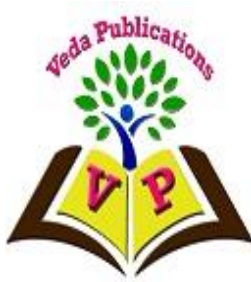


**ON DECODING THE TRAJECTORY OF CONSCIOUSNESS IN BLAKE'S POETRY**

Dr.Jeyashree G

*(Principal, Dr.Ambedkar College of Commerce and Economics, Wadala.)*Email: jeyashreeiyer@gmail.comDOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.54513/JOELL.2022.9210>**ABSTRACT**

Poetry is defined as spontaneous overflow of feelings recollected in tranquility by one of the remarkable poets of the romantic age William Wordsworth. Human beings are conditioned by emotions and feelings that come out in varied forms like paintings, sculptures, poetries etc. An artist absorbs elements that prevail around him and effuses in art forms. An artist is adept at reading the nuances of socio economic and political impact of the society and shares his/her thoughts through their artistic products. Unless there is a balance maintained between the emotional and intellectual quotient, an art cannot reach the audience. Critics speculate the language and the content of poetry. Language is a channel of expression where the poets try to exploit to reach the audience effectively. William Blake is one of the remarkable poets of the Romantic age and the paper attempts to unveil the submerged consciousness of the poet reflected through his poems. Short poems are pecked for the study to illumine the impact of the contemporary society on the psyche of the poet. Literature mirrors a society and aspiring scholars can certainly accrue knowledge by perusing the literature of the past. The elements of romanticism in Blake's poems are elicited and the poetic devices reflect in his poems are explored. Blake's poems reflect multi layered emotions firmly anchored in ethos and pathos that permeate in the social lives of the people. The elements of romanticism in his poems are discussed.

Keywords: *Emotions, Feelings, Poetry, Art, Language.*

**INTRODUCTION**

The Romantic Movement originated in Europe toward the end of the 18th century and was more vibrant between 1800 and 1850. The style of romantic poetry is focused on simplicity, instead of inflated and artificial mode of expression adopted by the classical poets. The romantic poetry flows naturally depicting the contemporary environment with simple and direct style which worships the elements of nature and thereby accentuating the significance of human consciousness for a peaceful society. Blake's poetry illumines multiple layers of his consciousness revealing not only his artistic skill but also his moral responsibility of an artist as it is a known fact that a message in an art form reaches the audience/readers effectively.

William Blake was born on November 28th in 1757 in London. He developed love and passion for painting at his early stage. His father James Blake was a hosier and his mother was Catherine Wright Blake. On seeing Blake's interest in painting his parent enrolled him in drawing classes and later he emerged as a skilled engraver from Royal Academy. His passion for arts propelled him to seek admission in Royal Academy. He experienced divine vision in early days and his spiritual experience is reflected in his poems.

His artistic instincts facilitate him to effuse his emotions and feelings in his paintings, engravings and poems. He was one of the remarkable romantic poets, who penned his poems replete with the romantic elements of influence of nature, resonance of emotions, feelings, mysticism that blend with social consciousness. Romantic poetry is very much subjective recording the inner feelings of the poets.

Being an engraver by profession, he was a prodigy to replicate the nuances of the contemporary environment in romantic canvas as the art of poetry stems from imagination and passion like the art of design that was engraved reflecting the inner feelings of the producer. His poems were on etched on copper plates by himself with decorative designs but his poems were widely read posthumously and was extolled as one of the genius of the creative movement of late 18th and early 19th century. His early work *Poetical Sketches* reveals the influence of Shakespeare, Spencer and that of Milton. This work comprises of nineteen lyrical poems. The opening four poems, *To Spring, To Autumn, To Summer, To winter*, vivid representation of four seasons and its impact on the lives of the people. Every season has its own character and influence on the living condition of people. The opening lines of the poem *To Spring* is extracted from the collection *Poetical Sketches*, 1783 personifies the nature,

O THOU with dewy locks, who lookest down
Through the clear windows of the morning,
turn
Thine angel eyes upon our western isle
Which in full choir hails thy approach, O
Spring!(lines 1-4)

The serene beauty of the spring vividly depicted here. The freshness of the poem illumines Elizabethan influence nevertheless love for nature and taking cognizance of its influence is a common factor of romanticism. These feelings make the world lively and beautiful. But every beauty has also ugly side to it. The dichotomy of life cannot be ignored. Blake's poems reflect the philosophy of good and evil.



