



OF CHARITY

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ABSTRACT:

Charity means to be generous in giving money, food, help, etc. to poor people. It teaches to be kind in one's attitude to others. Also charity is a society or an organization for helping distressed people in need. Thus, manifestation of kindness and sympathy towards others, especially when judging them, also signifies charity. A charitable person never blames others. A prodigal son hardly shows charity towards his elderly parents. Charity begins at home is a great saying. It means that a person's first duty is to help and care for his or her own family. He who can't help his own family can never help others. Childhood is the best time to teach charity. The paradox is that helping only own relatives neglecting others is blamed as nepotism. But in charity there is no partiality. In fact charity is both private and public in nature. The merit of charity is that it increases goodness already in man. But charity renders people dependent and thereby inactive thus number of beggars increases. So charity wastes human labor and national income at large. So charity should be offered to those who are totally inactive either physically and psychology or both. Some people mingle religion with charity. They offer alms just to smooth the passage to heaven after death. In this way charity is defamed. Begging is a profession. But a beggar does not earn. In fact alms cannot be considered as earning. People earn not only for themselves but for beggars also. A beggar simply collects his share from people through begging. Charity cannot eradicate famine. History is its witness. Many generous kings failed successfully to drive away poverty through donation.

KEYWORDS:

CHARITY, GENEROUS, KIND, HELP, SYMPATHY.

INTRODUCTION

Creative writing is based more on manifestation rather than on expression. It does not inform rather reveals, so this style of writing bears no reference. The best creative writing is critical, and the best critical writing is creative. The present article is the outcome of creative writing meant for lay readers. As such free style is the methodology adopted so that pleasure of reading can be enjoyed by the common mass. As you may know Francis Bacon (1561-1626), the immortal essayist, wrote many essays and notably, "Of Love", "Of Friendship", "Of Ambition", "Of Studies", etc. The myriad-minded genius rightly pointed out that all the words of the dictionary can be the themes of essays one can write. But little has been done, in this regard since his death, in order to finish his unfinished monumental works. In fact Bacon's way of presentation i.e., his unique style kindled the imagination already in me and encouraged me as well to write essays, in the light of creative writing, thus to get relief through Catharsis.

ARTICLE

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Begging is a profession. But a beggar does not earn. In fact alms cannot be considered as earning. People earn not only for themselves but for beggars also. A beggar simply collects his share from people through begging. Charity cannot eradicate famine. History is its witness. Many generous kings failed successfully to drive away poverty through donation.

In a democratic country if distribution is even then there will be no scarcity. Uneven distribution gives birth to poverty causing the birth of charitable institution. Sometimes a kind-hearted person is akin to a charitable institution. The main problem of an institution is its longevity. With the death of the founder the institution becomes sick. Charity is an emotion based on noble sentiment. Now if there is none to perceive and carry that good wishes then it is difficult to continue that institution. It is equally true in many institutions. The most pathetic fact is that with the death of the founder the charitable society is captured by some selfish persons for personal interest. Thus, in the name of public gain personal interest is fulfilled.

Charity means alms giving. All can't be successful. Failure paves the way to create beggar. Also some people beg not for poverty but for nature. A kind-hearted person donates, seldom a miser. A rich man may not give alms but a poor person helps a distressed soul. Because the rich does not bear the bitter biting of hunger which is the ever companion of the poor. So a beggar readily helps another beggar, since the wearer knows where the shoe pinches.

Generosity is a great quality. Where goodness ends greatness begins. As such greatness is a rare virtue which is akin to generosity. Generosity is an inherited trait. Also environment helps one to be generous. Those who suffer from holding instinct can never donate. But the paradox is that such a person neither enjoys nor allows another to enjoy the thing which is simply held and gets destruction in course of time. They are so cursed.

Liberality is the manifestation of simplicity. But the mechanism to be simple is complex.

Due to this natural complexity very few persons can be liberal and thereby play straight.

It needs boldness to be liberal. A complex-minded person is very timid. They can never think good and do better. As such to them best remains always unattainable. A liberal people is less formalistic. But formality is the hindrance for easy access.

