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## **DROPOUTS FROM The GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS IN BUTWAL SUB-METROPOLITAN CITY**

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### ***Abstract***

*This article is an attempt to study about the dropouts from the government schools within Butwal Sub-metropolitan City. It has been a serious problem for the sub-metropolitan city as well as the whole nation. The situation is quite bad for those who are economically and socially backward. This paper is based on empirical method. The survey uses data and interview to achieve its goal. The findings reveal the underlying reasons for dropping out of school and its adverse effects upon the children in future. It has tried to present some possible measures to reduce the problem.*

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*Key words: enrolment, dropout, education, school, poverty,*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Dropouts from school are defined as young children who enrol in school and for some reasons other than death leave school before completing the grade ( Chugh, 2011). O.A.L.D. [9<sup>th</sup> Ed.] defines dropout as a person who leaves school or college before they have finished their studies. Dropping out of school has been a serious problem in many places in the world especially underdeveloped countries. According to Lewin and Sabates (2012), the rate of dropouts from school is still high there in poor countries. There are different factors responsible for dropping out. Poverty, unawareness, and unpractical education are the major reasons

behind it. Unfriendly school environment, and failure are also the reasons for dropping out.

Adolescents who drop out of school represent a large number of young population. They are at high risk of social and economic consequences such as engaging in illegal activities and delinquent behavior ( Beauvais et al 1996). Once the children drop out, they rarely return to formal education. They lose the opportunity to acquire skills that limit his earning in future. The dropped out students mostly involve themselves in household chores and different work outside. They are morally corrupted and engaged in prostitution as well. According to Groot (2007), severe poverty and the requirements of additional labour are thus an important factor that keeps children out of school.

Nepal is the signatory of The United Nations' Convention on the rights of the Children (UNCRC,1989) and Dakar Framework of Action(2000) and is committed to 'Education For All' by 2015( MOES, 2009). Article 28 of the UNCRC urges member countries to recognize the right of the child education. The UNCRC also calls for its members to make free compulsory primary education. Nepal Government, an international convention follower, has taken several steps with different policies and programmes to increase enrolment of children and continue their study. Although Nepal government claims improvements, the problem of dropout is still critical. Constitution of Nepal 2072 has mentioned about right to education in article 31. It says:

- \* *Every citizen shall have the right to access to basic education.*
- \* *Every citizen shall have the right to compulsory and free basic education and free education up to the secondary level.*
- \* *The physically impaired and citizens who are financially poor shall have the right to free higher education as provided for in law.*

\* *The visually impaired person shall have the right to free education with the medium of brail script.*

## **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

Education is the light of life. Nepal government as well as different organizations have invested a lot on education and education for all in all the parts of Nepal. However, they have failed to achieve their mission. The schools are unable to hold their students till the completion of their school level education. Dropping out of school is still a critical problem. To achieve the findings of research paper the following questions are raised.

Why do children drop out of school? What measures can be used to eradicate the problem?

## **OBJECTIVES**

The paper contains the following specific objectives:

- [i] To analyse the dropout rate in the government schools in Butwal Sub-metropolitan city.
- [ ii] To find out the causes of the problem and also the measures to reduce it.

## **METHODOLOGY**

This section discusses about the research methods based on perspective and procedure. Both the primary as well as the secondary sources have been used to complete this research work. Empirical method has been applied to mould this paper. The survey comprises personal interview and data collection from schools, students, teachers and guardians. Random sampling method has been used to draw out a portion of students so that child from each family background has an equal chance of being selected. The interview was conducted in Nepali language in friendly manner to have them participate without any hesitation.

During the study, different ten dropped out students were visited. Most of them belonged to marginalized and poor family. They were invited for interview in open and friendly manner. They were dealt with politely. The purpose of the interview was clearly mentioned to them. During the interview, the participants expressed their feelings and experiences quite openly. Ten students from different family background were involved in the interview.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

### Description of the Study Area and Its Background.

This paper deals with different five government schools and ten dropped out students in Butwal Sub-metropolitan City. Guardian's experiences also have been included in this paper. Butwal Sub-metropolitan City is one of the advanced and developed cities in Nepal. It is one of the most important cities for education. However the government schools are not free from the problem of dropouts. During the survey, data of different schools about enrolment of the students and dropouts have been collected.

**Table.1: Five Government Schools with dropouts in the academic year 2074 B.S.**

S N	Schools	T.A. S.	S.A.F. E.	Dropou t	Percent
1	Naharpur S. School	948	826	122	12.86
2	Motipur S. School	705	635	70	9.92
3	Ujirasingh S. School	771	691	80	10.37
4	Sahid Smriti Basic Level School	157	118	39	24.84
5	Jiteswori S. School	337	223	114	33.82

Source: Authors's field survey, 2016

T.A.S. = Total Admitted Students , S.A.F.E.= Students Attended the Final Examination.

S= Secondary

Table 1 reveals the different five government schools located in different wards of Butwal Sub-metropolitan City. It clearly reveals that all the enrolled students in the above government schools have not attended the final examination of 2074. They are the dropouts from the school. During the survey, it was found that there were different reasons responsible for the incompleteness of their studies.

### **Reasons for Dropping Out Of School**

According to Hunt [2008] dropping out of school is a process rather than the result of one single event and therefore has more than one proximate reason. However, there are various driving forces which play major roles keeping children out of school. During the interview, different reasons were found for dropping out from school :

- \* Poor Financial Condition of the Family.
- \* Failure of the Students
- \* Unfriendly School Environment
- \* Early marriage and Migration
- \* Theoretical Education

### **Poor Financial Condition of the Family**

Dachi & Garrett [2003] state one of the main constraints to send a child to school is parents' inability to pay money. During the field work, a girl aged 15, who had dropped out of the school said:

*My family has lots of problems. My parents work as labourers. They go to work early morning. I have got two little brothers and a sister. I wake up early in the morning and do house hold chores. I should look after brothers and sister. I remain busy whole day. As I was a student , I hardly attended my class for 15 days in a month. Therefore, I could not continue my study in the school.*

During the survey, teachers also stated that low income of their parents was the major reason for their dropping out of school. They said that the parents remain busy earning their living hood rather than sending their children to school. Even on the visit to them, they were found living in a hut with thatched roof at the bank of Tinau river. In reply to the query, a guardian aged 48 said:

*We couple have to go to work in the morning. We are unable to manage our time for children. It is our compulsion. Rather we expect the children to do all the household work. It doesn't mean that we are not worried about our children's future. The fact is that survival is our primary goal.*

Hunt (2008) states that children from poor families in particular have pressures to withdraw from school as they get older, particularly as the opportunity cost of their time increases. Some children, during the study, said that their parents seem to be happy when they earn some money and give some of the amount to their parents. During the field work, a girl aged 14 said:

*I work at a shop. I earn around Rs.5000 in a month. I spend about Rs. 2000 on my personal requirements . My parents become happy as I give them remains.*

Although Buis, (1998) states households often do not want to remove children from school as they see it as an investment for the future (cited in Hunter & May, 2003), and withdrawal from school is a last resort for

poor families (Sogaula et. al. 2002), the poor might not think more about future but look for present. In an interview, a primary school teacher said it is almost impossible for poor families to think of investing on children's education which helps them in future. Parents want immediate benefit from their children and send children to work rather than focusing on continuation of schooling. Though poor parents see education as important for children in shaping their future, they feel difficulty to apply in the practical life. Colclough et. al. (2000) states that poor families tend to have lower demand for schooling than the rich : whatever are the benefits of schooling, the costs for them are more difficult to meet than is the case for the rich. Chugh (2011) in her research in the slums of Delhi, India concludes that poverty of parents is one of the significant reasons for the low participation of children in study.

Poverty drives the parents to different sectors. In the survey, some families were visited in which female parent had gone to gulf countries for earning . On the other hand male parent married another lady and ignored the children from the first wife. Due to lack of guardianship the children dropped out of school. In some families, disharmony between parents discouraged their children to continue their study.

### **Failure of the Students**

Failure of students is another important factor that causes students to drop out of school. During the survey, two students were visited who had left school as they failed the exams regularly in the same class. As they failed the first time they enrolled in the same class due to parents' pressure. They could not pass the final exam of the same class even in the second time. Having felt humiliated they left school. In the question to a dropped out girl aged 14, she said:

*My parents are labourers. They ask me to do all the household chores. I did not have time to read and do homework. I failed the final exam of class 7. However, I continued my study because of my parents' pressure.*



*I got the same result second time too. I felt humiliated and frustrated with my study and I left school despite the pressure from all the sides.*

### **Unfriendly School Environment**

During the survey, unfriendly environment was found as one of the causes for dropping out of school. Government of Nepal has committed to UNCRC and other major conventions and has made several legal provisions against any kind of violence against any child for any reason.

*No child shall be subjected to torture or cruel treatment, provided that the act of scolding and minor beating to the child by his father, mother, member of the family, guardian or teacher for the interests of the child himself shall not be deemed to violate the provisions of this section.*

(Government of Nepal, Children's Act, 1992, Article 7:4 ).

Students have to face different types of punishments for different errors such as not doing home work, not being tidy and not wearing tie, belt and polished shoes. The teachers give them different types of punishments, for instance, beating severely, making cock, up and down and so on. Punishment-stricken students get disappointed to go to school. Infrastructures of the school also play an important role in dropping out of school. Students have intense problems in the schools which do not have proper toilets and pure drinking water. They have to go home when they suffer from diarrhea. The girls face problems during their menstruation period. They do not have rest room for changing and discarding used pads. It discourages them to continue their going to school. Improper class room and lack of sufficient desks and benches also are not in favour of children going to school regularly.

## **Child Marriage and Migration**

No child shall be subjected to child marriage, illegal trafficking, kidnapping or being held hostage [Constitution of Nepal 2072, Article 39]. Child marriage is illegal. However, some parents take daughters as burden. They intend to marry the daughter to some boy even in the early age to be free from the responsibility. They seek security of their daughter through marriage. They disregard academic part of their life. Some girls fall in love even in the basic level school life and elope. One dropped out girl aged 15 said:

*I had fallen in love with a boy when I was in class 7. I got married to him last year. I wanted to continue my education but my in-laws did not support me. My husband has no job. Therefore, I dropped out of school.*

Migration also causes them to drop out of school. As the parents migrate from one place to another, the children do not get enrolled in school in the new place. Different factors may derail them from continuing education.

## **Theoretical Education**

Education is the light of life. It provides everyone with knowledge and skill. Knowledge should be practised. Theoretical knowledge merely doesn't support our living hood. This is the age of science and technology. There is close competition in every field. However, our school education system does not provide skills. The students having completed school level education can't do any thing on their own. On the other hand many jobs are waiting for skillful hands in the same area. The students belonging to poverty-stricken family expect certain job immediately after school level education which is not possible with the available education system. Therefore they become pessimist to their education, drop out of school and go in search of some job to support their family financially. One dropped out boy aged 14 said:

*There is no job guarantee even after the completion of school level education. Therefore I left the school and joined a garage. I have learnt skills in garage. I can earn more later. The ultimate goal is earning money and supporting the family.*

### **Some Measures to Reduce Dropout Rate**

- \*Management of different types of scholarships for poor and orphan students.
- \* Creation of child -friendly school environment.
- \* Application of technical education.
- \* Use of teaching aids including multimedia.
- \* Construction of proper infrastructure.
- \* Developement of an awareness of the importance of education.

### **CONCLUSION**

Dropping out of school has been a serious problem in many places in the world especially underdeveloped countries. As per the literature, the rate of dropouts from school is still high in poor countries in general and Nepal in particular. There are different factors responsible for dropping out. Poverty, unawareness, and unpractical education are the major reasons behind it. Unfriendly school environment, and failure are also the reasons for dropping out, so cause and effect is the basis of every existence. Therefore every problem is followed by solution. Certainly technical ideas are necessary to achieve success avoiding the prevalent hindrances and obstacles. In case of school dropouts, government and non government organizations have begun their steps. Besides them, all the stakeholders should be responsible and initiative. Carelessness and

ignorance allow the obstacles flourish widely. It results in great loss for a nation if precautions are not taken in time.

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## ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENTION: EVIDENCES FROM NEPALESE STUDENTS

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### Abstract

*The aim of this paper is to assess the entrepreneurial intention among the students of management stream studying at campuses in Kathmandu and also exploring the factors affecting the intentions. The study follows descriptive cum analytical research design. The sample size of the study is 95 comprising of 15 males and 80 females, who were selected by conveniently. Data were obtained using Entrepreneurial Intention Questionnaire designed and tested by Linan and Chhen (2006) which was solely designed for the application of Theory of Planned Behavior (Ajzen, 1991). Data were analyzed by means of SPSS 13<sup>th</sup> version and tools used were frequency, percentage, and comparative averages of the perception of male and female students. Results indicate that there are high entrepreneurial intentions among the respondents.*

*Keywords: Entrepreneurial intentions, Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneur, Attitude, Behavior, Control, Subjective Norms.*

### BACKGROUND

Globalization and changed political system in the country, demand stability and prosperity of the general public. Business enterprise has been accepted approach to assist to face new socio- economic difficulties. Since long human efforts entrepreneurship has been proved as a best way to reduce cost, adopt technology bases on business needs, and cope up with economic downturns.

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Considerable agreement exists about the importance of promoting entrepreneurship in both developed and developing countries. In industrialized countries, entrepreneurship has long been considered as a way to spur innovation and technological progress, engender competition, and create employment, leading to economic growth, and national prosperity (Holmgren and From, 2005). In less developed countries, the question to encourage young people to become entrepreneurs has become the prominent. The answer requires knowing more about the range of factors associated with entrepreneurial intention in different cultural contexts. Research on entrepreneurial traits has a long history in the world, having a strong entrepreneurship tradition. For example, in economics and management literature we found evidence of the connection between individual's intentions to his or her decision to start a new business.

Over the past decades entrepreneurship has become a growing area of interest to both researchers and governments around the world due to increasing global competition, fast-changing technology and developing market economies. Because entrepreneurship is increasingly seen as a way of dealing with global challenges it becomes relevant to understand how young people might develop into entrepreneurs (Ozaralli and Rivenburgh, 2016). In attempts to universally define entrepreneurship, researchers agreed on elements such as opportunity, innovation, organizing, creating and risk taking as basic ingredients to be entrepreneur. Hisrick and Peters (2002) state Entrepreneurship as the process of creating something new with value by devoting the necessary time and effort, assuming the accompanying financial, psychic, and social risks and receiving the resulting rewards of monetary, personal satisfaction and independence. Given the importance to new business starts up to the economy and society, this is a research area requiring further attention.

## **PROBLEM STATEMENT**

Entrepreneurship is a process of creation and realizing values for entrepreneurs (Morris and Jones, 1999). The entrepreneurial activities play important roles in promoting economic and social phenomenon. In recent decades, the problems of entrepreneurship are focused by lots of scholars and policy makers.

The importance of micro enterprises and entrepreneurship development in the country like Nepal need not be overemphasized. Micro enterprises could seem easy tools for intervening to promote employment friendly strategies directed towards poverty reduction. Because of the development of mass higher education in Nepal, the employment problem of university graduates is becoming further more serious. To solve this problem, Nepalese government emphasizes promoting the employment by entrepreneurship and starts to encourage and support university graduates to create their own business. University graduates self employment by starting their own business should be encouraged by the government. However, at present there is a low proportion of entrepreneurship in Nepalese graduates. To promote the entrepreneurship among the graduates and drive them for self employment the study of entrepreneurial intentions of university students and their influencing factors will have the far reaching consequences. Scholars from various disciplines have studied entrepreneurial intentions and found it as a valuable instrument for the advancement in socio-economy through creation of value and self-employment.

Most of studies on entrepreneurship intention were conducted in international context. To solve the national problem of economy, Nepalese economy is also striving to emerge in world economic arena. Nepal has established new political system declaring new constitution with the objective of achieving greater prosperity of the country and



happiness to the people. In light of this, Nepal is now becoming a centre of new business opportunities for both national and international investors. Trends to view Nepal as the place to invest their money and establish their businesses are growing. This has made the development of entrepreneurship one of the main agendas of most educational institutions at the undergraduate and graduate levels in Nepal. Consequently, entrepreneurship education has become an important curriculum in the higher education institutions in Nepal.

According to Nabi and Holden (2008) the aim of entrepreneurship education is to produce graduate entrepreneurs that define the interaction between the graduate as a product of a higher education institution and their readiness to pursue their career as an entrepreneur. Most graduates go about looking for employment in government and private institutions after they have gone through a course in entrepreneurship. To some graduates self-employment is not an issue to them. The growing numbers of unemployed youth especially among graduates suggest that the expected outcome of the entrepreneurship education in terms of addressing the unemployment problem among the youth have not been achieved.

The thinkers and researchers in entrepreneurial intentions have considered the factors like education and training, personality dimensions, perceived feasibility, gender, religion, age, culture, and ethnicity, to explain the entrepreneurs and their desires to be enterprising. The prominent entrepreneurship researchers Linan and Chhen (2005) depending on the Ajzen's (1991) theory of planned behavior have used the factors like attitudes towards behavior (personal attraction), perceived behavioral control (perceived feasibility), and subjective norms (personal support) to explain the entrepreneurial intentions.

Thus, the researcher in this paper attempts to raise issue of entrepreneurial intentions among the graduating students in Nepal following the research instrument developed by Linan and Chhen (2005). Further, the paper aims to explore the perception of Nepalese young students in regard to their intentions to be self-employed to create value for the self and nation's economic well-beings.

### **OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

The basic objective of the study is to contribute to the research in the area of entrepreneurship by assessing entrepreneurship intentions among Nepalese management students. To achieve the basic objective following specific objectives are framed:

1. To explore the entrepreneurial intention of Nepalese students
2. To examine the comparative perceptions of male and female students towards entrepreneurial intention

### **SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

The results found from this study are expected to give important messages to policy makers in education. This study offers valuable guidelines and insight for those academics, practitioners and government officials who may want to review the effectiveness of current systems of their country and make changes in order to foster the entrepreneurial mind-set in individuals/students. This is particularly important in the context of a developing country like Nepal seeking to create an entrepreneurial culture for further socio-economic growth and development.

### **LIMITATION OF THE STUDY**

The sample for the study is based on convenient and purposive so that it may not be representative to all the students. Thus findings may suffer from external validity. The sample size being small may also affect the generalization of findings. Data collection from different

regions of the country and in different universities and colleges may enhance the generability of our findings. Another limitation is that this study assessed students' perceptions regarding their future entrepreneurial intent, and not entrepreneurs' actual behavior. There are also a number of contextual factors untouched but that may influence students' intention for a start up. Further, reliability of statistical tools and the accuracy of the information given by respondents are also limitations. The study may suffer respondents' biasness also.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

This section of study attempts to present the brief concept of entrepreneur, entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial intentions, its models, and factors influencing it.

### **Entrepreneur**

According to Baumal (1993) entrepreneur encompasses all non-routine activities by those entrepreneurs 'who direct the economic activities of larger or smaller groups or organizations. The views about entrepreneur are: (1) the 'great person' school; (2) classical and neo-classical economics; (3) psychology; (4) sociology; (5) Management; and (6) intrapreneurship. The 'great person' school viewed it as possessing special abilities and traits, classical and neo-classical economics focuses on invisible and non-replicable input (yeung, 2002), Psychological view of the entrepreneur, as described by McClelland (1961) as the person having the need of achievement, risk-taking propensity, locus of control, progressive outlook, self reliance etc. Sociological studies of entrepreneurship are particularly prominent in the area of ethnic entrepreneurship (yeung, 2002). Management scholars conceptualized

entrepreneurship as value creation activities. Intrapreneurship is defined by increasing reward minus risk (Moon and Perry, 1977).

