

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION

The *Lauhapurushāvadānam* is one of the most prestigious contributions of Dr. Shivaprasada Bharadvaja in the field of modern Sanskrit literature. The theme of this epic *Lauhapurushāvadānam* is in accordance with virtues or qualities which have been prescribed by poets like Rudraṭa, Bhāmaha, Daṇḍin, Viśvanātha and Jagannātha. As per the poetics (*Kāvyaśāstra*), the theme of the epic should be based on the history or it should be on the life or character of royal or famous dynasty or personality. The present theme is based on history as well as it is on the life sketch of very popular personality and the veteran freedom fighter Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

The ancient Sanskrit poets have chosen their themes for their masterpieces mostly from the two epics the *Rāmāyaṇa* and the *Mahābhārata* or from the *Purāṇas*. *Raghuvamśam* is based on *Rāmāyaṇa*; *Śiśupālavadham* and *Kirātārjunīyam* are based on *Mahābhārata* and *Naiṣadhīyacaritam* is based on mythology. Thus, the main source of the ancient epics has been the *Rāmāyaṇa*, the *Mahābhārata* and the *Purāṇas*. There has been a great change for the last many decades.

Dr Satyavrata Shastri has selected the life and personality of Indira Gandhi as his theme of the epic by composing *Indirāgāndhīcaritam*. Shree Pashupati Jha has chosen the dynasty of Nepal and made a theme of his epic and wrote *Nepālasāmrājyodayam*. These two are historical epics but the situation of these two historical epics is a little different from the

situation of the epic *Lauhapuruṣāvadānam*. Those two epics deal with the persons who were in the political powers so these creations have background of man worship while *Lauhapuruṣāvadānam* was composed after a long time of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's death. So, this shows a new trend in the creation of Sanskrit literature.

The theme or plot of *Lauhapuruṣāvadānam* is the historical situations and events connected with the freedom struggle along with the life of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The theme or plot of the present epic is well arranged. According to *Kāvyaśāstra*, the present epic has all the stages like *Ārambha*, *Yatna*, *Prāptyāśā*, *Niyataprāpti* and *Falāgama*. All the *Sandhis* are also present in this epic *Lauhapuruṣāvadānam* like *Mukha*, *Pratimukha*, *Garbha*, *Vimarśa*, and *Nirvahana*. Thus, we can conclude the Dr Shiv Prasad Bharadwaj has been successful in the arrangement of his theme or plot for his epic *Lauhapuruṣāvadānam*.

All the important incidents or events of history described in the *Lauhapuruṣāvadānam* are honest and authentic if compared with history books. The contribution and participation of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's father in the freedom struggle of 1857, birth details of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, his mother's name, his father's name, his childhood, his marriage, his wife, his passing of Metric examination at the age of twenty two, practice of advocacy, his wife's illness and death, his study in abroad, co-union with Mahātmā Gāndhījī, *Campāraṇa* incident, his membership in Ahmedabad Municipality's Cleanliness Committee, removal of beggar system, non-cooperation movement, massacre of Jaliyāvālā bāga, fire bone of foreign clothes, abandonment of Government jobs, flag hoisting movement in Nāgapura, theft problem of Borsada and its solutions with the help of police, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's becoming of the

president of Ahmedabad Municipality, Bārdolī movement, breaking the law of salt, World War II, role of Congress in the World War II, partition of India, communal riots of 1946, constitution of India and achievement of freedom, violence after the post independence, merging of 554 princely states into Indian union etc. - all these events are in the accordance with the books of history so this is an authentic historical epic.

There is a little difference in Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's date of birth in the epic *Lauhapuruṣāvadānam*. It mentions the date of his death is 14th December 1950 while other history books show 15th December 1950.

From the characterization point of view it is a successful epic. This whole epic has been created on the personality and character of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. So Dr. Shiv Prasad Bharadwaj aims at the complete development of the character of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. All the other characters in the epic are helpful to the development of the hero of the epic i.e. main character i.e. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. All the events of the freedom struggle have been kept in mind by Dr. Shiv Prasad Bharadwaj to develop fully the character of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in his epic *Lauhapuruṣāvadānam*. Thus, from the plot's point of view *Lauhapuruṣāvadānam* is a successful historical epic and true biography of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel is the *dhīrodātta* hero of the epic. He is brilliant, popular, intelligent, bold and good natured one. He never likes self praise. He is polite, stable minded, serious, firm and strongly determined.

The second main character of this historical epic is Mahātmā Gāndhījī. He is firm, impressive and fearless leader. People of India started a movement under his leadership and made India free from the

tyranny of the British. Mahātmā Gāndhījī had to go to prison many times. He was a very famous and popular leader. His heart was full of compassion and mercy. Because of his excellent human qualities and virtues he became the father of nation.

Vitthalbhai Patel was the source of inspiration to Sarar Vallabhbhai Patel, but he was an opportunist and successful lawyer as well. He was a very practical minded person and an expert politician along with a sustained person.