Personification of spring in the poem brings forth the significance of the nature and illumines fresh environment which people have lost due to industrial revolution. Today in this digital world though people seek the company of computers and smart phones, they do retreat to hill stations for relaxation seeking the company of nature. Spring is the season that brings happiness and enjoyment and the poets welcome the season with zeal and enthusiasm. Thomas Gray in his *Ode on Spring* thus welcomes spring,

Lo! where the rosy-bosom'd Hours,
Fair Venus' train appear,
Disclose the long-expecting flowers,
And wake the purple year!
The Attic warbler pours her throat,
Responsive to the cuckoo's note,
The untaught harmony of spring: (lines 1-7)

Gray depicts the approach of the season; where the rosy-bosom'd Hours/ Fair Venus' train appear..... Venus, a Roman goddess represents love, beauty, desire and fertility. The poet calls her fair Venus symbolizes joy and fertility. Blake on the other hand entreats the spring to turn her *angel eyes upon our western isle*...the season spring is adored and loved by the poets. Consciousness of nature encompassed by love and passion is illumined here. The healthy companion of nature is very much necessary today. Poems incite aesthetic sense and make people sensitive and caring towards nature.

Being an artist, Blake is adept at capturing the elements of nature that make the society healthy. Spring seems to predict *tharmas, the peaceful*

embodiment of sensation, who comes to healour love-sick land that mourns with soft kisses on her bosom.(Wikipedia, Poetical sketches, para, 16)) The opening four poems of four seasons representing the four seasons had laid foundation to Blake's later lyrical poem *Spring* which was first published in *Songs of innocence* in 1789 and then published in the collection of the *Songs of innocence and Experience* in 1794. The readers could certainly evince difference in the style of presentation between the Lyrical poem *To Spring* which was published in his *Poetic Sketches* and the lyrical poem *Spring* which was first published in the collection of poems, *The Songs of innocence*. The former poem reflects the style of Elizabethan and the latter poem explicitly depict the happiness of innocence and the role of environment that add joy to the children with brief expressions,

Little boy,
Full of joy;
Little girl,
Sweet and small;
Cock does crow,
So do you;
Merry voice,
Infant noise;
Merrily, merrily to welcome in the year.

The Songs of innocence expresses happiness of innocent children and *Songs of Experience* refers to the awareness of the materialistic world that assails the growing years of human lives. The presentation of *Songs of innocence* and *Songs of Experience* illumines the resonance of John



Milton's 'L'Allegro and Il Pensaroso. L'Allegro is a pastoral poem and the title L'Allegro represents the happy man in Italian and Il Pensaroso represents the melancholy man, the following lines from L'Allegro depicts happy atmosphere that prevail in Spring,

But com, thou Goddess fair and free,

In Heav'n ycleap'd Euphrosyne,

And by men, heart-easing Mirth;

Whom lovely Venus at a birth

With two sister Graces more

To Ivy-crowned Bacchus bore:

Or whether (as some Sages sing)

The frolick Wind that breathes the Spring,

(lines 10-17)

.....

The Songs of Innocence and Experience projects two perspectives- the former illumines the freedom and innocence of the Childhood and the latter projects the waning of innocence in due course when humans experience difficulties in life. The pastoral settings in the poems represent pure joy and freedom. The philosophy of life that has ebb and flow is lucidly revealed.

The poem The Echoing Garden that is presented in The Songs of Innocence exemplifies pure, unadulterated happiness of children. Even The very title The Echoing Green suggests the motif of the poem. Consciousness of nature is evinced lucidly. The poems The Echoing Green and the companion piece The Garden of Love was published in the collection of the Songs of innocence and the illustrations were done by Blake himself. The poet establishes a happy

environment where the readers could have tacit understanding with the emotions of the poet.

The sun does arise,

And make happy the skies,

The merry bells ring,

To welcome the spring

The sky-lark and thrush

The birds of the bush

Sing louder around,

To the bells' cheerful sound.

While our sports shall be seen

On the Echoing Green. (lines 1-10)

The poem, The Echoing Green is representative of not only the grace towards one another, but toward nature as well. There is no mention of religion in the poem, its peaceful and focuses on the beauty of nature and the company of other. (Amozzoni, para:2)

The bilateral settings of L'Allegro and Il Pensaroso and the Songs of innocence and Experience vividly reveal the dichotomy of human lives and hence in his lyrical poem he claims,

Joy and woe are woven fine,

And when this we rightly know,

Safely through the world we go. Lines (1-3)

He shares his joyful mystic experience. He strongly condemns evil but he accepts sorrow wholeheartedly justifying that joy and sorrow are woven fine.



Linguistic relativity is the one of the significant poetic devices of the poets of all times. The relative terms that the season spring brings forth are mirth, frolick, sun rise, merry bells and Venus, Goddess of love and fertility and Bacchus, god of wine and giver of ecstasy. Gray in his poem *Ode on Spring* has referred to Venus to depict the joyful season of the spring. Blake in his poem *Spring* uses the terms of joy and mirth and hails the upcoming spring season. Translation of thought process to verbal expression is one major expertise of the poets. Verbal expressions vividly depict the socio cultural environment of the poetic setting. Influence of Elizabethan poets like Shakespeare, Spencer and Milton can be evinced in the earliest Blake's lyrical poem *To Spring* published in the *Poetical Sketches*. The expressions like THOU dewy locks...../thine angel eyes (lines 1-4) parade the linguistic behavior of the Elizabethan poets. But in his lyrical poem *Spring*, there is a change in style and linguistic behavior of the poet. The expressions as full of joy, alliteration of sweet and small, merry voice and the repetition of merrily, merrily reveal the rhythm and expression of the poem.

