

Research Paper:

**“KASHMIRI LANGUAGE IS THE IDENTITY OF
KASHMIRI PEOPLE ITS ROLE FOR SOCIAL AS
WELL AS ETHICAL VALUES AND GOVT
APPROACH”**

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ABSTRACT:

Kashmiri language is undoubtedly the language of global repute, and belonged to “Dardic group of Languages” it is language in general and proud in particular for Kashmiri people living in the state of Jammu and Kashmir and abroad. Many invaders in the past times tried hard to implement their own languages in the system through proclamation for dominance upon general public in the state SANSKRIT, BODHI, PERSIAN, HINDI, languages are examples which had been given great importance upon Lingua Franca which is said to be the non-sensical idea in present times but unfortunately URDU language is still an official language of J&K state. Kashmiri language has dominant percentage about 65% in the state while as other languages have only 35% role. So Kashmiri language is qualifying the status of official language across the state but due to political apathy and prejudice against Kashmir language and people this good proposal is still in dustbin. Kashmiri language has preserved thousands years of social as well as ethical value of Kashmiri people and is real representative of their thoughts. Every country and state enjoying their mother tongue as official language and all literature is also preserved in it. But this piece of land deprived from this opportunity right from the beginning and this traditional approach is going on. Need of an hour is to change the mind set of planners, educationists and head of the institutions and also need change in political prejudice and strategy regarding the Kashmiri language and people. This approach will help to some extent to maintain peace and prosperity in the state.

This paper will highlight the character of Kashmiri language and literature and social as well as ethical values preserved therein along with Govt approach towards Kashmir language.

1. INTRODUCTION: -

Kashmiri language is rich and having potential to produce qualitative as well quantitative literature. Its history and tradition is more beautiful than other languages of the world. Most of the literature is

preserved in poetry, tales riddles and other prose forms. The oldest literary forms are “Vikh” & “Shurk” of Lala Daed & Sheikh-ul-Aalam respectively. Both of them are legends of Kashmiri literature. Kashmiri language is the identity of Kashmiri people. Almost every region and country in the World is known by languages like, Rasia with Rasian language France with French language, China with Chinese language & Tamil Nadu with Tamil Language, Gujarat with Gujarati language, Bengal with Bengali language etc. Therefore, the same rule is applying on Kashmiri language too. 65% of population within the state speaks, understands, & their mother tongue (Lingua Franca) is Kashmiri. Its introduction and implementation in school curriculum enhanced its periphery across the country and higher education department had already introduced it in colleges and universities within the state.

Kashmiri language has rich grammar, structure, phonology and orthography. Thousands of books are available in different libraries on Kashmiri language and literature. Online study material for students, teachers and scholars are available in the shape of books, Articles, and compositions. Research articles are also available in English medium, Urdu medium, and Hindi medium on various websites. Cultural clubs trying hard to preserve and promote Kashmiri language. Cultural Academy, Kashmiri language union, Kashmiri department (Kashmir University), are actively participating for its promotion and preservation. It is unfortunate that Kashmiri language is not an “Official language” of J&K state and Urdu which is not mother tongue of the state subjects is an official language and Kashmiri people welcomed it right from its inception. This paper will discuss all issues, plans, problems and matters related to the Kashmiri language.

MAIN BODY:-

Language is medium of communication and is complex and different system. Every layer of language is been made up of some other complex things which are arranged and deranged in nature. Language is as complex as human mind itself is that is why peruse of language is directly the assessment of capabilities and capacities of human mind. Peruse of language means the scrutinizing of lairs of language like, Phonology, Morphology Grammar; structure etc. Linguist should know the structure of words like, what is word? What is phonemes? What is morphemes? What is blending and compounding of sentence what is its structure and its internal rule and meaning.

Human imagination is complex as well as dispersed because human mind remained always in search of new innovative ideas. These imaginative buzz can be snared or captured through a special word compounding or through a special embroidery of words. Delicacy of ideas and for disperse of opinion, the word blending and ordering is used for better result.

Languages are identities of Nations, States, areas and groups through which thoughts, ideas, signs, (verbal and non verbal) traditions, rituals, superstitions, relation-

ships, ethics social rules, binding, beliefs, love, affection, hatred, etc would be cognised and perceived and compared with other people of the world for similarities, dissimilarities of thoughts and social setups which in turn help to make sound and comparative research about societies and countries.