An entrepreneur is one who creates a new business in the face of risk and uncertainty for the purpose of achieving profit and growth by identifying significant opportunities and assembling the necessary resources to capitalize on them (Scarborough and Cornwall, 2017). Entrepreneurs are those persons who have desire for responsibility, preference for moderate risk, self-reliance, confidence in their ability, determination, want immediate feedback, high level of energy, future orientation, having organizing skill, value for achievement, high degree of commitment, tolerance for ambiguity, creativity, flexibility, willingness to work hard etc. Further, the entrepreneur may be classified as young entrepreneurs, women entrepreneurs, minority enterprises, immigrant entrepreneurs, part-time entrepreneurs, copartners etc (Tyszkla et al., 2011).

## **Entrepreneurship**

Entrepreneurship is conceptualized as the process by which individuals pursue opportunities with regard to resources they currently control (Stevenson & Jarillo, 1990). Entrepreneurship is the art of turning an idea into a business. In essence, an entrepreneur's behaviour finds him or her trying to identify opportunities and putting useful ideas into practice (Webb, 2007). Entrepreneurship is the new revolution and it's about continual innovation and creativity. It is the future of world economy (Kuratko, 2014).

Entrepreneurship is a dynamic process of visioning, changing, and creating. It requires an application of energy and passion toward the creation and implementation of new ideas and creative solutions. Essential ingredients include the willingness to take calculated risks - in terms of time, equity, or career, the ability to formulate an effective

venture team; the creative skill to marshal needed resources, the fundamental skill of building a solid business plan; and, finally, the vision to recognize opportunity where others see chaos, contradiction, and confusion (Kuratko, 2014).

### **Entrepreneurial Intention**

Individual's entrepreneurial intentions are the important variables to predict their enterprising behaviours. But researchers have no identical definition about individual's entrepreneurial intentions.

Entrepreneurial intention refers to the action of an individual's attitudes toward the outcomes of that actions and individuals' self-efficacy (Douglas and Fitzsimmon, 2008). It relates to the perceptions of desirability and feasibility and the propensity to act upon opportunities (Shapero, 1982; Peterman and Kennedy, 2003). Entrepreneurship intention often involves inner guts, ambition and the feeling to stand on one's feet. Studies on entrepreneurship intention often used behavioural intention models to explain the link between influencing personality factors and entrepreneurship intention. One common model being used is the Shepiros' (1982) "Entrepreneurial Event" model which similar to Ajzen's (1991) "Theory of Planned Behaviour" model (Nabi and Holden, 2008). There are three components of entrepreneurship intention in Shepiro's model, namely perceived desirability, perceived feasibility and a propensity to act.

There are studies that have examined the link between perceived desirability and entrepreneurial intention (Karr, 1985; Hart and Harrison, 1992). Studies' examining this issue provides different findings where there are respondents who express their desire to start up their own business. While other studies show very low desire among the respondents to start up their own business (Brenner et al., 1991). These studies also found that family background, influential people and gender

contribute to their respondent's decision to become entrepreneurs (storey, 1994). This is under stable since future entrepreneurs often comes from those who are currently pursuing their study in higher education institutions, particularly students who are studying business related courses such as marketing, retailing, insurance or finance (Peterman and Kennedy, 2003).

Another body of literature has also examined the link between perceived feasibility and entrepreneurship intention. These studies have mainly examined perceived feasibility in terms of self efficacy, that is , the belief that he/she could accomplish specific or general related tasks (Boyd & Vozikis, 1994; Douglas & Fitzsimmons, 2008) and personality traits that focuses on the physical and mental activities and attitudes (Ismail et al., 2009). Those studies found that perceived feasibility does play an important role in influencing entrepreneurship intention (Ramayah and Harun, 2005). Ismail et. al. (2009) examined personality traits in terms of extraversion, conscientiousness, agreeableness, openness, neuroticism, perceived biasness, perceived support, and close support in Malaysian setting.

### **Factors influencing Individual Entrepreneurial Intentions**

Researchers have proposed and discussed on the influencing factors of individuals' entrepreneurial intentions. They propose different models for analysis, among which the Entrepreneurial Event Model by Shepero and Sokol (1982) and The Theory of Planned Behaviour by Ajzen (1991) are the important. Some researchers have proposed new models about entrepreneurial intentions (Brannback & Carsud, 2009). These models analyse many different factors affecting individual's entrepreneurial intentions. These can be divided into three categories: individual, psychological factors, family background factors, and social and environmental factors.

Individual, psychological factors are related to gender, personality traits (Shaver, 1995), individual attitudes (Ajzen & Fishbein, 1977). Some researchers discuss the impact of family background factors on individual's entrepreneurial intentions such as parents, relatives, friends, colleagues, and so forth (Krueger & Dickson, 1993). Stephen, Urbano & Hemmen (2005) stated that social environment factors like legal rules, government support, are an important factor influencing individual's entrepreneurial intentions.

### **Entrepreneurial intention models**

The two dominant formal theory- driven models of intentions are the theory of planned behavior (TPB) and Shepero and Sokol's model of Entrepreneurial Event (SEE) (Nabi & Holden, 2008; Miralles et al., 2012). The empirical tests of these two entrepreneurial intention models revealed that they are compatible (Krueger et al., 2000) and valuable in understanding entrepreneurial intentions (Nabi et al., 2010). These models are valuable in understanding the determinants of an individual's preference for an entrepreneurial career. Kolveried, Lakovleva, and Kickul (2007) concluded that in an attempt to predict the intention to become self-employed the TPB and SEE models can be successfully integrated into one model. Researchers have found that Shepero and Sokol's construct of perceived desirability is reported as equivalent to Ajzen's determinants of the attitude towards the behavior (personal attraction) and subjective norms, and perceived feasibility proposed by Shapero & Sokol is similar to ajzen's perceived behavioural control or to the concept of self-efficacy (Linan, Urbano and Guerrero, 2011). According to the TPB an individual's intention to start a business can be predicted with high accuracy from the attitudes towards the behavior, subjective norms, and perceived behavioral control (Ajzen, 2005).

### **Attitude towards the behavior**

This is the first construct of Ajzen Theory. Attitude towards or personal attraction refers to the degree to which individual holds an overall positive or negative personal valuation about being an entrepreneur (Ozaralli and Rivenburgh, 2016). Ajzen (2005) claimed that people develop attitudes based on the beliefs they hold about the consequences of performing the behavior. Such consequences include both intrinsic and extrinsic rewards as financial rewards, independence/autonomy, personal rewards, and family security, all of which do influence favorably the intention to start a business (Choo and Wong, 2006). Negatively or costly outcome expectations such as perceiving risk associated with entrepreneurial activities impact unfavorably the intent to start own business. Prior research has revealed that the attitude towards entrepreneurship are influenced by silent beliefs with regards to autonomy, authority, economic opportunity, and self-realization (Kolvereid & Isaksen, 2008), independence, self actualization and financial success (Fretscher & Weber, 2013). Attitude towards independence, income and ownership have been found to be related to entrepreneurial intentions (Douglas & Fitzsimmons, 2013). Schwarz et al.(2009) found that the intention to start a business is influenced by students attitudes towards entrepreneurship, change, money, and their perceptions regarding the university support for entrepreneurship while Saeed, Yousafzai, Yami-De- Soriano & Maffato (2013) reported the impact of self realization, role and recognition on entrepreneurial intentions. Individuals can experience the potential benefits or hardships of being an entrepreneur by observing the consequences of the actions of other people who are entrepreneurs. This can have a positive or negative impact on the attitude towards becoming an entrepreneur and also entrepreneurial intentions (Uxgum & Kasimoglu, 2013; Lapista et al. 2012)



### **Perceived Behavioral control**

Perceived behavioral control refers to individuals 'assessment of the degree to which they are capable of performing a given behavior. It is determined by control beliefs concerning the availability of factors that can facilitate or impede performance of the behavior (Ajzen & Cote, 2008). These factors may be external or internal and include the availability of resources and opportunities, information, skills and abilities, emotions and compulsions, dependence on others, past experience with the behavior, secondhand information about the behavior, observing the experiences of acquaintances and friends and other factors that increase or decrease the perceived difficulty of performing the behavior in question (Ajzen, 2012 ). Individuals are more likely to feel capable of performing the entrepreneurial behavior when it is approved and positively valued by others in the society (Linan et al. 2013). Malebana (2014) discusses that if a student's perceives that starting a new venture would be an easy job then he is going to start in near future. According to Ramos- Rodriguez, Medina- Garrido, Lorenjo- Gomez & Ruiz-Navarro (2010), being able to recognize good business opportunities is related to individuals' beliefs that they possess the necessary knowledge and skills to start their own businesses and knowing other people who are entrepreneurs. Institutions that provide entrepreneurial support and their services ( whether funding, information, training, mentoring, or technical assistance ) should be accessible to ensure success in the efforts to encourage individuals to start their own businesses. There is also a need to increase or facilitate opportunities for networking with entrepreneurs, for example, for information sharing relating to the existence of opportunities.

### **Subjective Norms**

This is the another construct of Ajzen theory and it indicates whether the individual takes a social pressure could be from family, friends etc. to

begin his business or not( Malebana, 2014). Linan (2008) rejects the role of social factors in shaping students entrepreneurial decisions and a recent study supported this finding and concluded that subjective norms play the weaker role and cannot be considered as explanatory variable to determine student's intentions (Ozaralli & Rivenburgh, 2016). Ahmed et al. (2010) consider the role of subjective norms only if the family background is also having entrepreneurial knowledge and experience. Peng et al. (2012) proposed that there is no doubt that students get influenced from their social factor but there is no significant role of family background in shaping student decisions of becoming an entrepreneur. Subjective norms desire from individual's beliefs that significantly others or groups approve or disapprove of performing a given behavior, or these social referents themselves engage or do not engage in it (Ajzen, 2005). Significant others may include a person's parents, spouse, close friends, co-workers, and even experts in the behavior of interest. In line with Ajzen's view, recent researcher indicates that individuals pressure to perform it and vice versa.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study is follows descriptive cum analytical research design. The population for this study was the final year students of bachelor and master's level of management stream at Kathmandu. This group of students was chosen because they were suitable for studying entrepreneurial intentions as they were facing important career decisions on completion of their studies. From the population mentioned, a sample of 95 students was obtained using convenience and purposive sampling techniques.

This study follows the entrepreneurial intention questionnaire designed and tested by Linan and Chhen (2006) which was solely designed for the application of Theory of Planned Behavior (Ajzen, 1991). This questionnaire was tested and validated in developed and developing

countries (Iakovleva et al., 2011). The questions for this survey consist of entrepreneurial intention (four items), the attitude towards becoming an entrepreneur (five items), perceived behavioural control (seven items) and subjective norms (three items). The study was mainly concerned with the description of entrepreneurial intention and the antecedents of that behavior. The reliability of the measuring instrument was tested computing Cronbach's alpha, which was 74%, meaning that it was reliable for use in this research.

Questionnaires were distributed to the students during their classes. Students were asked to give their views on the questionnaire in the presence of the researcher and return them immediately after completion. The respondents were informed about the purpose of the research and were asked to participate voluntarily. They were also assured for the confidentiality of information. This process took only half an hour time to complete the questionnaire.

Data were analyzed by means of SPSS version 13 computing descriptive statistics. The tools used to analyze the data were frequency, percentage, and comparative averages of the perception of male and female students. The results of the analysis on demographic variables were 15(16%) males and 80(84%) females. All the respondents were within the age of 23-26 years of age.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 1.1 Entrepreneurial Intention

The following table shows the responses of students who are participating in survey in regard to show their intention after their graduation degree.

**Table 1:Entrepreneurial Intention**

Statements	Highly agree	Moderately agree	Agree	Agree to some extent	Not agreed	Total
Ready to do anything to be an entrepreneur	5	30	30	25	5	95
My professional goal is to be an entrepreneur	10	50	30	5	0	95
Make every effort to start and run my own business	20	55	10	10	0	95
Determined to create a business venture in the future	20	35	40	0	0	95
<b>Attitude towards behavior</b>						
Being an entrepreneur implies more advantages than disadvantages to me	5	55	30	5	0	95
Career as an entrepreneur	20	50	25	0	0	95

totally attracted to me						
Provided opportunity and resources would like to start a business	25	45	25	0	0	95
Amongst various options, I would rather be an entrepreneur	5	35	35	15	5	95
Being an entrepreneur would give me great satisfaction	10	40	30	10	5	95
<b>Perceived behavior control</b>						
Start a business and keep it working would be easy for me	0	45	25	25	0	95
Able to control the creation process of a new business	5	45	30	15	0	95
Have complete control over the situation if I start and run a business	5	35	30	15	10	95
Prepared to do anything to be an entrepreneur	5	20	55	10	5	95
Know all about the necessary practical details needed to start a business	5	30	25	30	5	95
Easily start and run	5	25	40	20	5	9

a business						5
Tried to start a business high chance of being successful	-	50	35	5	5	95
<b>Subjective norms</b>						
Friends would approve of the decision to start a business	10	35	40	10	0	95
Family would approve of the decision to start a business	10	45	35	5	0	95
Colleagues would approve of the decision to start a business	5	35	40	10	0	95

Source: Author's field survey, 2016

Most of the respondents 90(94%) are agreeing to set up their own business after graduation which is shown in table no 1. The analysis of the responses given by the respondents on the various questions indicated that a majority of the respondents have the intentions to become entrepreneurs. Analyzing the attitude of the respondents towards their own business they strongly agreed that being an entrepreneur they will be more advantageous, business career attracted to them, fully satisfied with the business career. Further, in analyzing their perception in regards to their control on business activities, they responded that they are capable of starting and running their own business from their knowledge, confidence and commitment. And they are confident to make their venture successful. In addition, the researcher also asked to the respondents in relation to the support of their family, friends, and

colleagues. It is found that their family, friends, and colleagues would approve for their intention to start their own business.

### 1.2 Entrepreneurial Intention: Gender Differences

Table 2: presents the responses of students on the basis of gender differences in regard to entrepreneurial intention of graduates.

**Table 2: Entrepreneurial Intention: Gender Differences**

Dependent & Independent Variables	Male			Female		
	Mean	N	SD	Mean	N	SD
Entrepreneurial Intention	1.91	15	0.671	2.53	80	0.801
Attitudes towards behaviour	2	15	0.346	2.45	80	0.836
Perceived behavior control	1.7	15	0.946	2.83	80	0.928
Subjective norms	2.72	15	0.577	2.55	80	0.813

Source: Author's field survey, 2016

The table above carries mean values calculated from the responses of male and female students. The male as well as female students show their positive intention to start a new business after their graduation. As depicted in the table 2 the mean values of male students shows their moderate agreement (1.91) to be an entrepreneur where as female students strongly agreed (2.53) for the same. In regard to attitude towards becoming an entrepreneur, the mean values calculated were 2.00 and 2.45 for male and female students respectively. Both the gender of the students show their common perception i.e. they moderately agree. Likewise, in relation to perceived behavioral control, values were 1.70 and 2.83 for male and female students in the order. These mean values as shown above indicated that female students are more positive

to start a business and also seem more confident to take more risk than their counterpart male students. In case of support and approval for their career as an entrepreneur from family, friends, and colleagues, the computed mean values were 2.72 for male and 2.55 for female. According to mean values male students are found more comfortable to obtain the support from family, relatives and friends in comparison to female students.

In a nutshell, female students expressed the higher level of confidence in the three cases, i.e. entrepreneurial intention, attitudes towards behavior, and perceived behavioral control. For subjective norms, male students are in the comfortable situation.

## CONCLUSION

From the discussions above, it can be concluded that entrepreneurial intention of the students/youth is affected by the attitude towards behavior, perceived behavioral control, and subjective norms. There is strong agreement of the Nepalese students who are graduating at campuses in Kathmandu in regard to the factors affecting entrepreneurial intentions. Further, it is found that there are no notable differences between male and female students in perceiving the influencing factors to entrepreneurial intention. This finding is consistent with the model of Ajzen (1991) theory of planned behavior, and conclusions of Linan and Chhen (2006), Karr (1985), and Hart and Harrision (1992).

## Implications

It will have two fold implications i.e. for policy makers, and future researchers. For policy makers, it will support to frame entrepreneurial support policies aiming to the young citizens studying in higher level institutions. The future researchers are requested to conduct their



researches with large samples, applying the more sophisticated statistical tools. It will support to the academicians to frame the syllabi regarding new venture creation, development, and survival in the country like Nepal.

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## EFFECT OF GDP IN AN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

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### *Abstract*

*Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is one of the determinants of country's economic growth. This study intends to analyze the factors that affect the GDP of Developing Countries whereby Nepal is selected as a representative. The secondary data is taken as the analysis of the study. The most common GDP trend is fluctuated with periods of acceleration and deceleration. Some occurrences of unconditional decline are afterwards plagued by further growth. Developing country's GDP is confused and unbalanced, with regular and deep unconditional GDP falls and booms. Nepalese GDP as a developing country is influenced by Consumption (Government Final Expenditure and Household Final Expenditure) and Exports. Investment sector have to be encouraged for its impact on GDP be realized including stimulation of industrialization at country level. Problems such as increase in oil prices, power shortages and political instabilities are a distinctive source of GDP sinking in developing countries which require abruptly solution.*

*Key words: GDP, GNP, national Income, economic activity, sustainability*

### INTRODUCTION

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the value of all the final goods and services produced in the domestic economy in a given year. GDP

(and its derivatives) is a measure of economic activity actually. The idea, in a nutshell, is that improvement in per capita GDP is a useful synoptic measure of how well a society is doing. It measures the aggregate of economic activity within a country. More economic activity generated for whatever purpose – building prisons or schools, spending more on health care, whether or not it's medically beneficial – raises GDP. Furthermore, GDP statistics are widely used for comparing economic performance of developing countries.

Gross domestic product is the best way to calculate a country's economy. GDP is the total worth of all produced by everyone the people and companies in the country. It doesn't matter if they are citizens or foreign-owned companies. If they are located within the country's boundaries, the government counts their production as GDP. Gross domestic product (GDP) is the monetary value of all the finished goods and services produced within a country's borders in a specific time period. Though GDP is usually calculated on an annual basis, it can be also calculated on a quarterly basis as well.

**Gross domestic product (GDP)**, total market value of the goods and services formed by a country's economy for the period of time. It includes all final goods and services that are; those that are produced by the economic agents located in that country regardless of their ownership and that are not resold in any form. It is used throughout the world as the main measure of output and economic activity.

## STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In the modern economy, it has been found that, higher level of GDP does not measure the happiness or wellbeing of the population of the country. The background of the research is that GDP does not capture the wellbeing of the society. It has been found that, GDP is the best

measure of the economic growth of a country. It is widely known that, when the GDP of a nation grows, the economy is considered to be growing. It also helps in the comparison of economic performances of the economy. For example, the GDP of UK was \$2.85 trillion in 2015, while that of U.S.A. was \$17.95 trillion in 2015. Hence, it can be said that the economy of U.S.A. was growing a lot ahead of UK in 2015 (Decancq and Schokkaert, 2016). However, there are several criticisms of GDP such as GDP does not capture the well-being of the nation; GDP measures the value of production, which contributes to the negative externalities generated from that activity. GDP calculates the growth in economic activities within the nation, but does not calculate the amount of gains going out of the country or stays in the country; and the maximization of GDP per capita does not take into account the equality of benefits distribution in the country.

The concept of Easterlin paradox comes to mind. According to Richard Easterlin, high level of GDP per capita of a country does not reflect the level of happiness of the citizens. An economy may witness a high level of growth, but at the same time, if there is degradation of the environment, it would generate a negative impact on the society, which reduces the well-being of the citizens. It says, even if the people get higher income, that does not mean they are happy (Easterlin *et al.* 2010).

It is said that money cannot buy happiness. The level of happiness is related to the cost of living and well-being of the society. The income of a person leads to emotional wellbeing and an individual's quality of life. However, there is diminishing marginal utility of income. After the income level reaches the peak, the utility from income starts declining (Fahey 2015). Hence, higher income does not lead to higher level of happiness.

## **OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

The specific objective of the study is to analyse the positive and negative impact of GDP in an economic activity.

