antibiotic, this approach was necessary to ensure efficient drug release. Additionally, the molecule of the prodrug needed to be water-soluble in order to improve the drug's half-life, which refers to how long it remains active in the body. By enhancing water solubility, the prodrug can be better absorbed and distributed throughout the body, thereby prolonging the duration of the drug's action.

Rational Drug Design and Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR) Studies:

Rational drug design, based on an understanding of the target biological mechanism and molecular interactions, has emerged as a powerful approach in medicinal chemistry. Advances in structural biology, such as X-ray crystallography and cryo-electron microscopy, have provided valuable insights into the three-dimensional structures of drug targets, facilitating the design of ligands with improved potency and selectivity. Structure-activity relationship (SAR) studies continue to play a central role in medicinal chemistry, guiding the optimization of lead compounds through systematic modifications of their chemical structure.

Rational Drug Design:

Rational drug design is an approach that involves the deliberate design of new drug

candidates based on a thorough understanding of the target biological mechanism and molecular interactions. This process typically begins with the identification of a specific molecular target, such as a protein or enzyme implicated in a disease pathway. Advances in structural biology techniques, such as X-ray crystallography, NMR spectroscopy, and cryo-electron microscopy, have provided researchers with detailed insights into the three-dimensional structures of these targets.

With the three-dimensional structure in hand, medicinal chemists employ computational modeling techniques to explore potential binding sites, predict ligand-target interactions, and design small molecules or biologics that can modulate the target's activity. Molecular docking simulations, for instance, allow researchers to virtually screen large compound libraries and identify lead compounds with favorable binding affinities and pharmacokinetic properties.

Moreover, structure-based drug design strategies involve the rational manipulation of ligand-receptor interactions through the systematic modification of chemical moieties to optimize binding affinity, selectivity, and pharmacological properties. This iterative process of structure-guided optimization often involves the synthesis and testing of analogs to validate the predicted structure-activity relationships.

Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR) Studies:

SAR studies are a cornerstone of medicinal chemistry that aim to establish relationships between the chemical structure of a compound and its biological activity. By systematically modifying different regions of a lead compound while keeping other parts of the molecule constant, researchers can elucidate the impact of structural changes on the compound's potency, efficacy, and safety profile.

SAR studies are typically conducted through a combination of synthetic chemistry, computational modeling, and biological assays. The goal is to identify key structural features, or pharmacophores, that are critical for binding to the target and eliciting the desired pharmacological response. These pharmacophores may include functional groups, stereochemical configurations, or molecular scaffolds that contribute to specific molecular interactions, such as hydrogen bonding, hydrophobic interactions, or electrostatic attractions.

By systematically exploring SAR trends, medicinal chemists can iteratively optimize lead compounds to enhance their potency, selectivity, and pharmacokinetic properties. This process may involve the introduction of substituents to improve binding affinity, the modification of linker groups to enhance metabolic stability, or the exploration of conformational constraints to lock the molecule into a bioactive conformation.

SAR studies are complemented by computational methods, such as quantitative structure-activity relationship (QSAR) modeling, which quantitatively correlate chemical descriptors with biological activities to predict the potency of new compound analogs. Additionally, high-throughput screening (HTS) assays allow for the rapid evaluation of large compound libraries to identify hits for further optimization.

Rational drug design and SAR studies are indispensable tools in medicinal chemistry,

guiding the discovery and optimization of novel therapeutics with improved efficacy, selectivity, and safety profiles. By integrating structural biology, computational modeling, synthetic chemistry, and biological assays, researchers can accelerate the drug discovery process and address unmet medical needs more effectively.

The nineteenth century witnessed the discovery of numerous naturally occurring compounds, many of which underwent detailed analysis to uncover their chemical composition and potential pharmacological effects. It has been established that certain structural groups or units within molecules are closely linked to their physiological activity, giving rise to their biological effects. These pivotal components responsible for producing desired physiological effects are termed "pharmacophore groups."

Factors Influencing Pharmacological Activity:

Effect of Alkyl Groups: Substituting an active hydrogen atom with a group of alkyl molecules triggers chemical reactions.

For instance: Antipyrine, a potent antipyretic, loses its activity upon reduction of a methyl group.

Effect of Hydroxyl Group: The addition of hydroxyl groups to aliphatic molecules generally diminishes their biological and physiological activity. Examples include:

Hexanol exhibits higher physiological activity compared to sorbitol.

Butyraldehyde is more active than its hydroxy counterpart, and propanol is more active than glycerol.

Glucose, a hydroxyl counterpart of hexaldehyde, is physiologically inert.

The physiological activity of caffeine diminishes in hydroxy-caffeine.

Tertiary alcohols are more physiologically active than primary alcohols of the same carbon length, following the order: tertiary > secondary > primary.

Salicylic acid demonstrates antibacterial and antirheumatic effects compared to its inert parent chemical, benzoic acid.

Effect of Aldehydes and Ketones:

Ketones, although less reactive than aldehydes, exhibit stronger physiological impact. For instance: Formaldehyde acts as an antibacterial agent and has tissue-hardening properties.

Aliphatic ketones with alkyl groups possess hypnotic actions, while mixed ketones lack such effects.

Effect of Acidic Groups:

The presence of acidic groups in chemicals typically diminishes or abolishes their biological activity. Examples include:

Nitrobenzene is toxic, whereas its acid counterpart, nitrobenzoic acid, is not.

Phenol is toxic, but benzene sulfonic acid is not.

Morphine demonstrates high physiological activity, while morphine sulfuric acid is inert.

Additionally, the solubility of acyl derivatives follows the order: lactyl > acetyl > benzoyl > salicyl. Acetyl derivatives, being less expensive and easier to hydrolyze, are generally more convenient. The presence of benzoyl groups significantly impacts the physiological activity of

ester compounds, and the toxic effects of tyrosine can be restored by esterification.

Effects of Halogens:

- (a) **Positive Halogens:** The presence of a 'positive halogen' atom in a chemical reduces its toxicity while offering other beneficial properties.
- (b) **Negative Halogens:** Generally, the presence of a 'negative halogen' atom enhances both beneficial and harmful qualities. Negative halogens are situated in the nonconjugated position of the compound and have a minor impact on toxicity. Aliphatic fluorocarbons exhibit significantly lower biological activity compared to other halogens and nonfluorinated compounds.

Effect of Nitro and Nitrite Groups:

- (a) Nitro Groups: Adding a nitro group to an aromatic molecule increases its toxicity.
- (b) Nitrite Groups: Enhance physiological activity.

Effect of Amino Group:

In nature, amino groups are poisonous, but their toxicity decreases with alkylation. Acylation also reduces the physiological activity of the parent compound. For instance, aniline is toxic, while acetanilide, an acylated derivative, serves as a significant febrifuge. However, aromatic amines and hydrazines have analgesic and antipyretic effects.

Effect of Nitrile Group:

For example, potassium thiocyanate (KCNS) is mildly toxic, whereas sodium nitroprusside ($\text{Na}_2\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_5\text{-NO}$) is highly toxic.

Effect of Unsaturation:

Toxicity increases with unsaturation. For instance, alkyl alcohol ($\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}-\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$) is highly toxic, whereas propanol is a saturated molecule ($\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$).

Effect of Isomerism:

Isomerism significantly influences the physiological effects of drugs. For example: Natural l-adrenaline is twelve times more potent than the dextro isomer. l-nicotine is twice as toxic as d-nicotine. Atropine (dl-hyoscyamine) is more active than l-hyoscyamine.

Isosterism:

Isosterism, introduced by Langmuir in 1919, refers to atoms, groups, radicals, and molecules with similar physicochemical properties and electronic structures, known as 'Isosters.' This phenomenon arises from atoms in the same vertical column of the periodic table with identical or nearly identical outer electron shells. Isosterism is recognized for elements in a horizontal row of the periodic table. For instance, chlorine and bromine share more chemical characteristics than carbon and chlorine or chlorine and iodine. Chlorine has an atomic weight of 35.46 and a radius of 1.80 Å, while iodine has an atomic weight of 126.91 and a radius of 2.15 Å.

Bioisosterism refers to the concept of substituting atoms or groups in a molecule with others that have similar biological activity. Coined by Friedman in 1951, the definition of bioisosterism has evolved over time. There are two main categories: classical and non-classical bioisosteres.

(a) Classical Bioisosteres:

- I. Single-valent atoms and groups
- II. Divalent atoms and groups
- III. Trivalent atoms and groups
- IV. Tetra-substituted atoms
- V. Ring analogies

(b) Non-classical Bioisosteres:

- I. Exchangeable groups
- II. Rings versus non-cyclic structures
- III. Monovalent bioisosteres: Halogens and group-XH_n, where n is C, N, O, or S.
- IV. Divalent bioisosteres: R-O-R', R-NH-R', R-CH₂-R', and R-Si-R' atoms and groups.
- V. Trivalent bioisosteres: Groups containing C and N in sets of three, like R-N=R' and R-CH=R'.

True Bioisosteres: These substitutes produce similar biological effects to their counterparts.

Partial Bioisosteres: While they share a general pattern of bioactivity, their intensity may vary. If a modified compound maintains the required bioactivity with fewer side effects, it's termed a "partial bioisostere."

Recent Applications of Bioisosterism:

The sulfonamido isosteres of catecholamines demonstrate exchangeable groups, where the phenolic hydroxyl group is replaced with an alkyl sulfonamido group. These replacements result in both agonists and antagonists, indicating parallels between catecholamines and alkyl sulfonamidophenethanolamines.

Understanding the physiochemical properties of molecules is essential, including factors like acidity, basicity, electronegativity, polarizability, and charge. Drug molecules exert their effects by binding to specific receptor sites, leading to biological responses through alterations in physical properties.

Computational Approaches:

Computational methods, including molecular modeling, virtual screening, and machine learning algorithms, have become indispensable tools in medicinal chemistry. These approaches enable researchers to predict ligand-target interactions, optimize compound libraries, and accelerate the drug discovery process. Molecular docking simulations, in particular, have been instrumental in identifying novel lead compounds and elucidating their binding modes within target proteins.

Novel Synthetic Strategies:

Innovative synthetic methodologies have expanded the chemical space accessible to medicinal chemists, facilitating the synthesis of complex molecules with diverse biological activities. Transition metal-catalyzed reactions, bioorthogonal chemistry, and diversity-oriented synthesis (DOS) approaches have enabled the rapid generation of compound libraries for

screening against biological targets. Moreover, the development of novel reagents and catalysts has streamlined the synthesis of natural product-inspired scaffolds and peptidomimetics.

Multidisciplinary techniques, such as chemogenomics, network pharmacology, and systems biology, have revolutionized drug discovery by enabling the identification of drug-target interactions and understanding drug mechanisms of action. By integrating experimental data with computational models, researchers can prioritize drug candidates, predict adverse effects, and tailor therapeutic regimens for personalized medicine approaches. Moreover, the development of biomarkers and diagnostic tools facilitates patient stratification and treatment response monitoring in clinical trials.

In drug development, lead compounds, also known as tailor-made compounds, serve as the foundation for potential therapeutic applications. These compounds, sourced from various natural origins like plants, animals, and their byproducts, are generally safe and unlikely to cause harmful side effects. Examples include lovastatin and asperlicin from microbes, curacin-A from marine sources, as well as epinephrine and histamine produced through biochemical processes. Thorough testing is crucial upon discovering a lead compound to assess its interaction with the body's physiology and cells, as well as its potential to form pharmacologically active compounds when combined with other substances.

Prodrugs are inactive compounds that undergo metabolic transformations within the body to become active metabolites, exerting therapeutic effects. This transformation is essential for the drug to be effectively utilized by the body. Theories such as the occupancy theory, affinity and intrinsic activity theory, rate theory, and induced fit theory elucidate drug-receptor interactions and mechanisms of action, providing insights into drug activity and aiding in the design of more effective pharmaceuticals.

Despite significant advancements in medicinal chemistry, challenges like drug resistance, toxicity, and pharmacokinetic limitations persist. Innovative strategies, including the design of covalent inhibitors, targeted drug delivery systems, and rational polypharmacology approaches, are essential for overcoming these challenges. Additionally, close collaboration between academia, industry, and regulatory agencies is crucial for translating preclinical findings into clinically effective therapies. Looking ahead, technological advancements such as CRISPR gene editing and mRNA therapeutics hold promise for developing next-generation medicines with improved efficacy and safety profiles. Prodrugs generally offer advantages over active medications in terms of stability, bioavailability, toxicity, and reduced occurrence of undesirable side effects.

Exploration of New Therapeutic Targets:

Advances in genomics, proteomics, and metabolomics have revolutionized our understanding of disease mechanisms and identified new therapeutic targets for drug intervention. Target-based screening and phenotypic assays have enabled the discovery of small molecules and biologics with novel modes of action against a wide range of diseases, including rare and neglected tropical diseases. Additionally, the repurposing of existing drugs for new indications has emerged as a cost-effective strategy for drug discovery.

Drug Receptors

Biological activity can manifest even at extremely low concentrations, characterizing medications as structurally specific. Prior to any chemical intervention, a semi-rigid macromolecule, serving a biological function, must be present. This macromolecule could be an enzyme or encompass a "receptor."

A receptor, a macromolecule with distinct sites, exhibits the following characteristics:

- a) Chemorecognitive capabilities for specific endogenous chemicals or certain drugs.
- b) Genetically defined specificity of sites on the receptor macromolecule, determined by the function of a particular endogenous molecule.
- c) Binding of agonists, whether drugs or endogenous molecules, induces specific disturbances or state changes in the receptor macromolecule.
- d) Initiation of a response by binding to a receptor site does not necessitate the formation or dissolution of covalent bonds in the agonist.
- e) Toxic substances cause harm to cells by being absorbed by specific side chains of the cell, referred to as "receptors."
 - i. High Potency: Many drugs exhibit activity at concentrations as low as 10^{-9} M and 10^{-11} M, indicating their potent nature.
 - ii. Chemical Specificity: Optical isomers can lead to variations in outcomes. For instance, while Chloramphenicol contains four isomers, only one is biologically active.
 - iii. Biological Selectivity: Epinephrine's differential impact on heart muscle compared to striated muscle demonstrates biological selectivity. Receptors possess a unique ability to interact with natural substrates at their active sites, mostly present in protein-like macromolecules. The structural and conformational properties of both the drug and the receptor influence their interaction.

Interaction with Receptors

Understanding the atoms and functional groups crucial for a drug's interaction with its target binding site is crucial information obtained from Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR) investigations. Various bonding mechanisms include dipole-dipole interactions, van der Waals contacts, ionic bonds, hydrogen bonds, and other intermolecular interactions. Some drugs can form covalent connections with their targets.

Direct and Indirect Receptor Interaction Methods

In the direct method, a chemical capable of permanently binding to a receptor's functional groups, either via covalent bonding, is introduced before isolating the resulting drug-receptor complex. Conversely, the indirect method involves attaching the receptor to molecules that can reversibly compound with the macromolecule.

Physico-Chemical Parameters

The efficacy of a chemical in humans, when combined with anesthetics, highlights the

importance of physico-chemical parameters. Changes in biological activity and ionization of a drug series containing an ionizable functional group are somewhat correlated. Understanding the maximum pKa value range for eliciting the desired biological response is crucial. Phenolic, mercapto, and enolic groups with hydrogen bonding are significant. Additionally, attention has been drawn to the creation of charge or electron transfer complexes, impacting biochemical and pharmacological bonding.

Molecular Orbital Indices

Calculations of molecular orbitals provide numerical indices representing the likely location and energy of an electron in a molecular orbital. Charge distribution across various structures in quaternary ammonium salts significantly affects activity. Molecular connections, developed by Kier and Hall, offer a simpler approach than quantum mechanics to describe structures.

Electronic Ionization Constants

The hydrophilicity of a molecule increases with ionization, allowing for the calculation of the molecule's real partition coefficient. Steric factors, proposed by Meyer in 1895 and defined numerically by Taft, influence the ease of esterification of aromatic acids.

Empirical Fragment Evaluation: Free and Wilson Analysis

Free and Wilson developed an approach to structure-activity relationships, providing numerical values on a logarithmic scale based on changes in biological activity within a group of related molecules. G values indicate the contribution of specific characteristics or substitutions to activity, aiding in the creation of more potent molecules.

Hansch analysis

Hansch analysis seeks connections between physical characteristics like molecule size, degree of ionization, or lipid solubility, and biological activity. This approach correlates biologic activity with a linear combination of indicators, facilitating a deeper understanding of drug activity.

CARDIOVASCULAR DRUGS

Introduction

Cardiovascular drugs significantly impact the heart or blood vessels, primarily used to treat cardiovascular disorders. They regulate heart function and blood circulation to specific body parts, treating conditions like heart failure and hypertension.

Types of Cardiovascular Drugs

Cardiovascular drugs encompass various categories:

Cardiac Glycosides

Anti-Anginal Drugs

Calcium Channel Blockers**β-Adrenergic Blocking Agents****Vasodilators****Antiarrhythmic Agents****Anti-Hypercholesterolemic Agents****Cardiac Glycosides**

Cardiac glycosides, derived from plants like *Digitalis* and animals like the venomous toad, exhibit both toxic and cardiotoxic effects. They primarily affect heart contractility and electrophysiology, historically used as both medicines and poisons.

Mechanism: Cardiac glycosides inhibit Na⁺/K⁺-ATPase pumps, leading to elevated intracellular calcium levels, often resulting in cardiac arrhythmias.

Table 1. Common Cardiac Glycosides

| Source | Structure | Aglycone | Glycoside |
|------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|
| Leaf of <i>Digitalis Lanata</i> | Glucose-3acetyldigitoxosedigitoxose2-aglycone | Digitoxigenin Gitoxigenin | Lanatoside-A Lanatoside-B Lanatoside-C |
| Leaf of <i>Digitalis Purpurea</i> | Glucose-digitoxose3-glycone | Digitoxigenin Gitoxigenin | Purpurea Glycoside A Purpurea Glycoside B |
| Leaf of <i>Strophanthus Gratus</i> | Rhamnose-Aglycone | Quabagenin g-Strophanthin | |
| Seed of <i>Strophanthus Kombe</i> | Glucose-glucosecymarose-aglycone | Strophanthidin k-Strophanthoside | |

Anti-Anginal Medications

Anti-anginal medications alleviate angina pectoris, characterized by acute chest pain resulting from myocardial ischemia. They reduce oxygen demand and increase myocardial oxygen delivery, offering relief from anginal discomfort.

Examples: Glyceryl trinitrate, isosorbide dinitrate, pentaerythritol tetranitrate, erythryl tetranitrate.

Mechanism: Organic nitrates undergo fast first-pass metabolism, providing immediate relief from angina pectoris.

Calcium Channel Blockers

These medications inhibit calcium channels' opening, effectively treating myocardial insufficiency and anginal discomfort by dilating coronary arteries.

Examples: Verapamil, diltiazem.

Mechanism: By inhibiting calcium influx into cardiac cells, they reduce myocardial oxygen demand and increase oxygen delivery.

![Fig. 4.3 Structure of Calcium Channel Blockers](link to figure)

β -Adrenergic Receptor Blockers

These agents block beta-adrenergic receptors, used in treating exertion-induced angina by lowering cardiac activity and oxygen consumption.

Examples: Propranolol.

Mechanism: By decreasing sympathetic activation of the heart, they lower heart rate and myocardial contractility.

Vasodilators

Vasodilators widen blood vessels, notably coronary arteries, treating conditions like hypertension and angina discomfort.

Mechanism: They operate at different points in the cascade of events linking excitatory signals to contractions in vascular smooth muscle cells.

Antiarrhythmic Agents

These medications treat cardiac arrhythmias by normalizing impulse conduction across the heart.

Mechanism: They modulate the origin, conduction, or repolarization of cardiac impulses, restoring normal heart rhythm.

Table 2. Classes of Antiarrhythmic Drugs

| Class | Antiarrhythmic Drugs | Pharmacological Effects |
|-------|---|--|
| IA | Quinidine, Procainamide, Disopyramide | Decreased action potential duration; Decreased rate of depolarization |
| IB | Lidocaine, Phenytoin, Tocainide, Mexiletine | Decreased rate of depolarization; Decreased action potential duration |
| IC | Flecainide | Decreased rate of depolarization; No change in action potential duration |
| II | Propranolol | Inhibition of sympathetic activity |
| III | Bretylium, Amiodarone | Prolonged action potential duration |
| IV | Verapamil | Inhibition of inward calcium current |

Conclusion:

In conclusion, medicinal chemistry continues to play a pivotal role in the discovery and optimization of therapeutic agents, driving advancements in healthcare. Through rational drug design, structure-activity relationship studies, and the integration of multidisciplinary approaches, researchers are able to develop more effective and targeted treatments for various diseases. Innovations in technology, such as X-ray crystallography and computational modeling, have enabled unprecedented insights into molecular interactions and drug mechanisms, facilitating the design of novel compounds with improved efficacy and safety profiles.

Moreover, the development of prodrugs and strategies to overcome challenges like drug resistance and optimize drug delivery systems offer promising avenues for enhancing

therapeutic outcomes and patient care. In the realm of cardiovascular drugs, the diverse classes discussed underscore the complexity of treating cardiovascular disorders and the importance of understanding their mechanisms of action for effective management.

Overall, the dynamic nature of medicinal chemistry continues to drive progress in drug discovery and development, offering hope for the future of healthcare through the continuous innovation of therapeutic interventions.

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Women's involvement in Agriculture for Sustainable Livelihood at Bhaktapur, Nepal

Tirtha Raj Timsina

Abstract

This document delves into the crucial role of women in agriculture, particularly in the context of Nepal, where agriculture is the backbone of the economy. It highlights the significant contributions of women to various aspects of agricultural production, including their involvement in farm activities, decision-making processes, and management roles within households. Through a combination of qualitative and quantitative data collected from field surveys and secondary sources, the study underscores the multifaceted roles played by women in agricultural activities, such as purchasing inputs, farming tasks, worker management, budgeting, storage, marketing, and transportation of agricultural products. The findings shed light on the unequal distribution of responsibilities between men and women within households and the challenges faced by women in accessing resources and opportunities in the agricultural sector. The study emphasizes the importance of recognizing and leveraging women's contributions to agricultural development for achieving sustainable livelihoods and food security.

Keywords: agricultural production, decision-making, sustainable livelihood, empowerment, responsibilities

Introduction:

Agricultural development is one of the most powerful tools to end extreme poverty, boost shared prosperity, and feed a projected 10 billion people by 2050. Growth in the agriculture sector is two to four times more effective in raising incomes among the poorest compared to other sectors. Agriculture is also crucial to economic growth: accounting for 4% of global gross domestic product (GDP) and in some least developing countries, it can account for more than 25% of GDP The World Bank, (2023). FAO (2019) postulates that over three-quarters of women are engaged in agriculture, but their actual share of contribution to the sector, as part of the labour force, paid or unpaid, has not been adequately recognized nor quantified in terms of the economic contribution to rural development at large. Women's involvement is very high in non-cash related production activities, whereas men's participation is very high in direct cash-generating activities such as crop production and livestock sales into the market.

The participation of women in agriculture is distinctive due to the variety of activities that they perform in a long stretch of time. Rural women's agricultural activities are highly influenced by external forces such as temporary out margin of village men and men's involvement in the civil services and other non-agricultural occupations. Women's participation and contribution to farm production system in Nepal is becoming more and more important due to the fact that male members of the family are seasonally or temporarily moving to urban areas for job, and increasing number of males are being absorbed into non-agricultural sectors. Thus, rural women make up the majority of food producers.

Nepal is predominantly an agricultural country as the country's economy largely depends on agriculture. More than 65% of people still depend on agriculture. Agriculture employs more than 80% of the labour force and makes a significant contribution of the country's export earnings. The share of agriculture in GDP is 36.8% of total GDP (MoF, 2022). The agriculture sector has been a major source of production, income and employment opportunities in Nepal. Keeping this in mind, the government of Nepal is giving continuously high priority to development of agriculture sector, but Nepalese agriculture is still very much primitive, traditional and subsistence in nature. In general, the method of cultivation is purely manual and labour intensive and farm holdings are small. Use of modern agricultural implements is very low. Nepalese agriculture is largely dependent on rainfall and agricultural production is mainly influenced by monsoon situation. As Bakhunchhe (2021) stressed that being fundamental source of family earning and rural livelihood, agriculture is a priority sector of local government in recent days.

Status of Women in Nepal

The population of female in Nepal is slightly higher than the population of male. The overall development of the nation cannot be achieved without the active participation of women as more than half population are female. Active participation of women in all kinds of development activities is essential for the overall development of the nation. Through various studies about the status of women we find that the situation of women in developing countries like Nepal is different from that of the other developed nations. In Nepal, due to illiteracy, ignorance, conservative perception, poverty and superstition women are treated as second class citizen and they are not given opportunities to make contribution in development and economy. The legal, social and economic status of women is also not uniform throughout the country. Their position differs from place to place and community to community depending upon the socio-economic condition, geographical location and a number of variables imposed by the wider national society in terms of legal framework. Dahal (2017) concludes that unless female are treated equally as male in the household, the status of any individual household remains almost static in terms of socio-economic change. The census 2011 has recognized about 11220697 people as being economically active of which 44.96% are women. According to the census, only 36.84% of women in Nepal are economically active and their employment is also not uniform in all sectors. More than 90% of

economically active female population are in agricultural sectors and other low level and less paid jobs. Less than 1% of those women are professionals and technicians (CBS, 2011).

Role of Women in Agriculture

According to FAO (1984) women produce more than 50 percent food grown by worldwide. The gender disaggregated data, together with field studies, participation rural appraisal and gender analysis, make it possible to draw a number of conclusions about the extent nature of women's contribution to farming, foresting, fishing may be underestimated as many surveys and census count only paid labour. Women are active in both the cash and subsistence agricultural sector and much of their work in producing food for household and community consumption (FAO, 1986). Agriculture is major sector of employment in Nepal, comprising more than 65% of all workers. Agriculture provided 24.1% of total employment in urban areas and 85.5% in rural areas in 1991. In that year, 92.8% of all economically active rural women in contrast to 80.4% of economically active rural women were engaged in agriculture sector (Women of Nepal 1996). Workers in Nepalese agriculture can be classified roughly into two categories: unpaid family worker (who enjoy right over what they earn, the system called as Parma labour system) and paid workers. Timalisina and Singh (2020) pointed out that empowerment of women is essential in all the sectors to eliminate the gender gap and equal treatment should be maintained so that they can equally contribute for the growth and all-round development of any country concern. Realizing this fact, all the Sustainable Development Goals are formally or informally taking concern on gender sensitizations through which sustainable development seems possible.

In rural Nepal, women play multiple roles in the society. They integrate their responsibility of domestic affairs with that of farming works together with their male counterparts. Several studies over the years have clearly indicated that the labour contribution of women in Nepalese agriculture appears to be higher than that of men and most of the agriculture work is done by women. In additional works, they also have to perform many other household works like caring children, food preparation, shopping, housekeeping, and family health care and so on. They are active in farming preparations, compost preparation, land sowing, hoeing, storing, transplanting, weeding, harvesting and storing. Their involvement in farming system is affected by interplay of socio cultural, economic and environment factors.

Nepalese farm women can play a very crucial role in determining the future development of agriculture. Many recent studies have revealed that farm women are strong force not only in various agriculture activities but also in agriculture decision-making process. It is mostly the women, decision about the type of crops to be planted, use of improved seeds, use of manure and fertilizers etc. Thus, women can play active roles both as participation and as decision maker in works related to agriculture, particularly in food crop production. Upadhyay, (2005) in her case study from selected part of India and Nepal came in to the conclusion that the involvement of women outweighs to male while using most of the natural resources such as; water, agriculture, forestry, livestock, and fishery. However, they must be accountable to male in most of the cases. Therefore, the disparity persists in most of the developing world which should be ended for

sustainable livelihood in rural areas.

Nepalese agriculture is largely subsistence oriented, food based and relatively undiversified. A food crop has great importance in Nepalese agriculture production system. Since the growing population of Nepal needs increasing supply of food products, it has exerted heavy pressure in agricultural production. Population is increasing however government's effort has not been able to meet the food requirement of the fast-growing population. Women are the best heart of agriculture development Nepal because of the multiple roles of women. It is also the acceptable fact that women are the critical forces in the society. Development is not possible without the involvement of the women in the developmental activities. Various studies have shown that women constitute a large portion of agricultural labour. They are often unpaid or paid very low for their effort in it as their effort is regarded as voluntary support. Generally, the target group to receive the modern technology in agriculture has been male. In spite of the fact that the contribution of the women in agricultural sector appears to be higher than that of male, discrimination against the women is disheartening. So far as the land rights, decision making and ownership of the property are concerned men still have dominating power over women. In the rural area women are considered as the housewives within the boundary of four walls i.e. our tradition oriented society while men are perceived to participate in developmental activities. Women are always deprived of equal opportunities and facilities.

The economy of Nepal is larger concentrated in agriculture sector where women play a major role by participating actively in various forms. It is important because women shouldn't be just limited within the four walls but they should also be involved in each and every aspect which will help the women to gain various technical, practical ideas. The study made an attempt to study gender discrimination which is one of the major issues in the context of agricultural development. Rural women's vital work in the Nepalese agriculture sector can't be ignored.

Economic Survey 2017-18 states that with growing rural to urban migration by men, there is 'feminization' of agriculture sector, with increasing number of women in multiple roles as cultivators, entrepreneurs, and laborers. Globally, there is empirical evidence that women have a decisive role in ensuring food security and preserving local agro-biodiversity. Rural women are responsible for the integrated management and use of diverse natural resources to meet the daily household needs. This requires that women farmers should have enhanced access to resources like land, water, credit, technology and training which warrants critical analysis in the context of India. In addition, the entitlements of women farmers will be the key to improve agriculture productivity. The differential access of women to resources like land, credit, water, seeds and markets needs to be addressed.

Past planning efforts failed to recognize and utilize women's equal and full contribution to agricultural development. In Nepal, many development strategies have so far by passed the primary needs and interests of the rural women. Rural women are not in a position to increase their agricultural product and income through the use of different support service provided by the concerned instructions as there are still a number of socio-culture and traditional values which are

less supportive to the advancement of women. Our agriculture largely relies women labour force. In food crop farming women are involved from sowing of seed up the family consumption. They are performing these activities with the limited technical ideas of crop production. Therefore, this research paper aims to analyse the contribution in women in agriculture and livelihood management in semi-urban areas in Bhaktapur district.

Materials and Methods

The natures of the data are qualitative as well as quantitative and derived from both primary and secondary sources. Secondary data are collected from the records of Municipality office it Madhyapur Thimi municipality and other related organization. Primary data are collected from the mailed survey and key informants' interview with structures and unstructured questionnaire. Purposive sampling design is used as for the comfort of the researcher. Only simple statistical tools like percentage and average are used for the analysis. Since, ward no. 4 and 5 of Madhyapur-Thimi municipality of Bhaktapur district has been purposively selected as a study universe and all together 50 household have been randomly selected as sample household. The descriptive method is used to interpret the collected data and information, and analytical method is used to explore and analyze the opinion and perception of the respondents and key persons of different areas of the Municipality.

Result and Discussion

Results

The study and appreciation of the role of women in rural as well as sub-urban areas is inevitable not only in the sense that they are representing nearly half of the formal global food production workforce, but also rural women occupy a predominant role in small-scale food production, the preservation of biodiversity, the recovery of agro-ecological practices and, therefore, in guaranteeing the food sovereignty and maintaining sustainable livelihood in the grassroots level in most of the developing societies.

Role of women in Agriculture

Nepalese agriculture in recent days increasingly depends on women because of the absence of the male of member in household. However, the decision in any major or even minor purchase depends on the male by which female seems lacking self-esteem in their role. The status of purchasing of agricultural inputs are shown in table below:

Table 1
Purchasing required instruments, seed, fertilizers etc.

| Member of household | Household | |
|---------------------|-----------|----|
| | Number | % |
| Male | 25 | 50 |
| Female | 18 | 36 |

| | | |
|-------|----|-----|
| Both | 7 | 14 |
| Total | 50 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey 2020

Table 1 shows, in about half of households (50%) the male play main role in purchasing required instruments, seeds, fertilizer etc. for agricultural production. Only 36% households had female role in purchasing required agricultural inputs. Male and female were equally responsible in purchasing required agricultural inputs i households. It also clears the one aspect the role of women agricultural production.

Various works in Farming

The farmers have varieties of work to do in the agricultural farm during crop production. Out of them some main work to be performed and its prominent workers are given in the table below.

Table 2

Distribution of table by prominent worker

| Various activities | Prominent workers | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----|------|----|
| | Female | % | Male | % |
| Transplanting | 50 | 100 | - | - |
| Harvesting | 45 | 90 | 5 | 10 |
| Ploughing | 6 | 12 | 44 | 88 |
| Irrigation | 5 | 10 | 45 | 90 |

Source: Field Survey 2020

The above table 2 clearly demonstrate that almost all the transplantation and harvesting activities are performed by the female population of the household. Whereas ploughing and irrigation activities are mostly carried out by the male population of the sample households.

Role of women in worker's management

The family members are only not enough for the completion of all the agricultural activities. Hence an individual household requires other human resource to complete the task on time. In regard to it the findings can be observed in the following table.

Table 3

Distribution of HH by role of women in worker management

| Members of HH | Number | % |
|---------------|--------|-----|
| Male | 7 | 14 |
| Female | 32 | 64 |
| Both | 11 | 22 |
| Total | 50 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey 2020

Table 3 illustrates that the role of women is very high in case of worker management. While in some households both male and female participate to manage the worker to complete the task on time.

Budget management for agricultural activities

Money is required matter to complete the different agriculture activities. According to the table below it can be easily evaluated that half percent of the total respondent from female population takes the responsibility of budget management. On the other side 30% of the respondents says that both male and female manages the budget but only 20% claim that the male population manages the budget for agricultural activities.

Table 4

Distribution of HH by role of women in Budget management in agricultural activity

| Members of HH | Number | % |
|---------------|--------|-----|
| Male | 10 | 20 |
| Female | 25 | 50 |
| Both | 15 | 30 |
| Total | 50 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey 2020

From the above table we clearly understand that female had major role in arrangement of money or female's involvements high compare to male on management of budget for agriculture activities.

Storage of agricultural products

After harvesting the agricultural products some of the household sell it in the market whereas some of them store it in their residence for their own use in future. In regard to this the question was asked to the respondent about the responsibility of the storage of the products. In response to it, the given table clearly elaborate that more than half percent of the respondents agree that the responsibility of products storage is of males rather than that of females. Also participation of both male and female is even lesser than that of male participation in storing activities.

Table 5

Distribution of HH for storage of agricultural product

| Members of HH | Number | % |
|---------------|--------|-----|
| Male | 25 | 50 |
| Female | 15 | 30 |
| Both | 10 | 20 |
| Total | 50 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey 2020

From the table 5 we clearly understand that male had important role in storage of agricultural product or female's involvement is less compare to male on agricultural product storage.

Marketing on Agricultural products

The people of the sample households used to sell the excess amount of agricultural production like as crops, vegetables etc. to the nearest market. Out of 50 households only 35 (70%) could produce excess amount of agricultural product to sell in the market whereas 15 (30%) couldn't produce sufficient amount to sell it.

Means of Transportation

The transportation of the agricultural production up to the nearest market is not so easy task for some of the respondent household. Due to poor economic condition and lack of road facilities some of the farmers are still in the problem. That can be shown in table below:

Table 6
Uses of different transportation

| Means of Transportation | HH | |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|
| | Number | % |
| Carrying | 29 | 58 |
| Vehicle | 21 | 42 |
| Total | 50 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey 2020

Among the total households, only 58% have to carry the product themselves up to the market and then 21% of them transport the agricultural production via vehicles.

Table 7
Distribution of respondents by the responsible for marketing

| Members of HH | Number | % |
|---------------|--------|-----|
| Male | 10 | 20 |
| Female | 23 | 46 |
| Both | 17 | 34 |
| Total | 50 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey 2020

Table 7 shows that the male member from the family seems to have less responsible in selling the agricultural products. Instead, female is found to be more participated in the marketing activities too. But mostly respondent from the household seems to be engaged cooperatively in the marketing purpose whose family whole income is dependent on agriculture. Usually, those agriculture products sold in the market include varieties of vegetables, fruits, food grains etc.

Discussion

On the basis of entire documents, women play a crucial role in agriculture, especially as male members of the family are often seasonally or temporarily migrating to urban areas for jobs. This trend results in rural women comprising the majority of food producers. Despite the dominant role of women in agriculture, their contribution is often underestimated and undervalued. Women are involved in various agricultural activities, including non-cash related production tasks and decision-making processes. Agriculture remains a significant sector in Nepal's economy, employing more than 80% of the labor force and contributing substantially to the country's export earnings. However, the agriculture sector is described as primitive, traditional, and subsistence-oriented, with limited use of modern agricultural techniques and dependence on rainfall.

