



Research Paper

## Gandhari The Towering Personality Of Patience And Perseverance

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**Abstract:**

*Humans, mainly in Asia, are familiar with the time period patriarchal lifestyle which means male has the authority above female. But, many humans now not conscious that it is able to end result gender inequality which can be a problem in society. It will become interesting considering the fact that this problem is likewise introduced by using literary works, implicitly or explicitly. This paper will gift to the reader approximately how one girl individual battle in male dominant lifestyle society. In analyzing this trouble, the author makes use of Mahabharata tale for its robust patriarchal lifestyle putting. The purposes of this observe is to analyze Gandhari's lifestyles in male dominant tradition society. The author uses socialist feminist to investigate the literature. Its miles revealed that patriarchal tradition influences Gandhari's lifestyles and behavior. The labyrinth of the mythical stories leads us to the transcendental truth. The Arian and Harappa civilizations too showcase the male chauvinistic attitude of the society but that never disallowed the women to excel. Women were too behind curtain, but that was sheer for austerity.*

**Key words:** Mahabharat, Asia, Gandhari, Arian, Harappa.

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This look at is triggered by means of my ecstasy of studying the radical of Mahabharata by way of Vyasa deva . The similarities of the problems and the cultural history of Mahabharata with patriarchal lifestyle in our environment have raised my hobby in digging this tale similarly. Patriarchal subculture appears in our smallest aspect in our live. The authority is also stressed by way of the word 'kepala' or head/leader because guys are normally deemed as the only who lead the circle of relatives. Male as super ordinate also may be visible in a few regions in Asia, in which male is deemed as a blessing where female is the opposite. Gender equality troubles itself also are introduced by using literary works. Likewise Mahabharata has sturdy patriarchal subculture placing.

Similar with the real international phenomenon, majority of the woman characters in Mahabharata regularly get hold of unfair treatment. Those girl characters are regularly portrayed because they were blamed to be the 'black sheep, of all problems. That notion is found out from these characters; satyawati, who changed into portrayed as the main reason why Bhishma couldn't get his crown or Draupadi who turned into deemed because the purpose of the struggle. But, there may be a girl man or woman from kaurava's side this is rarely mentioned – Gandhari. Despite the fact that she turned into a queen, she frequently acquired unfair circumstance. Being in high caste and had exact most economical circumstance did now not make her life loose from oppressions. Her opinion, her idea, and her proposal have been regularly declined. Majority of arya's clan or Kuru state only listened and obeyed Dhritarashtra and different male characters like Bhishma.

It is interesting to discover females' role in Mahabharata, specifically Gandhari. One query associated with that is how one lady person is affected in male dominant way of life society. That allows humans to look at approximately how socialist feminist view Gandhari's existence in male dominant tradition society. People may get better expertise about ladies function in patriarchal culture and how it affects the person. Gandhari's acts in male dominant tradition society may be discovered via inspecting the function and the acts that she does.

Socialist feminist can be carried out to investigate Gandhari's individual. This concept claims that ladies' oppression changed into no longer simply in financial count number, but it could be in different factors – gender or even the tradition itself. In this situation, patriarchal tradition may be one source of females' oppression. It's miles stated that patriarchy already existed before capitalist regarded and it might not trade even though the capitalism turned into long gone. The usage of socialist feminist in this research is to research Gandhari's condition reasons by using the oppressions from society, no longer from low-budget or reputation subjects.

Several realistic significances might be drawn from this research. By way of looking at Gandhari on how she ought to live to tell the tale in horrific situation, humans may additionally see a reference on how people should empower themselves in any occasions. Practical significance also may be visible from the

Cultural placing in Mahabharata story–patriarchal tradition. Each subculture has its own suitable and terrible aspects. However, human beings not often consider the effect of things in their existence. For that reason through studying this studies, I expect human beings are capable of begin to re-consider their position in society as well as the encompassing and do essential wondering; that one particular lifestyle isn't 100% good or awful considering that the whole thing has the each sides.

