



# Reflection of the Dialectical Nature of Spiritual beliefs and reality in the novel Nilakanthi Braj

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**Abstract :** Nilakanthi Braj is a novel of Indian Writer Mamoni Raysam Goswami. The novel is based on the story of Braj. The novel reveals the true picture of reality along with spiritual faith and devotion, in the context of which the novel reflects a dialectical nature of faith and reality. This research paper is designed to focus on this aspect.

**IndexTerms - Culture, Religion, Women , Believe, Krishna**

● **Introduction** - Indian civilization is the carrier of spiritual consciousness. From the time of history, spiritual thought has dominated the phenomena of Indian civilization and human thought. Therefore, despite the development of science and technology, spiritual consciousness has not disappeared from the minds of the Indian people. Devotion to God, compassion for the invisible, etc. are ingrained in the minds and brains of the Indian people. Spiritual fields play a special role in this regard. Spirituality is nurtured in many parts of India. One of these is Vrindavan. Vrindavan is seemingly full of spiritual consciousness, with the belief in Krishna, one of the devotees of the Indian people. There are many ways to get away from these things, but the most important thing is to get away from these things. There are many ways to get away from these things. The novel reveals the true picture of reality along with spiritual faith and devotion, in the context of which the novel reflects a dialectical nature of faith and reality. This research paper is designed to focus on this aspect.

● **Need of the study** - The main needs of the study entitled 'Spiritual Beliefs and the Dialectical Nature of Reality Reflected in the Novel Nilkanthi Braj' is to gain a thorough knowledge of Indian spiritual consciousness and determine the nature of spiritual beliefs and craftsmanship reflected in Vrindavan, to Identify the conflict between spiritual beliefs and the reality reflected in contrast.

● **Research Methodology** - Descriptive and analytical methods have been adopted in the study entitled 'Spiritual Beliefs and the Dialectical Nature of Reality Reflected in the Novel Nilkanthi Braj'.

● **Reflection of spiritual beliefs reflected in Nilkanthi Braj**

The novel is a beautiful reflection of the background of Vrindavan, full of devotion and faith in God. The novel is a real embodiment of the spiritual faith and devotion inherent in people. The spiritual beliefs and devotion reflected in the novel are discussed below.

The first part of the novel gives a detailed description of the environment of Vrindavan. The novel describes Braj from the perspective of Saudamini, a newly widow who has come to live in Braj with her parents:

"This is Jhulan, a fair is being held at Ranganath. The garden of Ranganath is filled with many strange garlands. Saudamini saw a strange shop of a man selling medicines near the lion gate A painted loudspeaker in front. (p. 15)

The novel gives a detailed overview of the environment of the Ranganatha Mela in Braj and the merchandise that developed around it.

The novel is about the characters of the Radheshyamis of Braj. The novel reflects their devotion and faith in God along with their painful life. The novel is about the echo of the love of Krishna of the Radheshyamis as follows:

"They must sing even if they are hungry. They must scream even if they are about to choke. They must sing the songs of love of Radha and Krishna They must struggle to find Krishna at the ghats of Nidhuban, Nikunjvan and Dheer Samir. ( p. 22)

It clearly reflects the devotion of the Radheshyamis to Krishna. There is a tendency to despise a hungry stomach in front of devotion and faith in God. Elsewhere in the novel, the immense power of devotion to ignore the weak body is mentioned as follows:

"There has been a crowd at Rangji for the past week. It is true that there was this crowd on the day Rangji rode in the golden eagle vehicle or on the day he went to Bagcha Vihar on the Braj circumambulation. Well, only religion can give birth to such power. Is religion this power?" (p. 109)

Similarly, the concept of spiritual faith is expressed through the belief in the minds of the people towards the Deoghari Baba of Braj. Ordinary people go to Deoghari Baba for solutions. The novel describes the expression of devotion to him as follows:

"The canopy of Deoghari Baba is becoming clearer. Some small temporary huts have been built under his canopy. Baba's disciples are staying in them. Occasionally a few of them climb up and take care of the passengers.

'Jai Jamunaji, Jai. They all got out of the boat one by one. " (p. 26)

This reflects the immense faith and surrender of the devotees towards Him. It is also clear that along with devotion to Krishna, devotees worshiped living persons in the place of incarnate beings. There are also examples of blind consciousness of devotion. This is evident from the description of Deoghari Baba -

"See Baba. Baba came out of the small hut. He was naked. His matted hair was the color of the earth of Radhakunj in the month of Fagun. Baba looked like a wild animal when he came out of the hut. (p. 26)

In other words, the devotees were not disturbed by the nakedness of Baba. Although an ordinary person is not usually accepted as naked, the blind nature of devotion is revealed in accepting his nakedness as divine because he is an incarnate man.

The novel tells the story of an old woman who, despite being very weak, did not stop repeating the story of devotion. In other words, even though her body was weak, Bhakti did not give up her body and mind. He is described in the novel as -

"Last time she came she saw an old woman living there. She was so old that she was caught by two women when she went to bathe in the Jamuna. "There are many stories of the Goswamis who saved Vrindavan, Meerabai, Ballabhacharya, Roop Sanatan, Mansingh, Bhakta Hridaya Rajputani. ( p. 34)

#### ● 'Nilkanthi Braj' is a dialectical reflection of belief and reality -

Mamoni Roysom Goswami's novel depicts the well-known background of Brajdhama while revealing its background and the true condition of the people. The novel also describes the reality that is very ugly. As the author mentions in the introduction, the characters in the novel are based on fiction but the overall picture of the people of Braj is based on reality. The novel is a reflection of the conflict between faith and devotion to God. The novel is also a reflection of the conflict between faith and devotion to God.