## **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

The present paper follows the descriptive research design with secondary sources of data, obtained from various research reports, research journals, government records books and web sites. No any advanced statistical tools have been applied for analysing the data.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Nepal's overall economic activity has been encouraging in fiscal year 2016/17. Economic activities have expanded due to favorable monsoon, increase in capital expenditure, energy management, and improvement in investment environment including overall supply situation. As a result, gross domestic product (GDP) at basic price is estimated to grow by 6.94 percent in the current fiscal year. This growth rate is the highest since FY 1993/94. Such growth rate was 0.01 percent in the previous fiscal year. The economy that contracted due to the earthquake and disruption in border points is in the stage of recovery and expansion.

Agriculture and non-agriculture sectors are estimated to grow by 5.29 percent and 7.74 percent respectively in FY 2016/17. Such growth rates were 0.03 percent and 0.16 percent in the previous fiscal year. Likewise, service sector and industrial sector are estimated to grow by 6.9 percent and 10.97 percent respectively in the current fiscal year.

Nepalese economy is in the stage of structural transformation as the share of service sector is increasing while that of agriculture sector is decreasing. The shares of agriculture and non-agriculture sectors to GDP



are estimated to remain at 29.37 percent and 70.63 percent respectively in fiscal year 2016/17.

### **GDP fails to capture human well being**

From the data source i.e. Economic Survey of we came to know that economic activities does affect the GDP of a country. From the economic survey of Nepal we can see that last year i.e. 2015/16 real GDP has 0.01% and current year i.e. 2016/17 has 6.94per cent which shows economic activities changes per year. But it does not mean that it will capture human well being.

When GDP increases, human well being also does not increase because GDP only counts goods that pass through official, organized markets, so it misses home production and black market activity. Because many factors that contribute to people's happiness are not bought and sold, GDP is a limited tool for measuring standard of living. As happiness are more difficult to measure.

GDP includes i.e. spend on environmental protection, healthcare, and education, but it does not consist of genuine levels of environmental cleanliness, health, and learning. GDP includes the price of buying pollution-control tools, but it does not deal with whether the air and water are in fact cleaner or dirtier. GDP includes spending on medical care, but it does not deal with whether life expectancy or infant mortality have risen or fallen. Similarly, GDP counts spending on education, but it does not deal with directly how much of the population can read, write, or do basic mathematics.

As it is known that, GDP also counts bads as well as goods. When an earthquake hits and requires rebuilding so, GDP increases. When someone gets sick and money is spent on their care, it's counted as part

of GDP. But nobody would argue that we're better off because of a destructive earthquake or people getting sick.

GDP makes no modification for leisure time. Let's visualize two economies with identical standards of living, but in one economy the workday averages 12 hours, while in the other it's only 8 hours. Which country would you rather live in? Obviously, it is assumed that 8 hours one but this means that that one economy is well being.

GDP also includes production that is exchanged in the market, but it does not cover up production that is not exchanged in the market. For example, hiring someone to clean house is part of GDP, but doing these tasks myself is not part of GDP.

GDP isn't adjusted for pollution costs. If two economies have the same GDP per capita, but one has polluted air and water while the other doesn't, well-being will be different but GDP per capita won't capture it.

In Nepal, earthquake strike on 25th April, a Post Disaster Need Assessment (PDNA) Report stated that the earthquake lowered GDP growth by over 1.5 per cent from an estimated 4.6 per cent in a no earthquake scenario in FY 2015-16. Here, GDP increases but fails to capture human well being. Many people died, became homeless and suffer from poverty and hungry too.

### **GDP only registers positive achievement of economic activity**

Economic activity includes the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services at all levels within a society. GDP is one way of assessing economic activity, and the degree of current economic activity and forecasts for its future level can significantly impact business activity and profits, as well as inflation and interest rates. When economic activity increases then GDP also increases which leads to

improve human well being, living standard, reduction in poverty, education, health, improved technology, infrastructure, and so on.

As economies continue to experience growth, the amount that is spent on infrastructure such as transportation networks, communication, electricity, gas, water supply as well as various technologies has also increased. This has in turn led to an improvement in living standards of the people in general, and has also led to further increases in economic growth (Barro and Sala-i-Martin, 2004; Canning and Pedroni, 1999).

So, GDP only register positive achievement of the economy activities as shown by some writers. Although it has negative that includes: health challenges, increase pollution, increase in income equality and so on which are not register by GDP respectively.

### **GDP may or may not stay within the country**

GDP measures the increase in economic activity. But it may be stay or not does not measure. GDP measures but does not sustainable for long-lasting. In context to Nepal, economic activities include agriculture, industry and service sectors. Agriculture annual change varies i.e. last year it was -0.01percent and current year it increases to 5.32 percent which does not sustain, changing up and down. Similarly to industry in the last year it has -6.45 percent and current year it has 10.97 percent, for service last year it has 2.06percent and current year it has 6.9 percent.

Through this report we can say that economic activities increases than last year but it fails to reflect how much of that economic gain stays within that country. Because many foreign investor invest or provide services to Nepal country which is good for increases in economic activity, here the actual economic gain does not stay within the country. GDP only measures positive achievement of the country.

Growth sustains growth like a snowball collects more layers as it rolls down a snowy hillside. In the short term, the benefits of economic growth are many: the more that businesses and nations grow and profit, the more individuals have jobs, resources and quality of life. But in long term, it does not sustain. Recent news 2018 i.e. Nepal Country has become no.1 in Remittance around the world, which certainly increases the GDP but it may stay or may not stay within the country.

### **Per Capita GDP does not sustain**

From the data source i.e. Economic Survey of Nepal. In the FY 2015/16, per capital income of a Nepali has risen by 4.6 percent in the market price to Rs 80,921. In the previous year, it was Rs 77,790. Although income of a normal person has decreased in margin rate, per capital income of an individual in market price has increased by Rs 3842 than previous year due to the high inflation rate.

However, in US dollar term, per capita income has decreased by USD 900 to USD 766. It was USD 775 in FY 2015/16. Due to devaluation of Nepali currency in compare to USD, per capita income has decreased in USD term. Before five years, per capita income of a Nepali was USD 708.

The economic survey shows contribution of 34 percent from agricultural sector while industrial sector has contribution of 14 percent in the economy which is in decreasing trend since some years. The remaining part of economy has been contributed by service sector as per the economic survey.

The survey predicts of 6.3 percent decrease in industrial sector and 2.7 percent decrease in service sector in the current FY in the non-agricultural sectors. However, it predicts increase of 1.1 percent in the agricultural sector. In the last FY, the growth rate of industrial and service sector was 1.5 and 3.6 percent respectively.

## CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that it needs to find out the effectiveness of GDP as a measure of wellbeing and the difficulties that the conventional GDP poses as evaluating the happiness of the people. GDP does not measure the wellbeing of the society but it needs to be finding out the relevance of the difficulties of using GDP for evaluating the well being of the nation. It is found that GDP only register positive achievement of the economic activities.

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## WORKING CAPITAL MANAGEMENT EFFICIENCY AND PROFITABILITY OF MANUFACTURING FIRMS IN NEPAL

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### *Abstract*

*This paper analyzes working capital management efficiency and its influence on profitability of Nepalese manufacturing firms for fiscal year 2005/06 to 2014/15 using descriptive and causal comparative research design. The net trade cycle (NTC) is used to measure working capital management efficiency. Profitability on assets (PA) and profitability on sales (PS) are dependent variables of this study. The working capital management efficiency related variables such as NTC, total current assets to current liabilities ratio (CR) and total debt to total assets ratio (DR) are considered as explanatory variables. The result of this paper reveals that both profitability on assets and profitability on sales are negatively related with NTC which implies that lower the NTC increases profitability of Nepalese manufacturing firms. Further, regression result of the study shows that total debt to total assets ratio has negative and statistically significant impact on both profitability on total assets and profitability on sales. The finding of this paper concludes that less use of debt increases profitability of Nepalese manufacturing firms.*

### **Key words**

*Working capital management, net trade cycle, profitability, current ratio and debt ratio.*

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## INTRODUCTION

Working capital is the capital for day to day smooth operation of business activities. It is the capital for managing short-term or current assets such as cash, marketable securities, receivables and inventories. Net working capital is the excess of current assets over the current liabilities of a firm. In another word, it is long-term sources of financing for managing short-term assets. Working capital is essential for smooth operation of a business activities. It is a financial yard-stick which represents operating liquidity available to a business firm and it depicts short-term financial health of the firm.

Decisions relating to working capital or financing for managing short-term assets are referred as working capital management. Working capital management (WCM) is concerned with decisions regarding to current assets and current liabilities. In another word, working capital management is the process of managing cash, inventories, accounts receivable, and accounts payable. Van Horne (1977) stated working capital management as the administration of current assets in the name of cash, marketable securities, receivables and inventories. WCM is an important aspect of a firm because of its effects on firm's profitability and risk and consequently on its value (Smith, 1980). The fundamental principles of working capital management are to minimize in capital employed and to improve efficiency in use of cash, inventories, receivables, and payables. Firms can minimize risk by prudent working capital management. The sound working capital management has vital role in maintaining optimum size of cash, inventory, receivables, and payable efficiently for day to day operation of various activities. The optimization of working capital minimizes working capital financing requirements and maximize revenues and wealth of the firm. Smith (1973) observed that a large number of business failures have been attributed due to inability of financial managers to plan and control



current assets and current liabilities. It has long been recognized that the efficient management of working capital is crucial for the survival and growth of small firms (Grablowsky, 1984).

Working capital management is a yardstick to measure firm's operational and financial efficiency. The sound and effective working capital management system increase earnings of a firm. The management of a firm should prepare strategic and operational plan and efforts should continuously be made to improve its working capital position. The sound working capital management yields greater efficiencies of the firm which leads to improve customer satisfaction. The issue about why working capital management is significant for a firm is focused on the relationship between working capital management efficiency and firm's profitability. The efficient working capital management includes planning and controlling of current assets and liabilities to avoid excessive investments in current assets. The cash conversion cycle (CCC) is usually used as an indicator of efficiency measure in working capital management. Cash conversion cycle of a firm is the length of time period during which money is transferred to goods and again to money. It is the time lag between expenditure for the purchases of raw materials and the collection of sales of finished goods. The longer CCC requires larger size of investment in working capital. A longer cash conversion cycle might increase sales and it leads to higher profitability of the firm. However, firm's profitability might also decrease with longer cash conversion cycle if cost of investment in working capital rises faster than the benefits of holding more inventories and /or granting more trade credit customers because of more investment in working capital. Deloof (2003) argued that more cash conversion cycle of a firm extends more financing of working capital. In one aspect, extension of CCC can increase sales and results to increase profits of the firm. But in another aspects, extension of CCC need more working capital

financing in parallel and brings an additional financing cost and reduces profitability of the firm.

The previous theoretical and empirical studies show that working capital management efficiency is an integral part of the overall corporate strategy to create and maximize shareholders' value in the firm. The way in which working capital is managed can have a significant impact both on liquidity and profitability of the firm. The decisions that tend to maximizes profitability may not to maximize liquidity. Equally, focusing entirely on liquidity tends to reduce the potential profitability of the firm. Working capital management affects profitability of the firm, its risk, and value (Smith, 1980). The efficient management of working capital is an important component of general strategy aiming at increasing market value of a firm (Deloof, 2003; Afze & Nazir, 2007). Filbeck and Krueger (2005) stated that success of a firm depends on its financial manager's efficient management ability of cash, inventories, receivables, and liabilities (Filbeck & Krueger, 2005). In the empirical studies administered by Shin and Soenen (1998), Deloof (2003), Raheman and Nasr (2007) and Teruel and Solano (2007) revealed that there is a negative relationship between cash conversion cycle and profitability of a firm. The major elements of cash conversion cycle such as cash, inventories, short-term account receivables and short-term trade liabilities should properly be managed through more efficient working capital management to maximize profitability of the firm.

Al-Mwalla (2012) examined the impact of working capital management policies on firm's profitability and value and revealed a negative and significant relationship between aggressive working capital policy and profitability showing the excessive reliance on short-term debt may lead to liquidity problems. There is a negative association between working capital management efficiency and profitability of US hospitals (Rauscher & Wheeler, 2012). Kaur and

Singh (2013) stated that working capital management involves firm's cash, receivables, inventories and payables in a manner that maximizes firms' profitability. In the study of corporate governance on working capital management efficiency of American manufacturing firms, Gill and Biger (2013) revealed a significant positive relationship between working capital management efficiency and profitability of US manufacturing firms. Kroes and Manikas (2014) analyzed cash flow management and manufacturing firms' financial performance and argued a non-significant relationship between working capital management and profitability of US manufacturing firms. Wasiuzzaman (2015) studied on working capital practices of 192 Malaysian companies using ordinary least square regression approach and concluded that working capital efficiency significantly increases business values for financially constrained firms rather than financially non-constrained firms.

In the study of working capital management, Emery (1984) argued that trade credit is an incentive for customers to obtain merchandise at times of low demand which is agreed to ensure that services based on contract carried out. Smith (1980) revealed that 20 percent firms that invest heavily in inventory and trade credit can suffer and reduce their profitability. In addition, larger investment in inventories reduces risk of a stock-out problems and increases profitability. Suppliers may have significant cost advantages over financial institutions in providing credit to their customers and can be an inexpensive source of credit for customers (Petersen and Rajan, 1997). Trade credit can act as an effective price cut and granting credit favors firm's sales in various ways. In one hand, delaying payments to suppliers allows a firms to measure the quality of products and it can be inexpensive and flexible source of financing for the firm. On the other hand, late payment of invoices can be very costly if the firm is offered a discount for early payments. Beaumont and Begemann (1997) highlighted that the major

concepts of working capital management are related with profitability and liquidity of the firm. Further, authors argued that there exists a trade-off between profitability and liquidity. Thus, the relationship between working capital and profitability helps to understand the relationship between profitability and liquidity.

Working capital management should focus at maintaining a balance between liquidity and profitability while conducting day-to-day business operations of a firm. Deloof (2003) revealed that sound working capital management has a significant impact on profitability and liquidity of the firms. This result implies that there should be the optimal level of working capital requirements which maximizes returns of the firm. Lazaridis and Tryfonidis (2005) stated that small firms focus on inventory management and firms with low profitability focus on credit management. Padaehi (2006) emphasized that the management of working capital is important to the financial health for all sizes of businesses firms. This importance is centered on two reasons: (a) amount invested in working capital is often high in proportion to the total assets and it is essential to be used in an efficient way, (b) management of working capital directly affects liquidity and profitability of the firm and consequently effects on its net worth. Ganesan (2007) suggested that the firms in less competitive sectors should focus to reduce cash conversion for minimizing receivables, while the firms in more competitive sectors should increase cash conversion cycle to have a relatively higher level of receivables.

The previous empirical studies in the financial literature shows that working capital management efficiency increases free cash flow and increases growth opportunities of firms which leads to maximize values and returns to shareholders of the firms. Even though firms traditionally are focused on long-term investment and financing (capital budgeting and capital structure), but, recent trend shows that many firms are focusing to increase efficiency on working capital

management. Results of empirical analysis of prior studies show that there is statistical evidence for a strong relationship between working capital management efficiency and firm's profitability.

The remaining section of this paper is organized as follows: Section two deals with measures of working capital management efficiency. Section three covers research methodology. Section four of this study deals with data analysis and results. Finally, section five summarizes the conclusion of the study.

### **Measures of Working Capital Management Efficiency**

Financial manager's key role is in generation of cash flows and to use them to generate profit of a firm. Cash flows are the life blood of business firms and if firms are able to generate more cash inflows are able to make more profit. If firms have more cash inflows and profits they can survive in the market and if not, firms may be in financial distress and ultimately become bankruptcy and finally they will be liquidated. Thus, sound working capital management decision of a firm generates more cash flows and helps to increase profitability and reduces risk of the firm. The working capital requirement of a firm is determined based on cash conversion cycle. The cash conversion cycle shows the working capital management efficiency of the firm.

Cash conversion cycle is time difference between cash payment for raw materials and collection for sales. It refers the time span between disbursing and collecting cash of a firm. The cash conversion cycle focuses on the time between payments made for materials and labor and payments received from sales. It is difference between operating cycle and payment periods. It is determined as sum of length of holding period of inventory (inventory conversion period) plus average collection period (receivable conversion period) minus average payable period (payable deferral period). Inventory conversion period is

calculated as days in a year divided by inventory turnover, receivable conversion period is determined as days in a year divided by receivable turnover and payable deferral period is computed by days in a year divided by payable turnover. In the study of estimating corporate liquidity requirements, Gitman (1994) introduced cash conversion cycle concept as a crucial element in working capital management to measure the working capital management efficiency.

Working capital requirement of a firm depends on its cash conversion cycle. A firm can make larger sales with a liberal credit policy which extends receivable conversion period as well as the cash conversion cycle. The longer cash conversion cycle may result the higher profitability through higher level of sales. However, the traditional view of the relationship between cash conversion cycle and corporate profitability argued that a longer cash conversion cycle hurts the profitability of the firm because of more cost of investment in receivables. The relaxed credit policy require more investment in working capital. The purchase on trade credit reduces in working capital requirements because accounts payable are used as short-term sources of financing. The requirement of working capital, sales and profitability are directly affected by the size of inventories of the firm. Both larger inventory and liberal credit policy require more working capital financing and may lead higher sales which results higher profitability. The working capital management decision relating its major components such as inventory, receivables and payables affects length of cash conversion cycle, working capital requirement, level of sales and profitability. Thus, working capital management efficiency of a firm is determined based on cash conversion cycle.

Weighted cash conversion cycle and net trade cycles are two major concepts of cash conversion cycles commonly used for measuring working capital management efficiency. The concept of weighted cash conversion cycle (WCCC) is developed by Gentry, Vaidyanathan and

Lee (1990). The weights are calculated by dividing the amount of each tied up in each component by final value of the component. The weighted cash conversion cycle considers both number of days and amount of funds that is tied up at each stage of cash conversion cycle. Another key measure of working capital management efficiency is net trade cycle (NTC). It is equal to cash conversion cycle where all components inventory, receivables and payables are expressed as percentage of sales. NTC actually indicates the number of days sales of a firm which has to finance its working capital under ceteris paribus conditions. Net trade cycle is commonly used to make an easy estimation in determining additional financing needs for working capital requirements to meet projected sales of the firm.

In this paper, length of firm's NTC is used as a measure of working capital management efficiency. The NTC is also closely related with the issue of shareholders' value creation in the firm. The shorter NTC results the higher present value of net cash flows generated by assets and thus, leads higher value of the firm for its shareholders. Likewise, the shorter NTC represents more efficient in managing its working capital of the firm which lower the need of external financing and it results higher financing performance. Thus, inverse relationship between firm's NTC and its profitability is expected.

## **RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**

The basic objective of this paper is to analyze the relationship between working capital management efficiency and profitability of Nepalese manufacturing firms.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

### Research Design

This paper has applied descriptive and causal comparative research design to analyze the relationship between working capital management efficiency and profitability of Nepalese manufacturing firms. This study attempts to describe the impact of working capital management efficiency (net trade cycle, current assets to current liabilities ratio and total debt to total assets ratio) on firm's profitability (both profitability on assets and profitability on sales). This paper follows descriptive and regression analysis. In this study an attempt has been made to establish the magnitude and direction of relationship between working capital management efficiency and profitability of Nepalese manufacturing firms. Thus, this paper has adopted correlation analysis. Moreover, this study has also adopted regression analysis to determine the effect of net trade cycle (NTC), current assets to current liabilities ratio (CR), and total debt to total asset ratio (DR) on profitability on assets (PA) and profitability on sales (PS).

This paper has used Pearson correlation analysis to observe the relationship between working capital management efficiency and firm's profitability. Furthermore, this study has also employed cross sectional regression models to test the effects of working capital efficiency on profitability of manufacturing companies in the context of Nepal. Ordinary least square (OLS) method of regression is used to estimate regression line to examine the effect of working capital management efficiency on firm's profitability to analyze their relationship. The OLS is used because it minimizes errors between estimated points and actual observed points of the estimated regression line.