Blake's poems blend mysticism and naturalism; mysticism in his poetry is blended with wistful melancholy. His collection of poems in the *The songs of Experience* speculate the society that is cloaked with hypocrisy. Like other romantic poets his reactions to the industrial revolution and urban living is very much pronounced in the following of his poem *The Garden of Love*,

I went to the Garden of Love,
And saw what I never had seen:
A Chapel was built in the midst,

Where I used to play on the green.

And the gates of this Chapel were shut,
And "Thou shalt not" writ over the door,
So I turn'd to Garden of Love,

That so many sweet flowers bore; (lines 1-8)

Spiritual consciousness: *Anyone who has experienced spiritual consciousness has spoken of coming in contact with divine love. God is love, our soul being of the same essence as that of God is love. The ocean of spiritual consciousness is the ocean of love* (Maharaj, para:1)

Love permeates spiritualism and not limited to materialistic world. The poem *The Garden Love* strongly reflects Blake's intense objections to institutionalized approach in the ecclesiastical world. His spirituality affirms on Selfless love that makes the world beautiful. Robert Rix in his article, *In infernal love and faith observes, Blake evidently sees true worship of God to be one person's active grace towards another but finds no use for the passive reception of sacraments as practiced in the liturgy of the New Jerusalem Church.*(Rix, 111). The tenets of religion are one of the medium of spirituality but parochial mind set on religious practices do not lead to spirituality. Blake's love for God strengthens him with spiritual powers and he effuses his love and passion in his poetry. He opines that experience of love takes over innocence and he uses Chapel as a symbol of experience. Hence in his poem *Song*, he expresses how he lost his liberty and his innocence when he is caught in the web of love.

How sweet I roam'd from field to field,
And tasted all the summer's pride
'Till I prince of love beheld



.....

He caught me in his silken net,

And shut me in his golden cage.

.....

And mocks my loss of liberty. (lines 1-16)

He vividly portrays human lives when experience and knowledge outshine innocence and love for worldly desires is a golden cage. His philosophy of life blends with spirituality that engages him in soul searching of true love. The transient nature of life is expressed in this poem. Sublime of love is the motif of the poem that gives spiritual experience.

Blake is ahead of his time. His soul search for real love for God and his subsequent disappointment with the hypocrisy of the ecclesiastical institutions is highlighted in his poems. The institutions which are supposed to give solace and guidance to the people are devoid of love and the poem accentuates the need and importance of love in human lives. Like William Wordsworth his retreat to nature vividly reveals the significance of nature. The spiritual vision he encountered in his early days channelized to register his religious sentiments. He used objects of nature as symbols to drive home his philosophical approach to life. The feeling of Love is implicitly compared to garden that bear sweet flowers. His symbolisms also bear biblical relations.

Blake's poems show the influence of Swedish theologian Emanuel Swedenborg. His poem *The Divine Image* is implicitly Swedenborgian and he claimed that his *design is based the Spiritual Preceptor (1809) on the theologian book True Christian Religion.* (Britannica, para, 3) Yet his poems

reveal his objection to institutionalized religion. Hence he mentions a Chapel that is closed to the garden of love and some critics feel that the innocence of childhood wanes while assailing through growing years unearthing various factors that teaches the crude reality of the world.

Father, father, where are you going

O do not walk so fast.

Speak father, speak to your little boy

Or else I shall be lost,

The night was dark no father was there

The child was wet with dew.

And away the vapour flew.

The helpless child's unsecured feeling in the materialistic world propels him to seek the protection of God is indicated in the poem. Spiritualism certainly gives a solace for the disturbed mind. But the worldly pleasures tempt the human mind. The industrialization and the subsequent urban development in England might have planted apprehension that the people were digressing from spiritualism. Critics on *William Blake's* opine that he projected the society he lived in *the Songs of Innocence and experience*, observes that the mechanical world was making people selfish and self centered was a great concern of the poet. He never missed the opportunity to express his pain in his work. The child's prayer to father to stop for him and to protect him is a distress call that implicitly refers that people may get lost in the materialistic world that robs the innocence and peace of mind. The contemporary environment has a great impact on the psyche of the poets. The poets possess an inbuilt ability to read the positive and



negative aspects of the contemporary life and society. He feels that the world is unsafe for the children and the society is moving fast towards urbanization and industrialization. He expresses his anguish in the poem, *Infant sorrow*,

My mother groan'd, my father wept,
Into the dangerous world I leapt. (lines 1-2)

The child has to go through the dangerous world where selfish love that makes one despair and life miserable, mighty tiger that lurks behind awaiting for its prey. The vicissitudes of life is effectively portrayed- On one side beautiful nature but on the other side the danger that hides amidst the beauty of nature.

