



FORMATION OF VALUES AND EMOTIONAL STRENGTH IN JOINT FAMILY STRUCTURE : REFERENCES FROM INDIAN CULTURAL TEXTS AND STRUCTURES

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ABSTRACT

In traditional sense of the term, It is difficult to think of a society without family. For proper development, every person must have an environment of economic, physical, and mental security. While living in a joint family, the distribution of the functions of the family becomes easy, as well as the future of human structure and a healthy society is also secured through a safe environment and healthy upbringing of the future generations, paving the way for its development. While living in the family, the future generation gets proper guidance. Even today the role of the joint family is important in structuralizing society. At present, the number of nuclear families has increased. Due to industrial development, the number of nuclear families has increased. But even today the joint family has its importance. The present article explores the patterns of value and strength in Joint family structure, and seeks to explore the references from Indian Cultural Texts .

Key Words : Cultural Texts, Value, Joint Family, Indian Cultural History

INTRODUCTION

Cultural texts in any literary culture speak volumes on the culture and Sanskars of the landscape concerned . In the context of the present article I refer the meaning of cultural text in both written and oral tradition .When we try refer to the meaning of the word Sanskar, we find its roots in the context of "purification" that is reflected in those religious acts that aim at making a person a fully qualified, admirable, and ideal member of his community. These acts

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are performed to purify the body, mind and soul. The purpose of Sanatan Sanskars is to inculcate human values and qualities in the individual. India, the land of Gods and Goddesses is a holy sacrament, where rituals have special importance in the life of everyone. Many studies are being conducted on the relevance of cultural texts in the on text of contemporary geo political concerns In the context of India ,“the engagement with the past within study of the present itself is an intellectual paradigm and methodological approach which has often been defended against those with an "anti-textual," and especially "anti-Sanskri tic," bias” write Andrea Marion Pinkney, and Andrea Aciri. (p222) .Sanskars are behavioural aspects of human actions that are orientated to do the welfare of oneself, one's family, society and country by fully developing one's innate and positive energy, tendencies, etc. In Hindu philosophy of life, these sanskars not only sanctify material life, but it is also believed that they also sanctify their transcendental life. If we talk about Hindu religious rites, it is Grihyasutra that the person follows towards sanskara and as per the norms and number of offerings, people use substances and mantras. Generally, differences are also seen in different families regarding worshipping, stories, and distribution of Prasad, etc. The discussion of the rites is mainly found in the Grihyasutras, but in these, the word 'sanskar' is often used in the sense of sanctification of the sacrificial material. In the Vaikhanas Smriti Sutra, first of all a clear distinction is found between the sacraments and sacrifices related to the body. On the other hand, in the context of rites in the Angveda, some hymns describe some religious acts related to marriage, conception, and funeral. Shrut Yagyas are mentioned in Yajurveda. Atharvaveda also gives a detailed description of marriage, funeral, and conception rites. At the end of education in Taittiriya Upanishad, the convocation of Acharya is received.

That is why we say that the entire system of rituals is found in the Grihasutras themselves. The first mention of marriage ceremony is seen in the Grihyasutras. After this, the rites of conception, punsavana, seemantonnayan, jat-karma, naamkaran, nishkraman, anna-prashan, chuda-karma, upanayana and samvartan etc. have been described.If the matter related to the rituals is in harmony with the practical aspects, then the rites and atmosphere of the family create the good or bad character of the child accordingly. If the seeds of good values are sown in the hearts and minds of children from childhood and they are irrigated with clean water of positive energy and excellent thoughts, then they will never be afraid, confused, and deviate from the right path at any point of life.

The identity of a particular individual, family, society, etc., is determined by his/her values. Sanskars explain the life of any human being. Sanskar is our power, it is such a constant burning flame, a spree that generates rays of light even in the darkest corners of life. High sanskars make human beings human in the true sense of the term and differentiate them from animals. Good manners are an invaluable asset of excellent culture, beyond which comparison of anything in the world is meaningless. Good values are the invaluable heritage

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of human culture, and it is also the basis of a happy family. Children are like clay in its raw form, in whatever shape one would mould or choose to ride, they will be molded into that shape or would be directed in that path. Mother's high values play an important role in the formation of children's values. That is why it is necessary that first of all, the family should become cultured, parents are the first teachers of the child's school, parents should become cultured, only then children will be able to increase the prestige of the house, family and their society by becoming cultured and develop good character. These children are the medium in furtherance of good culture and related dialogue.

Today when we are celebrating the spirit of India's independence as a cultural revolution and the enthusiasm of positive energy and thinking, then only through education and creation of the right values, family, society and nation can be made independent in a real sense. The results of the training given for harmony in the families are pleasant. Efforts of Sanskarshala of the family environment can become lifesaving for our families. It is true that if our thinking is negative then only negative energy will be awakened, similarly if our thinking is positive then our personality will be formed positively. However, we read and listen to such sentences many times and it is true also. It is said, "Whatever a child sees, he will learn". It has often been seen that due to family rites, living and behavioural patterns a doctor's child becomes a doctor, a politician's child becomes a politician, and a farmer's child becomes a farmer. We often say that "some art is in his blood". Two children born in the same family, and raised in the same environment, may not similarly behave and take up stands in the same way in the same environment; there is a possibility of difference like brother and sister of the same family. Ravana and Vibhishana were born in the same family and grew up together, then how come one was demonic and the other was religious? In a family of two brothers o, one brother may be seen to be a drug addict, the one who beats his wife and children, destroys all energy in drunkenness, and the other brother may love children, takes care of his wife and is sensitive to every need of the house. The one who identifies his responsibilities is understandable, loved and gets respect in society. It is therefore important to think about the difference that lies between the two children of a mother? In such a situation, powerful communication, motivation, values in thought processes and choosing the right directions are important for mental health and development. Experienced people, positive energies, and individuals can play an important role in procuring the right guidance.

