

Educational and social perspective of Bengali puzzle

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Folk culture is the traditional culture of an integrated society. An important category of folk culture is— 'verbal folk culture' or verbal art. The form of oral and written folk culture that is transmitted by word of mouth is called 'oral folk culture', or verbal art. Riddles, rhymes, proverbs, hymns etc. belong to this genre.

A notable branch of rhetorical folklore is the riddle in which well-known trivial or grand matters of folk life are presented to the answerer in the form of simple, simple, meaningless, meaningful words. Pure enjoyment is its main purpose.

Eminent scholar Maurice Bloomfield commented on the riddle in a lecture nearly a hundred years ago—

"Since time immemorial, the creation of riddles is the result of the primitive man's mind trying to adapt itself to the world around it." (Address delivered at the International Congress of Arts and Sciences, St. Louis, USA, 1904)

Riddles are an integral and important part of folklore. Riddles are closely related to the daily life and activities of the respective societies. The definition of the puzzle. There are several important opinions about it. As Roger D. Abrahams and Alan Dundes suggest— essentially. The purpose of the riddle is to test the listener's sense of humor.

"Riddles are questions that are framed with the purpose of confusing or testing the wits of those who do not know the answer."

In Frazer's words, the nature of the puzzle is-

"All harmonies and fitness, all his discrepancies and inconsistencies attract the notice of the children and child-like men."

Riddle is the eloquent intellectual test of folk life as well as entertaining oral literature. Puzzles reveal the power of human imagination. Human instinct is mysterious. Hidden human instincts can be the source of the puzzle. James George Frazer, an anthropologist and folklorist of the West, thinks that if the speaker is unable to speak clearly on a certain subject for some reason, he can express it through riddles. Similes and metaphors are mainly used in the process of puzzle formation. The essence of a puzzle is to compare one subject to another. Riddles point to the correct subject by describing the mind-boggling subject. This description will be in the form of—"publishing any particular information or news;

... that would be 'proper' i.e. expressing the object from an objective point of view; It will be so clear, direct, real and complete that the answer can be discovered from it if tried" (Bhowmick, pg-105). And

this misleading subject is mainly used in sentences as a simile. In fact, most of these metaphors are drawn from our familiar world. Nonsense words used in puzzles help convey meaning to other content. A puzzle is a type of word picture, with the help of which an image of an object or animal is created.

However, the picture that is created with the help of analogy is very vague. But with its help, many elusive signals of the intended object or animal can be found.

Riddles are verbal art born of human intellect, imagination. This oldest element of folk culture is still prevalent in every society of the world today.

Riddles are usually practiced at weddings, social events or at home between grandparents and grandchildren. In ancient times, question and answer sessions were conducted between the bridegroom and the bridegroom in the swayambar sabha or marriage hall. According to the ancient tradition, the use of riddles is still common in many remote villages of our society. The origin of the word puzzle

Scholars differ on whether the word 'dhandha' is derived from the word 'bandha' or 'conflict'. Folk culture scholar Ashutosh Bhattacharya commented in the fifth volume of his book 'Banglar Lok-Sahitya' that the source of the riddle is from the word 'conflict'. He said – "The most common word puzzle is derived from the Sanskrit word 'conflict'.The word 'conflict' means doubt; It is called this because the meaning of the puzzle cannot be clearly understood or there is doubt about its solution" (Bhattacharya, page-10). Again Wakil Ahmad thinks that Dhandha comes from the word 'Dhandh'. According to him – "Dhandha is derived from 'dhandh', meaning 'deceit, doubt, puzzling problem, curious and mind-boggling question' (Ahmad, pg-145). Definition of puzzle

Anyway, what's the puzzle? Many traditional folklorists have had a number of valuable discussions about what kind of oral art can be called riddles. "Everyman's Encyclopedia" says about the definition of puzzle – "A periphrastic presentation of an unmentioned subject, the design of which is to excite the reader or hearer to the discovery of the meaning hidden under a studied obscurity of expression." (Leach page-944). That is, Riddle is—a paraphrase of a mentioned subject or object, which excites the reader and listener to discover the desired but hidden or obscure meaning of that subject or object. The above definition of foreign scholar's riddle and the above let us define a definition of it in our social context with discussion in mind. Commonly at leisure, when people exchange between different parties some prose or poetical questions of intellect and mental power, covered in the guise of similes, etc., it is called Riddle. This party can be one or more people. The word 'usually' is used in the definition because nowadays most of the riddles especially mundane riddles are told by people only in the evenings or at any leisure time for the sake of their sense of humor. But there are many poetic riddles or classical riddles which are associated with almost every major action in human life. The following are the features of puzzles that we have observed through the above discussion—
Features of the puzzle

