

Psychological Battle of Death in Sri Aurobindo's Savitri

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Abstract--- *Her soul arose confronting Time and Fate. Immobile in herself, she gathered force. This was the day when Satyavan must die. (END OF CANTO ONE). Sri Aurobindo's epic Savitri narrates the victorious struggle of the mythical character Savitri against the invincible Death. It is a glorious account of rejuvenation of dead Satyavan by the undaunted spiritual battle of Savitri involving immeasurable psychological turmoil. This paper explores how mankind goes through the psychological agony of death. The mind is adversely affected and unseen depression engulfs life. Savitri, the representative of human spirit, had incessantly fought against death and that was not a small feud but a long unyielding battle against God of Death. Goddess Savitri ignites the consciousness of mankind and redeems from the tangles of death. Death after life is the sign of Dawn of evolution. The phase of evolution is the elevation towards expansion of mind and soul.*

Keywords--- *Death, Savitri, Psychological Battle, Symbol of Dawn, Evolutionary Struggle.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Savitri the Goddess ascended on the earth with a supramental mission of conquering over death and to remove the infinite darkness of innocence, in conscience and fathomless fear of death. The death of Satyavan is the ladder of success in vindicating the war between life and death. The journey which is initiated by Savitri on her husband's death is haunting, piercing and tiring without the gleam of success and there, despondency of mankind is whirling up. Her power, control of mind, quietness, knowledge, yogic sadhana all worked fruitfully to win the fight against Death. She vanquished and proved the secrecy of the internal strength of mind. She got up and was ready to go through all the ordeals with her reason, talent, and patience. Her deeds had set the examples that control of mind can achieve anything if the person moves on strategically. Savitri wages a psycho-spiritual battle against death and makes the ultimate victor surrender. The conclusion of the battle is the sign of the new era for human being where they are free from the fetters of death. That is the Symbol of new awakening of mind and the symbol of dawn of deathlessness. The death as being the sign of The Symbol Dawn is referring the redemption of body from suffering and the assimilation of soul with supreme being. This is the foundation of evolution towards the evolution. This is the beginning of spiritual ascension of mind and soul. The journey of the attainment of spiritual goal is conscious and far-reaching. This is named sometimes evolutionary struggle. The determination of Savitri has enabled her to stand before the God of death. Being a woman the unseen power and strength motivated to stand for questioning. Her reason has harassed Him and He surrendered instead of carrying Satyavan far away. Savitri took a great task to unravel the great truth which is hidden behind that cosmic shadow. Satyavan's death is a necessary occasion for her to enter into the darkness of death and see that great truth behind Death, so that truth emerges and establishes itself in this creation. That is a savitri's work.

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II. DEATH

Death is clinching life and it turns into full of inconsolable agony. The pain starts brimming out and tears are tumbling over the cheeks. The helpless living beings are victims. The power of objection never stresses out how to vanquish over the death. The mind starts psychological battle whereas it incapacitates to wage the reaction against the death. The psychological impacts are longer felt and pinching ever to refresh the wounds. The mother of Mankind stands fearlessly when her husband lost the life.

She waits Griefless and Strong

All grief and fear were dead within her now

And a great calm had fallen. The wish to lessen

His suffering, the impulse that opposes pain

Were the one mortal feeling left. It passed:

Griefless and strong she waited like the gods

Savitri is determined and has commenced a new journey of battle with God of death. The Goddess of Savitri is hiding limitless darkness of pain and striving and vying to conquer the war with death of God. The last line of Satyavan in despair was

“Savitri, Savitri, lean down and kiss me as I die”

The line of her husband has electrified her soul to burn in his love and her divine love has shown the path how to face the dreading Yama. She finds that his breath is silent and moving on the divine journey. She is armed with Sadhana of Goddess Durga who bestowed her the boon to win the war.

Satyavan Has Passed

She knew that visible Death was standing there

And Satyavan had passed from her embrace.

Savitri realises that Death in a visible form is standing there and that Satyavan has gone.

The goddess is still and has forgotten herself and she wants to stir the whole universe to listen her pain. Fiercing image of Yama is not only fearful but is the sign terror. He convinces her not to follow Him since human is not permitted. Savitri usually moves on and keeps on going. The God herself has surrendered before her.

