

The Myth of Shri Ram in Gujarati poetry and its literary value

Jadav Komal Harendrasinh, PhD Scholar, CVM University, jadavkomal2606@gmail.com

Dr. Harish Parekh, Mentor, CVM University

• Introduction

The all-encompassing image of Shri Ram and his literary value stand as a synonym for one another in Gujarati poetry. The story of Ramayana has occupied an important place in the hearts of the Indian people for centuries. Ram is still worshipped as a dutiful king and a man of virtue.

The Ramayana provides excellent examples of ideal governance, ideal family, obedient son, virtuous wife, ideal servant etc. The Ramayana has made a great contribution to the Indian society in the matter of cultural irrigation. ...1

The Ramayana is a Sarga-bound epic. Different sub-divisions of the Ramayana are called Sarga. The word Sarga itself has become popular from the Ramayana. The name of the epic is given after the name of its hero or after the poet or with reference to its subject matter. The title of the Ramayana is given after the name of its hero according to that rule of character. The hero of the poem is from the best Kshatriya dynasty and endowed with the qualities of Dhrodatta. In the Ramayana, the hero of the poem is the Ikshvaku Kulvibhushan Rama. The purpose of the epic is the attainment of any one of the four purusharthas: Dharma, Artha, Kama, Moksha. In the Ramayana, the attainment of Sita is in a way the attainment of meaning. The conclusion of the Uttarakanda is the attainment of salvation. And the entire poem glorifies religion. The full-imagination of Shri Ram in Gujarati poetry and his literary value are unique, because Shri Ram has been accepted as a literary motivating and expanding element. In Gujarati poetry, he has been depicted as a character.

• Review of previous literature

1. Revised edition of Rama Katha

The difficulties of the Bhagirathi task of preparing a revised edition of the Ramayana can be understood from the information given in the introduction of Prof. Govindalal

H. Bhatt Balankad. In order to decide on the revised text from numerous manuscripts of different languages, the texts found in 37 copies, as well as the comments of the Ramayana, supporting materials, etc. were used appropriately. Then a revised edition of the Balakanda was prepared. Following the accepted principles to prepare this revised edition, the scholarly editors made a meticulous, impartial and comparative study of the vast evidence of the manuscripts and other supporting materials, and as a result, the probable text of the original poem was derived from the revised reading of the Ramayana, revised edition. Vadodara M.S.Uni. The affiliated research institute Prachya Vidya Mandir accomplished this task in the third quarter of the last century with the efforts of Bhagirath.

2. Adhyatma Ramayana

Adhyatma Ramayana has the highest prestige in the Ramananda sect. Its influence can be seen on 'Ananda Ramayana', 'Ramcharit Manas' and Marathi Ramayana. This work has an important place in the development of Rambhakti.

This entire work is written in the form of a dialogue between Parvati-Shankar. Ram-Sita Lakshman are considered to be the incarnations of Parabrahman, Mulaprakriti and Shesha respectively. In this Ramayana, the Vishnu form of Rama, the description of the pastimes of children, the dialogue between Rama and Narada, the fasting of Lakshmana, the sacrifice of Ravana, the mention of nectar in the navel of Ravana, and the abduction of Sita by Ravana for the desire of Vaikuntha, etc. are notable events.

3. Adbhut Ramayana

This composition, which holds an important place in the Ramayanas, is considered to be after the 'Adhyatma Ramayana'. 1. The purpose of the Rama avatar in the first part. 2. The story up to the arrival of Rama in Ayodhya in the second part is briefly described. 3. The main subject of the 'Sahasramukh Ravanavadha' in the third part is.

4. Anand Ramayana

The Anand Ramayana was composed after the Adhyatma Ramayana. The story of Rama has been briefly described in this book. There are a total of nine episodes in it.

It is the occasion of the marriage of Dasharatha and Kaushalya. The narrative describes the life of Rambaal Leela, the presence of Ravana in Sita Swayamvar, the story of Sita's birth from fire, the liberation of Ram and Lakshmana from the underworld by Hanuman, the Ashvamedha Yajna, the story of Sita's sacrifice, Lavakush's war against Ramsena, the ritual of Ram worship, the greatness of Ramnama etc.