Blake has exploited his poetic skills to reach the readers accentuating love and passion as poems are one of the most significant literary genres that reach the people effectively. The poet's spiritual quest to spread love and goodwill in the society is expressed in his poems. The feeling of love that prevails in the mechanical world is transient and does not signify the pure love. Hence in his poem *The Clod and the Pebble*, he says,

Love seeketh only self to please,
To bind another to its delight,
Joys in another's loss of ease,
And builds a Hell in Heaven's despair. (lines 9-12)

The selfish love that puts other in despair builds a Hell in Heaven's despair. The alliteration of the letter *h* adds musical rhythm to the poem. Blake's realm of nature symbolizes sublimity and spirituality. The Sun, the Moon, the stars all natural phenomena symbolize love and spiritual significance that lay behind the

beautiful nature. He firmly believes, *Where Mercy, Love and Pity dwell/ There God is dwelling too*. Apparently the lines appear to be simple but it speaks the reality of life. *The Clod and the Pebble* symbolizes selfish love and hypocrisy.

His love for animals and portrayal of crude reality is lucidly revealed in the Poem "The Tiger", the poem reveals the universal truth pertaining to the strength and power of the Tiger. He portrays the reality of the world where the weak are affected by the strong. The rhetorical question he puts forth is *Did he who made the lamb made thee?* The facts and reality of life is presented behind the fleeting realities of life.

The weak and the strong live under the canopy of the sky. The weak on the run to protect itself from the strong but in the end the weak succumbs. This is the reality of life. The poem *The Lamb*, biblical reference, Little Lamb who made thee

Dost thou know who made thee

Gave thee life and bid thee fee. (lines 1-3)

The lamb symbolizes Jesus Christ and the image of the Christ with the lamb arises in the mind of the readers accentuate purity, love and compassion. Love for the something that is weak and needs the protection. The soft woolen skin and the meek voice symbolize tenderness. Blake's poems reflect the contemporary society where love and compassion replaces selfishness and corruption.

Social consciousness: His poem *London* exemplifies his social consciousness when he portrays the degradation of the society,

In every cry of every Man,

In every Infant's cry of fear,



In every voice, in every ban,

The mind-forg'd manacles I hear. (lines 5-8)

The society that diverges from love and compassion do not provide friendly environment for the humans. Urban life style owing to industrial revolution had brought nothing but misery and poverty.

CONCLUSION

Blake's poems transcend time and place. His poems are well read posthumously. Many a time people do not recognize the greatness of the contemporary poets. Today in this digital world the components of beautiful nature has become just a branch of study and do not incite any interest. The pandemic that emerged in 2020s and the subsequent lock down have tapped social consciousness driving home the fact that nature is omnipotent and mere money and wealth cannot buy happiness and peace. Selfishness and lack of social consciousness have resulted in degradation of moral values. Blake's contemporary society did not take cognizance of reality that he portrayed in his poems. The freshness of his nature depicted in his poems also illumines contrasting image of crude reality of sufferings and pains experienced by the people during his days. He insists on true love that will bring peace and happiness to the society.

Where Mercy, Love and Pity dwell,

There God is dwelling too.

Mercy, Love and Pity are the elements that could make the society healthy.

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A GLIMPSE ON FEMININE WRITING

Dr.Jeyashree G

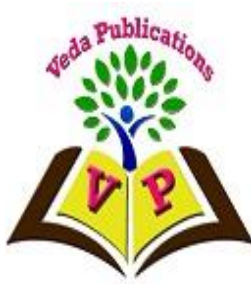
I/C Principal, Dr.Ambedkar College,Mumbai

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ABSTRACT

The paper attempts to explore the nuances and the influence of socio cultural environment on feminine writing. The paper refers to the select literary works unearthing feminine consciousness. The paper also vividly expounds the theory of Masculine and feminine language in Indian and English literature. Women writers are placed in the peripheral position and the feminist critics like Helen Cixous attempts to deconstruct the male centric discourse by motivating women writers to write more of them. Women no more engage in subservient role and the present scenario witness a considerable rise in their status at the professional level. While perusing the history of women literature the theories on feminist writings are discussed. The language flow in women writings is gauged to affirm the power of women in the realm of language and literature amidst social and cultural pressure. Feminine language reflecting the socio cultural situation and the feminist theories that emerged to propel and motivate feminine writings are explored in the paper. Changes are ineluctable that affects the society and the writings of women mirror the culture of the contemporary society. The mind set and language behavior of the people are interrelated that have a major impact on the society. Hence the paper registers the perceptions of male critics on women literature.