Gender discrimination persists in Nepal, with women facing challenges in accessing resources, land rights, credit, and decision-making power within households and communities. Despite their substantial contribution to agriculture, women often receive unequal opportunities and are relegated to low-paid or unpaid agricultural work. There is a noticeable trend of "feminization" in the agriculture sector due to increasing rural-to-urban migration by men, leading to a greater involvement of women in various roles such as cultivators, entrepreneurs, and laborers. Past development strategies have often overlooked the vital role of rural women in agriculture. There is a need for policies and initiatives that recognize and support women's equal and full contribution to agricultural development, including improving their access to resources, technology, training, and markets.

Overall, the document emphasizes the importance of recognizing, valuing, and empowering women in agriculture to achieve sustainable development and ensure food security in Nepal.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this study underscores the indispensable role of women in agriculture, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas of Nepal. Women are actively involved in various stages of agricultural production, from purchasing inputs to marketing the final products. Despite their significant contributions, women face numerous challenges, including unequal distribution of responsibilities, limited access to resources, and gender discrimination. Addressing these challenges requires comprehensive strategies that promote gender equality and empower women in decision-making processes, resource allocation, and access to support services. Recognizing and harnessing women's potential in agriculture is essential for achieving sustainable development, food security, and poverty reduction in Nepal. It is imperative for policymakers, development agencies, and stakeholders to prioritize gender-sensitive approaches in agricultural policies and programs to ensure the full and equal participation of women in agricultural development efforts.

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Fiscal Federalism: Current Issues and Rethink for future

Krishna Hari Dahal

Abstract

Fiscal federalism is the life blood of federal governance that must be directed to bring benefits for all citizens. Fiscal Federalism is the study of how competencies (expenditure side) and fiscal Instruments (revenue side) are allocated across different (vertical) layers of the government. An important part of its subject matter is the system of transfer payments or grants by which a central government shares its revenue with lower levels of government. The constitution of Nepal, 2015 has provided model of fiscal federalism based on the recommendation presented by the committed on Natural Resources, Revenue Allocation and Economic Rights. The primary aim of this study is to critically analyze what fiscal federalism is, its condition, impact and issue for reform on Nepalese context. This study recommends some strategies in order to improve this condition by providing nation building environment.

Keywords: Co-operative federalism, Fiscal Federalism, Fiscal power, Fiscal imbalance, Fiscal discipline, Fiscal equalization, Intergovernmental transfer, Revenue Sharing, Performance based grants

Concept

The term federalism was originated from the Latin term "Foedus" means unions. Federalism is based on the assumption that its constituent parts are to a considerable degree self-organized and self-managed. Federalism is a means of ensuring peace, stability and mutual accommodation in countries that have territorially concentrated differences of identity, ethnicity, religion, language. Federalism combines partial self-government with partial shared government.

One of the major parts of federalism is as fiscal federalism. The term "Fiscal Federalism" was introduced by the German-born, American economist Richard Musgrave in 1959. Fiscal federalism is a constitutional mechanism for dividing fiscal power between different levels of government, so that federated units may enjoy substantial, constitutionally guaranteed autonomy over certain policy area while sharing fiscal power in accordance with agreed rules over other areas. It involves questions such as which functions and services should be provided by the central government or the state governments or the local governments, how the revenues should be raised and shared among them, and how the transfers or grants should be allocated to ensure efficiency and equity. Much work remains to be done on the four major components of fiscal federalism

Objectives of the Study

Major objectives of this studies are as follow:

To track out the present arrangement and situation of the fiscal federalism in Nepal

To analyze present condition and issues for reform of fiscal federalism.

To explore the major problem faced by fiscal federalism.

To recommend for future action about proper fiscal federalism.

Methodology

This study is based on mainly literature review method with the using secondary data and information. It is based on information from related publications, books, periodic articles, various national and international journals, Reports (online), website and Nepalese constitution, law etc.

Review of Literature

Much of the fiscal federalism literature is actually about decentralization and not federalism. As stated by Wallace Oates, "... the term federalism for the economist is not to be understood in a narrow constitutional sense. In economic terms all governmental system is more or less federal: even a formally unitary system" (Oates,1977; P.4). Similarly, Bird (2000, P.135) states, "...in the traditional world of fiscal federalism in principle everything-boundaries, assignments of finances and functions, the level and nature of transfers and so forth-is malleable"

There is no globally accepted specific model for fiscal federalism. The objectives include efficiency, equity, stabilization as well as regional balance, national integrity, and political stability (Bird, 2002). Most economic fiscal federalism research has focused on issues arising in high income countries i.e., Switzerland, Canada, United State of America, Germany. However, large fiscal federations are found among developing economics, including India and especially China, where "market preserving federalism" (weingast, 1995) has been linked to economic success (Lu, X, Landry 2014). Gadenne and Singhal (2014) show that, while developed countries have been centralizing when viewed from a centuries-long time scale, developing countries have followed the opposite path. Broadly speaking, taxation in America and North Europe typically emerged at the state or local levels first, and gradually shifted to central governments, with the two world wars providing important catalysts. Recent years have seen a reversal of this pattern due to political gridlock and a desire for government accountability. Many developing nations, however, attained formal state capacity at the central level first, and decentralized later.

IMF have long emphasized the potential advantages of greater fiscal decentralization in developing nations. The world bank's "rationale for decentralization" consists from three elements: "greater choice and voice to citizens", local governments responding "dynamically to communities", and "matching local needs and preferences with patterns of local public expenditure" (World Bank, 2013).

The federal system is essentially a post-industrial revolution phenomenon. India, as a federal system, is about 86 years old, compared to the federal systems of the United States, Switzerland, Canada, which are more than two centuries old. There is a wide variety of international experiences in fiscal federalism based on: (1) the division of functions among different tiers of government; (2) the design of fiscal transfers; (3) principles of assessment; and (4) institutional arrangement. Furthermore, intergovernmental government transfers are either constitutionally or legally mandated.

International Overview

In a fiscal federation, tax and spending decisions are not confined to the national government but are shared with subnational jurisdictions. How to allocate fiscal decision-making powers across central, state, and local governments is a matter of unending scientific and political debate. Over recent decades, the mean sub-federal share of total tax revenue have been gradually increasing both OECD and non-OECD countries. According to the IMF's government finance statistics, Canada was the least fiscally centralized country in 2019, with a sub federal tax share of 55% (up from 51% In 2000), followed by Switzerland (53%, up from 51%), and United State of America (47%, Up from 40%). Across countries in the database, the mean sub-federal tax share in 2016-2019 was 20% among OECD countries and 13% among non-OECD countries But, substantial cross-sectional variations in the extent of decentralization remain.

Under a federal system, different tiers of government may share the same revenue sources and expenditure/regulatory tasks. In the case of revenues, a given tax base may be the common property of multiple levels of government. In the United State of America, for example, both the federal government and state governments levy their own taxes on income, gasoline, and cigarettes. The issue arising from the co-occupancy of tax bases also arise with respect to provision of public services.

The Indian constitution can be thought of as a "holding together federation" that leans slightly towards unity. It was created to address the forces pulling the country apart before independence. Constitutional assignment of taxation and expenditure, finance commission as a constitutional body (Article 280), goods and service tax administered by a GST council consisting of representing from the central and state governments, grants-in-aid system (Article 275) for discretionary transfer of funds from the central government to state governments for specific purpose are the major provisions for fiscal federalism in India.

From recent year, Indian policymakers and experts have raised a few issues, including whether or not to make finance commissions "permanent" or to abolish them by making the tax devolution share constant through a constitutional amendment, the need for an institution to redress spatial inequalities in order to fill the vacuum created by abolishing the planning commission, and making the case for Article 282 of the constitution to be circumscribed. The debates are also focused on whether there is a need to establish a link between GST Council and finance commission, and if India should device a mechanism of transfer that is predominantly based on sharing of grants for equalization of services rather than tax sharing.

Nepalese Context

After 10 years arm conflict and 19 day's people's movement, Nepal has entered to the phase of making a new constitution, 2015. New constitution not only be a democratic, it is also federal and inclusive too. Nepal's shift to a federal state structure helped to end a long internal conflict by establishing a unifying and equitable political system. The federal democratic republic constitution of Nepal, 2015 restructure the overall government structure of the Nepal creating three levels of government i.e., federal, provincial, and local. The new system is composed 7 provinces and 753 local governments structured in a decentralized form of fiscal federalism. Local election was held in 2017 and federalism has fully implemented from 2018. The constitution aims for mainly co-operative federalism with substantial fiscal decentralization. It sets out the functions of each level and concurrent functions in its schedules.

The Nepalese constitution features a federal structure of government, but not the hierarchical arrangement that is the case in many other federations. It calls on federal, Provincial, and local governments to enjoy relations "..... Based on principles of co-operative, co-existence and co-ordination" (Art. 232). This suggest the objectives of third tier government autonomy i.e., strong local level, with little direct control by the federal or provincial governments, though there are provisions for centralization to address matters of national importance and co-ordination. About 54 percent of budgeted federal government tax collection is assigned to intergovernmental transfer. Expenditure assignments, Revenue assignments, five types of intergovernmental transfer i.e., Equalization grants, Conditional grants, Complementary grants, special grants, Tax sharing grants are the major transfer tools for fiscal federalism.

Important national framework legislation i.e., civil service act, education Act etc. has not yet come online, in part because the governance reform shift in Nepal has resulted in complicated political economy considerations requiring time-consuming navigation and because a strong "champion" for pushing the devolution agenda is yet to emerge. An Inter-Provincial Council (IPC) is provided for in the constitution to settle disputes of a political nature between the federation and province, and among the provinces. However, the IPC doesn't meet regularly to discuss federalism implementation challenges. The National Natural Resource and Fiscal Commission (NNRFC) (Art. 250, 251) is charged in the constitution with determining and recommending the distribution of revenue to subnational governments from the consolidated funds.

The constitution of Nepal, 2015 has many positive aspects on the issue of natural resources, revenue allocation and fundamental economic rights. However, some provisions seem to be incompatible with the global fiscal federalism practices. The major sources of revenue like VAT, income tax, excise duty, custom duty which comprise nearly 80 percent of total tax revenue are assigned to be collected by the central government. Intergovernmental transfer in Nepal has not been systematic and effective. It is highly influenced by the political domination theory.

According to the Ministry of Finance, Nepal's debt-to-GDP ratio for FY 2022-23 is 41.3 percent. Given Nepal's high reliance on remittance and low export volume, any increase in the debt-to-GDP ratio above the 40 percent threshold may invite macro-fiscal risks. According to International Monetary Fund (IMF), the overall fiscal deficit is expected to reach 4.5 percent of

GDP for 2022-23. A fiscal deficit beyond 3 percent of GDP is not considered a healthy symptom. According to the 60th annual audit report published by the Office of the Auditor General, Nepal (OAGN) in 2023, the total irregularities reached Rs. 587.34 billion. This is an alarming figure and manifests a high level of fiduciary risks. The crux of the public fund involves spending others' money, and spending for beneficial changes is as important as timely spending to avoid future costs.

Future of Fiscal Federalism

Recent decades have witnessed an increase in fiscal decentralization, as the subnational share of total tax revenues has increased in many countries. With countries becoming more decentralized, intergovernmental grants have consumed a greater share of upper-level government spending. In the U.S., for example, federal grants to states and localities have steadily risen from 1% of GDP in the 1950s to 5.6% of GDP in 2021 (Clemens and Veuger 2023). The rise of federalism is not just confined to OECD countries, with federalism suggested as a tool of economic growth, the reduction of corruption in developing countries (Bardhan and Mookherjee 2006), and a solution of federal gridlock/polarization. But, at the same time, recent economic and technological trends such as globalization, climate change, infectious diseases, and rising income inequality pose threats to federalism.

output from government employment after devolution, providing a basis legal framework for federalism, institutional and organizational arrangement, capacity building and training, accountable and proper public financial management (PFM), gender equality and social inclusion, strengthening fiscal capacity, capacity needs assessment for provincial and local governments are the major issue for Nepalese context.

While talking about Nepalese federalism, it must not be forgotten that there is strong reservation about the issue from the side of political sector, presser groups and intelligentsia. Increasing heavy administrative expenditure and more organizational structure has created high expenditure. Latest trend of decreasing expenditure capacity and losing revenue figure may create economic recession also. From latest years, some formal and informal groups have been strongly denouncing the idea of federalism labeling it as a move to conflict the nation and create fiscal disaster. Many current policy debates concern issues of fiscal federalism. What level of government should oversee disaster policy, Such as hurricane-damage mitigation or control of an infectious disease? How progressive should income tax be, and is inequality best solved at the local or federal level? What role do redistributive grants play? What role should perform to attain sustainable development goal (SDG'S), ethical result and mitigate reverse effect from climate change?

Rethink about fiscal federalism in Nepal

However, nowadays, it's important to think again about how money and resources are shared with proper utilized between the central government, states and local governments. This is because the country's economy is changing, and its needs are different now. Need to rethink and

measures through which Nepal can strength its fiscal federalism are as follows:

Equity-Oriented Intergovernmental Transfer, i.e., funds allocated from the central government to state and local level, should be designed to promote equity

Constitutional Reforms: Revisit Constitution article 57-60, 231-236, And Schedule 7,9 to redefine the division of powers and responsibilities between the three tires of governments, this can help clarify which functions should be carried out at each level, reducing confusion, conflict and enhancing efficiency.

Use of performance-Based Grants: Develop performance-based grants system that reward states and local levels for achieving certain development targets, such as achieving quality health, social security and education indicators. This encourages sub national government to focus on effective and qualitative governance and results.

Horizontal and vertical Fiscal Imbalances: addressing both disparities among state governments and among local level governments (horizontal imbalances) and between the central, state, local governments (vertical imbalances) are crucial. The devolution formula should be designed to account for both sets of imbalances to ensure that resources are allocated fairly.

Empowering Local Levels: Strengthen the third tier of government by providing them with sufficient autonomy, functions and resources. This can involve creating a clear framework for responsibilities and finances, ensuring that local levels have the power to make decisions that affect their communities.

Co-operative Federalism: Foster a spirit of co-operative federalism where the three tier governments collaborate to design and implement rules and policies that benefit country as a whole.

Regular Dialogue and Review: Establish proper mechanism for regular dialogue and review between the central and state governments to discuss policy challenges, fiscal issues, contemporary issues, and potential improvements to the fiscal federalism framework.

Convergence of Development indicators: Use a combination of social, environmental and economic indicators, like human development index (HDI), self-revenue generate capacity, per capita income, to allocate funds. This approach ensures that states are not only economically developed, but also focused on improving the overall well-being of their citizens.

Uniform Financial accounting and Reporting System: Implement a standardized financial accounting and reporting system that encompasses all levels of government. This helps maintain accountability, transparency and efficient fiscal management.

Review Off-Budget Borrowing: Address the issue of off-budget borrowings by ensuring that all financial transactions are included in the budget. This process can increase economic transparency and prevents hidden liabilities in fiscal management.

Devolving Tax Powers: Provide states with more flexibility and control over taxation, enabling them to generate revenue according to their local economic conditions and priorities.

Fiscal Discipline and Ethical Culture: Address the issue of promoting ethical value and fiscal governance by ensuring that all financial and non-financial works are transparent, accountable, economy, efficient, effectiveness and provide more economic value for citizen.

Conclusion:

Fiscal federalism in Nepal has an 8 years history, its practice has grown increasingly opaque over the years. Fiscal federalism concerns the division of policy responsibilities among different levels of government. Many current economic policy, Socio-economic trends and technological developments, such as globalization, environmental crises, climate change and rising inequality, may not appear to be favorable to fiscal federalism in 21th century. Although globalization has increased the mobility of goods, capital and people, leading to calls for supranational tax reform and coordination, these forces have also led to backlashes resulting in local protectionism. Global challenges such as climate change or infectious-disease control similarly are seen as requiring national and supranational coordination.

Serious attention is required to improve its principle and practices. Nepal is going through a transition in its intergovernmental relations. Finally, growing economic inequality may be best addressed by national governments in the presence of mobility, but redistributive policy may also be viewed as a local public goods. Our need is to implement practically co-operative federalism and well-design fiscal arrangements for Nepal have become necessary. Based on principles of co-operative, co-existence and co-ordination can preserve national integrity, promote harmony among the people and satisfy people's willingness to self-rule for the future of fiscal federalism in Nepal.

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अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून : एक परिचर्चा

सञ्जय श्रेष्ठ

लेख सार

अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून मूलतः राज्यहरू बीच लागू हुने कानून भए पनि कतिपय सन्दर्भमा यो अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय संस्था र व्यक्तिमा पनि लागू हुन सक्दछ । यस अर्थमा सम्बन्धित पक्षहरूलाई संयमित, अनुशासित, मर्यादित, गतिशील, व्यवस्थित र सुरक्षित तुल्याउनका लागि लागू गरिने नियमहरू नै अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून हो । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको कमजोरी भनेको मुख्यतयाः राज्यको राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा जस्तै सशक्त सरकार, न्यायालय र व्यवस्थापिका नहुनु हो । यसको सबल पक्ष चाहिँ संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघको बडा-पत्रको धारा ४२ र ९४ को व्यवस्थाहरू हुन्, जसअन्तर्गत राज्यमाथि पनि कार्यवाही हुन सक्दछ । जस्तै : कुवेत माथि इराकले कब्जा गरेपछि सुरक्षा परिषद्को निर्णय बमोजिम इराकमाथि आक्रमण गरेर कुवेतलाई मुक्त गरियो । तैपनि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको उल्लंघन भई रहेको हुन सक्छ । जस्तै : सन् १९७९ मा अफगानिस्तानमा सोभियत संघले सैनिक हस्तक्षेप गर्दा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून अनुसार गल्ड ले केही गर्न सकेन । यसरी नै राष्ट्रिय कानून पनि असहाय हुन सक्छ । जस्तै : अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति केनेडीको हत्यारा अझै पत्ता लाग्न सकेको छैन । तुलनात्मक रूपमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून भन्दा राष्ट्रिय कानून बलियो भएर पनि उल्लेखित अवस्था राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा विद्यमान हुन्छ भने अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई केवल उल्लंघन भइरहेको आधारमा मात्र कानून नै होइन भन्ने तर्क गर्नु कदापि उपयुक्त हुन सक्दैन । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको मूल सफलता भनेको अहिलेसम्म तेस्रो विश्वयुद्ध अर्थात् आणविक युद्ध (Nuclear War) नहुनु नै हो, जसको कारण विश्वका मानिसहरू सुरक्षित बाँच्न सकेका छन् ।

शब्दावली: अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून, राष्ट्रिय कानून, महाशक्ति, संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ, अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय अदालत, संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघको बडा-पत्र, आणविक युद्ध, अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय राजनीति, राज्य, सुरक्षा परिषद्

अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून ईसाई सभ्यताको देन हो । यसको उत्पत्ति युरोप मध्ययुगको उत्तरार्द्धमा भएको हो । यो मान्यता ओपनह्याम (Oppenheim) को हो । तर अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनका नियमहरू ईसाई सभ्यताको उत्पत्ति भन्दा धेरै पहिलेको समयहरूमा पाईन्छन् । यद्यपि वर्तमान अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको नियमहरू त्यति बेला नभए पनि यसको विकासमा हिन्दु, मुस्लिम, यहूदी, युनानी तथा रोमन आदिको उल्लेखनिय योगदान पाइन्छ । जस्तै : हिन्दुहरूको धार्मिक ग्रन्थ रामायण, महाभारत, गीता आदिमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनका कतिपय नियमहरूको उल्लेख भएको भेटिन्छ । जस्तै दूत-वध निषेध, युद्धको घोषणा गरेर मात्र युद्ध गर्नु र न्यायपूर्ण तथा अन्यायपूर्ण युद्धविच विभाजन आदि कुरा प्रष्टरूपमा छन् । यसरी नै घाईते सैनिक माथि प्रहार, युद्ध-बन्दीहरूको वध र युद्धमा विषालु अस्त्रको प्रयोग आदि मनुस्मृति अनुसार निषेधित गरिएको पाईन्छ । यसरी अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको प्रारम्भ प्राचिन कालमा भैसकेको थियो ।

यद्यपि आधुनिक अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून आफ्नो विकास क्रममा हाल जुन स्थितिमा पुगेको छ, त्यसको थालनी सोह्रौं शताब्दीतिर मात्र भएको पाइन्छ । ह्युगो ग्रोशस (Hugo Grotius) ले सन् १६२५ मा “युद्ध र शान्तिको कानून” (de jure belli ac pacis) प्रकाशित गर्‍यो । यस पुस्तकमा उनले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको आधार बन्न सक्ने विभिन्न नियम तथा सिद्धान्तहरू प्रतिपादित गरेका थिए । यस पुस्तकमा उनले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय

कानूनको आधार बन्न सक्ने विभिन्न नियम तथा सिद्धान्तहरू प्रतिपादित गरेका छन् । ग्रीशस भन्दा पहिले फ्रान्सिस्को दे भितोरिया, आल्बेराको जेन्टिली आदि विद्वानहरूले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको विवेचना गरे पनि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई पूर्ण प्रणाली विधि शास्त्रको एक स्वतन्त्र शाखाको रूपमा प्रस्तुत गर्ने जस ग्रीशसलाई नै प्राप्त भएकोले ह्युगो ग्रीशसलाई अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको जन्मदाता (Father of Law of Nations) भनिन्छ । सन् १७८० मा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून (International Law) शब्दको प्रयोग सबैभन्दा पहिला इंग्लैण्डको विधिशास्त्री जेरेमी बेन्थम (Jeremy Bentham) ले गरे । त्यसपछि क्षलतभचलवतप्यलर्वा विध लाई फ्रान्समा मचयष्त क्षलतभचलवतप्यलर्वा र जर्मनीमा ख्यपिभचचभअजत भन्न शुरु गरियो । ल्याटिन भाषामा यसलाई वगक नभलतषा भनिन्छ ।

अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई विभिन्न विद्वानहरूले भिन्न भिन्न तरिकाले परिभाषित गरेका छन् । यस सम्बन्धमा ओपनह्याम (Openheim) ले भनेका छन् “अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून प्रथा-जनित तथा सन्धि जनित नियमहरूको त्यस समूहलाई भन्दछन्, जुन सभ्य राष्ट्रहरूद्वारा आपसी व्यवहारमा कानूनी रूपले बाध्य मानिएका हुन्छन् ।” (Law of Nations or International Law is the name of the body of customary and treaty rules which are considered legally binding by states in their inter-course with each other) ओपनह्यामको परिभाषासँग मिल्दोजुल्दो किसिमको परिभाषा अन्य विद्वानहरूले पनि दिएका छन् । जे.एल. ब्रायरली (J.L. Brierly) भन्दछन् “राज्यहरूको कानून त्यो अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनहरू, ती नियमहरू तथा क्रियात्मक सिद्धान्तहरूको समूहलाई भन्दछन्, जुन सभ्य राज्यहरूको पारस्परिक सम्बन्धमा बन्धनकारी हुन्छन् ।” फिलिप सी. जेसफ (Philip C. Jessup) भन्दछन् “अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून राज्यहरूको पारस्परिक सम्बन्धमा लागू हुने कानून हो । र यो कानून व्यक्तिहरूको सम्बन्धमा पनि केही हदसम्म लागू हुन्छ ।” चार्ल्स जी. फेन्विक (Charles G. Fenwick) भन्दछन् “विस्तृत अर्थमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून त्यस्ता सामान्य सिद्धान्त तथा विशेष नियमहरूको समूहलाई भन्दछन्, जुन अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय समुदायको सदस्यहरूमाथि तिनीहरूको पारस्परिक व्यवहारमा बन्धनकारी हुन्छ ।” (International Law may be defined in broad terms as the body of general principles and specific rule which are binding upon the member of the international community in their mutual relation)। यस परिभाषाले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय समुदाय भनि राज्यको साथै अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय संगठन र व्यक्तिसमेतलाई समेटेको छ । साथसाथै सामान्य सिद्धान्तलाई पनि समावेश गरेकोले संक्षेपमा यसलाई अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको एउटा गतिशिल बढी स्पष्ट र छरितो परिभाषा मान्न सकिन्छ । यस सम्बन्धमा Oxford DICTIONARY OF LAW मा उल्लेख छ । The system of law regulating the interrelationship of sovereign states and their rights and duties with regard to one another. In addition, certain international organizations, companies and sometimes individuals may have rights or duties under international law. International law deals with such matters as the formation and recognition of states, acquisition of territory, war, the law of sea and of space, treaties, treatment of aliens, human rights, international crimes, and international judicial settlement of disputes.”² अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून दुई प्रकारका हुन्छन्:- १) सार्वजनिक अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून (Public International Law) २) व्यक्तिगत अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून (Private International Law) साधारणतया: सार्वजनिक अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई मात्र “अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून” भन्ने गरिन्छ । व्यक्तिगत अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून अन्तर्गतको विषय विदेशी अदालतमा उठाइन्छ । जस्तै : कालिगण्डकीको ठेक्का प्रकरण सम्बन्धि विवाद नेपालमा नउठाइ ठेकेदारको आफ्नै देशको अदालतमा उठाएर क्षतिपूर्तिको दावि गरिएको थियो । अर्थात् व्यक्तिगत अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून राज्य राज्य बिचको व्यवहारसँग सम्बन्धित हुँदैन । वास्तवमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय

1 Charles G. Fenwick, International Law, Third Indian Reprint, 1971, page 31

2 Oxford DICTIONARY OF LAW seventh edition 2009 page 293

कानून राज्य, अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय संगठन र विशेष स्थितिमा व्यक्तिको आचरण र पारस्परिक सम्बन्धलाई सञ्चालित गर्ने नियमहरू हुन् । यसरी अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय समुदायको सदस्यको आचरणसँग सम्बन्धित छ । यस अर्थमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून भनेको अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय समुदायको सदस्यहरूलाई संयमित, अनुशासित, मर्यादित, गतिशिल र व्यवस्थित तुल्याउनको लागि लागू गरिने नियमहरू हुन् ।

अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको स्रोतहरू (Sources of International Law)

अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको स्रोतको तात्पर्य ती वास्तविक सामग्रीहरूसँग छ, जुन अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय विधिशास्त्री अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय भ्रगडा तथा विवादको नियम निर्मित गर्नको लागि प्रयोग गर्दछ । अर्थात अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको स्रोतहरूको तात्पर्य ती तरीका तथा प्रक्रियाहरूसँग छ, जसद्वारा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको जन्म हुन्छ । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय अदालतको विधानमा निम्नलिखित ४ स्रोतहरूको उल्लेख गरिएको छ । घ

- १) अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय महासन्धिहरू (International Conventions)
- २) अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय प्रचलनहरू (International customs)
- ३) सभ्य राष्ट्रहरूद्वारा स्वीकृत विधिको सामान्य नियम (The general principles of law recognized by civilized nations)
- ४) न्यायिक निर्णय तथा उच्च योग्यता प्राप्त टिप्पणीकारको कृतिहरू (Judicial decisions and the teaching of the most highly qualified publicists)

यस बाहेक अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनका अन्य स्रोतहरू पनि छन् । जस्तै :- राज्यहरूको व्यवहार पनि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको अर्को स्रोत हो । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा समयको गतिसँगै गतिशिलता र विभिन्न परिवर्तनसँगै परिवर्तनशिलताको क्षमता रहेको हुन्छ । अहिले विश्वको जल्दोबल्दो समस्या भनेको पर्यावरणको समस्या हो । नयिदवा ध्वक्प्लन विश्वका भविष्यको लागि नै चुनौतिपूर्ण छ । Covid-19 विश्वमा नयाँ रोगको रूपमा देखा परेको छ । यस्तो रोग कुनै एउटा राज्यको प्रयासले नियन्त्रण हुन सक्दैन । यस्तो परिस्थितिमा संसारलाई नै प्रभाव पर्ने सबै विषयहरू अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको क्षेत्र (Scope) को रूपमा विस्तार हुँदैछ । वास्तवमा बुद्धि, विवेक, समझदारी, सहमति र सकारात्मक सोच अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको प्रकृति (Nature) हो । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले राज्यको सीमा बाहिरको क्षेत्र, समुद्र, अन्तरिक्ष, वातावरण र वायुमण्डल समेतलाई समेटेछ । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून अन्तर्गत राज्यहरू शासक र शासित बन्नुपर्ने अवस्था आउँदैन । यसरी सबै समान हुनु अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको स्वभाव हो ।

अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई वास्तविक अर्थमा कानूनको रूपमा स्वीकार नगर्ने समूह :-

प्युफेन्डोर्फ (Pufendorf), जेथ्रो ब्राउन (Jethro Brown), हब्स ९ज्यददभक०, अस्टिन (Austin), हल्याण्ड (Holland) आदि विधिशास्त्रीहरूले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई वास्तविक अर्थमा कानून मानेका छैनन् । हल्याण्ड (Holland) ले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई विधिशास्त्रको निर्लुप्त बिन्दु (Vanishing point of Jurisprudence) घोषित गरेका छन् । अस्टिनले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई नैतिक शक्तिको आचरणका रूपमा मात्र लिन्छन् । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई वास्तविक अर्थमा कानून नमान्नेहरू आफ्नो पक्षमा विभिन्न तर्कहरू तथा आधारहरू दिन्छन् । जो यसप्रकारका छन् :-

- १) राष्ट्रिय कानून (Municipal Law) मा सरकारको सशक्त उपस्थिति हुने भएकोले सम्बन्धित कानून प्रभावकारी ढङ्गबाट लागू हुन्छ । तर अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा सशक्त सरकारको उपस्थित नहुने भएकोले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको मूल स्रोत सन्धिको उल्लंघन हुन गएमा सन्धिलाई लागू गराउन सक्ने कुनै निकाय अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा देखिँन । रू को विभिन्न निकायहरूको शक्ति र अधिकार निकै सीमित छ ।

२) राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा अन्तर्गत सर्वोच्च अदालतले ज्यादै प्रभावकारी भूमिका खेल्न सक्दछ । तर अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय

3 Article 38 of STATUTE of the INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

कानून अन्तर्गत अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय अदालतले त्यस किसिमको भूमिका खेल्न सक्ने स्थिति छैन । अर्थात् अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको पालना मूलतः राज्यहरूको इच्छामा भर पर्नुको साथै अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय अदालतको अधिकार क्षेत्र पनि प्रभावकारी छैन । यसरी नै अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय अदालतको फैसला लागू नभएको अवस्थामा के गर्ने ? भन्ने सम्बन्धमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून त्यति स्पष्ट छैन ।

- ३) राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा प्रभावकारी व्यवस्थापिका हुन्छ । तर अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा यस्तो अवस्था हुदैन । अर्थात् विश्वका सबै राज्यहरूको लागि बाध्यात्मक कानून बनाउन सक्ने व्यवस्थापिका अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा पाइदैन ।
- ४) राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा सर्वसाधारणदेखि राज्य प्रमुखसम्म कानूनको पालना गर्न बाध्य पार्न सक्ने कार्यपालिका, व्यवस्थापिका र न्यायपालिका रहेको हुन्छन् । तर अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून अन्तर्गत यस्तो बाध्यात्मक शक्ति भएको निकाय पाइदैन ।
- ५) केही विधिशास्त्रीहरूले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई समकक्ष कानून (Quasi Law) मान्छन् । किनकी यसमा सामान्य विधि प्रणालीको महत्वपूर्ण निकाय व्यवस्थापिका आदिको अभाव छ ।
- ६) अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा अनुशास्ती (sanction) को कमी भएकोले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय क्षेत्रमा यसको पटक पटक उल्लंघन भई रहेको प्रत्यक्ष भेटिन्छ ।

यस बाहेक राज्यहरूमा विद्यमान उग्रराष्ट्रवाद अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको कमजोरीको रूपमा रहेको छ । राज्यहरूको आन्तरिक मामलामा हस्तक्षेप गर्न संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघको बडा-पत्रले निषेध गरेको छ । वास्तवमा यो व्यवस्था अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको लागि प्रतिकूलता नै हो । र अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून जति स्पष्ट र निश्चित हुनु पर्दथ्यो, त्यति छैन । साथै यस सन्दर्भमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको उल्लंघन हुँदा संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघ केही गर्न सक्ने अवस्थामा छैन । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय शिष्टाचार राज्यहरू आफ्नो सुविधा वा शिष्टाचारलाई दृष्टिगत गरी मान्ने गर्दछन् ।

अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई वास्तविक अर्थमा कानूनको रूपमा स्वीकार गर्ने समूह :-

व्यापक दृष्टिकोणबाट हेर्दा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई केवल नैतिकताको नियम वा शिष्टाचारको नियम मात्र भन्न मिल्दैन । नैतिकताको नियम वा शिष्टाचारको नियम राज्यहरूको लागि बन्धनकारी हुँदैन । तर अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको नियमहरू कतिपय सन्दर्भमा राज्यहरूको लागि बन्धनकारी हुन्छन् । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनका नियमहरूको उल्लंघन भएमा उल्लंघनकारी राज्य र पिडित राज्य बीच वैधानिक अधिकार तथा दायित्व सृजना हुन्छ । राज्यहरूले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको पालन गर्नु आफ्नो नैतिक उत्तरदायित्व मानेको हुनाले नै अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको पालना गर्दछन् भन्ने तर्क पनि दिइन्छ । तर अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको अस्तित्वको लागि नैतिक उत्तरदायित्व आवश्यक हुँदैन । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून अन्तर्गत आफ्नो दावि प्रस्तुत गर्दा राज्यहरूले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको नियमहरूलाई आधार बनाएका हुन्छन्, नैतिकताको नियमलाई आधार बनाउँदैनन् । यस सम्बन्धमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून पूर्ण वैधानिकतामा आधारित भएकोले यसलाई समकक्ष कानून (Quasi Law) भन्न मिल्दैन ।

उल्लेखित बुँदाहरू बाहेक अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई कानून हो भन्ने पक्षमा अन्य महत्वपूर्ण आधारहरू पनि छन् । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई वास्तविक अर्थमा कानून मान्ने विधिशास्त्रीहरूमा स्टार्क (Starke), ओपनह्याम (Oppenheim), ब्रोइरली (Brierly), हार्ट (Hart), सर हेनरी मेन (Sir Henry Maine) र पोलक (Pollock) आदि छन् । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून, कानून हो भन्ने पक्षमा निम्नलिखित बुँदाहरू उल्लेखनिय छन् :-

- १) अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा राष्ट्रिय कानूनको जस्तो सरकार नभए पनि ग्लोबल को सुरक्षा परिषद्, महासचिव, महासभा तथा अन्य अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय संगठनहरूको माध्यमबाट अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई लागू गर्न सकिने अवस्था छ । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको पालना नभएमा वा उल्लंघन भएमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय शान्ति र सुरक्षा राख्न ग्लोबल को बडा-पत्रको अनुसार सुरक्षा परिषद्ले कारवाही गर्न सक्ने अवस्था छ । संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघको बडा-

पत्र (CHARTER of THE UNITED NATIONS) को धारा ४२ मा के स्पष्ट व्यवस्था छ भने 'सुरक्षा परिषद्का विचारमा धारा ४१ मा उल्लिखित उपाय अपर्याप्त हुने वा अपर्याप्त प्रमाणित भएमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय शान्तिसुरक्षा कायम गर्न आवश्यक परेमा हवाई, समुद्र या स्थल, शक्तिको समेत प्रयोग गर्न सक्नेछ । यस्ता कारवाहीहरूमा संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघका सदस्य राष्ट्रहरूको हवाई, सामुद्रिक वा स्थलशक्तिद्वारा सैनिक प्रदर्शन, नाकाबन्दी तथा अन्य कारवाही सामेल गरिने छन् ।' (Should the Security Council consider that measures provided for in Article 41 would be inadequate or have proved to be inadequate, it may take such action by air, sea, or land forces as may be necessary to maintain or restore international peace and security. Such action may include demonstrations, blockade and other operations by air, sea, or land forces of Members of the United Nations.)⁴

२) अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय अदालतको अधिकार क्षेत्र राज्यको सर्वोच्च अदालतको जस्तो हुन नसके पनि यसको फैसला स्वीकार गर्न राज्यलाई बाध्य गर्न सकिने वैधानिक व्यवस्था छ । यसको फैसला स्वीकार नगर्ने पक्ष माथि सुरक्षा परिषद्ले कारवाही गर्न सक्ने अवस्था ग्ल को बडा-पत्रमा छ । यस सम्बन्धमा संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघको बडा-पत्रको धारा ९४ (१) (२) मा उल्लेख छ :- 'संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघको प्रत्येक सदस्य आफू पक्ष भएको जुनसुकै विवादमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय न्यायालयको निर्णय पालन गर्ने प्रतिज्ञा गर्दछन् । विवादको कुनै पक्षले न्यायालयले गरेको निर्णय बमोजिम आफूले बहन गर्नुपर्ने दायित्व पूरा नगरेको खण्डमा अर्को पक्षले सुरक्षा परिषद् समक्ष उजुरी गर्न सक्नेछ र सुरक्षा परिषद्ले उपयुक्त ठहर्‍याएमा निर्णय कार्यान्वित गर्न उठाइने उपायहरूबारे सिफारिस वा निर्णय गर्न सक्नेछ ।' (Each Member of the United Nations undertakes to comply with the decision of the International Court of Justice in any case to which it is a party. If any party to a case fails to perform the obligations incumbent upon it under a judgment rendered by the Court, the other party may have recourse to the Security Council, which may, if it deems necessary, make recommendations or decide upon measures to be taken to give effect to the judgment.)⁵

३) अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा जस्तै छुट्टै व्यवस्थापिका जस्तो अंग नभए पनि कानून निर्माण गर्ने निश्चित व्यवस्था रहेको हुन्छ । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून अन्तर्गत कानूनका नियमहरू छन्, ती नियमहरू मध्य अधिकांश नियमहरू निश्चित वैधानिक प्रक्रियाद्वारा सन्धिको आधारमा बन्दछन् ।

४) अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको मुख्य विषय रहेको राज्यहरूले पनि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई वास्तविक कानून मानेको देखिन्छ । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको समय समयमा उल्लंघन गरिदा गरिदै तुलनात्मकरूपमा यसको पालना भएको अवस्थाहरू धेरै छन् । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको उल्लंघन भएकै आधारमा मात्र यसको वैधानिक अस्तित्वलाई चुनौती दिन मिल्दैन । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको उल्लंघन हुँदा पनि उल्लंघन गर्ने राज्यले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको अस्तित्वलाई अस्वीकार गर्दैनन् । बरु आफूले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून अनुसार नै आचरण गरेको साबित गर्ने प्रयोग गर्दछन् ।

५) अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय सम्मेलनहरूमा पनि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई वास्तविक अर्थमा कानून मानिएको छ ।

६) ग्व्, ग् जस्ता राज्यहरूले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई आफ्नो कानूनको भाग मान्दछन् । यस सन्दर्भमा अमेरिकाको संविधानको आर्टिकल १ सेक्सन ८ मा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून अर्थात् विध वा ल्वतप्यलक प्रष्ट रूपमा उल्लेख छ ।ट यसरी नै नेपालको संविधानको धारा ५१ (ड) (१) मा के स्पष्ट उल्लेख छ भने

4 Article 42 of CHARTER OF UNITED NATIONS

5 Article 94 of CHARTER OF UNITED NATIONS

6 Article 1, Section 8 of THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF

‘नेपालको सार्वभौमसत्ता, भौगोलिक अखण्डता, स्वाधिनता र राष्ट्रिय हितको रक्षा गर्न क्रियाशील रहँदै संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघको बडा-पत्र, असंलग्नता, पञ्चशीलको सिद्धान्त, अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून र विश्वशान्तिको मान्यताका आधारमा राष्ट्रको सर्वोपरि हितलाई ध्यानमा राखी स्वतन्त्र परराष्ट्र नीति सञ्चालन गर्ने,’^७

७) कानून सम्बन्धी अस्टिनको अवधारणालाई सही मान्न सकिदैन । किनभने कानूनलाई सार्वभौम शासकबाट दिइने आदेशको रूपमा मात्र सीमित गर्न मिल्दैन । यदि अस्टिनको भनाईलाई मान्य हो भने ग् को सामान्य कानून (Common Law) पनि कानून हुन सक्दैन । साथै राज्य राज्य बिच हुने कतिपय सन्धिहरु बाध्यात्मक प्रकृतिका हुन्छन् ।

८) ग्ल र अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून अनुसार कार्यरत अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय संगठनहरु अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको वास्तविक वैज्ञानिकतामा आधारित रहेर पूर्ण प्राकृतिक वैधानिकतामा आधारित रहेर पूर्ण वैधानिक स्वरुप पाएका छन् ।

९) अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको सन्दर्भमा दुई पक्ष बिच विवाद परेमा कुनै पनि पक्षले आफ्नो भनाइलाई पुष्टि गर्न सन्धिहरु, वैधानिक तर्कहरु, न्यायिक निर्णयहरु र अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय परम्पराहरुको सहारा लिन्छन् । उनीहरुले नैतिक तथा चारित्रिक तर्क प्रस्तुत गर्दैनन् । यसले पनि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको वैधतालाई थप पुष्टि गर्दछ ।

वास्तवमा परिवर्तनको साथ स्थायित्व, विभिन्नताको साथ एकता, न्यायको साथ शान्ति, राष्ट्रिय स्वतन्त्रताका साथ अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून आदि कठिन समन्वयहरु अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले गर्नु परेको हुन्छ । मुख्यतया : यो क्विन्सी राइट (Quincy Wright) को अवधारणा हो । यति हुँदा पनि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको निरन्तर विकास भइ रहेको छ । यसै कारण यसको अस्तित्व कायम छ । वास्तवमा राज्यहरुको अन्तरनिर्भरता, अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय जगतको समस्याहरु, बढ्दो जटिलता, अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय समुदाय सम्बन्धी धारणाको विकास आदि कारणले गर्दा राज्यहरुको आफ्नो सार्वभौम सत्ताको केही अंश अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको पक्षमा छोडेको हुनाले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून राज्यहरुको लागि बाध्यात्मक बन्न पुगेको छ । यसरी आफ्नो सम्पूर्ण विशेषताहरु सहित अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून राष्ट्रिय कानूनको तुलनामा कमजोर हुँदा हुँदै पनि स्वयम्मा एक यथार्थ र वास्तविक कानून हो । संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघको बडा-पत्र (UN Charter) अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको संविधानको रूपमा रहेको छ ।

विश्व-शान्ति, विश्व-व्यवस्थालाई कायम गर्नको लागि वर्तमान सन्दर्भमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको महत्व (Significance) रहेको छ । अर्थात पृथ्वीको अस्तित्वको लागि र सम्पूर्ण मानव सभ्यताको सुरक्षाको लागि विश्वमा आणविक युद्ध (Nuclear war) हुन नदिन, अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय राजनीतिमा राज्य-राज्यबिच हुने स्वभाविक शक्ति संघर्षलाई न्यून गर्न, नचाहँदा नचाहँदै राज्य-राज्यबिच युद्ध भएको खण्डमा युद्धलाई पनि न्यायपूर्ण ढंगबाट सञ्चालन गर्न र विश्व सरकार (World Government) को आवश्यकता पुरा गर्न अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले ठोस तथा प्रभावकारी भूमिका खेल्न सक्दछ । यस बाहेक अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय राजनीतिमा मत्स्य न्यायबाट हुने अराजकताको अवस्थालाई सन्तुलित र व्यवस्थित बनाउन, आतङ्कवादलाई उचित तरिकाबाट नियन्त्रण गर्दै विश्वमा कानून र व्यवस्था कायम राख्न र विश्व स्तरमा आर्थिक क्रियाकलाप सञ्चालन गर्न अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले प्रभावकारी भूमिका खेल्न सक्दछ ।

नयाँ अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले एउटा शक्तिशाली राज्यले अर्को कमजोर राज्यको आन्तरिक मामलामा हस्तक्षेप गर्दै उक्त राज्यसँग असमान सन्धि गर्ने अथवा त्यसलाई आफ्नो उपनिवेश बनाउने कार्यलाई पूर्णतया अवैध मानेको छ । यद्यपि पुरानो अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले शक्तिशाली राज्यहरुको सम्बन्धित कार्यहरुलाई अवैध मानेको थिएन । यसरी अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा आएको परिवर्तन नै अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको नयाँ प्रवृत्ति ९लभध

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त्वभलम० हो । यसरी नै पुरानो अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले राज्यलाई मात्र आफ्नो विषय बनाएको थियो भने नयाँ अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले राज्य, अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय संघसंस्था र विशेष स्थितिमा व्यक्तिलाई पनि आफ्नो विषय बनाएको छ । यसरी नै नयाँ अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले विविध विषय वस्तुलाई समेट्दै आफ्नो क्षेत्र विस्तार गरेको छ । पुरानो अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा राज्यको सहमतिले प्रमुखता पाउँदथ्यो । स्रोतको रूपमा परम्परा तथा प्रथा प्रचलित थियो । यद्यपि नयाँ अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले राज्यको सहमतिलाई मात्र महत्व दिँदैन । आवश्यक पत्रो भने बहिष्कार, नाकाबन्दी तथा सेनाको प्रयोग जस्ता विकल्पहरू अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा विद्यमान छन् । साथै नयाँ अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको प्रमुख स्रोतको रूपमा सन्धि, सम्झौताहरू रहेका छन् । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनका बाध्यकारी प्रावधानहरूलाई पनि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको नयाँ प्रवृत्ति मान्न सकिन्छ । साथै विश्वको विभिन्न क्षेत्रमा रहेका राज्यहरूले आफ्नो क्षेत्रिय परिस्थिति अनुसार नयाँ क्षेत्रिय कानूनको निर्माण र विकास गरेका छन्, जसलाई नयाँ अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले आफ्नो अंगको रूपमा स्वीकार गरेको देखिन्छ । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय विकास नभएसम्म स्थायी शान्ति हुन सक्दैन भन्ने अवधारणालाई अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले पनि आत्मसात गरेको पाईन्छ, जसअनुसार क्षेड, ग्लभअभा जस्ता निकायहरूबाट विश्वस्तरमा गरिवी निर्मूल गर्ने प्रयास गरिएको छ । यसमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले प्रत्यक्ष तथा अप्रत्यक्षरूपमा प्रभावकारी भूमिका निर्वाह गरिरहेको छ ।

विभिन्न विकास तथा परिमार्जनको बाबजुद अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा पनि विभिन्न कमजोरीहरू छन् । जस्तै :- अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको उल्लंघन हुन नदिन र अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई सही ढङ्गबाट कार्यान्वयन गर्न संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघको आफ्नै सेना हुने हो भने धेरै उपयुक्त हुने थियो । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा संहिताकारण ९ऋयमषष्ठअवतष्यल० ले पूर्णता पाउन सकेको छैन । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई अभै स्पष्ट र निश्चित गर्नको लागि संहिताकरणको आवश्यकता छ । कुनै पनि राज्यको कानूनमा शक्तिको प्रयोगलाई वैध र अवैध भनि छुट्टाइएको हुन्छ । अवैध शक्तिको प्रयोगलाई प्रतिबन्धित गरेको हुन्छ । यसरी नै अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा पनि अवैधरूपमा शक्तिको प्रयोग गरिएको युद्धलाई प्रतिबन्धित गरिनु पर्छ, जुन युद्ध आत्मरक्षाको नाममा अथवा राष्ट्रिय स्वार्थलाई संरक्षण गर्ने नाममा पनि भईरहेको हुन सक्छ । यसको अर्थ न्यायोचित युद्धलाई पनि प्रतिबन्धित गरिनु पर्छ भन्ने होइन । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय अदालतको अनिवार्य अधिकार क्षेत्र नहुनु अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको प्रभावकारिताको लागि एउटा प्रमुख प्रश्न-चिन्ह हो । यदि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय अदालतको अनिवार्य अधिकार क्षेत्र विस्तार भएको खण्डमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई उल्लंघन गर्ने राज्यले पूर्ण प्रभावकारी रूपमा सजाय पाउने स्थिति बन्न सक्छ, जसको विश्व शान्ति र सुरक्षामा सकारात्मक योगदान हुन सक्छ । विश्वका राज्य राज्यहरू बिच विश्व बन्धुत्वको भावना भएमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको लागि पनि थप सकारात्मक उर्जा प्राप्त हुन सक्छ ।

उल्लेखित बुँदाहरू अनुसार हालको अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून नभई सकेकोले व्यावहारिकतामा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई प्रभावकारी ढंगबाट लागू गर्न सक्ने शक्ति नभएकोले यसको उल्लंघन कैयौँ पटक भएको देखिन्छ । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय राजनीतिको सन्दर्भमा कमजोर राज्यमाथि शक्तिशाली राज्यहरूले अन्यायपूर्ण हस्तक्षेप गरेको विभिन्न उदाहरणहरू पाईन्छन् । साथै महाशक्ति राज्य (Super power) तथा शक्तिशाली राज्यहरूले अनावश्यकरूपमा सन्धिको शर्तहरू उल्लंघन गर्ने देखि लिएर आक्रमणसम्म पनि गर्ने गरेको पाईन्छ । अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय समुदाय (International community) ले त्यसमा केही गर्न सक्ने अवस्था नै हुँदैन । संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघको स्थापना भएपछि पनि महाशक्ति राज्यहरू र शक्तिशाली राज्यहरूले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको कैयौँ पटक खुलमखुल्ला उल्लंघन गरेको कैयौँ उदाहरणहरू छन् । यस अर्थमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई खेलौना बनाउँदै उपहास गरिएको छ । इराक, अफगानिस्तान, सिरिया, भियतनाम, ग्रेनेडा जस्ता राज्यहरू अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून विपरित महाशक्ति तथा शक्तिशाली राज्यहरूको खेल मैदान जस्तै बन्न पुगे । महाशक्ति (Super Power) राज्य तथा शक्तिशाली राज्यहरू (Powerful State) मा रहेको मूलतः विद्यमान हेपाहा स्वभावले अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून पनि पटक पटक

पनि उल्लंघन भई ज्यादै कमजोर रुपमा रहेको छ । फेरि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको उल्लंघन गर्ने राज्यलाई सजाय दिन खोज्दा त्यसलाई अर्को शक्तिशाली राज्यले समर्थन गरि दिदाँ अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा नै प्रश्न-चिन्ह लागेको छ । यथार्थमा यस्तो प्रवृत्ति अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय राजनीतिको नकारात्मक पाटो हो । साथै संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ अन्तर्गत पाँच राष्ट्रहरूलाई प्राप्त विशेषाधिकार (veto) पनि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई कमजोर बनाउने आधारहरू हुन् । व्यवहारिकरुपमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको स्थितिलाई हेर्दा के अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको पनि अस्तित्व छ र ? अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून पनि कानून हो र ? भन्ने स्वभाविक प्रश्नहरू श्रृजना हुन्छन् ।

अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको यी कमी कमजोरीको बाबजुद पनि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले सुल्झाएका कैयौँ अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय विवादहरू पनि छन् । जस्तै :- सन् १९६२ मा तत्कालीन सोभियत संघको परमाणु हतियार क्युवाको अनुरोधमा तैनाथ गर्ने सम्बन्धमा अमेरिका र सोभियत संघ बिच संभावित आणविक युद्ध (Nuclear war) अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको माध्यमद्वारा रू को प्रयासले गर्दा सुल्झिएको थियो । सन् १९५६ मा इजिप्टले स्वेज नहरलाई राष्ट्रिकरण गरेपछि उक्त विषयलाई लिएर इजिप्टमाथि भएको आक्रमण पछि उत्पन्न समस्यालाई रू ले शान्तिपूर्ण समाधान गर्न सक्षम भएको थियो । त्यस्तै इन्डोनेसियाबाट २३ वर्ष सम्म स्वतन्त्रताको लागी संघर्ष गरेपछि पूर्वी टिमोर संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघको मध्यस्थतामा सन् १९९९ को जनमत संग्रहबाट अलग्गै राज्य बनेको थियो । नेपालको शान्ति प्रक्रियामा समेत UN को महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका थियो । यस्ता धेरै उदाहरणहरू छन् । संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघका यी सम्पूर्ण कार्यहरूमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको नै पृष्ठभूमि रहेको छ । साथै विश्वका कमजोर देखि ज्यादै शक्तिशाली राज्य पनि न्यायको लागि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय अदालतमा पुगेका छन् । जस्तै : सन् १९७९ मा अमेरिकन दुतावास तथा वाणिज्य दुतावासमा ६२ जना कर्मचारीहरूलाई तेहरानमा बन्धक बनाईए पछि अमेरिकाले इरान विरुद्ध अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय अदालतमा मुद्दा दायर गरेको थियो । अदालतले अमेरिकनको पक्षमा निर्णय दियो । यद्यपि यो विवाद जनवरी २०, १९८१ मा मात्र समाधान भयो । यसरी नै कर्प्यु च्यानल विवाद (Corfu Channel Case, 1943), नोट्टेबोम विवाद (Nottebohm Case 1955), हाया दे ला तोर्रे विवाद (Haya de la torre case 1951) जस्ता मुद्दाहरू अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय अदालतले निर्णय गरेका चर्चित मुद्दाहरू हुन् । र विश्व शान्ति सुरक्षाकासन्दर्भमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनले समाधान गरेका जटिल समस्याहरूलाई कम महत्वपूर्ण मान्न सकिदैन । वास्तवमा उल्लंघनको कुरा गर्ने हो भने राष्ट्रिय कानूनको पनि उल्लंघन भई रहेको हुन्छ । एउटै व्यक्तिले विभिन्न अपराध गरेर जेलमा पटक पटक जीवन बिताई रहेको हुन्छ । अर्थात् एक प्रकारले उसको सम्पूर्ण जीवन नै जेलमा बितेको हुन सक्छ । यसरी नै कतिपय सन्दर्भमा राष्ट्रिय कानून पनि अपराधी नै पत्ता लगाउन नसकेर अति असहाय पनि हुन सक्छ । नेपालको सन्दर्भमा मदन भण्डारी र जीवनाथ आश्रितको मृत्यु कसरी भयो ? हत्याको हो ? भन्ने सम्बन्धमा स्पष्ट र प्रमाणित कुरा आउन सकेको छैन । साधन र स्रोतले सम्पन्न अमेरिकामा त्यहाँको राष्ट्रपति केनेडीको हत्यारा अहिलेसम्म पत्ता लाग्ने सकेको छैन । तुलनात्मक रुपमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानून भन्दा राष्ट्रिय कानून बलियो भएर पनि उल्लेखित अवस्था राष्ट्रिय कानूनमा विद्यमान हुन्छ भने अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनलाई केवल उल्लंघन भई रहेको आधारमा मात्र कानून होइन भन्ने तर्क गर्नु कदापि उपयुक्त हुनै सक्दैन । फेरि जतिसुकै शक्तिशाली राज्यले इतिहासबाट पनि पाठ सिक्नु पर्ने देखिन्छ । जस्तै: तत्कालीन सोभियत संघले अफगानिस्थान र अमेरिकाले भियतनामबाट शिक्षा लिनु पर्ने अवस्था थियो ।

छपन्न हजार भन्दा बढी अमेरिकनहरूको मृत्यु भियतनाम युद्धमा भएको थियो । १८ यसरी नै अफगानिस्थानमा पन्ध्र हजार सोभियत सेनाको मृत्यु भएको थियो । १९ यति भएर पनि युद्धको दृष्टिकोणले ती राज्यहरूले सफलता प्राप्त गर्न सकेनन् । यसबाहेक जतिसुकै शक्तिशाली राज्यहरूलाई पनि विभिन्न घटनाहरूमा भित्रिभित्रै अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको बढी आवश्यकता महशुस हुन सक्दछ । यथार्थ के हो भने अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय शान्ति,

सुरक्षा र सद्भावको लागि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको अहिले जति आवश्यकता महसुस गरिएको छ, कहिले पनि त्यति आवश्यकता महसुस गरिएको थिएन ।

अतः अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको प्रभावकारितामा नै विश्वले विश्व सरकारको आभाष पाउन सक्दछ । साथै आणविक युद्ध नभई पृथ्वी र मानव सभ्यताको उचित संरक्षण हुन सक्दछ । तेस्रो विश्व युद्धको सम्भावना रहने छैन । यदि तेस्रो विश्वयुद्ध भयो भने के हुन्छ ? भन्ने सम्बन्धमा विश्वप्रसिद्ध वैज्ञानिक अल्बर्ट आइन्स्टाइनले भनेका थिए “म जान्दिनँ तेस्रो विश्वयुद्ध कस्ता हतियारहरुले लडिने छ, तर म तपाईंलाई विश्वास दिलाउन चाहन्छु कि चौथो विश्वयुद्ध लठी र ढुङ्गाले लडिने छ ।” (I do not know the weapons with which world war third will be fought, but I can assure you that world war fourth will be fought with sticks and stones.)

वास्तवमा यो भनाइमा तेस्रो विश्वयुद्धको विभत्स तस्वीर छ । यसैबाट पनि तेस्रो विश्वयुद्धको परिणामको परिकल्पना गर्न सकिन्छ । तर मानिस र पृथ्वीको अस्तित्वको प्रश्न भएकोले तेस्रो विश्व युद्ध नहुन पनि सक्छ । सन् १९८३ मा आणविक युद्धको पृष्ठभूमिमा बनेको The Day After टि.भी.मुभी बनेर प्रदर्शित भयो । यसमा अमेरिकामाथि के आरोप लाग्यो भने उसले आणविक युद्धलाई सीमित युद्धमा फेर्ने प्रयास गर्दैछ । र यो अमेरिकाको धम्की पनि हो । यद्यपि अमेरिकाका राष्ट्रपति केनेडी (Kennedy) ले भनेका थिए ‘६० मिनेटभन्दा कम अवधिको पूर्ण आणविक युद्धको विनिमय भयो भने तीस करोड अमेरिकी, युरोपेली र रसियनहरु र अन्यत्रका असंख्य जनसमुदाय सखाप हुनेछन् ।’ (A full scale nuclear scale nuclear exchange, lasting less than sixty minutes could wipe out more than 300 million Americans, Europeans and Russians, as well as untold number elsewhere.)

वास्तवमा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय कानूनको प्रभावकारितामा नै कमजोर, शक्तिशाली र ज्यादै शक्तिशालीले पनि धन, जन र प्रतिष्ठा गुमाउनु पर्ने अवस्था आउँदैन । विश्वका सम्पूर्ण राज्यहरु एउटै परिवार जस्तै मिलेर बस्ने छन् । Environment Pollution, Global Warming जस्ता समस्याहरु समाधानको बिन्दुमा पुग्नेछ । प्रकृतिले पनि पहिलेको स्वच्छ स्वरूप लिनेछिन् । यथार्थमा पृथ्वी नै स्वर्ग जस्तै हुनेछ । यस सन्दर्भमा म जोन लेननको विश्व प्रसिद्ध गीत Imagine को पंक्तिहरु 10 सम्भन्धु ।

Imagine there's no heaven
It's easy if you try
Above us only sky
Imagine all the people
Living for today... ..
Imagine there's no countries
.....
And the world will be be as one

‘चुनौती’ कथामा नारीवादी चिन्तन

सुमित्रादेवी तामाङ

लेख सार

युगौदेखि समाजमा एकछत्र रूपमा एकाधिकार कायम गरी नारीको स्थान समेत पुरुषले निर्धारण गर्ने पुरुषकेन्द्री मूल्य र मान्यताको विरोध गर्दै नारी कह, हित र समानताको आवाज उठाउने नारीकेन्द्री पक्षधरता नारीवाद हो । राजनीति र साहित्य दुवै क्षेत्रमा उत्तिकै प्रभाव पार्न सफल यस वादले नारीहरूको सामाजिक, आर्थिक तथा सांस्कृतिक स्वतन्त्रता तथा समानताका पक्षमा आवाज उठाउँदै आएको पाइन्छ भने पछिल्लो समय समालोचनाको क्षेत्रमा यसले छुट्टै स्थान बनाएको छ । जसले नारीलाई प्रमुख केन्द्रमा राखेर साहित्यको अध्ययन गर्दछ भने पितृसत्तात्मक धारणा र साहित्यको पुरुषपरक व्याख्याप्रति प्रश्नचिह्न खडा गर्दै नारीहरू स्वयम् जीवनबारे के अनुभव गर्छन् भन्ने कुरालाई विशेष महत्त्व दिने गर्दछ । यिनै मान्यतालाई सैद्धान्तिक आधार बनाई तयार पारिएको यस लेखमा ‘चुनौती’ कथामा उठाइएको पितृसत्तात्मक परम्परित सँचले नारी जातिमाथि गर्दै आएको अन्यायविरुद्ध विद्रोही चेतनाको भावलाई प्रमुख विषय बनाइएको छ । परम्परादेखि नारीलाई केवल पुरुषको भोग्या र परिचारिकाको रूपमा मात्रै लिँदै सोही अनुरूपको व्यवहार उसप्रति गरिँदै आइरहेको भए पनि वर्तमान समय त्यस्तो नरहेको र नारीहरू पनि केही सचेत र सबल बन्दै आइरहेको कारण ऊ स्वनिर्णय गर्न सक्ने अवस्थामा पुगिसकेको कुरालाई यस कथामा मुख्य विचार बनाइएको छ भने उक्त विचार कथामा कसरी अभिव्यक्त भएको छ कुरालाई मुख्य समस्याको रूपमा लिई त्यसको विश्लेषण गर्नुलाई मुख्य उद्देश्य बनाइएको छ । प्रस्तुत लेख नारीवादी समालोचना सिद्धान्तमा आधारित भई तयार पारिएकाले नारीवाद तथा नारीवादी समालोचना सम्बन्धी ज्ञान चाहने पाठकका लागि उपयोगी हुने पनि ठानिएको छ । लेख तयार पार्नका लागि मुख्य सामग्रीको रूपमा मूल कथालाई लिइएको छ भने अन्य सामग्रीको रूपमा नारीवादसम्बन्धी तयार पारिएका विभिन्न पुस्तक तथा समालोचनात्मक लेखको उपयोग गरिएको छ । गुणात्मक विधि अन्तर्गत व्याख्यात्मक, विश्लेषणात्मक र समीक्षात्मक विधिद्वारा पाठविश्लेषण गरिएको प्रस्तुत लेखमा ‘चुनौती’ कथामा प्रतरोधी नारीवादी चेतना रहेको निष्कर्ष निकालिएको छ ।

शब्दावली: अस्तित्ववादी, एकाधिकार, नारीकेन्द्री, पितृसत्ता, पुरुषकेन्द्री, मनोविश्लेषणवादी

१. अध्ययनको पृष्ठभूमि

‘चुनौती’ भागीरथी श्रेष्ठ (वि.सं.२००५) द्वारा लेखिएको नारीवादी चेतनाले युक्त कथा हो । नारी संवेदनालाई मुख्य केन्द्र बनाएर कथा लेख्ने श्रेष्ठका कथामा सामाजिक यथार्थ लगायत मनोविश्लेषणात्मक सौन्दर्य चेतना तथा अस्तित्ववाद र मानवतावाद सम्बन्धी चेतनालाई समेटिएको हुन्छ । उनका ‘क्रमशः’ (२०४३), ‘मोहदश’ (२०४४), ‘विभ्रम’ (२०४९), ‘रङ्गीन पोखरी’ (२०५०) तथा ‘भूमिगत’ (२०६२) जस्ता कथासङ्ग्रहहरू प्रकाशित छन् । ‘चुनौती’ कथा ‘भूमिगत’ कथासङ्ग्रहमा सङ्गृहीत छ । जसमा नेपाली समाजमा नारीलाई हेर्ने परम्परित दृष्टिकोण र तिनलाई गरिने व्यवहारको यथार्थ प्रस्तुतिका साथै परम्परागत

पितृसत्तात्मक समाजलाई चुनौती दिएर पुरुषविना नारी एकलै पनि बाँच्न सक्छे भन्ने नारीवादी प्रतिरोधी चेतना प्रकट भएको छ । परम्परादेखि नारीलाई केवल पुरुषको भोग्या र परिचारिकाको रूपमा मात्रै लिँदै सोही अनुरूपको व्यवहार उसप्रति गरिँदै आइरहेको भए पनि अब त्यो कुरा मान्य नहुने विचार यसमा प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ । वर्तमानमा नारीहरू सचेत भई स्वनिर्णय गर्न सक्ने अवस्थामा पुगिसकेको कुरालाई यस कथामा मुख्य विचार बनाइएको छ । यो नै यस कथामा पाइने नारीवादी चेतना हो ।

नारीवाद युगौँदेखि समाजमा एकछत्र रूपमा एकाधिकार कायम गरी नारीको स्थान समेत पुरुषले निर्धारण गर्ने पुरुषकेन्द्री मूल्य र मान्यताको विरोध गर्दै नारी कह, हित र समानताको आवाज उठाउने नारीकेन्द्री मान्यता हो । राजनीति र साहित्य दुवै क्षेत्रमा उत्तिकै प्रभाव पार्न सफल यस वादले नारीहरूको सामाजिक, आर्थिक तथा सांस्कृतिक स्वतन्त्रता तथा समानताका पक्षमा आवाज उठाउँदै आएको पाइन्छ भने पछिल्लो समय साहित्यिकको सिर्जना र समालोचना क्षेत्रमा यसले छुट्टै स्थान बनाएको छ । जसले नारीलाई प्रमुख केन्द्रमा राखेर साहित्यलेखन र त्यसको अध्ययन गर्दछ । जसमा पितृसत्तात्मक धारणा र साहित्यको पुरुषपरक व्याख्याप्रति प्रश्नचिह्न खडा गर्दै नारीहरू स्वयम् जीवनबारे के अनुभव गर्छन् भन्ने कुरालाई विशेष महत्त्व दिने गरिन्छ ।

नेपाली साहित्यमा गोपालप्रसाद रिमालले नारी समानताका आवाज उठाएका छन् भने कथा उपन्यासमा पुष्कर शमशेर, हृदयचन्द्रसिंह प्रधानलगायतका साहित्यकारहरूले नारी अधिकार सम्बन्धी आफ्ना धारणाहरू प्रस्तुत गरेका छन् । यसपछि भने थुप्रै पुरुष तथा महिला साहित्यकारहरू यसतर्फ आकर्षित भएका छन् । तीमध्ये कथाकार भागीरथी श्रेष्ठ पनि एक हुन् । उनले आफ्ना कथा र औपन्यासिक कृतिका माध्यमबाट नारी आवाजलाई बुलन्द पार्ने प्रयत्न गरेकी छन् । उनका त्यस्ता विभिन्न कथामध्ये ‘चुनौती’ पनि एक हो । जसमा नेपाली नारीका पीडा, व्यथा र उनका अनेक शारीरिक तथा मानसिक समस्याको उद्घाटन गर्दै त्यसको मुक्तिको खोजी गरेकी छन् र नारी मुक्तिका पहिलो सामर्थ्यका रूपमा उसभित्र रहेको प्रतिरोधी चेतना र स्वनिर्णय गर्न सक्ने साहसलाई प्रस्तुत गरेकी छन् । प्रस्तुत आवधिकपत्र उक्त कथामा नारीजन्य अनुभूति, पितृसत्तात्मक सौँच र त्यसका विरुद्ध उत्पन्न प्रतिरोधी चेतनालाई कसरी उठाइएको छ भन्ने विषयमा केन्द्रित भई तयार पारिएको छ ।

२. अध्ययनको समस्याकथन

‘चुनौती’ सामाजिक यथार्थवादी कथा हो । यसमा पुरुष त्यसमा पनि आफ्नै पतिबाट अपहेलित नारीले आत्मनिर्णय सहितको आफ्नो अस्तित्वलाई कायम गर्दै चुनौतीपूर्ण ढङ्गले पतिको सहाराबिना नै आफ्नो सन्तानको समेत जिम्मेवारी लिएर त्यसलाई सफल समेत बनाएको कुरा उल्लेख गरिएको छ । त्यसका लागि उनले मानसिक तथा शारीरिक समस्यासित पनि जुध्नु परेको छ । यसको सम्पूर्ण कारण भनेको पुरुषप्रधान समाज नै हो । यस्तो परम्परावादी पुरुषकेन्द्री समाजसँग जुध्न एउटी नारीभित्र कस्तो प्रतिरोधी चेतनाको विकास भएको छ भन्ने कुराको विश्लेषण गर्नु प्रस्तुत लेखको मुख्य समस्या रहेको छ ।

३. अध्ययनको उद्देश्य

नारीवादलाई चिनाउँदै त्यसैको आधारमा केन्द्रित रहेर ‘चुनौती’ कथाको विश्लेषण गर्नु प्रस्तुत अध्ययनको मुख्य उद्देश्य हो । यसका माध्यमबाट नारीलाई हेर्ने सामाजिक दृष्टिकोण, परम्परित सामाजिक मान्यताका कारण पुरुषले नारीलाई गर्ने व्यवहार र उसले भोग्नुपरेको भौतिक तथा मानसिक समस्या र त्यस्तो

समस्याका बीचमा पनि आफ्नो अस्तित्व कायम राख्न एउटी नारीभित्र कसरी प्रतिरोधी चेतना विकास भई स्वनिर्णय गर्न सक्षम भएको छ भन्ने कुरालाई मुख्य उद्देश्य रहेको छ ।

४. अध्ययनको सीमा

'चुनौती' नारीवादी चिन्तन भएको सामाजिक यथार्थवादी कथा हो । यसमा नेपाली समाजको परम्परित पुरुषप्रधान सौँच, त्यहीँ सौँच अनुरूप नारीहरूप्रति गरिने व्यवहार आदिको यथार्थ चित्रण गर्दै वर्तमान समयमा नारी स्वयम्मा आएको चेतना र जागरणको कुरा र परम्परित मान्यता विपरीत आत्मनिर्णय गर्ने क्षमताको कुरा पनि उल्लेख गरिएको छ साथै परिआएको खण्डमा चुनौतीपूर्ण ढङ्गले पुरुषसँग काँधमा काँध मिलाएर बाँच्ने क्षमता पनि आजका नारीले राख्न सक्छ भन्ने नारीवादी चेतना अभिव्यक्त गरिएको छ । कथामा परम्परित सामाजिक मूल्य र मान्यता, समाजमा नारी र पुरुषको भूमिका र दायित्व लगायत सांस्कृतिक र आर्थिक पक्षसँग सम्बन्धित घटनाहरू पनि जोडिएको भए पनि प्रस्तुत लेख नारीवादी चेतनासँग मात्रै सम्बन्धित भएर तयार पारिएको छ ।

५. अध्ययनको औचित्य

'चुनौती' सामाजिक विषयवस्तुमा आधारित नारीवादी कथा हो । यसमा नारीलाई पुरुषको भोगविलासको साधन मान्ने पुरुषप्रधान समाजको आलोचना गर्दै नारीको स्वनिर्णयलाई विशेष महत्त्व दिइएको छ र आफ्नो अस्तित्व रक्षाका खातिर पुरुषप्रधान समाजसँग चुनौतीपूर्ण ढङ्गले अबका नारीले अधि बहनुपर्ने नारीवादी चेतनालेयुक्त दृष्टिकोण प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ । तसर्थ प्रस्तुत कथालाई नारीवादी चेतना सम्बन्धी मान्यताका आधारमा विश्लेषण गरी परम्परित मान्यता बोकेका पुरुषप्रधान समाजलाई परिवर्तन गर्न सामाजिक न्यायको आवाज सहित अबका नारीहरूले कदम चाल्नुपर्छ भन्ने निष्कर्षमा पुग्ने प्रयत्न गरिएकोले यो लेख औचित्यपूर्ण रहने कुरामा विश्वास गरिएको छ भने नारीवादी चेतनाका माध्यमबाट यसलाई अध्ययन गर्न चाहने समालोचक, विद्यार्थी तथा अन्य साहित्यानुरागीलाई समेत यो उपयोगी हुने ठहर गरिएको छ ।

६. सैद्धान्तिक आधार

नारीवाद अङ्ग्रेजीमा प्रचलित feminism को नेपाली रूपान्तर हो । समाजमा युगौँदेखि लिङ्गकेन्द्री रूपमा रहेको पुरुष विचारधारा वा पितृसत्तात्मक धारणाप्रति प्रश्नचिन्ह खडा गर्दै पुरुषद्वारा निर्धारित नारीको स्थान तथा परम्परित मूल्य र स्वरूपको विद्रोह गरी नारी हक, हित र समानताको आवाज उठाउने नारीकेन्द्री पक्षधरता नै नारीवाद हो (शर्मा र लुईटेल, २०७२: पृ.३७१) । यसले पुरुषद्वारा स्थापित नारीसम्बन्धी स्पष्ट धारणा, दृष्टिकोण तथा पूर्वाग्रहलाई नकाउँदै नारीको वास्तविक अस्तित्व र पहिचानको खोजी गर्ने कार्यमा प्रबल आवाज उठाएको छ । यो मूलतः नारीहरूको सामाजिक, आर्थिक तथा सांस्कृतिक स्वतन्त्रता तथा समानताका लागि वर्तमान युगमा सञ्चालित राजनैतिक नारीवादी आन्दोलनसँग सम्बन्धित छ भने समालोचनाको माध्यमबाट बढी सशक्त बनेको छ ।

नारीवादी आन्दोलनको थालनी पाश्चात्य मुलुकबाट १८ औँ शताब्दीको अन्त्यतिरबाट भएको हो (शर्मा र लुईटेल, २०७२: पृ.३७२) । यसको आरम्भ सर्वप्रथम मेरी उल्स्टोनकाफ्टले सन् १७९२ मा गरेका हुन् भने यसपछि क्रमशः जोन स्टुअर्ट मिल र मार्गरेट फुलरले यस आन्दोलनलाई अधि बढाएका हुन् । यसै पृष्ठभूमिमा टेकेर नारीवादी चिन्तनलाई नारीवादी समालोचना र सिर्जनाको क्षेत्रमा भित्र्याउने काम २० औँ शताब्दीका अङ्ग्रेजी साहित्यकार तथा समालोचक भर्जिनिया उल्फले गरिन् । उनले सन् १९४९ मा 'द सेकेन्ड