An act of kindness also signifies charity. All people can't be kind or donate. A miser donates little or nothing. Those who have holding instinct seldom donate. This type of people deprive others and themselves also. Plain living and high thinking are the motto of great men. But a miser lives plain but thinks low or evil or both. Rich people eat healthy and think better. But, a miser both eats low and thinks low as well. Poor people eat low but think better. Thus a miser is baser than a poor man even. As such he is self-imprisoned. After the death of such persons their property are being looted or a charitable institution be established if situation favors.

Tolerance in feeling or opinion is also charity. A riotous people can't tolerate other. He does not like opportunity of being hard. Lack of tolerance disturbs communal peace and harmony causing communal riot.

Disposition is to think well of others. It is a difficult job.

Only a saint is blessed by this holy feeling. Yet there are wise people who never harm other. Both good and evil work have the boomerang property like action-reaction theory of physics. Enviousness is the worst enemy of human mind. Due to this evil trait a man can't think better and well being of others. But he who helps others helps himself. It paves the way for reciprocation. But a self-centered person never helps others and seldom gets return in his rainy days.

Universal love as mentioned in New Testament is the noblest charity. Common people never think of it. It is difficult for a family man to think universally. Even if they think globally but act locally. He who wants to act globally must leave family. But such a saint is blamed as an escapist. In fact a person having family or liability can't act like a saint.

He is captive in the hands of obligation.

Thus, assistance, aid, welfare, financial relief, handouts, gifts, presents, largeness, philanthropy, humanitarianism, altruism, benevolence, public-spiritedness, non-profit making, voluntary, eleemosynary, big-hearted, bounteousness, beneficent, magnanimous, leniency, easy going, broad-minded, considerate, sympathetic, indulgent, forgiving, social consciousness, compassion, concern, tenderness, sympathy, caritas etc. are different forms of exposure of charity which are discussed below.

Assistance means to help. A person either does not or cannot help. A poor person cannot help due to poverty. But he helps through physical labor. Self-centered people seldom help others. Assistance depends on mind not with money. Here, helping attitude is the main factor. He who has no capacity has to remain assistant of the expert or senior.

Whereas the expert achieves his objectives exploiting the assistance of the assistant. This happens because of the fact that all cannot be expert. It needs extra power.

Aid means help of any kind. For example, food, money, etc. sent to a region or country to help it. Distress teaches the value of aid.

Welfare signifies the good health, happiness, comfort, etc of a person or group. Total development of man is the yard stick or last word of the welfare of the nation. Welfare state cares her human resource as a mother does. Here the nation practices classical seldom commercial venture.

Financial relief unburdens a poor who was about to death due to debt. The easing or removing of pain, distress or anxiety also signifies relief.

Handout is food, money or clothes given free to a person in need. This arrangement is done either by the state or a voluntary organization. It is not possible for a state to eradicate all the sorrows and sufferings of its people rather people can do.

Gift is a thing given willingly without payment. Here price is not the factor, rather good wishes. At present man has lost his sense of values. As such modern society evaluates the gift on its price only.

Present is a thing given to somebody as a gift. Here presentation is the alias and akin to emotion. Lover gets relief through Catharsis offering presentation to fiancé or fiancée.

Largeness is of considerable size, extent or capacity. Largeness of heart, vastness of the hill, wide horizon, depth of ocean, free and unobstructed sky all these nature's contribution are also the embodiment of charity as a whole.

Philanthropy means kindness and good deeds inspired by concern for people's welfare.

People suffer from misery either due to own fault or external cause. Very few persons who are Samaritan come forward to help the distressed people. Ultimate welfare means welfare of people but not the farewell of noble deeds.

Humanitarianism concerns with or directed towards improving the lives of people and reducing suffering. The true and ultimate development of any society thereby the nation at large is judged with the standard of living of its citizens.

Altruism concerns for the needs and feelings of other people above one's own. Only a wide heart or a person of noble birth can only realize it. A patriot is its sole proprietor seldom a politician. Every religion teaches this lesson but very few people obey it.

Benevolence signifies being or showing a desire to be kind, helpful or generous. This great virtue either be inherited or to acquire. Childhood is the best time for this lesson.

School life builds the career and moral value enriches it.