The author will give an explanation for and describe patriarchal lifestyle and the relation of socialist feminist attitude in Mahabharata story by means of the usage of references from Simon Brodbeck, Deborah

L. Madsen and Brian black related to socialist feminism idea. In her e-book, Madsen talks about socialist feminist which focuses about strength dating and involved approximately women have unbiased social status under patriarchal as well as capitalism. She additionally states that there are several issues which turn out to be the hassle of socialist feminist inclusive of political measurement of personal existence – the circle of relatives, reproduction and sexuality. Brian Black and Simon Brodbeck tell about the practices in Mahabharata tale and that they relate the scenes with socialist feminist concept. They said that absolutely lady characters in Mahabharata already talk their voice. However, the girl characters become the listeners in majority of the story because they are confined via patriarchal lifestyle wherein male characters lead everything. The ones three writers have similarity; majority of the references tell approximately supply of ladies oppressions which might be due to women's environment. The author additionally uses numerous books from other writers which give an explanation for more approximately the theory related to socialist feminist which includes barbara ehrenreich and Samir Ibrahim Hassan.

Bell hooks (2000) in her e book titled feminism is for anybody says that “feminism is a movement to quit sexism, sexist exploitation, and oppression” (viii). Bell hook says that

Feminism concept targets to oppose the inequality among male and lady. She is attempting to persuade humans by using implicitly saying that feminism is not an anti-male movement. She does now not blame whatever on adult males, but more on human's hint of idea. Many people think that girls are 2d region to adult males and it reasons women to get different remedy from adult males, in a awful manner. Accordingly, it makes them experience like they may be being oppressed. Those things grow to be the principle difficulty of feminist – to erase the inequality and girls oppression.

Comparable with the overall idea, socialist feminist consists of the same perception of feminism's goal. Despite the fact that the primary recognition is the equal socialist feminist seeks greater on the social perspective. Barbara erenreich attempts to describe socialist feminist as an analogy which explains approximately the form of oppressions that women have. Girl's oppressions can come from different location and context. It may be from society, activity, circle of relatives, and other matters. That notion is barely one-of-a-kind from marxist feminism that views women from within your budget history. Socialist feminists have a look at greater on the social perspectives that comply with; what ladies are required to do and no longer to do. As an instance, girls have a tendency to locate task possibilities in comparable location that is carefully related to their duties in their own family. Madsen says that girls generally tend to find process subject in „caring professions which includes nursing, teaching, or managing (2000: 189). For this reason, “socialist feminists declare that the hard work of girls within the domestic realm serves not handiest the pastimes of precise families but also the interests of capitalism in that the family reproduces the attitudes and skills needed to input into the wage labor force” (tuana & tong, 1995: p. 262). It proves that ladies barely escape from society's view which cages them in sure area. Those view restrained girls's freedom. Consequently Madsen also provides that “socialist feminism focuses upon electricity relationships, particularly the intersection of capitalism, racism and patriarchy, and the manufacturing of a politicized non-public (subjective) existence” (2000: 184). In addition, she says that ‘socialist feminist.’ Mahabharata translated by using Kisari mohan ganguli is an epic Sanskrit that turned into made through Vyasa deva , the author and the person himself. The Sanskrit became unified in gupta duration with vishnu gupta because the ruler, wherein patriarchal culture is strongly used in many elements. The story informed about Pandhavas and kauravas, two clans that joined in bharatayudha battle. Pandhavas, consisted of Yudhistir, Bheem, Arjun, Nakul, and Sadev, had been the sons of Pandu and Kunthi. Alternatively, kauravas, with Dhuryodhan as the eldest, had been the sons of Dhristarashtra and Gandhari. Those clans engaged in the struggle to get the crown of Hastinapur king.

Gandhari become a daughter of king Suvala from Gandhara who turned into depicted as a terrific girl in accordance to her society's general. She had a brother named Sakuni who had meaningful contribution of Bharatayudha battle. She changed into married to a blind king, Bhristarashtra, the firstborn from Hastinapur kingdom to meet her father's request. Thus she became a queen of Hastinapur for a while. Despite the fact that she become a queen, but she did no longer have freedom or authority over herself. Her freedom become restrained by patriarchal structure.

