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Empowering our future*

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ਡਾ. ਸੀਮਾ ਅਰੋੜਾ**

**ਵਿਸ਼ਵੀਕਰਨ ਦੇ ਸੰਦਰਭ ਵਿੱਚ
ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ, ਸਾਹਿਤ ਅਤੇ ਸੱਭਿਆਚਾਰ**



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by

ਡਾ. ਕਿਰਨਦੀਪ ਕੌਰ, ਡਾ. ਮਨਜੀਤ ਕੌਰ, ਡਾ. ਸੀਮਾ ਅਰੋੜਾ

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ਸਰਕਾਰੇ ਦਰਬਾਰੇ ਵੀ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਨੂੰ ਉਹ ਮਾਣ ਸਤਿਕਾਰ ਨਹੀਂ ਮਿਲਿਆ, ਜਿਸਦੀ ਉਹ ਹੱਕਦਾਰ ਹੈ। ਜਿਹੜੀਆਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਸਰਕਾਰੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਦੇ ਦਰਜੇ ਤੋਂ ਵਾਝਾਂ ਰੱਖਿਆ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ, ਉਹ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਦਮ ਤੋੜ ਦਿੰਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਅੱਜ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਹੈ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਨੂੰ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਦੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਬਣਾਉਣ ਦੀ ਅਤੇ ਇਸਨੂੰ ਸਰਕਾਰੇ ਦਰਬਾਰੇ ਮਾਣ ਸਤਿਕਾਰ ਦਵਾਉਣ ਦੀ। ਜ਼ਰੂਰਤ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਇਸਨੂੰ ਸਰਕਾਰੀ ਪੱਧਰ ਤੇ ਮਾਨਤਾ ਦਵਾ ਕੇ ਪ੍ਰਫੁੱਲਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਵੇ ਪਰ ਇਸ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਸਿਰਫ ਨਾਅਰੇ ਮਾਰਨ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਨਹੀਂ, ਠੋਸ ਨੀਤੀਆਂ ਅਪਨਾਉਣ ਦੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰਤ ਹੈ। ਚਿੰਤਾ ਕਰਨ ਦਾ ਭਾਵ ਇਹ ਨਹੀਂ ਕਿ ਅਸੀਂ ਬਹਿ ਕੇ ਸੋਚ ਵਿਚਾਰਾਂ ਕਰਨ ਲੱਗ ਜਾਈਏ ਅਤੇ ਨਾ ਹੀ ਇੱਕਲੇ ਰਾਜਨੇਤਾਵਾਂ ਨੇ ਕੁੱਝ ਕਰ ਸਕਣ। ਸਾਨੂੰ ਸਭ ਨੂੰ ਰਲ ਕੇ ਇੱਕ ਹੰਭਲਾ ਮਾਰਨ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ। ਸਾਨੂੰ ਇੱਕਮੁੱਠ ਹੋ ਕੇ ਕੁੱਝ ਕਰ ਗੁਜ਼ਰਣ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ।

ਆਓ ਰਲ ਕੇ ਕੋਈ ਅਜਿਹਾ ਹੰਭਲਾ ਮਾਰੀਏ ਕਿ ਆਉਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਸਮੇਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਕਿ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਸਾਡੇ ਦਿਲਾਂ ਤੇ ਰਾਜ ਕਰੇ, ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਸਾਡੇ ਸਿਰ ਦਾ ਤਾਜ ਬਣੇ।

ਆਮੀਨ।

6

THE FUTURE OF PUNJABI LANGUAGE IN INDIA AND ACROSS THE WORLD: SECURE IT NOW OR NEVER

*Amita Rawley Thaman**

Language is a gift of God to humans and we should cherish it for future generations. The future of Punjabi language in Punjab and subsequently in India and across the world, is the most point in the current language scenario.

Punjabi is the 10th most widely spoken language in the world, 11th most widely spoken in India and 4th most spoken language in Britain. There are an estimated 122 million Punjabi speakers around the world. In India Punjabi is one of the 22 scheduled languages. It became the official language of Punjab and a compulsory subject for students after the reorganisation of Punjab on Nov1, 1966. The clout of Punjabi language is waning day by day. Punjabis form the biggest ethnic community in the world, so to say, and Punjabi has reached every nook and corner of the world but it is getting diluted and its purity being undermined.

Punjabi language originates from the Indo-Aryan language family with its roots in Sanskrit language. Punjabi was the language of the people residing in Punjab—the land of five waters. The Sikh gurus have preached in the language of the people and thus considerably raised the stature of this language and given it a distinct identity of its own. The Sikh gurus, one after the other, enriched this language by expressing their life experiences in the form of their teachings, reaching out to the masses in their own language. The Sufi poetry of Baba Farid is of great literary significance.

