



## Examining the concept of Testing- Reality: A Select Study of *Eating God a Book of Bhakti Poetry*

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### Abstract

This paper tries to bring out or unleash the common human emotion towards God and the divine creations. We all used to venerate Gods and Deities in different ways but God is a common Object. We treat him or her as a divine absolute who reign the whole earth. We all follow the words of veterans without deciphering why they made it. This paper is quietly a discourse on the aged and translated poetries and the emotions of the poets. Also this attempt explicates the reality of present. This paper shoots a fine question that is it real or necessary?

**Keywords:** Religion, Nature, Reality, Trust, Longing, Translation, Overthinking

God is a common object that reign the life of everyone on earth. We could not easily neglect the talk about it or his or him, because we have multiple form for Gods and Goddess. Also we face a common debate

on the creation of God. Who created it? Men or it emerged before the creation of all planets. We all do what we taught rather than what we believe. Our belief is depend on our ancestors. They have already structured everything and we are expected to walk after it. It might be our own ignorance that to believe in venturing into hell and heaven. Nothing is fixed rather everything is framed or designed to follow as norms to a particular clan or community. We do not know what our predecessors knew. They might have done things for a reason but we are guided to follow those without knowing the backbone of it. We blindly trust what we see but we failed to make a little research on it, not even a query. We should ignore our ignorance, then we could shine through pious. We failed to think that we ever met a person who entered in to heaven or hell, answer will be a great No but still we continue to talk about bliss of paradise and the grotesque of inferno, we read it from the aged texts and few essential explication of Upanishads of Hindu religion. *Eating God a Book of Bhakti Poetry* is a collection of poetries that was written and translated by the old and undeniable writers and translators of the great India. All the poems in this work were collected and compiled by Arundhati Subramaniam, a great poet, writer, journalist and critic. She wrote thirteen prose and poetries, also she won the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Award for *When God is A Traveler*.

*Eating God a Book of Bhakti Poetry* contains poetries which talks about the nature, beauty of nature and the devotion of men toward God and on his or her actions. It contains poetries of A. K. Ramanujan, V Narayana Rao and David Shulman, Khushwant Singh, Indira Viswanathan Peterson (translator of Sundarar's work). Writer Arundhati has collected all the important bhakti translations of all poets in order to make it more explicable to the reader or to the believers of Gods.

We all failed to look after the reality concept of we work, we eat, we live. This is the most important but forgotten and unfollowed concept in our survival. We have to realize that self – realization is more powerful than anything else in this world. When we realize ourselves eventually we will gain the knowledge to grab everything we want and we need to survive. For that extraordinary realization we should put ourselves in a 'reality test' by which we could attain the religious supremacy of becoming humble and approachable to the unseen but defined God. The thing is we all refused to see what is physically presented before us rather we

want to be in the myths and fantasies. We live in our imagination. Our life is not a fiction. Reality is real nothing else. In this work we could see many translated poems of the poets who were longing to attain the fantasy world by thinking about it.

In the beginning God has created everything and declared that creation is good and blissful to all. The most important thing is we could not easily decipher the actions and the creations of God. It is applicable to everything done by him or her. In the same way he created earth and earthly human. We could not go beyond what we see or what we understand. Sky is understandable to us, we crossed it. But the mighty power or so called myth on faith is indecipherable to us, so it is impossible to overcome it.

We all were one. Now we have multiple forms for Gods and deities. But then we might have worshiped a same God as a single clan. We changed or developed few things for fame and for pride. Pride over caste, community and money. Discrimination is a biggest weapon which demolished the hope of reunion among all people.

The work began with the crystal clear explication on her ideology. Then she talks about the poetries and the poets. This work contains totally two hundred odd poems. Also she included the poems of Tukaram, Mira, Akka Mahadevi, and A.K.Ramanujan.

The title itself is different from other works, *Eating God a Book of Bhakti Poetry*, I put it in a self-debate that who is an eating God, or God is eating something. The whole collections are about the absolute which we have never seen in our life. The thing is we all failed to treat reality as it is, we dramatically moved to believe what we never understand or what we never going to see or attain in our live. It is known to us that there is nothing permanent but we will run to nowhere. We believe there is an absolute but do we see it, it is a biggest question that churn everyone's mind. This earth is a rented house to our human soul. We are not the owners to our own bodies that is how the system goes.