Brodbeck said, “the right lady is frequently portrayed in terms of the pativrata. The wife who's committed to her husband” (2007: sixteen). From the announcement, it offers the concept that women who are submissive and dependable are favored in patriarchal subculture. Furthermore Brodbeck also stated

„...that she could no longer revel in greater than her husband could“. This explains how women's position toward men in family and also in society.

The portrayal of ideal girl appears in Gandhari's existence; while she blinded her eyes in order to devote her existence to her husband.

And, o thou of Bharata's race, the stunning Gandhari gratified all of the Kurus through her behavior and respectful attentions. And Gandhari, ever dedicated to her husband, gratified her superiors by using her excellent conduct; and as she changed into chaste, she never referred even by means of words to guys other than her husband or such superiors (360).

Vaisampayana said that Gandhari had suitable traits due to the fact she devoted herself to her husband. It shows that even Gandhari who turned into a queen, can't get away from the effect of patriarchal way of life. She can not do some thing she need. She is caged by means of the photograph of “perfect female” as a substitute.

Kurus are gratified by means of Gandhari because she became a dedicated wife, a great and obedience queen for the Kurus' nation people. Based totally on this event, Gandhari indicates her faithfulness to the society through marrying a person who has been chosen for her. She also follows the society fashionable as a form of admire to her husband by way of blindfolded her eyes, whether or not it's miles her loose will or now not. This indicates how the shape of society can be an oppression to women position. In step with the theory, she locations her husband as the best aim. She makes Dhritarashtra as the critical of her existence while male-superiority is definitely some other shape of domination.

As a woman, Gandhari is predicted to attend to the youngsters and do her function as a queen and wife. It makes Gandhari the only in charge for the horrific matters occur. Moreover, because Gandhari is deemed to have lower role than men, her proposal and also concept aren't listened. Gandhari as a wife and mom experience this position. Gandhari said, 'thou covetous wretch that disregardest the instructions of the aged, leaving behind thy father and myself and giving up prosperity and existence, enhancing the joy of thy foes, and afflicting me with deep misery, thou wilt, o idiot, do not forget thy father's phrases, while struck by using Bhima sena, thou wilt bite the dust (1899).

Gandhari tried to prevent her youngsters to do something terrible. She referred to her husband numerous times to remind her sons of their conduct. She additionally referred to bhimasena's name to make her kids afraid. She did now not say whatever approximately herself to make her kids afraid as an alternative she just stated that they only give her unhappiness. It indicates that Gandhari is helpless and powerless. She put her husband in better position and she emphasizes that Dhritarashtra's phrase have to be obeyed. Despite the fact that Gandhari has a function as a queen, she nevertheless has dependency to determine something in her husband's hand.

Any other oppression is offered on web page 2022 by using the utterance of Dhritarashtra.

Gandhari, possessed of awesome understanding and foresight and bring her hither. With her I'm able to solicit this wicked-hearted (son of mine). If she can pacify this depraved wretch, of evil coronary heart, we may additionally but be capable of act in step with the words of our Pal krishna. It could be that speaking words in recommendation of peace, she may yet succeed in mentioning the proper route to this fool, stricken by using avarice and having wicked allies, if she will dispel this extremely good and dreadful calamity (approximately to be) occasioned through Duryodhana, it's going to then conduce to the attainment and renovation of happiness and peace forever and ever (2022).

This confirmed how ladies at any function oppressed by their responsibility to “take care” of their youngsters, whereas in reality those duties ought to be completed through each ladies and men. Culture frequently blames women for the “depraved” acts in their children. Tradition forgets that each of the mother and father also have an identical responsibility to raise children. This indicates how domesticity is depicted as one of the tendencies as “ideal girl”.

## B. Male Chauvinism

In patriarchal tradition, the society deems that women's place are behind men's lower back. Hook says that adult males as a group who receives the blessings the most from patriarchal subculture (2000: 19). This assumption comes from their superiority to ladies. As a result, they're required to dominate ladies, to make the most and oppress them the usage of violence in the event that they need to hold patriarchy intact. Based

On hooks assertion, it can be stated that girls' vicinity are under ladies and men handiest have position to help adult males. In addition, Madsen states that „socialist feminism represents not best lady oppression however also the whole oppressive patriarchal power structure by way of exposing (as unnatural) relationships of male domination (2000: 186).

