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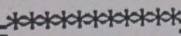
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Recent Trends in History - Subaltern Study

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In the passage of time, the new concepts have taken place in the study of history. It is not confined to monarch, kings and then wars, but has widened to social, religious, cultural, economic sphere as well. The now currents including imperial history, nationalist history, Feminine History Marxist History, Structural History, Subaltern history environmental history, post-modern history, socialistic history, western history and new Marxist History have added now dimension to the study of it. The historian, all over the world seem to be taking pain for its study.

The pre-independence are was obsessed with imperial or Colonial History, but lacked specific attitude. In post independent time, the things have changed putting evidences to support the findings. The relevant documents, letters and testimonials were taken into consideration and nationalist writing at per was made. The social, economic, political history writings were at the centre of the study but that was limited to elite class. Prof. Sumit Sarkar puts, 'The unrest of youth in British empire was restricted to unemployment,' Cambridge study focused on regional, commonplace, minors study of history and the chief exponents are Gubler, David Washbrook, Brisk Peti, Garden Johnson, Robinson, Daniel Lo and others. Still, social and historical study of the lay man was overlooked. Furthering to it, combrade Dange, AR. Desai and D.D. Kosambi studied the history

of have not from Marxist. Point of view which has been continued by the subalternians in the world.¹

Rise of Subaltern Study and Its Meaning :

The Marxist Italian Historian Antanio Gramsci, while altering Karl Marx's study of have not. He defined subalterned concept saying "Although financial Transaction are the basis of social life still the impact of culturality is equally significant. This culcurality gives new mode to the development."²

The dictionary meaning of world subaltern is of interior Rank' it denotes interior work and is applied age, sex, cast and class."³ It is still Aloff from the study of History. Its inclusion in the study of History dated back to the Moghul Emrorer till 1970."⁴ It is also referenced in industrial labour stating its variety and vastness.

Subaltern study of history immersed in Indian in 20th century adding new dimension to it many inspired by the new concept and wrote the history of subordinates bringing them in the main stream of the worlds. In England it is related with the history from below and hence the British Historian E.P. Themson in 1966. Put article in the times and used the diction 'History from down below'⁵

Basically subaltern concept took birth in South Asian State. The colonialism had suppressed the downtrodden and rule over them. The subordinate class revolted against the Western. But this references are omitted in history of the world. The remained untouched in the study of history too. Acknowrlising the significance and contribution of the subordinates, a center of South Asia cultural study was founded and Dr. Ranjit Guha played an important role, he discus this issue with handful research from Historical point of view. He detected the need of its study in the colonial period. Hence Ranjit Guha and other Historian collectively commenced writing the history of the subalterns. Guha himself extensively wrote

on subaltern studies giving birth to this new concept in the world.

Theory of Hegemony :

While analysing Kurlmark's thory, Gramchi stated the theory of Hegimony. He observe, "There is always existence of two classes in the society and the Hegemony all the time tries to have better hold upon the weaker section using all the weapons using power the Hegemony gets its influence on intellect mental, and cultural compartments conveniently. The elite class opens new avenues, imbibe new thoughts and beliefs on the subordinate class in new form. These subaltern then consider these facts as their the hegemony here succedes in making is influence on the subaltern and furthermore it is Smooth for them to implement education, religion, literature, and social organization on the subalterns.⁶

There is a presence of another intellectual group in the society makes subaltern aware of their writes and cultural values. The study of History takes its cognizance, because the contribution in nation building cannot be averred secondly the contribution the subaltern needs their mention in the History.⁷

This theory turned as hegemony. "While common ting on hegemony, Gramchy uses the turn subaltern. In real sence word subaltern is used related with subordinate Italian army caption. In any combat a soldier playas whit all role he steals the show and makes mission a groaned success. His dedication devotion and contribution make is possible but a slender, cognizance of is not found in history. Stretching this thread of Gramchi furturer Ranjit Guha goes a step future and terms it as subaltern.⁸

It Study and Historians :

1) The area of subaltern History is wide and it focuses on farmers, workers, tribal's and others grass roots.

