

## Chapter-3

### Speeches of Savitribai Phule

#### On hard work

Hard work pays much dividends in all walks of life. Money is required for all activities in human life. Nobody should think that he or she can enjoy the fruits of others hard work. Only a lazy and sluggard people think on those lines. That kind of people will run away from hard work. If anybody thinks that one can enjoy the fruits of the labour of other people, they are mistaken. It is always better for people to eke out their own living.<sup>1</sup>

Working hard is the only way of working towards humanity. People should believe only those who work hard. Those people can help themselves and also others. I can say that a man who does not work hard is enemy to himself. For it doing hard work the whole day continuously is the best character of man and that man is also true friend of humanity. Accept this is increasing our pleasures. We should believe on him. He may become helpful to me and to all. I can say to you this strongly. God is an imaginary helpful. Being it not true and it is not creditable God makes man idle creating confusion among men and creating enemy ship. A man gets any condition his deals and self-sins and falls sorrows well and bad feels a man gets pleasures and sufferings.

By the imagination of Bhaiya (Prarabdh) the men were declared mean and untouchables of the castes, Mahar, Mang, Kunabi (Kurmi, Kisan) and Maratha. So they have been treated as untouchables for ages. Such people cannot oppose because it is known that every man has pleasures and pains by his old works in his previous life (karma theory).

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<sup>1</sup> Gajbhiya Sanjay, *speeches of Savitribai Phule*, Samyak publication New Delhi, first edition 2016, p 12-15.

Due to this reason Shudra men adopted a life that was not better than animals because of presumed deeds in their early lives. Shudras are not intelligent and they are not good at reading and writing. That is why they need to work hard and do all kinds of menial works. Studying, writing and reading are also two kinds of labor. This work is done by the eye, ear and wisdom, organs or "brother Give bread to this poor man". This crying and begging by the men is also a labor. At the time of begging they impress others. But it is known as a work without thoughts. In the labor which is done by hand and leg needs the help of mind and man is a creature who gets good results by doing work with mind and body. Europeans developed industrial units and they made watches, matchstick, and ship the train and developed industry and workshops. These works are wonders and of their marvelous power of intellect.

## **Donation of knowledge**

Many men keep mercy, magnanimity helping others qualities but if they do not use their wisdom and long vision, their qualities are useless. It is good to donate but "we are great donors" showing it or to increase our ego instead of helping the poor with compassion. One should be thinking that we are giving donation to the right man or not<sup>2</sup>.

We should think that we are not making a man lazy by donating him who does not deserve it. By donating grain like economic donation it is to increase his disabilities to the undeserved person. It should be the purpose of men the feelings of donation and religion they should take part in the sorrow of people and should help them. Like this a man must be ever ready to help others. But sorrow calamity, idleness are influent and fools are there in the society. A great calamity comes on them only by their deeds. It is an education to a bad man to follow good path. He should lessen his bad things. The government gives education and punished the guilty and culprits. By these strong punishment criminals fear to do so again. Really seeing it a criminal will keep aside himself to spend thrift. To make bad ideas etc. he will be laborious.

He will not be dependent on others. The good and honest people instruct bad people to shun violence and bad way. By good deeds people be aware of to avoid bad

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<sup>2</sup> Banait Suyog, *The Rebel Flame*, My creations publication, New Delhi, 2015.p.120-122.

deeds and crimes knows that these works are good for themselves and others also. A spiritual also plays a good role to reform the society and to remove crimes.

When a man comes on good path and he reforms himself, he feels shame to take help from others. It sometimes he is in calamity, he gets help from others in this time too he thinks that he should take help and if he takes he takes a strong decision to return those things by doing hard work to somebody.

A donor likes donating money in the works of religion but the receiver of donation does not feel to take it. If this understanding comes in the mind then it will be fruitful for society instead of bad impression. If any religion is to increase qualities to lessen disqualifies and it checks to dependent other, it is donation of knowledge. The person who educates and the person who gets education both become true human beings. By the power of this religion animal hood destroys that dwells in the human body. The educator makes fearless and courageous decision about issues of life. The English made Bhatt Brahmins experts by educating them. But those clever Brahmins did not educate the general mass.

The Iranians entered India they began to understand Hindustan the language of the country. On the arrival of Huns they said that it was not their country. Never the less the Huns entered and began to live understanding India. Their forefather's property. If foreigners ruled them it was their ignorance. Till two thousand years Indians passed their life like animals, living in the darkness of ignorance. Is it not a great wonder? It was a conspiracy of the ruling class. We got this theme by the knowledge which was given by the English. The effort of English was to educate and to increase the interest towards knowledge. They wanted to help the men in getting education. After getting knowledge we can go forward on the way of improvement. By this idea everybody will be happy and it will be also fruitful for the society.