सेक्स’ कृति प्रकाशन गरी नारीवादी आन्दोलनलाई विश्वका विभिन्न ठाउँमा प्रसारण गरिन् । यसरी क्रमशः विकासका गतिमा लागेका नारीवादी आन्दोलनले विश्वभरी नै राजनैतिक क्षेत्र तथा साहित्य र समालोचनाको क्षेत्रमा व्यापक प्रभाव पार्न सफल भयो भने यसको प्रभाव नेपाली साहित्यमा पनि पऱ्यो ।

खासगरी नेपाली साहित्यमा आधुनिक कालको सुरुआतदेखि नारीस्वाभिमानका पक्षमा कलम चलाउन थालिएको पाइन्छ (त्रिपाठी, २०६७: पृ. ६७) । यस क्रममा कविता र नाटकमा गोपालप्रसाद रिमालले नारी समानताका आवाज उठाएका छन् भने कथा उपन्यासमा पुष्कर शमशेर, हृदयचन्द्रसिंह प्रधानलगायतका साहित्यकारहरूले नारी अधिकार सम्बन्धी आफ्ना धारणाहरू प्रस्तुत गरेका छन् । यसपछि भने थुप्रै पुरुष तथा महिला साहित्यकारहरू यसतर्फ आकर्षित भएका छन् । तीमध्ये कथाकार भागीरथी श्रेष्ठ पनि एक हुन् । उनले आफ्ना कथा र औपन्यासिक कृतिका माध्यमबाट नारी आवाजलाई बुलन्द पार्ने प्रयत्न गरेकी छन् । उनका त्यस्ता विभिन्न कृतिमध्ये ‘चुनौती’ पनि एक हो । जुन कथामा नेपाली नारीका पीडा, व्यथा र उनका अनेक शारीरिक तथा मानसिक समस्याको उद्घाटन गर्दै त्यसको मुक्तिको खोजी गरिएको छ र नारी मुक्तिका पहिलो सामर्थ्य भनेको नारीभित्रको साहस अथवा प्रतिरोधी चेतना हो भन्ने कुरालाई प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ ।

प्रस्तुत कथाको अध्ययन नारीवाद सम्बन्धी माथि उल्लिखत मान्यताहरूको आधारमा तयार पारिएको छ ।

३. व्याख्या तथा विश्लेषण

कथाकार भागीरथी श्रेष्ठद्वारा लिखित ‘चुनौती’ कथा उनकै ‘भूमिगत’ कथासङ्ग्रहमा सङ्गृहीत छ । यस कथामा एकातिर पतिसत्तात्मक नेपाली समाजका पुरुषले नारीलाई हेर्ने परम्परित दृष्टिकोण र तिनलाई गर्ने व्यवहारको यथार्थ प्रस्तुति गरिएको छ भने अर्कोतिर वर्तमानका नारीहरूमा पुरुषविना आत्मनिर्भरताका साथ एकैले पनि बाँच्न सक्ने आँट र चेतना पनि पलाउँदै गएको अभिव्यक्ति छ । प्रस्तुत कथामा अभिव्यक्त नारीवादी चेतना पुरुषप्रति घृणाको दृष्टिकोण राखी पुरुषसँग बदलाको भावना राखेर केवल नारीहितको वकालत गर्ने चेतना नभई नेपाली समाजमा नारी हुनुकै कारणले पुरुषले नारीलाई दिँदै आएको मानसिक वा शारीरिक पीडाबाट मुक्त हुन गर्नुपर्ने सङ्घर्षात्मक चेतना हो । जसलाई निम्न शीर्षकहरूमा बाँडेर विश्लेषण गरिएको छ ।

३.१. ‘चुनौती’ कथाको आख्यान सन्दर्भ

‘चुनौती’ पतिपीडित पत्नी चम्पाको कथा हो । चम्पा उच्च कुलकी छोरी भए पनि सानैमा बुबाको मृत्यु भएपछि आमाले दुःख गरेर हुर्काई सम्पन्न परिवारमा उनको बिहे गरिदिएका हुन् । अठार वर्षमै बिहे भएको उनको लोग्नेसँगको सम्बन्ध भने त्यति राम्रो हुन सकेन कारण उनी त्यति सुन्दर थिएनन् । उनको लोग्नेले बाबुआमाको वचन काट्न नसकेको कारणले मात्र उनीसित विवाह गरेका थिए । बिहे गरेको छ-सात वर्षपछि एउटा छोरो जन्मिए पनि उनको लोग्ने उनीबाट सन्तुष्ट हुन सकेनन् । बाट्य सौन्दर्यलाई मात्रै महत्त्व दिने उनको लोग्ने कहिले भट्टीतिर त कहिले नयनाकहाँ जान्छ भने राती अवेर घर फर्किएर बहिनी नयनाको शारीरिक बनावट र त्यसबाट प्राप्त हुने तृप्तिको कुरा गर्दै चम्पाको यौवन र सौन्दर्यको अवमूल्यन गर्दै जान्छ । लोग्नेको व्यवहारले वाक्क भएकी चम्पा पनि साहसका साथ आफूबाट सन्तोष नमिले आफ्नो खुसी गर्ने सल्लाह दिन्छे । बाबुआमाको मृत्युपछि एकदिन लोग्ने बाबुले कमाएको सम्पत्तिले परासीका जमिन्दारकी सुन्दर छोरीसित बिहे गर्छ । यस घटनाले चम्पालाई मर्माहत तुल्याए पनि ऊ सौता भित्र्याउने सम्पूर्ण जिम्मेवारी वहन गर्छे । मनमा जतिसुकै पीडा भए पनि अरुलाई नसुनाउने अठोट गरेकी चम्पा लोग्ने र सौतासँग कहिल्यै

भरुगडा गर्दिन भने ईर्ष्या पनि देखाउदिन । बरु एक दिन आफूसँग रात बिताउन आएको लोग्नेलाई आफू मरिसकेको फैसला सुनाउँदै उनकै कोठामा फर्काइदिन्छे । कान्छी विवाह गरेको दुई वर्षसम्म पनि कुनै सन्तान नभएपछि कान्छीकै जिद्दीले भएभरको सम्पत्ति बेची एउटा एकनाले घर मात्रै राखेर चम्पाका लोग्ने ससुरालतर्फ लाग्छन् । मन राख्नका लागि चम्पालाई जाउँ भने पनि चम्पा त्यही बस्छिन् । गएको एक महिनामै सबै सम्पत्ति वोकेर कान्छी पोइल गएपछि चम्पाको लोग्ने हारेको सिपाही जस्तै चम्पाकहाँ फर्कन्छ । चम्पा लोग्नेप्रति कुनै सहानुभूति देखाउदिनन् । लोग्ने ग्लानिले रक्सी पिउन थाल्छ भने यही क्रममा त्यसको दुई महिनापछि उनको मृत्यु हुन्छ । लोग्नेको मृत्युमा पनि चम्पालाई कुनै दुःखको अनुभूति हुँदैन बरु सन्तोष लाग्छ ।

लोग्ने र सौताले घर खेत सबै बेचेर हिँडेपछि चम्पा जीविकाको लागि आफूसँग रहेको केही पैसा र गहना र भाँडा वर्तन बेचेर आएको पैसाले गाउँमै चिया पसल खोली जीविका गर्न थाल्छे । छरछिमेकीले कुरा काटे पनि सङ्घर्ष गरेर छोरालाई बी.ए सम्म पढाउन सफल हुन्छे । बी.ए पास भएपछि छोरो स्कूलमा पढाउन थालेको भने एउटी शुशील केटीसँग चम्पाले छोराको बिहे पनि गरिदिएकी छे । अब चम्पा चिया पसल छोडेर स्टेसनरी पसल खोलेर बस्छे । उसको एउटा नाति पनि जन्मिएको छ । चम्पालाई अब आफ्नो दुःखको दिन सकिएर सन्तोष मिलेको अनुभूति भएको छ । त्यसैले जीवनका यी सबै आरोह अवरोहलाई उनले पत्रमार्फत कथाका 'म' पात्र अर्थात् बहिनीलाई बताउँदै आफूलाई हलुका महसुस गरेकी छ । तर दुर्भाग्य जीवनमा त्यति ठूलो सङ्घर्ष गरेर सुख पाउने बेलामा चम्पाको मृत्यु भएको छ । चम्पाको मृत्युको खबरले आफूलाई आघात तुल्याए पनि चम्पाबाट जीवन जिउने विराट् चेतना, आत्मविश्वास, सहिष्णुता, धैर्यता र प्रेरणा प्राप्त गरेको अनुभूति सहित 'म' पात्रले चम्पालाई श्रद्धाभाव व्यक्त गरेपश्चात् कथाको अन्त्य भएको छ ।

३.२. पितृसत्तात्मक सौँचको उत्खनन र नारी अस्तित्वको अवमूल्यनको आलोचना

नेपाली समाजमा नारीले दुःखी हुनुपर्ने प्रमुख कारण पितृसत्तात्मक सौँच हो । जसको कारण नारी अस्तित्वको सधैं अवमूल्यन भइरहेको हुन्छ । पारिवारिक जिम्मेवारी र दायित्वको सम्पूर्ण अभिभारा लिएर पनि नारीहरू सधैं घर र समाजमा अपहेलित हुन्छन् । पुरुषले गरेको कुनै पनि गल्तीको भागीदार नारीले बन्नुपर्ने स्थिति अझै विद्यमान छ । अन्य कुरा छोडौं प्राकृतिक रूपमा प्राप्त हुने नारी सुन्दरतालाई लिएर पनि नारीको आलोचना गरिन्छ । यहाँ नारी धेरै राम्री भए पनि नारीकै दोष अनि नारी नराम्री भए पनि नारीकै दोष देखाइनुको कारण नारीलाई केवल वस्तुजन्य सौन्दर्य प्रसाधनको रूपमा मात्र हेर्ने पितृसत्तात्मक परम्परित सौँच वा धारणा हो । परम्परित धारणा राख्ने पुरुषहरू नारीलाई केवल सौन्दर्यप्रसाधन ठान्दै तिनबाट आनन्द लिन तिनको पछाडि दौडन्छन् । यस कुराप्रति त्यस्ता पुरुष र पितृसत्तात्मक सौँच राख्ने समाज कहिल्यै आफूलाई गलत ठान्दैनन् । तर विनागल्ती नारीले अपमानित हुनुपर्ने मात्रै नभई मानसिक र शारीरिक यातनाको भागीदार समेत हुनुपर्ने अवस्था नेपाली समाजमा विद्यमान छ यी सबै पितृसत्तात्मक सौँचले नारी अस्तित्वलाई स्वीकार नगरेको स्थिति हो । यस्तै खाले परम्परित सौँच र मानसिकताको आलोचनात्मक उत्खनन् यस कथामा गरिएको छ ।

प्रस्तुत कथामा समाजका अन्य नारीले जस्तो चम्पाले शारीरिक यातना भोग्नु परेको छैन तर मानसिक यातना भने उनले प्रशस्त मात्रामा खप्नु परेको छ । नारी केवल पुरुषको विलासिताको साधन हो त्यसैले ऊ पुरुषलाई आकर्षित पार्नसक्ने किसिमको सुन्दर हुनुपर्छ भन्ने सौँच नेपाली समाजमा अझै विद्यमान छ, जस्तो कि बजारमा बेच्न राखिएको सुन्दर सामग्री छानेर खरिद गरिन्छ भनेजस्तो सुन्दर नमिले काम चल्ने लिइन्छ अनि तत्कालको काम चलेपछि अर्कै सुन्दर वस्तुको खोजी गरिन्छ । यहाँ चम्पाको जीवनमा पनि त्यही कुरा

लागू भएको छ । शारीरिक सुन्दरता पर्याप्त नहुँदा लोग्नेबाट पटक पटक अपमानित हुनुपरेको छ । उसको पनि मानवीय अस्तित्व छ भन्ने कुराको मनन उसको लोग्नेले अलिकति पनि कहीं कतै गरेको छैन । केवल तत्कालको समस्या समाधानको लागि मात्रै उनको लोग्नेले उनीसित विवाह गरेको छ । उनीसित जिन्दगी बिताउन, दुःखसुख बाँड्न होइन केवल बाबुआमाको मन राख्न । यो उसको अस्तित्वको अवमूल्यन हो । उक्त कुरा कथामा यसरी अभिव्यक्त भएको छ :

“चम्पा, बाबुआमाको वचन काट्न सकिँन, तिमीसँग बिहे गर्नुपथ्यो तर तिमीसँग मेरो जीवन चलन सक्दैन । तिमी राम्री छैनौ । मलाई राम्री, सुन्दरी स्वास्नी चाहिन्छ ।” (पृ.१२६)

विवाह भएको एकडेढ वर्षसम्म राम्रो बोलचाल नभएको यी लोग्नेस्वास्नीको बोलचाल आरम्भ भएपश्चात् नै चम्पाले लोग्नेबाट मानसिक पीडा भेल्नुपरेको छ । यसपछि चम्पाले यस्ता कैयौँ अपमानको सामना गर्नुपरेको छ । रसिक र विलासी स्वभावको उनको लोग्नेलाई अर्काको दुःख र पीडासँग कुनै वास्ता छैन केवल आफ्नो व्यक्तिगत सन्तुष्टिको मात्रै पर्वाह छ । बाबुआमाको चित्त दुखाउन हुँदैन भन्ने जानेको उसले नारी मनलाई पनि दुखाउनु हुँदैन, उनको पनि मन पुरुषको जस्तै हुन्छ । उसभित्र पनि स्वाभिमान हुन्छ भन्ने कुराको ख्याल उसलाई छैन । त्यसैले त ऊ भन्छ :

“चम्पा, म आज नयना बहिनीकहाँ गएर मोजमस्ती गरेर फर्केको छु । आहा....कति राम्री नयना, कस्तो राम्रो शरीर जहाँ स्पर्श गरे पनि तृप्ति र आनन्दकने स्वाद पाइने । खै, तिमी त एउटा छोरो पाउनेबित्तिकै बूढीजस्ती । हुड्गाजस्तै चिसी । न त अनुहार राम्रो छ, न त शरीर नै उत्तेजक छ ... अहँ तिमीसँग मेरो जीवन बित्न सक्दैन होला” (पृ.१२४) ।

यसरी पटक पटक चम्पालाई उनको लोग्नेले अपमानित गरेको छ । यो अपमान केवल नारी हुनुकै कारणले चम्पाले पाएको अपमान हो । नारीको सट्टा पुरुषलाई हेर्ने हो भने गज्याङ्गो र जड्याहा लोग्नेलाई सम्हालेर मात्र होइन उल्टै तिनीहरूको यातनाको शिकार हुँदै जिन्दगी बिताउनु पर्ने अवस्था नारीहरूको छ । लोग्ने नराम्रो भयो भनेर परपुरुषसँग रात बिताउन जानु त कल्पना नै नगरौँ कुनै पुरुषसित पारिवारिक तथा व्यवहारिक दायित्व पूरा गर्ने क्रममा मानवीय सम्बन्ध राख्दैमा पनि नारीले आलोचित हुनुपर्छ । उनले समाजबाट अनेक लान्छना पाउँछ, तर यी सब कार्यमा पुरुषलाई छुट छ । त्यसैले त चम्पाको लोग्ने परस्त्रीसित खुलेआम सम्बन्ध पनि राख्छ अनि सोभै आएर आफ्नी स्वास्नीको अपमान पनि गर्छ । यस कार्यप्रति उसलाई अलिकति पनि आत्मग्लानि छैन । किनकि ऊ पुरुष हो । पुरुषलाई जे गरे पनि छुट दिने तर नारीलाई उसले गल्ती नगरेका कार्यमा पनि सजाय दिने पुरुषप्रधान नेपाली समाजको सौँचकै कारण हाम्रा अधिल्ला पुस्ताका नारीहरू पुरुषको यस्तो प्रवृत्तिको विद्रोह गर्न नसकी केवल भाग्यलाई दोष दिएर बाँच्न विवश छन् भने अहिलेका नयाँ पुस्ताका नारीसमेत यसको शिकार भइरहेको अवस्था छ ।

यसरी यस कथामा चम्पाको लोग्नेका माध्यमबाट नेपाली समाजमा विद्यमान पितृसत्तात्मक सौँचको चिरफार गर्नुका साथै यस्ता प्रवृत्तिका मानिसले गर्ने नारी अस्तित्वको अवमूल्यनलाई पनि देखाइएको छ ।

३.३ प्रतिरोधी चेतना

‘चुनौती’ कथामा चम्पाको लोग्नेले चम्पाको शारीरिक सुन्दरता तथा उसभित्रको नारी स्वाभिमानको पटक पटक अपमान गरेको छ । यस्तो अपमानलाई चम्पाले संयमित ढङ्गबाट प्रतिरोध गरेकी छ । ऊ लोग्नेलाई आफूबाट सन्तुष्ट हुन नसके आफूबाट टाढै बस्नु भन्दै प्रतिरोधको सामर्थ्य पनि राखिछन् । जुन कुरा कथामा यसरी अभिव्यक्त भएको छ :

“यसरी कैयन् पटक मेरा लोगने मेरो सुन्दरता र यौवनको धज्जी उडाउँथे । यसरी खुलेआम ममाथि वचनको छुरीले रोप्दा पनि उनका अगाडि म कहिल्यै रोइनँ र हाँसिनँ पनि । गम्भीर भएर भन्ने गर्थे- “तपाईंलाई मबाट सन्तोष मिल्दैन भने तपाईंको बाटोमा अवरोध बन्दिनँ । मलाई छुने इच्छा पनि नगर्नुस् ।” (पृ.१२४)”

चम्पाको लोगनेले उसको सौन्दर्यको उपहास मात्रै गरेको छैन उसले दोस्रो विवाह गरेर चम्पालाई ठूलो चोट समेत दिएको छ । यस चोटलाई चम्पाले संयमित भई चुपचाप सहे पनि दोस्रो विवाहपश्चात् आफूसँग रात बिताउन आउने लोगनेलाई ठाडै अस्वीकार गरेकी छ । यो यस कथामा पाइने प्रतिरोधी चेतना हो । जुन कुराको पुष्टि तलका साक्षबाट गर्न सकिन्छ :

“मैले लोगनेलाई भने- “तपाईंका लागि म कुरूप हूँ, मुर्दातुल्य हूँ । तपाईं आफ्नो कोठामा जानुस् । यस कोठामा आउन तपाईं सपनामा पनि नचिताउनुहोला ।” (पृ. १२६)

यसरी अपमानको घुडको पिउँदै पत्नीत्वको अपमान गर्ने तिनै लोगनेको हरेक खुसीमा सामेल हुनुपर्छ भन्ने छैन भन्ने आजको नारीवादी प्रतिरोधी चेतना यसरी चम्पाको माध्यमबाट प्रकट भएको छ ।

३.४ कठोर निर्णय क्षमता सम्बन्धी चेतना

‘चुनौती’ कथामा नारीमा पनि कठोर निर्णय गर्ने क्षमता हुनुपर्छ भन्ने अर्को नारीवादी चेतना प्रकट भएको छ । परम्परित मान्यता अनुसार नारी कोमल हुन्छे । उसले क्षणिक घुर्की देखाए पनि ऊ कठोर हुन सक्दैन । कठोर त पुरुष हुन्छ उसले जस्तोसुकै कठोर निर्णय पनि लिन सक्छ । पितृसत्ताले यही पाठ संस्कारजन्य रूपमा पढाएको छ । जुन कुराको फाइदा उठाएर वर्तमानसम्मै पुरुषहरूले नारी हृदयसँग खेलिरहेको छ र उसको अस्तित्वको धज्जी उडाइरहेको छ । तर प्रस्तुत कथामा यसको विपरीत परिस्थिति अनुसार नारीले पनि कठोर बन्न सक्नुपर्छ भन्ने नारीवादी चेतना चम्पाका माध्यमबाट प्रकट गरिएको छ । आफ्नो सौन्दर्यको अवमूल्यन गर्दा होस् या दोस्रो विवाह गरेर आफ्नो कोठामा पस्न आउँदा उसले लोगनेलाई मलाई पनि तिम्रो खाँचो छैन भन्ने आशयमूलक अभिव्यक्ति निडरताकासाथ सुनाएकी छ । अझ उनी यतिबेला साँच्चै कठोर भएकी छन्, जब सबै सम्पत्ति लिएर घर छोडेर हिँडेको लोगने पछि सम्पत्ति लिएर दोस्रो पत्नी पोइल गएपछि हारेको सिपाही भै भएर घर फर्किएको छ । यस्तो अवस्थामा उनले लोगनेमाथि अलिकति पनि दया देखाइनन् । अलिकति पनि सहानुभूति प्रकट गरिनन् बरु मनमा सन्तोष महसुस गरिन् । जुन कुराको अभिव्यक्ति कथामा यसरी भएको छ :

“साँच्चै उनले जीवनसँग हारे । दुर्बल भए, समाजका अगाडि आफ्नो मुख देखाउने आँट गरेनन् । त्यो सानो एकनाले कोठामा दिनभर बसेर रक्सी खान थाले । मसँग पनि उनी त्यति बोल्दैनथे । उनको अधोगति देखेर खै किन हो ममा पटकै सहानुभूति र माया पलाएन, बरु सन्तोष लाग्थ्यो मनमा” (पृ.१२८) ।

लोगने मरेर गयो तर उनले धोकेवाज लोगनेलाई फेरि कहिल्यै पनि अपनाइनन् । यो उनीभित्र पलाएको नारी स्वाभिमान र नारीवादी चेतनाको प्रतिफल हो । दोस्रो विवाह गरेर घर छोडेर हिँडेकी स्वास्नी दुःख पाएर फर्की भने पुरुषले चाहिँ उसलाई फेरि स्वीकार गर्छ र ? उसको पुरुष अभिमानले त्यसो गर्ने दिँदैन भने नारीले मात्रै किन हरेक कुरामा सम्भौता गर्नुपर्ने ? यही नारी स्वाभिमानका खातिर चम्पाले लोगनेको अगाडि भुक्न चाहिनन् बरु तिम्रीबिना पनि जीवनमा अधि बढ्न सक्छु भन्ने हिम्मत राखिन् । लोगने र सौता सबै सम्पत्ति लिएर घर छोडेर हिँड्दा पनि उनले कसैसित भिख मागिनन् । बरु आफूभित्रभित्रै कठोर बन्दै सानो छोरोलाई च्याप्दै जीविकाको खोजी गरिन् । समाजमा तुच्छ ठानिएको व्यवसाय गरिन् तर कुनै पनि अवस्थामा लोगने या अरु सामुन्ने कहिल्यै पनि दुःख तेर्स्याएर जीवनको भिख मागिनन् । छोराको लालानपालन आफैले गरिन्,

उसलाई बाबुले सरह पढाइन् अनि जागिरे पनि तुल्याइन् । बाबु (पुरुष) ले गर्नुपर्ने सम्पूर्ण जिम्मेवारी उनी एकलैले पुरा गरिन् । वास्तवमा यही नै हो नारीवादी चेतना । नारी एकलै पनि बाँच्न सक्छे, एकलै पारिवारिक जिम्मेवारी निर्वाह गर्न सक्छे । आफ्नो अस्तित्व र स्वाभिमानको खातिर पुरुषलाई त्याग्न पनि सक्छे । यस कथामा चम्पाको माध्यमबाट यिनै नारीवादी चेतना प्रकट भएको छ ।

४. निष्कर्ष

‘चुनौती’ कथाकार भागीरथी श्रेष्ठद्वारा लेखिएको नारीवादी चेतना भएको कथा हो । प्रस्तुत कथामा नारी सौन्दर्यको अपमान गर्ने पुरुषलाई परित्याग गरी त्यस्ता पुरुषलाई चुनौती दिएर नारी एकलै सम्पूर्ण जिम्मेवारी बहन गर्न सक्छ भन्ने नारीवादी चेतना व्यक्त भएको छ । युगौंदेखि समाजमा एकछत्र रूपमा एकाधिकार कायम गरी नारीको स्थान समेत पुरुषले निर्धारण गर्ने पुरुषकेन्द्री मूल्य र मान्यताको विरोध गर्दै नारी कह, हित र समानताको आवाज उठाउने नारीकेन्द्री चेतना नै नारीवादी चेतना हो ।

‘चुनौती’ कथामा नारीजन्य अनुभूति, तिनका भावना र अस्तित्वमाथि खेलबाड गर्ने पुरुषलाई आजका नारी कमजोर छैनन् भन्ने चुनौति दिइएको छ । परम्परादेखि नारीलाई केवल पुरुषको भोग्या र परिचारिकाको रूपमा मात्रै लिँदै सोही अनुरूपको व्यवहार उसप्रति गरिँदै आइरहेको भए पनि वर्तमान समय त्यस्तो नरहेको र नारीहरू अब सचेत र सबल बन्दै आइरहेको कारण ऊ स्वावलम्बी भई स्वनिर्णय गर्न सक्ने अवस्थामा पुगिसकेको कुरालाई यस कथामा कलात्मक ढङ्गले प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ । यसका साथै आजका नारी परम्परित सौँच भएका पुरुषले बुझेजस्तो निरीह छैन । परिआएको खण्डमा उसले पनि पुरुषले सरह सम्पूर्ण पारिवारिक दायित्व निर्वाह गरेर आफ्नो सन्तानलाई उचित शिक्षादिक्षा दिन सक्षम भइसकेको छ र हुनुपर्छ भन्ने आवाजलाई बुलन्द पारिएको छ । पुरुषप्रधान सौँचको आलोचनात्मक उखननद्वारा त्यस्ता सौँच राख्ने मानिसहरूप्रति व्यङ्ग्य समेत गरी विद्रोहात्मक आवाज उठाएको छ । यो नै यस कथामा पाइने नारीवादी चेतना हो । यसरी प्रस्तुत कथाले नारी अस्तित्व र आत्मनिर्णयलाई चेतनामूलक र सबल ढङ्गमा प्रस्तुत गरी नारीवादी चेतनालाई उजागर गर्न सफल रहेको देखिन्छ । यो नै यस कथाको सबल पक्ष हो र कथात्मक सौन्दर्य पनि हो ।

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श्वेत भैरवी कथाको सेरोफेरो : एक चर्चा

रामप्रसाद भुर्तेल

लेखसार

प्रस्तुत समालोचनामा श्वेत भैरवीको कथालाई मनोविज्ञानबाट विश्लेषण गरिएको छ । यसको औचित्य पुष्टिका लागि विश्वेश्वरप्रसाद कोइरालाद्वारा रचित श्वेत भैरवी कथा सङ्ग्रहमा सङ्कलित श्वेत भैरवी कथालाई लिइएको छ । यस कथामा देखिएको यौन चिन्तनलाई यौन मनोविज्ञानबाट स्पष्ट पारिएको छ । यौन मनोविज्ञानले खास गरी समाजका नरनारीलाई मूर्त अमूर्त रूपमा प्रभाव पारिरहेको हुन्छ । प्राकृतिक सिद्धान्तले निर्धारण गरेको यौनिक भूमिका र त्यसका वरिपरिको वातावरणले निकै ठूलो प्रभाव पारेको हुन्छ । फ्रायड वादले विकसित गरेका सिद्धान्तलाई आत्मसात् गरी मानिस भित्रका विभिन्न यौनेच्छा, कुण्ठा, दमित वासनालाई आधार बनाएर श्वेत भैरवीको कथालाई सूक्ष्म सूक्ष्मभन्दा सूक्ष्म पद्धतिबाट केलाउने काम यस लेखमा भएको छ । सानो बाबु र फगुनीबीचको सहअस्तित्व दमित इच्छालाई यौन मनोविज्ञानका माध्यमबाट व्याख्या विवेचना र समीक्षा गरी निष्कर्षमा पुग्ने काम भएको छ ।

शब्दावली: मनोविश्लेषण, असाधारण, अचेतन, मानसिकता, यथार्थवादी, वासना ।

१. विषय परिचय

संसारमा रहेका मानिसहरूको तुलना या त सैद्धान्तिक पक्षबाट गरिन्छ या त व्यावहारिक पक्षबाट । यी दुवै पक्षबाट मूल्याङ्कन गर्ने मानिस सामान्य मात्रै होइन असाधारण हुन्छ । असाधारण व्यक्तिको कोटिमा पर्ने व्यक्तित्वको नाम हो विश्वेश्वरप्रसाद कोइराला । यिनको जन्म वि.सं.१९७१ भदौ २४ गते बनारसको पुण्य नगरीमा भएको हो । उनका ठूलाबुबा कालिदासले यो बालक वाराणसीको विश्वेश्वरप्रसाद बाबाको प्रसाद हो भनेपछि यिनको नाम विश्वेश्वरप्रसाद कोइराला रहन गएको हो भन्ने मान्यता रहि आएको छ । विश्वेश्वरप्रसाद कोइरालाको जीवनी व्यक्तित्वलाई साङ्गोपाङ्गो दृष्टिकोणबाट विश्लेषण गर्दा उनका दुई पाटा रहेका छन् । (क) राजनैतिक व्यक्तित्व (ख) साहित्यिक व्यक्तित्व ।

कोइरालाले राजनैतिक क्षेत्रमा चार दशक बिताए पनि उनले साहित्यको क्षेत्रमा राजनीतिको गन्ध राख्न चाहेनन् । उनको साहित्यिक मूल्याङ्कन गर्ने हो नेपाली साहित्यको एक्काइसौं शताब्दीमा नवप्रवृत्ति लिएर कथा र उपन्यासमा उदयमान भएको अनुभूत हुन्छ । बहुआयामिकका रूपमा परिचित कोइरालाले नेपाली साहित्यका कविता, कथा, उपन्यास, जीवनी, विधामा समेत कलम चलाएका छन् । वि.सं.१९९२ सालमा शारदा पत्रिकामा चन्द्रवदन नामक कथा जब प्रकाशित भयो सो प्रकाशित कथाबाट नै उनको साहित्यिक यात्रा अगाडि बढ्यो र कथाको क्षेत्रमा नवीन र प्रवृत्तिको पनि उदय भयो । यस कथामा नारीका मानसिक पीडा, यौन समस्या आदिको वर्णन गरिएको छ । यस कथाले नेपाली साहित्यको संवेदनशीलतालाई हेर्ने दृष्टिकोण नयाँ तरिका अगाडि सार्‍यो ।

विश्वेश्वरप्रसाद कोइराला मूलतः मनोवैज्ञानिक यथार्थवादी कथाकार हुन् । पाश्चात्य साहित्य जगत्मा सिगमण्ड फ्रायडद्वारा विकसित गरिएका मनोविज्ञानका सैद्धान्तिक पक्षहरूलाई नेपाली साहित्यमा भित्र्याउने

प्रथम प्रयोगकर्ता हुन् । कोइराला विशेष गरी मनोवैज्ञानिक यथार्थवादी कथाकारका रूपमा परिचित छन् । मनोविज्ञानले मानिसका मनभित्रका नाना किसिमका कृष्ण, इच्छा, द्वन्द्व र दमित वासनाहरूलाई केलाउने काम गर्दछ । मानव मनलाई चेतन र अचेतनका बीचको द्वन्द्वले प्रभावित पार्ने भएकाले अचेतन मनमा दबिएर रहेका असामञ्जस्य कृष्णहरू नै मनोविज्ञानको विषय हो । यही प्रवृत्तिका आधारमा श्वेत भैरवी कथा सिर्जना भएको छ ।

श्वेत भैरवी कथा विश्वेश्वरप्रसाद कोइरालाद्वारा लिखित मनोवैज्ञानिक विषयवस्तुमा आधारित कथा हो । यिनका दोषी चस्मा (२००६), श्वेत भैरवी (२०३९) गरी दुई कथासङ्ग्रह प्रकाशित छन् । श्वेत भैरवी कथामा फगुनीको जीवनकथा र मनोदशालाई कथ्य विषय बनाइएको छ । कोइरालाले यस कथामा फ्रायडवादी सिद्धान्तका मूल्य र मान्यताका आधारमा फगुनीको मनोदशालाई केलाउने प्रयास गरेका छन् ।

२. समस्या कथन

प्रस्तुत लेख कथाकार विश्वेश्वरप्रसाद कोइरालाको श्वेत भैरवी कथा सङ्ग्रहमा सङ्कलित श्वेत भैरवी नामक कथासँग सम्बद्ध रहेको छ । श्वेत भैरवी कथामा रहेका मनोवैज्ञानिक यौनिक भावना र सामाजिक अध्ययन गर्नु नै यस लेखको मुख्य समस्या हो र ती निम्नलिखित समस्याहरूलाई प्रश्नात्मक टिप्पणीका रूपमा उल्लेख गरिएको छ :

- क) श्वेत भैरवी कथामा देखिएको मनोविश्लेषण के मा आधारित छ ?
- ख) सामाजिकताका आधारमा फगुनी पात्रको जीवनदृष्टि कस्तो रहेको छ ?