Public-spiritedness is the willingness to do things that help the public in general. Every civil servant should have this quality. It is a philosophy possessed by every welfare state.

Also people having ethical values or some non-government-organizations practice this to serve the society.

Non-profit making is an enterprise that does not aim to make a profit. No profit no loss is the objective of the cooperative society. Breakeven point is the similar idea of non-profit which is very important in an industry to calculate the feasibility as well as viability before installation of any production unit.

Voluntary is the acting, done or given willingly. It is the working, done or maintained without payment. It is the movements of the body controlled by the will.

Eleemosynary is formal charitable. It is of or dependent on alms. Eleemosynary society depends on grant only. It has no so called earning. A post office receives letters or parcels to dispatch to their respective destinations. Similarly eleemosynary society distributes materials and thereby serves the ailing humanity. But, constant vigilance is required whether the true distressed persons get the materials, really meant for them. Because, it is alleged that especially in the third world countries, this type of society, whether be state run or NGO, in many cases suffers from

corruption and malpractice.

Open-handed is giving freely. It is a generous activity. It is private but not public in nature. It is a glorious job if is done secretly. The receiver shows gratitude to the donor.

Every religion encourages its followers to donate freely i.e., with free mind. It is believed that donation is a virtuous deed but it is a vice when it is done through propagation.

As such religious people donate secretly to acquire virtue and sincerely tries to avoid embarrassing situation caused by campaigning.

Free-hand means to get, have, etc. permission or an opportunity to do what one chooses and make one's own decisions, especially in a policy matter. A designer or creator enjoys free-hand for better creation. Here intervention creates obstruction towards creation.

Aesthetic essence, the source of imagination of an artist, is very tender in nature.

Munificent means extremely generous. It is large in amount or splendid in quality. A man who is both rich in money and mind can only have such myriad-minded personality trait. Such personality is always numbered in every society and in every generation as well. Their presence and greatness influence the society much and always a blessing for it.

Big-hearted is the charitable person. Charity flourishes fully if big-hearted people is its sole authority. A miser should not be entrusted with the job of charity. Then the entire project will be frustrated.

Bounteousness means giving or given generously. Earth yields bounteous harvest for its inhabitants. Nature is always great in this regard. Unfortunately, the sons and daughters of nature are not so generous like their affectionate mother.

Beneficent is showing active kindness. Active kindness helps to manifest kindness already in man. Like good environment, good behavior purifies a soul. And goodness invites greatness.

Magnanimous means very generous or forgiving, especially towards a rival, an enemy. A magnanimous may be a person or a gesture or a gift. Through pardoning, a forgiver glorifies himself. Then he is lauded with dignity.

Leniency signifies not severe, especially in punishing people. A lenient may be fine or sentence or view. A judge is known for her leniency towards first-time offenders. But all cannot show leniency. In other words, to show leniency demands charitable greatness.

This is the cause of being lenient people numbered.

Easygoing is happy to accept things without worrying or getting angry. A mother doesn't mind whoever asks for food and shelter. It is a great virtue. An easygoing person is the happiest of all. This type of soul is the blessed soul. Every religion advises its followers to follow that avenue thus to welcome peace and happiness. Only a lucky heart can attain it. Broad-minded means tolerant. It is the willingness to listen to opinions and accept behavior

different from one's own. It is a democratic activity. It is diagonally opposite of narrowness or dictatorship. In fact the world is infested with the degraded souls. Thus very few person can be broad-minded. It is a gift man acquires by birth. Also environment influences a person to acquire such greatness.

Considerate means careful and thoughtful, thereby not to hurt or trouble others. Such a person considers other person's sorrows and sufferings as if of his own. Mother is always considerate for her children. A considerate person is the best for charity purpose.

Sympathy is the ability to share in the feelings of others. It is a feeling of pity and sorrow for somebody. It is a great virtue. Common men due to their flaw and error of judgment suffer. Even a judicious character also faces trouble. An intelligent or rich man can avoid sufferings but poor people have to bear it. Here a sympathetic touch or word acts as oxygen to the ailing humanity.

