

## The Role of Literature, Culture and Religion in the National Integrity

**Chandana Barman**  
Dept.of Assamese  
Gauhati University

**Bhriuttam Borah**  
Dept.of Assamese  
Gauhati University

**Prof. Prafulla Kr. Nath**  
Dept.of Assamese  
Gauhati University

### Abstract:

Indian is a land of diverse people where there is different tribes and caste, language, religion etc. But, in spite of this, India had a common motive as they were inspired with the noble thought of Indian ethics and morality, Indian thought and teachings throughout ages. India is a big nation and it has been united by literature, culture and religion in different way. All the Indian languages increased the beauty and sweetness of our modern Indian languages as they inspire the noble thoughts and emotions through classical Sanskrit literature, epics and purans etc. In this paper the investigator tries to focus about the role of literature, culture and religion in national Integrity and for this purpose description method has been followed.

**Key words:** Culture, National integrity, National unity, Cultural assimilation, Linguistics state

**1.00 Purpose of the study:** The main purpose of the study is to celebrate about the role of literature, culture and religion in the national integrity.

**1.01 Scope of the study:** The study is limited within literature, culture and religion which had played a significant role in the process of national integration.

**1.02 Methodology:** The investigator adopts description method for preparing this research paper.

**1.03 Objectives of the study:** India being a diverse country, the author tries to find out the factors responsible for national integrity and as such tries to study about the following objectives accordingly.

- a) Tradition and customs of the different states of India are different.
- b) The cultural heritage of Indian culture is a combination of Aryan. Non-aryan and many migrated ethnic communities.
- c) Indian culture is mixed composed culture of different races, caste and communities.
- d) Indian literature has a literary heritage of epics, purans, pali and prakrit literature which flows towards the modern Indian literature.
- e) There are some internal face of inspiration through religion and ethics, which the saints and religious oercetors focused accordingly to the social and cultural needs.

- f) The ideas of fondamentale unity among the Indians are due to cultural assimilation and acculturation.
- g) Indian society is flexible and there is no religious orthodoxy among the people.
- h) Casteism is one of the obstacles of national unity but it has been liberalized by religious freedom.

#### **1.04 Introduction :**

India is a land of more than one hundred twenty core of people and its inhabitants are from different racial stocks who have diverse customs and traditions. There are many languages spoken by the people having their own beauty, style and heritage. There are people of different religions, faiths and ideals.

The Indian culture is a mixed culture composed of different races, cultures, religions and faiths. But, among these many sided diversity. There are some internal forces which provide unity among these diversities.

According to Prof. Humayan Kabir – ‘Its has been a paradex of Indian history that in spite of basic identity of culture , the country has been divided into kingdoms which have often developed sub-nationalities sharply distinguished from one another’.<sup>1</sup> (Nationl Integration in India, The Education Quarterly, Autumn,1961 p. 229)

According to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru- ‘Like the ocean who received the tribute of thousand rivers and though she was disturbed often enough and storms raged over the surface of her waters, the sea continued to be the sea. It is astonishing to note how India continued successfully this process of assimilation and adaptation. It could only have done so if the idea of a fundamental unity were so deep rooted as to be accepted even by the newcomer and if her culture were flexible and adaptable changing conditions.’<sup>2</sup> (Quoted from ‘Education Quarterly, Autumn, 1961.

Now we shall discuss about it the role of literature, culture and religion in the national integrity.

#### **1.05 Presentation of the theme:**

Today India is one of the powerful nations among South-East Asia. Being secular, the Indian constitution has given the religion and caste affiliation permanency to the society, which is undoubtedly responsible for a large number of social evils of the present society. The partition of the country took place because of the rigid attitude of separate religion; yet, both the religious communities were inseparable part of our society. Now a day’s some leaders tried

caste identity, provincial identity etc. It is really a serious problem of our democracy and national integrity.

Casteism is one of the most serious obstacles in the path of national unity. We must try to create a casteless society for the welfare of the nation. The leaders should always forget their caste – identity and the benefit of their caste –fellows for the benefit of the greater human society. But during the time of election casteism gets full support both from the voter and the candidate.

There are different political parties who don't work for the welfare of the nation or national unity. There are some parties who are only aware of their own religion and region.

The idea of linguistics states got some political shape in India. The state recognition has recommended the division of the country into a number of states. But it couldn't meet the wishes of many linguistics groups. This division of the country has been very much responsible for the encouragement of the disruptive elements.

Death of good leadership can bring good to the country by creating unity in it. For the success of democracy the leaders should be able, honest and courageous. Otherwise national welfare will not be possible.

Majority of the present leaders were responsible for narrow casteism, provincialism and linguism.

### **1.06 The Role of Literature, Culture and Religion in the National Integrity:**

1.06.1 Literature is the mirror of a society, where the society, where the society reflected. Literature can create a spirit of patriotism, a love of one's own people and realization that their destiny lies with other people of the country. Literature can motivate the people together for its higher achievements. It may be thorough patriotic songs, novels or biography based on national and heroines.

The national song, the national anthem etc. can easily create a national feeling. As literature are dealt with the emotion and feeling of the author, which has an indirect effect upon the society.

Literature can create unity among the diversities of caste c creed and regional disunity. It can an emotion of nationhood. Literature can united people composed of different races, religions, regions and communities.

The main base of literature is language. A better and powerful language brings greater national integration than the multiplicity of languages. A national language brings oneness through its literature.

We must bring to light about the anti-national factors through literature and criticise the un-social elements like favouritism, casteism, linguism etc.

Though, there are diverse languages, yet English and Hindi played the major role in national integration. Hindi being the national language, simultaneously English was also permitted to be continued.

**1.06.2** Culture is another factor for national integrity. Culture can move the people towards a certain goal. It is the central theme of human life that brings emotional integration.

Indian culture is not a myth; it has its realities of thousands of years. It is really a mixed-culture of different sub-cultures. Many a groups of people came to India in different times of the history and they mixed with each other in such a manner that it cannot be separated from one another. It can be described as Indian culture.

Though there are different ethnic groups in India, having different cultures and traditions, yet we must create a feeling of oneness among different groups and races. As such, to create a sense of belongingness among the people of the country, we must create a mind of one culture, one nation and one mind.

We must be culturally aware of bringing unity among the people. Culture demands equality and equal opportunity to all the people irrespective to caste, sex, age, and religion.

**1.06.3** India is a country of diverse Religion which is also one of the obstacles of national integration. In India there are people belonging to Hinduism, Christianity, Islam, Sikh and other religion. There are some religious principles common to all the religions. We must have sympathy, belongingness, good-will to all the religious community of the country for national unity and integrity.

The secular attitude of the Indian constitution had also helped in creating an atmosphere of unity and goodwill.

**1.07 Conclusion:**

There are so many obstacles in national unity and integrity, but, if we try sincerely, it is sure that we shall achieve national integration.

We must create emotional integration through literature, culture and religion to strengthen the national unity. The feelings should be persistent among the minds of the people. The 'Sahitya Academy' , National Book Trust' etc. should emphasize on translation of good books into the regional language, so that, the reads could read the book in their own language.

We must strengthen the emotional unity by populatising the folk-culture elements. It can be done by cultural shows, demonstrations of folk dances, songs etc. Literature and culture should be able to bring national sentiment by inculcating feelings of affection, sacrifice and duty towards the nation. Thus we conclude in the word of Prof. Humayun Kabir, that , 'In fact many discerning western scholars have after careful analysis came to the conclusion that , nationhood does not depend on language or religion or geography, singly or collectively through they all help, but on the feeling of belonging to one nation. <sup>3</sup>

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