

## **Man, Beauty and Truth**

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“Beauty is truth, truth beauty’,-that is all  
Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know.”

*...Ode on a Grecian Urn—John Keats*

The theme of the above mentioned lines from an eminent poet-critic play a vital role in defining art, literature, music, truth, beauty and above all in a nutshell—man and beauty. The importance of beauty lies as long as man exists. If man is there, the world is also there in a pure sublime way. Therefore there has always been a close affinity between man and society in its true sense. But the question is man is true or the beauty is true?

Now what would be the parameter of beauty? How should we measure truth? Let us discuss the matter. According to Keats beauty is synonymous with truth and vice-versa. He wants to convey that if there is truth, there is beauty. Truthfulness is like godliness. So, be truthful and you will become beautiful at the same time. But this beauty is not physical but mental and in some special case, spiritual. This kind of beauty lays in the heart, not in one’s outward grandeur. Now-a-days these people are almost lost. The more these kinds of beautiful people arise in the society, the more truthful the society becomes. Actually all of this unnecessary, unwanted violence, rape, robbery and many more of the kind will decrease day by day if there is little honesty, a tinge of nobility in the heart of the people. The thing we have to accept that we are not as truthful or honest as our predecessors were. It is we who actually hastens the degeneration of the society.

In the *Vedic* philosophy it is said, “*Satyam, Shivam, Sundaram*” (Truth, God, Beauty). Now for me this thought generates another angle of vision of the previous thought. A pure, sublime and relative reality is pointed here. Here the God is attached with both of the beauty and truth. So, the definition is changed. What is truth? God is truth. And what is beauty? God is beauty. Now the God takes the upper hand here. Here we get a new concept of the God outside those religious boundaries of different religions. If you are truthful, you are beautiful. And if you are beautiful, the God remains active there in you. You will become a Godlike creature in this mortal body. You will be immortal. You will be remembered by the people of the world generation after generation that happened in the matter of

Buddha, Christ, Muhammad, Chaitanya, Ramakrishna, Vivekananda, Rabindranath, Socrates, Plato and so on. All of them are eminent people and are remembered still now. Why???...The answer is, for their lives, works and speeches. They are truthful and they have inner beauty which makes them godlike in this world. And for that reason only they are remembered. The lesson here is that if we want to be remembered we should be truthful. Then automatically our mind will be beautiful and by the same formula we will be remembered.

Chandidas says “*Sunoho Manus Bhai.../Sobar upor Manus Sotta, Tahar upore Nai*” (Man is the ultimate truth and there is nobody except man). What Chandidas wants to say is that man is the greatest creation by the God. He is born in this beautiful earth and evolves with the time resulting in being the dictator of the world. But somehow he gradually forgets he own self that his is the epitome of the ultimate truth named ‘God’. “*Aham Brahamasmi*” i.e. “I am the Brahma” is mere a phrase and totally insignificant to them. But, we have to remember that we have enormous capacity in us to do everything as we are carrying God within us; we may reach the level of Godhood by our works.

Mansur Al-Hallaj of ancient Baghdad (Capital city of Iraq) once reached at a certain blissful state of spiritual reality. He no longer felt his own existence and exclaimed, “*Ana al-Haqq*” (I am the Truth) and “*maa fil jubba ill-Allah*” (there is nothing in this cloak except Allah). He was totally drunk in the love of the God and this was a pleasure and happiness that he could not control. Here again the flashlight is upon man. Without man nothing happens; no discovery will be made; no epiphany will arise. So, we should treat a man as man only. There should not be any distinction such as Indian man, Pakistani man, American man, Hindu man, Muslim man, Christian man, Buddhist man in one level and in the other phase, male man, female man, general man, scheduled caste man, scheduled tribe man, other backward class man, physical handicapped man, political man, Trinamul man, Congress man, BJP man and many more. These are social identity. Man is simply is a man and nothing else. He should be judged by his works, not by his social identity. Look into the truth he has. Look into the beauty he stores in his heart.

In his earlier age Rabindranath starts a poem with, “*Marono re, /Tunhun mamo Shyama soman*” (Oh, Death! /You are my God). This purifies my discussion and concludes the overall matter here. We find a new definition of the God. Who is the God? Death is the God. Just think of it!!! We have been brought into this beautiful world; we live here for a little span of time and then ultimately die one day. That is the truth; here lies the beauty. We all have to die one day. So, why all these quarrel? Why all these divisions among people regarding nationality, religion, caste and politics? What remains there being arrogant and proud? Let’s make a beautiful world full of eminent people, full of truth and prosperity. Let’s open up our mind. Let’s begin a new journey towards a peaceful society where actually real beauty lies and truth oozes out.

## References

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