One of the scenes in Mahabharata that shows the belief that women's place are behind adult males' again is while Gandhari's father orders her to marry the blind king, Dhritarashtra. The tale is described beneath:

King Suvala before everything hesitated as a result of the blindness of the bridegroom, however thinking of the blood of the Kurus, their reputation and behavior, he gave his virtuous daughter unto Dhritarashtra and the chaste Gandhari listening to that Dhritarashtra was blind and that her parents had consented to marry her to him, from love and appreciate for her future husband, blindfolded her personal eyes (360).

This word advised approximately king Suvala's decision to escort Gandhari to marry Dhritarashtra. It turned into defined that king Suvala had a stunning and committed daughter. In the beginning he hesitated to make her daughter as Dhritarashtra's spouse, concerning Dhritarashtra's blindness. But, he ultimately requested her daughter to marry Dhritarashtra. That act was no longer for her daughter's precise, but for the sake of the growth in their race which have been additionally associated with Kurus' reputation and dignity. Afterward, king Suvala asked sakuni to convey Gandhari to Hastinapur as it's far defined on this component.

Sakuni, the son of Suvala, bringing unto the Kurus his sister endued with adolescents and beauty, officially gave her away unto Dhritarashtra. And Gandhari turned into received with fantastic appreciate and the nuptials were celebrated with top notch pomp underneath Bhishma's directions. And the heroic Sakuni, after having bestowed his sister along with many valuable gowns, and having received Bhishma's adorations, back to his very own city (360).

Gandhari married to Dhritarashtra, following her father's order. She decided to blindfold her personal eyes, believing that she showed appreciate, faithfulness, and love for her husband through doing that.

Gandhari is handled as belongings. King Suvala gives her daughter for Kurus' sake, for Kurus' blood, the boom of Kurus' extended family, and additionally for their reputation. The phrase „gave“ stresses the fact that king Suvala treats her daughter as a assets and has no consideration about her daughter's feeling, whether or not Gandhari herself wants it or not.

Another male domination is shown as it's far quoted:

Dedicated to her lord, that fantastically blessed female had continually practised high vows. Undergoing the severest penances, she changed into constantly honest in her speech. In effect of the present of the boon by the terrific rishi Vyasa deva of sanctified deeds, she became possessed of non secular information and electricity (3615).

Gandhari earns her know-how not because of her serious schooling or through a manner of mastering, but Gandhari's information is a gift from a rishi, a male. The phrase suggests about her best which shows that Gandhari is blessed because she is a devoted man or woman. In different words, society deems that the exceptional of Gandhari is determined by means of how she treats other humans and, usually, her husband.

In a few societies girls frequently experience oppressions that come from society, circle of relatives, and the impact of the tradition. Those oppressions are referred to as as collective oppression. Collective oppression of all ladies by means of men is the effect of subculture or the social members of the family which define our life as gendered individuals (Madsen, 2000: 186). The oppression is not constantly in the shape of bodily, however additionally may be inside the shape of mental oppression.

Gandhari studies oppression from her husband whilst she is in a kingdom of pregnancy. Her husband cheats even as she is in ache. She is the one who has to go through with the intention to have kids while her husband marries someone else due to the fact Gandhari does not provide start speedy. On page 369, there has been a story that Gandhari become pregnant for long time. At that time,

Her husband changed into no longer affected person enough seeing her being pregnant. Even as watching for the start of his children, he turned into dishonest with different lady to get another child. Yuyutsu, who turned into told to have great intelligence, was born. That tale indicates gender inequality. Even as the girl is having exertions in her being pregnant, the man (the king) cheated with different female. But the society does now not show any protest towards the king's choice. It's far contradictory while draupad, another lady character within the tale, marries 5 men. All the society and all of the human beings in Kurus nation give negative mind-set toward draupad. Draupad is deemed as a prostitute despite the fact that Draupad herself without a doubt does not want to marry the Pandavas. The act of marrying Pandavas is really a perception from the way of life itself. Therefore, Draupadi is handiest a sufferer and get hold of double victimization from the society. The similarity of Gandhari and Draupadi may be seen that both of them come to be the only who suffer in society and perception from patriarchal tradition.