Solitary in the anguish of the void

She lived in spite of death, she conquered still;

In vain her puissant being was oppressed:

Her heavy long monotony of pain

Tardily of its fierce self-torture tired.

At first a faint inextinguishable gleam, BOOK EIGHTH

The God Narada has earlier reported that marriage decision should be changed since his longevity is gleam and life is not going to be happier. The ominous suggestions could not work out and she declares him as a husband. The parents have undoubtedly fallen into the grief. The decision of Savitri is the radiant sign of the awakening of mankind. Super consciousness is growing and seems that petals of mind start budding out level by level. Secrecy of Godhead is unraveled and mind is being promoted into Supermind and Supermind attains the next step of supramental mind. New era of spiritual awakening and divinity are opened up and reformation in the Universe is visibly felt when Satyavan gains rebirth and rewarded the life. Mortal being is declared immortal and threat of life and death is nowhere existing on the earth.

The long battle between Goddess Svitri and God of Death could not falter and distract from the sublime goal. The travel of Savitri for the sake of his life is incessant strives to attain the goal of human life. She worked out to declare that as the supra power is concentrated by yogic Sadhna and soon the darkness of innocence is removed. The light which is lurking on the earth is the sign of the reawakening of mind and soul.

The Symbol of Dawn

The spiritual awakening has come into existence with the victory over death. The inertia, glooms, inconscience turn into the light of ultimate spiritual growth. God of death always tortures mankind with the fear of ultimate demise. The Savitri has led a fight with Yama and her repertoire of divine power brought the sensation in the universe since the happening which was not reported till the day would take place on the earth. The cosmic world was ready to embrace the Dawn of changes .Death ever continued the image of the destroyer of life and the known fear moved with living beings as ghosts. The journey of Savitri that finally ended at the destination where he husband's life was rewarded and successfully she vanquished the battle of life with Yama. The spiritual battle is reportedly the herald of evolution. The stairs of progression were getting erected. The night is the harbinger of the dawn.This mystic night of Satyavan's life is revelation the divine dawn. The death of Satyavan was the unchangeable truth .This was supposed the day and night would have been the separated day for the beloved and the lover .The pain of the Satyavan was the cosmic pain of the universe .The universe was silently waiting the unfortunate moment of the life. Yama who was riding on the chariot of Death would knock Satyavan soon. The darkness swallowed the and chewed the peace and bliss into pieces. Mystic planning the Goddess Savitri was to be unearthed and the bliss was to sprout out of the womb of the future human destiny. The spiritual Dawn of mankind breaks and the Victorious Goddess redeemed and bestowed redemption from the threat of Death.

The Evolutionary Struggle

Death is basically the redemption from the worldly sufferings and the unsaid agony .The Goddess Savitri's birth on the earth is the spiritual planning to set mankind free off the fear of the death. The most common fact on the earth is the death becomes certain with the birth of the person. Many mystical sayings are also popular those devoured human being and they used to live in indelible darkness death. The birth of Savitri itself is the great indication of the spiritual awakening of soul towards Supramental power and strength. The fear that shelters in us is Death and this entails the impacts through the last breathing of life. This daunting picture of Death was needed to eliminate from the mind and soul. The journey of battle of Savitri with Yama conquered the fear and the Surrender of Yama before

Her proved the human power. The proclamation about Satyavan ‘Satyavan Must Die’ remained as the challenge. The Victory over death is blow of the air of awakening. The evolutionary struggle is the knock of reawakening and the ascension of Mind towards Super mind. The Goddess descended on the earth to remove the blackness of death from our mind and soul.

Sri Aurobindo declares that Savitri whose incarnation was for the redemption from the fetters of death .Death was defined as the robe of body that is to be changed in the course of time. As representative of mankind she proceeded to beat of death –threat that was posed by the God of Death Yama. The acceptance of death as the beginning of an eternal, divine, spiritual journey and as the sign of holistic evolution is the process of purgation of mind and soul.

The endeavor of Savitri to win the battle of death with the God is the gradual rise of body and soul. Her known mystic struggle had brought the gleam of hope on the earth and Goddess Savitri had set an example of the power of mental balance that enabled her to stand in the world of darkness and the transformation was being operated by the spiritual and supramental power.