- A. A riddle is a paraphrase of a given subject or object
 - B. A puzzle will have two sides namely the speaker and the listener.
 - C. Clues for retrieving what is mentioned in the puzzle will be
 - D. Riddles can be expressed in figurative prose or rhyming verse.
 - E. Similarities can be observed in rhyming rhymes. In some cases Of course there are exceptions.
 - F. The essence of a puzzle is to compare one subject to another.
 - G. Similes and metaphors are mainly used in the process of puzzle formation. H. The surrounding images are very cleverly drawn through the puzzles. That is, imagery is one of the characteristics of puzzles.
 - h. The puzzle is not too long. Brevity is one of the techniques of eloquence.
 - i. Riddles are oral creations and perpetuate themselves through the aural medium.
 - J. Riddles are created in the conversation between the speaker and the listener. This is why the puzzle is a joint production
 - K.Or satire is a prominent element.
 - l. There is a mixture of imagination with puzzle intelligence.
 - K Riddles are composed in song and song. Can also be rhythmic. Alankar (Aligory)There are applications such as imagery.
 - L. Riddles are answered in one or two words.
 - M. Riddles are bigger than proverbs and smaller than rhymes.
 - N. Riddles are expressed in two types of words, useful and useless. O . There can be two kinds of matters, insignificant and noble.
 - P. Both the questioner and the respondent are present.
- Apart from this, there are many other features that puzzle or puzzle different countries made

Social importance of Bengali puzzles:-

In the intensive study of cultural anthropology, we can know that every element of folk culture created by them has a special importance on the social and state life of every nation of the world. People have felt the different importance of each element of folk culture in different contexts and have gradually used them accordingly. Riddles, one of the elements of folklore, have not been disturbed. Riddles are a folk element that has been valued by humans since ancient times. The socio-ritual value of riddles from ancient times has gradually decreased towards the present, but it has not completely disappeared from society. This social value of the puzzle has kept it alive even today, without being lost in the folds of time, it is being resounded and pronounced in people's mouths.

Although the practical importance of riddles is gradually lost in advanced modern society, the rural people or the people who are still trying to survive by clinging to their traditions, perform various ceremonies in their society - such as marriage ceremony, birth of a child, ritual ceremony, cremation of dead body, Shiva gagan, Paushparvan etc. There is a custom of telling riddles in the center. Riddles were once considered equivalent to spells of infinite magical power for the aforementioned social rituals.

Although today puzzles are mostly used as leisure entertainment, intellectual exercises or to tease people's sense of humor, many still believe in the magical powers of puzzles. For example I may mention the traditional riddles centered around the ceremonies of child birth, cremation of dead bodies, Paushparvan etc. A kind of folk belief or religious craze is at work behind the use of riddles in all these areas. According to folk beliefs, no supernatural power can harm a new-born baby, a field crop or a newlywed couple by breaking through the mystery-web of riddles. Folk culture researcher Dr. Pallava Sengupta suggests that several social mindsets evolved behind the origin of riddles. According to him-

"a) To hold in symbols some of the group's own experiences, ideas, and knowledge, so that they remain exclusively their own, and do not fall into the hands of any other group or community.

b) It was believed that the inherent 'supernatural' forces of nature could be controlled through riddles,

... . c) Riddles are often used as a measure of IQ. was and through it gaining special positions or rights in the clan society Eligibility was also determined.

D) Through puzzles people play brain games socially as a type would have enjoyed

E) In riddles man first learned to express in literature those symbols which developed with the development of his religious and other mentalities" (Sengupta, pg-169).

Now we can clarify the matter by discussing some few of the areas of society in which puzzles still have practical importance. The fields are as follows—

Birth of Child: once upon a time people belonging to the folk society used to say many magical riddles to free the new born child from supernatural powers or incorporeal spirits. They had faith by using these magical mantras, the powers of supernatural powers disappear and the possibility of loss of life of the newborn is eliminated. Magical birth riddles are not as common nowadays, but there are many birth riddles. Two examples are given—

বাপে নাহি জন্ম দিল জন্ম দিল পরে। /পুত্রের যখন জন্ম হল মা ছিল না ঘরে।

উত্তরঃ- রামপুত্র কুশ

The father did not give birth, he gave birth later./Mother was not at home when the son was born.
Answer is — Ramchandra's son KUSH

মামা আনিলো মামি অর জন্মিত আমি। /এসো মামা ধুয়ে পা তোমার ভগিনী আমার মা।

উত্তরঃ- মামা কৃষ্ণের বোনের পুত্র অভিমুখ্য

Uncle Anil aunty, or born to me. /Come uncle, wash your feet, your sister is my mother. — Answer is

Abhimanyu

Not only the materials of social life, but various problems of social life, various methods of solving problems, various aspects of governance, reveal the social reality aspect of the puzzle.

উপরে নিয়া, পড়ে নিয়া / মধ্যখানে গোবর্ধন ভুঁইয়া

“Up Nia later Nia/ Govardhan Bhui in the middle

Answer: Village head.

