

ENGLISH: A UNIFYING FORCE

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The impact of social changes on the English language largely relies on 'globalization'. This opened the gate for the multi-national companies to make India a hub of private sectors thereby making the public sector lose their importance. Hence English became the status symbol for standardization and a password for better livelihood. The IT sector created a revolution as it vanished the rural backwardness with the advancement of computers. Moreover English proved itself as a link-language by saving India from being disintegration. If success in first language is dependent of differences between individuals, and if second language learning involves essentially the same processes as first language learning, then differences in personality or strategies can only be relevant as the conditions, in which language learning takes place, not as a processes of language learning.

A concentration on making language easy for learners to understand also runs the risk of making understanding so easy that little effort is called for from the learner, as a result, learning takes place. As Vigotsky points out, 'learning which is oriented toward developmental stages that have already been reached is ineffective....the only "good learning" is that which is an advance of development. Literature exists to please to lighten the burden of men's lives, to make them for a short while forget their sorrows and their silenced hearts, their disappointed hopes, their grim future-According to Augustine Birrell. Today when reading books is one of the charms of a cultured life as the reader immediately put in touch with one of the best thinker and writer in the world. The thinker takes him to a different country or a different age or unburdens to him some of his personal regrets or discusses with him some special line or aspect of life.

W. Basil Worsfold says, through literature we learn wisdom from Aristotle, geometry from Euclid, law from Justinian, life lesson from Paulo Coelho, greatness of leader from Robin Sharma, moral values from Krishna Murthy. More than these things English has given genius and masters of creative literature Homer, Dante, Milton, attracts all. It nourishes youth, entertains old age, solaces adversity. Literature is both criticism and idealization of life. It is, to quote Hudson, an expression of life through the medium of language.

It prepares us to face life cheerfully. It widens our experiences of life by revealing those aspects which are commonly hidden from our view. Great works written in English are translated into English gives an insight into life.

According to Dr. C.E.M Joad, famous English philosopher if a books excites thought, if it stimulates our aesthetic sense, if it helps to understand our fellow creatures, if it increases our vitality and indirectly influences our personal conduct- if it accomplished any of these things, it has value. This definition makes to think that good works effect lives and make the world a better place to live with imagination and sympathy; where there is undesirability of hatredness.

We have to rise above the naiveté of narrow parochial and lingual protest to save India : We can certainly wriggle out of the existing imbroglio and then the whole world will recognize and bow its head before India's knowledge. We must free ourselves from linguistic hatred, jealousy and descriptivism.

The question regarding the future of English in India is not a matter of forecast but rather a real concern. It does not make a sense to ask the future of English is bright or bleak. The future of English will be what we make of it. Future of English in India is neither a catch word nor a slogan. Political leaders talked of English language just because it is an attractive and a well-meaning concept. The constitution of India has in its preamble incorporated the phrase "a sovereign, socialist, secular democratic republic" and has made explicit the commitment to democratic norms and values of our cherished society. The future of English language in India is linked with the freedom importance and the dignity of the individual. Yet another important matter with which the question of the future of English in India is connected the way in which the governments, the

bureaucracy etc. work for it is the way of their rules and regulations set the trends and conventions that needs to be considered to determine the future of English language in India.

The greater bulk of our population is poor, illiterate and cast conscious and they are easily moulded into voting in favor of a candidate who makes statements like English is a the language of the colonial people who destroyed India economically, socially and politically and hence will out do this language. It is distressing to note that why the government and the bureaucracy have not always been found to be working in favour of constitution which declares India to be a country with 22 official languages and no particular national language. Something is needed to be done to cure the psychology of such public servants and restrict them from making any statement against any language for language is only a medium of expression not the medium of expressing hatredness towards any country or its language, culture and tradition. It is true that India is a democratic country and we are given due importance and respect to each and every language. But is it suitable to a country like India to have issues with an international language. Let us hope for a better India in the near future, without riots based on languages which are acting as barriers between man and man and in the development of the country.

India, our motherland, is a vast land with a vast population. This vast population consists of people of different colours, creeds, castes and communities. There are Mongols in the Eastern frontier, Aryans in the Northern India and Dravidians of mixed origins in the Southern India. They are, Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Parsis, Sikhs, Jaws, Buddhists etc. They are divided into so many castes and sub castes that it is hard to count them all. They speak different languages and follow different customs and rites. But in spite of the internal differences all are Indians living in one united and undivided India, we have been living as one nation for the last so many centuries.

Great man may die but their words are cherished forever. India, the divine land- with its refulgent charm, cultural glory and eternal ethics has always fascinated the world-now finds itself in the gravest and deadliest impasse. Assailed by the vile troops of divisive and disruptive communalism, provincialism and linguism has become debilitated and enervated. The tolerant aspect of Indians has been taken away by the greed of its politicians. Benumbed by the opiate of self, they have accentuated their morbid passions by flaring the communal tensions related to language, raising their separatist tendencies from the world, heinously butchering their fellow countrymen and setting the nation on fire widespread strident agitations against imperial language are seen in the country and in the process, engendering malice and hatred among the citizens. South has aversion for North and east and west remain hostile to each other. There is polarisation of the mass on linguistic background. Lingual disruptive activities must be strictly met with. Mass media and educational institutions propagate ideas of tolerance, and high moral code of favoring equity to each and every language.

In today's fast progressing world, English forms an important means of communication from one part of the country to other nations of the world and especially in a large country like India, it is very essential that people should step out of their own cocooned shell and be aware of the development of culture and literature of the inhabitant of the other parts of the country as well as round the world. When we turn the pages of history we find that when Indian scholars and thinkers (Rabindra Nath Tagore, Raja Ram Mohan Roy and so on) read foreign books found the reasons why India was under the rule of imperial powers. Colonial Indians who were unaware of the fact of democracy were made aware.

With the introduction of English language as an international language, earlier the great works what seemed to be the property of a single country is now shared/translated by each and every country and this has been possible only because people have realised that those living in the extreme North, south east or west countries are no different from each other.

Earlier when Lord Macaulay introduced oriental English learning system in India the orthodox put forward and objection but as time passed, they realised that the English language was instrumental in development and progress of the country. Now we see that the English language has been instrumental in bringing the people of different regions together, in binding the people of different states and countries. What seemed

almost impossible in the earlier days English has now come into day to day livelihood. Earlier people could never think of sending their kith and kin away from their own country but now most people step out of their homes and travel far in search of education or employment, they have a feeling of oneness in them, they share their feelings with each other and learn to respect each other and thus learn to live in a harmony. And in course of time, a feeling of likeness is developed for the people and the feeling of hatredness is slowly wiped off from the minds of the separatist people.

English language has helped people to move out of their self centered existence with a much broader outlook and a much brighter horizon where everyone can exist in co-ordination with each other. It has maintained the territorial unity as well as international unity.