It is believed that visiting Braj brings peace of mind. The main character of the novel, the newly widowed Saudamini, was also taken by her parents to Brajvas for peace of mind. But contrary to the beliefs that prevail in everyone's minds, Saudamini faced fear and hesitation on her first day in Braj. The novel describes how fear overwhelms him instead of finding peace in

God's place: "How long will she stay here? Until her mind is corrected? Then why did she come? Humiliated like her, like her Would you like to sit here and cry for a while instead of thinking about a bunch of butchers without feelings?" (p. 17)

This shows that the reality of Saudamini's mental state creates a conflict with the commonly held concepts of Braj and the peace of God.

The description of the ugly condition of the Radheshyamis represents the conflict between faith and reality even in the midst of the devotional atmosphere of Braj. Wherever people go with the desire to get everything on the floor of God, the plight of the Radheshyamis is a harsh reality. Many parts of the novel reflect their ugly condition. Initially, when Saudamini went to the Radheshyamis and they tried to insult her in a hungry state, a saint expressed the plight of the Radheshyamis as follows:

"Aideu, I gave you the right before. They can eat people. Let me tell you one more thing. Listen, they are very unfortunate, 'Bubhukshitah king Nakarotipapam. (p. 21)

The novel vividly describes the decay caused by poverty in Braj as follows: "While the corpse lies on one side, two groups will continue to kick and kill the mothers' savings. Sometimes I have seen a few goats fall on the corpse He let out a sigh - "Era, what has happened in Braj! This Dham is the essence of the world, the heart of the world!"

Instead of giving freely to the idol of God, the living remain in the same state. The idea that God does justice to everyone is sometimes undermined by reality. The flow of milk donated to the idol of God as opposed to a child suffering from malnutrition due to lack of milk is an example of the conflict between faith and reality. The novel describes -

"Children are already crowding near the tunnels attached to the wall. Because there will be a stream of milk flowing from Venkateshwara's body. The group of beggars has already started biting. (p.72)

In the novel, the author clearly describes the deteriorating state of Braj. This description is contradictory to the so-called spiritual and sacred concepts centered on Braj. The novel expresses it as follows: "This is no longer the old Braj. That Braj has disappeared in the lap of time. Now that the streets of Braj are full of human dogs.

There are many reasons why you shouldn't be afraid to go to the gym. There are many reasons why you shouldn't be afraid to go to the gym. (p. 107)

It is believed that God looks at everyone equally. The consciousness of God teaches us to believe that all people are equal regardless of race. However, the reality of the tendency to discriminate among people even in Braj, where God is constantly worshipped, undermines that belief. In one part of the novel, the concept of untouchability is expressed as follows: "He was amazed to see this dancing young woman. That day she wanted to wear a garland to Venkateshwara. She wants to touch Lord Venkateshwara and wear a garland on her. ( p. 78)

Therefore, it is important to understand the importance of these issues. Therefore, it is important to understand the importance of these issues. Therefore, it is important to understand the importance of these issues. Saudamini cannot escape the natural physical and mental pursuits of women, which makes her more restless. This is clearly expressed in the words of Saudamini to Charanbihari as follows:

"Sigh, why , you don't want to love me ? People say I'm not like those old women yet. People once praised my physical beauty highly. As the days go by... tell me you don't want me " ( p. 59)

Even when Saudamini faces her lover again, it is clearly expressed as follows -"No no, she could not restrain herself anymore. Losing all seriousness here she started crying , eat again and kiss me just the same. Your touch is exactly the same old s She fell on her lover's chest like soft soil on the banks of a river. ( p. 122)

Such behavior towards devotees in the court of God is contrary to prevailing beliefs. Similarly, Saudamini, a Hindu widow, fell in love with a Christian youth, citing religious differences. He also pointed to this as the reason for Saudamini's mother's illness.

"Widowed daughters and Christian lovers are the deaths. Sometimes they must have poisoned someone's cooked rice, so they caught such daughters in their stomachs. They walk around alone in the lightning. (p. 104)

Such an attitude towards a woman and a particular religion is contrary to the knowledge given by Indian spiritual consciousness and is exposed as a cause of conflict towards this reality and so-called beliefs.

Furthermore, in the novel, the sale of the temple turns the temple into a commercial resource, contrary to the usual sacred concept of the temple as a place of worship of God. There is a controversy in the fact that the owners of the so-called devotional temples have sold them due to poverty.

Similarly, some of the things that reveal the true nature of Brajdham are clearly described in the novel: "Standing in front of the wall, Saudamini tried to read them We oppose the misuse of money like water and the 'establishment' of the police state of the temple. The clothes, utensils, gold, silver, gems and pearls offered to the pilgrims have never been used properly. These are smuggled and sold at unfair prices "I hope everyone can feel the heinous crime of burning the palace of Bihariji Maharaj. (p. 57)

From the above aspects it is quite clear that the reality of Brajdham is completely different from the beliefs towards it. When comparing belief and reality, the conflict between the two sides is clear from many perspectives.

### ● Result and Conclusion

The conclusion reached after the study entitled Spiritual Beliefs and the Dialectical Nature of Reality Reflected in the Novel Nilkanthi Braj are -

- 1) Nilkanthi Braj presents the nature of spirituality in a realistic form rather than incorporating fictional and conventional concepts. It describes the prevailing aspects of Indian spiritual consciousness and presents it as the basis of strength, but the reality is clearly indicative of the opposite.
2. The novel depicts the ugly character and abused condition of women.
3. While revealing the aspects of spiritual consciousness, the author reveals the true nature of the time on the scales of reality. In many cases, traditional beliefs have been refuted by reality.

### Bibliography -

#### Main Resource -

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