The English government opened many schools for providing education to all. But these schools were less in numbers. If schools were less, it may be believed that it will take time of one hundred and fifty years to educate all. This is my reliable understanding. Nevertheless I say that English government should not go from here

(India), without educating the Indians. The government should give speed in this field of education.

Mahar, Mang, Shudras untouchable men live in their respective villages. They get mere pittance annually help after their work. The gardeners, farmers etc. live in the villages. These men have knowledge of art, the power of tolerance but neither any government paid attention towards these qualities nor gave importance. The kings and other rich men ruled ignoring their qualities and made them a laughing stock. The Shudras and untouchables have many qualities but being illiterate they can use their mind and expertise. They do not know it what they should do what is needful to all? What things should be manufactured by them? The other men may take those things for their use and in this way they can get money along with profit of the country. Neither they know it nor are they trained by the government.

This is the reason that behavior of Shudras and untouchables are like fools. Nobody guide them because of that they are unable to start any institution and industry by their intellect. It is their nature that they do not meet one another and they have not understanding how they can improve their life. By this ignorance sometimes they do not get complete food. Sometimes they have to sleep without taking food. This government should show the ways them for their livelihood and the rich should open the industries so that the labour may get work. In this way both rich and poor may get profit. If they do not do so today, it is only their mistake.

## **On Good deeds**

Good behavior is noble idea to get very pleasant condition for a man. It destroys all the worldly pains. Many men think that a lot of money should be for this fast but really there is no relation between virtue and money. Everybody should have a strong will for morality. A man should always keep a desire to do good works in this life. It should be his purpose of his life.

Men believe on a person who has good behavior. People believe on someone who is honest and does not tell lies. Others also fear to tell a lie before him. So they

try to be righteous and try to follow the good conduct of others. They believe that fruit of virtue is good they know that their life will reform other unrighteous<sup>3</sup>.

In Pune, a person named Govaudye was living in his family. They followed virtue and feared from bad conduct. His wife Ganga was clean like Ganga and she was white like rice. She was always ready to help others. Once, a son was born in the house of this couple. He named him Sadashiv. That child began to rise like the art of moon. Seeing it they sent him to school for study. To educate their children is a duty of parents and those parents who do not educate their children are like their enemies. So every parent should educate their issues so that they may go on the way of progress<sup>4</sup>.

Pant preached his loving son. Oh! Sadashiv Vidhaya is the most superior treasure of man. It is said in a Sanskrit text. A person who was born in a high family is not respected without education whether a person getting birth in a lowest family if he is cultured and educated, he will be worshipped by the gods and he may become famous.

He puts an example of a gold smith that blows air through a pipe and air goes out from the other end. The child Sadashiv did not do so he kept his father's guidance in his mind. He studied in a government school. There he learns writing reading and studied maths grammar, astronomy, and geography. It is hard to see a boy who excelled in studies and whose family is nice and humble. Sadashiv was talkative firm and intelligent so collector Gorasahab became very glad to him. He gave him many rewards, clothes and ornaments and appointed him as a clerk in the office of the collector.

The clerks who worked under D.M. are dishonest. Once, a rich farmer delivered a speech to him to do a work giving extra money. Then Sadashiv replied "Pateel" do not deliver such a bad speech before me. Nobody should take or give money. If a work for governor is not done honestly, pleasure of satisfaction is gained by the person. Sadashiv was appointed in the office of D.M. he also looked after

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<sup>3</sup> Banait Suyog, *The Rebel Flame*, My creations publication, New Delhi, 2015

<sup>4</sup> Gajbhiya Sanjay, *speeches of Savitribai Phule*, Samyak publication, New Delhi, first edition 2016, page no 12.

collector of the field also. He was found to be a honest in his work. The government later promoted him as an officer. Later on Sadashiv became very famous.

## **On Addiction**

Addiction and other vices are reasons of many sorrows. Any addiction destroys the pleasures of life. alcohol, bhang, afeem, bidi, chilam are some of the addictions which were prevalent at that point of time. Addictions may make a man's mind and intellect ruins and humanity come to an end. These addictions do not increase the prestige of a man. They become habitual to entrap in humanity. So as soon as it is possible should leave the addictions<sup>5</sup>.