During the Mughal period, Punjabi language retained its stature, owing to the brilliant poetry of Shah Hussain, Sultan Bahu and Bulleh Shah, though it did not enjoy official patronage. Even Maharaja Ranjit Singh failed to grant official status to Punjabi language. The British annexed Punjab in 1849 and systematically discouraged the use of Punjabi. Since the Province of Punjab succumbed to the British Raj, Punjabi language had to bear the brunt of colonisation. In the present scenario, though Punjabi language is taking gigantic strides in the world of popular music and films, yet it's fast losing its sheen and purity at the expense of mushrooming social media and globalisation. The latter has no doubt brought the world closer but it has infringed into the purity of individual languages. The Punjabi language is alive and kicking in speech and script over Radio and TV channels, films and social networking sites but it is fast vanishing with the new generation. The newfound rage of teenagers and young people with

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Dr. Surinder Singh Thakur, Principal Guru Nanak College Killianwali, Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib, Punjab has vast teaching experience of 21 years with 11 years of Administrative experience. He is representing the Faculty of Education, Academic Council, Board of study (Education) and Board of Study (Social Work) of Panjab University and the numerous other bodies of P.U. Chandigarh. He is a member of NCTE Visiting Team under the Centralized Visiting Team Member Delhi Headquarters/ Regional Committees, member of SIT to inspect B.Ed. Colleges (eight) in the district of Mandi H.P. as a representative of NCTE. He is Associate Chief Editor of Research Analysis and Evaluation and a member of Editorial Board of Shodh Samiksha Aur Mulyankan. He has attended and chaired more than seventy State, National and International Seminars, Workshops and Conferences. Publication of five books is to his credit. He has published 36 research papers in reputed National and International Journals. His area of interest is Educational Philosophy, School Management and Teacher Education.



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Robbing The Sheen or Empowering The Youth -- Role of Social Media In Shaping The Modern Generation

Amita Rawley Thaman*

Abstract

Social media has taken the world by storm over the past decade and literally propelled the human civilisation forward towards information boom. It has exercised a humongous impact on the society on all age groups, particularly the youth. It has rendered the society fast-paced and gadget-laced. Today, social media has seeped and penetrated every aspect of our lives and at least a billion of the world's population is connected to each other through it. Paradoxically, as modern generation is developing and nurturing a successful network of relationships across the nation and the world, it is getting more and more individualistic, materialistic and subsequently isolated. It is the need of the hour to wean away the current generation from unchecked use of social media.

The Merriam Webster's Dictionary defines social media as forms of electronic communication (such as websites for social networking and micro blogging) through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content (such as videos). In other words, social media refers to a couple of social networking sites which connect us to the rest of the world through internet. Social media has taken the world by storm over the past decade and literally propelled the human civilisation forward towards information boom. It has exercised a humongous impact on the society on all age groups, particularly the youth. It has rendered the society fast-paced and gadget-laced. Today, social media has seeped and penetrated every aspect of our lives and at least a billion of the world's population is connected to each other through it.

The first social media site came to the fore as early as in 1997. Six Degrees, as it was called, it facilitated the users to make a virtual profile and befriend other users. In 1999, blogs became popular. LinkedIn appeared in the early 2000s. YouTube rammmed the world in 2005 with a totally novel way for people to communicate and interact

*Assistant Professor, Dept. of English, SCD Govt. College, Civil Lines, Ludhiana.

with each other. Facebook and Twitter were launched in 2006. After that there was no looking back and a number of other social networking sites and applications like Whatsapp, Snapchat, Pinterest gained popularity.

Social media creates awareness and enlightenment. Latest news and trending events can be accessed in the blink of an eye. Sitting in the comfort of your home, you are virtually connected to the whole world. The advent of internet has shrunk the world into a global village but in spirit it is leading to a dwindling social and family life. Today, information can travel across the world at the touch of a button, yet it has seriously undermined interpersonal relations. People are so engrossed in social networking that they are often found guilty of ignoring their immediate company. This phenomenon is known as phubbing.

Social media not only provides for various teaching aids for the teachers like PPTs, podcasts, video lectures etc. but they are also of immense help to the students who can opt for self-help tutorials in case of doubts and difficulties in concepts. They can also seek the help of e-content and open educational resources. To enhance their ability and skills, they can enrol in Massive Open Online Courses which teach through printed content, spoken tutorials, video lectures and virtual classrooms.

The latest news can be accessed on social media. Thus we can remain updated and informed every second but many times fake news or fake information is uploaded on these sites. These spread like wild fire and have serious repercussions. They may create false alarms or create mass negative influence thus triggering untoward thought waves in the society. At times the ruling government may interfere and cause to camouflage or distort the truth. Propaganda politics is often exercised by the ruling party to move the masses in their favour.

Social media has also made us very vulnerable to outer elements. We are constantly at the risk of losing our confidential information to malicious sites and applications. Our account may be hacked or we may face cyber bullying or other cyber crimes. Phishing crimes are also very dangerous and entail serious consequences. In addition to losing our privacy, we may also lose money from our accounts. Mobile gaming is the new addiction of youth these days and suicide games like the Momo Challenge, the Bluewhale Challenge, the Passout Challenge and the Fire Challenge and the Cutting Challenge are a cause of serious concern. These games are putting our children in precarious situations and even taking lives.