“thou shouldst not be indignant with the pandavas, o Gandhari! (3610)”. The rishi avoided Gandhari for being indignant given that Gandhari had adverse electricity, and he changed into afraid that Gandhari might use her strength to ruin pandavas. The society, right here is portrayed by means of rishi, another time blames women for the acts of their kids, notwithstanding of whomever proper or incorrect. This proves that the rishi does no longer consider Gandhari’s condition. He simply merely shouts to Gandhari and prevents her to explicit her unhappiness and does no longer need to try to recognize her feeling.

In several event Gandhari will become the listeners approximately the internal conflict inside the state. It makes Gandhari will become one of the characters that recognise the real battle from the start to the quit. Gandhari is advised to have vital and importance function in the tale too. This belief is supported via Brodbeck as he states that Gandhari is portrayed as auditor whom listen large part of the story whilst enjoyable her feature as a queen (2007: 53). But, her try and save you something terrible appear is vain. He additionally says that „...she does speak up on a number of activities, trying to influence her son Duryodhana now not to go to war and criticizing her husband for now not standing up to their son. Her tries to avert the warfare are of no avail...” (62). Her brother listens to Duryodhan as a substitute despite the fact that he is aware of that Duryodhan will carry chance to Kurus kingdom.

Some other evidence of the gender inequality may be observed in utterances that are stated by Gandhari to reply the rishi on web page 3610. She explains why she is irritated. She turned into disappointed with Bhishma and Krishna and for the injustice that turned into befell. Whilst Gandhari expressed her feeling and the injustice she felt, people round her rebutted her words. They just stated that her youngsters deserved to die. They did not have empathy towards Gandhari. They did no longer concentrate closely, that in reality she most effective wanted to explicit her sadness. That description is ironic due to the fact Gandhari as the “ideal girl” has to pay attention the others but she is rarely listened by others. It portrays any other male domination.

Society in patriarchal culture in Mahabharata seems to cover the unfair male domination by using giving misleading concept that a wife who has tendencies as “ideal lady” will be gifted through a wonderful element. All of her “kindness” and appropriate deeds which might be shown while she obeys her father’s phrases, blindfolds her eyes and allows the rishi lead Gandhari to get her electricity. But, surely it gives the opposite shape of male superiority that something true can be earned with the aid of ladies if girls do something exact to their husband and society. This means that dependency of male in Mahabharata through Vyasa Deva is strongly provided.

Some other oppression can also seem from the complete kingdom as she isn't liked with the aid of them.

This Gandhari is also cheerless and antique. She too has misplaced her children and is helpless. With grief for the lack of her sops, she solicits you with me. Knowing that both people are antique and bothered and destitute of youngsters, grant us the permission we are seeking (5711).

That element describes on how she is helpless: antique, afflicted, and destitute of children. She has been a „properly” queen and spouse in step with pativrata, but in the end of the tale she is helpless due to the fact all of her sons are died. Human being does not even respect her act whilst she will become a queen; she goes to wooded area, with blindfold in her eyes till she dies.

## **Conclusion**

The novel of Mahabharata by way of Vyasa deva offers how women are positioned in 2nd layer or as inferior and sees how men as advanced layer. Despite the fact that she is a queen of Hastinapur, the lifestyle additionally impacts Gandhari in her lifestyles and how she behaves. This is depicted by means of how Gandhari is objectified by using her father. The energy that Gandhari has is likewise a end result from obeying the society’s well known as an “best girl”. This finding suggests how strong patriarchal society is; women alleged to be a perfect one in the eye of the way of life which will get society’s acknowledgement.

Gandhari additionally receives a few oppressions from her husband and society as nicely. The oppression is not in the shape of bodily oppression however rather in the shape of mental ones. Gandhari is blamed by using the society for the awful things that her children did.

This research has not blanketed the language analysis approximately superiority in patriarchal society. Further studies may be done in structuralism place to investigate about the language use in Mahabharata Sanskrit. Via reading the language, human beings can see the correlation among patriarchal societies with girl characters in a literary work. Human beings can also take a look at about how adult males treat ladies verbally in patriarchal society in Mahabharata.

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