## **Nature and Sources of Data**

This paper uses secondary sources of data. For secondary data set, necessary information is collected from periodical reports and statements published by Security Board of Nepal (SEBON), Nepal Stock Exchange (NEPSE) and financial statements of respective sample firms covering the period of ten years from fiscal year 2005/06-2014/15.

## **Population and Sample**

In this study, total listed companies in the NEPSE till Mid-July 2015 are considered as population. Out of total population by the end of fiscal year 2014/2015, 13 firms out of 18 listed manufacturing companies are selected as sample. Total 121 observations are used to analyze relationship between working capital management efficiency and firm profitability of manufacturing companies in Nepal. The data required for this study are collected from report of SEBON and individual financial statement of the sample firms. List of sample manufacturing firms used in this study is presented in Appendix.

## **Analytical Tools**

The collected data are processed and analyzed based on software SPSS (version 20), and MS-Excel. In this paper, correlation analysis, regression analysis along with t-test, F-test, and Adjusted  $R^2$  are used for the analysis data to examine the relationship between working capital management efficiency and firm profitability.

## **Variables**

In this paper, profitability on assets (PA) and profitability on sales (PS) are firm profitability and considered as independent variables. The PA is computed as percentage of net operating income plus depreciation

on total assets. The PS is determined as percentage of net operating income plus depreciation on total sales. The prior theoretical and empirical studies have observed several factors that affect firm profitability. In this paper, net trade credit (NTC), total current assets to current liabilities ratio (CR) and total debt to total assets ratio (DR) are considered as explanatory (independent) variables. The variables used as profitability and working capital management efficiency of this study are computed as follows:

In this study, working capital efficiency is measured by net trade cycle (NTC) and it is calculated using equation 1.

$$NTC = \frac{(Inventory + Accounts Receivable - Accounts Payable) * 365}{Sales} \dots (1)$$

In this paper, firm's profitability on total assets and profitability on sales are calculated using equation 2 and equation 3 respectively.

$$\text{Profitability on assets (PA)} = \frac{(NOI + Depreciation)}{Total Assets} \dots (2)$$

$$\text{Profitability on sales (PS)} = \frac{(NOI + Depreciation)}{Net Sales} \dots (3)$$

Where,

NOI refers net operating income of sample firms.

In this study, to show the relationship between current ratio and profitability as well as between debt ratio and profitability, current ratio and debt ratio are estimated using equation 4 and equation 5 respectively.

$$\text{Current ratio (CR)} = \frac{Total Current Assets}{Total Current Liabilities} \dots (4)$$

$$\text{Debt ratio (DR)} = \frac{\text{Total Debt}}{\text{Total Assets}} \dots (5)$$

### The Model

The multiple regression models of equations 6 and 7 are used to analyze the influences of explanatory variables on profitability of Nepalese manufacturing firms.

$$\text{Profitability on assets (PA)} = \alpha_0 + \beta_1 \text{NTC} + \beta_2 \text{CR} + \beta_3 \text{DR} + \varepsilon_t \dots (6)$$

$$\text{Profitability on sales (PS)} = \alpha_0 + \beta_1 \text{NTC} + \beta_2 \text{CR} + \beta_3 \text{DR} + \varepsilon_t \dots (7)$$

Where,

$\alpha_0$  is the coefficient of constant or intercept term,  $\beta_1$ ,  $\beta_2$ , &  $\beta_3$  are coefficient of explanatory variables and  $\varepsilon_t$  is error term.

### DATA ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

This section of the paper attempts to analyze data associated with working capital management efficiency and its factors affecting firm's profitability. This study deals with working capital management efficiency, current ratio, debt ratio and their effect on firm's profitability to observe and analyze the relationship among these variables. Correlation and regression analysis under causal comparative research design are applied to analyze and explore the effect of working capital management efficiency on corporate profitability in Nepalese manufacturing firms.

#### Correlation Analysis

This paper has used net trade cycle, current ratio and debt ratio to analyze profitability of Nepalese manufacturing firms. In this study, Pearson's correlation coefficient is used as measure the linear

association in explaining the direction and magnitude of relationship among net trade cycle (NTC), current ratio (CR), debt ratio (DR) and firm's profitability i.e. profitability on assets (PA) and profitability on sales (PS). Table 1 presents correlation coefficient of variables to explain relationship between firm's profitability and its explanatory variables during the study period.

Table 1

*Correlation Coefficients of Corporate Profitability and Explanatory Variables*

Variables	PA	PS	NTC	CR	DR
PA	1	0.849**	-0.241*	0.284*	-0.658**
PS	-	1	-0.126*	0.397*	-0.439**
NTC	-	-	1	0.218*	-0.216
CR	-	-	-	1	-0.315
DR	-	-	-	-	1

Source: SEBON (2005/06-2014/15).

Note: '\*' indicates that correlation is significant at 5 percent level, '\*\*' indicates that correlation is significant at 1 percent level.

Table 1 shows value of Pearson's correlation coefficient between different pairs of explanatory variables and firm's profitability. The result has exhibited in Table 1 indicates that profitability on assets (PA) and profitability on sales (PS) both are positively related with current ratio of the firm but relationship is not strong. The PA and PS both are negatively correlated with net trade cycle (NTC) and debt to total assets ratio (DR). The relationship between NTC and profitability is statistically significant only at 5 percent level. The results of correlation coefficient shows that both PA and PS are negatively correlated with debt to total assets ratio and statistically is significant at 1 percent level which implies that use of less debt in capital structure increases corporate profitability in Nepalese manufacturing firms.

## Regression Analysis

In this paper, multiple regression models have been used to explain the relationship between firm's profitability and explanatory variables. Table 2 presents regression results of multivariate regression models under previous specified equations to explain relationship between working capital management efficiency and their effect on profitability of Nepalese manufacturing firms.

Table 2

*Regression Relationship of Firm's Profitability with Explanatory Variables.*

Models	Constant	NTC	CR	DR	Adj.R <sup>2</sup>	F
Model 1: PA	0.267 (3.936**)	-0.185 (-2.438*)	0.113 (0.531)	-0.106 (-5.284**)	0.304	16.735**
Model 2: PS	0.163 (2.685*)	-0.157 (-2.136)	0.085 (1.374)	-0.104 (-3.584**)	0.185	12.127**

Source: SEBON (2005/06-2014/15).

Note: The figures in the parentheses are t-value and asterisk sign indicates that result is significant level. '\*' Indicates statistical significance at 5 percent level, '\*\*' Indicates statistical significance at 1 percent level. Also reported are the F-statistics and Adjusted R<sup>2</sup>.

The first regression model in Table 2 shows positive relationship between profitability on assets (PA) and current ratio (CR) of Nepalese manufacturing firms. The regression result indicates relationship between total current assets to current liabilities (CR) and profitability on total assets (PA) of firms seems positive but statistically is insignificant at 5 percent level. The result of regression coefficient shows that PA is negatively related with NTC and DR. The relationship between PA and NTC is significant at 5 percent whereas DR has negative and statistically significant impact on PA at 1 percent level of significant. This result is consistent with the findings of Mayers and Majluf (1984), Rajan and Zingales (1995) and Booth,

Aivazian, Demirguc-Kunt, and Maksimovic (2001) which implies that DR has strong explanatory power of profit on total assets in Nepalese manufacturing firms. This result suggests that Nepalese manufacturing firms should use less debt to maximize the profitability on total assets. The adjusted coefficient of determinants ( $\text{Adj.R}^2$ ) of the model one is 0.314. Thus, predicting power of the model is 31.4 percent to explain profitability of Nepalese firms by its explanatory variables. The F-statistics of model 1 is statistically significant at 1 percent level of significant which implies that the regression model used in estimation of profitability on total assets with its explanatory variables is fitness of the test of the overall model.

Similarly, regression model two in Table 2 shows positive relationship between PS and CR. The regression result indicates relationship between current assets to current liabilities (CR) and profitability on sales (PS) seems positive but statistically is insignificant at 5 percent level of significant. The result of regression coefficient shows that PS is negatively related with NTC and DR. The relationship of PS with DR is negative and statistically significant at 1 percent level of significant. This result is consistent with the findings of Mayers and Majluf (1984) and Rajan and Zingales (1995) which implies that DR has strong explanatory power of profit on sales in Nepalese manufacturing firms. This result indicates that use of less debt increases profitability on sales in Nepalese manufacturing firms. The regression result indicates that working capital management efficiency (NTC) has weak explaining power of profitability on sales of Nepalese firms. The adjusted coefficient of determinants ( $\text{Adj.R}^2$ ) of the model two is 0.185. Thus, predicting power of the model two is 18.5 percent to explain corporate profitability on sales of Nepalese manufacturing firms by its explanatory variables. This result also supports the existence of a negative association between capital structure and firm's profitability. The F-statistics of model two is statistically significant at 1 percent

level of significant which implies that the regression model used in estimation of profitability on sales with its explanatory variables is fitness of test of the overall model.

## CONCLUSION

This paper has been attempted to analyze the relationship between working capital management efficiency and profitability of Nepalese manufacturing firms using descriptive and causal comparative research design for the study period 2005/06-2014/15. The result of study confirms that profitability of Nepalese manufacturing firms is negatively affected with use of debt in capital structure. This study reveals that both profitability on total assets and profitability on sales of Nepalese manufacturing firms are negatively related with the use of total debt to total assets. The finding of this study supports to the findings of Mayers and Majluf (1984) and Rajan and Zingales (1995), and Booth et al. (2001) who revealed negative relationship between debt and corporate profitability. The result of this study implies that less use of debt (financial leverage) increases firm's profitability in Nepalese manufacturing companies in terms of both profitability on assets and profitability on sales. Thus, Nepalese manufacturing firms should reduce their use of debt (financial leverage) to increase profitability. This study also concludes that working capital management efficiency has no significant role in firm's profitability in Nepalese manufacturing companies.

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## **A STUDY ON THE SPELLING AND PUNCTUATION ERRORS COMMITTED BY ELEVENTH GRADERS**

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### ***ABSTRACT***

*The present study entitled 'A Study on Spelling and Punctuation Errors Committed by the Eleventh Graders' attempts to identify, analyze and interpret the spelling and punctuation errors committed by the eleventh grade students in writing free compositions. The main objective of this study isto find out and compare the spelling and punctuation errors of the eleventh graders, and suggest some pedagogical implications. This study was mainly based on qualitative data. The population of the study was 100 students studying in grade eleven of community and institutional secondary schools of Rupandehi district. Among them 50 students were boys and 50 were girls. After analyzing and interpreting the obtained data, it was found that the students who were studying in community schools were poorer in spelling and punctuation in comparison to the institutional schools' students. It was found that the girls committed more errors than the boys. The students were more confused in spelling, on adverbs, verbs and adjectives and punctuation error; but the students were more confused in capital letters.*

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**Keywords:** *spelling, error, punctuation, composition, language, institutional, community, committed*

## INTRODUCTION

Error Analysis is a branch of applied linguistics. It deals with the erroneous sentences produced by the language learners. Error, in general, refers to the use of a linguistic item in a way which a fluent or native speaker of the language regards as showing faulty or incomplete learning. Error may be in the speech or writing of a second or foreign language learner. Linguistic item may be a word, a grammatical item, or a speech act, etc. Error results from incomplete knowledge and mistake is caused by lack of attention, fatigue, carelessness or some other aspect of performance.

In learning the first language, the learner's mind, tries to acquire the information of only one linguistic system and to understand it as the child is exposed to it all the time. In other, words, at the infant stage, the child is unconscious and the child's mind is blank. The child starts learning his mother tongue as a new language. To begin with he uses gesticulation, then words, broken sentences and finally complete sentences for his communication.

At his grown-up stage, he frequently uses his first language without having knowledge of the grammar. As a result, he often produces deviant, ill-formed, incorrect or erroneous sentences and so on. But he can rectify them easily and sometimes can ignore. Such deviations in language are said to be 'mistakes'.

Corder (1984), states,

From the study of his errors we are able to infer his knowledge at that point in his learning career and discover what he still has to learn. By describing and classifying his errors in linguistic item, we build up a

picture of the feature of the language which is causing him learning problems.

Besides, when an error is compared with a mistake, we find that mistake covers as a whole but an error covers a part of mistake. It means an error is a mistake but a mistake may or may not be errors.

James (1998) views, "An error cannot be self corrected, while mistakes can be self corrected if the deviation is pointed out to the speaker."

As Corder (1984) mentions, a native speaker makes mistakes whereas language learners make errors.

Similarly, a learner of second or foreign language commits errors in course of learning a language. Linguists have taken this area of language for their study and analysis.

### **Stages of Error Analysis**

Error analysis can be seen as a series of successive steps/stages. The stages of error analysis can be listed as follows:

1. Collection of data for error analysis
2. Identification of errors
3. Description and classification of errors
4. Explanation of errors
5. Evaluation of errors
6. Correction and remediation of errors

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The specific objectives of the present paper are as follows:

- To find out the spelling and punctuation errors of the eleventh graders.

- To compare spelling and punctuation errors committed by the students.
- To suggest some pedagogical implications.

## REVIEW OF EMPIRICAL LITERATURE

An attempt is made in this chapter to review the related literature in studying the spelling and punctuation errors committed by the students of grade eleven of community and institutional higher secondary schools of Rupandehi district. Some research works carried out on the spelling and punctuation errors by the students of master's degree in education but this thesis focuses and followed different problems and methods in this field. Some of the related literatures concerned with spelling and punctuation errors which are helpful for the researcher are as follows:

Adhikari (1999) attempted to "Identify and Analyze the Errors in the Use of Causative Verbs Committed by the Students of Grade Nine of Gorkha District." He had pointed out the causes behind committing errors as ignorance of the rule restriction, false concept hypothesized, and overgeneralization, lack of practice and teaching materials and negative effect of grammar translation method. He had concluded his study recommending some suggestions such as use of appropriate methods and techniques in teaching grammar, contextualizing the teaching points and comparison of the causative verbs.

Khatri (2001) carried out a research on "A Study of Error in Punctuation Committed by Tenth Graders." He had aimed to identify the error in the use of punctuation marks committed by tenth graders and determine the frequency of errors. For this research test and evaluation he collected data through the administrating of the set of subjective test and evaluated the different punctuation errors. He found that student tended to commit more errors in the use of punctuation marks in free writing then in guided writing.

Chaudhary (2006) analyzed, 'The Errors Committed by Tharu Students in Passivization'. He aimed to identify errors in passivization and sentences of the English made by Tharu students. He took eighty sample students studying in grade 10 in the schools of Saptary district. He administered test and collected student's responses. He found that the Tharu students were not clear to use appropriate tense in the use of passivation. The students were found to commit more errors in imperative advice passive rather than imperative command and request.

Poudel (2010) carried out a study entitled 'A Study on the Use of Punctuation in Guided and Essay Writing'. The objectives of her study were to find out punctuation marks used by the students while writing an essay and compare between the use of punctuation marks in guided writing and essay writing. Her study was concerned only with essay writing of grade nine students and comparison was made between essay writing and guided writing.

The present study is different from above reviewed researches because nobody has carried out the research on errors committed by eleventh graders in spelling and punctuation. So, this study is new to deal with the errors committed by the grade 11 students in spelling and punctuations. Various research works have been carried out in the field of errors analysis. Most of them are carried out at in the Department of English Education the level of syntax. But this study focuses on the spelling and punctuation errors committed by the eleventh graders in the half yearly examination paper in free compositions.

## **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

### **Study Area**

The present study is confined in the Rupandehi district to find the spellings and punctuations errors committed by the eleventh graders.

### **Data collection procedure**

For collection of data following procedures were adopted:

### **Population, Sample and Sampling Strategy**

The population of the study was the students of grade eleven studying in community and institutional secondary schools of Rupandehi district. The sample population was 100 students, ten (five communities and five institutional) secondary schools were selected randomly among all the secondary schools of the district. Secondly, 10 students were selected from each school randomly. Among the 10 students five were boys and five were girls. The main tools for data collection were the half yearly examination answer sheets of English subject of eleventh grade. Ten students' (five boys and five girls) half yearly examination answer sheets of English subject were selected randomly by going to the selected schools.

### **Analysis and Interpretation Procedure**

The main objectives of this study are to find out the spelling and punctuation errors committed by the eleventh graders. Therefore, the simple statistical procedure is used in which the collected data were analyzed and interpreted using various analytical and statistical tools such as descriptive and tabulation comparison.



## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Gender-wise Interpretation of Total Errors

The following table presents the gender wise comparison of the total errors made by the students of selected ten different schools. The spelling errors committed in verbs, adjectives and adverbs and the punctuation errors on full stops, commas and capital letters are put in the table and analyzed in the following ways:

**Table No. 1**

#### Gender-wise Interpretation

S.N.	Variables	Sample size	Average total errors	Total errors	Percent
1	Boys	50	5650	1251	22.14
2	Girls	50	5650	1546	27.36

Source: Author's field survey, 2015

The above table clearly displays that there were equal number of boys and girls. According to the table, the boys committed less error than the girls. In percent the boys committed 22.14 percent errors and the girls committed 27.36 percent errors. This shows that the girls are a bit weaker than the boys.

### Interpretation of the Total Errors on the Basis of School Type

There seems a bit gap between the government aided and private owned schools. Comparative study of the errors committed by the students from government aided and private school is given in the following table.

**Table No. 2**  
**Interpretation on the Basis of School Type**

S. N.	School type	Sample size	Average total errors	Total errors	Percent
1	Community	50	5650	1567	27.73
2	Private	50	5650	1230	21.76

Source: Author's field survey, 2015

Table No. 2 shows that the students of community schools committed a large number of errors out of 5650 items they committed 1567 errors i.e. 27.73 per cent whereas the students of institutional schools committed a small number of errors out of 5650 they committed 1230 errors i.e. 21.76 percent.

Thus, it is found that the students of community schools committed more errors in spellings and punctuations than the students of institutional schools.

## RESULTS

This is the most significant part of the research work. The obtained data from the research tools are presented, analyzed and interpreted in this chapter. This part deals with the spelling and punctuation errors committed by the students of selected schools in verbs, adjectives, adverbs, full stops, commas and capital letters while writing free composition. The errors of the students have been presented in different tables and analyzed on the basis of following variables; holistically, school-wise, gender-wise, according to school type, and category-wise.

In attempting to answer or reflect upon the research question, a comparative study of the factual cases of the nature and condition of spelling and punctuation errors committed during English composition in half-yearly examination by students of grade 11. The primary source

of data is collected from students of grade eleven community and institutional higher secondary schools of Rupandehi district. Composition works from the half yearly examination answer sheets of 100 students, 50 girls and 50 boys, from 10 schools) has been analyzed in terms of spelling errors (verb, adjective, adverb) and punctuation errors (full stop, comma, capital letters).

Keeping in mind the very fact of the nature and outcome of research, this section may not naturally be the last word on the status of English composition skills of 11<sup>th</sup> grader Nepali students. Yet, many years down the road, it may still provide some useful insights into the subject.

### **Spelling Errors**

While studying the free compositions of the students of selected schools, it is found that each student's composition approximately contains 20-30 sentences. On the basis of the 20-30 the researcher came in a conclusion that the average use of sentences by the students is 25. Therefore, a student used at least 20 to 40 verbs including to infinitive and clauses. Hence, the average use of verbs by the students in their free composition is 30. By reading free compositions of the students and found that they used average eight adjectives and six adverbs in their compositions.

### **Punctuation Errors**

Each student's composition contains approximately 20-30 sentences. It means the students use the same numbers of full stops. The average full stops used by the each student are 25. According to the sample population, there are 100 students. In this way, 100 students used average 2500 full stops.

While reading free compositions of the students, I found 12 to 20 commas used by each student. The students used commas to separate series of words, phrases and clauses. Hence, the average use of commas

by each student is 16. Hundred students used total 1600 commas altogether.