उद्देश्य

प्रस्तुत लेखको उद्देश्य निम्नलिखित रहेका छन् :

- क) श्वेत भैरवी कथामा यौन मनोविश्लेषणका आधारमा मूल्याङ्कन गर्नु,
- ख) सामाजिक, आर्थिक र केवट जातिको संस्कृतिका आधारमा फगुनी पात्रको जीवन दृष्टि निरूपण गर्नु ।

३. अध्ययन विधि

यो गुणात्मक प्रकृतिको अनुसन्धान हो । प्रस्तुत अनुसन्धानात्मक लेखमा प्रयोग गरिएका सामग्रीहरूको सङ्कलन पुस्तकालयलाई मुख्य आधार बनाइएको छ । पुस्तकालयबाट आवश्यक सामग्रीहरूको खोज गरेर, व्यक्तिगत वा संस्थागत रूपमा रहेका पुस्तक पत्रपत्रिका एवम् उक्त लेखसँग सम्बन्धित सङ्घ संस्थाका प्रतिवेदनलाई आधार मानेर प्रस्तुत लेख तयार गरिएको छ । खासगरी प्राथमिक सामग्रीका रूपमा राजेन्द्र सुवेदीद्वारा सम्पादित स्नातकोत्तर नेपाली कथा (२०५१) मा प्रकाशित श्वेत भैरवी कथालाई लिइएको छ । यसै गरी कथाको विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन गर्ने क्रममा अन्य अनुसन्धानकर्ताले प्रस्तुत गरेका विभिन्न किसिमका लेख र समालोचनात्मक सामग्रीहरूलाई द्वितीयक स्रोतको रूपमा प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ । श्वेत भैरवी कथाको व्याख्या विश्लेषण गर्ने सन्दर्भमा व्याख्यान विधि, विश्लेषण विधि र समीक्षात्मक विधिलाई आत्मसात् गरिएको छ ।

४. सैद्धान्तिक पर्याधार

पाश्चात्य साहित्यमा बीसौं शताब्दीको आरम्भमा फ्रायडवादी प्रवृत्ति देखा पर्दछ । जसलाई फ्रायडेले मनोविज्ञान पनि भनिन्छ । साहित्य लेखक, स्रष्टा एवम् सर्जकको अन्तःचेतनाको अभिव्यक्ति हो । अन्तर्मनको अभिव्यक्तिबाट साहित्य सिर्जना हुने भएकाले साहित्यमा मनोविज्ञानले महत्वपूर्ण स्थान ओगटेको हुन्छ ।

मनोविज्ञान सिद्धान्तले मूल्य र मान्यता अनुसार “कला साहित्य न कुनै देवी वा ईश्वरीय प्रेरणाको उपज हो न त मार्क्सवादी धारणा अनुसार सामाजिक आर्थिक परिस्थितिकै प्रतिफल हो (श्रेष्ठ, २०५१ : १५३) । मनोविज्ञानलाई साहित्यिक मूल्य र मान्यताको परिधिमा व्याख्या गर्ने प्रसिद्ध व्यक्तिहरू सिगमण्ड फ्रायड, अल्फ्रेड एडलर र कार्ल गुस्ताव युङ्ग हुन् । अन्तरचेतनाको अभिव्यक्तिको व्याख्या गर्ने यी तीनवटा महान मनोवैज्ञानिकको सिद्धान्तलाई फ्रायडवादी मनोविज्ञान भनिन्छ । फ्रायड मनोचिकित्सक हुन् । यिनले तीनवटा कृति लेखेका छन् । स्वप्नको व्याख्या, मनोविश्लेषणको रूपरेखा र दिवा स्वप्नको कविसँगको सम्बन्ध । फ्रायडले आफ्ना कृतिहरू मनोविज्ञानको व्याख्या गर्ने सन्दर्भमा कामेच्छा नै मानवको शक्ति हो । यही कामवृत्तिबाट मानिसका सबै क्रियाकलाप गतिविधि सञ्चालन हुन्छन् भन्ने मान्यतालाई अगाडि सारेका छन् । “मान्छेमा यस वृत्तिको विकास शैशावस्थादेखि नै हुने गर्दछ । मान्छेका अनेकौं काम आकाङ्क्षाहरू हुन्छन् तर ती सबै पूर्ण हुँदैनन् मान्छेका विशेषतः अहम् (Ego) र पराहम् (Super ego) ले यस्ता काम आकाङ्क्षाहरूलाई जहिल्यै पनि दमन गरिरहेका हुन्छन् ।” (श्रेष्ठ, २०५१ : १५४) ।

यिनै कुराहरूलाई आधार बनाएर सूक्ष्म विश्लेषण गर्दा मानव मनका तीन तहहरू रहेका देखिन्छन् । चेतन मन, अचेतन मन, अचेतन मन । यी माथिका तीन तहमध्ये अचेतन मनमा रहेको कुण्ठा एवम् दबिएका इच्छाहरू अचेतन मनबाट समय समयमा सपना वा दिवास्वप्न, दैनिकी क्रियाकलाप एवम् गतिविधिको रूपमा बाह्य प्रकट हुन्छन् । यस्ता कामेच्छा रूपी भावना जति बढ्दै जान्छ त्यति नै विभिन्न छद्म रूप धारण गरेर बाहिर निस्कने प्रयत्न गर्दछ । यस्तो अवस्थामा साहित्य सिर्जना हुन्छ पुग्दछ अनि विभिन्न विम्ब प्रतिविम्बका मद्दतले बाह्य रूप धारण गर्दा नैतिकता, उच्च मानवीय मूल्य एवम् मान्यता, धार्मिकता, आध्यात्मिकता आदिको खोजी गर्न सकिँदैन र मिल्दैन । यसपछि एडलरको मनोविज्ञान देखापर्दछ । यिनले “चेतन मनमा अवस्थित श्रेष्ठतम भावलाई जीवनको मूल स्रोत मान्दछन्” (श्रेष्ठ, २०५१ : १५५) । यिनको मनोवैज्ञानिक सिद्धान्त सामाजिक शक्तिमा आधारित रहेको छ ।

अर्का मनोवैज्ञानिक कार्ल गुस्ताव युङ्गले मान्छेका चेतन मन व्यक्तिगत अचेतन मन र सामूहिक अचेतन मन गरी तीन तह हुन्छन् भन्ने कुरा बताएका छन् । यिनले फ्रायडवादको दमित कामेच्छा र एडलरको हीनत्व बोधको क्षतिपूर्तिद्वारा श्रेष्ठत्व प्राप्त नभएर सामूहिक अचेतन मनको प्रतिफल नै साहित्य सिर्जना हो भन्ने कुरा माथि जोड दिएका छन् ।

यी तीनैजना मनोवैज्ञानिकहरूको संक्षिप्त रूपमा तुलना गर्दा फ्रायडवादको मनोविश्लेषण बढी शक्तिशाली देखिन्छ । फ्रायडले मानव जीवनको परिचालन यौन शक्तिबाट नै हुन्छ । यिनका अनुसार मानवसभ्यताको इतिहास र संस्कृतिको विकासमा यौनशक्तिले अपरिहार्य रूपमा भूमिका खेलेको हुन्छ । साहित्यकार, कथाकार, खलपात्र, नायक, अभिनेता संगीतकार आदिमा पनि यौन शक्तिको प्रबल भूमिका हुन्छ । त्यसैले यिनले मानव ज्ञान विज्ञानदेखि लिएर सांसारिक भौतिक क्रियाकलापमा यौन शक्तिले नै काम गरेको हुन्छ भन्ने कुरामा विश्वास गर्दछन् । फ्रायडले मनलाई दुई भागमा बाँडेका छन् । (१) गत्यात्मक पक्ष (२) आकारात्मक पक्ष ।

४. क. मनको गत्यात्मक पक्ष

मनको गतिमान वा गतिमयलाई मनको गत्यात्मक भनिन्छ । मनको गतिलाई विशेष गरी तीन किसिमले अध्ययन गर्न सकिन्छ । इद, इगो, सुपर इगो

अ) इद

यो मानवको आनन्दमा भर पर्दछ । सुखको अभिलाषा, आनन्दको इच्छा र चाहनाहरूमा बाँचिरहन खोज्छ । दमित इच्छाहरू अचेतन मनमा दबिएर रहेको बेला त्यसको परिपूर्तिका लागि हरदम कुनै न कुनै रूपमा बाह्य प्रकटीकरण हुन खोज्छन् । इदले कुनै पनि समय वा सत्य पर्वाह गर्दैन । दमित इच्छाहरूले वासनात्मक रूपमा इच्छाको पूर्ति गरेनन् भने मानिसमा निराशाजनक भावना पैदा हुन्छ । फ्रायडले यसलाई मूल प्रवृत्तिको (जीवनमूल प्रवृत्ति र मूल्य मूल प्रवृत्ति) केन्द्र र सम्पूर्ण मनोजैविक शक्तिको स्रोत भनेका छन् (ढकाल, २०६७ : ४९) ।

आ) अहम्

अहम् वा इगोले इदको आवेगलाई नियन्त्रणमा लिन्छ । अहम् वा इगोले यथार्थताको बोध गराउने हुँदा आवश्यकतानुसार मानिसलाई तृप्ति गराउँछ जुन समाजद्वारा स्वीकृत हुन्छ । अहम्ले इद र उच्च अहम्माथि नियन्त्रण गर्दछ र समग्र व्यक्तित्वको हित तथा उसको अप्रत्यक्ष आवश्यकताहरूको पूर्तिको लागि बाह्य जगत्सित सम्बन्ध राख्दछ

(पौड्याल, २०७३ : ६) ।

इ) पराहम्

पराहमलाई सुपर इगो पनि भनिन्छ । यस तत्वले मानिस वा व्यक्तिलाई समाजतिर उन्मुख गराउने प्रमुख शक्तिको रूपमा लिइन्छ । सुपर इगोले आदर्शता, नैतिकतामाथि विशेष जोड दिन्छ । यो पूर्ण रूपमा चेतन स्तरबाट सञ्चालित र विकसित हुने भएकाले यसमा समाजका सांस्कृतिक पक्षको छाप परेको हुन्छ । पराहमको मुख्य कार्य समाजको बन्धमा बस्न हो । समाजका संस्कारहरूलाई त्यागेर खुला पाशविक रूपमा यौनजन्य भावना तथा मातृरतिगत मूल विशेषताहरूलाई चेतनामा आउन रोक लगाउँछ ।

४.(ख) मनको आकारात्मक पक्ष

फ्रायडले मनको गत्यात्मकतालाई तीन किसिमले वर्गीकरण गरे जस्तै मनको आकारात्मक पक्षलाई पनि तीन किसिमले वर्गीकरण गरेका छन् : चेतन, अचेतन, अचेतन ।

अ) चेतन मन

चेतन मन व्यक्ति, परिवार, सामाजिक परम्परामा आधारित मात्र नभएर वर्तमानसँग पनि सम्बन्धित हुन्छ । यसलाई पूर्ण जागरणको अवस्थाको रूपमा लिइन्छ । चेतन भनेको मनको त्यो स्तर हो जुन अरुभन्दा स्पष्ट छ (ढकाल, २०६७ : ५३) । मनको यो चेतनले दैनिकी जीवनको क्रियाकलाप, प्रत्यक्ष, मूर्त अनुभव, विचार पक्षद्वारा प्राप्त अनुभव गरेको हुन्छ ।

आ) अचेतन

यो चेतन मन र अचेतन मनको बीचको अवस्था हो । यो मन स्मृतिमा आधारित हुन्छ । अतीतका कुराहरूलाई स्मरणमा ल्याउने र विर्सिसकेका कुराहरूलाई सम्झाउने खालको हुन्छ । अचेतन चेतनभन्दा केही अमूर्त अस्पष्ट र अचेतनभन्दा केही स्पष्ट हुन्छ । यो स्मृति तथा इच्छाहरूको भण्डार भएकाले त्यस्ता स्मृति तथा इच्छाहरू त्यस क्षणमा चेतन नहुने भए पनि तत्कालै प्रत्याहवान गर्न सकिन्छ (घर्ती, २०६७ : १९) ।

इ) अचेतन

अचेतन मनको सबैभन्दा गहिराइ, भित्री मनको अवस्थामा रहन्छ । यो मनको सबैभन्दा शक्तिशाली भाग हो । कुनै पनि विचारहरू चेतन र अचेतनबाट पृथक हुँदा ती विचार भावनाहरू अचेतनमा आश्रय लिन पुग्दछ । व्यक्तिले आफ्नो इच्छानुसार निरीक्षण गर्न नसक्ने अचेतन उत्तेजना र आवेगमा प्रस्तुत भएका हुन्छन् । यसलाई समाजको यथार्थ नियम वा अधिकारसँग सरोकार हुँदैन ।

५. श्वेत भैरवी कथाको कथ्य सन्दर्भ

श्वेत भैरवी कथा श्वेत भैरवी कथासङ्ग्रह (२०३९) मा सङ्कलित एक मनोवैज्ञानिक कथावस्तुमा आधारित छ। श्वेत भैरवीको कथावस्तुको प्रारम्भमा नै लेखकले “धेरै दिन पहिलेको कुरा हो, प्रायः पैतीस वर्ष अगािको” (पृ.८७) भनेका हुनाले प्रस्तुत कथा आत्मसंस्मरणात्मक शैलीमा लेखिएको पुष्टि हुन्छ। प्रस्तुत कथा दश एघार वर्षको एक बालकले पैतीस वर्ष अगाडिको घटनालाई संस्मरणात्मक रूपमा विषयवस्तु बनाएको छ। नेपालको पूर्वमा रहेको कोशी नदीको किनारमा रहेको एउटा गाउँलाई यस कथाले आफ्नो कार्यपीठिका बनाएको छ। वर्षा ऋतु सिद्धिएर शरद् ऋतुको प्रथम चरणमा परेको पानीले कोशी तीरमा रहेका घरहरूलाई नराम्ररी असर गरिरहेको थियो। त्यस गाउँमा लेलहाल केवट जातिको एउटा घर थियो। लेलहाल केवट जातिको सानो किसान आफ्नी एउटी छोरीका साथ बस्थ्यो। त्यस छोरीको नाम फगुनी हो। फगुनी सोह्र वर्ष पुगेकी छे। फगुनी बालिका थिई परिपक्व पनि थिई। उसको गोरपन असाधारण जस्तो थियो। वास्तवमा उसको बाल्यकाल कोशी नदीको भङ्गालनेर एकलै खेलेर दुगुरेर बितेको थियो। फेरि पनि फगुनीमा ग्रामीण आकर्षण थिएन। त्यसको स्वभावमा एक किसिमको अनौठोपन थियो। उसका दौतरीहरू घाँस काट्न जाँदा, पानी भर्न जाँदा, खेतमा काम गर्दा, खिल्ल हाँस्थे भने ऊ भने गम्भीर भएर रहन्थी। फगुनी म पात्रको घरमा कामगर्ने एक नोकर्नी हो। म पात्रको परिवार ठूलो भएकाले उसलाई घरायसी काम गर्न दिनभरि नै लाग्थ्यो। जतिसुकै ठूलो परिवार भए पनि बेला बेलामा त्यो घर शान्त हुन्थ्यो। “कुचो लाउनु, लिप्नु, पानी भर्नु र यसप्रकारका साना-साना गृहस्थीमा परी परी आउने काम गर्नु” (सुवेदी, २०५१ : ८९) फगुनीको दिनचर्या नै बनेको थियो। शरद् ऋतुको समयमा म पात्र एउटा सानो सुकुलमा पल्टिरहेको थियो। म पात्र एकलो कोठामा छ। वातावरण सुनसान छ। निस्तब्धताको घडीमा उसका मस्तिष्कमा अनेकौं प्रकारका विचारहरू आउन थाल्दछ। यस्तो निस्तब्धताको कोठामा सानो बाल्टीनमा गोबर माटो च्यालेको पानी र लुँडो लिएर म पात्रको कोठामा प्रवेश गर्दा म पात्रका सबै सोचाइहरू छिन्न भिन्न हुन पुग्दछन्। कोठामा म (सानोबाबु) पात्रलाई एकाएक देखेपछि फगुनीको अचेतन मन एककासी सक्रिय हुन थाल्दछ। म पात्रले “तिम्रो दुलाहा छ, दुलहासँग किन बस्दिनौं तिमी” (सुवेदी, २०५१ : ९२) भन्दा मेरो चुमौन (चुम्बन) मात्र भएको छ। गौना भएको छैन (पृ.९२) भन्दा फगुनीको अचेतनमा कृण्ठित कामयौन वासनाको भाव बाहिर प्रकट हुन खोज्छ। म (सानुबाबु) पात्रसँग भएको कुराकानी प्रसङ्गमा फगुनीको अचेतन मन सक्रिय हुन भन प्रेरित गर्दछ। म पात्रका अनुसार “त्यस दिन फगुनी फगुनी थिइन-त्यो कोशी नदीको त्यस्तो भङ्गालो भएकी थिइ जो बाढीमा प्रलयको वेग लिएर उर्लिन्छ र उग्र भयङ्कर, प्रलयकारी हुन्छ, जब त्यसले मानिसप्रति उन्मत्त भएर सबैलाई निल्दै हिँड्छ हाहाकार मच्चाउँदै। त्यस्तै श्वेतभैरवी जागृत भएकी फगुनीको जटा हावामा फैलिएको आँखा निभेको आगो, चरणमा ताण्डवको शक्ति, कालो-नीलो थियो, वक्षमा श्रृङ्गार, खुलेको मुखको गुफाबाट तप्त उच्छ्वासको वाफ। श्वेत भैरवी फगुनी (सुवेदी, २०५१ : ९५)। यसरी म पात्रले फगुनीलाई श्वेत भैरवीको रूप जस्तै मानेका छन्। फगुनीले सानोबाबुलाई तिमी मेरो दुलाहा (सुवेदी, २०५१ : ९२) भन्दै आफ्ना पति सम्झदै खेदो गर्दछे। फगुनीले सानोबाबुलाई दुलाहा भनेर जिस्क्याउँदा सानो बाबु अज्ञात भयले आत्तिन पुग्दछ तर सानोबाबुले फगुनीको आन्तरिक उत्तेजनालाई बुझ्न सकिरहेको हुँदैन। हे ईश्वर ! मलाई बचाऊ श्वेत भैरवीको दानवी नङ्गाबाट (सुवेदी, २०५१ : ९४) भन्दै म पात्रले ईश्वरलाई सम्झिरहेको हुन्छ तर केही गरे पनि बच्ने उपाय नदेखेर ऊ घरमाथिबाट हाम फाल्न पुग्दा तल बारीलाई घेर्न भनी बाँसहरू थुपारेर राखेको ठाउँमा म पात्र खस्न पुग्दछ। दाहिने घुँडाको ठीक तल गहिरो घाउ परेको हुनाले रगतको भल बग्न थाल्दछ। वातावरण अकस्मात् शान्त हुन पुग्दछ त्यही बेला फगुनी म पात्रको अगाडि आएर उभिन्छे र सानोबाबु धेरै

चोट लाग्यो कि ? भन्दै सोध्छे । हामफाल्दा सानोबाबुको खुट्टामा लागेको चोटमा पानीपट्टी बाँधिन्छ र घाउमा मासु भरिदै जान्छ र विस्तारै त्यो घाउमा खाटा बस्छ जुन रातो खाटो टाढैबाट टल्किन्छ्यो । खुट्टामा लागेको चोट पूर्ण रूपमा निको भइसकेपछि एकदिन सानोबाबु फगुनीको घर पुगेको बेला फगुनीले उसलाई चुमौन भनेको तिमिले अब राम्ररी बुझ्यौहोला भन्ने प्रश्न गर्दै चुमौनको अर्थ रगत रगतको मेल भनेर बताइदिन्छे । आज धेरै दिनपछि, पैतीस वर्षपछि घुँडाको खाटोलाई हेर्दा फगुनीको सम्झना हुन्छ भन्दै कथावस्तुलाई समाप्त गरिएको छ ।

६. श्वेतभैरवी कथामा यौन मनोविज्ञान

श्वेत भैरवी कथासङ्ग्रहमा सङ्कलित कथाहरूमध्ये श्वेत भैरवी पनि एक हो । यस कथामा फ्रायडीय यौन सिद्धान्तको प्रयोग गरिएको छ । श्वेत भैरवी कथाको मुख्य पात्र फगुनी हो । उसैमा अङ्कुरित भएको यौनकामेच्छालाई यस कथामा विषयवस्तु बनाइएको छ । फगुनी १६ वर्ष पुगिसकेकी छे । उसमा यौन भावनाको विकास भइसकेको छ । उसमा सानैमा चुमौन भएको छ तर गौन हुन बाँकी रहेको छ । फगुनी गौना गरेर आफ्नो पतिको घर गइनसकेको हुनाले उसका मनमा रहेका कुण्ठित यौन भावनाहरू अचेतन अवस्थामा नै दमित हुन पुगेका छन् । दमित यौन इच्छाहरूले बाहिरी प्रकटीकरणको अवसर नपाएर मनभित्र कुण्ठित भएका छन् । यसै क्रममा सानो बाबुलाई “तिमी मेरो दुलाहा” (सुवेदी, २०५१ : ९२) भन्दा फगुनी भित्रको अचेतन मन एकाएक सक्रिय हुन थाल्दछ । फगुनी एक असामान्य सचेत नारी पात्रको रूपमा देखा परेकी छे । प्रस्तुत कथामा फगुनीका मानसिक आवेग संवेगको चित्रणसँगै कथावस्तु अगाडि बढेको छ । गौनाका लागि प्रतीक्षा गरेर बसेकी फगुनीलाई यौन अचेतनको असत्य पीडाबाट मर्माहत भएकी छे ।

श्वेत भैरवी असाधारण नारी-यौन मानसिक संवेगको उत्कृष्ट कथावस्तु हो । फगुनीलाई दमित यौन अचेतनका इच्छाहरूलाई प्रस्तुत गर्ने प्रमुख पात्रको रूपमा चित्रण गरिएको छ । यस कथामा दुलाहा, चुमौन, गौना जस्ता शब्दले यस कथाकी मुख्य पात्र फगुनीको अचेतन मानसिकतालाई उत्कर्षका रूपमा पुऱ्याउने काम गरेको छ । यौन अचेतनले ग्रसित भएको व्यक्तिले आफू स्वयम्ले गरेको कामको चाल थाहा पाउँदैन, यहाँ फगुनीको अवस्था त्यस्तै किसिमको भएको छ । फगुनीले यौन अचेतनको कारणले श्वेत भैरवीको उग्र रूप लिई सानुबाबु माथि विभिन्न क्रियाकलापका गतिविधि गर्नु असामान्य नारीको यौन चाहनाको उत्कर्ष उदाहरण हो । लेलहा केवटको ठिङ्गुरिएको आँपको वृक्षले यौन दमित अनि कुण्ठित: असामान्य नारी पात्र फगुनीको चित्रणलाई अभि स्पष्ट पारेको देखिन्छ ।

७. श्वेत भैरवी कथामा सामाजिकता

श्वेत भैरवी कथामा यौन मनोविज्ञानबाहेक अन्य सामाजिक विज्ञान पनि देखापर्दछ । नेपालको तराईको धार्मिक-सामाजिक, आर्थिक एवम् सांस्कृतिक पक्षको चित्रण यस कथामा स्पष्ट रूपमा देखिन्छ । केवट जातिको संस्कृति अनुसार छोरीलाई बाल्यकालमै चुमौन गरिन्छ र गौनाको लागि पर्खिनु पर्छ । फगुनी रूपवती छ, यौवनको चरमसीमामा पुगेकी छ । यस्तो परिस्थितिमा पनि ऊ आफ्नो लोग्नेसँग छुट्टै बस्नु परेको छ । फगुनी ग्रामीण अन्य युवतीका तुलनामा विशेष प्रकारको देखिन्छ । यौन उत्कण्ठाले ग्रसित भएका समाजका नारीहरूको जीवन निकै गम्भीर किसिमको हुन्छ । मनोवैज्ञानिक यथार्थवादी कथाहरूमा संस्कृतिवादलाई महत्त्व दिइएको हुन्छ । संस्कृतिभित्र सामाजिक पक्षका चित्रहरू पनि प्रस्तुत भएको हुन्छ । फगुनीको मानसिक चेतनामा द्वन्द्व आउनु केवट जातिको संस्कृति र वैवाहिक संस्कारको प्रत्यक्ष असर परेकाले ऊ यौन चाहनाबाट

विमुख हुनु परेको छ। विपन्न आर्थिक जीवनका कारणबाट नारी आफ्ना चाहनाहरूलाई लुकाउनु पर्ने बाध्यता रहेको छ। समाजको घातक भनेको सामाजिक विभेद हो। सामाजिक विभेदले प्रत्यक्ष-अप्रत्यक्ष मूलतः नारी जातिलाई प्रभाव पारिरहेको हुन्छ। धनी-गरिब, उच्च-मध्यम, साक्षर-निरक्षर, शोषक-सामन्त जस्ता विभेदीय तत्वले मानिस निराशा र मनोरोगी जस्तै बन्न पुग्छ। फगुनीलाई यिनै बाधा अड्चनले गर्दा उसका यौन चाहना पूरा हुन सकेका छैनन्। उसको अतृप्त इच्छाहरू दबिएका छन्, बाह्य प्रकटीकरण हुन सकेको छैन, कारण आफ्नो आर्थिक विपन्नता र सामाजिक परम्पराको संस्कार नै हो। सामाजिक आर्थिक कारणले नै माछा मारी जीविकोपार्जन गरी समाजको चित्रण यस कथामा उल्लेख गरिएको छ। जन्मजात रूपमा नै उनीहरू गरिब छन्, उत्पीडित छन्, शोषित छन् आर्थिक अवस्था, जातीय परिस्थितिबाट केवट पीडित छन्। फगुनीको बुवा लेलहा आर्थिक अवस्थाबाट निकै गरिब छ। कोशीको भङ्गालको छेउमा सानो भुप्रोमा बाउ छोरी बसेका छन्। गरिबको कारणले गाउँमा कसैसँग आवतजावत छैन र आवतजावत गर्न पनि रुचाउँदैन फगुनी। यसको कारण समाजमा उनीहरूलाई हेर्ने दृष्टिकोण फरक किसिमको छ। फगुनीको लागि आर्थिक र संस्कार बाधक बनेको छ। यसरी प्रस्तुत कथामा सामाजिक पक्षका क्रियाकलाप साथै अन्य गतिविधिहरूलाई पनि चित्रण गरिएको छ।

द. श्वेत भैरवी कथामा अचेतनको अवस्था

विश्वेश्वरप्रसाद कोइरालाका कथाहरूमा वर्णनात्मक घटना थोरैमा मात्रा पाइन्छ र चरित्र प्रधान घटनामा केन्द्रित भएर सशक्त मनोवैज्ञानिक धारालाई प्रयोग गरी कथा लेख्ने प्रवृत्ति यिनमा पाइन्छ। यिनका कथामा प्रयोग हुने चरित्र वा पात्रले भोग गरेका, अनुभव गरेका सामाजिक, वैचारिक, मनोवैज्ञानिक, सांस्कृतिक जस्ता गहन समस्याहरूको विश्लेषण कोइराला गर्दछन्। कोइरालाको श्वेत भैरवी कथाको फगुनीको मानसिक र आर्थिक निकै दयनीय छ। अर्काको घरमा काम गरेर जीविका चलाउनु उसको बाध्यता देखिन्छ। सोह्र वर्षे कल्कलाउँदो जीवनमा मन पर्दो खान र धितमरुञ्जेल यौन तृप्ति गर्न नपाएकाले उसका इच्छा र आकाङ्क्षा कुण्ठित हुन पुगेका छन् (पौड्याल, २०७३ : १४४)। श्वेत भैरवी यौन चाहनाको उग्ररूपको प्रतीकात्मक रूपमा प्रस्तुत भएको हो। फगुनीलाई यौन कुण्ठाले ग्रस्त पारेको छ। उसको चेतनशील निष्क्रिय जस्तै भएर अचेतन मन बढी क्रियाशील भएको छ। फगुनी आवेगी, कामुक, असामान्य र अस्वस्थ यौन आवेगबाट थित्थिलिएकी पात्र हो। कथामा सानोबाबुले फगुनीको यौन चेतनाको आवेगलाई भन्नु बढी उन्मत्त गर्ने भूमिका खेलेको देखिन्छ। फगुनीले पहिरिएका वस्त्रको वर्णन गरेर होस् वा उसको दुलाहाको कुरा तथा चुमौन गौनाको सन्दर्भलाई लिएर होस्, फगुनीको अतृप्त यौवनको अवस्थालाई उत्कर्षमा पुऱ्याउने काम सानोबाबुले गरेको देखिन्छ। मानिसको आन्तरिक पक्षमा रहेको दमित भावेच्छा र कामेच्छा मौका पाउनासाथ निकै डरलाग्दो हुन्छ भन्ने कुरा यस कथामा चित्रण गरिएको छ।

९. निष्कर्ष

राजनैतिक व्यक्तित्व र साहित्यिक व्यक्तित्व रूपमा परिचित विश्वेश्वरप्रसाद कोइराला नेपाली साहित्यका एक वरिष्ठ साहित्यकार हुन्। वि.सं.१९९२ सालमा शारदा पत्रिकामा चन्द्रवदन कथा प्रकाशित भएपछि उनको कथाकारिताको यात्रा अगाडि बढेको देखिन्छ। यस कथाले उनलाई मनोवैज्ञानिक कथाकारको रूपमा चिनाउँछ। कोइरालाले नेपाली साहित्यका कथा, संस्मरण, उपन्यास जस्ता महत्वपूर्ण आख्यानहरूमा कलम चलाएका छन्। सूर्यविक्रम ज्ञवालीको सम्पादकत्वमा प्रकाशित हुने कथाकुसुम १९९५ मा कोइरालाका

विहा, शत्रु र सिपाही जस्ता मनोवैज्ञानिक कथाहरू प्रकाशित भएका थिए । यस पछि वि.सं.१९९६ र १९९७ सालमा प्रेम, दुलही र द्वन्द्व प्रेम जस्ता कथाहरू शारदा पत्रिकामा प्रकाशित भए । उनका हालसम्म दुईवटा दोषी चस्मा (२००६) र श्वेत भैरवी (२०३९) कथासङ्ग्रह प्रकाशित भएका छन् । कोइराला कथाकार मात्र नभएर उपन्यासकार पनि हुन् । यिनले तीन घुम्ती (२०२५) नरेन्द्र दाइ (२०२७), सुम्निमा (२०२७) जस्ता महत्वपूर्ण उपन्यास लेखेका छन् ।

कोइराला मनोविश्लेषणात्मक कथाका उन्नायक हुन् त्यसमा पनि दमित यौनेच्छा एवम् रतिरागको उपयोगका दृष्टिले प्रथम प्रयोक्ता हुन् । यिनले आफ्ना कथाहरूमा व्यक्ति मनोविज्ञानको अध्ययन र विश्लेषण गरेका छन् भने मनोविज्ञानका अनेकन पक्ष, पात्र चित्रण, यौनेच्छात्मक मनोविश्लेषण र सामाजिक परिवेशका जीवनमा घटेका यथार्थताहरूलाई कथाको विषयवस्तु बनाएका छन् । फ्रायडवादी चिन्तनबाट प्रभावित कोइरालाको कथामा जीवनमा भोगेका सुखदुःख, हर्ष विस्माद जस्ता भावनात्मक अभिव्यक्ति पनि पाइन्छन् । नेपाली समाजको परम्परागत सामाजिक मूल्य र मान्यताभित्र रतिरागात्मक रूपमा रहेको यौन चेतना प्राकृतिक सिद्धान्त र व्यावहारिक सिद्धान्तको अनिवार्य मूल्य भए तापनि समाजको सामाजिक संरचना, संस्कार, मर्यादाले लक्ष्मणरेखा वा सीमाङ्कन गरिएका यौन चाहनालाई एउटा सीमाको रेखाभित्र राखेर अभिव्यक्त गर्ने परम्पराको थालनी कोइरालाले गरेका छन् । यही प्रवृत्ति २०३९ मा प्रकाशित श्वेत भैरवी कथासङ्ग्रहमा सङ्कलित श्वेत भैरवी कथामा प्रयुक्त पात्र फगुनीको यही स्थितिबाट उसको जीवनदृष्टि अगाडि बढेको देखिन्छ ।

यौवनको प्रथम चरणमा प्रवेश गरेकी फगुनी धोदो बोलीमा यहाँ अरु त कोही छैन ? तल नि ? हठात् जुरुक्क उठेर ऊ कोठाकोठा हेर्न थाली । छातीमा भयङ्कर रौद्रताले कालो चोलोबाट उसको यौनचिन्ह हरिणीको टाउकोमा उठेको सिङ जस्तो कठोर र तीक्ष्ण थिए (सुवेदी, २०५१ : ९३) । यसरी आकस्मिक रूपमा उठेको रतिरागात्मक कामवासनाले फगुनीलाई श्वेत भैरवी जस्तो बनाएको प्रतीत हुन्छ । सुनसान चकमन्न वातावरण परिवेश, उमेरका दृष्टिले सानै भए पनि शारीरिक अवस्थाले गर्दा एकजना पुरुषलाई दुलाहा भनेकी छ । उसका दमित चाहना भावनाले गर्दा फगुनीको अचेतन मन हठात् उत्तेजनातिर आकर्षित हुन्छ । फगुनीले दुलाहाका कुरा बारम्बार उठाउनु, चुमौन र गौनाका सन्दर्भहरू यौन इच्छालाई बढाउने सामग्रीको रूपमा आत्मसात गरेकी छ । गौनाको अवसर नपाएकी फगुनीलाई उसो दुलाहा आएर लिएर जानुपर्ने थियो तर नलगेको कारणले फगुनीको यौनेच्छा दमित छ, अचेतन मनको तीव्र विकास भएको छ । नेपालको तराइ क्षेत्रमा विभिन्न किसिमका जनजाति मध्ये केवट जनजाति पनि रहेको छ । जसको प्रायः गरेर नदी किनारको छेउछाउमा आफ्नो सानो छाप्रो बनाएर बसेका हुन्छन् । तल्लो जात भनेर बढी हेपिने केवट जातिले विशेष गरी आफ्नो घरको खेतबारी सम्हाल्दै माछा मारेर जीविका चलाउने गर्दछन् । यिनीहरूको संस्कृति अनुसार बालिकामा नै चुमौन भइसकेको हुन्छ । सोह्र वर्षे फगुनीका बुबा लेलहा केवट आर्थिक दृष्टिकोणबाट निकै गरिव छन् । फगुनी सानैदेखि बुवासँग बस्दै आएकी छे । सोह्र वर्षकी युवती फगुनीले प्रेमेच्छा, यौवनेच्छा, यौनेच्छा जस्ता कुराहरू विस्तारै विकसित हुँदै जाँदा उसमा एक किसिमको दमित इच्छा पलाउन थाल्दछ । माइतमै बस्न बाध्य भएकी फगुनी मनोवैज्ञानिक रूपमा अचेतन अवस्थामा पुगेकी हुन्छे त्यसैले त तिम्रो दुलाहा खोइ नि ? भन्दा तिम्री भन्ने उत्तर दिन्छे (सुवेदी, २०५१ : ९२) ।

यसरी प्रस्तुत कथामा एकदिनको घटनालाई विषयवस्तु बनाएर लेखिएको श्वेत भैरवी कथामा फगुनीका यौन भावनाहरू अचेतन अवस्थामा दमित हुन पुगेको छ । सहज तरिकाले निकासको अवसर फगुनीले पाउन सकेको देखिदैन । ऊभित्र रहेका दमित इच्छाहरू बाट्य रूपमा प्रकटीकरण हुन खोजिरहेको अवस्था छ ।

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नेपालमा सहरीकरणको वर्तमान अवस्था

वशिष्ट सापकोटा

लेखसार

प्रस्तुत लेखले मुख्यगरी नेपालको विगत तथा वर्तमान सहरीकरणको अवस्था र विगतका शहर घोषणाका आधारहरूको छलफल तथा तुलनात्मक विश्लेषण गर्ने प्रयाश गरेको छ । साथै यो लेखको मुख्य उद्देश्य नेपालमा सहरीकरणको प्रवृत्तिको छलफल, विश्लेषण तथा शहरी केन्द्र घोषणाका सरकारी नीतिहरूको मुल्यकडन गर्ने रहेको छ । सामान्यतया नेपालको सहरीकरण शुरुवात सम्बन्धी तथ्याक्त सन् १९५२/५४ को जनगणनाबाट मात्रै उपलब्ध हुन थालेको छ । देशको कुल जनसङ्ख्यालाई बस्तिका आधारमा सहरी जनसङ्ख्या र ग्रामिण जनसङ्ख्यामा वर्गीकरण गरिएको थियो । विशेषगरी काठमाडौं उपत्यकामा सहरीकरण तीव्र रूप (सन् १९७६मा २०.१९ प्रति बर्ग किलोमिटरबाट सन् १९८९ मा ७८.९६ हुँदै सन् २०१५ सम्म १३९.५७ प्रति व.कि.मी)ले भएको पाइन्छ । उक्त जनगणनाअनुसार ५००० जनसङ्ख्या भएका १० वटा बस्तीहरूलाई सहर (Sahar) भनियो । विश्वमै कम सहरीकरण हुने मध्येको नेपाल एक मुलुक भएको मानिन्छ । तै पनि सन् १९५२/५४मा २.९ प्रतिशत रहेको सहरी जनसङ्ख्या वृद्धि भई सन् २०१४ को नेपाल सरकारको नयाँ सहरहरूको घोषणा अनुसार ३८.२ प्रतिशत सहरी जनसङ्ख्या पुगेको थियो । अझ विशेष गरी सन् २०१५ पछिको राजनैतिक प्रणाली परिवर्तनपछि अर्थात संविधानको घोषणा पश्चात सहरीकरण प्रवृत्ति नाटकीय रूपले वृद्धि भएको देखिन्छ । राष्ट्रिय जनगणना २०६८ पछि नेपाल सरकार, संघीय मामिला तथा स्थानीय विकास मन्त्रालय, २०१७ को घोषणा अनुसार नेपालमा सहरको सङ्ख्या २९३ र जनसङ्ख्या ६६.१७% पुगेको छ । तर महानगर, उपमहानगर र नगरपालकाभित्र पनि ग्रामिण चरित्रका बस्ति प्रशस्त मात्रामा रहेका तथा गाउँपालिकाका बजार तथा केन्द्रहरू स-साना शहरका रूपमा विस्तार हुँदै गएको अवस्थामा सहरीकरणलाई अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय अभ्यासहरूको अध्ययन गरी फरक ढंगले पुनः परिभाषित गर्नुपर्ने देखिन्छ ।

शब्दावली: नगरपालिका, सहरी जनसङ्ख्या, सहरी क्षेत्र, भौगोलिक क्षेत्र, सहरीकरण प्रवृत्ति आदि

१. परिचय

सहरीकरण' भनेको अग्रेजी शब्द "Urbanization" को नेपाली रूपान्तरण हो । सहरीकरणले सहर निर्माणको प्रक्रियालाई बुझाउँदछ । कृषि क्षेत्रबाट गैह्र कृषि क्षेत्रमा रूपान्तरण हुने कृम सहरीकरण हो । सहरीकरणलाई मुलुकको एक प्रमुख जनसाङ्ख्यिक विशेषताका रूपमा लिने गरिन्छ । साथै यसलाई मुलुकको विकासको एक महत्वपूर्ण सूचकको रूपमा हेर्ने गरिन्छ । सहरीकरण' शब्दको निर्माण 'सहरबाट' भएको हो । सहरीकरणको अर्थ सहर निर्माण प्रक्रिया भन्ने बुझिन्छ । सामान्यतया सहरीकरण भन्नाले सहरी क्षेत्रमा बसोबास गर्ने कुल मानिसको प्रतिशतलाई बुझाउँदछ । अर्को शब्दमा भन्नुपर्दा सहरीकरण त्यो प्रक्रिया हो जसमा सहरी क्षेत्रमा बसोबास गर्ने मानिसको अनुपातमा वृद्धि हुनुलाई भनिन्छ । अहिलेसम्म मानिसको ठूलो सङ्ख्या एक ठाउँमा भएको र प्रशासनिक सुविधालाई भएकालाई शहर मान्ने गरिन्छ । नेपालको सन्दर्भमा यिनै ठूला मानव बस्तीहरूलाई नै सहरी क्षेत्र भनेर तोकिएको छ । यही सहरी बस्तीहरूलाई नेपालमा नगरपालिका

भनिन्छ, (थापा, २०६१) । शहरीकरण भनेको परम्परागत अर्थतन्त्र हुँदै आधुनिक अर्थतन्त्रका अलावा औद्योगिक एकाई रूपान्तरणको सुचक हो । यो एक दीर्घकालीन प्रक्रिया पनि हो ।

औद्योगिक क्रान्ति अवधिभरमा मानिसहरु ग्रामीण क्षेत्रबाट सहरका विभिन्न उत्पादन केन्द्रहरुमा रोजगारीका अवसरहरु प्राप्त गर्नका लागि बसाइसराइ गर्न थाले किनकी त्यतिबेला ग्रामीण क्षेत्रमा कृषि पेशा सामान्य मानिन्थ्यो । सो बसाइसराइ सँगसँगै सहरीकरणको सुरुवात भएको मानिन्छ ।

