

Globalization, Performing-Art and the Changed Scenario

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Abstract: Globalization has an indirect and highly effective long lasting impact on our regional languages. Regional languages are the soul of any performing- art. Because, dialects are used in performing-art and those dialects are found in different regional languages. So, a study on the impact of the Globalization on performing-art is necessary. The *pala-gan* is a living performing art-form which is found in Assam and Orissa. This art-form consists of *gita-vadya-nritya- and abhinaya* (i.e.songs, musical instruments, dances and dramatic performances). The term *pala* suggests the meaning of a party or group of dramatic performance. The paper will try to describe globalization and *pala-gan* of Assam and Orissa and the impact of globalization on this art-form.

Keywords: *Globalization, Pala gan, Performing Art.*

Methodology:

The paper is prepared through a study based on both primary and secondary sources. Information gathered from books, articles etc. include the secondary source while the primary

source includes mainly the personal experiences of the author through field visits and participation in the *pala-gan*, the performing art-form.

Introduction:

Globalization has an indirect and highly effective long lasting impact on our regional languages. And these languages are the soul of any performing- art. Because, dialects are used

in performing-art and those dialects are found in different regional languages. So, a study of the impact of the Globalization on performing-art is necessary.

Discussion and Findings:

With the help of three key-questions, we will develop our discussion. Those three keys are-

1. What is Globalization?
2. What is performing-art, especially *pala-gan* of Assam and Orissa?
3. How this *pala-gan* has played a role of media because of the impact of the Globalization?

Globalization is not a new phenomenon. It began in the nineteenth Century, but its spread slowed during the period from the start of the First World War until the third quarter of the twentieth century (The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, 2002 Report).

Sheila L. Croucher comments: "Globalization can be described as a process by which the people of the world are unified into a single society and function together. This process is a combination of economic, technological, socio-cultural and political forces."

Going to describe about Globalization Manfred B comments: "to signify a social condition characterized by the existence of global, economic, political, and cultural environmental interconnections and flows that make many of the currently existing borders and boundaries irrelevant."

Globalization has emerged as one of the most frequently used term of which there is no

universally acceptable definition. Worldwide opinions are divided both in support and opposition of it. Globalization is derived from the term "Global" which implies covering the globe.

The *pala-gan* is a living performing art-form which is found in Assam and Orissa. This art-form consists of *gita-vadya-nritya-* and *abhinaya* (i.e.songs, musical instruments, dances and dramatic performances). The term *pala* suggests the meaning of a party or group of dramatic performance. In many respects, this term may convey the sense of a group consists of singers and dancers. Of the dramas used by this art-form, the following are worth mentioning dramas of this performance. *Savitri-Satyavan, Nala-Damayanti, Beula-Lakhindara, Srivatsa-Cinta, Daksa-yanja, Sita-Haran, Bhakta-Prahlad, Vali-Vadha, Harichandra-Uppakhyana* and so forth.

In this *pala-gan* the *Viveka* characters played a role of media because of the impact of Globalization. Woman characters of this art-form are also focused palpably and this also indicates that it deals with a globally important subject i.e. Woman Studies.

The *viveka* character of *pala-gan* can rightly be compared with the chorus of the Morality plays of the English Literature. Here, character plays the role of instructor and messenger. It alerts the audience as well as the

performers regarding vice-virtue, good-evil, and justice-injustice etc. In a sense, the *viveka* character is like “Google” in which character, we can have the idea of life and anything related to it.

The characters of the art- form comment on the contemporary situations of our society. This situation includes political, social, economic and cultural problems of our day-to-day life.

The lower characters of the art-form (i.e. subplot) criticize dowry-system, child-labour, ill-treatment of woman, Aids, modern education system, corruption of political leader and higher officials, pollution, soil-erosion, flood,

migration, rivalry, clash, global-warming etc. Such scenes although have no connection with the main theme, they certainly bear significance as they treat the different globally important and significant subjects.

Because of the impact of Globalization, this art-form becomes a media of instruction and morality. Like other media- Television, Radio, Newspaper, Computer, Magazine, Journal, Internet, Theatre, Play etc. this performing-art occupies a significant place to alert the common people. For this cause, they easily can ventilate their thoughts and in this era of Globalization, they can walk forward like the other people of the world.

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