Keywords: *Language, Communication, Society, Culture, Feminine.*



**CULTURE AND LANGUAGE**

Culture is the term pertaining to shared, common practice among the people in a particular society. The most conventional definition of the word culture refers to the beliefs, rituals, and practices of a social group. The tenets of religions play a vital role in the formation of a culture. World is suffused with myriad of religions. There is always a firm link between language and religion as religions are considered to be the parameters of culture by scholars and thinkers. But the term culture cannot be confined only to the paradigm of religion.

During the past decade, language and communication have evolved extensively owing to digitalization. In the past the hierarchical structure of the society is strongly associated with religious tenets. Hence the hierarchical structure of man/woman implicitly reveals the subordination of women. Women in all religions are expected to be subservient to men despite the proliferation of women empowerment in the society. Great thinkers like Dr. Ambedkar states, *I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved.* The progress of women is measured along with the progress of a society. Despite religious and literary texts promote patriarchy; feminine writings and feminist literature do progress with vigor affirming the ability of women writers.

Milton's *Paradise Lost* exemplifies literature's share in accentuating hierarchical status of Man/Woman where women are placed in inferior status. Katherine Sanger in her article *Is John Milton a misogynist, a feminist or a Sexist?* has registered different points of view of the critics and among them is Sara Gilbert who sees Milton as a misogynist arguing that Milton's Eve is inferior and inspired by Satan. She also opines that Milton has paved way to the misogynistic tradition.

Anne ferry in her article *Milton's Creation of Eve* refers to Douglas Anderson who questions if the language of hierarchy used in *Paradise Lost* can be assumed that Milton *simply believed in the sexual subordination.*

Anne Ferry defends Milton claiming that *he was unavoidably compelled to work with or without.....we have to think about what was dictated to Milton by their story in Genesis and its interpretations in the New Testament, how he shaped what he shaped could not change.....*

Pearl Buck in her novel *The Good Earth* lucidly reveals the thoughts of the protagonist on his wife that *she is only a woman*; hence he refrains from communicating freely with her. Thoughts precede language. He never converse with his wife much throughout the novel as he considered that women are not equal to men. Throughout the novel *The Good Earth*, Olan, wife of the protagonist Wang Lung communicates in monosyllables or brief sentences but her unconditional support to her husband in his occupation of agriculture and her strong will power she exercises during crisis illumines her strong character. Her communication is restrained but does not diminish her skill which is the pillar of strength to her husband. Olan exemplifies the status of women in the society. She is depicted as plain looking but plays a significant role in the novel. The myth that heroines of novels are depicted as beautiful and delicate is disillusioned in the novel *The Good Earth*. Olan is strong and practical minded who handles trials and tribulations of a farmer's life with strong will power.

FEMININE WRITINGS OF THE EAST AND THE WEST

History of feminine communication cannot be dismissed as irrelevant while exploring the nuances of feminine writing. Feminine language is perceived with pauses and gaps replete with emotions in communication. Nevertheless there are references of women orators in Indian history advocating oratory skills in debates which is one of the most powerful platforms of language and communication.

Gargi Vachaknave is one of the erudite, ancient philosopher and orator in Vedic Literature during 9th to 7th Century BCE. She has also been called as *Brahmavadini*, a person with profound knowledge. She is known for her knowledge and skill in her debates and posing challenging questions on the issues of *atman* (soul) to her opponents thereby



bewildering them. She remained celibate throughout her life and had written hymns is *Rigveda*.

Amidst the domination of male counterparts there were women who had faced the challenges and outshone men during Vedic times in India. So the theory of stifled communication of women is indeed questionable while considering the contribution of women in language and literature.

Auvaiyar the name literally means *Respectable Woman* is extolled as a grand old lady of Tamil poetry who has captivated the readers with her half line verses. Her verses are shorter than the *Thirrukural*, verses composed in short couplets. There are references of three Auvaiyars in Tamil literature. But Auvaiyar II who was the contemporary of Kambar and Ottakoothar during the reign of Chola dynasty in tenth century, is well known for her wit and knowledge. Her poetic expertise is more pronounced **when** she confronts Kambar **who** questions the validity of her poetry. There were references over twenty five Vedic poetesses and over twenty five Tamil Sangam poetesses in Tamil literature vouching the knowledge and intelligence of women during Vedic times.

The lines 3.55 – 3.56 in *Manu Smriti* proclaim that *women must be honored and adorned* nevertheless it also states in verses 5.147-5.148 that *a woman must never seek to live independently*. The life of women always depends on the socio cultural and political environment. Hence, there is always impedance in women's progress yet women relentlessly strive to assert their individual skill and competence.

