

**LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURE AS A TOOL TO SOLVE
WORLD PROBLEMS****Dr. Hitendra B. Dhote**Assistant Professor of English
Adarsh Arts and Commerce College
Desaiganj (Wadsa), Dist-Gadchiroli.**Abstract**

The world has always been engrossed with social, political, economic, educational, environmental, and so many other problems. Some of these problems are natural, while some other are manmade. The problems in the human world due to sudden occurrence of fatal diseases, epidemics and pandemics, like the recent worldwide spread of CORONA Virus (COVID-19), are some other problems. Man, right from his existence on the earth, has used his strengths and abilities to fight against and overcome the natural as well as manmade problems. Language, Literature and Culture have played major role in his attempts while solving world problems.

Keywords: *Language, Literature, Culture, tool, natural, manmade, world problems.*

Today's world, though in the advanced stage of development in all the walks of life, is engrossed with social, political, economic, educational, environmental, and so many other problems. Some of these problems are natural, known as natural disasters, resulting from natural processes of the Earth. The major adverse event examples of natural disasters are floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, tsunamis, storms, and other geologic processes. Some other problems are manmade, like the two world wars and the consequences to be faced by human beings, depletion of forest, pollution and so many diseases due to pollution, racial problems, communal problems, economic disparity, inequality, dowry system, slavery, untouchability, unemployment, child labour, and many

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more. The problems created in the human world due to sudden occurrence of fatal diseases, epidemics and pandemics, are some other problems than that of mentioned above. The recent worldwide spread of CORONA Virus (COVID-19), which has been declared Pandemic by World Health Organization (WHO) is one of such problems.

The present paper is an attempt to critically evaluate the issue of Language, Literature and Culture as a tool to solve world problems. Human beings are not only endowed with physical strength but with so many features and abilities. Some of these features and abilities are inborn while some other are earned. Human beings have used these features and abilities to fight against and overcome the above mentioned natural as well as manmade problems. These continuous attempts of human beings and even non-human beings are well defined in literature as 'struggle for existence'.

The first element in the argument is language as a tool to solve world problems. Language is a vehicle of human communication, either spoken or written, consisting of the use of words in a structured and conventional way. It is a system of communication used by a particular country or community. Language is unique gift of nature to man, as other non-human species has no structured language, but only a sound system. Communication, particularly the Verbal communication helps us meet various needs. A good communicative skill is the demand of today's world. The man, possessing good communication skill can cross the local boundaries, can find a place and establishment anywhere in the global market. With this ability he overcomes so many problems. The Man, without this ability, on the other hand, remains static. The condition of a man, unable to communicate through verbal or non-verbal mode, is the worst. He is no better than animal. As such command on language/s and a good communication skill is a key or solution on so many problems. When a man is in a problem/s he immediately conveys his problem/s to others in the language that is used by him and the target group of people. He can accomplish it more effectively through a verbal mode of communication. The target group understands his problem and provides solution. If he fails to communicate his problem in the language which is properly understood by the target group, the target group cannot assist him, being unable to understand his problem. As such communication in a language or languages helps a man to express himself, to convey his

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problems, to understand the problems of others, to seek help or to help others. What is applicable to a man is applicable to a nation. When a problem is global, every country needs a lot of assistance from other country/countries. Such assistance can be sought through a language that is understood by the countries involved. At the time of problems like Covid-19, different states in a country and different countries need to come together and work on the solutions. Naturally the global communication is done through a global language.

As such language, beyond a vehicle to describe things, people, to communicate observations, thoughts, feelings, and needs, is an effective tool to establish a pool of international relationship to discuss world problem/s and to come out with solutions.

The second element in the argument is literature as a tool to solve world problems. Literature, written mode of language, reflects the contemporary issue/s. Literature, written in different countries in different languages, in different ages and in different forms, is replete with description of nature, social, political, economic, racial, communal, environmental problems/issues. There are representative writers, essayists, novelists, dramatists, poets in different periods who have not only pointed out various local problems in their states/countries and in other parts of the world but also suggested solutions. The Nature poetry, for example, is not only replete with description of nature, various forms and objects of nature, but also conveys the message of the interdependence and interrelation between nature and man on the other.

The poetry of William Wordsworth and John Keats, particularly, can be read with ecocritical perspective. While writers have dealt with concern for ecology and environment since last some decades it has become today's most discussed global issue. Wordsworth always found in Nature a teacher who taught him right from his childhood and moulded his personality. His 'The World Is Too Much With Us' deals with his complaint of materialism and consumerism which has overpowered man's consciousness so much so that modern man is completely separated from nature, the basic life support system-

The world is too much with us; late and soon,
Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers;
Little we see in Nature that is ours;
We have given our hearts away, a sordid boon.

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