नेपालमा सहरीक्षेत्रसम्बन्धी तथ्याङ्क सन् १९५२/५४ को जनगणनादेखि उपलब्ध हुनथालेको हो । नेपालमा सहरी क्षेत्रका परिभाषामा एकरूपता रहेको पाइँदैन । नेपालमा सहरीक्षेत्रलाई नगरपालिका भनिन्छ । नेपालमा सहरीक्षेत्र सम्बन्धी तथ्याङ्क सन् १९५२/५४ को जनगणनादेखि उपलब्ध हुन थालेको हो । त्यो समयमा जम्मा १० वटा सहरी बस्तीहरु जहाँ २.९ प्रतिशत जनसङ्ख्या बस्दथे । नेपालमा सहरीक्षेत्रको परिभाषा एक समान पाइँदैन, बेला-बेलामा परिवर्तन हुँदै आइरहेका छन् । सन् १९५२ को 'नेपाल राज्य नगरपालिका ऐन २००९' (Nepal State Municipality Act, 1952) अनुसार राजस्व (Revenue) उठ्ने बस्तीलाई जनताबाट माग गरेको ठाउँ वा सरकारको उपयुक्त देखेको ठाउँलाई सहरीक्षेत्र घोषित गर्ने व्यवस्था थियो । सन् १९६१ को जनगणनामा पहिलो पल्ट ५,००० भन्दा बढी जनसङ्ख्या भएको र अन्य नगरीय सुविधाहरु जस्तै विद्यालय कलेज, अदालत, प्रशासनिक कार्यालय, बजार, सञ्चारको सुविधा र उद्योग भएको स्थानलाई सहर (Sahar) का रूपमा परिभाषित गरियो तर त्यस परिभाषालाई प्रभावकारीले रूपले लागु भएन । (Bastola, 1995; CBS, 2014)। सन् १९६२ को नगर पञ्चायत ऐन, २०६२ को 'नगर पञ्चायत ऐन २०१९' (Town Panchayat Act, 1962) मा सहरी क्षेत्रको लागि कम्तिमा १०००० जनसङ्ख्या हुनुपर्ने व्यवस्था गरियो । त्यसपछि 'नगर पञ्चायत ऐन २०१९' को पाँचौँ संसोधन, २०३३ मा सहरीक्षेत्रको लागि न्यूनतम ९००० जनसङ्ख्या तोकियो । सन् १९९० को नगरपालिका ऐन २०४७ अनुसार पनि सहरीक्षेत्र हुनको लागि न्यूनतम ९००० जनसङ्ख्या नै कायम गरियो । सन् १९९२ को 'नगरपालिका ऐन २०४८' र सन् १९९९ को 'स्थानीय स्वायत्त शासन ऐन २०५४' मा नगरपालिका हुनको लागि १) न्यूनतम २०,००० जनसङ्ख्या २) बिजुली, खानेपानी, सडक, सञ्चार, शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, यातायात जस्ता न्यूनतम सहरी सुविधा ३) वार्षिक आय न्यूनतम १० लाख र ४) अर्ध सहरी वातावरण हुनुपर्ने व्यवस्था गरियो । पछि 'स्थानीय सरकार सञ्चालन ऐन २०७४' अनुसार जनसङ्ख्या, राजस्व सङ्कलनको स्रोत र अन्य सहरी पुर्वाधारका आधारमा सहरी क्षेत्रलाई तीन तहमा विभाजन गरिएको छ ।

क. महानगरपालिका

ख. उप- महानगरपालिका

ग. नगरपालिका

क. महानगरपालिका : यसमा (क) न्यूनतम ५ लाख जनसङ्ख्या (ख) पछिल्लो पाँच वर्षको औसत वार्षिक आन्तरिक आय कम्तिमा रु. एक अर्ब (ग) विशेषज्ञ सेवा भएको अस्पतालका साथै कम्तिमा एक सय शैयाको कम्तिमा एक साधारण अस्पताल सहित कम्तिमा पाँच सय शैयाको अस्पतालको सुविधा (घ) अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय विमानस्थल, अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय रङ्गशाला, अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय स्तरको सभाहल, शपिङ्गमल, खानेपानी, यातायात, सञ्चार, सडक, शिक्षा, र अन्य पर्याप्त सहरी सुविधा (ङ) नगरको प्रमुख सडकका साथै अन्य शाखा सडकहरु पक्की (कालोपत्रे) (च) कम्तिमा एउटा विश्वविद्यालय, अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय स्तरको खेलकुदका लागि आवास्यक अन्य पुर्वाधार आदि भएको हुनुपर्दछ । नेपालमा हाल काठमाडौँ, ललितपुर, भरतपुर, पोखरा लेखनाथ, वीरगञ्ज र विराटनगर गरी ६ वटा महानगरपालिका रहेका छन् ।

ख. उप- महानगरपालिका: यसमा (क) न्यूनतम २ लाख जनसङ्ख्या (ख) पछिल्लो पाँच वर्षको औसत वार्षिक

आन्तरिक आय कम्तिमा रु.पाँच करोड (ग) कम्तीमा एक सय शैयाको अस्पतालसहित कम्तिमा दुई सय शैयाको अस्पतालको सुविधा (घ) विजुली, खानेपानी, यातायात, सञ्चार, सडक, शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य र अन्य पर्याप्त नगरीय सुविधा (ङ) उच्च शिक्षाको सुविधा, राष्ट्रिय स्तरको खेलकुदका लागि आवास्यक पुर्वाधार लगायतका अन्य सुविधा जस्ता कुराहरु भएको हुनुपर्दछ। अहिले नेपालमा जनकपुर, नेपालगञ्ज, जीतपुर-सिमारा, इटहरी, धरान, धनगढी, तुल्सीपुर, घोराही, हेटौँडा, बुटवल र कलैया गरी एघार उप-महानगरपालिका रहेका छन्।

ग. **नगरपालिका:** यसमा (क) हिमाली जिल्ला वा क्षेत्रमा न्युनतम १० हजार, पहाडी जिल्ला वा क्षेत्रमा ४० हजार, भित्री मधेसका जिल्ला वा क्षेत्रमा ५० हजार, तराइका जिल्ला वा क्षेत्रमा ७५ हजार, काठमाडौँ उपत्यकाभित्र १ लाख जनसङ्ख्या हुनुपर्दछ। त्यसैगरी आयको हकमा पछिल्लो पाँच वर्षको औसत वार्षिक आन्तरिक आय कम्तिमा रु. एक करोड र अन्य जिल्लामा भए रु ३ करोड (ख) कम्तिमा २५ शैयाको अस्पतालको सुविधा, विजुली, खानेपानी, यातायात, सञ्चार, सडक, शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य लगायतका नगरीय सुविधाका साथै अर्ध सहरी वातावरण भएको क्षेत्र हुनुपर्दछ। (GoN, 2074)

विभिन्न देशहरुमा आ-आफ्नो प्रकारले सहरी क्षेत्रलाई परिभाषित गरेको पाइन्छ। तर अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय चलन चल्तीमा सहरी क्षेत्रलाई परिभाषित गर्दा प्रशासनिक एकाई (administrative unit), जनसङ्ख्याको जमघट (population concentration), गैर-कृषि पेसामा संलग्न जनसङ्ख्याको अनुपात (proportion of the population in non agricultural occupation) र पूर्वाधारहरुको उपलब्धता (availability infrastructure) लाई समावेश गरिन्छ। (UNFPA, 1996)। तर नेपालको सन्दर्भमा त्यसो गरिएको पाइँदैन।

यसरी घोषणा गर्दा भौतिक पुर्वाधार, त्यस क्षेत्रमा रहेको आर्थिक क्रियाकलाप तथा उपलब्ध अन्य सेवा सुविधाहरुलाई भन्दा पनि जनसङ्ख्याको आकार र प्रशासनिक सुविधालाई प्रमुख आधार लिएको देखिन्छ। श्रोत,साधन तथा सुविधाहरुलाई मापदण्डका रूपमा हेर्नुपर्ने भए तापनि त्यसो भएको छैन। यसकारण वर्गीकरण विधि वैज्ञानिक छैन। पछिल्लो समयमा मध्यपश्चिम तथा सुदूरपश्चिम क्षेत्रमा नयाँ घोषित अधिकांस नगरपालिकारू भौतिक पुर्वाधार तथा सेवासुविधा, साक्षरता, शैक्षिकस्तर लगायत पेशागत संरचनालाई दृष्टिगत गर्दा अझै ग्रामीण प्रकृतिका पाइन्छन्। त्यसैले यी शहरहरु सबै परिभाषाले समेटिने सहरी परिवेशभित्र पर्दैनन्। एक तिहाइ भन्दा पनि कम जनसङ्ख्या मात्रै सबै परिभाषाले समेटिने परिवेशमा बस्दछन् (NSO, 2022)

सन् १९५२/५४ को जनगणनाअनुसार नेपालमा १० वटा बस्तीहरुले मात्र सहरी दर्जा पाएका थिए जसमध्ये ५ वटा सहर काठमाडौँ उपत्यकामा (काठमाडौँ, ललितपुर, भक्तपुर, कीर्तिपुर र ठिमी) र बाँकी सहर तराई क्षेत्रमा अवस्थित थिए। सन् १९६१ को जनगणनामा थप ६ वटा नयाँ क्षेत्रलाई नगर क्षेत्र घोषण गरियो। फलस्वरूप सहरको कुल सङ्ख्या १६ पुग्यो जसमध्ये ३ वटा सहर पहाडी क्षेत्र (काठमाडौँ, उपत्यकाबाहेक) मा ५ वटा काठमाडौँ उपत्यकामा र ८ वटा तराई क्षेत्रमा रहेका थिए। सन् १९७१ मा आएर मटिहानी, मलङ्गा, बनेपा, ठिमी र कीर्तिपुरलाई सहरको श्रेणीबाट हटाइयो भने उता नयाँ ५ वटा क्षेत्र इलाम, भद्रपुर, हेटौँडा, बुटवल र सिद्धार्थनगरलाई नगर क्षेत्रमा वर्गीकरण गरियो। फलस्वरूप सहरको कुल सङ्ख्या १६ वटा नै रहन गयो। त्यसबेला काठमाडौँ उपत्यकामा ३ वटा सहर, पहाडी क्षेत्रमा ४ वटा सहर र तराई क्षेत्रमा ९ वटा सहर थियो। यसपछि सन् १९८१ मा नयाँ ७ ग्रामीण क्षेत्रलाई सहरी क्षेत्रमा वर्गीकरण गरियो र सहरको कुल सङ्ख्या २३ हुन पुग्यो जसमध्ये काठमाडौँ उपत्यकाका सहरहरु ३ वटा, पहाडी सहरहरु ६ वटा र तराईका सहरहरु १४ वटा थिए। सन् १९८२ मा ६ वटा (दमक, जलेश्वर, बनेपा, कलैया, तौलिहवा र दिपायल) र सन् १९८६ मा वटा (इनर्वा, मलङ्गा, धुलिखेल र बिदुर) ग्रामीण क्षेत्रलाई सहरी क्षेत्र घोषण गरियो। सन्

१९९१ को जनगणनामा सहरको कुल सङ्ख्या ३३ थियो । यी ३३ वटा सहर क्षेत्रहरूमध्ये ३ वटा काठमाडौं उपत्यकामा, १० वटा पहाडी क्षेत्रमा र २० वटा तराई क्षेत्रमा रहेका थिए । सन् १९९१को जनगणनासम्म हिमाली क्षेत्रमा एउटा पनि सहर क्षेत्र रहेको थिएन । सन् १९९२ मा ३ वटा र सन् १९९७ मा २२ वटा थप नयाँ क्षेत्रलाई नगरपालिकामा वर्गीकरण गरियो जसको फलस्वरूप नगरपालिकाको सङ्ख्या ५८ हुन पुग्यो । सन् २००१ को जनगणनामा ५८ वटा नगरपालिका कायम रहेको थियो जसमध्ये २ वटा हिमाली क्षेत्रमा, ५ वटा काठमाडौं, उपत्यकामा, २२ वटा पहाडी क्षेत्रमा र २९ वटा तराई क्षेत्रमा अवस्थित रहेका थिए । सन् २०११ को जनगणनामा पनि ५८ वटा नगरपालिका रहेका थिए । सन् २०१४ मे ८ (वि.स.२०७१ वैशाख २५) मा २८३ गाविसलाई पुर्नसङ्गठित गरी ७२ नगरपालिकाहरू थप गरिएको थियो । यसपछि सन् २०१४ डिसेम्बर २ (वि.स.२०७१ मङ्सिर १६) मा २५८ गाविसलाई पुर्नसङ्गठित गरी थप ६१ नगरपालिका घोषणा गरियो । त्यसै गरी सन् २०१४ मा १३३ थप नयाँ नगरपालिकाहरू थपिए । यी थप गएका १३३ नगरपालिकाहरू मध्ये ११ वटा हिमाली क्षेत्रमा, १६ वटा काठमाडौं उपत्यकामा, ३९ वटा अन्य पहाडी क्षेत्रमा र ६७ वटा तराई क्षेत्रमा रहेका थिए । त्यतिबेला नेपालमा १९१ नगरपालिका रहेका थिए जसमध्ये १ महानगरपालिका (काठमाडौं), ११ उपमहानगरपालिका (ललितपुर, बिराटनगर, वीरगञ्ज, पोखरा, इटहरी, धरान, जनकपुर, हेटौँडा, भरतपुर, बुटवल र नेपालगञ्ज) र १७९ नगरपालिका थिए । पछि (वि.सं.२०७३ फागुन २२)मा नगरपालिकाको विवरणलाई हेर्दा हिमाली क्षेत्रमा १३ वटा, पहाडी क्षेत्रमा ९६ वटा र तराई क्षेत्रमा ८२ वटा नगरपालिका रहेका छन् । त्यस्तै गरी सन् २०१५को मुलुकको पुनरसंरचना पश्चात ६ महानगरपालिका, ११ उप-महानगरपालिका, २७६ नगरपालिका तथा ४६० गाउँपालिका गरी कुल ७५३ स्थानीय निकायहरूमा विभाजन गरिएको छ । (MoFALD, 2017)

अध्यन विधि तथा प्रक्रिया

नेपालको सन्दर्मा शहरमा बसोवास गर्ने जनसङ्ख्यालाई शहरी जनसङ्ख्या भन्ने गरिएको छ । तर शहर घोषणाका लागि विभिन्न आधारहरू (जस्तै सो ठाउँको अर्थिक संरचना, आर्थिक क्रियाकलाप, बस्तीको निकटता आदि) तय गरिएको भएता पनि मुख्य रूपमा जनसङ्ख्यालाई मात्र बनाइएको परिणाम वर्तमान शहरी अवस्थाले देखाउँदछ । (Subedi, 2014)। यस लेखका लागि आवश्यक तथ्याङ्क तथा जनकारीहरूका लागि प्रकाशित तथा अप्रकाशित माध्यामिक स्रोतहरू जस्तै पाठ्यपुस्तकहरू, विषयसँग सम्बन्धित लेखहरू, सन्दर्भ पुस्तकहरू, पपुलेशन मोनोग्राफ आदिको सहयोग लिइएको छ । यसका अतिरिक्त सरकारी वेबसाइटहरू तथा मुख्यगरी कन्द्रीय तथ्याङ्क विभागबाट प्रकाशित भएका जनगणनाका प्रतिवेदन तथा अन्य सर्वेक्षण प्रतिवेदनहरू प्रयोग गरिएको छ । त्यस्तैगरी सङ्घीय मामिला तथा स्थानीय विकास मन्त्रालयको प्रतिवेदनहरूलाई पनि आधार बनाइएको छ ।

नतिजा तथा विश्लेषण

| वर्ष/ भौगोलिक क्षेत्र | १९५२/५४ | १९६१ | १९७१ | १९८१ | १९९१ | २००१ | २०११ | २०१४ | २०२१ |
|-----------------------|---------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| हिमाल | (| (| (| (| (| २ | २ | १३ | २७ |
| पहाड | ५ | ८ | ७ | ९ | १३ | २७ | २७ | ९६ | ११३ |
| तराई | ५ | ८ | ९ | १४ | २० | २९ | २९ | ८२ | १५३ |
| कुल | १० | १६ | १६ | २३ | ३३ | ५८ | ५८ | १९१ | २९३ |

तालिका नं १.१: भौगोलिक क्षेत्र अनुसार सहर सङ्ख्या, नेपाल, १९५२/५४-२०२१

CBS, 1995; 2003; 2012; 2014; NSO, 2021

१.१. सहरीकरणको स्तर र प्रवृत्ति

नेपालमा सहरीकरणको प्रक्रिया द्रुत गतिमा बढ्दै गइहेको छ। तालिका नं १.२ मा सन् १९५२/५४ देखि सन् २०२१ सम्म नेपालमा सहरीकरणको स्तर, गति र वृद्धिदर प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ। सन् १९५२/५४ को जनगणना अनुसार नेपालको कुल जनसङ्ख्यामा सहरी जनसङ्ख्या अनुपात २.९ प्रतिशत रहेकोमा सो बढ्न गई सन् २००१ मा १३.९ प्रतिशत र सन् २०११ मा ३८.२ प्रतिशत हुन आएको छ। विगत ६० वर्षको अवधिमा सहरको सङ्ख्या १० बाट १९१ मा र सहरी जनसङ्ख्या २ लाख ३८ हजारबाट १ करोड १ लाख ३१ हजार पुगेको थियो।

| जनगणना वर्ष | सहरी क्षेत्रको सङ्ख्या | सहरी जनसङ्ख्या | सहरी जनसङ्ख्या प्रतिशत | औषत वार्षिक वृद्धिदर | सहरीकरणको प्रवृत्ति |
|-------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| १९५२/५४ | १० | २३८२७५ | २.९ | (| (|
| १९६१ | १६ | ३३६२२२ | ३.६ | ४१.१ | २.१ |
| १९७१ | १६ | ४६१९३८ | ४.० | ३७.४ | १.१ |
| १९८१ | २३ | ९५६७२१ | ६.४ | १०७.१ | ४.७ |
| १९९१ | ३३ | १६९५७१९ | ९.२ | ७७.२ | ३.७ |
| २००१ | ५८ | ३२२७८७९ | १३.९ | ९०.४ | ४.२ |
| २०११ | ५८ | ४५३२८२० | १७.१ | ४०.२ | २.० |
| *२०१४ | १९१ | १०१३०७०५ | ३८.२ | २१३.९ | १०.१ |
| **२०१५ | २१७ | (| ६२.९३ | (| (|
| *२०१७ | २९३ | (| (| (| (|
| २०२१ | २९३ | १९०९७८६६ | ६६.०२ | (| (|

तालिका नं १.२ सहरीकरणको स्तर तथा प्रवृत्ति, नेपाल, सन् १९५२/५४-२०२१

Source: CBS, 1991; 2001; 2012; 2014; NSO, 2022. *MoFALD, 2017

माथिको तालिका अनुसार सन् १९५२/५४ को जनगणनामा १० वटा सहरी क्षेत्र रहेका थिए त्यस बेला सहरमा २ लाख ३८ हजार जनसङ्ख्या अर्थात् कुल जनसङ्ख्याको २.९ प्रतिशत बसोबास गर्दथे। सन् १९६१ को जनगणनामा १६ वटा सहरी क्षेत्रहरू थिए जहाँ ३ लाख ३६ हजार जनसङ्ख्या अर्थात् कुल जनसङ्ख्याको ३.६ प्रतिशत जनसङ्ख्या रहेक थिए। सन् १९५२/५४-१९६१ को अवधिमा सहरी जनसङ्ख्या ४१.१ प्रतिशतले वृद्धि भएको थियो। सन् १९६१-१९७१ को दशकमा सहरी जनसङ्ख्या ३७.४ प्रतिशतले वृद्धि हुन गई सन् १९७१ मा सहरी जनसङ्ख्या कुल जनसङ्ख्याको ४.० प्रतिशत पुग्न गयो। सन् १९६१-१९७१ को अवधिमा सहरी जनसङ्ख्याको औसत वार्षिक वृद्धिदर ३.२३ प्रतिशत थियो।

सन् १९८१मा २३ वटा सहरी क्षेत्रहरू थिए जहाँ ४ लाख ६२ हजार जनसङ्ख्या अर्थात् कुल जनसङ्ख्याको ६.४ प्रतिशत जनसङ्ख्याको बसोबास थियो। सन् १९७१-१९८१ को दशकमा सहरी क्षेत्रमा बसोबास गर्ने जनसङ्ख्या १०७.१ प्रतिशतले वृद्धि भएको देखिन्छ, भने सोही अवधिमा सहरी जनसङ्ख्याको वृद्धिदर औसत ७.५५ प्रतिशत रहेको देखिन्छ। सन् १९९१ मा नेपालको कुल जनसङ्ख्याको ९.२ प्रतिशत जनसङ्ख्याको बसोबास सहरी क्षेत्रमा रहेको थियो। सन् १९८१-१९९१ को अवधिमा सहरी जनसङ्ख्या ७७.२ प्रतिशतले वृद्धि भएको पाइन्छ। सोही अवधिमा सहरी जनसङ्ख्या वृद्धिदर ५.८९ प्रतिशत रहेको देखिन्छ।

सन् २००१ को जनगणना अनुसार देसको कुल जनसङ्ख्याको १३.९ प्रतिशत अर्थात् ३२ लाख २८ हजार जनसङ्ख्या बसोबास गरेको पाइन्छ। सन् १९९१-२००१को समयावधिमा सहरी जनसङ्ख्या ९०.४

प्रशितले वृद्धि भएको देखिन्छ । सन् १९९१-२००१को दशकमा सहरी जनसङ्ख्याको औसत वार्षिक वृद्धिदर ६.६५ प्रतिशत रहेको थियो । सन् २०११ को जनगणना अनुसार ५८ वटा नगरपालिकामा बसोबास गर्ने सहरी जनसङ्ख्या १७.१ प्रतिशत पुगेको थियो । सन् २०१४मा थप १३३ एकाइमा सहरको सङ्ख्या घोषणा गरी कुल नगरपालिकाको सङ्ख्या १९१ पुगेको थियो । त्यसैगरी २३ वटा विद्यमान नगरपालिकाहरूलाई हेरफर गरी नगरपालिको विस्तार समेत गरिएको छ । सन् २०११ को जनगणनाको परिणाम अनुसार ती नगरपालिकाहरू समेतको जनसङ्ख्यालाई आधार मान्दा सहरी क्षेत्रमा बसोबास गर्ने जनसङ्ख्या ३८.२ प्रतिशत पुगेको थियो । त्यसैगरी सन् २०१५ को राज्यको शासन प्रणालीको पुर्नसंरचना भए पश्चात (सन् २०११-२०२१ का बीचमा) शहरीकरण वृद्धि अर्थात शहरी जनसङ्ख्या ६२.९३ प्रतिशतबाट ६६.१७ प्रतिशत भएको छ । विभिन्न प्रशासनिक एकाइहरूमध्ये नगरपालिकाको जनसङ्ख्या अत्याधिक (२.५८ प्रतिशत) ले वृद्धि भएको देखिन्छ भने उपमहानगरपालिकाको ०.८२ प्रतिशत र महानगरको ०.३ प्रतिशतले बढोत्तरी भएको पाइन्छ । (NSO, 2022)।

१.२ भौगोलिक क्षेत्र अनुसार सहरी जनसङ्ख्याको स्वरूप र वृद्धि

तलको तालिकामा सन् १९५२/५४ देखि २०११ देखि २०११ सम्म भौगोलिक क्षेत्र र विकास क्षेत्र अनुसार सहरी क्षेत्र जनसङ्ख्याको प्रतिशत विवरण प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ । सन् १९९१ को जनगणनासम्म हिमाली क्षेत्रमा एउटा पनि सहर रहेको थिएन । सन् १९५२/५४ देखि २००१ सम्म पहाडी क्षेत्रका सहरहरूमा सबैभन्दा बढी सहरी जनसङ्ख्याको हिस्सा रहेको थियो भने सन् २०११ मा सबैभन्दा बढी सहरी जनसङ्ख्याको बसोबास तराईका सहरहरूमा रहेको देखिन्छ ।

सन् १९५२/५४ मा कुल सहरी जनसङ्ख्यामा पहाडी क्षेत्रका सहरहरूमा बसोबास गर्ने जनसङ्ख्या ८२.६ प्रतिशत रहेकोमा सो घटेर सन् १९९१ म ५१.२ हुन आएको थियो । यसपछि सन् २००१ म यो प्रतिशत ५३.२ प्रतिशत पुग्न गयो । सन् २०११ मा पहाडी क्षेत्रका सहरमा बसोबास गर्ने जनसङ्ख्या ४४.६ प्रतिशत रहेको पाइन्छ । त्यसै गरी सन् १९५२/५४ मा कुल सहरी जनसङ्ख्याको १७.५ प्रतिशत जनसङ्ख्याको बसोबास तराईका सहरहरूमा रहेकोमा सो बढेर सन् २००१मा ४५.५ प्रतिशत र सन् २०११ मा ५२.९ प्रतिशत हुन आएको छ । सन् २००१ मा कुल सहरी जनसङ्ख्यामा हिमाली क्षेत्रका सहरहरूमा बसोबास गर्ने जनसङ्ख्याको अंश १.४ प्रतिशतबाट बढेर सन् २०११ म २.५ प्रतिशत पुग्न आएको पाइएको छ । सन् १९५२/५४ देखि २००१ सम्म पहाडी क्षेत्रमा सबैभन्दा बढी सहरी जनसङ्ख्याको बसोबास रहेको थियो । तर पछिल्लो समयमा तराई क्षेत्रमा सबैभन्दा धेरै सहरी जनसङ्ख्या रहेको पाइएको छ ।

तालिका नं १.३ : भौगोलिक क्षेत्र अनुसार सहरी सङ्ख्या प्रतिशत वितरण, १९५२/५४-२०२१

| वर्ष | १९५२/५४ | १९६१ | १९७१ | १९८१ | १९९१ | २००१ | २०११ ८ | २०११ ८८ | २०२१ |
|-----------------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------|-------|
| भौगोलिक क्षेत्र | | | | | | | | | |
| हिमाल | (| (| (| (| (| १.४ | १.१ | २.५ | ५.९ |
| पहाड | ८२.६ | ६९.७ | ६५.० | ५१.८ | ५१.२ | ५३.२ | ५४.६ | ४४.६ | ४०.९ |
| तराई | १७.४ | ३०.३ | ३५.० | ४८.२ | ४८.८ | ४५.५ | ४४.३ | ५२.९ | २७ |
| कुल | १००.० | १००.० | १००.० | १००.० | १००.० | १००.० | १००.० | १००.० | १००.० |

Source : CBS, 2003; 2012, NSO, 2022

८ सन् २००१को जनगणनाका समयमा ५८ नगरपालिका ८८ सन् २०११को जनगणनाको नतिजाका आधारमा १९१ नगरपालिका

१.३: प्रदेशअनुसार शहर तथा शहरी जनसङ्ख्या वितरण

सन् २०१५ को राज्यको शासन प्रणालीको पुर्नसंरचना भए अनुसार नेपाललाई सात प्रदेशमा विभाजन गरिएको थियो। सो पश्चात (सन् २०११-२०२१ का बीचमा) शहरीकरण वृद्धि अर्थात शहरी जनसङ्ख्या ६२.९३ प्रतिशतबाट ६६.०२ प्रतिशत भएको छ। विभिन्न प्रशासनिक एकाइहरूमध्ये नगरपालिकाको जनसङ्ख्या अत्याधिक (२.५८ प्रतिशत) ले वृद्धि भएको देखिन्छ भने उपमहानगरपालिकाको ०.८२ प्रतिशत र महानगरको ०.३ प्रतिशतले बढोत्तरी भएको पाइन्छ। (NSO, 2022)। सन् २०२१ को जनगणना अनुसार प्रदेश अनुसार जनसङ्ख्या वितरणलाई निम्नअनुसार देखाइएको छ।

| प्रदेश | कोशी | मधेश | वाग्मती | गण्डकी | लुम्बिनी | कर्णाली | सुदूरपश्चिम | कुल |
|--------------------|------|------|---------|--------|----------|---------|-------------|------|
| शहरोन्मुख | ७.० | १५.५ | ३.० | १.९ | ९.२ | ०.३ | २.९ | ३९.७ |
| शहरी | ३.० | ४.४ | ११.७ | २.२ | २.९ | ०.९ | १.२ | २७.१ |
| शहरोन्मुख तथा शहरी | १०.९ | १९.९ | १४.६ | ४.१ | १२.१ | १.२ | ४.१ | ६६.८ |

तालिका नं १.४ प्रदेश अनुसार जनसङ्ख्या वितरण, २०२१

Source: NSO, 2022

पछिल्लो जनगणनाअनुसार प्रदेशगत रूपमा शहरोन्मुख जनसङ्ख्यालाई हेर्दा सबैभन्दा धेरै मधेश प्रदेशमा (१५.५%) रहेको देखिन्छ भने दोस्रो नम्बरमा लुम्बिनी प्रदेश पर्दछ जहाँ कुल शहरोन्मुख जनसङ्ख्याको ९.२ प्रतिशत रहेको छ। त्यसैगरी सबैभन्दा कम शहरोन्मुख जनसङ्ख्या कर्णाली प्रदेशमा रहेको पाइन्छ जुन ०.३ प्रतिशत छ। तर शहरी जनसङ्ख्या भने सबैभन्दा बढी वाग्मती प्रदेशमा भएको पाइन्छ जहाँ कुल शहरी जनसङ्ख्याको ११.७ प्रतिशत बसोबास गर्दछन्। यसलाई मधेश प्रदेशले पछ्याउँदै ४.४ प्रतिशत शहरी जनसङ्ख्या पुर्याएको देखिन्छ भने सबैभन्दा कम (०.३%) कर्णाली प्रदेशमा पुगेको देखिन्छ। यसरी शहरोन्मुख तथा शहरी जनसङ्ख्या दुवैलाई संयुक्तरूपमा हेर्दा सबैभन्दा धेरै (१९%) मधेश प्रदेशमा र सबैभन्दा कम (१.२%) कर्णाली प्रदेशमा रहेको पाइन्छ।

१.४. जनसङ्ख्याको आकारअनुसार सहरको वितरण

प्रस्तुत तालिकामा नगरपालिकाहरूलाई जनसङ्ख्या वर्गान्तरअनुसार सात समूहमा विभाजन गरेर प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ। जसमा विशेषगरी साना आकार समूहका मुख्य गरी ५०,००० जनसङ्ख्या रहेका नगरपालिकाहरूको बाहुल्यता रहेको पाइन्छ। जनसङ्ख्याका हिसावले करिब २५ प्रतिशत नगरपालिकाहरू २०,००० देखि २९,९९९ सम्मका रहेका छन् भने २२ प्रतिशत नगरपालिकाहरू भने ५०,००० देखि ९९,९९९ सम्म भएका छन्। त्यसैगरी ११ प्रतिशत नगरपालिकाहरू २०,००० भन्दा कम जनसङ्ख्या आकार समूहमा पर्दछन् भने ३ प्रतिशत नगरपालिकाहरू २०,००० भन्दा बढी जनसङ्ख्या भएको स्थानहरू सहरमा गनिन्छन्। तालिका नं १.४ : आकार समूहअनुसार नगरपालिका तथा तिनको जनसङ्ख्या वितरण २०१४

| आकार समूह | नगरपालिकाहरूको सङ्ख्या | प्रतिशत | जनसङ्ख्याको आकार | प्रतिशत |
|-------------------|------------------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| २००००० भन्दा माथि | ४ | ३.१ | १६,५२,८४५ | २३.० |
| १०००००-१९,०००० | ७ | ५.४ | ८,७३,५९८ | १२.१ |
| ५००००-९९,९९९ | २८ | २१.५ | १८,९५,५५४ | २६.३ |
| ४०००० - ४९,९९९ | १९ | १४.६ | ८,५०,३२७ | ११.८ |
| ३०००० - ३९,९९९ | २५ | १९.२ | ८,५५,४०६ | ११.९ |

| | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-------|-----------|-------|
| २०००० - २९९९९ | ३३ | २५.४ | ८,३३,३५३ | ११.६ |
| २०००० भन्दा कम | १४ | १०.८ | २,३८,४३१ | ३.३ |
| कुल | १३० | १००.० | ७१,९९,५१४ | १००.० |

Source: CBS, 2014

पछिल्लो जनगणनाअनुसार २० हजार भन्दा कम जनसङ्ख्या भएका नगरपालिकाहरूको सङ्ख्या १४ रहेको छ, भने १ लाखभन्दा बढी जनसङ्ख्या भएका नगरपालिकाहरू ३९ वटा रहेका छन्। (NSO, 2022)

१.४.सहरको श्रेणीकरण (Degree of Urbanization)

काठमाडौं सहरले विगतका चारवटै जनगणनामा पहिलो स्थान ओगटेको छ भने सन् २००१ मा चौथो स्थानमा रहेको तत्कालीन पोखरा उपमहानगरपालिका सन् २०११ दोस्रो स्थानमा उक्लिएको छ। त्यसैगरी चार वटै जनगणनामा तत्कालीन ललितपुर महानगरपालिकाले तेस्रो स्थान कायम गरेको छ। पछिल्लो पटक सन् २०१७ मा घोषणा भएका २९३ वटा नगरपालिकाहरू हिमाल, पहाड र तराई गरी तीन वटैमा रहेका छन्।

| श्रेणी | १९८१ | १९९१ | २००१ | २०११ | २०१७ | २०२१ | |
|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|
| १ | काठमाडौं | काठमाडौं | काठमाडौं | काठमाडौं | काठमाडौं | काठमाडौं | ८४५७६७ |
| २ | विराटनगर | विराटनगर | विराटनगर | विराटनगर | पोखरा | पोखरा | ५९९५०४ |
| ३ | ललितपुर | ललितपुर | ललितपुर | ललितपुर | ललितपुर | ललितपुर | ३६९३७७ |
| ४ | भक्तपुर | पोखरा | पोखरा | विराटनगर | विराटनगर | भरतपुर | २९९८४३ |
| ५ | पोखरा | वीरगञ्ज | वीरगञ्ज | भक्तपुर | भक्तपुर | वीरगञ्ज | २६८२७३ |
| ६ | भीमदत्त | धरान | धरान | वीरगञ्ज | वीरगञ्ज | विराटनगर | २४३९२७ |

तालिका .नं १.५: जनसङ्ख्याका आधारमा छ, ठूला शहरहरूको श्रेणीकरण (सन् १९८१-२०२१).

Source: CBS, 2012; 2014, NSO, 2022

MoFALD, 2017

त्यस्तै गरेर सबैभन्दा कम जनसङ्ख्या भएका शहरहरूमा क्रमशः ठूलीभेरी, त्रिपुरासुन्दरी, मादी, लालीगुराँस र जिरा रहेका छन्। ठूलीभेरी शहरहरूको जनसङ्ख्या १०१८७ रहेको छ।

२.उमेर संरचना

२.१ विस्तारित उमेर समुह अनुसार वितरण

सन् २०११को जनगणनाअनुसार सहरी जनसङ्ख्यालाई विस्तृत उमेरअनुसार वर्गीकरण गरिएको छ। सो अनुसार नेपाल अहिले जनसङ्ख्या लाभांश प्राप्त गर्ने अर्थात् क्रियाशील जनसङ्ख्यालाई उपयोग गरी फाइदा लिनसक्ने अवस्थामा छ। किनभने क्रियाशील जनसङ्ख्या (१५-५९ वर्ष) अन्य दुई उमेर समूहभन्दा बढी (६२.१ प्रतिशत) रहेको छ। त्यसैगरी ०-१४ वर्ष उमेर समूह तथा ६० वर्ष र सोभन्दा माथिको उमेर समूहमा जनसङ्ख्या क्रमशः ३०.५ र ७.४ प्रतिशत रहेको छ। अघिल्ला जनगणनाहरूभन्दा पछिल्लो जनगणनामा आश्रित अनुपात घटेको देखिन्छ। अर्थात् क्रियाशील जनसङ्ख्या वृद्धि भएको पाइन्छ। तर राष्ट्रिय आश्रित अनुपात स्तरभन्दा सहरी बाल तथा वृद्ध आश्रित अनुपात दुवै भने न्यून रहेको पाइन्छ। बाल आश्रित अनुपात ३५ प्रतिशतभन्दा कम तथा वृद्ध आश्रित अनुपात भन्दा कम रहेको छ।

तालिका नं २.१ : विस्तारित उमेर समूह अनुसार जनसङ्ख्या वितरण, २०११

| विस्तारित उमेर समूह | दुवै लिङ्ग | | पुरुष | | महिला | |
|---------------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | सङ्ख्या | प्रतिशत | सङ्ख्या | प्रतिशत | सङ्ख्या | प्रतिशत |
| ० - ४ वर्ष | २१९६९१३ | ३०.५ | ११३९५२३ | १५.८ | १०५७३९० | १४.७ |
| १५ - ५९ वर्ष | ४४६७९७० | ६२.१ | २१३३६९६ | २९.६ | २३३४२७४ | ३२.४ |
| ६० वर्ष भन्दा बढी | ५३४६३१ | ७.४ | २५९२१५ | ३.६ | २७५४४९६ | ३.८ |
| कुल | ७१९९५१४ | १००.० | ३५३२४३४ | ४९.१ | ३६६७०८० | ५०.९ |

Source: CBS, 2014.

