



OF DESERTION

DIBAKAR PAL ¹

¹ RETIRED EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE (CIVIL SERVANT) & PHD STUDENT, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA, INDIA.

ABSTRACT:

Both sun rise and sun set are natural events. Similarly, life and death are natural events as well. Through these successive desertions man becomes enriched gradually with diversified knowledge that paves his future success. These are the chronicles of desertion of human life, as a whole, from cradle to coffin.

KEYWORDS:

DESERTION, LEAVE, QUIT, ABANDON, EVICTION.

INTRODUCTION

Creative writing is based more on manifestation rather than on expression. It does not inform, rather it reveals. So it bears no reference. The best creative writing is critical, and the best critical writing is creative. This article is an outcome of thinking about creative writing meant for a general readership. As such, I have adopted a free style methodology so that everyone can enjoy the pleasure of reading. As you might know, Francis Bacon (1561-1626), the immortal essayist, wrote many essays namely 'Of Love', 'Of Friendship', 'Of Ambition', 'Of Studies', and so on. The multiple-minded genius correctly pointed out that all the words of the dictionary can be used as themes for essays. But little has been done since his death to continue or finish his monumental task. Bacon's unique individual style of presentation ignited my imagination and encouraged me to write creative essays as a method of relieving a wide range of emotions through catharsis.

ARTICLE

Desertion means to leave a person, place or thing without intending ever to return, especially in violation of a duty, promise or the like. It implies to forsake. It is to quit a service or duty. It is wilful abandonment of a legal or moral obligation.

One school of thought differs partly with this doctrine. It argues that the deserter is compelled to leave. His intention is not intentional. Man, generally, resists change for uncertainty, injustice and fear. He leaves when the last ray of hope is vanished. This is a painful decision of displacement. He leaves alone. Thus he is evicted. He weeps silently.

He mourns alone. In fact the wounded heart is not alone. Nostalgia is the ever companion of the migrant people.

Cultural violence acts silently. Refugee or migrant people loose identity due to silent invasion of new culture. Such

people do suffer from identity crisis. They become nostalgic and anxious for the young generation. To them new culture is alias and akin to violent culture.

Also desertion is to leave somebody without help or support. It is to abandon somebody.

It is to leave somebody when most needed. Displacement may be for single cause. It may be for many a cause. Also it may be for no cause at all. The last cause may be for divine call or for devil call or the person may suffer from insanity.

Further, desertion is to leave or run away from military service without authority or permission in order to avoid hazardous duty. A large number of soldiers desert in panic, especially, when defeat is imminent. A soldier who deserts his post in time of war is punished severely. Desertion from the army is punishable by death. A soldier is alias and akin to discipline. Discipline is the key to success of a captain. If the soldiers leave without permission defeat is a must. And damage will be more severely than defeat.

Soldiers are basically human being by birth. Their souls should be hardened enough to face severity and show cruelty to the enemy. But in careless moment emotion disturbs them and they feel inner pull of homesickness. As such mutinies and mass desertions in the forces are often observed.

As already stated, desert, abandon, forsake mean to leave behind persons, places, or things.

Desert implies intentionally violating an oath, formal obligation, or duty. To desert campaign pledges is very bad. A government fails if it fails to honor its election pledge.

Abandon suggests giving up wholly and finally, whether of necessity, unwillingly, or through shrinking responsibilities. A judicious person abandons a hopeless task. He likes not to run after a mirage. He moves if

purpose serves. He moves not if purpose serves not.

Forsake has emotional connotations, since it implies violating obligations of affection or association. A wise person seldom forsakes a noble cause. He can give up everything for the sake of noble cause, but instead of anything he cannot banish goodness. Here lies his superiority. Here lies his greatness.

Intention is all. Intention of the concerned person is to be realized first. It should be verified carefully prior taking any judicious decision. Acid test of reliability is a must in this crucial matter. They say look before you leap. Otherwise desertion is confirmed.

Employee leaves employer. Servant leaves stealing all belongings of the master. Husband deserts wife. Wife deserts husband. Sometimes desertion grounds for divorce. As a result children are affected mostly and severely. Ultimately, house for orphans becomes overcrowded. Such orphans become prodigal being deprived from mother's affection.

Unguarded childhood coupled with unshared infant offer such children quite unique personality trait. They become misguided. If such a child is genius. He becomes misguided missile. He either becomes dangerously brilliant or brilliantly dangerous or both simultaneously.

During war the village or locality is hurriedly deserted as the tanks draw nearer. Later on the people desert the ruined village. The captain asks the passengers and crews to leave the sinking ship quickly. A prodigal son deserts his ailing parents. This wounds his parents very badly thereby they are hurt very sadly. If the parents are poor then their sorrows and sufferings know no bound. They die unpaid. They die unfed. They die unwept. They die unsung. They die unknown as well like nameless thousands who built the pyramids.

Someone deserts wife and children and goes abroad. Sincere survey reveals that men are allured and become the victim of polygamy more than women. This is due to the fact that a man does not become pregnant but a woman. She has to carry the luggage of enjoyment alone. She bears pain and hears first the throb of life as well and thereby attraction grows with the unborn babe. She cannot leave due to motherly affection and emotional bondage from which the father is deprived.

When popularity of someone is declined then even his friends start deserting him.

Members desert the party in drove. This is human nature. Man basically is an opportunist.

During urgency or crisis period presence of mind or courage deserts an unlucky person. It is quite frustrating if a courageous person, in the hour of need, fails to show boldness.

This inability pains and pinches him always. Then there is no basic difference between a coward and a courageous person at all. But an expert is an exception always. He can show his expertise always whether fortune favors or not it matters nothing.

Sometimes a timid and cool-tempered character shows sudden and unexpected boldness bewildering all. They say and ill-tempered person loses temper instant and becomes cool soon. On the other hand, if a cool brain becomes hot then it is not easy to make him cool again. He takes much time to regain his lost state of mind.

A man may return back to his motherland after a long back. His deserted house reminds him his lost childhood. He becomes nostalgic. He wants to get back his past dawns, idle noon, romantic evenings and talkative silence of the vast night's sky. Trifling matters of lost childhood or bygone days render his eyes wet.

Childhood, teenage, youth, middle age, old age and death are different facets of life.

These all are inevitable stages appear periodically. One stage voluntarily leaves the body to give shelter for the next stage. Sometimes one stage gallops the next stage. Then man becomes old early. Sometimes man dies premature surpassing all the successive stages.

However, the former stage disappears without any notice. The latter stage appears silently. Thus the former stage is being evicted silently by the latter one quite unaware.

None or no force can resist this natural phenomenon. Also no force is required for this eviction and subsequent occupation as well. All these happenings occur without any hue and cry.

CONCLUSION

Both sun rise and sun set are natural events. Similarly, life and death are natural events as well. Through these successive desertions man becomes enriched gradually with diversified knowledge that paves his future success. These are the chronicles of desertion of human life, as a whole, from cradle to coffin.

REFERENCES

No reference, since the present article is an outcome of Creative Writing