In the case of capital letters, the student must use at least equal number of full stops. Hence, there must be 2500 capital letters. The capital letters were not only used in the beginning of the sentences. Capital letters were used with particular types of nouns and in certain positions in sentences. The capital letters are used in the beginning of a sentence, the first person personal pronoun, I, names and titles of people, titles of works, books, movies, months of the year, days of the week, seasons, holidays, names of countries and continents, names of regions, states, districts, names of cities, towns, villages, names of rivers, oceans, seas, lakes, parks etc. In course of reading students' compositions, I found more capital letters than the full stops. Approximately, each student used 28 capital letters in their compositions. In this way, hundred students used about 2800 capital letters.

## **CONCLUSION**

On the basis of presentation, analysis and interpretation of the data, the major conclusions of the study have been summarized and presented as follows:

The grade 11 students in Rupandehi district in both community and institutional schools are found to commit a large number of errors in spelling and punctuation while writing compositions. The students from community schools are found to make more spelling and punctuation errors in comparison to the students from institutional schools. The data shows that a good composition learning environment does not exist in these schools, with more emphasis on the processes on learning by rote than of thought. Students are found not having frequent and varied compositions practice in the schools. It is found that in English composition writing the students either boys or girls are found to be

weak in most schools. A lack of proper planned program to meet the needs and interests of students is seen in institutional as well as community schools.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

This research is an attempt to find out the errors committed by the students in the use of spelling and punctuation marks and suggest some implications for the policy level so that spelling and punctuation aspect can be given a good place in the school level curriculum and textbooks. The implications of this research for policy level are presented below:

1. Spelling and punctuation exercises should be prescribed in the school level curriculum and syllabus. Adequate rules and practice about the use of spelling and punctuation marks should be included in the textbooks.
2. The teachers who are teaching English in different levels should be trained about the proper use of spelling and punctuation marks. So, they should be provided regular training on how to teach spelling and punctuation effectively.
3. Separate exercises focusing on spelling and punctuation should be included in textbooks or workbooks.
4. The students of community schools were found to be very poorer in the use of spelling and punctuation marks than the students of institutional schools. Therefore, school supervisors should visit community schools frequently and help them with the problem in teaching.

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## नाटककार विजय मल्ल र “भोलि के हुन्छ ?” नाटक

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### सार

यस लेखमा प्रथमतः नाटककार विजय मल्लको सामान्यतः पुख्यौलीको परिचय र उनले भोगेका साहित्यिक र राजनीतिक अनुभव एवं साहित्यिक कृतिहरूको उल्लेख गरिएको छ । त्यसपछि साहित्यिक प्रेरणाका स्रोतहरू र नाट्य प्रवृत्तिहरूलाई चर्चा गर्ने क्रममा लेखको प्रारम्भमा विषयप्रवेश, साहित्यिक प्रेरणा र प्रभाव, नाट्यप्रवृत्तिमा परम्पराप्रति विद्रोह गरी नवीन मूल्य र मान्यताको स्थापना, समस्यामूलकता, मनोविश्लेषणात्मक, प्रतीकात्मकता, प्रयोगपरकता, विसङ्गतिवादी-अस्तित्ववादी चिन्तन, कथावस्तु र चरित्र प्रयोग र भाषाशैलीको उल्लेख गरिएको छ । त्यसपछि दोस्रो खण्डका रूपमा “भोलि के हुन्छ ?” को कृतिपरक अध्ययन नाटकीय तत्त्वहरूका आधारमा प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ । कथावस्तु, प्रमुख पात्रहरू, परिवेश, संवाद, उद्देश्य, भाषाशैली, रङ्गमञ्चविधानको विवेचना गरी आजको मान्छे, शक्तिशाली राष्ट्रहरूको होडबाजीले गर्दा संसार नै ध्वस्त हुने सम्भावनाबाट त्रसित रहेको छ ।

### विषयप्रवेश

विजयबहादुर मल्लको जन्म वि.सं. १९८२ असार १० गतेका दिन काठमाडौंको ओमबहाल (पुरानो भन्सार) मा मध्यमवर्गीय परिवारमा भएको थियो । यिनी ऋद्धिबहादुर मल्ल र आनन्दकुमारीका साहिँला छोरा र गोविन्दबहादुर मल्ल ‘गोठाले’ का भाइ हुन् । यिनको वंश परम्परा भक्तपुरका राजा भूपतीन्द्र मल्लसँग जोडिन आउँछ । विजय मल्ल छ महिनाको हुँदा बाबु आमाका साथ कलैया पुगेका थिए र यिनको बाल्यकाल त्यहीं तराईमा नै बितेको थियो । यिनलाई ४ वर्षको उमेरमा अक्षरारम्भ गराई १९८९ मा काठमाडौंको दरबार हाइस्कूलमा कक्षा २ मा भर्ना गरिएको थियो र यिनले अध्ययन आरम्भ गरेका थिए । वि.सं. १९९९ मा बनारसको हिन्दू विद्यापीठबाट एड्मिसन (प्रेवशिकासरह) परीक्षा उत्तीर्ण गरी उच्चशिक्षाको अध्ययनका लागि त्रिचन्द्र कलेजमा आई.एस्सी. मा भर्ना गरिएतापनि यिनले सो तहको अध्ययन पूरा गरेनन् र औपचारिक पढाइको क्रम यही पूरा भएको देखिन्छ । यिनी १८ वर्षको हुँदा विवाह बन्धनमा बाँधिएका थिए र आठ छोरीहरूका बुबा बनेका थिए । (आचार्य, २०६६ : ७३)

\* सह प्राध्यापक अर्यालज्यू राममणि बहुमुखी क्याम्पसका पूर्व क्याम्पस प्रमुख हुनुहुन्छ ।

विजय मल्ल नेपाली साहित्यमा बहुमुखी व्यक्तित्वका रूपमा देखिन्छन् । यिनको साहित्यिक व्यक्तित्वका साथै राजनीतिक व्यक्तित्व पनि देखिन्छ । तत्कालीन राणाशासनविरुद्ध यिनी विद्यार्थी जीवनदेखि नै लागेका थिए । नेपाल प्रजा प्रचारायतसँग गोप्य संलग्नता राखी राजनैतिक क्रियाकलाप गरेको अभियोगमा यिनलाई वि.सं. २००५ कात्तिकदेखि २००७ साल माघ महिनासम्म कारावारको सजाय दिइएको थियो । प्रजातन्त्रको स्थापनापछि 'नेपाल प्रजा प्रचारायत' नेपाली काँग्रेसमा विलय भएको हुँदा यिनी केही समय नेपाली काँग्रेसको सदस्यका रूपमा राजनीतिमा सक्रिय रहेका थिए । २०१७ पुस १ गतेको शाही कदमको विरोध गरेपछि पुनः केही समय जेलमा परेका थिए र जेलबाट छुटेपछि क्रमशः यिनी राजनीतिबाट अलगगिदै गएका थिए ।

विजय मल्ल रिमालका अनुयायी हुन् । यिनीहरू प्रारम्भमा गौरीशङ्कर नाट्य समुदाय ( १९९९) नामक नाट्यसंस्थाका माध्यमबाट साहित्यिक गतिविधिमा लागेका थिए । २००२ सालतिर रिमालको अगुवाइमा गोप्य रूपमा स्थापना भएको 'नेसनल लिग' नामक गोप्य सङ्गठनमा विजय मल्ल पनि संलग्न थिए । उक्त संस्थाका गतिविधि बढ्दै गएपछि सरकारले सोही वर्ष फागुनमा रिमाललाई गिरफ्तार गरेको थियो र मल्ललाई सामान्य सोधपछपछि मुक्त गरेको थियो । यिनी २००३ मा अखिल नेपाल साहित्य सम्मेलनको आयोजक समितिमा सदस्यसचिव रहेका थिए । २००८ मा गठित 'नेपाली लेखक संघ' का पनि सचिवसमेत रहेका थिए । यिनी विद्यार्थी जीवनदेखि २०१७ सम्म नै राजनीति र साहित्य दुवै क्षेत्रमा सक्रिय रहेको देखिन्छ । २०२२ मा केदारमान श्रेष्ठको अध्यक्षतामा 'नेपाली साहित्य परिषद्' को गठन हुँदा यस संस्थाका उपाध्यक्ष बनेका थिए र २०२६ मा रोयल नेपाल एकेडेमी (प्रज्ञाप्रतिष्ठान) मा सहसदस्यका रूपमा प्रवेश गरी २०३५-२०४५ मा सदस्यसचिव र २०४६-०४७ मा उपकुलपति समेत बनेका थिए । वि.सं. २०२३ देखि २०२६ सम्म प्रेस कार्यमा बढी सक्रिय रही प्रेस प्राविधिकको रूपमा केही महिना जापानमा तालिम प्राप्त गरेका थिए । यिनले आफ्नो जीवनभोगाइका क्रममा नेपालका धेरै जिल्लाहरू र भारत, चीन, पाकिस्तान, बङ्गलादेश, जापान, बर्मा, कोरिया, पूर्व जर्मनी रूस र अमेरिकालगायतका केही युरोपियन मुलुकहरूको पनि भ्रमण गरेका थिए (कुँवर, २०३७ : ३२४) यिनी ७४ वर्षको लामो जीवन व्यतीत गरी २०५६ साउन ८ गते काठमाडौँमा दिवङ्गत भएका थिए ।

विजय मल्ल आफ्नै घरको साहित्यिक वातावरणले गर्दा सानै उमेरदेखि नै साहित्यप्रति उन्मुख भएका थिए । दरबार हाइस्कूलमा अध्ययनरत हुँदादेखि कविता सिर्जना गर्न



थालेका विजय मल्ल विद्यालयमा गठित सातवटा मण्डलीमध्ये 'युगमण्डली' का सदस्य थिए । यिनी १९९२ मा विद्यालयको 'शुक्रमण्डली'बाट प्रकाशित हुने हस्तलिखित पत्रिकाका सम्पादक बनेका थिए । यिनको "दुई पसले" शीर्षकको कथा यसैमा प्रकाशित भएको थियो तर यिनको पहिलो प्रकाशित रचना भने १९९७ मा 'शारदा'मा प्रकाशित 'विश्राम' नामको कविता हो (आचार्य, २०६६ : ७४) यिनले २००१ देखि नै नाट्यकृतिहरू रचना गर्न थालेका थिए । भण्डे छ दशकको लामो साहित्यिक यात्राका क्रममा यिनले कविता, कथा, नाटक, उपन्यास र लेख संस्मरण गरी थुप्रै विधामा योगदान दिएका थिए । आफ्नो साहित्यिक जीवनका क्रममा केही पत्रिका र सङ्कलनहरूको सम्पादन पनि गरेका थिए । यस्ता केही सामग्री हुन् - शारदा (साहित्यिक मासिक), नेपाल पुकार (नेपाली काँग्रेसको मुखपत्र) प्रज्ञा, (साहित्यिक त्रैमासिक), कविता (साहित्यिक) सात एकाङ्की -एकाङ्कीसङ्ग्रह २०३१) आदि । यिनले साहित्यका विभिन्न विधामा योगदान दिएकाले साभा पुरस्कार (२०२७), गोरखा दक्षिण बाहु (२०४०), गंकी बसुन्धरा पुरस्कार (२०४९) भूपालमानसिंह कार्की पुरस्कार (२०५३) का साथै वेदनिधि पुरस्कार (२०५६) पनि प्राप्त गरेका थिए ।

### साहित्यिक प्रेरणा, प्रभाव र लेखन

यिनी नेपाली साहित्यका प्रसिद्ध साहित्यकार ऋद्धिबहादुर मल्लका छोरा र गोविन्द बहादुर मल्ल 'गोठालो'का भाइ भएकाले सानैदेखि आफ्नै घरमा साहित्यिक वातावरणमा हुर्के । तत्कालीन नेपालका प्रसिद्ध साहित्यकारहरूसँग घरमै संसर्ग भयो । आनुवंशिक साहित्यिक परिवार र साहित्यिक वातावरणको संसर्गले स्वाभाविक रूपमा यिनको साहित्यकार व्यक्तित्व निर्माण भएको पाइन्छ । यिनले दरबार हाइस्कूलमा पढ्दा त्यहाँबाट प्रकाशित हुने हस्तलिखित पत्रिकामा कथा, कविता छपाउन थाले । बुवा ऋद्धिबहादुर मल्लको राण दरबारसँग राम्रो सम्बन्ध भएकाले दरबार हाइस्कूलमा पढ्दा विभिन्न वर्गका साथीहरूसँगको सहवासले एकातिर उच्चवर्गीय राणा परिवारको विलासी र वैभवशाली क्रियाकलापलाई हेर्ने अवसर पाए भने अर्कोतिर टोलछिमेकका साथीहरूको सम्पर्कबाट निम्न र मध्यवर्गीय समाजको अध्ययन गर्ने अवसर पाए । यिनले राणा दरबारमा प्रदर्शन हुने हिन्दी-उर्दू मिश्रित हिन्दुस्तानी ड्रामाको रिहर्सन हेर्ने अवसर पाएको हुँदा यिनमा ड्रामाप्रति आकर्षण भयो र ड्रामा हेर्न जान थाले । वि.सं. १९९५ मा दरबारस्कूलमा समको 'मुकुन्द इन्दिरा' प्रदर्शित भएको हेर्न पाए (कोइराला, २०६६ : १२४) त्यस्तै समको नाटक 'भक्त भानुभक्त' मा एउटा पात्रको भूमिका खेल्ने अवसर पाए । यसरी नाट्य विधातर्फ आकृष्ट हुँदै जाँदा यिनले श्याम राजासँग "ओथेलो"नाटक पढ्न पाए ।

ओथेलोको अध्ययनले यिनमा सेक्सपियरप्रति भन्नु रूचि बढायो । पछि गोपालप्रसाद रिमाल, गोविन्द गोठाले र स्वयं विजय मल्लले पश्चिमी नाटककारका नाटकहरू पढ्न थालेको देखिन्छ । यिनी १९९९ मा 'गौरीशङ्कर नाट्यसमुदाय' मा समदस्य बनेपछि नाटक लेखनतर्फ आकर्षित भएको पाइन्छ (आचार्य, २०६६ : ७४) यिनै साहित्यिक प्रेरणा र प्रभावबाट विजय मल्ल नाटकलेखनतर्फ उन्मुख भए र यिनको पहिलो नाट्यकृति 'राधा मान्दिन' (२००१) देखापऱ्यो । यो एकाङ्की हो र यसलाई प्रकाशन गराउनका लागि 'नेपाली भाषा प्रकाशनी समिति' मा दिइयो तर प्रकाशित हुन सकेन । यिनको पहिलो प्रदर्शित कृति 'बहुलाकाजीको सपना' (२००४) हो । यो नाटक शान्ति निकुञ्ज हाइस्कूलमा सफलतासाथ प्रदर्शन भएको थियो । विजयमल्लको नाट्यरूचिले यिनलाई गौरीशङ्कर नाट्य समुदायको सचिव पनि बनायो । यस नाट्य समुदायमा गोपालप्रसाद रिमाल प्रबन्धक र गोविन्द गोठाले कोषाध्यक्ष थिए । यसरी विजय मल्ले सानैदेखि घरमै साहित्यिक वातावरण ठूला साहित्यकारसँगको बसउठ, विद्यार्थीजीवन र अन्य जीवनमा घटेका र विश्वसाहित्यको अध्ययनबाट साहित्यिक प्रेरणा, प्रभाव ग्रहण गरेको देखिन्छ । यिनी सार्त्रलाई ज्यादै मन पराउँथे । त्यस्तै पश्चिमी आधुनिक नाटककार इब्सन, हफ्टम्यान, चेखव जार्जबर्नार्डस, ब्रेख्त तथा विसङ्गतिवादी अभिव्यञ्जनावादी कतिपय नाटककारहरू (स्यामुअल वेकेट, आयनेस्को, जेने, हेनरी मिलर) बाट पनि प्रेरित र प्रभावित भएको देखिन्छ । यिनी गोविन्द गोठाले र विश्वेश्वरप्रसाद कोइलाका कथाहरू पनि ज्यादै मन पराउँथे । शरच्चन्द्र दोस्तोवेस्की र स्टिफिन ज्वाइगका कृतिहरूबाट विशेष प्रभावित देखिन्छन् । त्यस्तै जुद्ध शमशेरको जेठी छोरी उर्मिलाकहाँ काम गर्ने केटीलाई यिनले पत्र लेख्न थाले, तर केटीले विजय मल्लका अप्ठ्यारा प्रेमपत्र बुझिन । यस घटनाले यिनलाई सरल भाषामा लेख्ने प्रेरणा मिलेको थाहा पाइन्छ । यिनी नाटककार मात्र नभएर सफल नाट्यनिर्देशकका रूपमा पनि परिचित थिए ।

### नाट्यप्रवृत्तिहरू

यथार्थवादी नाट्य ढाँचालाई आत्मसात् गरेर २००१ सालदेखि नाट्यलेखनमा प्रवृत्त भएका विजय मल्लले भण्डै पाँच दशकको अवधिमा विभिन्न प्रकारका नाटक लेखेका छन् (कोइराला, २०६६ : १२६) । यिनका शुरूका नाटकहरू यथार्थवादी, समस्यामूलक र मनोवैज्ञानिक छन् । त्यसपछि यिनले अतिथार्थवादी, प्रयोगवादी र प्रतीकात्मक नाटक पनि लेखेका छन् । त्यस्तै यिनले वैचारिकनाटक, वादविवादात्मक नाटक पनि लेखेका छन् । प्रायः यिनले सामाजिक समस्यालाई देखाउने क्रममा नारीसमस्या, गरिबी स्त्रीपुरुषबीचका यौनसमस्या, प्रेम र विवाह बालसमस्या, युद्धसमस्या, नगरसभ्यताले

निम्त्याएका समस्या आदिलाई औल्याएका छन् । यिनका नाटक परम्परावादी विचार र आधुनिक विचारका द्वन्द्वले पाकेका छन् । प्रदर्शनका लागि गद्यमा मात्र नाटक लेख्ने विजय मल्लका कतिपय नाटकलाई आधुनिक दुःखान्त नाटक भन्न सकिने पनि यिनले सुखान्त दुःखान्त नाट्य प्रकारलाई आधार मानेर भने नाटक लेखेका छैनन् ।

यिनले आफ्ना नाटकमा पुराकथा, प्रतीक, स्वैरकल्पनाको प्रयोग पनि गरेका छन् । साथै असामान्यतालाई नै प्रतिभा मान्ने विजयका नाटकमा कुनै न कुनै पात्र असामान्य प्रकृतिको हुन्छ नै । यो पनि यिनको मौलिक नाट्य प्रयोग हो । यसरी यिनले विविध प्रकारका नाटक लेखेर तथा विविध विषयवस्तु र शिल्प प्रयोग गरेर आधुनिक नेपाली नाट्य साहित्यमा छुट्टै र विशिष्ट स्थान बनाएका छन् ।

### परम्पराप्रति विद्रोह गरी नवीन मूल्य र मान्यताको स्थापना

विजय मल्ल आधुनिक नेपाली साहित्यको नाट्य क्षेत्रमा नयाँ शैली अँगालेर लेख्ने नाटककार हुन् । यिनका बनाइअनुसार मान्छेको विचार र जीवनशैलीमा परिवर्तन भए जस्तै नाटकमा पनि युगानुकूल परिवर्तन हुनुपर्दछ । नाटकको 'विषयवस्तु' र शैलीशिल्प 'दुवैमा युगानुसार नयाँनयाँ प्रयोग र विकास गरिनु पर्दछ । यिनका विचारमा आजका आधुनिक नाटकमा भरत मुनिको 'नाट्य शास्त्र' र अरस्तुको 'काव्यशास्त्र' मा वर्णित कथावस्तु र विवेचना सम्बन्धी मान्यताहरूले नाटक र नाटककारलाई दिशानिर्देशन दिन सकिरहे पनि पूर्वीय र पाश्चात्य परम्परामा नाट्यसिद्धान्तले उत्तरवर्ती आधुनिक नाट्यकृतिमाथि पूर्णतः शासन गर्न नसक्ने कुरामा विश्वास गर्दछन् । त्यसैले यिनी परम्परादेखि चलिआएको नाट्य मान्यतामा विद्रोह गरी नयाँ मूल्य र मान्यतालाई स्थापना गर्न चाहन्छन् । यो नै यिनको विशेष पहिचान हो ।