निष्कर्ष

पछिल्ला वर्षहरूमा सहरीकरणको गति तीव्ररूपले वृद्धि हुँदै गएको छ। यसरी वृद्धि हुनुको मुख्य कारण ग्रामीण क्षेत्रबाट शहरी क्षेत्रमा भएको बसाइसराइ हो। अझ मुख्य कारणमा पछिल्लो समयमा भएको प्रशासनिक सीमा परिवर्तन जुन नगरपालिका घोषणाका लागि आवश्यक पहिलो तथा न्यूनतम आधार जनसङ्ख्या पुरा गर्नु थियो। तर यसका लागि आवश्यक अन्य पूर्वाधारहरू भने कमजोर स्तरका रहेका छन्। हाल कायम रहेका २९३ नगरपालिकाहरूमध्ये बहुसङ्ख्यकमा २०,००० देखि ५०,००० बीचमा जनसङ्ख्या रहेका छन्। राष्ट्रिय सहरीकरणको स्तरअनुसार हेर्दा काठमाडौं उपत्यका लगायत तराइका क्षेत्रहरू बढी सहरीकृत भएको देखिन्छ। (CBS, 2014)।

राष्ट्रिय सहरीकरणको स्तरअनुसार काठमाडौं उपत्यका लगायत तराइका सहरहरूको प्रारूपलाई हेर्दा यी क्षेत्रहरूमा अन्य क्षेत्रहरूको भन्दा सहरीकरणको गति तीव्र नै रहेको पाइन्छ। साना आकारका जनसङ्ख्या भएका सहरहरूका तुलनामा मध्यम आकारका जनसङ्ख्या भएका सहरहरूको वृद्धिदर तीव्र नै रहेको छ। अर्थात् ती सहरहरूमा १,००,००० भन्दा माथिको सङ्ख्या जनसङ्ख्या रहेको छ र यसरी उच्च देखिनुमा पछिल्ला वर्षका जनगणना वर्षहरूमा नयाँ नयाँ सहरहरूको घोषणा हुनुलाई मुख्यरूपमा लिन सकिन्छ (CBS, 2014)। प्रत्येक जनगणना वर्षहरूमा सहरीकरणको रोलक्रममा तलमाथि हुँदै आएको देखिन्छ। तैपनि देसको राजधानी सहरका रूपमा रहेको काठमाडौं भने निरन्तर पहिलो स्थान नै प्राप्त गर्न सफल भएको छ र आगामी दिनमा यसलाई अरुले चुनौती दिनसक्ने सम्भावना पनि देखिदैन।

जनसाङ्ख्यिक संरचनाअनुसार सहरहरू जनसङ्ख्याका हिसाबले परिपक्व तथा कम आश्रित अनुपात रहेको पाइन्छ। बाल अश्रित अनुपात तथा वृद्ध अश्रित अनुपात दुवै राष्ट्रिय तथा ग्रामिण तहको अश्रित अनुपातका तुलनामा कम नै रहेको पाइन्छ।

वर्तमान सहरी जनसङ्ख्याको उमेर संरचनालाई हेर्दा सहरहरू जनसङ्ख्या लाभाशं हात पार्ने अवस्थामा रहेका छन्। सहरहरू अवसर तथा सभ्यता केन्द्र प्रकृतिको देखिनु आवश्यक छ। तर यी ठूला आकारका जनसङ्ख्या भएका ठाउँलाई क्षेत्रीय एकाई तथा प्रशासनिक एकाइका रूपमामात्र घोषणा भएका छन्। तैपनि करिब ४० सहरहरू भने नगरपालिका प्रकृतिकै रहेका छन् भने बाँकी सबै जनसङ्ख्यामात्र भएको नाममात्रको सहर घोषित भएका छन्।

नेपालको वर्तमान सहरीकरणको स्तरलाई छिमेकी तथा सार्क मुलुकहरू सरह बनाउने तथा राष्ट्रको समग्र विकास गरी सन् २०२२ सम्ममा मुलुकलाई अति कम विकसित राष्ट्रबाट विकाशोन्मुख राष्ट्रमध्ये

एकमा पुऱ्याउने कुरा २०१३/१४-२०१५/१६ को राष्ट्रिय योजना आयोगको अवधारणा पत्रमा उल्लेख गरिएको छ (रा.यो.आ,२०१३) । तर सहरीकरणलाई ब्यवाहरिक रूपले हेर्ने हो भने हालका सहरहरू बनाउने दर्जनौ आधारहरूका वारेमा बहस तथा छलफल भए तापनि अन्ततः जनसङ्ख्याको आकारलाई नै मुख्य आधार बनाएको देखिन्छ । यस अवस्थामा अन्तराष्ट्रिय अभ्यासहरूको अध्ययन गरी त्यसलाई स्थानीयकरण तथा पुनः परिभाषित गरिनुपर्दछ । यस्ता मापदण्डहरूले सहरको सङ्ख्या बृद्धि हुनाका साथसाथै सहरी जनसङ्ख्याको आकारमा पनि बृद्धि गराएको छ । त्यसकारण वास्तविक सहरीकरण देखिनका लागि आउँदा दिनहरूमा जनसङ्ख्याका अलावा तोकिएको पुर्वाधार विकास तथा आर्थिक क्रियाकलापमा समेत ध्यान दिनुपर्ने देखिन्छ ।

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वैदिक चिन्तन र नेपाली समाज

श्यामराज सुवेदी

लेखसार

प्रस्तुत आलेख पूर्वीय दार्शनिक चिन्तन र नेपाली समाजमा प्रचलित शैव र वैष्णव सम्प्रदायको वैदिक आधारमा केन्द्रित रहेको छ। वैदिक सभ्यताका आधारहरू के के हुन्, यस सभ्यतामा सम्प्रदाय परम्पराको विकास कसरी भयो? कुन कुन पक्षहरूले पूर्वीय दार्शनिक चिन्तनलाई समृद्ध तुल्याएका छन्? ती चिन्तनहरूका मुख्य मान्यताहरू के के हुन्? जस्ता प्राज्ञिक जिज्ञासाहरूको समाधानमा यस आलेखको औचित्यता प्रकट भएको छ। प्रस्तुत आलेखको उद्देश्य परिपूर्ति गर्नका लागि गुणात्मक अनुसन्धान विधिको अवलम्बन गरिएको छ। सामग्री सङ्कलन गर्न द्वितीयक स्रोत अन्तर्गत पुस्तकालय कार्यबाट यस अध्ययनसँग सम्बन्धित पूर्ववर्ती विद्वान्हरूले अध्ययन विश्लेषण गरेका सामग्रीहरूको उपयोग गरिएको छ। उपनिषद् अध्ययन भक्ति मार्ग तथा ब्रह्मा चिन्तन परम्परामा आधारित शैव तथा वैष्णव सम्प्रदायको दार्शनिक चिन्तनहरूले वर्तमान नेपाली समाजको आध्यात्मिक उनन्यनमा सकारात्मक प्रभाव पारेको निष्कर्ष यस आलेखको रहेको छ।

शब्दावली: वैदिक चिन्तन, षड् दर्शन, वेदान्त वैदिक साहित्य, सांख्य दर्शन, शैव तन्त्र, वैष्णव मत।

विषय प्रवेश

वैदिक विचारहरूले वेदहरूमा आधारित धर्मको मौलिक महिमालाई बाहिर ल्याउँछ र यसलाई संसारभरका मानवजातिलाई प्रिय बनाउँछ। जीवनको सरल मूल्यहरू; सँधै सत्य बोल्नु धार्मिकताको मार्ग अनुसरण गर्नु र इश्वर साक्षरता प्राप्त गर्नु वैदिक चिन्तनको लक्ष्य हो। वेदहरूमा ईश्वरीय ज्ञान, ईश्वरले सृष्टिको समयमा ऋषिहरूलाई दिनुभएको थियो, मानवजातिको आध्यात्मिक मार्गदर्शनको लागि मात्र होइन व्यक्ति र समाजको लागि आचारसंहिता प्रदान गर्न पनि हो। हामी औम् शान्ति भन्छौं, हाम्रो भित्री आत्मको मात्र नभई हाम्रो वरपरको वातावरणलाई सबैका लागि अनुकूल बनाउनको लागि पनि शान्ति खोज्छौं। (सावन्त चितरञ्जन, २००३, पृ १ (११))

वैदिक दर्शनका प्रमाणिक आधार के के हुन्, षड् दर्शन के के हुन्, वेदान्तका अद्वैतवाद, द्वैताद्वैत, विशिष्टाद्वैत सिद्धान्त के मा आधारित छ, शाक्त तथा वैष्णव सम्प्रदाय के हुन् यसकै बारेमा यो लेख सीमित छ।

आलेखको उद्देश्य

प्रस्तुत आलेख निम्न उद्देश्यहरूमा केन्द्रित रहेको छ।

(क) पूर्वीय दार्शनिक परम्पराका आधार ग्रन्थहरूको समीक्षा गर्नु

(ख) पूर्वीय वैदिक चिन्तनका दार्शनिक पक्षहरूको मूल्याङ्कन गर्नु

अध्ययन विधि

प्रस्तुत आलेख व्याख्यावादमा आधारित गुणात्मक अनुन्धान ढाँचाबाट सम्पन्न गरिएको छ । अध्ययनका लागि आवश्यक तथ्यहरू द्वितीय श्रोतअन्तर्गत प्रस्तुत आलेखको शीर्षकसंग सम्बद्ध विषयमा अध्ययन गरिएका पूर्ववर्ती विद्वान्हरूका सन्दर्भ पुरस्तक, लेखरचनाहरूबाट सङ्कलन गरिएको छ । सङ्कलित तथ्यलाई पाठ विश्लेषण विधिबाट व्याख्या विश्लेषण गरी निष्कर्ष निकालिएको छ ।

वैदिक साहित्य

वैदिक साहित्यले वेद, ब्राह्मण, आरण्यक र उपनिषदहरू समावेश गर्ने विशाल साहित्यलाई जनाउँछ । वर्तमानमा, वैदिक साहित्य विश्वको सबैभन्दा पुरानो स्रोत हो जसले हिन्दू धर्मको प्राचीन रूपलाई प्रकाश पार्छ । सृष्टिकर्ता ब्रह्माले परमपुरुष भगवानबाट आवाज सुनेर मात्र वेद प्राप्त गर्नुभएको हुनाले वैदिक साहित्यलाई 'श्रुति' भनिन्छ । अन्य ऋषिहरूले पनि वेद श्रवण-परम्पराबाट प्राप्त गरेका थिए र यो श्रवण-परम्पराबाट अर्को पुस्तामा पनि हस्तान्तरण भएको हुनाले पनि यसलाई श्रुति साहित्य भनिन्छ । वैदिक साहित्य अन्तर्गत वेदहरू उपनिषद र आरण्यकहरूको भाषा संस्कृत हो, जसलाई यसको छुट्टै पहिचान अनुसार वैदिक संस्कृत भनिन्छ - यी संस्कृत शब्दहरूको प्रयोग र अर्थ समयसँगै परिवर्तन हुनगयो । रचना अनुसार, प्रत्येक शाखाको वैदिक शब्दावलीमा चार भागहरू छन्। वेदको मुख्य मन्त्र भागलाई संहिता भनिन्छ। संहिता बाहेक, प्रत्येकमा तीन तहको भाष्य वा टिप्पणी छ। चार वेद ऋग्वेद, सामवेद, यजुर्वेद र अथर्ववेद हो । चार वेदको कुरा गर्दा संहिताको अंश मात्रै लिइन्छ। संहिता सँगै वेदका भागहरू संहिता (मन्त्र भाग), ब्राह्मण-ग्रन्थ (गद्यमा अनुष्ठानको चर्चा) आरण्यक (अनुष्ठान पछिको उद्देश्यको व्याख्या) र उपनिषद (परमात्मा-ब्रह्म र आत्माको प्रकृति र सम्बन्धको धेरै दार्शनिक र ज्ञानपूर्ण विवरण) हो । उपाध्याय, विष्णुदेव (१९८९)

वैदिक साहित्यको रचना काल

वेदको रचना कहिले र कुन कालको सभ्यताको वर्णनमा पाइन्छ भन्ने कुरामा यस विषयका विद्वान्हरूका बीचमा ठूलो मतभेद छ । सनातन मतले वेदलाई अपौरुषेय मान्छन्, त्यसैले तिनीहरूको शाश्वत हुने प्रश्न नै उठ्दैन। तर पश्चिमी विद्वान्हरूले तिनीहरूलाई ऋषिहरूको सृष्टि मान्छन् र तिनीहरूले यसको अवधिको बारेमा धेरै अनुमान लगाएका छन् । म्याक्स मुलरका अनुसार वैदिक साहित्यको अवधिलाई १००० ईसा पूर्व देखिको भने मानिन्छ तर यो विवाद रहित छैन । श्री अविनाशचन्द्र दास र पावागीले ऋग्वेदमा उल्लेखित भूवैज्ञानिक प्रमाणको आधारमा लाखौं वर्ष पहिले ऋग्वेद रचना भएको मानेका छन् ।

वैदिक साहित्यको वर्गीकरण

वैदिक साहित्यलाई निम्न भागहरूमा विभाजन गरिएको छ- (१) संहिता, (२) ब्राह्मण, (३) आरण्यक, (४) षड्दर्शन, (५) उपनिषद र (छ) वेदांग (७) सूत्र-साहित्य

(१) संहिता

संहिताको अर्थ संग्रह हो। संहिताहरूमा विभिन्न देवताहरूको प्रशंसामा मन्त्रहरूको संग्रह छ। चार संहिताहरू छन् ऋग्वेद, सामवेद, यजुर्वेद र अथर्ववेद । पुरातन परम्परा अनुसार वेद शाश्वत र गैर-पौरुषेय हुन् । सृष्टिको प्रारम्भमा भगवानले अग्नि, वायु, आदित्य र अंगिरा नामक ऋषिहरूलाई आफ्नो ज्योति दिनुभयो । प्रत्येक वैदिक मन्त्रमा देवता र ऋषि हुन्छन् ।

ब्राह्मण-ग्रन्थ

‘मन्त्रब्राह्मणयोः वेदमधेयम’ अनुसार पुरातन कालमा चार वेदहरूको संस्कृत भाषामा अनुवादलाई ब्राह्मण ग्रन्थ भनिन्छ । त्यहाँ चार मुख्य ब्राह्मण ग्रन्थहरू छन्- ऐतरेय, शतपथ, साम र गोपथ । ब्राह्मण ग्रन्थहरू वेद संहिताहरू पछि रचिएको मानिन्छ । यसमा यज्ञहरूका अनुष्ठानहरूको विस्तृत विवरण, साथै प्राचीन राजाहरू र ऋषिहरूका शब्दहरू र कथाहरूको व्युत्पत्ति र सृष्टिसँग सम्बन्धित विचारहरू छन् । प्रत्येक वेदको आफ्नै ब्राह्मणहरू छन्। ऋग्वेदका दुई ब्राह्मणहरू छन् - (ज्ञान) ऐतरेय ब्राह्मण र (डीडी) कौशीतकी। ऐतरेयका दुई अध्याय र आठ पञ्चिका छन्, यस ऐतरेय ब्राह्मणमा अग्निष्टम, गवामायन, द्वादशाह आदि सोमयाग, अग्निहोत्र र राज्याभिषेकको विस्तृत वर्णन गरिएको छ । यसबाट त्यस समयको इतिहास थाह पाइन्छ । ऐतरेय उपनिषदमा शुनह भेडाको धेरै प्रसिद्ध कथा छ, उत्तर भारतमा भाषाको उचित अध्ययनमा धेरै जोड दिइएको कौशीताकीबाट देखिन्छ, शुक्ल यजुर्वेदको ब्राह्मण शतपथको नामले प्रख्यात छन्, किनभने यसमा सय अध्याय छन् । ऋग्वेद पछि, प्राचीन इतिहासको धेरैजसो जानकारी यसैबाट आउँछ । यसमा यज्ञको विस्तृत विवरणका साथसाथै धेरै पुरातन कथा, व्युत्पत्ति र सामाजिक कुराहरूको पनि वर्णन छ । सामवेदका धेरै ब्राह्मणहरूमध्ये पञ्चवंश वा ताण्ड्य सबैभन्दा महत्त्वपूर्ण छ । अथर्ववेदका ब्राह्मण गोपथ नामले प्रसिद्ध छन् ।

अरण्यक

आरण्यक केही यस्ता अध्यायहरू ब्राह्मणहरूको अन्त्यमा पाइन्छ जुन गाउँ वा सहरमा पढिएको थिएन । तिनीहरूको अध्ययन-अध्यापन गाउँहरू (जंगल/जंगल) बाट टाढा हुन्थ्यो, त्यसैले तिनीहरूलाई आरण्यक भनिन्छ । ब्राह्मण-ग्रन्थहरू गृहस्थ आश्रममा यज्ञको अनुष्ठानको निर्देशन दिन उपयोगी थिए र त्यसपछि वानप्रस्थ आश्रममा संन्यासीहरूले आर्य यज्ञका रहस्य र दार्शनिक तत्वहरूसँग सम्बन्धित आरण्यकहरूको अध्ययन गरे । द्विवेदी, पारशनाथ (२०१२)

षड्दर्शन

हजारौं वर्षको चिन्तनबाट उत्पन्न भएर वैदिक दर्शनको नाममा प्रचलित भएका भारतीय दार्शनिक र धार्मिक विचारहरूको मंथनको परिपक्व परिणाम हो षड्दर्शन । यसलाई ईश्वरवादी दर्शन पनि भनिन्छ। षड्दर्शनहरू सरस्वती, श्वामी जगदिशानन्द (२०१८)

- १ पूर्व मीमांसा : महर्षि जैमिनी
- २ वेदान्त (उत्तर मीमांसा): महर्षि बादरायण
- ३ साङ्ख्य : महर्षि कपिल
- ४ वैशेषिक : महर्षि कनाद
- ५ न्याय : महर्षि गौतम
- ६ योग : महर्षि पतञ्जली

१. पूर्व मीमांसा

पाणिनीका अनुसार मिमांसा शब्दको अर्थ जिज्ञासा हो । जिज्ञासाको अर्थ जान्नको चाहना हो, त्यसैले पूर्व मीमांसा शब्दको अर्थ जान्नको लागि पहिलो जिज्ञासा हो। यसमा सोह्र अध्याय, ६० पद र २ ६३१ सूत्र छन् । ग्रन्थको आरम्भ महर्षि जैमिनीले यसरी गरेका हुन- अधातो धर्मजिज्ञासा । यो जिज्ञासाको जवाफ दिनको लागि, यो पूरा १६ अध्यायह मीमांसा दर्शनका अनुसार वेद शाश्वत र सर्वोच्च छन् र वेदद्वारा प्रतिपादित अर्थलाई धर्म भनिन्छ । मीमांसा सिद्धान्तमा कथनका दुई भाग छन् पहिलो अपरिहार्य विधि हो जसमा उत्पत्ति, विनियोग,

प्रयोग र अधिकार विधिहरू समावेश छन् । दोस्रो विभाग अर्थवाद हो जसमा प्रशंसा र व्याख्या प्रबल हुन्छ ।
२ वेदान्त (उत्तर मीमांसा) : महर्षि बादरायण

जब मानिसले आफ्नो जीवन जिउन थाल्छ, तब उसको मनमा उत्पन्न हुने दोस्रो जिज्ञासा ब्रह्म-जिज्ञासा हो । ब्रह्मसूत्रको पहिलो सूत्र हो- अर्थात् ब्रह्मजिज्ञासा ॥ ब्रह्मालाई जान्ने इच्छा । यो जिज्ञासा श्वेतेश्वर उपनिषदमा राम्रोसँग चित्रण गरिएको छ। यो (संसार) को कारण के हो ? यो हामी कहाँबाट उत्पत्ति गर्छौं ? कहाँ स्थित छ ? कसरी अवस्थित छ ? यो सुख-दुःख किन हुन्छ ? ब्रह्माको जिज्ञासा राखेहरूले यो जान्न चाहन्छन् । प्रश्न उठ्यो, 'यो सब किन ?' आदि पहिलो जिज्ञासा कर्म धर्मको जिज्ञासा थियो र दोस्रो जिज्ञासा संसारको मूल कारण जान्नको ज्ञान थियो । यस दोस्रो जिज्ञासाको उत्तर ब्रह्मसूत्र अर्थात् उत्तर मीमांसा हो । त्यसैले यसलाई वेदान्त दर्शन भनिन्छ । यसले वेदको परम लक्ष्य र दायरा सिकाउँछ । यो भनिन्छ कि त्यहाँ तीन ब्रह्म अर्थात् आधारभूत पदार्थहरू छन् । प्रकृति । आत्मा र ईश्वर । तीनै अनन्त छन् । तिनीहरूको कुनै सुरु वा अन्त्य छैन । तीनैलाई ब्रह्म भनिन्छ र जसमा यी तीन छन् अर्थात् संसार नै परम ब्रह्म हो । प्रकृति जो संसारको भौतिक कारण हो त्यो परमाणु रूपमा छ जुन त्रित सत्व, रजस र तमसको समूह हो । यी तीन शाश्वत पदार्थलाई ब्रह्मसूत्र उत्तर मीमांसा मा वर्णन गरिएको छ । आत्माको वर्णन गर्दा यसको जन्म र मृत्युको बन्धनमा आउने कुरा पनि ब्रह्मसूत्रमा वर्णन गरिएको छ तर यसको शुद्ध रूप नेति-नेति शब्दले मात्र व्यक्त गरिएको छ । यो दर्शन वेदमा भनिएका मन्त्रहरूको व्याख्यामा पनि छ । पन्त, अर्जुन देव (२०१९)

३. साङ्ख्य दर्शन

प्रकृतिदेखि स्थूल-भूतसम्मका सबै तत्वहरूको सङ्ख्या गणना गरेर त्यसलाई साङ्ख्य दर्शन भनिन्छ । परमात्माको तेजले परमाणुको सन्तुलन भंग गर्छ र असमानता सुरु हुन्छ । यो सृष्टिको कार्यमा पहिलो परिवर्तन हो । यो अवस्थालाई महत भनिन्छ । यो प्रकृतिको पहिलो परिणाम हो। मन र बुद्धि यही महत्वबाट बनेको हुन्छ । यसमा परमाणुको तीन बलहरू बाहिरी रूपमा रहेको कारणले वरिपरि प्रकृतिलाई यसको आधारभूत रूपमा सत्व, रजस र रजस्तमसको सन्तुलन भनिन्छ । तीनवटै आरोपहरू एकअर्कालाई पारस्परिक रूपमा तटस्थ गर्दछन् । जसरी त्रिकान्तिका तीन वटा खुट्टाले एकअर्कालाई थामेका छन् । साङ्ख्यले ब्रह्माण्डको सृष्टिको व्याख्या गर्छन् र प्रकृति र पुरुषलाई अलग-अलग व्याख्या गर्छन् सांख्यलाई सबैभन्दा पौराणिक दर्शन मानिन्छ । यसले भारतीय समाजमा यति व्यापक प्रभाव पारेको थियो कि महाभारत श्रीमद्भगवद्गीता विभिन्न पुराण, उपनिषद, चरक संहिता र मनु संहितामा सांख्यको विशेष उल्लेख पाइन्छ । यसको परम्परागत पूर्वज कपिल मुनि थिए । साङ्ख्य दर्शनमा ६ अध्याय र ४५९ सूत्रहरू छन् ।

सांख्य संख्या सूचक हो । यस ग्रन्थलाई साङ्ख्य दर्शन नाम दिइएको हो किनभने यसमा २५ तत्व वा सत्य सिद्धान्तहरू प्रतिपादन गरिएको छ । साङ्ख्य दर्शनले संसारको हरेक वास्तविक वस्तुको उत्पत्ति मानिस र प्रकृतिबाट भएको हो भन्ने विश्वास गर्छ । पुरुष आफैमा आत्माको आत्मा हुन्छ जबकि प्रकृति पदार्थ र सृजनात्मक शक्तिको जननी हो । संसारका आत्माहरू संख्याहीन छन् जसमा चेतना छ तर गुणहरू छैनन् । एउटै स्वभाव तीन गुणको समन्वयबाट बनेको हुन्छ । यस त्रिविध सिद्धान्त अनुसार सत्व, रजस्व र तमस उत्पन्न हुन्छ । प्रकृतिको अविकसित अवस्थामा यी गुणहरू निष्क्रिय हुन्छन्, तर ईश्वरीय सृष्टिको उदयको प्रक्रिया सुरु हुने बित्तिकै प्रकृतिका तीन गुणहरू बीचको समग्र सन्तुलन बिग्रन्छ । साङ्ख्यका अनुसार २४ वटा आधारभूत तत्वहरू छन् जसमा प्रकृति र मानिस पच्चीसौं हुन् । प्रकृतिको प्रकृति आन्तरिक छ र मानिसको अर्थ व्यक्ति-आत्मा हो । संसारका आत्माहरू संख्याहीन छन् । यी सबै आत्माहरू समान छन् र विकासका तटस्थ मार्गदर्शक हुन् । आत्माहरू कुनै न कुनै रूपमा प्रकृतिसँग सम्बन्धित हुन्छन् र तिनीहरूको मुक्ति

प्रकृतिबाट भिन्नता अनुभव गर्नमा निहित छ। जब आत्मा र गुणहरू बीचको भिन्नताको गहिरो ज्ञान हुन्छ, तब तिनीहरूबाट मुक्ति हुन्छ र मोक्ष सम्भव हुन्छ। परमात्माको तेजले परमाणुको सन्तुलन भंग गर्छ र असमानता सुरु हुन्छ। यो सृष्टिको कार्यमा पहिलो परिवर्तन हो। प्रकृतिलाई मूलतः सत्व, रजस, रजस र तमसको सन्तुलन भनिन्छ। तीनवटै आरोपले एकअर्कालाई पारस्परिक रूपमा तटस्थ गरिरहेका छन्। जसरी त्रिकान्तिका तीन वटा खुट्टाले एकअर्कालाई थामेका छन्।

दोस्रो परमाणु समूह हो जसमा सत्वगुण प्रबल हुन्छ, जसलाई वैकारिक अहंकार भनिन्छ। यसलाई वर्तमान वैज्ञानिक प्रोटोन भनिन्छ। यो अवस्थालाई महत् भनिन्छ। यो प्रकृतिको पहिलो परिणाम हो। मन र बुद्धि यही महत्त्वबाट बनेको हुन्छ। यसमा, एटमको बहिर्मुखी तीन बलहरू वरपरका परमाणुहरूलाई आकर्षित गर्न थाल्छन्। अब परमाणुहरूको समूह बन्न थाल्छ। तीन प्रकारका समूह देखिन्छन् एउटा हो तेज जसबाट राजस गुण रहन्छ। यो तेजसलाई अहंकार भनिन्छ। वर्तमान वैज्ञानिक भाषामा यसलाई इलेक्ट्रोन भनिन्छ। त्यसपछि यी अहंबाट पाँच तन्मात्रहरू रूप, स्वाद, स्वाद, गन्ध, स्पर्श र ध्वनि पाँच महाभूतहरू बन्छ, अर्थात् तीनवटै अहं एक समूहमा आएपछि त्यसलाई परिमण्डल भनिन्छ। यी अहंकारहरूलाई वैदिक भाषामा अपह भनिन्छ। यो अहंकार प्रकृतिको अर्को परिणाम हो।

तेस्रो परमाणु समूह जसमा तामस गुण प्रबल हुन्छ, त्यसलाई वर्तमान विज्ञानको भाषामा न्यूटन भनिन्छ। यो भूतिया अहंकार हो।

र जब भूत अहंकारहरू एक ठाउँमा नयाँ संख्यामा जम्मा हुन्छन्, तब भारी परमाणु समूहहरू बीचमा हुन्छन् र प्रकाशहरू तिनीहरूको वरिपरि घुम्न थाल्छन्। वर्तमान विज्ञानले यसलाई एटम भन्छ। दार्शनिक भाषामा यसलाई सर्कल भनिन्छ। सर्कलका समूहहरू पाँच प्रकारका हुन्छन्। यिनीहरूलाई महान् भूत भनिन्छ। भट्टाचार्य, रमाशंकर (२०२२)

४. वैशेषिक दर्शन

आधारभूत तत्वहरू ईश्वर, आत्मा र प्रकृति ब्रह्मसूत्रमा वर्णन गरिएको छ। यी तीन पदार्थलाई ब्रह्म भनिन्छ। प्रकृतिको परिणाम अर्थात् रूपान्तरण दुई प्रकारका हुन्छन्। महान् अहंकार र तन्मात्र अव्यक्त यी साङ्ख्य दर्शनमा वर्णित छन्। परिमण्डल पञ्च महाभूतहरू र महाभूतहरू मिलेर बनेका भौतिक जगतका सबै पदार्थहरूलाई प्रकट पदार्थ भनिन्छ। यिनीहरूको वर्णन वैशेषिक दर्शनमा छ।

महर्ष कणाद वैशेषिक दर्शनका प्रवर्तक हुन्। यस दर्शनले ब्रह्माण्ड, पाँच महान् तत्व र भूतले बनेका सबै पदार्थको वर्णन गरेको हुनाले वैशेषिक दर्शन विज्ञानमा आधारित छ।

वैशेषिक दर्शनका पहिलो दुई सूत्र हुन्। अथातो धर्म विलिख्याम :

अब हामी धर्मको व्याख्या गर्नेछौं।

लौकिक र लौकिक (ऋणरहित) सुख प्राप्त गर्ने नै धर्म हो। कणादको वैशेषिक दर्शन र गौतमको न्याय दर्शन बीचको भिन्नता यो हो कि यसमा छव्वीसको सट्टा सात तत्वको मात्र चर्चा गरिएको छ। जसमा विशेषलाई बढी जोड दिइएको छ।

यी तत्वहरू पदार्थ, गुण, कार्य, समन्वय, विशेष र अनुपस्थिति हुन्।

५. न्याय दर्शन

महर्षा अक्षपद गौतमद्वारा प्रतिपादित न्याय दर्शन एक ईश्वरवादी दर्शन हो जसमा ईश्वर कर्मफलको प्रदायक हुनुहुन्छ। यस दर्शनको मुख्य उद्देश्य प्रमाण हो। न्याय शब्द धेरै अर्थमा प्रयोग गरिन्छ, तर दार्शनिक साहित्यमा, न्याय भनेको सिद्ध विषय वा सिद्धान्तको समाधान गर्ने माध्यम हो।

नियते प्रप्यते विविक्षितार्थं सिद्धिर्णेन तत् न्याय ।

तसर्थ न्याय दर्शनमा अनुसन्धानका विधिहरू वर्णन गरिएको छ ।

न्याय दर्शनमा अनुसन्धानको विधिको वर्णन गरिएको छ र सत्य पत्ता लगाउने सोह्र तत्वहरू रहेको बताईएको छ । कुनै पनि पदार्थको सत्य (वास्तविकता) ती तत्वहरूद्वारा जान्न सकिन्छ। यी सोह्र तत्व हुन्- (१) प्रमाण, (२) प्रमेय, (३) शंका, (४) उद्देश्य, (५) उदाहरण, (६) सिद्धान्त, (७) सामग्री, (८) तर्क (९) निर्णय, (१०) वाद, (११) जल्प, (१२) विताण्ड, (१३) हेत्वभाषा, (१४) छल, (१५) जात र (१६) निग्रहस्थान

यी सबैलाई न्याय दर्शनमा वर्णन गरिएको छ त्यसैले यस दर्शनलाई तर्कको व्याकरण भन्न सकिन्छ । वेदार्थ जान्नमा तर्कको विशेष महत्व छ । त्यसैले यो दर्शन वेद बुझ्नको लागि उपयोगी छ ।

न्याय दर्शनका चार खण्ड-

१. सामान्य ज्ञान समस्या समाधान
२. विश्व समस्या समाधान
३. आत्मा को मुक्ति
४. भगवान को ज्ञान

न्याय दर्शनमा अध्यात्मवाद भन्दा तर्क र ज्ञान बढी छ । आनन्द प्राप्त गर्नका लागि स्पष्ट विचार र तार्किक प्रमाण आवश्यक भएकाले यसमा तर्कशास्त्रको प्रचलन भएको हो । न्याय दर्शनमा १. सामान्य ज्ञान २. संसारको जटिलता ३ जीवात्मको मुक्ति र ४. परमात्माको ज्ञान- यी चार गम्भिर उद्देश्य, प्रमाण आदि १६ पदार्थको तत्वज्ञान प्राप्त हुन्छ । इश्वर सिद्धि न्याय दर्शनको गन्तव्य हो ।

आचार्य, श्रीराम शर्मा (२०१२)

६ भोग दर्शन : महर्षी पतञ्जली

योग प्रक्रिया विश्वका धेरै देशहरूमा प्रचलित छ। प्रायः यी आसनहरू भनेर चिनिन्छन् । कतिपय ठाउँमा प्राणायाम पनि प्रचलित छ। यी आसन आदि योग दर्शनको एकदमै सानो अंश हुन् । यो दर्शनको व्यावहारिक र आध्यात्मिक उपयोगिता विश्वव्यापी रूपमा स्वीकार गरिएको छ किनभने योगका आसन र प्राणायामले मानव शरीर र आत्मालाई बलियो र स्वस्थ बनाउन बलियो योगदान गर्दछ । यस दर्शनका प्रवर्तक महर्ष पतञ्जली हुन् । यो दर्शन चार श्लोकमा विभाजित छ जसको कुल सूत्र संख्या १९४ छ। यी चार पद हुन्: समाधिपद, साधनापद विभूतिपद र कैवल्यपद।

योग दर्शनको पहिलो सूत्र हो अथ योगनुशासनम् । अर्थात् योगको शिक्षालाई यस सम्पूर्ण शास्त्रको विषय मान्नुपर्छ । गीता प्रेस (२०१२)

नेपाली समाजमा वैदिक दर्शनको प्रभाव

उपनिषद् लामो समय लगाएर धेरै मनिषीहरूले रचना गरेका हुन् । उपनिषद्मा मानव जीवन र संसारका सबैभन्दा रहस्यमय प्रश्नहरूको समाधान गर्ने प्रयास गरिएको छ । यी भारतीय अध्यात्म विज्ञानका देदीप्यमान रत्न हुन् । यिनीहरूको मुख्य विषय ब्रह्मविद्याको प्रस्तुति हो । वैदिक साहित्यको अन्त्यमा स्थान भएकाले तिनीहरूलाई 'वेदान्त' पनि भनिन्छ । यिनीहरूमा जीव र ब्रह्मको एकतालाई प्रतिपादन गरेर उच्चतम देखि उच्चतम दार्शनिक व्याख्यान गरिएको छ । उपनिषद्हरू आध्यात्मिक तत्वहरूको अमूल्य खजाना हुन् जसलाई भारतीय ऋषिहरूले गहन चिन्तनका साथ साक्षात्कार गरेका छन् । यी धेरै शताब्दीको दार्शनिक चिन्ताको परिणाम हुन् । उपनिषद् दर्शनहरू आत्मअनुभूति जीवनको रहस्य बुझ्न र अन्ततः, शान्ति र आनन्दले भरिएको

जीवन बिताउने उपाय हो । आत्म अनुभूतिको यो अवधारणाले वास्तविकताको बुझाइ अध्ययन गरी तीनवटा मुख्य धाराहरूलाई जन्म दियो, जसले अहिले हिन्दू विचारको सम्पूर्ण संरचनालाई समग्र रूपमा बनाउँछ । वेदान्त वा वेदान्तिक विचारका यी तीन उपविद्यालयहरू अद्वैत, द्वैत र विशिष्टाद्वैत हुन् ।

वेदान्त दर्शनमा सर्वप्रथम परस्पर विरोधी मतहरूलाई एकतृत गर्दै भगवान वादरायणले ब्रह्मसूत्रको रचना गरे । आदि शंकराचार्यले सो ब्रह्मसूत्रमा भाष्य लेखे । आदि शंकराचार्यको यो भाष्य यति महत्वपूर्ण छ कि सर्वसाधारण प्राय ब्रह्मसूत्रको शांकर भाष्यलाई नै वेदान्त ठान्दछन् । शंकर दर्शनको मुख्य प्रतिपादन ब्रह्म सिद्धि हो । यो मतलाई अद्वैत मत भनिन्छ । यो मत स्थापना गराउन कुमारिल भट्टको योगदान पनि ठूलो छ । परवर्तिकालमा रामानुज, मध्य, निम्बार्क, बल्लभ आदि आचार्यहरूले व्याख्या, प्रतिव्याख्याको रूपमा विशिष्टाद्वैत, केवलाद्वैत, द्वैताद्वैत आदि मतहरू स्थापना गरे । यी सबै मतहरूमा जगतको सत्ययता स्वीकार गरेर इश्वरलाई स्वतन्त्र मानी भक्ति मार्गबाट मुक्तिसाधनाका उपायहरू बताइएका छन् । पुनर्जन्म, आत्म र मोक्षका विषयहरू सबै मतमा एकै छन् ।