Language is no doubt a medium but its role is like magnetic force and instrument for development of countries from land to cosmos. Without language we can't imagine any kind of development whether physical or social. Science has crossed all boundaries and reached unbelievable destiny and is still in search of innovations benefited to human societies through proper use of language. Human societies elevated and developed at various angles right from the beginning through better use of languages. Individual as well as unanimous attempts has been made through languages for betterment of human societies. So for as Kashmiri or Koshur is concerned it is a language from the Dardic Subgroup of Indo-Aryan languages and is spoken primarily by the Kashmiri in the Kashmir and Chenab valley of J&K state, about 6 million plus people speaking this language in and around Kashmir. This language is speaking in other parts of the world like Himachal Pradesh, Punjab in Pakistan, Azad Kashmir, and sufficient No. of People living in various countries across the globe. Kashmiri language has all qualities lies within its structure and meaning. It is complete communicative tool for Kashmiri speaking population living in the state and abroad. Its history is as rich as Sanskrit, Hindi, English, Persian, Arabic, and Urdu etc. "Nastaleeq" orthography is writing form of K-language which is complete and perfect with some minor objectionable defects which every script of the world have had within its structure. Grammar, syntax, Phonology Morphology, semantics, blending, compounding of words and other relevant technical aspects have been adopted by Kashmiri language. Its basic sentence structure is "SVO" and is in the category of type A language group. Thousand of books and research work, theses, research papers, journals, Magazines, news papers are publishing in Kashmiri language which guaranteed and authenticated its surviving power. Kashmir news is been broadcasted both on T.V. and Radio regularly. DD Kashur and radio Kashmir including Cultural Academy are main organs of Kashmiri Language. Department of Kashmiri (K.U), Sheikh-ul-Aalam chair (Markaz-i-Noor, K.U) and Kashmir study centre (K.U) are its academic heads which are promoting its literature and research. College magazines, Different NGOs playing vital role for its promotion and preservation. Kashmiri language union, a students union trying hard to promote it through academic angle and want to introduce it in schools fully so that it become job oriented and hundreds of degree holders like Ph.D. and M.Phil. and PG aspirants got job, hundreds of students completed PG degrees through regular mode as well as in private capacity through University of Kashmir every year. Thousands of students getting admission in different college across the state for completion of BG degrees and choose Kashmiri as one of the subject in their subject combination.

Govt has recently announced through formal order for its introduction in school curriculum up to 10th class, both in private as well as Govt schools, and recently advertised 49 assistant professor posts for colleges which will be filled soon. Further More national and international seminars workshops and conferences were conducted through various departments at K.U. for its promotion. Some research Journals like “Anhaar”, “Soun Adab” & “Sheeraz” have great importance in academic point of view. Sahitya Academy Delhi directly involved through various projects to Kashmir language for its preservation and promotion near about two dozen of Kashmiri authors and poets were bestowed with Sahitya Academy Awards and this process is going on. Young Sahitya academy award” have been introduced and some Kashmiri young scholars and writers got this award. I have published three research books on Kashmiri literature with the title “Mathnavi Hinz Tarek Ti Tarz muk Fan” “Gazil Ti Nazim Akh Mutala” and “Mashoor Ti Shayri Hund Tangeed” in the year 2017. Research scholars teachers, professors NGOS and writers and poets are sincerely attempting and struggling for development of Kashmiri language and literature. Online magazine “NEAB” is unique and qualitative publishing under the guidance of young scholar Muneeb-ul-Rahman son of prominent and famous author and poet, Amin Kamil and college Magazines have great importance because students as well as teachers preparing their Articles in Kashmiri language for the Kashmiri section and feel proud to be the part of this magazine no doubt some years back people were criticising and ridiculing on Kashmiri subject, but now they felt and recognised its need for overall development of children in general as well as community in particular. Some non Kashmiri people who are coming from different states of India like Bengal, Behar, UP, Jharkhand and Punjab every year in search of labouring, Craftsmanship and other technical job are getting many things like, ethical values, cultural impacts and language acquest through direct introduction with Kashmir people. Even a good percentage of outsiders working throughout the year and speaking Kashmiri fluently.

Scholars teachers, researchers and students from different nations and different parts of the country taking keen interest in Kashmiri language and literature. Kashmiri students who are getting admission at various colleges and universities outside the state presenting Kashmiri culture and language at various podiums through different mediums, like cultural programmes and research.