### समस्यामूलकता

नाटककार विजय मल्लका प्रायः सबै नाटकहरू रिमालका जस्तै समस्यामूलक हुन्छन् । यो प्रवृत्ति प्राथमिक चरणभन्दा पछिका नाटकहरूमा अझ तीव्र पाइन्छ । सामाजिक जीवनको यथार्थतालाई स्वाभाविक रूपमा विश्लेषण गरी थोरै पात्रका माध्यमबाट नाटकको विषयवस्तुलाई समस्याप्रधान बनाउनु मल्लको नाट्यगत एउटा विशेषता नै हो । तत्कालीन सामाजिक समस्यालाई देखाउने क्रममा गरिवीलाई यिनले समाजको ठूलो समस्याका रूपमा हेरेका छन् । समाजमा एउटा वर्ग काम नगरी खान्छ र अर्को वर्ग काम गरेर पनि खान पाउँदैन । भाग्यमा विश्वास गर्नाले, माग्नाले गरिबवर्ग धनीको विरोध गर्न सक्दैन र रोग, भोक फोहोर मैलामा डुबेर मर्छ भन्ने कुरा 'बहुलाकाजीको

सपना' ले देखाएको छ । त्यस्तै सानैमा आमाले छोड्दा बच्चाहरू बिग्रने समस्यालाई 'कोही किन बर्बाद होस्' भन्ने नाटकले देखाइएको छ । समाजमा गरिबी छ, गरिबीका कारणले मानिस जस्तासुकै कुकृत्य गर्न पनि तयार छ भन्ने कुरालाई 'मानिस र मुकुन्दो' ले प्रस्तुत गरेको छ । हाम्रो समाजमा लाहुरे जानु पनि समस्या नै भएको छ । लाहुरेहरू युद्ध लड्न जान्छन् । युद्धमा कि त मर्छन् कि त शारीरिक र मानसिक रूपमा अपाङ्ग भएर फर्कन्छन् । युद्धले नारी जीवनलाई बरबाद पारेको छ भन्ने कुरालाई 'पहाड चिच्याइरहेछ' भन्ने नाटकले देखाएको छ । समस्यानाटक लेख्दा यिनले व्यक्ति, समाज राष्ट्र र विश्वकै समस्यालाई देखाएका छन् । यिनका नाटकहरूमा सहरी समाज, गाउँले समाज, राणाकालीन समाज, शैक्षिक समाज आदिका साथै अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय समाजको पनि चित्रण देखापर्छ । विभिन्न किसिमका समाजिक समस्याहरूलाई प्रस्तुत गरी स्वस्थ समाजको निर्माणका लागि समाधानको बाटो समेत प्रस्तुत गरेका छन् ।

### मनोविश्लेषणात्मकता

विजय मल्ल मूलतः मनोवैज्ञानिक नाटककार हुन् । यिनी पाश्चात्य मनोवैज्ञानिक फ्रायड र युङ्गले प्रतिपादन गरेका सिद्धान्तहरूलाई प्रयोग गरी नाटक सिर्जना गर्दछन् । यिनले आफ्नो नाटकहरूमा पात्रहरूका मनको विशेष विश्लेषण गरेर मनको सूक्ष्म अन्वेषण, अचेतन मनको प्रकटीकरण, असामान्य मनस्थितिको चित्रण गरेका छन् । मनोवैज्ञानिक क्षेत्रभित्र बालमनोविज्ञान, परामनोविज्ञान, अपराधमनोविज्ञान, यौनमनोविज्ञान स्वप्नमनोविज्ञान आदिको प्रयोग विकृति र विसङ्गतिहरूलाई कलात्मक रूपमा उतारेका छन् । व्यक्तिमनको अचेतनामा निहित इच्छा, आकांक्षा र कुण्ठाको चित्रणमा मल्लका नाटक केन्द्रित छन् । यिनले विविध मनोदशा बोकेका पात्रहरूको मानसिकता, मानसिक ग्रन्थि, कुण्ठा र मानसिक जटिलताको यथार्थ विश्लेषण गरेका छन् । यिनका नाटकमा विकृत आन्तरिक मनस्थितिले व्यक्तिको बाह्य जीवनमा पार्ने प्रभाव देख्न पाइन्छ । सामान्य र असामान्य मनस्थितिका पात्रको संयोजन गरी लेखिएका यिनका नाटकमा नारीहृदयको विकृतिग्रस्त मनोदशाको विश्लेषण गरिनुका साथै दमित कामवासनाको अभिव्यक्ति पनि विभिन्न किसिमले भएको देखिन्छ । बालमनोविज्ञानको प्रयोग 'कोही किन बर्बाद होस्' नाटकमा भएको छ । मातृस्नेहबाट वञ्चित केटाकेटीमा कसरी असामान्य आउँछ भन्ने कुरा देखाइएको छ (कोइराला, २०६६ : १२८)। यिनले असामान्य मनोविज्ञानको प्रयोग गर्दा मूलतः यौनमनोविज्ञानलाई बढी महत्त्व दिएका छन् । 'जिउँदो लाश' मा यौनकुण्ठाले पीडित उर्मिला र प्रतिभाको चित्रण गरिएको छ । 'स्मृतिको पर्खालभित्र अपराध

मनोवृत्तिको चित्रण छ भने 'भूलैभूलको यथार्थमा' हीनत्व ग्रन्थि देखाएको छ । यौनविकृतिको चित्रण 'मानिस र मुकुन्दो' भएको छ ।

### प्रतीकात्मकता

यिनी प्रतीकात्मक नाट्यसर्जक हुन् । यिनले आफ्ना नाटकमा प्रतीकहरूको अर्थपूर्ण प्रयोग गरेका छन् । वस्तु यथार्थलाई बढ्ता प्रभावकारी र वस्तुको सतही नभएर गहिच्याइ पत्ता लगाउन वा प्रष्ट पार्न मल्लले नाट्य वस्तुको अभिव्यक्तिलाई प्रतीकात्मक रूपमा प्रस्तुत गरेका हुन्छन् । यिनका नाटकहरूमा प्रयुक्त प्रतीकको विशेष भूमिका र सार्थकता हुन्छ । (लुइटेल्, २०६७ : १३४) समाज परिवर्तनशील छ तर त्यसलाई परम्पराले अवरूद्ध बनाएको छ । कुपरम्परा जडता, निर्जीवता र निश्चेष्टताको प्रतीक हो । कुपरम्पराबाट मुक्ति, परिवर्तन, गतिशीलता, जीवन्तता र सचेतताको प्रतीक हो । त्यस्तै मनोवैज्ञानिक स्वप्न विम्व वा प्रतीकको प्रयोग पनि 'जिउँदो लाश' नाटकमा भएको छ । युद्ध हिंसक पशु वा विनाशको प्रतीक र पहाड स्वाभाविक नदोष जीवनको प्रतीक हो । युद्धरूपी हिंसक बाघले पहाडरूपी सुन्दर निश्छल मृगको सिकार गरिरहेको छ भन्ने कुरा पहाड चिच्याइरहेछ, भन्ने नाटकले देखाएको छ । त्यस्तै रातारात धनी हुने चाहना, मूर्ति बेचुवा, केटी बेचुवा मानवका दुष्प्रवृत्तिका मुकुन्डा हुन् ती मुकुन्डा लगाउने छद्म भेपी राक्षसहरू समाजमा थुप्रै छन् । वर्तमानमा मान्छे यस्तै मुकुन्डाभित्र लुकेको हुन्छ । समाजले त्यस्ता छद्मभेपीलाई चिन्नुपर्छ । मान्छे मुकुन्डोको प्रतीक र मुकुन्डो मान्छेको राक्षसी प्रवृत्तिको प्रतीक बनेको छ । 'भोलि के हुन्छ ? ' पनि प्रतीकात्मक छ । यसमा पृथ्वीलाई भातृत्वको प्रतीक, छोरा सुर्वण र मोहन शान्तिका प्रतीक, माधुरी र सुन्दरी मधुरता र सुन्दरताका प्रतीक छन् । मधुरता र सुन्दरतालाई युद्धले मारिसकेको छ र कामिनी सुन्दर नारीको प्रतीक हो (कोइराला, २०६६ : १२९)

### प्रयोगपरकता

यिनी प्रयोगवादी नाटककार हुन् । यिनले नाटकमा परम्पराको निर्वाह गरेको पाइँदैन । नाटक परम्पराबाट मुक्त रहनुपर्छ भन्ने मान्यता राख्ने मल्ले आफ्ना नाटकमा 'मङ्गलाचरण प्रस्ताव' आदिको प्रयोग गरेका छैनन् । यिनी परम्परित नाट्यसिद्धान्तबाट मुक्त रहेका छन् । नाटकमा मल्लले मिथकको प्रयोग गरी मानव भित्रको आदिम संस्कार र प्रेतात्मालाई उपस्थित गरेका छन् । यिनले वर्तमान र भविष्यलाई कलात्मक रूपमा संयोजन गरेका छन् । आजको बौद्धिक जमातमा बढ्दै गएका जटिलता, फेरिएका मूल्य मान्यताजस्ता नवीन कथ्यले यिनका नाटकमा नवीन शिल्पसाहित्यको प्रस्तुति पाएका छन्

। नयाँ प्रयोगका रूपमा 'जिउँदो लास' 'भोलि के हुन्छ' र 'पहाड चियाइरहेछ' नाटकहरूलाई लिन सकिन्छ । वर्तमान र भविष्य दुवैलाई एउटै सूत्रमा उनेर समय, स्थानका निर्देशन नगरी कविकल्पना भैं प्रस्तुतीकरण पात्रहरू कल्पनामै आउँछन्, बोल्छन् र बोल्दाबोल्दै फ्रिज हुन्छन् । कविको स्वगत रोकिँदा रोकिने र चालु हुँदा चल्ने ( भोलि के हुन्छ ?) प्रकाश मधुरो हुँदा पात्रका छाँया देखिने, तीब्र उज्यालो हुँदा पात्रका छाँया देखिने, तीब्र उज्यालो हुँदा पात्रहरू जीवित भन्दा निर्जीव लाग्ने र प्रकाश मन्द हुँदा पात्रहरू स्वाभाविक स्थितिमा देखिनु मादलको रन्कोमा बन्दुकको फायर र बुटजस्ताको आवाज आउनु (पहाड चियाइरहेछ) आदि विजय मल्लका प्रयोगपरकताका नमुना हुन् ( कोइराला, २०६६ : १३०)

### विसङ्गतिवादी-अस्तित्ववादी चिन्तन

नाटककार विजय मल्ल प्रयोगवादी मात्र नभएर विसङ्गतिवादी अस्तित्ववादी चिन्तनलाई आत्मसात् गर्ने नाट्यसर्जक हुन् । यिनले सचेत रूपमा आफ्ना नाटकहरूमा जीवनको निस्सारता, निरर्थकता, शून्यता र विसङ्गतिलाई चित्रण गरेका छन् । एकातिर जीवनको निस्सारता प्रस्तुत गर्ने र त्यसकै आडमा अस्तित्वको खोजी गर्दै अर्कोतिर अस्तित्वका लागि सङ्घर्षको प्रस्तुति गर्दछन् । यिनी आफ्ना नाटकहरूमा विसङ्गतिको चित्रण गर्दै विसङ्गतिकै माझबाट जीवनको अस्तित्व खोज गर्दछन् । यिनी विसङ्गतिको बोध गरी अस्तित्वको खोज नगर्ने, अस्तित्वको खोज गर्ने तर विसङ्गतिको बोध नगर्ने प्रवृत्तिका नाटककार होइनन् । यी दुवै वादको बोध र खोज गर्ने भएकोले यिनलाई विसङ्गतिवादी अस्तित्ववादी प्रवृत्तिका नाटककार मानिन्छ ।

यिनी आफ्ना नाटकमा जीवनका विसङ्गतिको चित्रण बौद्धिकस्तरमा गर्दछन् । परम्पराले जीवनलाई विसङ्गत पारेको छ । जीवनमा विवशता, बाध्यता र जडताले जीवनलाई अर्थहीन, मूल्यहीन र निराश बनाएको छ । जीवन विडम्बनायुक्त छ । जीवनलाई सुल्टोबाट मात्र होइन उल्टोबाट पनि हेर्नु पर्छ, सुल्टोमात्र सम्पूर्णता होइन भन्ने ( कोइराला, २०६६ : १२९) कुरा विजय मल्लाका नाटकहरूमा छ । "जिउँदो लास" विसङ्गतिवादी नाटकको राम्रो उदाहरण हो भने "भोलि के हुन्छ ?" अस्तित्ववादी विचारको राम्रो नमुना हो ।

### कथावस्तु र चरित्र प्रयोग

नाटककार विजय मल्लको एउटा उल्लेख पक्ष नाट्यशिल्प पनि हो । यिनका नाटकमा प्रयुक्त कथावस्तु सङ्क्षिप्त र छोटो हुन्छन् । यथार्थवादी समस्यामूलक नाटकमा भन्दा

अतियथार्थवादी प्रयोगवादी नाटकमा भन्न क्षीण कथावस्तुको प्रयोग गरेको पाइन्छ । यिनी कथावस्तु संरचनामा भन्दा वैचारिक सङ्घर्ष र द्वन्द्व प्रदर्शनमा बढी जोड दिने गर्दछन् । कथावस्तुलाई प्रायः अङ्कमा विभाजन गरेका छन् र केही नाटकमा कथावस्तुलाई दृश्यमा पनि विभाजन गरेका छन् । अतियथार्थवादी र प्रयोगवादी नाटकमा कथानक प्रतीकात्मक र व्यङ्ग्यात्मक हुन पुगेको पाइन्छ । यिनका नाटकमा पात्र निम्न वर्गका र उच्च वर्गका छन् । पात्रमा वर्गीय विशेषताका साथै वैयक्तिक विशेषता पनि भेटिन्छ । स्वभाव, आचार व्यवहारका दृष्टिले यिनका पात्रहरूले विभिन्न मानवीय स्वभाव र विचित्रतालाई देखाएका छन् । प्रत्येक नाटकमा यिनले असामान्य स्वभावको पात्र प्रयोग गरेका छन् त्यो यिनको मौलिक पक्ष हो । बहुला काजी (बहुला काजीको सपना) राधा कृष्ण (जिउँदो लास) महेश्वर र किशोरी (स्मृतिको पर्खालभित्र) मोहन सुवर्ण (भोलि के हुन्छ ?) आदि असामान्य चरित्र हुन् ।

### भाषाशैली

नाटककार विजय मल्लाका नाटकहरूमा भाषा आलङ्कारिक र काव्यिक नभेटिए पनि यथार्थवादी नाटकमा सरल गद्य र चलनचल्तीको बोलीचालीको भाषा प्रयोग भएको भेटिन्छ । प्रयोगवादी नाटकमा प्रतीकात्मक भाषाको प्रयोग छ, विम्बको प्रयोग छ । तत्सम, तद्भव र आगन्तुक शब्दको प्रयोग गरेका छन् । कतै कतै व्याकरणिक त्रुटि पनि पाइन्छन् । भट्ट हेर्दा भाषा नीरस लागे पनि प्रतीक र विम्बको प्रयोगले गम्भीर र ओणपूर्ण बनाएको छ । भाषा नै स्वैरकल्पनात्मक छ (कोइराला, २०६६ : १३१) र तदनुसारका वाक्यविन्यास गरिएको छ । वाक्यहरू छोटछोटा छन् । यिनी अभिनयका लागि नै लेख्ने गर्थे । त्यसैले यिनका नाटकको अभिनय पक्ष सफल छ । कलाकारलाई आङ्गिक अभिनय गर्दा अप्ठ्यारो आइपर्ने हुँदा कोष्ठकभित्र त्यस्ता विशेष आङ्गिक अभिनयको उल्लेख गर्थे, जसले निर्देशकलाई केही सजिलो हुने गर्थ्यो ।

संवाद कला पनि यिनका नाटकको एउटा उल्लेख्य पक्ष हो । यिनी आफ्ना नाटकमा सतहमा सामान्य अर्थ देखिए पनि गहिराइमा विशेष अर्थ देखिने संवादको प्रयोग गर्दछन् । संवादले प्रतीकात्मक र तात्पर्यलाई व्यङ्ग्यात्मक बनाएको छ ।

## भोलि के हुन्छ ? नाटकको विवेचना

### कथावस्तु

‘भोलि के हुन्छ ?’ वि.सं. २०२१ मा लेखिएर २०२८ मा प्रकाशित ‘पथरको कथा’ एकाङ्की सङ्ग्रहमा सङ्ग्रहित नाटक हो । यस नाटकले राष्ट्रिय र अन्तराष्ट्रिय घात प्रतिघात र त्यस्ता घातबाट उत्पन्न सङ्घर्षलाई मुख्य विषयवस्तु बनाएको छ । यस नाटकको रचना हनुभन्दा अगाडि तत्कालीन सोभियत सङ्घले क्यूवामा घातक क्षेप्यास्त्रहरू राखेर क्यूवालालाई सैनिक अखडा बनाउन लागेको थियो । सोभियत अखडा बनाउन लागेको थियो । सोभियत सङ्घको उक्त कार्यको विरोध गर्दै अमेरिकाले सैनिक परिचालन गर्न थालेपछि दुई महाशक्ति राष्ट्रहरूको आपसी वैमनस्यता र शक्ति सङ्घर्षका कारण तेस्रो विश्वयुद्धको सम्भावनाको त्रास पूर्ण स्थितिलाई यसमा नाटकीकरण गरेर प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ ।

प्रस्तुत नाटकले व्यक्ति, समाज र राष्ट्रको सीमित घेरालाई नाघेर संसारभरिकै समस्या र सिङ्गो मानवजातिको भविष्यलाई करूणा र त्रासका माध्यमबाट देखाएको छ । पृथ्वीमाताको भूसम्पदामाथि एकाधिकार कायम गर्न खोज्ने शक्तिशाली राष्ट्रहरूको स्वार्थान्धता एवं प्रभुत्ववादी प्रवृत्तिको उद्घाटन गरेको छ ।

आणविक युद्धको सत्तामय परिवेशमा राजेन्द्र एकसुरले बर्बराइरहेको छ । उसले मृत्युका कारण मसानबाट मान्छे पोलेको गन्ध सुँध्ने र मृत्युको विकराल लप्काले संसार ढाक्न लागेको अनुभव गरी प्रेम र दयाका अतिरिक्त साहित्य कला सङ्गीत एवं सौन्दर्यसमेत नष्ट भएको महसुस गर्दछ । यस्तो भवावह स्थितिलाई रोक्न दुधे बालकहरूको संरक्षण गरी संसारको संरक्षण गर्न नसक्ने बुद्धिजीवी, शान्तिकामी तर विवश र अकर्मण्य ठानी आफूलाई जन्मनुभन्दा पहिले नै मरिसकेको ठान्दछ ।

यो महायुद्ध आमाले तिमी र तिम्रा सन्तानले मेरो जायजथा र सम्पूर्ण सम्पत्ति भोग गर्नु भनेर लेखिदिएको कागतलाई आधार बनाएर भएको छ । विदेशीहरूले पनि त्यस्तो कागज आफूसँग भएको दावा गरिसकेका छन् । त्यसैले यो युद्ध मच्चि रहेको छ । तर शक्तिका आडमा सम्पूर्ण पृथ्वीको भोग गर्न चाहने मोहनले अर्को साँचो कागज आमासँग लिनुपर्दछ भनेर सल्लाह दिने न्यायधीशलाई नै तिरस्कार गरी शक्तिले साँचोलाई भुटो र भुटोलाई साँचो बनाउन सकिन्छ भनी सुवर्णलाई आफ्नो प्रभावमा पारी कैद गरिएकी आमालाई स्वर्गगङ्गामा लगेर बगाइदिने निर्णय गर्छ । ऊ पराजय सहनुभन्दा मृत्युलाई नै वरण गर्न पृथ्वीलाई ध्वस्त पार्न चाहन्छ । यस कार्यलाई दुलहीले विरोध गरेकी छिन् । उनी स्वर्गगङ्गाबाट आफ्ना दिदीबहिनीहरूले बोलाइरहेको सपना देख्ने आमालाई स्वर्गगङ्गामा बगाइदिन उद्यत भएको मोहन सुवर्णलाई लिई अँध्यारो कैदखानामा प्रवेश गर्दछ । आमा व्युँझै भएकीले उनीहरूलाई यस कार्यमा बाधा उत्पन्न हुन्छ । मोहनका