क. ईश्वर : शंकराचार्यको मत अनुसार निर्विशेष ब्रह्मा नै मायाको नामले चिनिने सगुण ब्रह्मा वा इश्वरको रूपमा लिइन्छ । इश्वर नै जगतको उत्पत्ति, स्थिति र लयको कारण हुन् । उनै जगतको निमित्त तथा उपादानका कारण हुन् । परवर्ति आचार्यहरूले ब्रह्मालाई सगुण तथा नित्य, सत्य, ज्ञानमय र आनन्दमय माने । रामानुजले नारायणलाई, निम्बाकले कृष्णलाई र मध्यले विष्णुलाई परब्रह्म मानेका छन् ।

ख. जगत् : शंकराचार्यको मत अनुसार ब्रह्म सत्य र जगत् मिथ्या छ । संसारिक जीवनमा मायाको अतिरिक्त केही छैन । परवर्ति आचार्यले जगत नित्य र स्वतन्त्र भएता पनि इश्वरको अधिनमा रहेको छ भने । भगवानको आविर्भाव र तिरोभाव नै जगत्को उत्पत्ति र विनाशको कारण हो भन्छन् ।

ग. जीवात्म : शंकराचार्यको मत अनुसार अविद्याको उपाधिले युक्त निर्विशेष ब्रह्म नै जीव हो । परवर्ति आचार्य ब्रह्म र भूत (जीव) लाई अलग मान्छन् । उनीहरूका मत अनुसार प्रत्येक जीवको अस्तित्व पृथक छ ।

मुक्तिकोपनिषद ज्ञान उपनिषद चारै वेदसँग सम्बन्धित छन् तर ज्ञान उपनिषद बढी प्रख्यात छ- ईश, केन, कठ, प्रश, मुण्डक, माण्डुक्य, तैत्तिरीय, ऐतरेय, छांदोग्य, बृहदारण्यक र श्वेताश्वतर, यिनीहरूमध्ये छांदोग्य र बृहदारण्यक लाई बढी मानिन्छ, र महत्त्वपूर्ण छ । वैदिक साहित्यको यो सिद्धान्त देखिन्छ कि प्रत्येक मन्त्रभागमा एक उपनिषद थियो र ब्राह्मणभागमा एक उपनिषद थियो। अहिले लगभग लोप भइसकेको छ, शुक्ल यजुर्वेदमा यो सिद्धान्त बाँकी छ । भारतीय षड्दर्शनहरूका मुल श्रोत उपनिषद् नै हो । ईशावस्योपनिषद मन्त्रोपनिषद हो र बृहदारण्यकोपनिषद ब्राह्मणोपनिषद हो ।

सूत्र-साहित्य

वैदिक साहित्य व्यापक र जटिल हुँदै गएपछि रीतिरिवाजसँग सम्बन्धित सिद्धान्तहरूलाई नयाँ रूप दिइयो । सबै महत्त्वपूर्ण नियम र नियमहरू न्यूनतम शब्दहरूमा अधिकतम अर्थ बुझाउँदै साना वाक्यहरूमा व्यक्त हुन थाले । यी पिथी वाक्यहरूलाई सूत्र भनिन्थ्यो। संस्कारसँग सम्बन्धित सूत्र साहित्यलाई चार भागमा विभाजन गरिएको थियो- १. श्रौतसूत्र २. गृहसूत्र ३. धर्मसूत्र र ४. शुल्ब सूत्र । पहिलोमा वैदिक यज्ञसँग सम्बन्धित अनुष्ठानहरूको वर्णन गरिएको छ । दोस्रोमा गृहस्थको नित्य बलिदान, तेस्रोमा सामाजिक नियम र चौथोमा यज्ञवेदी निर्माण ।

श्रौत सूत्र

श्रौत भनेको श्रुति (वेद) सँग सम्बन्धित यज्ञ हो । तसर्थ श्रौतसूत्रमा अग्निहोत्र, दर्श पूर्णमास, चातुर्मास

र सोमयाग जस्ता अग्निस्तोम आदि तीन प्रकारका अग्निहरूमा आधारित साधारण यज्ञहरूको वर्णन छ। यसले भारतको प्राचीन यज्ञ प्रणालीमा धेरै प्रकाश पार्छ। ऋग्वेदका दुई श्रौत सूत्रहरू छन्- शंखायन र अश्वलयन। शुक्ल यजुर्वेदमा एउटै सूत्र छ- कात्यायन, कृष्ण यजुर्वेदमा छवटा सूत्रहरू छन्- आपस्तम्ब, हिरण्यकेशी, बौधायन, भारद्वाज, मानव, वैखान। सामवेदका लत्यायन, द्रष्ट्ययन र अर्शेय नामका तीन सूत्रहरू छन्। अथर्ववेदको एक मात्र वैतान सूत्र छ।

गृह सूत्र

यसमा जन्मदेखि मृत्युसम्मका ती विचार र अनुष्ठानहरूको वर्णन छ, जसको अनुष्ठान प्रत्येक हिन्दू गृहस्थका लागि आवश्यक मानिन्थ्यो। उपनयन र विवाह समारोहको विस्तृत वर्णन गरिएको छ। यी ग्रन्थहरूको अध्ययन गर्दा, प्राचीन भारतीय समाजको घरेलु नैतिकता र रीतिरिवाज र विभिन्न क्षेत्रका रीतिरिवाजहरूको पूर्ण ज्ञान प्राप्त हुन्छ। ऋग्वेदका गृह्य सूत्रहरू शंखायन र अश्वलयन हुन्। शुक्ल यजुर्वेदका पारस्कर, यजुर्वेदका कृष्ण आपस्तम्ब, हिरण्यकेशी, बौधायन, वराह, मानव, कथक र वैखन, सामवेदका गोभिल र खदिर र अथर्ववेदका कौशिक हुन्। तीमध्ये गोभिललाई सबैभन्दा पुरानो मानिन्छ।

धर्मसूत्र

धर्मसूत्रहरूमा सामाजिक जीवनका नियमहरू विस्तृत रूपमा प्रस्तुत गरिएका छन्। वर्णाश्रम-धर्मको चर्चा गर्दा ब्रह्मचारी, गृहस्थ र राजाको कर्तव्य, विवाहको रहस्य, दाइजो प्रथा, निषेधित भोजन, शुद्धि, प्रायश्चित्त आदिको विशेष वर्णन गरिएको छ। यी धर्मसूत्रहरूबाट स्मृतिहरू पछि जन्मिए, जसको व्यवस्था आजसम्म हिन्दू समाजमा सम्मानजनक मानिन्छ। वेदसँग सम्बन्धित तीनवटा धर्मसूत्रहरू मात्र उपलब्ध छन्- आपस्तम्ब, हिरण्यकेशी र बौधायन। तिनीहरू कृष्णयजुर्वेदको तैत्तिरिया शाखाका हुन्। शुक्लयजुर्वेदको शांखी लिखित धर्मसूत्र हो। अन्य धर्मसूत्रहरूमध्ये सामवेदसँग सम्बन्धित गौतमधर्मसूत्र र ऋग्वेदसँग सम्बन्धित वसिष्ठधर्मसूत्र उल्लेखनीय छन्।

शुल्ब

शुल्ब भनेको नाप्ने धागो हो। यसको नाम अनुसार, शुल्ब सूत्रहरूमा यज्ञ-वेदीहरू नाप्ने, तिनीहरूको लागि ठाउँ छनौट गर्ने र तिनीहरूको निर्माण आदि जस्ता विषयहरूको विस्तृत विवरण समावेश छ। यी भारतीय ज्यामितिका पुराना स्रोतहरू हुन्।

वेदांग

लामो समयपछि वैदिक साहित्य जटिल र कठिन देखिन थाल्यो। त्यसबेला वेदको अर्थ र विषयहरू व्याख्या गर्न धेरै सूत्र र ग्रन्थहरू लेखिन थाले। त्यसैले यिनीहरूलाई वेदांग भनिन्छ।

वेदांगहरू छवटा छन्। शिक्षा, छान्द, व्याकरण, निरुक्त, कल्प र ज्योतिष।

मन्त्रको शुद्ध उच्चारण र अर्थ बुझ्नको लागि पहिलो चार वेदाङ्ग आवश्यक छन् र अन्तिम दुई वेदाङ्ग धार्मिक अनुष्ठान र यज्ञको समय जान्न आवश्यक छन्। व्याकरणलाई वेदको मुख, ज्योतिषलाई आँखा, निरुक्तलाई कान, कल्पलाई हात, शिक्षालाई नाकको प्वाल र पदकलाई दुवै खुट्टा भनिन्छ, वेद पाठमा स्वरसको विशेष महत्व थियो। उनीहरूको शिक्षाका लागि छुट्टै वेदाङ्ग निर्माण गरियो। यसमा अक्षरहरूको उच्चारणका लागि

धेरै नियमहरू दिइएको छ । उच्चारणको वैज्ञानिक विश्लेषण गर्ने यो संसारको पहिलो पुस्तक हो । यी वेदका विभिन्न शाखाहरूसँग सम्बन्धित छन् र प्रतिशाख्य भनिन्छ । ऋग्वेद, अथर्ववेद, वज्रसेनिया र तैत्तिरीय संहिताका प्रतिशाख्यहरू पाइन्छ । पछि त्यसैको आधारमा शैक्षिक ग्रन्थहरू लेखिए । यी मध्ये शुक्ल यजुर्वेदको याज्ञवल्क्य-शिक्षा, सामवेदको नारद शिक्षा र पाणिनीको पाणिनी शिक्षा मुख्य शिक्षा हुन् ।

छन्द

वैदिक साहित्य मन्त्रहरूका रूपमा लेखिएका छन् । श्लोकको सही ज्ञान नभई वेद-मन्त्रको शुद्ध उच्चारण हुन सक्दैन । तसर्थ, पदहरूको विस्तृत विश्लेषण आवश्यक मानिएको छ । शौनक मुनिको रिक्प्रतिशाख्य, शांखायन श्रौतसूत्र र सामवेदसँग सम्बन्धित निदान सूत्रमा यस शास्त्रको व्यवस्थित वर्णन छ । तर यस वेदाङ्गको एक मात्र स्वतन्त्र पाठ पिंगलाचार्य-प्रणिता चन्द सूत्र हो । यसमा, वैदिक र ब्रह्माण्ड श्लोकहरू उच्चारण गर्ने तरिका उल्लेख छ ।

व्याकरण

यस भागको उद्देश्य सन्धि, शब्द-रूप, धातु-रूप र तिनीहरूको निर्माण-विधिको ज्ञान दिनु हो । यस समयमा व्याकरणको सबैभन्दा प्रसिद्ध पुस्तक पाणिनीको अष्टाध्यायी हो; तर व्याकरणको विचार ब्राह्मण ग्रन्थको समयबाट सुरु भएको थियो । पाणिनी भन्दा पहिले गार्ग्य, स्फोटायन, भारद्वाज आदि व्याकरणका महान् शिक्षक बनेका थिए । यी सबै ग्रन्थहरू अब हराएका छन् ।

निरुक्त

यसमा वैदिक शब्दहरूको व्युत्पत्ति देखाइएको छ । प्राचीन कालमा वेदका कठिन शब्दहरूको व्यवस्थित तालिका र शब्दकोशलाई निघन्टु भनिन्थ्यो र तिनीहरूको व्याख्या निरुक्तमा थियो । आजकल यास्काचार्यको निरुक्त मात्र उपलब्ध छ । यसको समय ४६ ईसा पूर्व हो ।

ज्योतिष

वैदिक युगमा, यो विश्वास थियो कि वेदको उद्देश्य यज्ञ गर्नु थियो । यज्ञ सही समय र समयमा गरे मात्र फलदायी हुन्छ । त्यसैले समय जान्नका लागि ज्योतिषको ज्ञान आवश्यक मानिन्थ्यो । यसरी ज्योतिषको विकास भयो । यसलाई वेदको अंश मानिन थाल्यो । यसको सबैभन्दा पुरानो ग्रन्थ, लगधामुनिद्वारा लिखित वेदाङ्ग ज्योतिष पञ्चसंवत्सरामायण आदिमा ४४ श्लोक छन् । यस ग्रन्थको आधारमा बनेको वैदिक तिथीपत्रम् नेपालमा प्रचलनमा आएको छ ।

कल्प

कल्प भनेको वेदका ६ भाग (वेदाङ्ग) मध्येको एउटा अंश हो जसले कर्मकाण्डको विवरण दिन्छ । धेरै वैदिक इतिहासकारहरूको अनुसार, कल्पग्रन्थ वा कल्पसूत्र छ वेदहरू मध्ये सबैभन्दा पुरानो हो र वैदिक साहित्यको सबैभन्दा नजिक छ । वेदाङ्गमा कल्पको विशेष महत्व छ किनभने यसमा जन्म, उपनयन, विवाह, अन्त्येष्टि र यज्ञ जस्ता विषयहरू निर्धारित छन् ।

पुराण र धर्म

भारतीय दर्शनमा पुराणको उदयले एक नयाँ युगको सुरुआत भयो । कालान्तरमा वैदिक साहित्यमा प्रयोग भएका शब्दहरू बदलिदो युग परिवेसमा सर्वसाधारणले बुझ्न कठिन भएपछि वेदब्यासले पाँचौं वेदका रूपमा

पुराण रचना गर्नुभयो । पुराणहरूमा वैदिक धर्मको व्याख्यान र प्रतिपादन गरिएको छ । यहाँ उल्लेखित विषयहरू सर्वग्रह्य, सर्वहितकारी र सर्वोपयोगी छ ।

हामी द्वैत, अद्वैत वा विशिष्टाद्वैत लियोँ, लक्ष्य परमात्मा हो- त्यहाँ कुनै दोस्रो विचार छैन । प्रत्येक मार्गले कसरी र कुन परिस्थितिमा परमात्मा पुग्न सकिन्छ भनेर विस्तृत रूपमा मात्र ढिलाइ गर्दछ ।

अद्वैतमा, जीवात्मा र परमात्मा बीचको सम्बन्ध वर्गको पक्ष र यसको परिधि बीचको सम्बन्ध जस्तै छ ।

द्वैतमा समान सम्बन्धलाई वृत्तको व्यास र यसको परिधि बीचको रूपमा वर्णन गरिएको छ । यहाँ संख्या पाई एक अपरिमेय संख्या हो। यसको मूल्य अनुमानित मात्र हो । यदि तपाईं करोडौं दशमलवमा जानुभयो भने पनि तपाईं मूल्यको धेरै नजिक पुग्न सक्नुहुन्छ तर वास्तविक मूल्य होइन । व्यास संग पाई को गुणन र परिधि को सही मान मा आइपुगेको मान बीच एक मिनेट फरक रहनेछ । यसैगरी जीवात्मा कहिल्यै परमात्मा बन्न सक्दैनन्- यो केवल परमात्मालाई धेरै नजिकबाट नजिक जान सक्छ । जसरी वृत्तको परिधिको सही मानमा पुग्नको लागि पाई को दशमलवको कुनै ज्ञात संख्या छैन, त्यसैगरी जीवात्माले परमात्मा पुग्न वा बन्नको लागि चाल्नु पर्ने कदमहरूको संख्या सधैं अनिश्चित रहनेछ । यस सीमालाई पञ्चभूतत्वमद्वारा ल्याइएका तारतम्यम् भनेर वर्णन गरिएको छ । यसरी द्वैतमा जीवात्मा र परमात्माको सम्बन्ध अनिश्चित र तर्कहीन रहन्छ । यो आइन्स्टाइनको सापेक्षता सिद्धान्तमा पनि छ, यो पाई ले पनि चित्रण गरिरहेको छ । उनी भन्छन् कि यस ब्रह्माण्डमा सबै चीजहरूमा अनिश्चितता छ । मध्वाचार्यको पञ्चवेता वा असमानता भनेको यही हो । एक संवेदनशील वस्तु संवेदनशील वस्तु भन्दा फरक छ । किन, एउटा संवेदनशील वस्तु र अर्कोमा पनि भिन्नता छ र संवेदनशील प्राणीहरू (जीवात्मा) परमात्माभन्दा भिन्न छन् ।

रामानुचार्यको विशिष्टद्वैतमको बारेमा के हो? उहाँ भन्नुहुन्छ परमात्मा माया, भ्रमले सर्कल जस्तो देखिने वर्ग हो। उनले एक प्रकारले द्वैत र अद्वैत दुवैलाई स्वीकार गर्छन् । उहाँ भन्नुहुन्छ यदि तपाईंले कहिल्यै परमात्मा (द्वैतमा जस्तै) प्राप्त गर्न सक्नुहुन्न भन्नुभयो भने जीवात्माले हार मान्नेछ वा परमात्मा (अद्वैतमा जस्तै) भन्नुभयो भने गर्व हुनेछ ।

पार्वती ज्ञानकी आमा हुन् । पार्वतीले प्रश्न गर्नुहुन्छ । शिवले प्रश्नहरूको जवाफ दिनुहुन्छ । यसले ज्ञानको रूपमा सन्तान विस्तार गर्दछ । ज्ञान शिव र पार्वतीका जेठा छोरा हुन् । त्यसपछि दोस्रो छोरा भक्तिको जन्म भयो । यो केटी हो । ज्ञान पुरुष हो, भक्ति नारी हो । भगवान शिव स्वयं एक पुरुष हुनुहुन्छ ।

शिव = ब्रह्मपुरुष = वैराग्य - १,

पार्वती मूल प्रकृति = श्रद्धा - २,

(शिव + पार्वती),

पुत्र = ज्ञान ३, छोरी = भक्ति ४

जहाँ त्याग हुन्छ, त्यहाँ विश्वास हुन्छ। त्यहाँ अवश्य ज्ञान छ, भक्ति छ । यी चारलाई एकै ठाउँमा भेट्नु नै वैष्णव धर्म हो। म विष्णुको चार हातधारी रूपलाई नमस्कार गर्दछु । आस्था भएका मानिस पार्वती हुन् । वैराग्य+श्रद्धा = अर्धनारीश्वर पुरुष, जसको ज्ञान छ, उसको मात्र पुत्र छ । विना ज्ञान = पुत्ररहित । पुत्ररहितको गति कहाँ छ ? ज्ञान नभएको मानिसले आफ्नो वीर्यबाट सयौं पुत्र जन्माए पनि नरकको पात्र हुन्छ । भक्तिरहित = छोरीरहित । यदि छोरी छैन भने कन्यादान कसलाई दिने ? छोरी नभएको मानिस सुखी हुँदैन । भगवान विष्णुको भक्ति भएकी कन्यासँग विवाह गर्ने व्यक्ति अनन्त सुख प्राप्त गर्ने व्यक्ति हो । अविवाहित वा छोरी नभएको अवस्थामा भगवान विष्णुको भक्तिभावपूर्वक पूजा गर्ने व्यक्तिले छोरी जन्माउने सुख अवश्य प्राप्त गर्छ । संसारले उसलाई लात हान्छ । विश्वास नभएको मानिस पत्नीविनाको विधुर हो । उसले सपनामा पनि

खुशी पाउँदैन। जहाँ त्याग र भक्ति दुवै हुन्छ, त्यो पुरुष अर्धनारीश्वर शिव हो। जहाँ त्याग र भक्ति हुन्छ, त्यहाँ ज्ञान र भक्ति हुन्छ। यी चार त्याग, विश्वास, ज्ञान र भक्ति एकसाथ हुनु पूर्णता हो। यस्तो सिद्ध पुरुष विष्णु हो।

जसरी आगो सुनको परम गुरु हो र सूर्य गाईको परम गुरु (प्रकाशको किरण) हो, त्यसरी नै श्री नारायण सबै जगतका गुरु हुनुहुन्छ। उहाँ भगवान ब्रह्मा हुनुहुन्छ, प्रजापतिहरूका पति र पितृहरूका पूर्वज र उहाँ कला, काठ र प्रकाशको रूपमा समयको अव्यक्त अवतार हुनुहुन्छ। आदित्य, मरुद्रन, साध्यागान, रुद्र, वसु, अग्नि, पितृगण र अत्रि आदि प्रजापति- यी सबै अगम्य महात्मा विष्णुका रूप हुन्। यक्ष, राक्षस, दैत्य, पिशच, सर्प, दानव, अप्सरा, गन्धर्व आदि पनि महात्मा विष्णुका रूप हुन्। आकाश, अग्नि, जल, वायु (पृथ्वी) र महा, नक्षत्र र ताराहरू सहित इन्द्रियहरूका सबै वस्तुहरू - यो सारा संसार विष्णुमय हो। तर, समुन्द्रका छालहरू जस्तै विष्णुका ती धेरै रूपहरूले दिनरात एकअर्काको विरोध (विरोध) गरिरहन्छन्।

पृथ्वी हाम्रो आमा हो। पृथ्वीका गुरु नारायण हुन्। त्यसैले त हामीमा पनि गुरु नारायण छन्, यो नारायण सबैको हृदयमा बसेका छन्। शरीर-रूपले रथलाई चलाउँछ। अर्जुन आत्मा हो, रथ शरीर हो, जीवन कुरुक्षेत्र हो। यस कुरुक्षेत्र (केर्मक्षेत्र) मा आत्माको प्रेरणादायी मार्गदर्शक अन्तर्वातामा कृष्ण हुनुहुन्छ। जसले जे भन्छ त्यसको पालना गर्छ, उसैको महाभारतको भयंकर युद्धमा विजय हुन्छ। यसको लागि कुनै प्रमाण आवश्यक छैन। यो स्वयम् प्रष्ट छ। यो कृष्ण सबैको हृदयमा छ (हृदिसंनिविष्टः - गीता)। आफ्नो विभूतिहरूसँग तपस्या गर्ने मानिसमा यो प्रकट हुन्छ र उहाँलाई संसारमा गुरु भनेर चिनिन्छ। भगवानका अनगिन्ती 'गुरु' अवतार छन्। सबै गुरुहरू नारायणका अंश हुन्। जसरी मानिसले आफ्नो आँखाले आफ्नै आँखाले देख्दैन र देख्छ भने ऐनामा आफ्नो आँखाको प्रतिबिम्ब मात्र देख्छ, त्यसैगरी आत्माले आफ्नो भित्री गुरुलाई देख्दैन, गुरुलाई रूपमा देख्छ। कृष्णले अर्काको हृदयमा अवतार लिएका छन्, विश्वास गर्छन् र उहाँलाई प्रणाम गर्छन्। यो गुरु लीलामा भगवान विष्णुलाई कसले बुझ्न सक्छ।

यसले प्रमाणित गर्छ कि गुरुदेव सबैको हृदयमा लुकेर बसेका छन्। त्यसैले त सबै जीव गुरु बने। तर सदगुरु भनेको आफूलाई नारायणबाट अविभाज्य ठान्ने सबै होइन, त्यो श्रोत्रिय ब्रह्मविद ब्राह्मण सदगुरु हो। यस्तो गुरु अरू कसैले देख्दैनन्। ज्ञानसँग गुरुको अभिन्न सम्बन्ध छ। ज्ञान दुई प्रकारका हुन्छन्। शाश्वत ज्ञान, परिवर्तनशील ज्ञान। शाश्वत ज्ञान दुई प्रकारका हुन्छन्। आत्माको ज्ञान, परमात्माको ज्ञान। व्यवहारको ज्ञान वा सांसारिक ज्ञान परिवर्तनशील छ। गुरुसँग आध्यात्मिक, दिव्य र भौतिक तीनवटै ज्ञान हुन्छ। यस्तो गुरु सिद्ध गुरु हुन्। पूर्ण गुरुवे नमः। पूर्ण गुरु भेट्नु परम लाभ हो। सदगुरुको भेट असीमित लाभ हो। गुरु प्राप्ति = एघारौँ घरको सिद्ध। एकादश/एकादशस्थ ग्रह / एकादश दृष्टि महा/एकादशसुत दृष्टि महाका अनुसार जातकले वर्तमान जीवनमा गुरु पाउँछ। त्यसैले मानव देहधारी गुरुलाई व्यक्तिरूपमा नारायण मानेर नमस्कार गर्नुपर्छ। एउटै नारायण धेरै शरीरमा बस्छन्। त्यसैले गुरु एक, गुरु धेरै छन्। जो गुरुको अधिनमा रहन्छ, त्यो उसको शिष्य हो। शिष्यहरूलाई नमः।

शिवजी आदि गुरु हुन्। आदि गुरुवे नमः। पार्वती जी पहिलो शिष्य हुन्। प्रथम शिष्य नमः। शिवले पार्वतीलाई रामको सार उपदेश दिए। गोस्वामी तुलसीदासको भाषामा - "राम ब्रह्म चिन्मय अविनासी। राम परमात्मा हुनुहुन्छ। राम ब्रह्मा, चिन्मय, अविनाशी, सर्वशक्तिमान, सबैको हृदयमा वास गर्नुहुन्छ। हे भवानी त्यो राम परमात्मा हुनुहुन्छ। तिमिले रामको बारेमा भ्रम हुनु अन्याय हो। मन, बुद्धि र वाणीमा राम अतुलनीय छन्। यो मेरो विचार हो, सुन्नुहोस्। राम व्यापक छन्, जगत ब्रह्माण्डको ज्ञान हो, उहाँ परमानन्द हुनुहुन्छ, उहाँ भ्रमित हुनुहुन्छ, उहाँ नै पुराण हुनुहुन्छ जो सबैको परम प्रकाशक हुनुहुन्छ, उहाँ सनातन राम अवधपति हुनुहुन्छ। रामको कृपा विना सपनामा पनि सफलता पाउँदैनन्। भनिन्छ- "राम विमुख सिद्धि सपना नही।"

सारांश

पूर्वीय दार्शनिक विचारले भारत, चीन, जापान र कोरिया जस्ता देशहरू सहित पूर्वी एशियामा उत्पन्न भएका विभिन्न दार्शनिक परम्पराहरूलाई जनाउँछ। यी परम्पराहरू प्राचीन ग्रन्थहरू, धार्मिक विश्वासहरू, र प्रत्येक क्षेत्रका अद्वितीय सांस्कृतिक अभ्यासहरूद्वारा प्रभावित छन्। पूर्वीय दार्शनिक विचारका केही प्रमुख अवधारणाहरूमा कर्म (कारण र प्रभावको नियम), धर्म (नैतिक कर्तव्य), यिन र याङ (सन्तुलन सिर्जना गर्ने विरोधी शक्तिहरू), र जेन (ध्यान र प्रत्यक्ष अनुभवलाई जोड दिने बौद्ध धर्मको विद्यालय) समावेश छन्। प्रत्येक परम्पराको आफ्नै विचार र दार्शनिकहरू छन् जसले शताब्दीयौंदेखि यसको विकासमा योगदान दिएका छन्।

यी मुख्य अवधारणाहरूका अतिरिक्त, पूर्वी दार्शनिक विचारले पनि अन्तरसम्बन्धितता र ब्रह्माण्डमा सबै चीजहरू अन्तरसम्बन्धित छन् भन्ने धारणालाई जोड दिन्छ। यो परिप्रेक्ष्यले अक्सर जीवनको समग्र दृष्टिकोण र अस्तित्वको सबै पक्षहरूमा सद्भाव र सन्तुलन खोज्नमा ध्यान केन्द्रित गर्दछ। केही अन्य उल्लेखनीय पूर्वीय दार्शनिक परम्पराहरूमा कन्फ्युसियसवाद, जसले नैतिकता, पारिवारिक मूल्यहरू, र सामाजिक सद्भावलाई महत्त्व दिन्छ, र ताओवाद, जसले ब्रह्माण्डको प्राकृतिक प्रवाह र आन्तरिक शान्ति प्राप्त गर्नमा जोड दिन्छ। पूर्वीय दार्शनिक विचारले केवल दर्शन भन्दा बाहिर जीवनका विभिन्न पक्षहरूमा महत्त्वपूर्ण प्रभाव पारेको छ। उदाहरणका लागि, एक्यूपंकचर र हर्बल उपचार जस्ता परम्परागत चिकित्सा अभ्यासहरू प्रायः पूर्वी दार्शनिक सिद्धान्तहरूमा आधारित छन्। समग्रमा, पूर्वी दर्शनले पश्चिमी दार्शनिक परम्पराहरूको तुलनामा संसारलाई बुझ्ने र पुग्ने विभिन्न तरिकाहरू प्रदान गर्दै जीवन र मानव अस्तित्वमा एक अद्वितीय परिप्रेक्ष्य प्रदान गर्दछ।

हिन्दू दर्शनले हिन्दू धर्म भित्रको वास्तविकतालाई हेर्ने र बुझ्ने विभिन्न दृष्टिकोण वा तरिकाहरूलाई जनाउँछ। यसले हिन्दू धर्म भित्र विभिन्न दार्शनिक र आध्यात्मिक परम्पराहरू समावेश गर्दछ, प्रत्येकले जीवनको अन्तिम प्रश्नहरूको लागि अद्वितीय अन्तरदृष्टि र दृष्टिकोणहरू प्रदान गर्दछ। यी परिप्रेक्ष्यहरूमा अद्वैत वेदान्त, द्वैत वेदान्त, सांख्य, योग, न्याय, वैशेषिक र मीमांसा समावेश छन्। प्रत्येक दर्शनमा वास्तविकताका विभिन्न पक्षहरूलाई जोड दिने भिन्न तत्वहरू छन् - ब्रह्म (सर्वोच्च चेतना) र व्यक्तिगत आत्माहरू (जीवहरू)। पूर्ण र अर्थपूर्ण जीवन कसरी जिउने भन्ने बारे मार्गदर्शन प्रदान गर्दै छुट्टै विश्वदृष्टिकोण प्रस्तुत गर्दछ। दर्शनको अवधारणा हिन्दू संस्कृतिमा गहिरो जरा गाडिएको छ र धार्मिक अभ्यासहरू, अनुष्ठानहरू, र दार्शनिक छलफलहरूलाई आकार दिन महत्त्वपूर्ण भूमिका खेल्छ।

अद्वैत वेदान्त एक विचारको स्कूल हो जसले सबै चीजहरूको परम एकता र वास्तविकताको गैर-द्वैत प्रकृतिमा विश्वास गर्दछ। अद्वैत दर्शन अनुसार ब्रह्म, परम वास्तविकता, एकमात्र वास्तविक अस्तित्व हो, र अरू सबै भ्रम (माया) हो। यसले मुक्ति (मोक्ष) प्राप्त गर्न आत्म-अनुभूति र ज्ञान (ज्ञान) को खोजीमा जोड दिन्छ।

द्वैत वेदान्तमा अर्कोतर्फ, परम वास्तविकतामा आधारित दुई भिन्न तत्वहरू छन् - ब्रह्म (सर्वोच्च चेतना) र व्यक्तिगत आत्माहरू (जीवहरू)। यसले यी दुई निकायहरू बीचको द्वैत सम्बन्धको व्याख्या गर्दछ, जहाँ जीवहरू ब्रह्मबाट अनन्त रूपमा अलग मानिन्छन्। यसले भक्ति (भक्ति) लाई मुक्ति प्राप्त गर्ने माध्यमको रूपमा जोड दिन्छ।

सांख्य एक दार्शनिक प्रणाली हो जसले दुई आधारभूत सिद्धान्तहरू - पुरुष (चेतना) र प्रकृति (विषय) को अस्तित्वलाई पुष्टि गर्दछ। यसले संसारलाई यी दुई सिद्धान्तहरू बीचको अन्तरक्रियाको परिणामको रूपमा हेर्छ र ज्ञान र भेदभाव (विवेक) लाई दुःख पार गर्ने र मुक्ति प्राप्त गर्ने माध्यमको रूपमा जोड दिन्छ। योग, पतञ्जलिको योग सूत्रमा उल्लिखित एक प्रणाली हो जसले विभिन्न अभ्यासहरू मार्फत व्यक्तिगत आत्म (जीव)

लाई विश्वव्यापी आत्म (ब्रह्म) सँग एकताबद्ध गर्ने लक्ष्य राख्छ। यसमा नैतिक आचरण (यम), शारीरिक मुद्रा (आसन), श्वास नियन्त्रण (प्राणायाम), ध्यान (ध्यान), र आनन्दित एकता (समाधी) को अनुभव सहित आठ अंग वा चरणहरू हुन्छन् ।

न्याय तर्क र ज्ञानविज्ञान को एक स्कूल हो जुन ज्ञान र धारणा को प्रकृति बुझ्न मा केन्द्रित छ । यसले तर्कको तार्किक विश्लेषणलाई जोड दिन्छ र वैध ज्ञान प्राप्त गर्ने माध्यमको रूपमा अनुमान (अनुमान), तुलना (उपमान), गवाही (साक्षी), र धारणा (प्रत्यक्ष) प्रयोग गर्दछ ।

वैशेशिक दर्शनको एक प्रणाली हो जसले पदार्थ र तिनका गुणहरूको विश्लेषण गरेर वास्तविकताको प्रकृतिलाई अन्वेषण गर्छ । यसले अस्तित्वको आधारभूत कोटीहरू राख्छ, जस्तै परमाणुहरू र संसारको बारेमा ज्ञान प्राप्त गर्ने माध्यमको रूपमा अनुमान (अनुमान) लाई जोड दिन्छ ।

मीमांसा दर्शनको एउटा विद्यालय हो जुन मुख्यतया हिन्दू धर्मका पवित्र ग्रन्थ वेदहरूको व्याख्या र समझसँग सम्बन्धित छ । यसले वेदहरूमा उल्लिखित अनुष्ठानात्मक अभ्यासहरू (कर्म-काण्ड) मा ध्यान केन्द्रित गर्दछ र व्यक्तिगत परिणामहरूको चाहना नगरी कार्यहरू गर्ने महत्त्वलाई जोड दिन्छ । हिन्दू दर्शन भित्र विचारका यी विभिन्न विद्यालयहरूले वास्तविकता, आत्म-अनुभूति र मुक्तिको मार्गलाई बुझ्नको लागि अद्वितीय दृष्टिकोण र दृष्टिकोणहरू प्रदान गर्दछ ।

शैव तन्त्र र वैष्णव सम्प्रदाय नेपालमा दुई महत्वपूर्ण धार्मिक परम्परा हुन्। शैव तन्त्र हिन्दू धर्मको एक शाखा हो जसले भगवान शिवको उपासना र विभिन्न अभ्यासहरू, अनुष्ठानहरू र ध्यान प्रविधिहरू मार्फत आध्यात्मिक मुक्तिको प्राप्तिमा केन्द्रित छ। यसले शक्तिको रूपमा चिनिने दिव्य स्त्री शक्तिको भूमिका र शिव र शक्तिको मिलनलाई अन्तिम लक्ष्यको रूपमा जोड दिन्छ । अर्कोतर्फ, वैष्णव सम्प्रदाय एक वैष्णव परम्परा हो जुन भगवान विष्णुको पूजाको वरिपरि केन्द्रित हुन्छ, विशेष गरी उहाँका विभिन्न अवतारहरू जस्तै भगवान कृष्ण र भगवान राममा । वैष्णव सम्प्रदायका भक्तहरूले आध्यात्मिक ज्ञान प्राप्त गर्ने माध्यमको रूपमा भगवान विष्णुप्रति भक्ति, प्रेम र समर्पणलाई जोड दिन्छन् । शैव तन्त्र र वैष्णव सम्प्रदाय दुवैको नेपालमा महत्त्वपूर्ण उपस्थिति छ र यसले देशको धार्मिक र सांस्कृतिक संरचनालाई प्रभाव पारेको छ। भगवान शिव र भगवान विष्णुलाई समर्पित धेरै मन्दिर र तीर्थस्थलहरू नेपालभर फैला पार्न सकिन्छ, जसले वर्षभरि असंख्य भक्त र तीर्थयात्रीहरूलाई आकर्षित गर्दछ ।

शैव तन्त्रमा, भगवान शिवको उपासनाले ध्यान, आत्मनिरीक्षण, र तपस्वी अभ्यासहरू जस्ता पक्षहरूमा ध्यान केन्द्रित गर्दछ । यसले विभिन्न अनुष्ठान र समारोहहरू मार्फत आफ्नो भित्री आत्मको अनुभूति र ईश्वरसँग मिलनलाई जोड दिन्छ । उपासकहरू अक्सर भगवान शिवसँग जोड्न र आध्यात्मिक ज्ञान प्राप्त गर्न मन्त्र जप, योग र ध्यानमा संलग्न हुन्छन् । अर्कोतर्फ, वैष्णव सम्प्रदायमा, भगवान विष्णुको पूजाले भक्ति र ईश्वरमा समर्पणलाई जोड दिन्छ । यसमा भक्ति (भक्ति) अनुष्ठानहरू समावेश छन्, जसमा भजन गाउने, प्रार्थना पठाउने, र सामूहिक पूजामा भाग लिने । भक्तहरू भगवान विष्णुसँग व्यक्तिगत सम्बन्धमा विश्वास गर्छन् र आध्यात्मिक उत्थान र मुक्तिको लागि उहाँको कृपा र आशीर्वाद खोज्छन् । यद्यपि दुवै मार्गहरू फरक दृष्टिकोणहरू छन्, तिनीहरू अन्ततः आध्यात्मिक ज्ञान र ईश्वरसँग एकताको एउटै लक्ष्यको लागि लक्ष्य राख्छन् ।

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