Man is an integral part of society. Man needs society for his development. For the fulfillment of this need, the family is seen as the first unit of society. It is impossible to think of the creation of a society without family. For proper development, every person must have an environment of economic, physical, and mental security. While living in a joint family, the distribution of the functions of the family becomes easy, as well as the future of human structure and a healthy society is also secured through a safe environment and healthy

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upbringing of the future generations, paving the way for its development. While living in the family, the future generation gets proper guidance. Even today the role of the joint family is important in structuralizing society. At present, the number of nuclear families has increased. Due to industrial development, the number of nuclear families has increased. But even today the joint family has its importance.

Before discussing the importance of a joint family, let us try to understand the reasons for the disintegration of the joint family. The researchers speak of several reasons for the disintegration of joint families that include - an aspiration to get employment, increasing population and employment equations, migration, desire to go abroad, etc. Traditional business or farming has its limitations of the farm, increasing need of growing members, search for economic resources, adjustment to the new place, unavailability of employment for all, consumerism, ambitious routes, the distance of the place of employment from the place of origin or home place and expected prospects of development, understanding and harmonizing standards of pace and development with changing times, mental and emotional tolerance, etc., and with the changing family structure, the definition of happiness has changed. These all have reduced the number of joint families. Living in a nuclear family, human beings have started feeling emotionally comfortable with fewer responsibilities. Due to the possibility of becoming ambitious with more time and less burden, the nuclear family seeks avenues of future development. However, the importance of a joint family remains valuable even today. People living in a nuclear family also understand its importance.

The benefits of joint families are seen from the viewpoint of safety and health. The responsibility for the safety of each member of the family is shared by all the family members, so the health problem, security, and financial problem of any member are that of the whole family. Any unexpected problem is easily resolved. For example, if someone is suffering from a serious illness, all the family members cooperate towards getting rid of the disease. No economic problem, employment problem comes in the way. In the same way, no one in the village or the locality dares to get into any kind of mess with them; because of being organized, and unite, they get full security. It goes well with the famous saying that there is strength in unity. A person remains free from all kinds of stress. Different tasks of the family can be divided among its members. Due to a large number of members in the family, the division of tasks becomes easier. One can do the work that comes on the part of each member with more efficiency and is also free from various other responsibilities. Therefore, there is more pleasure in working without stress. Business is more advanced due to the high efficiency of the concerned. The fulfillment of the needs of all the members of the family can be relatively high, but life is spent full of joy together. Proper development of the future generation, that is, maximum development of children is not only secured in the joint family, but the joint family provides also the culture of all-around development of the children. Here

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these children, especially young children, get an opportunity for their proper physical and character development. The wishes and needs of the child can also be taken care of in the joint family. The children in a joint family get an opportunity to play with the other children in the family. Along with the parents, there is also the availability of the love of other relatives, especially grandfather, grandmother, maternal grandfather, grandmother, aunt, cousins, etc. While living in a joint family, the total expenditure is less, as it is the rule of the market that if a commodity is bought in more quantity, then less price has to be paid for it, that is, due to being joint, any item has to be bought in relatively large quantity, hence it is cheaper to buy goods in quantity. Secondly, by being separate, many things have to be bought separately, whereas when combined even fewer items can fulfill the need i.e., objects can be shared. For instance, if a small child is born, other older baby items, if happen to be already in the house can be used. For example clothes, books, bicycles, etc.

In a joint family, all the members keep a constant watch on each other's behavior, undesirable activities are curbed, that is, each member remains tied up with good value -character, and all the family members support him at the time of any problem, and there is also a collective pressure that no member should do any anti-social work. Due to the fear of the elderly, evils like alcohol, gambling, or any other intoxicant can be avoided. This analysis is clear that the joint family has its dignity, its importance. Today in the rapidly changing social environment the number of nuclear families is increasing. Today's youth in nuclear families is seen to be suffering from stress and depression. A joint family may prove to be capable of this option to deal with such problems.

To build a strong India, the foundation of a strong family in the country is an important culture. Due to our family system, India's economic, social and cultural heritage is protected to date. In our country, family meetings are organized at different places, teej, festivals, during enthusiasm of worshipping, celebrations, marriage ceremonies, and other celebrations involve many families together. In a joint family, children are cultured, disciplined, and well-mannered; they influence elders. Elders also take good care of children, sometimes becoming their teachers and sometimes their happiness companions.

The development of the family also takes place smoothly. A joint family is the ideal, happy, prosperous, peaceful family for a society where children are also well taken care of. In a nuclear family, children are expected to be encouraged and brought up with due effort, and difficulties often in the way. Sometimes their all-around development becomes difficult. Due to the joint family, our society is not only healthy but peaceful and prosperous also. Cultural aspects are significant for the development of the future generation. The ideologies of our families, our values , and related children's literature writings, reviews, etc. are not only

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effective factors for the character building of children but are also important factors for the sustainable and holistic development of literature, nation, powerful structure, and culture.

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