कुरा सुनेर आमा त्यस्तो कागज लेखिदिएको सम्झना नभएको बताउँछिन् र मोहनलाई आफूले दिएको एक टुक्रा जमिनमा चित्त बुझाएर बस्न आग्रह गर्छिन् । आमाको भनाइबाट रूष्ट भएको मोहन आमाको मुटुको रगतको छाप लगाएर मात्र आफू सुन्तुष्ट हुने विचार प्रकट गर्दै सुवर्णका साथ कैदखानाबाट बाहिरिन्छ । यी सम्पूर्ण घटनालाई प्रत्यक्ष रूपमा भोगिरहेको र हेरिरहेको राजेन्द्र महाभारतको युद्धमा आफ्नो टाउको काटिएर बाँसका लिङ्गामा टाँसिएको एक पात्रको अनुभूति गरिरहेको छ । यत्तिकैमा मोहन र सुवर्ण पुनः कैदखानामा बस्छन् र आमालाई स्वर्गगङ्गातिर लाँदै गर्दा आमा व्युत्थिन्छिन् । दुलही कराउँदै आएर मातृहत्या नहोस् भनेर मोहनसँग अनुरोध गर्छिन् तर मोहान्ध भएको मोहन मेरो उठेको हात कसेको गर्धनमा त्यसै छाड्दैन भनेर त्यहाँबाट निस्कन्छ । भोलिपल्ट व्युत्थनेतिकै 'सुप्रभातम्' लाई पनि राजेन्द्र भयानक ठान्छ । मातृहत्या र नरसंहारले रङ्गिएको यो दुःखान्त इतिहासलाई उसले सुने पनि युगले सुन्ने छैन भन्ने कुरा राजेन्द्रले बुझेको छ । त्यसैवेला कामिनी आएर आमालाई त्यहाँबाट भाग्ने सल्लाह दिन्छे तर आमाले उक्त कुरालाई असहमति जनाउँछिन् । सबैलाई जीवनको छाप लगाइदिने आमा आफ्ना सन्तानले आपसमा काटमार गरेको देखेर छक्क परेकी छिन् । त्यसपछि प्रणयले व्याकुल भएकी माधुरी महेशलाई भेट्न स्वर्ग जान्छु भन्दै कौसीबाट हाम्फालेर आत्महत्या गर्दछे । त्यसपछि सुवर्ण आएर आमाको रक्षाका लागि एउटा सिपाही राखेर बाहिर निस्कन्छ । सुवर्ण निस्कनासाथ सिपाहीसहित आएको मोहनले छुरीको प्रहार गरी आमाको हत्या गर्न लागेकै बेलामा सुवर्ण आएर मोहनलाई कैद गरी पराजय स्वीकार गरेर भए पनि पृथ्वीलाई विनाशलीलाबाट जोगाइएको छ तापनि यो सुरक्षा सदाका लागि नभई आत्महत्या गरेको व्यक्ति रक्तबीज भएकाले सहस्रौं राक्षसहरू उत्पन्न भएर ग्रह ग्रह जुधाउँदै संसारको वीभत्स खेल खेल्नेछन् भनी राजेन्द्रले आगामी युगलाई सतर्क रहन आह्वान गरेको छ अन्त्यमा दुधे बालकको संरक्षणका लागि भीख मागेको छ । सोभो रूपमा हेर्दा प्रस्तुत नाटकको विषयवस्तु यही हो तर प्रतीकात्मक सन्दर्भविना प्रतिपादित नाटकका विषयवस्तु स्पष्ट हुँदैन ।

यस नाटकमा आन्तरिक जगत्लाई बाह्य जगत्मा र बाह्य जगतलाई आन्तरिक जगत्मा प्रतिबिम्ब पारिएको छ । यो दुवै जगत्मा भएको सत्यलाई प्रतीकात्मक रूपमा स्पष्ट पार्न खोजिएको छ । सबलाई मारेर पृथ्वीको अकण्टक राज्य गर्न चाहने मोहन तानाशाही शासकको प्रतिनिधि हो । आमा पृथ्वी वा मातृभूमिको प्रतीक हुन् । आमाले लेखिदिएको कागज एक दुई जनाले पृथ्वीमा रहेको अतुल सम्पत्तिको उपभोग गर्ने अधिकारपत्र मात्र नभएर सम्पूर्ण मानुष्यलाई जीवनको छाप लगाएर दिएको प्रमाण पत्र

हो । त्यसैले उक्त कागज बाँच्नका लागि लालमोहर लगाएर मान्छेलाई दिएको अधिकार पत्र हो । राजेन्द्र महासगरले सृजना गरेको विध्वंशलीलाको सन्त्रासले उसको अन्तरात्मा आकुलव्याकुल भएको छ । राजेन्द्र अन्य पात्रहरू बोलिरहेका बेलामा एक्कासि बोल्न, यसो हुनु उनीहरूको आचरिक स्वरको प्रकटीकरण हो । त्यतिखेर उनीहरूको बाह्य क्रियाकलाप ठप्प रोकिन्छ । यसैले वस्तुतः आन्तरिक शक्तिको प्रेरणा र प्रभावबिना बाह्य चेष्टाहरू सञ्चालित हुनसक्दैनन् भन्ने देखाइएको छ साथै बाह्य क्रियाकलापले आन्तरिक क्रियाकलापलाई पनि प्रभाव पारेको देखाइएको छ । मोहनले आमालाई स्वर्गगङ्गामा बगाइदिने निर्णय गर्दा 'ठीक छ तिम्रो भनाइ' भन्न पुग्छ । यस भनाइमा युद्धको सन्त्रासले राजेन्द्रमा कर्तव्य तथा कर्तव्यको बोध पनि हराउन लागेको आभास पाइन्छ तापनि उक्त भनाइको प्रतिक्रियामा मोहन र सुवर्णले बेग्लाबेग्लै रूपमा प्रतिक्रिया प्रस्तुत गर्छन् । तानाशाही मोहनले आमा (मातृभूमि)लाई कैद (अन्याय अत्याचार) गरिरहेको छ । त्यसैले आमा मुक्तिका लागि उज्यालोतिर उड्न चाहन्छिन् । स्वर्गगङ्गाबाट दिदीबहिनीले बोलाइरहेको सपना देख्नु उज्यालो भविष्यको प्रतिविम्ब हो । स्वर्गगङ्गाका दिदीबहिनी आकाशगङ्गाका अनन्त तारापुञ्जका प्रतीक हुन् । यसरी पृथ्वीले उज्यालो चाहनु र ताराहरूले पृथ्वीलाई बोलाएको दोहोरो सन्दर्भबाट ताराहरूको प्रतिविम्ब पृथ्वीमा र पृथ्वीको प्रतिविम्ब तारामा परेको तथ्य प्रकट भएको छ । यसरी पृथ्वी र ताराहरूमा परस्पर भेटघाट गराउन विषय प्रस्तुत गरेर नाटककारले विश्वब्रह्माण्डलाई नै रङ्गमञ्चमा उतारेर विश्वशान्ति र विश्व एकत्वको कामना गरेका छन् ।

आमाले उज्यालो मन पराउनुको तात्पर्यले सत्य र शान्तिलाई बुझाएको छ भने अँध्यारो मन पराउनुबाट हिंसाजन्य युद्धलाई तिरष्कार गरेको बुझिन्छ । यसैले आमा र राजेन्द्रका भनाइमा समानता पाइनाले दुवैले बोलेको कुरा दुवैले ठीकसँग सुन्दछन् । मोहनले पनि आमालाई मार्न खोज्दा उसका हात काभिरहेका हुन्छन् । त्यसबाट उसमा पनि हिंसाविरोधी भावना भएको प्रतिध्वनित हुन्छ तापनि भौतिक सुखसुविधा र फोस्रो ऐश्वर्यका कारण उसमा भएको भावना देखिएको छ । यसरी आन्तरिक र बाध्य जगत्को प्रतिविम्ब उताडै अन्त्यमा सुवर्णद्वारा मोहनलाई कैद गराएर मातृहत्या र विश्वध्वंशबाट जोगाई आन्तरिक जगत्को विजय देखाइएको छ । विश्वशान्तिको कामना गर्ने आन्तरिक जगत् सत्य र यथार्थ भएको सिद्ध गरेतापनि वर्तमानका आणविक क्षेप्यास्त्रहरूको विकासले भोलिको भयावह सङ्कट र त्रासपूर्ण वातावरण देखाई प्रस्तुत नाटकको शीर्षक सार्थक पारिएको छ ।

यस नाटकको विषयवस्तुको आणविक क्षेप्यास्त्रहरूको विकासले तेस्रो विश्वयुद्ध हुन लागेको आन्तर्राष्ट्रिय स्थितिलाई देखाएको छ । साथसाथै मोनालिसाको हाँसोमा गोली पड्काउनु, बुद्धको सौम्य मूर्तिमा कालो पोल्नु, अजन्ताको गुफा फोड्नु र साइग्नलको कल्पनामा दुई पन्तु जस्ता प्रतीकका माध्यमबाट कला, साहित्य, साँस्कृति एवं प्राचीन स्मारक साराका साराको नष्ट हुन लागेको स्थितिको अभिव्यक्ति दिएको छ ।

### पात्रविधान

‘भोलि के हुन्छ’ ? छोटो आयामको भएर पनि धेरै पात्रहरू प्रयोग गरिएको नाटक हो । यसमा राजेन्द्र र मोहन मुख्य पात्रहरू हुन् भने सुवर्ण, आमा, दुलही, न्यायाधीश, माधुरी, कामिनी, सिपाही, पाले, आदि सहायक पात्र हुन् । सूच्य पात्रका रूपमा सुन्दरी, महेश, केटाकेटीहरू राजदूत एवं विदेशी पाहुनाहरू रहेका छन् । नाटकीय कार्यव्यापारमा उल्लेख्य भूमिका खेल्ने पात्रहरूको क्रमशः निम्नानुसार चरित्रचित्रण गरिएको छ ।

### राजेन्द्र

यस नाटकको प्रमुख पात्र हो । यो नाटकको सुरुदेखि अन्त्यसम्म उपस्थित रहन्छ । राजेन्द्र मृत्युको छायाँमुनि पनि प्रेम बाँचेको हुन्छ भन्ने विश्वास राख्छ । उसका विचारमा मानवीय प्रेम अमर हुन्छ । यसमा विसङ्गतिबोध भएको पाइन्छ ‘म किन जन्मे’, मैले किन जन्माएँ’ (मल्ल, २०३४ : १६) भन्ने उसको अभिव्यक्तिले पनि यसलाई प्रमाणित गर्दछ । समसामयिक संसारमा देखिएको शक्तिसङ्घर्ष र छिनाफुट्टीबाट ऊ बाक्क भए पनि अभै शान्ति र मानवताको आशा राख्ने आशावादी व्यक्तिहरूको प्रतिनिधि पात्र हो । सन्त्रासमय परिस्थितिमा आफ्नो प्रतिभा र शक्तिलाई बचाउन बाध्य भएर बाँचेको बुद्धिजीवीहरूको प्रतिनिधि चरित्र हो । ऊ अन्याय, अत्याचार र विनाशकारी युद्धलाई टुलटुल हेरी मात्र रहन्छ । त्यसको निराकरण गर्न सक्दैन । युद्धविभीषिकाबाट अभिशप्त राजेन्द्र आफूलाई निर्धो र अस्तित्वहीन ठान्छ । आणविक एवं सामाजिक शक्तिका अधि ओभेलमा परेको मानवता र प्रेमको प्रतिरूपमा राजेन्द्रलाई चिनाउन सकिन्छ । ऊ सर्वनाशको नाटक हेर्न चाहँदैन । राजेन्द्रलाई शक्तिसम्पन्न राष्ट्रहरूको साँढे जुधाइमा भोलिको विश्व कस्तो होला ? तमाम सन्ततिको भविष्य कस्तो होला ? भन्ने चिन्ता लागेको छ । आजका मान्छे पर्सैको बोकाजस्तो जीवन बाँच्न विवश रहेको अनुभूति उसलाई भएको छ । ‘म ठग हुँ’ मेरो छाला टाँग र यसमा नून, खुर्सानी छर्किदेऊ म त्यो अपराधी हुँ जसले भविष्यको नासोलाई विध्वंस गरेको छ’ (मल्ल, २०३४ : ३७) भन्ने अभिव्यक्तिले राजेन्द्रले युगीन मानवीय अहं प्रति व्यङ्ग्य गरेको देखिन्छ ।

भौतिक उपलब्धिले मानवीय जीवनमा कुठाराघात गरेको देख्ने राजेन्द्र यन्त्र मौलाएर विकराल अवस्थामा पुगी मानवीय अस्तित्व सङ्कटमा पारेको हुनाले ज्यादै असन्तुष्ट भएको छ । यान्त्रिकताका नाममा मानिसले स्वतन्त्रता गुमाउँदै गएको अवस्थामा उसले मन्दिर र गिर्जाघरका देवताहरूमा समेत पुकारा गरेको छ, जसबाट उसमा सात्त्विक आध्यात्मवादी विचार रहेको पाइन्छ । राजेन्द्र लेखकीय विचारवाहक वा नाटककारको मुखपात्र पनि हो । शान्ति, मानवता अहिंसा, सहअस्तित्व, भ्रातृत्व आदि उसका चारित्रिक विशेषता हुन् । 'म पोल्टा थापेर जन्मँदै नजन्मेका बच्चाहरूका प्राणको संरक्षण माग्न आएको छु' (मल्ल, २०३४ : ४६) भन्ने अभिव्यक्तिले राजेन्द्र सुखद् र शान्तिपूर्ण भविष्यको कामना गर्ने मानवतावादी पात्रका रूपमा चिनिन्छ । विचारमा अविचलित राजेन्द्र स्थिर र अनुकूल पात्र हो । युद्धका बेलामा नैतिक शक्तिको निरीहता उसको विवश चरित्रले पुष्टि गरेको छ साथै ऊ युद्धको सख्त विरोधी पनि हो । ऊ आजका शान्तिप्रियहरूको प्रतिनिधि पात्र पनि हो ।

### मोहन

मोहन भौतिक शक्ति र साधनका माध्यमले विश्वलाई आफ्नो नियन्त्रणमा राखी एकलौटी भोग्न चाहने शक्तिसम्पन्न निरङ्कुश शासकहरूको प्रतिनिधित्व गर्ने पात्र हो । उच्च अहं भएको मोहनमा मानवता र सहअस्तित्वको भावना पटकै छैन । धर्तीमातालाई कैद गरी अणु शक्तिकै भरमा विश्वविजयी बन्ने र एकलौटी विश्वभोग गर्न चाहने मोहन हिंसाको पक्षपाती र धर्तीको विनाश चाहने विध्वंशकारी प्रतिकूल चरित्र हो । ऊ शक्तिका आडमा साँचोलाई झुठो र झुठोलाई साँचो साबित गराउँछ । ऊ धर्ती ध्वस्त पार्न र आफू पनि मर्न चाहन्छ तर पराजित भई बाँच्न चाहँदैन । उसले आत्मगौरवबाट खस्कनुभन्दा मृत्युलाई प्रिय ठानेको छ । आफ्नो अनुकूल अवस्थामा मात्र सहअस्तित्व स्वीकार्ने तर प्रतिकूल अवस्थामा त्यसको वास्तै नगर्ने मोहन चरम स्वार्थी व्यक्ति हो । आफ्नो स्वार्थसिद्धिका लागि ममतामयी आमा र मातृभूमिलाई नै नष्ट पार्न पनि ऊ तयार भएको छ । ऊ सिर्जनालाई मन पराउँदैन, त्यसैले सिर्जनाको स्रोत र सृष्टिलाई नै नष्ट पार्न चाहन्छ तर पराजय स्वीकार्दैन । बरू ऊ धर्तीको अन्तिम रातको कल्पना गर्छ । यसले उसको उच्च अहं र घमण्डको परिचय दिएको छ । दया, माया र प्रेम उसका लागि अर्थहीन छन् । आनन्द र सन्तोष बाहुबलबाट प्राप्त गर्ने दिग्भ्रम उसले बोकेको छ । उसलाई आफ्नै परिवारका सदस्यहरू बहुलाउँदा र मर्दा पनि कुनै किसिमको चोटको अनुभूति हुँदैन । ऊ कठोर दुःखाको मुटु भएको व्यक्ति हो । कला, साहित्य, गीत र सङ्गीतलाई उसले शत्रुको शक्तिमा खिया लगाउने वस्तुका रूपमा हेरेको छ । मोहन यस

नाटकमा आमाका मुटुको रगत भिकेर अधिकारका लागि छाप लगाउन चाहने क्रुर, तानाशाही, कठोरतम चरित्रको व्यक्तिका रूपमा प्रस्तुत भएको छ । आफ्नो आदेश नमान्नेलाई मृत्युदण्ड दिने मोहनका शब्दकोशमा माया भन्ने शब्द छैन । यसले उसको कठोरता र निर्दयतालाई चिनाएको छ । अन्ततोगत्वा सुवर्णबाट आमाको रक्षा भएपछि पराजित भएर पतनको तीव्र पीडाले विह्वल भई मोहन आत्महत्या गर्छ । उसले सुरुदेखि नै यही प्रवृत्तिलाई अपाएको हुनाले ऊ स्थिर पात्र हो । उसले भौतिकवादी जीवनदर्शनलाई आत्मसात् गरेको छ । यसमा शक्तिसम्पन्न राष्ट्रहरूको अंशलाई प्रस्तुत गर्ने प्रतीकात्मक चरित्रका रूपमा मोहनलाई लिन सकिन्छ ।

### सुवर्ण

सुवर्ण यस नाटकको सहायक पात्र हो । ऊ सुरूमा शक्ति र भौतिक उन्नतिका पक्षमा लागेको छ । सम्पूर्ण विश्वलाई एकलौटी भोग्न चाहने मोहनको सहयोगीका रूपमा रहे पनि नाटकको तेस्रो अङ्कमा आइपुग्दा सुवर्ण आमाकै रक्षक भएको छ । सुवर्ण नाटकको अघिल्ला दुई अङ्कमा भौतिक शक्तिको पछि लाग्ने र विवेकशून्य व्यक्तिका रूपमा चित्रित भएको छ । आमा निदाएका बेलामा जे पनि गर्न सकिन्छ भन्ने विनाशकारी विचार व्यक्त गर्दछ । ऊ आफ्ना परिवारका सदस्य कोही नभए पनि चैन हुने तर्क अगाडि सार्दछ । आमालाई अँध्यारामा थुनी राखेर आँखा कमजोर नहोस् र सन्तानको कचकच पनि नसुनियोस् भनेर छल्ल्छ । आमाबाट सम्पत्तिको भोगमात्र आर्शीवाद माग्ने सुवर्णमा पनि विश्वविजयको अभिलाषा छ । आरम्भमा प्रतिकूल व्यवहार भएको सुवर्ण एक्कासि दाजुबाट विद्रोह गरी आमाको प्रतिरक्षामा उभिन पुग्छ । आफ्नै जीवनदातृ धरतीमातालाई हत्या गर्न तत्पर मोहनका विचारसँग असहमति जनाउँदै मातृत्वको हत्या गर्ने अधिकार कसैलाई छैन भनी सुवर्ण आफ्नो पराजभन्दा विश्व र आमा ठूला हुन् भन्दछ । यसरी परिवर्तनशील चरित्र भएको सुवर्ण प्रारम्भमा प्रतिकूल र उत्तरार्धमा गतिशील स्वभावको देखिन्छ । विश्वविनाश गर्न नचाहने सुवर्णमा मानवता, शान्ति र सहअस्तित्वको भावना पनि विकसित भएको छ । उसले नै अन्तमा मोहनलाई कैद गरेर संसारलाई ध्वंश हुनबाट जोगाएको छ । ऊ शान्ति र न्यायलाई पुनर्जीवित गराउन समर्थ भएको छ । आमालाई मुक्ति दिने कार्यमा सुवर्णको महत्त्वपूर्ण हात छ ।