Andal, a remarkable poetess of 7th century has penned *Thirupavai* effusing her love for Hindu God Lord Vishnu. She is the only female poetess enlisted among 12 *Alvars* who had spread *Vaishnavam* in South India. *Thiruppavai* is a collection of 30 versus that express Andal's unconditional love and devotion for Lord Krishna. Her poetic proficiency that is embedded in romanticism is lucidly revealed through her verses. *Thiruppavai* is even sung today by the devotees in the Tamil month of *Margazhi*, which falls in the month of December. She appeals to Lord Vishnu to marry her and liberate her from the world ties. Andal *Thiruppavai* exemplifies feminine

consciousness and her freedom she enjoys to choose her path.

Hence, there is a question in every scholar's mind while expounding feministic theories of the west and the east. Indian literature lucidly validates the contribution of women in language and literature even during Vedic times. But patriarchal system of India has impeded the growth of women literature and more feminine writings have moved towards the literary genre of prose that paved way to the emergence of woman novelists.

CRITICISM ON FEMININE WRITINGS

Helene Cixous in her essay *The Laugh of the Medusa* refers to the French theory of *écriture féminine* that characterizes feminine writing by disruptions in the texts with gaps, silences, puns, rhythms and has been viewed as eccentric, incomprehensible and inconsistent and opines that the women speak the borrowed language to hold their identity, an attempt to be at par with men to affirm their wit and knowledge. The statement of women communication as stifled with pauses and gaps has to be revamped. For example, Emily Dickenson's poems are honest representations of emotional upheavals that women face in the society. Her poems exemplify the theory of *écriture féminine*, an imperfect translation of feminine writings.

Because I could not stop for Death

He gently stopped for me

The Carriage held but just Ourselves

And Immortality.

The above stanza illumines feminine consciousness of the poet where the hierarchy of Reason/passion is subverted and passion permeates the scenario of the poem and this poem exemplify m the theory of *écriture féminine* as it has been viewed as unstable, lack consistency. But the honest presentation of feelings and passions has stolen many hearts.

DECONSTRUCTION AND FEMINISM

Jacques Derrida through his theory of deconstruction rejects the binary concepts and categorization such



as Reason/passion, Man/woman opining that they are arbitrary and inherently unstable. The deconstruction theory subverts *logocentricism*. Male centric discourses are deconstructed and Helen Cixous theory attempts to acquit women writings from restrictions which had been chained with austere religious tenets and derogatory male centric criticisms.

Jacques Marie Emile Lacan, a French psychoanalyst and psychiatrist, registers his controversial theories on feministic language. He affirms that language is masculine and reflects male ideology. Julia Kristeva, a French critic refutes the theory and opines that anything that deviates from the prescribed norm is labeled as *different*, a substandard work. Therefore the pronoun 'I' implicitly refers to male voice affirming male dominance. Women voice is muted and every art and literature is perceived through male's vision. While perusing the texts of the past the language refers only to *Man* and every concept is penned through Man's perceptions.

The Book of the City of Ladies is one the most noteworthy book penned by Christine de Pizan who attempts to give a befitting response to the poem *La Roman de la Rose* (The Romance of the Rose), a misogynistic presentation of a famous French poet Jeun de Meun in around 1405. Saddened by the depiction of women in the society, Christine endeavors to create a metaphorical city and three personified women of virtues- Reason, Rectitude and Justice are presented to demonstrate the accomplishments of women. Her inclination to validate the virtues of women in the society contradicting the misogynist literary works where women are projected as products is lucidly revealed. The allegorical city is ruled by the virtues of women. The book deals with the female perspective and voices the issues pertaining to women. The motif of the book is to propel women to communicate and engage in intellectual dialogues.

CONCLUSION

In the past while referring to human the term *Man* is used, for instance, the proverbs like *Man* is superior animal, Practice makes *Man* perfect lucidly reveal the

fact that women were not considered as an individual.

The impact of religion and literature on human psyche is vividly established in the literary texts affirming male supremacy. Milton's *Paradise Lost* incites mixed responses from the critics debating if he is a misogynist and the critics like Anna K Junke subtly agree that *This is not to say that Milton reject patriarchy*.(Anna, 50). Yet, women language and literature manage to develop asserting their independent style. But feminine writing is assumed to confine under the paradigm of domesticity and the language used by the women authors are always viewed under the lens of masculinity. Women who have successful careers are often projected as over bearing and tough. The male psychology is molded by religious and cultural tenets placing him in a higher status. In the social hierarchy man is considered to be superior to women. Men who are seasoned with dominancy over the centuries find difficult to accept women as boss. Even today despite the promotion of women empowerment all over the world, the scholars and thinkers of women studies are dubious if the society has deconstructed the male centric discourse by converging feminine representations to the focus. The news paper daily from India, *The Indian Express* has published the notable quotes of 2020-21 contributed by the famous personalities on 3rd Jan.2022. The news paper has published 21 quotes where only one quote of a woman celebrity Ms.Veena George is published. This raises doubts in the readers' mind regarding the contribution of women's voice in the social development. There are two reasons for the poor women representations. Firstly, women celebrities lack social consciousness and secondly, the voice of the women are stifled and not given importance. Whatsoever the contribution of women to the literary field has to be taken cognizance for further promotion of women empowerment.

