

Vikramorvasiyam: A Journey of Divine Harmony

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ABSTRACT

In Indian Culture we have always discovered a theory which testifies the spiritual and material side of human nature. In India from the very ancient times Indian people not only feel the beauties of nature in-fact they have worshipped nature and its objects. In we go through our ancient epics we will find the different philosophies related to nature. In the present research we will concentrate on the great Indian classical literature treasure of Kalidas, Vikramorvasiyam and we will find the beautiful nature's description by him. Kalidasa has shown the powerful impact of nature on human mind and here we are just trying to explore it. As the modern world today is just running towards globalization and the life style and the pace of peoples mindset has just changed a lot. Being an author I must say that it is the need of the day to be near nature to create a beautiful nature inside us.

Keywords: Nature, Human mind, Divine Harmony

Introduction:

The different authors of our ancient Indian literature has tried to show us the beautiful aspects of nature and they have also tried to merge mans inner landscape with the outer nature. Indian literature has never seen man and nature separately. Indians were not only consuming nature but at the same time they were trying to protect its natural beauty. The relationship of man and nature is an unending bond. There were many proofs of this unending relationship in our ancient literature. Vedas, Puranas, Bible, Upanishad's all testify it. The study of Kalidasa helps us to probe deep in the inward and outward expressions of human mind. With the refined poetic sensibility Kalidasa has nicely presented the human Psyche, he has described the situation of human mind with the poetic sensibility. He has presented the real and illusionary world at once with the power of dramaturgy. He has tried to provide his readers a deep knowledge about the traditional, historic and aesthetic India. Our great dramatist Kalidasa has tried to provide us every minute detail of the artist imagination and creativity. On stage at a time he has presented the individual and the poetic self of the artist. He has also used the Bhavas and the Rasa theory to explain the actor's sentiments onstage. Kalidas has created illusion with the help of his poetic ability and he has merged the historical and mythological elements to fulfill his purpose. In Vikramorvasiyam to arose the erotic feelings of love he has written:

Pururava (getting up): O, glorious breeze from the south! Friend and dear companion of spring! If it is fragrances that are luring you, then waft away the scented pollen that spring gathers to lavish. Through these lines the great dramatist Kalidasa has tried to merge the ancient myth of the old ancient literature. Here he has talked about an incident when the court of Lord Indra was attacked by the Asuras and the beautiful Apsara Urvasi was rescued by king Puruvara. In this attack and rescue incident the beauty of Urvasi attracted Pururava and Urvasi also got attracted towards him. Kalidasa has framed his female characters traditionally and they represent the goals of life and they lead their life in a selfless manner. All the four phases of life , brahmacharya, grihasthya, Vanaprastha and Samnyasa was presented by Kalidasa in his ancient works. He has presented the real truths of life with a touch of his poetic talent.

In all the ancient plays of Kalidasa a proper balance of Individuals body, mind and life is shown. The characters presented by Kalidasa were very balanced and they perfectly perform their moral duty. The narrative technique of Kalidasa is very natural and spontaneous. He minutely observes the external world and then he tries to give us the realistic image with the beauty of his poetic art. Vikramorvasiyam is an ancient popular story we have a record of its versus in Rigveda. A mutual love is shown between King Pururava and

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Apsara Urvashi. Both the loving couple lived together for a period of four years, but one day due to the curse Uravashi left Pururava and she vanished. After this the lover Pururava was left all alone, filled with grief and despair. He searched her and one day he meets her but her beloved has completely changed now, she rejects Pururavas proposal of reuniting and says that she is hard to catch like the wind. Here Kalidasa has nicely portrayed the tragic love story of the two lovers one is human and the other is divine. This beautiful romantic love is dramatized by Kalidasa and he has turned a tragic end into a blissful one. Most of the ancient Indian dramatists have taken the one cause duty that takes the hero to his tragic end but in case of Kalidasa's Vikramorvasiyam, he has nicely twist this tragic end into a blissful one by uniting the two lovers Uravashi and Pururava.

Due to all this dramatic techniques Vikramorvasiyam has enjoyed much popularity and this play has been enacted all over India and abroad also. During the onstage performance of this play from time to time some scenes were sung for the actors by singers or poets. In order to create a proper atmosphere and for creating the proper stage affect this technique is also used by our dramatist Kalidasa. As he was a poet he poured his poetic talent while creating the verses. The moment of grief, joy, lamentation is properly narrated by the author. Vikramorvasiyam is also skillfully written by Kalidasa. If we talk about the different plots of it we can see that different circumstances were faced by the two lovers, many obstacles were ready to blown the two lovers but with an skilled artistic touch Kalidasa has never allowed the audience to guess or know the forthcoming obstacles and he has presented all the issues in a natural flow.