• Mythology

The word "myth" in English is for mythology. From "myth" the words "mythology" or "Mythological Stories" have been used; which refers to the creation of myths, legends and mythological stories.2

"Myth" or "mythology" is a precious heritage that we have received from our ancestors. Literary creators have made wonderful use of mythology in their creations. But mythology cannot be explained as easily as it can be enjoyed. The popular synonym of 'myth' is 'mythology'. Apart from that, 'mythology', 'god story', 'history', 'mythology', 'mythical story', 'ancient folk story', 'primitive story', 'symbol of mythology' - these are the nouns that have been thought of.....3

The root of the word 'myth' lies in the Greek word 'mythos'. That is, a subject or story based on a true or imaginary event becomes popular in a people over time and takes on a special form in the literature of that people. In it, some worldly or divine character or event is depicted; which day by day becomes a part of the people's culture. In it, an exaggerated reflection of the people or character's mind is reflected and generation after generation the people consider it as an ideal in their cultural heritage.....4

• Literary Value of Shri Ram in Gujarati Poetry

The literary value of Shri Ram is immediately evident from the fact that the story of Rama, i.e. Ramayana, is found in almost all the languages of India. If we look at its literary value, various Ramayanas are examples of it, such as Valmiki Ramayana, which has a total of seven episodes. 'Yogavashistha Ramayana' The main subject of this work is the dialogue between Vashistha and Ramachandra. In which Vashistha teaches

Rama how to attain salvation. 'Revised Edition of Rama Katha' The difficulties of Bhagiratha's work of preparing a revised edition of Ramayana can be understood from the information given in the introduction by Prof. Bhatte Balankad. 'Adhyatma Ramayana;' Adhyatma Ramayana has the highest prestige in the Ramananda Sampraday. Its influence can be seen on 'Anand Ramayana', 'Ramcharit Manas' and Marathi Ramayana. This work has an important place in the development of Ramabhakti. 'Adabhut Ramayana' This work, which has an important place among the communal Ramayanas, is considered to be after 'Adhyatma Ramayana'. 'Anand Ramayana' Anand Ramayana was composed after Adhyatma Ramayana. This book has a brief description of the Rama story. It has a total of nine episodes. It is the occasion of Dasharatha Kaushalya's marriage. 'Tattvasangrah Ramayana' Here, the main focus has been on the elements of the Rama story. Therefore, it has been named 'Tattvasangrah Ramayana'. 'Kalnirnay Ramayana' In this Ramayana, the time of different events and incidents of the Ramayana has been shown. 'Maharamayana' This Ramayana has a total of five chapters. The 48 lines of Ramacharanas are described. 'Mantra Ramayana' Mantra Ramayana is a collection of Vedic mantras. 'Vedanta Ramayana' The birth of Parashurama and his character are described.

'Kamb Ramayana' The oldest book of Ramakatha literature in Dravidian languages is 'Kamb Ramayana' written by Kambar in Tamil language. 'Nirvachanottara Ramayana' is found in Telugu language. The first work related to Ramakatha in Telugu literature is 'Nirvachanottara Ramayana' written by Tikkana.

'Dwipad Ramayana' Telugu language Telugu literature...This Ramayana has taken the basis of the Dakshinatya text of Valmiki Ramayana. 'Bhashkar Ramayana' Telugu Language Telugu Literature....'Bhashkar Ramayana' composed in the 14th century is the most literary and artistic. 'Maulla Ramayana' Telugu Language Maullaramayaan became the most popular in Telugu literature. 'Ramcharitam' Malayalam Language A poet named Ram composed 'Ramcharitam'. In which there is the story of the Rama-Ravana war. 'Kannash Ramayana' in which he translated the Ramayana written by Valmiki. 'Ramayana Chappu' Malayalam language Ramayana 'Adhyatm Ramayana' Malayalam language Ramayana 'Kerala Varma Ramayana' Malayalam language

Ramayana 'Torve Ramayana' which was the best Rama story of this language. The story of Rama Sitama The most ancient poetic work of the written tradition, Valmiki Ramayana, and the 'Rama Sitama Varata' of the Bhils, which has been preserved in a memorised form for ages, have striking similarities and differences in many instances. 'Bhilodi Ramayana' The tribal Ramayana has examined the legends related to the Ramayana popular among the tribals. In his essay, he has discussed a 'Bhilodi Ramayana'.