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STUDY OF TOTAL HARDNESS IN WATER AROUND AMBARNATH AREA.

Gangotri Nirbhavane*, Kshama Khobragade**

* Assistant Professor, Dr. Ambedkar College of Commerce and Economics, Wadala, Mumbai, India – 400 031.

gangotrienv@gmail.com

**Associate Professor and Head, Dept.of Environmental Science, S.B.E.S.College of Science, Aurangabad,
India, (M. S.)-432 001.

kshama.earth@gmail.com

Abstract: Ambarnath area from Thane district of Maharashtra having 3 industrial zone. For the study purpose five ground water samples were selected. Groundwater samples collected from selected sites monthly from July 2013 to December 2013 and analyzed for Total Hardness parameter.

Total Hardness in study area was found between 150 to 218 to mg/l. Total Hardness at all sampling Stations were found below permissible limit of BIS. At sampling station S2, S3 and S4 (Vimko Naka Bore Well, Morivali naka bore well and Ladi naka respectively) Total Hardness were found more than acceptable limit by BIS i.e. above 200 mg/l during some month, indicates seasonal changes and nature of the geological properties of the area with which water have been in contact.

Keyword: Total Hardness, Industrial zone, Geological, permissible limit, BIS.

Introduction:

Population on earth has been increasing in alarming rate, which demands safe drinking water. Groundwater is a major source of water all over the world. The physical and chemical properties of groundwater make it a reliable source throughout the world. Groundwater plays variety of roles in day-to-day life, which makes it an important resource for human beings.

Groundwater is generally invisible but very important in day-to-days life. 300 million Europeans acquire their daily drinking water from groundwater resources. Lakes, rivers and coastal waters in Europe are linked with groundwater; therefore, its quality depends to some extent. [1]

Pollution of groundwater is the natural, physical and chemical change due to human activity, so that water is no longer fit for use; for which it had previously been suited. Groundwater pollution problem now a day has become a severe threat to public health. [2]

Industries play a very important role in the economy of our country. With rapid industrialization, pressure on available resources also increases. Man is not only using natural resources, but he is also discharging the different types of solid, liquid waste material into the same resources, which day-by-day degrading the quality of this vital resources.

Hardness is one of the properties of water, which prevents the lather formation with soap and increases the boiling point of water. Calcium and magnesium cations mainly cause hardness. [3]

Ambarnath area is industrially developed town having number of industries; therefore, study had undertaken to find out the Total Hardness level in groundwater around Ambarnath industrial area. This area is surrounded by huge residential & slum area around it.

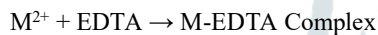
Material and Methods: For study purpose seven sites around Ambarnath industrial zone were selected. Water samples were collected monthly from selected sites during July 2013 to December 2013. Following sites were selected for study purpose.

Table No.1- Sampling Sites

Sr.No.	Sampling Area	Station No.
01	Forest Naka Bore Well	S1
02	Vimko Naka Bore Well	S2
03	Morivali Naka Bore Well (Buwapada area)	S3
04	Ladi Naka Hand pump (New bhendipada area)	S4
05	Morivali Gaon Open Well	S5

Samples were collected in clean glass bottles. The bottles were rinsed with the groundwater to be taken for analysis. Collected samples were analyzed using EDTA method for Total Hardness.

The EDTA method was used to measure the concentration of Calcium and Magnesium ions in water samples to determine their total hardness. This method is based on the principle that EDTA and its sodium salt forms a soluble complex when added in the solution of certain cations.



A small amount of Eriochrome Black-T indicator is added to an aqueous solution containing calcium and magnesium ions at pH -10.0. As a result, calcium and magnesium ions get complex and the solution becomes wine red. Since EDTA has strong affinity towards calcium and magnesium ions, on the addition of sufficient amount of the reagent, a new complex of blue color is formed at the end of titration.

50 ml sample was taken in conical flask. If sample was having higher calcium, a smaller volume was taken and diluted to 50 ml. 1 ml of buffer solution was added if the sample was having higher amount of heavy metals than 1 ml of Na₂S solution was added 100-200 mg of Eriochrome black-T indicator was added, the solution turned wine red. The contents were titrated against EDTA solution. At the endpoint, the color changed from wine red to blue. [3]

