



Importance of Trees and its Impact on Religion in the Selected Short Story of Raja Gopala Chari's *Tree Speaks*

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ABSTRACT

Nature has its voice that has its deep feel when we closely observe our surroundings; people can sense its love and compassion. In the selected short story the narrator, Raja Gopala Chari acts as a narrator and narrates the actual incident that happened in the 90s era. In the olden days, man lived along with nature and treated trees as their children by protecting the beautiful earth as their mother, which the current era is failing to do. Trees play a vital role in religious concepts. Worldwide trees are being worshiped in every religion with a reference to it and pagan worship. Nature gives man peace and happiness. In this selected short story, the essence of ignorance is highlighted when every Indian was busy in the Freedom Moments, Rajaji writes his thoughts about the killing of trees and the importance of the trees in Independent India. He had an eagerness and passion that India should be free and also possess greenery in it. Every religion worships trees and compares trees with human beings.

Keywords: Spirituality, Deforestation, Indian worships, Nature.

Raja Gopala Chari, also known as Rajaji was a follower of Gandhiji and the Indian National Congress. He led the Salt Satyagraha in South India. He was also a lawyer profoundly called a Man of Letters. *Tree Speaks* brings a strong and vehement attack on Deforestation and how the Indians showcase their devotion toward trees and nature. Due to urbanization, there is a loss of Natural ethics which makes the ecology to be ended. Rajaji brings the real incident as the main plot and infused his imagination with the way of dreams. Religious thoughts play a vital role in rural society. In rural areas, people are used to sitting under the trees and feeling a sense of relaxation. At times to dwell in relish people can also hear nature's music.

Do you think the trees can speak? Yes, nature has its sound. if we observe them very clearly, we can feel it. This was felt by Rajaji and his friend Colonel Roy the Medical Officer in Salem. Who feels like 'They killed my Tall beautiful girl.

In the olden days, many temples were built near ponds, mountains, etc. This shows the religious thoughts about Nature. Buddha got his enlightenment under the Banyan Tree. In Christianity creation of the world in the Old Testament shows the warning which was given to Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden that they shall have and enjoy all trees and fruits they want except the 'Tree of Knowledge [Genesis.2-3] which was the central tree of Eden garden symbolically emphasis that there are many creatures depend on the tree. Huge varieties of creations are affected when a single tree, is being affected too. also affects birds insects and other creations.

Sighting the Hindu temples, many people tie the cradle in the tree in the temple compound. This incident represents trees as a symbol of fertility. People initially worshipped terrifying natural elements like thunder and lightning but were eventually beneficial to daily living, such as the sun, stars, trees, etc. Banyan Tree represents Lord Vishnu, Brahma, and Lord Shiva, and the Neem tree stands full of positivity. The Peepal tree is the most worshiped in India.

To date, every Temple has Kalashas at the top of the Gopuram or tower that consists of seeds of the trees which helps to save the endangering trees. Also, in Christianity, the description of Canon a city full of trees and plants is mentioned. When the city contains a lot of trees and mountains then that is said to be a wealthy city. There is a mention of trees over 525 times in the bible. During Ramadan month Muslims concentrate on planting many trees which denoting of charity. Scriptures say trees a Scared. In Buddhism, the Bodhi Fig tree is referred to as the Tree of Awakening. Rig Veda instructed not to cut down trees. Trees protect human society

In *Sirupanchamoolam*, 100 – 500c. Kariyasan says that a person who plants a tree will reach his paradise. Our grandparents know about the importance of trees and plants so they saved them and lived peacefully. They followed many superstitious beliefs but according to science, it has a real value.

Shockingly over 15 billion trees were cut down. If it continues the same there is a big question mark in front of us. Nature gives and forgives. Think when these forests are destroyed out of the greediness of a man then what will happen to our future generations? The banyan tree is our national tree, can anyone see Banyan trees near our surroundings? If a person has fields and trees then they were considered to be wealthier in that town. The boy cures from his fever because of his mother's prayer to that Peepal Tree. This shows the power and positivity of the Trees. The whole world requires oxygen, we get oxygen only from trees so save trees, and plant more trees.

As in 2022 this became unfurl and brings religious occasions, Eco Mather would be delighted to help to plant trees and ecocentric values. The banyan tree is said to represent life, growth, and fertility. It also represents triumph. In the final world, trees play a significant role in religion even today. Trees are givers of life and care. By planting many trees individuals can participate in eco-friendly charitable.

Reference

Rajagopalachari. *Tree Speaks*. (1947)

<https://www.ecomatcher.com/the-value-of-trees-in-world-religions/>