There are many difficulties shown in the journey of these two lovers the celestial maiden Uravashi and the earthly being Pururava. Kalidasa has nicely handled all the obstacles and at the end of the story all the problems were resolved. The dramatic technique of Kalidasa also gives us an impression of Natyashastra, the first text on Indian dramaturgy. Kalidasa has given an opening porolouge. In the opening act when the sutadhara enters the stage then after giving a short introduction of Kalidasa's play he makes his exit. Then the play is opened with a benedictory stanza and it invokes the grace of shiva. According to Indian dramaturgy before starting the actual drama a series of preliminaries had to be performed. Amongst all these preliminaries the last stanza was devoted to some diety. Kalidasa's many plays tells us about his personal choices also like the two plays of Kalidasa Meghaduta and Kumarsambhava opens with a stanza devoted to Lord Shiva .

Opening his plays with a salutation to Lord Shiva means that Kalidasa was a devotee of Lord Shiva but when we read Raghuvamsha we will find his admiration for Lord Vishnu and Brahmadeva. So we can say that Kalidasa was a religious person. While presenting the journey of Pururava and Uravashi he has followed his religious and cultural side, his characters always obey the Godly commands and they never betray or fool their partners. Uravashi has nicely maintained her relation with her earthly lover Pururava and at the same time she has maintained the heavenly commands. Kalidasa has made her to perform her heavenly as well as earthly duties perfectly.

Kalidasa's while knitting his plots employed a dramatic technique called Anagnorisis. We can easily cite this dramatic technique in many of his plays like Abhijanashakuntalam, Vikramorvasiyam and many. This technique gives a perfect structure to his plots. In Vikramorvasiyam Kalidasa has nice used the technique of Anagnorisis and Peripetia. In the opening act of Vikramorvasiyam the plot shares the incident of Urvashi and Chitrlekha's kidnapping by a demon named Kesi. This act reminds us about the ill-treatment of women at the hands of male dominated society. In any culture the crime done against women catches fire and becomes viral fast, and this part of the play Vikramorvasiyam attracts the attention of the audience. This type of plot got noticed by the audience and also receives severe criticism. In the third act of Vikramorvasiyam there is a mention of Bharata and Kalidasa has tried to pay a tribute to him. By mentioning Bharata in the mid of the play is the technique of meta-drama used by Kalidasa. Kalidasa has shared the views of Bharata on the different aspects of drama. His mentioning of Bharata within his play is more liked by the audience as it refreshes the ancient culture of dramaturgy.

Kalidasa has used a lot of attractive dialogue with a touch of his poetic gift which is always appreciated by the audience and the readers all over the world; at present day also his plays are popular among the readers. He has tried to maintain a divine harmony through his plays; by mentioning the celestial and earthly persons together he has tried to maintain a perfect bond between heaven and earth. Through his powerful dramatic technique Kalidasa has tried to capture the minds of his audience and he has tried to portray the lifelike characters which always speak the story of common man. He has also tried to name his characters perfectly. Kalidasa has tried to select the best names according to the role played by the characters. He has also given fitted names to the stock characters which create meaningful connections between their actions and their name. For example in creating a divine atmosphere he has provided names like Shakuntala, Priyamwada and Anasuya.

The name of the characters also say a pleasing story like Priyamwada means one who speaks always pleasing words and those who were soft spoken were always like by audience. By using the different names with explanations our master artist Kalidasa has created an unending influence on the audience. The opening scene where Urvashi was kidnapped and rescued by the king Pururava, highlights his character and makes him the center of attraction. The scene adds courage and heroism to the character Pururava and this act was liked by the audience also. Through his dramatic technique Kalidasa has tried to give a perfect and blissful journey of a celestial Apsara Urvashi and earthly human Pururava.

After facing many obstacles finally they lived together happily, at the end the curse was ended and both the lovers were allowed to stay on earth as long as Pururava lived. In the history of literature Kalidasa is portrayed as an artist who beautifully captures the essence of love, sacrifice and loyalty through the actions of his characters. The portrayal of human emotions shows the mastery of Kalidasa's ability to weave together the complex themes with poetic language. Kalidasa shines as an artist who leaves a lasting impact on the audience with his profound storytelling and dramatic artistry.

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