Calculation

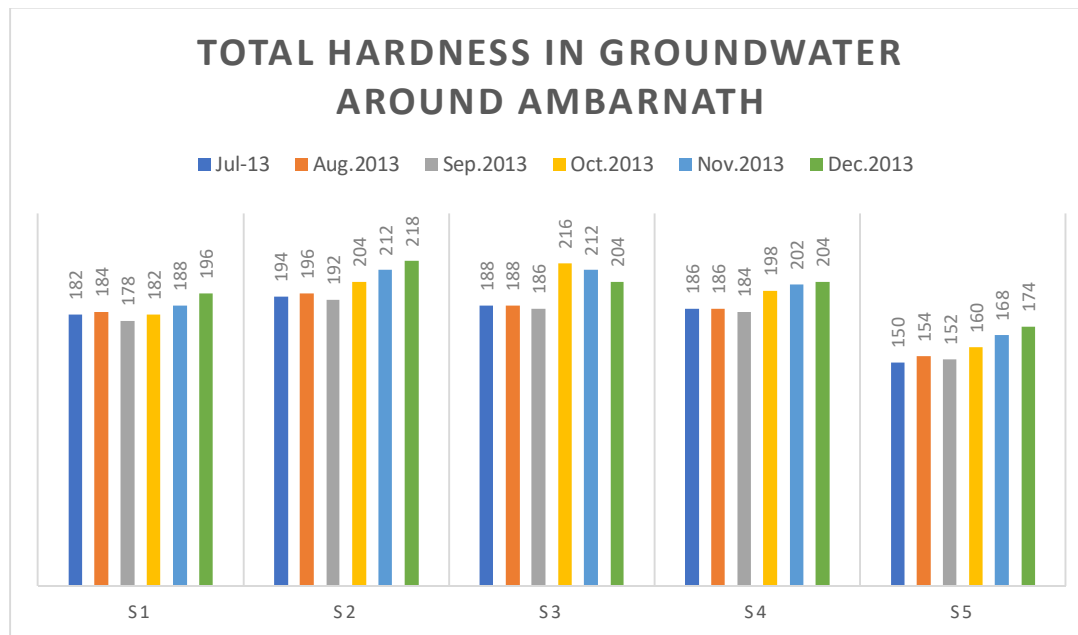
$$\text{Total Hardness as CaCO}_3, \text{ mg/l.} = \frac{\text{ml of EDTA used} \times 1000}{\text{ml of sample}}$$

Obtained results from different sites compared with the standards (Table No.3) given by BIS [4] for Total Hardness parameter.

Results and Discussion: After analysis obtained results were shown in table no.2.

Table.No.2-Obtained results of Total Hardness (mg/l) during July 2013 to December 2013

Sampling Site	July13	Aug.13	Sept.13	Oct.13	Nov.13	Dec.13
S1	182	184	178	182	188	196
S2	194	196	192	204	212	218
S3	188	188	186	216	212	204
S4	186	186	184	198	202	204
S5	150	154	152	160	168	174



Graphical presentation – of obtained results of Total Hardness (mg/l) from sampling sites from Jan.2013 to June 2013.

Table No.3- Water standard for Total Hardness

Parameter	CPCB	BIS(IS 10500 : 2012)		WHO
		Acceptable limit	Permissible limit	
TH(mg/l)	-	200	600	-

Total Hardness varied from 218 to 150 mg/l during study period. Standards for Total Hardness has not been set by CPCB and WHO. Total Hardness at all sampling Stations were found below permissible limit of BIS i.e.600 mg/l (IS 10500: 2012).

At sampling station S2, S3 and S4(Vimko Naka Bore Well, Morivali naka bore well and Ladi naka respectively) Total Hardness were found more than acceptable limit by BIS i.e. above 200 mg/l. Hardness is the result of geological formations of the water sources [5]. The Hardness of water varies from place to place and it reflects the nature of the geological properties of the area, with which water have been in contact.

Highest Total Hardness recorded at Sampling station S2 (Morivali naka bore well) during December 2013 i.e.218mg/l.

Lowest Total Hardness recorded at sampling station S5 (Morivali Gaon Open Well) i.e. 150 mg/l.in the month of July 2013. In general, surface waters are softer than ground waters although, this is not always the case [6,7] .Hardness in some condition may be beneficial; it prevents the corrosion in the pipes by forming a thin layer of scale and reduces the entry of heavy metals [8,9]

Conclusion:

Total Hardness at all sampling Stations were found below permissible limit of BIS i.e.600 mg/l. At three sampling sites S2,S3 and S4(Vimko Naka Bore Well, Morivali naka bore well and Ladi naka respectively) Total Hardness were found above acceptable limit i.e.200mg/l.which is an indication of geological properties of the area in which water have been in contact. The high concentration of Total Hardness in water Samples may be due to dissolution of polyvalent metallic ions from sedimentary rocks, seepage and run off from the soil. [10]

Lowest Total Hardness observed at sampling station S5 (Morivali Gaon Open Well) in the month of July 2013 and Highest Total Hardness recorded at Sampling station S2 (Vimko Naka Bore Well) in the month of December 2013. Hardness in water has no known adverse effects; still such water is not fit for domestic use. A hardness of more than about 200 mg/l causes scale deposits in the piping system. [11] [12]

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