Ramayana in Sinhala language A religious ceremony called Kohamba 'Yakkam' is performed in Sinhala island. In it, Rama goes to the forest alone. In his absence, Sita is kidnapped, etc. The changes are significant. 'Ramavatara' Ramayana in Sinhala language 'Ramavataracharit' Ramayana in Kashmiri language 'Madhvakandali Ramayana' Ramayana in Assamese language 'Kritivasa Ramayana' 'Ramayana' in Bengali language This epic has 20 chapters and 3,624 verses. 'Dhikaramaya' in which the story of Mahiravana, the war of Lavakush etc. is depicted.

'Ramayana' Some scholars say that Kumaradas is from Sinhala island (Sri Lanka). This book is believed to be from the sixth or seventh century. In the Ramayana written in the sixth or seventh century, he has utilized his rich linguistic knowledge, keen imagination and rich imagery. 'Bhavartha Ramayana' Ramayana in Marathi language Eknath has taken the basis of works like 'Valmiki Ramayana', 'Adhyatma Ramayana', 'Anand Ramayana' while composing the Ramayana. Anjum has written the Urdu Ramayana, in all of which the character of Rama has become a literary value.

On the other hand, the character of Shri Ram is also a literary value, which has been depicted by many writers, such as in medieval Gujarati literature, Vimalsuri: Paum Chariya, Vimalsuri Gunabhat: Ram Katha, Bhalan – Ramayana, Uddhav: Ramayana, Nakar – Ramayana, Vishnudas – Ramayana, Kiku, Vashi – Angadvishti, Kahanav – Ramayana, Sridhar – Ravana Mandodari Samvad, Govinda – Ram Vanvasani Sakhiyo, Vajiyo – Vajii – Ranjang, Haridas – Sitavirahni Chaturi, Dwarkadas – Sitavirahna Baramas, Tulsi – Ramchandrani Pandhar Tithi, Morar – Shri Ramchandrajina Mahani, Raghavadas – Adhyatma Ramayana, Nathbhavan – Adhyatma The character of Shri

Ram and his ideal literary value has become a literary value in Ramayana, Pritam - Adhyatma Ramayana, Raghuram - Lavakushakhayan, Shamal - Lavakushakhayan, Ravana Mandodari Samvad, Diwalibai - Ramjanmani Garbiyo, Rambal Leela, Ramvivah, Puribai - Sitamangal, Krishnabai - Sitaji's korshi, Kalidas - about Sita being seduced by her in-laws, Tulsi Das - Ramji's marriage, Janaki's marriage, Govindram - Ravana and Vibhishan, Ramayo - Sitaji's Baramas, Giridhar - Ramayana, Dayaram - Hanuman Garuda Samvad etc. For example, 'Ram' has attained ideal literary value in characters like devotion to his father, devotion to his guru, excellent husband, excellent brother, excellent enemy, excellent lord, excellent scholar, excellent human being, excellent friend, hero of religion, hero of deeds, warrior, patron, and excellent king.

References

1. Rah Bataye Ramayana, P. Morari Bapu, p. 45
2. Ramchandra N. Pandya, Ratilal S. Nayak, Dr. Subhash M. Dave, Somabhai B. Patel - Literature Principles, p. 74, Anada Publications
3. Purakalpana: Author Praveen Darji, University Book Production Board, 1989, p. 14.
4. Purakalpana, Sahitya Kosh-3, Editor Chandrakant Topiwala and others, p. 223

Sources

- Some Ideal Characters of Ramayana Author: Jayadayal Goenka, Fifth Edition: AD 2003, Publication: Gita Press, Govind Bhavan Office, Garakhpur- 273005
- Ramayana Navneet Editor: Dr. Kantilal Mathurdas Shah, Late M.N.Amin Memorial Collection, 19th Edition, February, 1982, Publisher: Lakshman Singh Bechar Singh Parmar, Minister, Gujarat Library, S.S. Mandali Ltd., Institution, Raopura, Vadodara
- Ramayana Characters Volume-1 Author: Nanabhai Bhatt, (K.K., Mandodari, Bharat, Laxman, 11th Reprint April'84

- Joshi, Dakshinkumar, Raghukultilak Shriram, Part-1, Gurjar Granthratna, Office, Ahmedabad, First Edition, 1981,