Brief of Final Report - Minor Research Project

The Minor Research Project entitled 'CONTRIBUTION OF CLASSICAL ARABIC PROSE TO THE MORAL EMPOWERMENT IN KERALA' sanctioned for me (Dr. SHAKEEB K.T) vide UGC letter 1692-MRP/14-15/KLCA078/UGC-SWRO Dated 04th February 2015, has get in effect from 04th February 2015. The UGC has sanctioned an amount of Rs 200,000/- (Two Lakh) and released Rs. 165,000/- (as first installment) for purchasing Non-Recurring (Capital Asset – 35, ie books, journals, equipments) and utilizing for Recurring (Grant in Aid General 31, ie Field works, travel and contingency). An amount of Rs. 200,538/- (Rupees Two Lakh and five hundred thirty eight only) has been utilized up to date for this project.

Books and journals:

I have purchased relevant books in the area of study after consulting with experts in the area, prepared a list of books and invited quotations from distributors/publishers, and purchased by accepting least quotations. The reading of these books is going forward. An amount of Rs. 60,135/- utilized in this category.

Equipments:

As part of the project an amount of Rs. 70,000/- is utilized for the equipments as laptop, printer, modem, media pointer, key board, mouse, windows 8.1(Software) and 2 year extended warranty. These equipments are useful for data collection and internet reference, more over it gives an opportunity to present seminar papers and prepare articles.

Contingency:

In this category the writing materials, study materials and other related stationeries have purchased effectively and purposefully. An amount of Rs. 30,316/- have utilized in this category and it is used only for the purpose of project including to purchase stationary items, internet services, payments for Xerox, typing, printing and preparing softcopy.

Field work and Travel:

For fulfilling the data collection I have visited many libraries and institutions, for which I travelled many concerned places to take samples in this research area. Ones I travelled to the libraries of Kerala University, Kannur University and University of Calicut. I have visited central library of Aluva Azhar ul Uloom, Ernakulam Maharajas College and Centre for Heritage Studies. Recently visited educational institutions in Thalassery, Vazhikkadavu, Kodungallur, Ponnani, and Wayanad. For clarifying some collected data I have travelled searching some academician and interviewed them for further information and clarifications. An amount of Rs. 40,087/- is utilized in this category out of approved amount. The details of travels and field works has attached as Annexure IV.

Extension Activities related to Project

In between the research I have attended many academic programmes and contributed in relevant areas, the list of academic contribution and participations are listed below

- 1. Published Research Article on 'Aesthetic elements of Performing Mappila Arts in Kerala Muslims' in Al Thazamun Arabic magazine (ISSN 2350-1219) published by Azharul Uloom Ïslamic complex Aluva in March-April, 2015. P: 25-27.
- 2. Published Research Article on 'The Islam Concerns Morality & Ethics" in Al Baas El Islami Arabic magazine (ISSN 2347-2456) published by Majlis-e-Sahafat-wa-Nashriyat, Lucknow- UP in June 2015. P: 45-56.
- 3. Published Research Article on 'Why Morality in Society" in Sautul Kulliyya Arabic magazine published by AIWA College Students Union 2015. P: 48-54.
- 4. Published Research Article on 'Elements of Moral Education in Kerala Arabic Curriculum" in Al Bushra Arabic magazine published by KATF State Committee on January 2016. P: 18-23.
- 5. Accepted an Article on 'The Scientific Approach of Quran to the Moral Science' to publish in Al-Sabah Magazine- Farook College Calicut.

6. Paper presented in UGC Sponsored National Arabic Seminar on 'Arabic Language in the Contemporary Lyrics of Mappila Arts' organized by Department of Arabic, Sullamussalam Arabic College - Areacode on 15th October 2015.

7. Attended in One-day Orientation Programme on *'Higher Education: Changing Perspectives'* held at RUA College Farook College on 03rd February 2015.

8. Attended in curriculum restructuring workshop in 'Department of Arabic-Farook College' held at RUA College Farook College on 25 & 26th February 2016.

This research study has found out the objectives; as there is lot of evidences and samples which strengthen the hypothesis and full fills the aims and objectives. By finishing the study it proved with concrete evidence, as it give a clear message for the modern society, about the Arabic Prose as it's have vital role in moralization of community, by avoiding this classical literature the society my falls in deep immoral activities.

Moreover I am actively involving the research and involving in social issues related to my topic, as a good researcher I have been trying to trace out the reasons immoral activities in the society. By the end of the research I get original reasons and relevant solutions in the area as I mentioned in detailed report. I assure that the research keeps qualitative and quantitative in all aspects.

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Executive Summary of

UGC - Minor Research Project

On

CONTRIBUTION OF CLASSICAL ARABIC PROSE TO THE MORAL EMPOWERMENT IN KERALA

Introduction:

Arabic; a renowned central Semitic language, is the main language of 22 countries, spoken by more than 250 million people and the second language of many Islamic countries. This spiritual language of Islam has approved as the permanent languages in United Nations, considered as the oldest living language in the world and the origin of many other languages.

Arabic Literature is traditionally considered as the descendants of the classical Arabic language of the 6th century which includes both the literary language and varieties of Arabic spoken in a wide arc of territory stretching across the Middle East, North Africa, and the Horn of Africa as it belongs to the Afro – Asiatic family. This literary language is called Modern Standard Arabic or Literary Arabic.