Reality – Testing is a part of Sigmund Freud’s psychoanalytic theory. It is an objective based theory in which we have to think and practically approach our life. It explicates the difference between internal and external thinking. Most of the time we used to overthink for simple things in our lives, that leads us to follow the stereotypes that was formed or structured by the ancestors. We should have widened eyes to see what we are holding in our hand but what we do is we look up to glance the sky-high to fly. We should grow the ability to handle the real situation of struggle or pleasure instead of merely thinking of it. Overthinking kills everything we possess within us. It is always good to do rather than think of something.

*When cinders rain down, Be like the water,* Allama Prabhu: H. S. Shivaprakash, Longing, ‘Is There Some Way I Can Reach You?’ It is a line which have the positive perspective towards our lives, but we see it as a religious instruction rather it is just an ideology to follow. It is the habitual act of everyone to do something to protect oneself.

*That which smoulders, burns itself out. The extinguished can never reignite. Those in love will blaze again,* Rahim: Mustansir Dalvi), Longing, ‘Is There Some Way I Can Reach You?’ These lines are explicating the results of committing sins. Here in this lines the poet did not talk about a candle which burns itself in order to brighten the room. He discussed the smokers, they burn themselves. It is not an exaggerated philosophy for life, it is a common advice we get every day from our parents. But our routine is to believe the same words from the liars who named themselves as the great infants of God. That is called the ignorance of a literate. We should critically, practically approach and accept the reality that we are facing in our routine. Accepting the reality is the only way to attain the pleasure that we ever want in our life.

*Lord! I’ve never known who I really am, or You. I threw my love away on this lousy carcass and never figured it out: You’re me, I’m You. All I ever did was doubt: Who am I? Who are You?* Lal Ded: Ranjit Hoskote, Doubt and Bewilderment, Who Am I? Who Are You?’ These lines explicating the one’s confusions towards (God) him or her life, and shot the questions on his existence and actions, *You’re me, I’m You*. This is the most important statement occurred by the poet. None is superior to none. God has created us as himself, but now we have number of divisions among ourselves.

*I wore myself out, looking for myself. No one could have worked harder to break the code. I lost myself in myself and found a wine cellar. Nectar, I tell you. There were jars and jars of the good stuff, and no one to drink it.* Lal Ded: Ranjit Hoskote, Ecstasy, 'Sunrise Is Sunset'.

*I lost myself in myself*, is one of the greatest philosophical lyric which is explicating the stature of a confused mind, which is already collapsed by the earthly acts that we do every day as a routine, he or she hated the living and began to lament toward sky. Sometimes we cry or shout loudly when we could not control the situation.

The title of this part is so admirable, the sunset is sunset. It is like the beginning is ending. It is indirectly telling us that we should finish where we started. Most of us start easily but have no interest in finishing it and few of us unaware of the method to end a thing.

*There were jars and jars of the good stuff, and no one to drink it*, it indicates, we have many good deeds to do and finest places to admire but we lack in the field of exploration. We always do what we already know, we are not ready do or learn the unknown. There will be hidden things until you find or discover it. Once we unleash the things that we let sleep inside us, even the dark world will glow through the tremendous light which flow from yourself. We all made to enjoy all the good stuff that is created by the Almighty God. This is how the human mind will attain the Ecstasy of living.

The reality is this, when we unleash our best to the world, we will be remembered and celebrated forever. For that we should follow the concept of we work, we learn, we live. Now a days the term religion became a fence for being jovial and it made our heart cold to not to become a comrade to others. The word 'we' is only used in the articles and novels to read alone, or in a party meeting, a leader preaching to his followers.

Practically we all forget to live our life rather we all imagine of pleasure. We all think of luxury life but have no time to cherish the present. If we have the ability to attend the present, we could eventually make the future enjoyable. This would be the pleasure principle of everyone.

Bhakti is a part of life, none of us avoid it. But we should not stuck into it by always worshipping or venerating. Being genuine and honest is a gear and holy offering that you ever render to the Almighty God.

Rage is a dangerous part of our emotion. We should maintain ourselves calm and cool. There is always calm before storm. *I will not utter your name again. I will not work as you ask any more*, these are the common words that we all heard from our parents and siblings. But we might have shouted at them for silly reasons. We were not following our word that we uttered with much anger. But few are exceptional, they do what they say. Their pride shines in the words they utter from mouth, they have to do whatever they blabber, because of the society, they do not live for their self – satisfaction. First we should live for ourselves. To avoid rage we must prioritize our emotion, which to showcase and which to hide.

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