Here it is shown that the plaintiff, the defendant – the panchayat is between the two parties. Afers Mainly, his condition is both critical.

Everyone does not always have equal status in the family of the society. We see such aspects of social reality revealed through riddles.

Red old man goes to the market

Get beaten by everyone

Answer: Earthen pot.

The real side of neglected family life is revealed to all the elderly or senior members of the family. Let’s look at another puzzle like that –

“An old woman with three heads who eats leaves.”

Answer: Unun.

4. It is also an example of people who have no sense of dignity in the society who are always neglected

Match the puzzle-

“Sit up and shake the snake,

He who says no is his father.”

Answer: Cover.

5. In addition to observing the reality of happiness and sorrow of Ranga Baudu in rural Bangladesh, the authors of puzzles in Bangladesh, we puzzle various aspects of the social reality, which was not pleasant for the satins of that time.

See in

“Everyone cries when friends and relatives die, tell me which relatives laugh when they die.”

Answer: Satin.

Educational perspective of puzzle:-

Puzzles also have an educational value in terms of difficulty. This can be achieved quickly through regular practice. We see many problems with puzzles hidden in secret codes. Little by little, the answers to the puzzles help us move toward the end of the goal or the solution to the problem. *Thondaike's* 'trial and error theory' is significant in this regard.

- Thorndike's Theory:-

Like a hungry cat, a person or a student will try to think through the puzzle clues repeatedly by doing their best to achieve the objective. The student will attempt to relate each word of the puzzle to the problem by rearranging it with prior experience. Needless to say, each of Thondaike's principles is applicable to solving puzzle problems. And more **intellectual development** is possible with practice (law of exercise).

If we can find the answer to each puzzle or the solution to the problem according to Thondyke's formula, then in many cases **emotional satisfaction** is possible as well as the happiness of obtaining a reward or achieving goal.

The more we can solve the problem, the more **positive reinforcement** we get to get the answer to the difficult puzzle or the solution to the problem; Which will be useful in many cases to keep calm even in extremely difficult situations in our personal life and **take the right decision**.

- Gestalt Theory:-

We can discuss Kohler's Gestalt theory of learning. Apart from Gestalt psychologists posited two mental processes to evoke insight, namely individuation and minimization. The same applies to puzzles. In the case of puzzles, one has to first understand the words separately and move towards a specific goal or problem solving by understanding the whole situation like holism.

Instead of thinking about the letters of the word separately, we move towards an integrated idea in the case of puzzles. Insightful learning fully applies to puzzles. Understanding the organization of the whole learning situation and the relationships between its various parts is required in solving puzzle problems.

- Piaget's Cognitive Constructive Theory:-

The schema that Piaget's cognitive constructivist theory explains applies to the puzzle as well. In the case of puzzles, the knowledge that people need to solve the puzzle problem is the knowledge gained through experience. This experiential knowledge is stored and modified in schemas all the time. Schemas are always expanded and modified through assimilation and accommodation.

- Diversifying Thinking and Brainstorming:-

We do divergent thinking when we solve one or many puzzle problems together with many people. Then we each think differently with many perspectives. In this case, everyone's efforts have a certain value. This creates a situation of creative thinking as well as brainstorming. As a result we can all influence each other's thinking. We can solve problems through transformation of ideas, transformation of thinking etc. Alex. F. Osborn is a proponent of brainstorming. He referred to this organized ideation as a brainstorming session in 1938.

- John Dewey's Critical Thinking Theory:-

It was John Dewey who first mentioned critical thinking in the field of education. In the case of critical thinking, we have to try to understand how correct and how wrong our thinking is from the outside of confirmation. In this case, we can free ourselves from confirmation bias through neutral thinking and move towards the correct solution to the problem.

The social importance of Bengali puzzles is understood from the above discussion. We can also call this social importance of puzzle its functionality. Another element of folklore, proverbs depict very consciously almost every aspect of social life. Although not as intense as proverbs in riddles, many relevant aspects of society are presented under the cover of similes, metaphors, using our daily experience of social life. The riddle's expressive form is somewhat symbolic or veiled, apparently not understanding its social significance as such. However, if this element of folklore is analyzed a little more closely, its deep social value can be felt.

Similarly, we can say that, Almost every element of folklore contains some kind of educational message. Rhymes teach us about our country-time-society, proverbs teach us to follow the right path by correcting various mistakes in the life of a nation devoid of principles and ideals. Riddles can be used to give general idea about letters, words etc. To boys and girls or old people of Lokayat society. Not only this, puzzles also impart mathematical education to common people. Puzzles make people aware of the appropriate time to solve different types of problems. Above all, puzzles serve as a medium to learn about our past society, culture and life.

All in all, the puzzle of that region has a special functional power or quality in the life of a nation. In the language of anthropology, it can be called the function of the puzzle.

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