

Importance of English Literature Teaching In 21st Century In Students of Higher Secondaries and Colleges of Anantnag District of Jammu and Kashmir.

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-----Abstract-----

A survey was undertaken to collect information from students in various higher secondaries and colleges of district Anantnag of Jammu and Kashmir to check the importance of English Literature Teaching in 21st century. The information was collected by using questionnaire technique. The information was made by using various visits to local colleges and higher secondaries and there interacting with students. The questionnaires were distributed among students of both rural and urban areas. The rural students showed less interest as compared to the urban students. This survey would help us in knowing what is the importance of English Literature Teaching in the present technological world where competition is at its peak. This survey gives us clear cut information regarding the importance of literature in 21st century in students of district Anantnag of Jammu and Kashmir. The study also shows that how many students among the selected population, like to study English Literature Learning and want to know more about the literature in this highly technological world. The district having literary rate 66.32% as per the census 2011 but we have seen from the past experiences and by this survey that literature does not enjoy its appropriate place or position. The 21st century saw the rise of many fiction and non-fiction books among younger generation. Many books like Harry Potter series and the Twilight series were converted into movies. The works of old writers were translated in easy language for the today's generation to understand. Our survey shows that when we compared it with other subjects, what is its actual position in present scenario of technological world or what treatment is given to the subject.

Keywords: English Literature, English Literature Teaching, Jammu and Kashmir, Anantnag.

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I. INTRODUCTION

In present world of technology, everybody is after money. The people engage themselves in the activities which benefit them materialistically. They also want their children to be equipped with such qualities that will help them to meet their needs and can adjust themselves to the survival for the fittest in this technological world. The parents want to make their children either doctors or engineers. The students want to choose subjects from life-sciences, information technology, bio-technology, business administration, etc. Among the selected population only a negligent class likes other subjects in which one is English Literature. During our survey, we choose a group of 100 students from rural and urban areas of Anantnag of Jammu and



Kashmir. Location of Anantnag in Jammu and Kashmir.

Anantnag is a district in the Indian state of Jammu_and_Kashmir.

Country: India

State: Jammu and Kashmir

District: Anantnag

Settled: 5000BCE

Population: 1,070,144(2011)

Density: 37/sqkm

Sex ratio: 937 females
1000 males
Literacy rate: 66.32%

The objective of the study was to know how students in the present world take this literature. As per the data collected through questionnaire technique, it shows that English literature is declining day by day. During the course of survey, the information has been gathered from the urban and rural areas of district Anantnag of Jammu and Kashmir. The survey was conducted on 100 students of 10+2 level and 10+3 level. Various questions were asked to them regarding English Literature Teaching. The result which came out after by tabulation of data came out as:

Total number of population under survey = 100 students of 10+2 and 10+3 level.

Out of hundred students

60% were the students who want to choose subjects like life-sciences, information practices, bio-technology, psychology etc..

18% are those students who love to read novels, dramas or fiction or non-fiction only to pass their leisure time.

10% are those students who want to know English Literature only to pass their examination.

12% among the sample group are those who in the real sense want to know deep about the English Literature Teaching. They are 100% interested in knowing literature.

We came to know that in the present world of technology man is just after money. He doesn't have time to know about the glorious field that is literature. We claim that we are modern but our thoughts are still backward as we were hundred years before. We should wake up ourselves from such dreams and make ourselves to be able to compete with anything or any power of the world. For this purpose what we need is to develop interest in literature.

Dr. Karan Singh says, "we should develop our youth, who is in higher secondaries and colleges in such a way so there every activity should be for the progress of the country."

Our survey on the importance of ELT when compared with other subjects among the students of selected population of Anantnag of Jammu and Kashmir shows that it does not enjoy its right place. It is given step motherly treatment. We should take measures in order to develop interest among students to teaching literature. From time to time we should arrange conferences in rural as well as in urban areas to make people aware about teaching of literature.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS:

Jammu and Kashmir is the 6th largest state of India as per its area is concerned is 222,236sqkms. As per the population it is the 17th largest state of India. The area of Jammu and Kashmir state illegally occupied by Pakistan is 78,114sqkms and Pakistan handed over 5180sqkms illegally to China. The Jammu and Kashmir state is located between 320.15 and 370.05 north latitude and 720.35 East and 830.20 East longitudes. It is 640 kms in length from north to south, 480 kms from east to west. The Jammu and Kashmir state is having three divisions as Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh.

The Anantnag district is in Kashmir division of Jammu and Kashmir. The Anantnag means abode of springs and lakes (An-ant means un-ending, Naga means springs). According to ancient mythological stories, the name Anant (infinite) Nag (snake) is given to the place because Lord Shiva during his journey to Amarnath Cave left all his valuables on the way and Anantnag was the place where he left countless number of serpents residing on his body. The city finds its place in Bhagavadgita that says, "I am Ananta Naga". According to the census of 2011, Anantnag district has a population of 1,070,144, roughly equal to the nation of Cyprus or the US state of Rhode Island. This gives it ranking of 425th in India (Out of a total 640). The district has a population density of 375 inhabitants per square kilometer. Its population growth rate over decade 2001-2011 was 37.48%. Anantnag has a sex ratio of 937 females for every 1000 males and a literacy rate of 66.32% in 2011. The method used to collect the information was questionnaire which provided us the result that how the students in 21st century took English Literature and what treatment they give it.

III. CONCLUSION

The study will prove to be a significant role in the study of importance of English Literature Teaching in 21st century of district Anantnag of Jammu and Kashmir. At present as per our survey we found a less number of students who are interested in study of literature. They like subjects who will help them materialistically. The century saw a rise of many fiction and non-fiction books. Many novels and plays were converted into movies. Books on wars, guides for exams and myths were frequent sellers in this century. The mythology was converted in a comic form to build interests among the younger generation or readers but only a few percent of the student community is interested in English Literature Teaching.

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