Indulgence is the state of being allowed whatever one wants. It overlooks faults. It is the action or habit of satisfying one's own or other people's desires. Indulgence allows oneself to enjoy the pleasure of something. It is to become involved in an activity, especially one that is illegal or disapproved of. It is to satisfy an interest, a desire, etc.

Sacrament is any of several rituals in the Roman Catholic, Anglican and other Christian Churches through which Christians believe they are specially blessed by God. The sacrament of baptism is the striking example of it. Indulgence is the remission of punishment in purgatory, still due for sins even after sacramental absolution. Thus absolution is a formal declaration, especially in a Christian Church, by a priest that a person's sins have been forgiven. Forgiveness is a great virtue. To forgive is divine. A sinner is rectified through pardon. Only a lucky soul can follow that immortal light.

Forgiveness means to stop being angry or bitter towards somebody or about something. It signifies to stop blaming or wanting to punish somebody. It is to say that somebody need not pay back a sum of money owed. Thus it advises a powerful person to be more polite and less forceful. It teaches to follow mild way of saying sorry. It is wise to forgive and forget. Revenge wastes time. It corrupts the soul. It is the hindrance for both advancement and salvation as well. Thus it is the enemy of both civilization and religion.

Superiority lies in forgiveness. But it should be proved. The opponent should be caught in clutch then to forgive. Otherwise it signifies weakness. To err is human, to forgive is divine. Common people can't forgive. Uncommonness allows one to forgive. So forgiveness is a rare virtue since the world is infested with common people. In fact forgiveness is an art and one has to acquire it. A man takes revenge more severely than suffered for his satisfaction and to prove his superiority. To do a crime needs courage, to confess needs more courage and to forgive needs most courage. So forgiveness is the best one. As such, best people forgives and worst people commits crime. A

theologian preaches that wage of crime is death. He advocates that man should not punish man since crime does not pay and God punishes the sinner. Man should not kill since he can't give back one's life but God can. Here lies the superiority of God over man. God punishes and pardons as per His sweet will.

A civic society hates corporal punishment. Rather it pleads for corruptibility of human being. A man may lose everything but still he has the future that remains to compensate everything. Forgiveness benefits both sinner and pardoner. For the sinner repents and does crime never. Thus the society be enriched with the civilians. A sinner is mentally weak. When he realizes his guilt he may commit suicide. Such a weak person can't resist himself neither to commit crime and suicide as well. Forgiveness is an art and it varies from one culture to another culture in degree and dimension. In some society forgiveness is banned whereas another hates punishment.

Social consciousness or social conscience is an awareness of and a desire to help in solving the social problems in the community. He who have a strong social conscience is fit for doing charitable job. Here self or private interest must surrender to public interest at large.

Compassion means pity for the sufferings of others, making one want to help them. In any organization the successor of an employee, who is the only earning member, gets the job on compassionate ground. A welfare state, especially in a democratic set up, considers this charity as its bound duty. But a dictator seldom cares for such welfare sentiment. In the dictionary of the dictator the word charity is absent.

Concern is to be relevant to somebody or to affect somebody. A charitable society and its member must be aware regarding concerned duty and responsibility which cannot be declined or undone.

Tenderness is easily moved to pity or sympathy or kindness. It means to have a kind and gentle nature. Only a soft heart can show this exposure. To show pity or kindness is a great virtue. Such character is very emotional and sentimental as well. They can hardly disbelieve a person. They are optimist and think always positive. All cannot show tenderness. It is an inherited quality more than the environmental factor. Some culture is famous for tenderness and some other is defamed for rudeness.

Caritas is the Latin term for charity, one of the three theological virtues. Every religion advises its followers to be virtuous. But very few people obey it. This answers why the people are so wild.

CONCLUSION

Thus, so many are the forms of charity yet the society does suffer from charity. In fact charity is a philosophy to serve and rescue the poor people. The philosophers themselves are ideal and always think for ideal. But ideal is always unattainable, since reality is diagonally opposite of ideal. Ideal is created by God. Man distorts ideal. Thus distorted ideal is called reality. Man to serve his own interest creates

problem for others. As such reality is infested with so many hurdles. This is the reason why reality is so hard and pregnant with numerous difficulties faced by common people. And here lies the utility of charity to rescue the ailing humanity.

REFERENCES

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