“Always the dark Adventurers seem to win”

CANTO VIII: The World of Falsehood page 225

The soul visits from one to another level and this travel starts as the human body changes costume of death and gets ready for the travel of heaven. The great Yogi Sri Aurobindo puts forth the truth that death is sign of a next expedition of divinity and spirituality. Satyavan the God of truth was ready to surrender before the God of death and to embrace the pain or agony of since the truth was known to him that it was the commencement a divine upliftment. The evolution of mind follows the below mentioned direction of gradual progression.

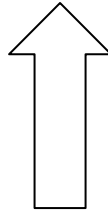
The growth of mind from one stage to the next is the indication of the success of the knowledge of death and life. The body enters the death realm to strip off the outfit to wear the new.

The journey is full of agony, pain and miseries. The death appears in the form of darkness and deadening shadow that fills the human soul with fear .Mankind always remains under the daunting and threatening impacts of death. Goddess Savitri’s incarnation was the planning of the Godhead. Every birth proclaims the death, this is not the matter of decline for every living being.

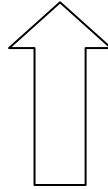
The death is the truth of every birth, the fear that comes out of this reality bites the being into pieces. Savitri has decided Styavan as the life partner and the sage Narada who met her parents and brought the fact to their notice “Satyavan must die.”

The impending fear had sheltered in their minds and they put the efforts to convince the daughter to change the decision. The Goddess was adamant to stick to the decision and to move on her the new path of life. She had the objective to discard the fear from the minds of man and woman of the threat of death.

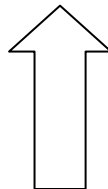
SUPRAMENTAL MIND



SUPER MIND



MIND



This is the very common panorama of our life to die before death. This happens to us because we harm ourselves under the unseen phobia of death. Death is the next expedition of life where soul transforms, ascends and transcends towards the divinity. This secrecy of death and life is absolute myth worldly people. As the death is taken as the source of pain and misery, the existing life itself turns into turmoil. Why the Face looks frightened as the thought runs of Death, this seems that mankind is wrapped in the indelible darkness of death. The fear creates distress, limit pleasure, boredom and that inflicts and disrupts the harmony of life. The reality of life has turned into the curse and the gift of life itself had left its charm amongst people on the earth.

Sri Aurobindo had the pity for human beings and as the character of Goddess Savitri presented the spiritual ailments for long-lasting conflict of life and death. She was incarnated as the redeemer of human pain and unsaid pain. The rejuvenation of energy which was arid needs to be sprouted out. This is realized that if someone has the fear of Dogs, unlikely he or she might be bitten by the dog. To tranquilize the mind one needs to be away of a daunting fear of death. Sri Aurobindo who was the great sage of India had devised the solutions to set the human beings off from the agony of this life –death challenge. That was the God’s planning to send the Goddess Savitri to live a human life and to show the power and vindictive approach and frightening spirit. The evolution was initiated and by representing human, Savitri got engaged in her task and planned the strategy with zeal and peace.

“And the tardy process of mortality

And longed to reach its end in vacant Nought.”

III. CONCLUSION

The battle of Savitri is symbolizing chiefly the battle of human with death. The death is wrapped with the feeling of nothingness and indelible darkness from where the power of mind and soul gets usurped and the depression spreads its paws to swallow us. Goddess wages a war to prove the feebleness of death. The journey between life and death was just the process to uncover because of spiritual elevation and evolution of mind from one stage to another. Transitional and transformational phase of mind, soul and spirit led her to conquer the war. The great example was set for man to open up consciousness and to win over challenges of life-death. The great sage Sri Aurobindo had proclaimed in the veil of the Symbolic poem Savitri that Death is like a robe which remains mandatory to strip off after certain duration of time. Death is the sign of a beginning of a new journey. The misconception associated with death floods human mind with plethora of unseen fear and psychological stress. Sometimes it was reported that someone lost the life under the ongoing stressful situations. This mindless action was reported because of the extreme level of fear and terror of life and death. Sri Aurobindo's Savitri has worked as the tool to broaden the mind and to awake the dormant consciousness. This epic poem is the narration of the witty planning and strength of the Goddess who waged the war with ultimate reality of life and forced her counterpart to kneel down and surrender. The symbol of

Truth Satyavan had under gone the unsaid pain of death and reemerged in the universe. The great message left for man-kind is not to be infuriated and to hug the death with ultimate pleasure of life.

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