

Jalgaon

UGC CARE LISTED

ISSN No.2394-5990

संशोधक

• वर्ष : ९१ • डिसेंबर २०२३ • पुरवणी विशेषांक ०३

G20



भारत 2023 INDIA



स्थापना : १ जानेवारी १९९०

प्रकाशक : इतिहासाचार्य वि.का.राजवाडे संशोधन मंडळ, धुळे



AnyScanner



UGC CARE LISTED  
ISSN No. 2394-5990

*mitale Alunka*

इतिहासाचार्य वि. का. राजवाडे संशोधन मंडळ, धुळे  
या संस्थेचे त्रैमासिक

## ॥ संशोधक ॥

पुरवणी अंक - डिसेंबर २०२३ (त्रैमासिक)

● शके १९४४ ● वर्ष : ९० ● पुरवणीअंक : ३

### संपादक मंडळ

● प्राचार्य डॉ.सर्जेराव भामरे ● प्रा.डॉ.मृदुला वर्मा ● प्रा.श्रीपाद नांदेडकर

### अतिथी संपादक

● प्रा.डॉ.जय बागुल ● प्रा.डॉ.एस.बी.पाटील ● प्रा.डॉ.एम.व्ही.गांगुर्डे

### \* प्रकाशक \*

### श्री. संजय मुंदडा

कार्याध्यक्ष, इ.वि.का. राजवाडे संशोधन मंडळ, धुळे ४२४००१.

दूरध्वनी (०२५६२) २३३८४८, ९४०४५७७०२०

ई-मेल : rajwademandaldhule1@gmail.com

rajwademandaldhule2@gmail.com

### कार्यालयीन वेळ

सकाळी ९.३० ते १.००, सायंकाळी ४.३० ते ८.०० (रविवार सुटी)

मूल्य ₹ १००/-

वार्षिक वर्गणी ₹ ५००/-; आजीव वर्गणी ₹ ५०००/- (१४ वर्षे)

विशेष सूचना : संशोधक त्रैमासिकाची वर्गणी चेक/ड्राफ्ट ने  
'संशोधक त्रैमासिक राजवाडे मंडळ, धुळे' या नावाने पाठवावी.

अक्षरजुळवणी : अनिल साठये, बावधन, पुणे २१.

महाराष्ट्र राज्य साहित्य आणि संस्कृती मंडळाने या नियतकालिकेच्या प्रकाशनार्थ अनुदान दिले आहे. या नियतकालिकेतील लेखकांच्या विचारांशी मंडळ व शासन सहमत असेलच असे नाही.



१८	<b>Innovation and Entrepreneurship in G20 Economies</b> - Dr. Shalini Gupta, Shahajapur, M.P. -----	१५
१९	<b>Analysis Of Selected Ya Novels Of Sarah Dessen</b> - Prof. Anita Bhosle, Meeraj, Dist. Sangli -----	१०१
२०	<b>Environmental Chemistry: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Understanding and Solving Environmental Problems - 1) Dr. Jagdish Patil, 2) Rajendra Ahirrao, Dahiwal, Tal. Sakri. Dist. Dhule -----</b>	१०६
२१	<b>G20 Summit: Promotion Of Indian Culture</b> - Dr. Shashikant Paralkar, Sirsala, Dist. Beed -----	११३
२२	<b>New Educational Policy and Relevance of Physical Education</b> - Dr. Surekha Dhattrak, Nagpur -----	११६
२३	<b>A Study of Employability Enhancement Skill among B.Ed. Students</b> - 1) Dr. Sarita Varma, 2) Dr. Subhash Sonune, Nasik -----	१२०
२४	<b>Importance of Yogashastra in new education policy for spiritual progress</b> - Dr. Varsha Barokar, Nagpur -----	१२३
२५	<b>NEP-2020: Issues and Challenges special reference to Yoga, Health and Physical Education - Dr. Gautam Jadhav, Baramati, Dist. Pune -----</b>	१२६
२६	<b>Rebuilding Civilization: Themes of Resilience, Art and Community in Emily St. John Mandel's Station Eleven - Dr. Hareshiva Oza, Patan, Gujarat -----</b>	१३०
२७	<b>Tribal Development Program in India - 1) Hitesh Thakre, Jalgaon - 2) Dr. Manojkumar Gaikwad, Shahada, Dist. Nandurbar -----</b>	१३५
२८	<b>Corporate Governance Practices : A Comparative Study Of Selected Public And Private Sector Bank In India - 1) Prof. Kajal Satani, Ahmedabad 2) Dr. Manoj Shah, Ahmedabad -----</b>	१३९
२९	<b>The Role of Packaging in Consumer Buying Behaviour : A Case of Selected Small Scale Entrepreneurs in Dhule City - Dr. Kalpana Gholap, Dhule -----</b>	१४६
३०	<b>Transforming Academic Libraries Into Digital Libraries</b> - Dr. Kamalakar Suryawanshi, Shirur Anantpal, Dist. Latur -----	१५४
३१	<b>An Overview On Aims And Goals Of G20 Towards Sustainable Development</b> - Dr. Ramesh Khandagale, Beed -----	१५८
३२	<b>Themes Of Change And Time In Mahesh Elkunchwar's Wada Chirebandi</b> - Prof. Narayan Kamble, Aurangabad -----	१६२
३३	<b>Achebe's portrayal of a strong woman character amidst corrupt male dominated society in "Anthills of the Savannah" - Prof. Mitalee Ahire, Jalgaon -----</b>	१६६
३४	<b>The Centrality of Yaha Mogi Narrative in Bhil Orature: A Cultural Study</b> - Dr. Khumansing Valvi, Shahada, Dist. Nandurbar -----	१६८
३५	<b>A study of psychosocial traits of CBSE school students</b> - 1) Prof. Aditya Soni, Nagpur -----	१७४