### आमा

यस नाटकमा धरतीमाता वा पृथ्वीलाई मानवीकरण गरेर आमा पात्रका रूपमा प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ । आमा अभिधार्थमा मोहन, सुवर्ण र माधुरीको आमा हुन् भन्ने प्रतीकात्मक

रूपमा धरती वा मातृभूमि नै हुन् । उनी आफ्ना धरतीका सम्पूर्ण पुत्रपुत्रीहरूलाई समान व्यवहार गर्न चाहान्छिन् । उनी सन्तानको माया, ममता र स्नेहको खानीका रूपमा प्रस्तुत भएकी छिन् । सन्तानको परिचयमा आफ्नो अस्तित्व देख्ने आमा आफ्नै विरुद्ध खनिने सन्तानको पीडा दूर गर्न टाउको मुसारिदिन खोज्छिन् । उनी आफैलाई कैद गर्ने, धरतीलाई भोग गर्ने, एकलौटी अधिकार खोज्ने आफैलाई मार्न खोज्ने पुत्रहरूको क्रियाकलापदेखि त्रसित नभई स्नेह र मातृत्व भाव व्यक्त गरिरहन्छिन् । आणविक शक्तिको विकासले त्रसित आमा सन्तानबीचको आपसी लुछाचुँडी र छिनाभट्टीबाट बाक्क भएकी छिन् । सन्तानहरूमा आज कलह र अहंको टक्कर बढेर अशान्तिको रोग लागेको देख्दा र सर्वस्व सुम्पेर रक्षा गर्दा पनि मातृहत्या गर्न अगाडि सरेको देख्दा उनी ज्यादै दुःखी हुन्छिन् । उनी सन्तानकी आमा र निस्वार्थको प्रतिमूर्ति पनि हुन् । सन्तानको मति बिग्रिएर बाटो बिराएकोमा चिन्तित छिन् । आफू उज्यालो रूचाउने भए पनि सन्तानले अँध्यारो कोठामा राख्दा धैर्यतापूर्वक बस्छिन् । आपत्तिविपत्तिको बादल फाटेपछि सुवर्णले उज्यालोमा लगेको हुँदा आमा खुसी भएकी छिन् । यसले धरतीमा मडारिएको युद्धको कालो बादल हटेर शान्तिको मन्द मुस्कान छरिन थालेको अनुभव गराएको छ । आमा सन्तानको भलो चिताउने, सिर्जनामुखी, धैर्य, सहनशील, स्नेहालु, एवम् आशावादी चरित्रका रूपमा प्रस्तुत भएकी छिन् । सहायक भूमिका निर्वाह गरेकी आमा स्वभावका दृष्टिले स्थिर र अनुकूल पात्र हुन् ।

### न्यायाधीश/जज

न्यायाधीश/जज यस नाटकको सहायक पात्र हो । उसको चरित्रबाट शक्तिका सामु न्याय सम्पादन प्रक्रिया निरीह बनेको देखिन्छ । “साँचोलाई हामीले पहिले भुटो सावित गर्नु पर्छ” (मल्ल, २०३४ : २२) भन्नुले उसको न्याय व्यवस्था त्यति स्वच्छ र निष्पक्ष रहेको देखिँदैन । तर पनि आमाले लेखिदिएको कागजको सत्यताका लागि आमासँग पुनः अनुमोदन गराउनु पर्ने उसको तर्क भने उपयुक्त नै देखिन्छ । मोहनले धरती र आमालाई नष्ट पार्ने स्वीकृति माग्दा “मेरो न्यायशक्ति र विवेकशक्ति के भो, के को, जडभूत, भइसकेछ” (मल्ल, २०३४ : २४) भन्नु र सुवर्णले मोहनसँग विद्रोह गरी धरतीमाता र मानवताको रक्षाका लागि आफू तयार भएपछि “बल्ल मैले कान सुने, मेरा विचारहरू पक्षघात भएका छैनन्” भन्नुले ऊ शक्तिको पुजारी बुद्धिजीवी पात्रको प्रतिनिधिका रूपमा रहेको देखिन्छ । ऊ शक्तिका सामु लम्पसार परी पलायन भई कर्तव्य नै भुल्ने व्यक्तिका रूपमा देखिएको छ । शक्तिको पछाडि आफ्नो विवेक र मानवता बिसर्न पुगेको न्यायाधीश मानवीय जीवनको विकटताप्रति चिन्तित छ । जब मृत्युले दिने न्यायप्रति जीवनको

अस्वीकृति रहने विचार राख्दछ । जजलाई परिवर्तनशील, शक्तिलोलुप, प्रतिकूलबाट अनुकुल बनेको एवम् शक्तिका सामु निरीह बनेको पात्रका रूपमा लिन सकिन्छ ।

### अन्य पात्रहरू

माधुरी सैनिक लोग्नेका वियोगमा छटपटिएकी विक्षिप्त पात्र हो । ऊ आफ्नो लोग्ने वा प्रेमी महेश लामो समयदेखि युद्धबाट नफर्किएकोले उसैको सम्भनामा विक्षिप्त हुन पुगेकी छे । माधुरीबाट प्रेम, यौवनभावना, आदि भाव व्यक्त भएको छ । माधुरी महेश युद्धबाट फर्किएर आए पनि उसका हातमा मानिसको रगत लागेको हुनाले उसलाई प्रेमको अँगालोमा बाँध्न नसक्ने विचार व्यक्त गर्छे । युद्धमा परी महेशको मृत्यु भएको खबर सुन्ने वित्तिकै आत्महत्या गर्छे, माधुरी आदर्श प्रेमिका हो । प्रतीकात्मक रूपमा माधुरी कला, साहित्य र सङ्गीतकी स्रोत पनि हो । दुलही मोहनकी पत्नी हो । लोग्नेको ध्वंसात्मक प्रवृत्तिका कारणले आफ्ना अबोध बालबालिकाहरूलाई गुमाइसकेकी छ । अन्त्यमा लोग्नेको आत्महत्याले शोकाकुल बनेकी छे । दुलही आमा तथा धरतीको सुरक्षा चाहने कोमल हृदयकी नारी पनि हो । कामिनी माधुरीकै घरकी सुसारे हो । यसमा प्रयुक्त अन्य पात्रहरूको खासै उल्लेख्य भूमिका रहेको देखिँदैन ।

### संवाद

यस नाटकमा प्रायः सबै पात्रहरू उच्च बौद्धिक भएकाले तिनीहरूको संवादमा पनि बौद्धिकता पाइन्छ । राजेन्द्रका संवादमा उच्च बौद्धिकता पाइन्छ । ऊ शक्तिका कारणले निरीह बनेर दाबिएको मानवताको भाव व्यक्त गर्दछ । राजेन्द्रका अभिव्यक्तिबाट युद्धको विभीषिकबाट सन्त्रस्त विश्वको परिचय पाइन्छ । माधुरीको स्वप्न वर्णनबाट उसको मानसिकताको बोध राम्रोसँग भएको छ । मोहनले बोलेका संवादमा शक्तिको अहम् र मानवताविरोधी भावना पाइन्छ । विश्वलाई एकलै भोग्ने वा ध्वस्त पार्ने विषयमा केन्द्रित भई विश्वयुद्धबाट संसार ध्वंश हुन लागेको त्रास प्रकट भएको छ । न्यायधीशको संवादमा शक्तिलोलुपताको गन्ध आएको छ । दुलहीको संवादमा प्रेम, वियोगको छटपटी र धरतीको रक्षाको आग्रह गरेको पाइन्छ । सुवर्णको संवादमा पूर्वाद्धमा शक्तिको अहं र विनाशकारी भाव र उत्तरार्धमा स्वतन्त्रता, मातृभूमिको सुरक्षा र विश्वको रक्षा गर्ने जस्ता परिवर्तनशील भाव व्यक्त भएको छ । आमाको संवादमा जस्तोसुकै विकराल परिस्थितिमा पनि धैर्य धारण गर्न र सहनशीलताको भाव भेटिन्छ । उनले नै सबैलाई बाँच्ने अधिकार दिएकी छन् भने भावनात्मक अभिव्यक्ति प्रकट भएको छ । मल्लका सबै पात्रहरू बौद्धिक

छत् र उनीहरूले बोलेका संवाद कलात्मक र बौद्धिक भएर पनि स्वाभाविक र जीवन्त छत् ।



## परिवेश

“भोलि के हुन्छ ?” नाटकले विश्वराजनीतिमा देखिएको शक्तिसम्पन्न राष्ट्र तत्कालीन सोभियत सङ्घ र अमेरिकाबीच बढेको वैमनस्यता र आणविक होडले सिर्जना गरेको त्रासमय परिवेशले तेस्रो विश्वयुद्धको सम्भावनालाई बढाएको धारणा प्रस्तुत गरेको छ । यसमा नाटकीय कार्यव्यापार सम्पन्न भएको ठाउँ र समयबारे कुनै सङ्केत देखिँदैन । विश्वमा युद्धको बादल मडारिएकोले मानव अस्तित्व नै सङ्कटग्रस्त परेको देखाई भौतिक एवं आणविक उन्नतिले अन्धो बनाइएका मानिसहरू नै पृथ्वीलाई धुवाँ बनाएर उडाउन चाहने र न्याय मानवता, प्रेम र स्वतन्त्रतावादीहरूको आवाज अणु शक्तिका अगाडि निरीह बनेको देखिने विश्व परिवेशलाई यस नाटकमा जीवन्त रूपले प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ । मानवाविरोधी मोहनको पराजय देखाई शान्ति र स्वतन्त्रतापूर्ण आगामी विश्वको परिकल्पना गरिएको यस नाटकमा शक्तिसम्पन्न राष्ट्रहरूले आफ्नो अनुकूल नियम निर्धारण गरी वर्तमान विश्वमा बौद्धिक शक्तिभन्दा आणविक शक्ति महत्त्वपूर्ण बन्दै गएको यथार्थतालाई मोहन, राजेन्द्र र जज आदिका माध्यमबाट प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ । यस आधारमा विसङ्गतिपूर्ण र विरोधाभासयुक्त विश्वरङ्गमञ्च नै यस नाटकको परिवेशका रूपमा चित्रित छ । नाटकका सबै घटनाहरू एउटै घरमा घटाई मञ्चनलाई सुविधायुक्त बनाइएको छ । मानवको आन्तरिक भयावह भावलाई बाह्य रूपमा र बाह्य सन्त्रासमय परिस्थितिलाई आन्तरिक जगत्मा प्रतिविम्बित गरी आजको अशान्त स्थितिको विस्तृत जानकारी दिइएको यस नाटकमा यथार्थ र अतियथार्थ दुवै खालको परिवेश छ । पृथ्वीलाई आमा र तारालाई दिदीबहिनीका रूपमा प्रयोग गरी तिनीहरूलाई स्वप्नलोकमा भेटघाट गराएर विश्वब्रह्माण्डलाई नै परिवेशका रूपमा प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ ।

## उद्देश्य

शक्ति सम्पन्न राष्ट्रहरूको आणविक युद्धको सन्त्रासले पृथ्वी ध्वंश हुने विकराल परिस्थिति सिर्जना भएकोले शान्ति, मानवता र भ्रातृत्वको कामना गर्नु नाटककारको उद्देश्य रहेको देखिन्छ । शक्तिका होडमा उन्मुक्त भएका राष्ट्र र मानवहरूको अहंप्रति व्यङ्ग्य गरिएको छ । शक्ति र सम्पत्तिको घमण्डले गर्दा आफ्नो स्वतन्त्रता गुमाउँदै गएका व्यक्ति वा राष्ट्रहरूले विश्वलाई भन्दा आफ्नो पराजयलाई ठूलो ठान्दछन् । यस्ता आफूले पराजय सहनुभन्दा सिङ्गे विश्वलाई नै धुवाँ बनाएर आफू त्यसमा डहन खोज्ने प्रवृत्तिमाथि व्यङ्ग्य गर्दै पृथ्वी र आगामी सन्ततिका लागि शान्ति एवं सहअस्तित्वको भावना विकसित गराउनु नाटकको उद्देश्य रहेको पाइन्छ । यस नाटकमा बुद्धिजीवीहरूका

दुलमुले र शक्तिका उपासक बन्ने प्रवृत्तिलाई न्यायधीशको चरित्रका माध्यमबाट व्यक्त गरिएको छ । नाटककार मल्लको उद्देश्य नाटकमा राजेन्द्रको कथनबाट व्यक्त भएको छ । राजेन्द्र लेखकको मूल पात्र पनि हो । ऊ शक्तिसम्पन्न तानाशाहका अगाडि निरीह जीवन बिताउन विवश बौद्धिक पात्र हो । शक्ति राष्ट्रहरूको मदान्धका कारण सुनौलो भविष्य अन्धकारमय हुँदै गएको देखाएर र त्यसको संरक्षण गर्नु विश्व मानवको परम कर्तव्य हो भनिएको छ । आमाको सन्तानप्रतिको मोह र जिम्मेवारीलाई रोचक ढङ्गले प्रस्तुत गरिएको यस नाटकमा युद्ध र कलहले प्रेम, कला र संस्कृति नष्ट हुने तथ्य अधि सारिएको छ । नारीलाई यस नाटकमा सृजनशक्तिको आद्यस्रोत मानिएको छ । नारीकै सक्रियतामा यो संसारको अस्तित्व जोगाइएको देखाइएको छ । यो संसार सबैको साझा हो र यसको रक्षा गर्नु मानवको परम कर्तव्य हो भन्दै भोलिको सुन्दर कामना गरिएको भए तापनि एउटा सडक टर्दैमा भविष्य सुनिश्चित छैन सबैले सचेत हुनुपर्छ र संसारको संरक्षण गर्नुपर्छ भन्ने सन्देश दिइएको छ । यस नाटकलाई नयाँ धरातलमा उभ्याउने प्रयास गरिएकोले प्राचीन नाट्य मान्यताबाट हेर्दा दोषपूर्ण लागे पनि आधुनिक मान्यताअनुसार दोषमुक्त देखिन्छ ।

### भाषाशैली

प्रस्तुत नाटक उच्च बौद्धिक भएर पनि सरल, व्यवहारिक र परिष्कृत भाषामा प्रस्तुत भएको छ । कतै कतै काव्यात्मकता र सङ्गीतात्मकता पनि भरिएको छ । कतै कतै अलङ्कारले समेत सिंगारिएको भए तापनि कल्पनात्मक सुन्दरताको समावेश गरी यथार्थ वर्णनले नाटकको उत्कृष्टतालाई बढाएको छ । प्रतीकात्मकताको सुन्दर प्रयोगले नाटक आकर्षक बनेको छ । आमा, आमाको चिठ्ठी आमालाई कैद गरिएको आदिबाट प्रतीकात्मक रूपमा क्रमशः धरती, धरतीले उपयोगका लागि मानिसलाई दिएको अनुमति र शक्तिले धरतीलाई नै आफ्नो कब्जामा पारेको आजको यथार्थता व्यक्त भएको छ ।

यस नाटकमा अङ्कै माध्यमबाट दृश्य निर्धारण गर्ने प्रयोगवादी शैलीको प्रयोग गरेको पाइन्छ । समासात्मक शैलीभन्दा सरलशैलीमा नाटको रचना भएको छ । लामा वाक्यगठन र व्याकरणीय शिथिलता पनि यस नाटकको भाषामा पाइन्छ । जस्तै : तिम्रो भाउज्यू, “हामीले थाहा नपाओस् भनेर” विषयवस्तुको प्रस्तुतिमा भैं भाषिक प्रयोगमा पनि प्रयोगवादी लेखन परम्पराको प्रशस्त छाप रहेको छ । यसमा उखान टुक्काको प्रयोग भेटिँदैन । बौद्धिक भाषाको प्रयोग भएर पनि प्रतिपादित गम्भीर विषयलाई बुझ्न सकिन्छ ।

## रङ्गमञ्च विधान वा अभिनेयता

“भोलि के हुन्छ ?” रङ्गमञ्च विधानका दृष्टिले सफल र प्रभावकारी प्रयोगवादी नाटक हो । आकार, पात्रसङ्ख्या र भाषाशैलीबाट हेर्दा यो उपयुक्त अभिनीत नाटक हो । नाटककारले यसमा अङ्गसङ्केत र आवश्यक निर्देशन पनि दिएका छन् । प्रस्तुत नाटकलाई दृश्य र सूच्य दुवै रूपमा प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ । मञ्चमा उपस्थित गराएर दर्शकका सामु प्रदर्शन गराउन सकिने घटनालाई दृश्य रूपमा र दर्शकलाई दूरगामी प्रभाव पर्ने वा असम्भव पक्षलाई सूच्य रूपमा प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ । लडाईं भएको, सुन्दरीले, मोहनले आत्महत्या गरेको जस्ता घटनाहरूलाई मञ्चन गर्न वर्जित भएकोले सूच्य रूपमा दिइएको छ । यो नाटक मञ्चनका दृष्टिले सरल र प्रभावकारी रहेको छ ।

संरचनाका दृष्टिले हेर्दा यस नाटकलाई तीन अङ्कमा विभाजन गरिएको छ । अङ्कभित्रै विविध दृश्यहरू समावेश गरिएका छन् । छुट्टै दृश्यहरू छैनन् । नाटक सङ्क्षिप्त भएर पनि नाटकीय विकासमा तीव्रता पाइन्छ । प्रतीकात्मक भाषामा धेरै कुरा भनिएको छ । कार्यव्यवस्थाका दृष्टिले यस नाटकमा तीन अवस्था प्रारम्भ, विकास र उत्कर्ष मात्र छन् । पहिलो अङ्कमा घटनाको आरम्भ र पात्रको परिचय दिइएको छ भने दोस्रो अङ्कमा विकास र तेस्रो अङ्कमा उत्कर्ष र संहारको कार्य प्रस्तुत भएको छ । चौबीस घण्टाको समयावधिमा घटेका सम्पूर्ण घटनाहरूको विकास र अन्त्य देखाएर नाटकलाई प्रभावकारी रूपमा प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ ।

## निष्कर्ष

नाटककार विजय मल्लको “भोलि के हुन्छ” ? अतिथार्थवादी समस्यामूलक नाटकका रूपमा रहेको छ । समस्या नाटक लेख्दा राष्ट्रिय र अन्तराष्ट्रिय घातप्रतिघातबाट उत्पन्न सङ्घर्ष वा युद्धको समस्यालाई प्रस्तुत गरिएको छ । युद्ध विश्व समस्या हो । युद्धले मानवतालाई अकिञ्चन र विवश बनाएको छ । प्रतिशोधको अग्निमा सल्केर मानिस मर कि मार भन्ने स्थितिमा पुगेको छ । युद्ध र शान्तिको समस्या पृथ्वी र अन्य ग्रहहरूको पारस्परिक सम्बन्धलाई आश र त्रासको द्वन्द्वबाट प्रकट गर्न खोजिएको छ । नाटक अथार्थ र यथार्थको संगम भै त्रिशंकु भै आकाशमा झुण्डिएको छ । हाम्रो जीवन केही ठूला अन्तराष्ट्रिय महादेशहरूको आदेश र निर्देशनमा बाँचेको छ । त्रिशंकु भै झुण्डिएको छ । तिनीहरूको एउटा मात्रै गलत चाल चल्थो भने अरवौं मनिसहरूमा भाग्य पड्कन सक्छ, र धरती फुटेर स्वर्गमा विलय हुन सक्छ । शक्तिशाली राष्ट्रहरूको आपसी होडबाजीले संसार ध्वस्त हुँदैछ भन्ने विचारलाई यस नाटकमा देखाइएको छ ।

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