2) During freedom struggle the subaltern's who sacritienced their life is taken into consideration because they are overlooked

in the study of history subaltern study also concentrate upon small groups and their contribution.⁹

3) Ranjit Guha has edited ten volumes of subaltern study. The subject of his studies are the tribal's, living in vallies, termers, activist in quit India movement land improvement agitation, Zaminadari permanent settlement method, Revolt against the elite class. The rebel of jute workers against their owners, Devi improvement in Gujarat, Chipko agitation, various movements extras subaltern also includes contempory social, political, religious, economic and cultural agitations.¹⁰

As its emergence is in the 1980. There is a wide scope of research and study of the subaltern. A number of Historian therefore attempted give scientific base to it. It has also brought many historians together including Ranjit Guha a Chief Exponent, Dr. Shahid Amin, Dr. Sumit Sarkar, Parth Chatorji, Ghynendra Pendey, Ghyan Prakash, Dipesh Chakrawarhi, Ramchandra Guha, Gayatri Chakravarti SPivak Burnord Kohan, Devid Hardiman, Devid Arnold and others.

Theological Base and Objections of Subaltern History

In the book, 'Subaltern Studies, Dr. Ranjit Guha explained theological base of the subaltern history and puts forth merits and dements of the study. He has registered his objections while narrating his views on it.

Dr. Guha says -

1) The subordinates have no place in the history written by the elite class.

2) The credit of various movements and revolts is given to the elite in traditional study of history.

3) In any revolutions, the participation of the subordinates is indispenible, but this has been overlooked deliberately.

4) Some historians, in their study have taken cognizance of the dedication farmers, laborers, tribal's, women and oppressed class.

But their contribution is considered secondary and portrayed as followers of some leadership.

5) A number of historians emphasized on nationalist study initiated by the western and European. They assumed that the nations like democracy, are borrowed from the West and overlooked the role played by the Indians.

6) Though, Marxist historians seems to be taking note of farmers and laborers, still they feel that the inspiration behind it is of the elite class.

To sum up, it is clear that the historians have written one sided and subjective facts of history and considered the contribution of the oppressed class. Sub-standardized and subordinate. Dr. Guha therefore puts an objective of Subaltern history before him to offer justice to the subordinate reaction of the society.

Sources :

The subaltern class is not well-versed. It is illiterate and hence it is short of historical tools. The documentation, letters or testimonial are rarely found while analyzing the theory of subaltern class. The scholars have to be depend upon, police records, records available with revenue department, census, judicial verdicts, administrative documents and others. Literature, folk lore's, folk songs, interviews, travelogues and reports of the Christian Missionaries are used as tools for its studies.

The other branches of knowledge including, economics, sociology, humanities, census, archeology, linguistics and etc. are proved useful for its study.

Evaluation/Observations :

1) Subaltern studies is altogether a new branch emphasizing on change, objectivity and suppressed section.

2) The subaltern historians have the credit to uphold the principals of the subordinate class.

3) Despite of short traditional tools of study, the historians used modern means and tried to offer justice to the subalterns. Therefore small and underprivileged sections of the

society are benefitted.

4) This concept has studied the various currents of those voiceless who were humiliated by the upper and aristocratic classes.

5) This subaltern study has emphasized on the battling life of the oppressed class and has challenged Marxist Philosophy adding new dimension to it.

6) The subaltern study has raised the voice of the neglected class and it has been brought into nationalist study of history. It has provided platform to the cultural, social, political, economical, religious activities of the voiceless people. It will help to the historians to know multiple movements, agitations, struggles and rebels carried out by the have not. These facts can be used for creative and constructive works to be done in the future. e.g. revolution of the tribal's, and their means with which they fought against the aristocrats.

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