**Achebe's portrayal of a strong woman character amidst  
corrupt male dominated society in "Anthills of the Savannah"**

**Mitalee Khivaiya Ahire**  
K.B.C.N.M.U., Jalgaon

**Abstract :**

The novel *Anthills of the Savannah* by Chinua Achebe considered widely as the most important work to come out of Africa in 1980s. *Anthills of the Savannah* was a finalist for Booker Prize in 1987. Thus, marking the heroic return of 'Father of African Literature' after more than twenty-one years. The postcolonial regime in the country of Kangan is full of turmoil. The male dominated society is full of corruption and moral degradation. The paranoia of His Excellency, Sam, is making him kill innocent people who were very close to him. The corruption has percolated in almost every sphere of Kangan and His Excellency, Sam also gets executed in a coup. Amidst these chaotic male dominated encounters, Achebe has introduced a strong woman character, Beatrice Okoh, who keeps her conscience and kindness alive although living in hostile conditions. She challenges traditional male focussed customs and sets an example for others to follow.

**Important Words :**

'Father of African Literature', paranoia, tradition, customs.

Achebe's portrayal of a strong woman character amidst corrupt male dominated society in "*Anthills of the Savannah*"

One of the most important works of Chinua Achebe, published in 1985, ending a seemingly endless wait of more than two decades of his novel publication, *Anthills of the Savannah* deals with the corrupt socio-political order in the imaginary state of Kangan. The phenomenon of throwing up the unjust system of governance to be replaced by a system whose main agenda is the welfare of the people, is seen in this work of Achebe. As most of the revolutionary ideals wash away the very cause or a concern they started with, happens in the *Anthills of the Savannah* too. The new president

of Kangan, Sam, is shown on his journey of becoming a tyrant from an idealistic person. Sam gets immense pleasure to hear him called as His Excellency after a successful coup that removed the previous dictator.

The characterization technique of Achebe in *Anthills of the Savannah* has a great deal of focus on the trio Sam, Chris and Ikem. These three used to be childhood friends but their friendship sees a landslide as they rise to the political ranks. Chris Oriko is the Commissioner for Information and one of the first advisers of His Excellency, Sam. Ikem Osodi is the newspaper editor of the government-run *National Gazette*, a position that Sam wants him to use for spreading government propaganda but Ikem is unlike Sam, an honest person who is deeply concerned with the welfare of his fellow countrymen. Ikem is not bothered by any of the pressures by higher authorities and continues to use the powerful weapon which he has for criticising the government and its unjust policies.

Over the period of a time, Sam's greed for the total autonomy spikes up, so as his uncontrolled policies that mar the common people, thereby destroying the very reason with which the coup took place. It is said, "Power corrupts and total power corrupts totally." Sam leaves no stone unturned to prove this statement right. Sam comes with the new whim of declaring himself as a President for life. His obsession with power has made him a sceptic to the level of a maniac. He is constantly concerned with an upcoming coup that will overthrow and assassinate him.

Sam thinks a close acquaintance with him will be an agent to dethrone him. So, he is having a close watch on those around him. Ikem who publicly criticises him, is under his radar. Sam introduces the coins with his face, which Ikem mocks. This was interpreted as a potential attempt to assassinate



Sam and Ikem becomes the most wanted person. Sam's secret police seizes Ikem and kills him. As these men showed their bloodthirsty behaviour, there were women characters who showed sensibility amidst the chaos.

Elewa is Ikem's lover. She is a lower-class woman but she is sensible. She is not like all these characters filled with lust. She is not ambitious but a straight forward girl with no ill intentions towards anybody. Elewa was pregnant with Ikem's child when he was killed.

Chris is shocked to hear about Ikem's death. He could see a paranoid Sam trying to kill anyone whimsically. Chris along with Emmanuel and Abdul escape the capital city of Bassa by bus and head for Abazon. The government smells danger and order for his arrest. The bus is stopped by a drunken mob celebrating the killing of Sam, overthrowing his regime. Chris tries to save Adamma from a soldier who wants to rape her, but soldier shoots Chris to kill. Thus we witness violent encounters that engulfs all the powerful men.

Amidst this bloodshed of greedy powerful men, Achebe has developed a strong female character by the name of Beatrice Okoh. She is fiancée of Chris. She is well educated, with a degree in English from University of London and she holds vital civil service position as an administrator in a state office. She is a short fiction writer whose work Ikem admires the most. Sophistication, understanding, intelligence and independence are some characteristics of Beatrice. She is a woman with wisdom and a connect with culture of her land.

In the end, she participates in the naming ceremony of Ikem and Elewa's baby girl, Amaechina, a boy's name meaning "May the path never close". This is bold because she has given a boy's name to a girl as well as because the responsibility of naming is traditionally done by a man.

#### Conclusion :

Achebe's portrayal of a strong woman character amidst the corrupt male dominated society is significant for a variety of reasons. Achebe wants to show the capacity of women to stay calm, clear and level headed in facing challenging situations. Women should not just be portrayed as weak and vulnerable in male dominated, morally corrupt society but women do have the strength to guide the society. The way Beatrice behaves, challenging the male dominated traditions stands as an example of adapting with time and setting an example for future generations to follow. Women should take matters into their hands and should not wait for men to fail again and again. The nice blend of healthy traditions and modernity, kindness and firmness, intelligence and empathy can be seen in the woman character Beatrice and Achebe in a way asking women to follow her example and be a guiding light for generations to come.

#### References :

1. Achebe, Chinua. Anthills of the Savannah. Penguin Classics. 2001.
2. Jones, D.A.N. Powerful People. London Review of Books. 1987.