The Classical Arabic literature is divided to classical Arabic prose and classical Arabic poetry. The classical Arabic Prose genres, such as *maqama*, *hikaya*, *khabar*, *risala*, drama, texts of *Quran*, *Hadith* and is an ability to comment on the literary language, style, narrative, social functions, cultural and identity politics, and dimensions inherent in these texts. An advanced understanding of texts of classical Arabic prose leads to the teachings of moral values and etiquette and empowerment of moralization, which has widely noticed by the scholars worldwide.

Morality:

Morality can define as the 'standards of behavior considered right and accepted by the social law'. Generally, it reflects in human personality as behavioural propriety, mental consciousness, sexual decency, physical and psychological health along with its biological, psychological and socio-cultural dimensions. In this sense, morality is symbolized by the development of mind, body and intellect, which is intimately related to the social and culture customs. When an individual or group gets boosted with moral teachings and ethical values, it is to be called as moral empowerment.

There are different views regarding what is morality and how it is related to society. Mainly, there are two schools of thought such as functionalist and conflict school. The former believes that a set of sanctioned value system is necessary for the smooth functioning of society while the latter holds the view that their value system is for those who are in power – social, cultural and political - to maintain their domination and upper position in hierarchy. In this project, I followed the tradition of functionalist school.

Role of Arabic in Moral Empowerment of Kerala

The Classical Arabic literature has innovated in Kerala due to the Arab -Islamic tradition which have formed by the trade relations with Arabs in 7th century of AD. The Traditional Islamic education in Kerala was largely mosque-based. The curriculum originally consisted of a range of multi-disciplines, including 'transmitted' sciences as well as subjects and languages.

In the Arabic language history, the classical literature includes two dimensions; poetry and prose. The classical Arabic prose includes fiction and non-fiction literature like biography, history, geography, diaries, literary theory and criticism, epic literature, *maqama*, romantic literature, murder mystery, theatre, novels, science fictions, texts of holy Quran, *Hadith*, *figh* etc..

Classical Arabic prose has played an eminent role in the moral empowerment of Kerala. The contents of classical literature have actively interfered in the moralization of the society; the process of inculcation of moral and cultural values in an individual by participating in a society or groups, which is significant in the transformation of an individual as a socio-moral animal.

The major development of morality takes place in an individual during childhood and adolescence period, by which they learn the value system of a society and understand what, is right and wrong. So the moral guidance should be given at this epoch through 'formal' (schooling system, college/university system, religious institutions such as *Madrassa*, *Gurukula* systems etc.) and 'informal' (social interactions or day-to-day communications like family, peer groups and the media) guidance.

Objective of the Study:

- 1. Understand the importance of classical Arabic prose in modern era.
- 2. Familiarize among the academic community about the importance of Classical Arabic Prose in the field of moral empowerment in Kerala.
- 3. Unveil the inspirations of moral values through the classical Arabic prose and its modernity in moral empowerment among the Kerala community.
- 4. Cultivate a genuine interest to learn the moral values and practice them through classical Arabic prose to impart in nation building, by which it may strengthen good social values in the modern socio-cultural scenario.

Summary of findings:

- 1) Classical Arabic Prose has wide range of contributions by introducing psychosocio-cultural moral teachings to the society which leads to strengthen moral values and etiquette among Kerala.
- 2) The familiar Arabic Texts are mainly focus to inspire with moral values in behavioural propriety, mental consciousness, sexual decency, physical and psychological health along with its biological, psychological and socio-cultural dimensions.
- 3) It teaches the community what is right or wrong; that shapes the character on an individual, and insists a person to make the right decisions and improve their healthy interactions with others.
- 4) It focus each and every individuals during childhood and adolescence period by which they learn the value system of a society through 'formal' (schooling system, college/university system, religious institutions such as *Madrassa*, *Gurukula* systems etc.) and 'informal' (social interactions or day-to-day communications like family, peer groups and the media).
- 5) It mainly introduce on contemporary moral beings such as competence, integrity, professional and scientific responsibility, respect for people's rights and dignity, concern for others' welfare, and social responsibility.
- 6) It aware all age groups of society on respecting democratic ideals of the country, obeying its laws and honoring its leaders, flag and other symbols as it leads to the national integration.
- 7) It promotes moral empowerment irrespective of caste, creed and society through the culture of participations, dialogues, preaches, discussions, seminars,

workshops etc. which empower the morality and ethics of the living human beings.

- 8) These values are teaching through different kind of literature such as stories, short stories, language games notices, reports, narrations, proverbs conversations elocutions, letter, emails, biography, autobiography, cartoons, pamphlets, discussions, drama, essay and slogans etc.
- 9) The moral teaching includes uncountable values regarding inspiration to purify the soul and heart, and keep righteous deeds, truth, justice, kind, honest, good, patience, chastity, modesty, and sanctity to lives.
- 10) It inspires to be nice with relatives, traveller, slave and neighbors, and motivate to take care of orphans, needy and poor,
- 11) It directs to deal with parents in the best manner, be fair in transactions; dealings and expenditures, treat people fairly and protect proud of others to fulfill the promises and honest in weighting with charity, and nobility to all
- 12) It aware all human beings to keep away from adultery and violence against women, drug, and all addictions to *satanism*.

Conclusion

It is very clear that the classical Arabic Prose has vital role in moral empowerment of Kerala as it functions among the community as an encyclopedia of morality, and good deeds. The literature has interfered in each and every group of community what/why/how they have to do, how they keep/aware/ with moral values and teachings for the smooth functioning of society. It is best way to bring global attention to the nationalistic feelings with moral values.

I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to the University Grants Commission, particularly to the Deputy Secretary and Regional Head, SWRO, Bangalore for granting me the research project.

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