

INFLUENCE OF THE BHAGWAD GITA ON WALT WHITMAN AND KEKI N. DARUWALLA POEMS

Rajani Tewari

Research Scholar, Teerthanker Mahaveer University, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh, India

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ABSTRACT

We can say that Walt Whitman and Keki.N.Daruwalla were highly influenced by the Bhagwad Gita because it gives the solution to various problems. It teaches us how to live life. Bhagwad Gita helps to learn about Indian culture, traditions as well as values. So therefore through their poems Walt Whitman and Keki. N. Daruwalla has helped in preserving old values and tradition as well as preserving the Indian culture. Bhagwad Gita mainly focuses on Karma. It also teaches us that only the body dies and the soul is eternal. It tells us that everyone is part of God and one should do good deeds. One should not discriminate on the basis of caste, creed or religion.

KEYWORDS: *Preserving, Culture, Tradition, Eternal, Discriminate*

INTRODUCTION

Keki. N. Daruwalla believed in the Bhagwad Gita. He had great respect for the teachings of Krishna. We can see that in his poems. He believed in good deeds. He believed in what he saw and observed. He could analyze what is right and what is wrong. He felt that right deed will get the right reward and was against wrong doers or who encourage social evils in society. He feels that those who do illegal work like corruption and take bribery should be strictly punished. He feels that even the Bhagwad Gita says that at last the right person wins and truth triumphs. Though it is difficult nowadays but not impossible. Students should be taught about moral values which can help in developing a strong and great nation. The Bhagwadgita should be taught in every school and even by the parents to their children which can bring tremendous change in our society. As we are seeing there is moral deprivation (degradation taking place in our society) we should teach the Bhagwad Gita as well as the poems of Keki.N.Daruwalla to the students in schools and colleges so that they can be aware of the things happening our society and they can learn about our culture our values as well as our tradition. It can thus help in preserving the same (culture, values as well as tradition). They can thus help in building a great nation (corrupt free society and no dowry deaths takes place).

Draupadi exploitation

Though Keki. N. Daruwalla believed that Pandavas were right and therefore they won the war at last. He believes in what Krishna tells in the Bhagwad Gita. But he contradicts the same too because he says that why Draupadi was first exploited

first by Pandavas and then by the kauravas. Why did Yudhishtra play the game (juaa gambling) and then put her life at stake. Why didn't Yudhishtra save her?

Won war through Cheating

Though the fight was between Pandavas and Kauravas and Pandavas won the war but Keki.N.Daruwalla feels that they won the war by cheating. Why did they kill their own teacher? Killing Karna by foul means and then spreading the wrong message was again wrong thing done by Pandavas. He has analyzed the things in his own way. He has made use of logical reasoning. They were not truly right in all sense. They were not perfect. Keki.N.Daruwalla has analyzed the whole situation and then he came to this conclusion that Pandavas won by cheating. He sometimes feels that why did Mahabharata take place? He feels that Mahabharata took place because Pandavas were not given seven villages. If they would have been given seven villages then they would have not gone for war.

Charvak

Keki.N.Daruwalla feels that it was wrong when Charvak was burnt to death during Rama's reign because he spoke the truth. Charvak spoke because people who were welcoming Rama after he returned after winning the war were happy and glad even during the time when someone else was the King. Therefore, he got angry and spoke against them that how can they be happy and glad during Rama's enemy reign and during the other king's reign too or they have developed this habit for whosoever is the king they would praise him only. He was against this kind of flattery.

Right Reward for the Right Deed

Keki.N.Daruwalla believed in the karma theory that the people who do right deeds will get the right reward and those who do wrong deeds will get be punished and they should be strictly punished because wrong deeds affect the whole humanity. Therefore evil deeds like corruption and bribery should be banned in society.

Kurukshetra Is Inside Our Mind Not Outside

Keki. N. Daruwalla feels that everything is inside your mind nothing is outside your mind. Right and wrong is also inside our mind and there is an endless battle going on inside our mind. He feels that Kurukshetra the war is between right and wrong. At last the right wins. Kurukshetra took place between Pandavas and Kauravas but he feels that it was a fight between right and wrong. Right thing triumphs after all. War is not the only solution it is all futile but only comradeship and universal brotherhood is most important according to Walt Whitman. He is against any kind of War.