An addiction of drink is from very long time among men this addiction ruins intestine of man. Those who use smoking they do not live long. By this addiction a man becomes weak and at last he dies in a very bad condition. In this way being habitual in addiction all the useful things like clothes, money and other things have been taken from him. A man who addicts daily does not know this. Any addictions lessen the intellect of man. He does not know himself. His life goes eating, drinking murmuring like animal. Then men try to laugh on them. Gentle and cultured men make a distance from them.

An addicted person feels pain in leaving it. Not getting freedom from addiction he gets loss of his property and money. His family faces many difficulties. Addicts ends their lives in ruin. She gives here an example. Many alcohol drinkers lived in a village. A patwari of village also drank habitually. So the incidents of misconduct began to rise. Patwari was illiterate so he was surrounded by many persons who praised him. So the gentleman started to keep a distance from him. He was not able to find a company of good men. Always sorrows and calamities are there at drinkers house. Then there was calamity at Pateel's house also. He always drank alcohol with some of his friends.

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<sup>5</sup> Gajbhiya Sanjay, *speeches of Savitribai Phule*, Samyak publication new Delhi, first edition 2016, p.31.

This intoxication started to destroy the organs and mind of Pateel. He murmured useless, gambled, quarreled, liked prostitutes and indulged with them. The English heard about his oppressions in the village. They dismissed him from the post and appointed his son on this post. After this, Pateel died soon due to addiction. So being alert of addiction everybody should live without taking these addictions. Make your children educated. Being illiterate is a root of ruin. An illiterate person cannot understand the difference between true and false. Tukaram was said,

*Always do good deeds  
Good deeds give your pleasure  
They check the sufferings  
Tell to the world  
Good and gentle man like renunciation  
Leave that self which increases your bad fame  
Tukaram says to leave the untruth  
Shameful works are like darkness,  
Great losses get men from addiction<sup>6</sup>.*

Gambling is also very bad. People who accompany the prostitutes die soon and their forefathers go to hell. Drinkers, gamblers and the man who are indulged with prostitutes blot to humanity. They become criminals. If a man lives far from these three vices, he will get satisfaction and welfare. Who knows how many man died being sorry indulged with these addictions? They became mad like animals and have been killed. The good and prestigious people never indulge in any addiction. One needs to see it and take inspiration from them.

## **Debt**

**Being marry talking** debt, it has a great meaning. We get education and inspiration from it. Making merriments by taking debt is foolishness of man. In this ways he is being caught in the net of sorrows and sufferings. They are idle. They never work. They always borrow from others for their requirements. They have to face insults and difficulties every time. Everybody should work hard for his family. We should help our friends to our family member doing hard work when a person sits

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<sup>6</sup> Bodh Shantiswaroop, *Savitribai Phule ki Amar Kahani*, Publication Samyak New Delhi, first edition 2016, p.252.

useless blaming other. Men take debt and defeats six qualities<sup>7</sup> Savitri expressed her opinion in the following lines:

*One who takes money to rich man  
His pleasure goes away  
He lives life earnest  
A person lives peace less borrowing  
He worries by borrow.  
Borrowing is a root of misfortune  
It wastes all things<sup>8</sup>.*

In a village two Kunvi working on government's forms live happily with their family. One was Khandova and other name was Piroba. Both had small issues. Their girls were marriageable, both are happy. Both were living happily. They had their respect in the village. Once, there came an alien in that village. He had a pair of cloths torn, a torn jng and a dhoti it was also torn. It was his property seeing his condition Khandova and Piroba became merciful on him. They made a short house for him. They opened a shop for him giving him money. After some time that person became a rich man by his business giving interest to the villagers charging exorbitant interest. Once Khandova and Piroba took an amount of Rs 500 (Rupees five hundred) on the interest of 12% and marred their daughters.

The account was going on and in this way that rich man got fifteen hundred rupees from each taking interest on interest. For paying the debt both gave all which earned the farms but it was not written in the note book. The interest and interest on interest never came to an end. Being angry Rhandova and Piroba began to quarrel the rich man. Sethji went to court and judgment was in his favor. He took his money by making Kurki his farms universal. Then both Runbi went out to live in other village leaving his village. That rich man did not regret this incident. We can easily know and understand how debt ruins the families once they take loan from others on interest.

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<sup>7</sup> Gajbhiya Sanjay, *speeches of Savitribai Phule*, Samyak publication new Delhi, first edition 2016, p.34.

<sup>8</sup> Bodh Shantiswaroop, *Savitribai Phule ki Amar Kahani*, Publication Samyak New Delhi, first edition 2016, p.254.