

Biographical Literature in Modern Sanskrit Language

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Abstract :

Biographical literature in modern Sanskrit language Biographies of great people have been the source of modern Sanskrit literary creation. Many biographies are available in the form of epic, prose and champu kavyas in Sanskrit literature. There are two master pieces of biographies on the iron man of India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel written in modern Sanskrit language. These two master pieces are "Lohpurusavadanam" by Dr. Shivprasad Bharadwaj and "Vallabhcharitam" by Dr. Satyapal Sharma. The first one is complete biography in the form of historical epic and the second one is a biography in the form of prose work. Key words: biography, creation, literature, modern Sanskrit, master pieces, epic and prose work.

Introduction :

As we know that modern Sanskrit literature is very vast and biographical literature is also very vast in modern times. This biographical literature holds special place in Sanskrit literature. Great poets, writers, playwrights and dramatists have created tremendous literature related to biography of great men, great leaders, great kings, great saints and great queens and women. We can draw inspirations from these biographies and make our life and personality nice and sublime. Many poems, epics, dramas and Champu Kavyas , Khand Kavyas have been created on the base of the life of great leaders, great people and great saints.

The tradition of writing biographical literature has been going on till date since the creation of Buddhacharitam by great Sanskrit poet Ashwaghosh. In epics, we have Swamivivekanand Charitam by Shree Tryambak Bhaskar Bhandarkar. Indira Gandhi chartitam by Satyavrat Shastri, Bhishmcharitam by Harinarian Dikshit. We have also other biographical literature like Ramdascharitam, Ghyaneshwarcharitam, Tukaramcharitam. This biological literature has its own place in whole Sanskrit literature.

In my research paper I want to give a brief introduction of two more such master pieces written on the biography of our great leader Shree Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

1. Lauhapurusavadanam : Lauhapurusavadanam is an important biographical, historical epic written by Shree Shivprasad Bharadwaj who has carved a niche the field of creative Sanskrit literature. He is a recipient of awards for his two prestigious works Bharatsandesh and Gururavidassatakam. Lauhapurusavadanam is a precious contribution in the field of Sanskrit literature. It is a treasure in Sanskrit field of past independence era.

This biographical and historical epic depicts the political as well as socio-cultural situations of pre-independent and post-independent India. In this biographical and historical epic, the poet attempts to search for the roots of political struggles which are faced by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and sheds light on the life and contributions of Shree Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Lauhapurusavadanam brings light on the character, nature, life and personality of Saradar Vallabhbhai Patel. This biological work is one of the important works on the life of great Indian son Shree Saradar Vallabhbhai Patel.

In the words of Radhavallabh Tripathi, the definition on Jivancharitam is as follows:

कस्यचिन्महापुरुषस्य पेरणपदं चरितनिरुपणं जीवनचरितम् ।

The word 'carita' has the following meanings; performed, practiced, attained, known, offered, going moving- course, acting, doing, practice, acts, deeds e.g.

Charitam means behaviour, habit, conduct, practice acts deeds, performances, observances, history, life, biography, account, adventure, nature, disposition and duty as per Apte. Vs. (The students' Sanskrit English Dictionary. P.204)

2. Lauha-purusavallabh- charitamⁱⁱⁱ: We have come across many biographies in last two decades. The creation of Sanskrit biographical poetry and prose has been continuously increased in all the different states and provinces of the country. Pandit Jagannath is considered as the last poet of Sanskrit literary tradition. Some scholars regard the literature of Jagannath as modern literature. His Aashaf Vilas is one such biography.

There are many poets and authors in many corners of the country who have contributed a lot in the field of Sanskrit biological literature. If we make a list of all the poets and writers, the list will be so long so I mention the names of some famous literary artists of present times. Satyavrat Shastri, Ramakant Shukla, Radhavallabh Tripathi, Abhiraj Mishra Keshavchandra das, Shridhar Bhaskar Varnekar, Krishnarayan Pandey, Pushpa Dikshit, Kshama Rao, Prof. Gaurishankar Zala, Harshdev Madhav and Dr. Ravindrakumar Panda who has recently written a biographical epic on Maharaja Shayajirao Gayakawad .

I want to shed light on the work of Dr. Satyapal Sharma who has written a biographical prose in Sanskrit with Hindi translation. The biographical prose work of Dr. Satyapal Sharma is "Lauha-purushavallabh- charitam". It is an excellent book on the life and character of the iron man of India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. This biographical work is written in twelve chapters. This literary work of Dr. Satyapal Sharma is a historical biography on one of the greatest leaders of India Shree Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

After thorough study and reading of this prose, we cannot refrain from saying that it is an excellent prose work written on the biography of Shree Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Dr. Satyapal Sharma has made successful efforts in delineating the character of Sardar Patel. He has used many figures of speech to make it interesting. We also find a little change in the plot according to the situations. We find in this book many literary sentiments according to the occasions, but the main sentiment that is observed in the book is Vir rasa. This is a commendable work undertaken by Dr. Satyapal Sharma. In the beginning of every chapter he has put a beautiful and inspiring verse in accordance with the theme or situation of the chapter, Most of These verses are from Bhartrihari's Nitisatakam which increase beauty of the book. The language is so easy, understandable and lucid. Dr. Satyapal Sharma has attempted to show us the hardships which were endured by this great son of our motherland. How fearlessly he has undergone all the difficulties for the sake of our motherland. This seminal biographical prose work of Dr. Satyapal Sharma has proved itself to be of supreme importance and started enjoying a unique place due to its merits and literary beauty.

Conclusion :

To conclude I can say that this prose work of Dr. Satyapal Sharma has served as basic source material for the study of history, biography, politics, religion, culture and literature of Sanskrit language of this modern period.

References :

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