WALT WHITMAN

Walt Whitman was very much influenced by the Gita we can say that because he talks about life after death in his poems. He also believes in karma that is action and he feels that if all will get together with unity then only one can help in the development of the country. For that universal brotherhood and comradeship is very essential. He saw everyone as one and didn't discriminate. He felt God is inside everyone every living being. So therefore He felt that why there is discrimination on the basis of caste, creed or religion. Why there is war? Why there is exploitation, tyranny domination of one race over the other etc. Why people are thirsty of each other's blood. So he found many solutions in Gita. He got an insight. He felt war is no solution. Only love, compassion and peace and when we see everyone as one we can find our peace and when we don't discriminate the whole world can be one. He felt that there is one supreme energy which resides inside everyone. God has created everyone equal and our nature is to love and not to hate so we need to connect with our inner soul and listen to our inner voice which is love. God has created everyone equal he says if the sun doesn't discriminate among human beings and other living beings so why should I discriminate.

Rebirth

Walt Whitman believes in rebirth life after death. Walt believed in the theory that there is life after death. We all only change bodies and soul is eternal. We are born as leaf. After death he tells the child. He tells the child who ask him what is this a grass? All are part of one supreme energy. Walt feels that all are part of supreme soul that is god who has created us we all are part of him. God is inside us only. Our soul nature is made to love. We all human beings are connected to each other some way or the other so therefore why there should be discrimination on the basis of caste, creed or religion.

Life after death

Man after death is born again as leaf. Walt Whitman feels that human beings are born again and again either as leaf or dew etc. Our soul takes another form after death. As man changes clothes thus like that we also change our bodies. Walt Whitman believed in Indian philosophy that only body dies but the soul is eternal and only body dies not the soul. He feels that all human beings are one universe. There is no difference. So why there should be violence, hatred and jealousy etc. God is inside animals, birds, nature and human beings. So we should see each other as one only without any difference. There should be no discrimination on the basis of even gender because god has created everyone equal. Our soul is made to love. Hatred and jealousy is not its nature therefore we need to avoid it.

Believes in Karma

No task is small. One should try to avail all the opportunities one gets. He feels that one doesn't have to be a President to do great task. One can do small work and thus help in the development of the country and thus we can say

that he gives more emphasis to karma or karmic theory. Walt Whitman feels that human beings should equal opportunity to education as well as employment. No one should be discriminated on the basis of economic status. One should work hard to earn their living and thus increase their status. You don't need to have money to help someone. One can help others wherever you are and with whatever you have. One has the right to live with dignity and with respect. He feels that if all will get together and live with unity there will be comradeship and brotherhood amongst them. He wants to see this whole world as one. He is calling everyone from different parts of the world to come together and help in the development of the nation for that everyone has to be friends. One cannot live alone and develop in isolation one needs each other. One needs to love and trust others. He wants a world without any boundaries. He wants to see a democratic world. He wants that people from India should come and stay in America and learn about its scientific and technological development and he feels that American have so much to learn from Asia and especially India. He was inclined towards Indian philosophy one can see in his works.

He speaks about life after death and believes in karma. He wants that there should be comradeship and universal brotherhood. That can only happen when there is no discrimination on the basis of caste, creed or religion.

Walt Whitman feels that even women should be respected they should bear children as the future of the country depends upon them as they would have children then only turn into great scientist, engineers, sportsperson and thus bring glory to the nation but that first women should be educated they should be given equal right and status in society.

They should not be exploited or sold to the highest bidder as the things were taking place at that time. He felt that women are not only for enjoyment. They can be aggressive, furious and bold. They can even fight and be like a lion in front of danger. They should not be underestimated.

He felt that god has created men and women equal and same they both have same feelings.

CONCLUSIONS

Both the poets believe in life after death and on Karma. They believed that there is life after death. Walt Whitman believed that one should keep on working come what may no work is small. Human beings should struggle in life. Keki.N.Daruwalla believed that one should do the right deed and they would thus be rewarded according to the Karma. He felt that those who do wrong things should be punished. Strict action should be taken against them in present scenario. Wrong acts like corruption, bribery, dowry deaths and all social evils should be banned and that can only help in the development of the country. Thus we can say that their work is influenced by the Bhagwad Gita and their philosophy hold an important place even in present scenario.

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