Jammu & Kashmir itself is disputed territory and had been deprived from so many things due to uncertainty and turmoil including the basic right of language promotion almost every state has its mother tongue an official language, but J&K is the only state where “Urdu” had been introduced an official language. While as 65% population of the state speaking Kashmiri fluently. There has been no hesitation if sincere and honest exertion adopted for introduction of Kashmiri language as an official language, because all objections which had been raised earlier have no value now. Kashmiri language is rich with good literature thousands of books in Kashmiri script is available

offline as well as online. Students from nursery to higher classes can read and write Kashmiri script easily. This language has a constitutional value and is a part of the eighth schedule in the constitution of the Jammu and Kashmir and taught in all schools in the Kashmir Valley.

All ten districts of Kashmir valley and four districts of Jammu region (Doda, Kishtiwari, Ramban and Reasi, including Poonch and Rajouri regions) speak Kashmiri language. There are minority speakers of Kashmiri language in some areas of Udhampur and Kathua districts in Jammu Districts Kashmiri Migrant Pandith Colonies and some Muslim migrants mostly live in Sidhra, Bathandi, Khati Talab, Ustad Mohalla, and Sunjwah of Jammu city also speak Kashmiri. Some Muslim migrants in Ladakh and Kargil region speak Kashmiri language. Dogri is the second largest language in J&K state which is mostly spoken in Jammu region with 27% of population in Jammu region only especially Udhampur, Samba and Kathua. Pahari, Balti, Ladakhi, Punjabi, Shina etc. are minority languages only 12% population is adjusted with these languages.

Kashmiri speakers are more dominant than other regional languages and dialects of the state. Kashmiri language has a great importance in socio-cultural, socio-religious and ethical point of view. It has preserved all ethical codes, social norms, religious doctrines, (Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, and Christian) behavioural patterns, traditions and all other social values which had united all its speakers irrespective of cast, creed and religion.

This is a language of Kashmiri people and they protected it from all ups and downs. Different invaders from thousand years never accepted its importance and value and deprived its native speakers and never introduced it as an official language of the state. Still the situation is static and considered to be deadlocked or gridlocked. Planners, administrators and educationists never made a comprehensive plan for its development and promotion, but some sensitive and proactive elements in the society struggling hard to convince Govt authority to promote this language and align it with employment so that thousands of aspirants can get jobs. There are many fields that can be involved for employment generation like radio Kashmir Doordarshan, Cultural Academy J&K, Kashmiri department, Sheikh-ul-Aalam chair (Markaz-i-Noor), Kashmir studies Kashmir University, cultural clubs, etc. Even Dean Student's welfare K.U. can engage dozens of people for cultural activities and other cultural programmes conducting at various occasions within the campus as well as abroad. Every college and Higher Secondary schools and Primary schools shall be ordered to establish cultural wings or clubs and at least one trainee from Kashmiri literature background shall be employed for promotion of Kashmiri language and culture, and different colourful programmes shall be organised monthly in educational institutions and six monthly at district level for all educational institutions and yearly at state level. Translation board ought to be at state level and its branches at district level shall be established so that a committed agenda shall emerge properly. Kashmir

language has great potential neither it can extinguish not it can be dominated. It has vital surviving power which can be seen through historical evidences. Govt approach towards Kashmiri language is unsatisfactory and disappointing but, due to some continue appeals from different literary unions and NGOs some signs of progress shall be seen from last two years. Hence, it has been observed that Govt will soon announce some special direction regarding the preservation and promotion of Kashmiri language and literature.

Conclusion:-

This paper will highlight all expected remedial measures which will help to boost the process stagnated from years and different attempts and suggestions may cater the demands already in place. Expectations and aspirations will be honoured with positive response. Scholars, students, teachers, writers, authors and poets of Kashmiri language having apprehension of good reverberation after their struggle and appeal to the concerned authority. Kashmiri language will flourish and bloom in future times if Govt will initiate some sincere and honest steps towards its development without prejudice and aversion, and this initiative will help to maintain peace and prosperity within the state because Kashmiri culture is very rich and congenial in nature more we appreciate and accept its importance more we gain ground. In short Kashmiri language promotion and preservation means buying a peaceful atmosphere without any expenditure, because everything is hidden within the language and literature. So its promotion is most important and most significant.

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