In addition to this Dahyabhai, Javaharlal Naheru, Subashchandra Boz, Dr. Rajendraprasad, Motilal Nehru, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bhagat Singh, Swami Dayanand Saraswati, Sukhdev, Rajguru, Lala Hardayal, Ramprakash Bismil, Batukeshwar Datt, Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, Arvindo Ghose, Chandrasekhar Azad, Dadabhai Nauroji, Chipalunkar, Rasvihari Bose, Khudiram Bose, Ramanbhai Nilkanth, Harilal Desai, Chitaranjan Das, Mahadevbhai, Moropant, Mohanlal Pandya, Ravishankar Maharaj, Kanaiyalal Maneklal Munshi, Rajgopalacharya, Balasaheb Kher, Vinoba Bhave, Hakim Ajmal kha, Govindmahadev Ranade, Pundit Madanmohan Malaviya, Sikandar Hayat Kha, Jayprakash Narayan, V.P. Menon, Narharivishnu Gadgil, Maulana Abulkalam, Maharajkumar of Jaishalmer. King of Kashmir Hari singh, Shekh Abdulla, Ramchandra Kak, Nariman, Liyakat Ali, Mahmmad Ali jina, Master Tara Singh, Nathuram Godse, King of Jothpur, Ruler of Junagadh, Navab of Bhopal, Nizam of Haidarabad, Kashim Rijvi, Hiren Mukharji, Gopalswami Ayangar, Sir Bassil Scott, Lord Hyum, Shilid, Monteig, Lord Champsford, Dyer, Sir Lesly Winset, Lord Irvin, Lord Willington, Hitler, Hirohito, Musolini, Winset Churchill, Prince of Wales, Ruzvelt, Statform Script, Lord Italy, Lord Pethik Lawrence, Alexander, Lord Wovel, Lord Mountbatten, Dalai Lama,

all these male characters have been portrayed briefly according to the needs.

In female character we have a dedicated wife of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel viz. Zaverbai. She is a constant companion of the hero in happiness and sorrow. She is a heroine of this historical epic. She passes away in the 9th canto of the epic. Freedom movement is the theme of this epic so this heroine doesn't get much opportunity to develop her character even though her character appears in the form of expert house wife, beautiful lady and dedicated wife. Her nature is sweet. Her conduct towards her husband is full of selfless love. She is contented, serious and generous. She had smelt a sense of her death. She had a great attachment towards her children.

Ladubai is the mother of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Her mother was full of mercy and kindness. She was clever housewife. She was a very simple kind hearted woman.

Maniben is a daughter of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Apart from this, other women characters like wife of Vitthalbhai, Sarojini Naidu, Kasturba, Rasul Begam, Queen Victoria and Wilson are briefly narrated.

In addition to above mentioned men and women characters, there were other characters too that were connected with the theme of this epic in the form of group or community like the people of India who played the most important and significant role in the freedom movement of India.

Having made an aim of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's life and personality, *Lauhāpuruṣāvadānam* has been created by Dr. Shiv Prasad Bhradwaj. So, it is a biographical epic and that is why all other important characters are in supportive and coordinative in the development of the personality and character of Sardar Vallabhbhai

Patel in one form or other. Dr Shivaprasada Bharadvaja has never forgot even for a moment the aim of his epic is the development of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's character even if while narrating very important historical characters like Mahātmā Gāndhījī and Javaharlal Nehru. Mahātmā Gāndhījī enters in the 15th canto of the epic. Initially Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was a little indifferent towards the principles of Mahātmā Gāndhījī but when Mahātmā Gāndhījī challenged boldly the British in front of the judge in the court, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel believed that Mahātmā Gāndhījī is the perfect leader and true representative of Indian people for the freedom struggle of India.

In the same way the incidents connected with Nehruji also helped to develop the character of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The description of the selection of Nehru as the Prime Minister shows the more popularity of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel than that of Nehru. Because of the interference of Mahātmā Gāndhījī, Nehru could become the Prime Minister. If Mahātmā Gāndhījī had not interfered in the matter, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel would have become the Prime Minister of Independent India. This incident makes the character of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel more popular and sublime than Nehru in the eyes of the readers. He had a home ministry. Nehru took the issue of Kāśmīra in his hands from the hands of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The description of this event indicates that if the issue of Kāśmīra had been in the hands of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, it would have been solved so quickly. Thus narration of the character of the Vitthalbhai is also for the development of the character of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

As this is the hero oriented epic, the heroine of the epic doesn't get much chance to develop her character. The narration of the illness and death of the heroine highlights the qualities of the hero like firmness of the character of the hero, his patience and forbearance, his

dedication and his duty. The role of the heroine ends along with her death in the 9th canto.

Having studied all the male and female characters described in the epic *Lauhapuruṣāvadānam* by Dr. Shiv Prasad Bharadwaj, we can conclude that all the characters of the epic play very important roles in the development of the character and personality of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The rest of the incidents of the freedom movement occur in the epic are connected with the life of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in one way or other, directly or indirectly. Thus, we can say that this is a successful epic in terms of characterization.

As per the norms prescribed in the *Kāvyaśāstra*, the epic must comprises with *Śṛṅgāra* or *Karuṇa* poetic sentiments as the main sentiment and others as the subsidiary sentiments accordingly. Here in the *Lauhapuruṣāvadānam*, the main poetic sentiment is *Yuddhavīra Rasa* while other subsidiary sentiments are *Dharmavīra Rasa*, *Raudra Rasa*, *Bībhatsa Rasa*, *Śṛṅgāra Rasa* and *Karuṇa Rasa*.

The theme or the plot of the epic *Lauhapuruṣāvadānam* is based on the sentiments of struggle movement of India. Although this war was not fought face to face with the swords, bows, spears and bullets. It was the war fought on the strength of truth and non violence against the tyranny of British rule. This war was not less at all in any manner in bravery against the rule of British. To endure all kind of tyranny of British rulers, to abandon everything for the freedom of motherland, to leave all the pleasures and happiness for the independence of the nation, to dedicate each and everything for the sake of the country are the unique and matchless examples of the bravery and patriotism. Thus, there are many incidents of bravery in the epic *Lauhapuruṣāvadānam* so we can say that the main poetic sentiment is *Vīra Rasa*.