CHAPTER - II

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Handwriting is an art by which the exterior manifestations are made of the inward thoughts, emotions and passions. For hundreds of years man is known to have used this art to communicate to the external world. Thus handwriting is the representation of the multifarious character of a person. Thus from ancient times learned men were interested in the art of handwriting analysis which is now popularly known as graphology. There exists some sketchy knowledge that as early as three hundred years before Christ, Aristotle and orator demetrius phalereus anticipated that handwriting reveals character; and in 99 A.D., Roman historian Guetoniens made skilful study of Emperor August’s personality from his handwriting. During the middle Ages, only the monks practiced the art of telling character from handwriting, but in the Renaissance, it also interested intellectuals like Shakespeare, who said, “Give me the handwriting of a woman, and I will tell you her character”.

The most significant step in the advance of graphology was taken in the France during the second half of the last century, by the “Abb Jean Hipployte Michon, who”, in 1871, introduced the term, “Graphology”. After the cautiously grasping beginnings made by “Baldi and Lavater”, he was the first to attempt the foundation of a scientific method. Although the subject is comparatively modern in the form in which we know it, it really dates back several centuries and has been said to be, “as old as the hills”. Without doubt the greater writers upon graphology have been, generally speaking, of French Origin. But the oldest work extant, it is belived, is said to have written by Baldo an Italian in 1622. It does not appear to have excited and great interest in the subject however. The “Abe Fladrin of Paris some thirty years since, systematised graphologic-
analysis, when the subject was raised above the level of more intuitive guess work, but it was not until the "Abb Michon, in 1872, published a work dealing with the matter that graphology really took a definite form. Miss "Rosa Baugham" who was the first modern English writer to put her name to a work treating an Graphology, published, about (1875) some admirable papers on the subject, which have since formed the only important work in the tongue.

The first record of a book on the subject of graphology is dated about '1630', written by 'Camillo Baldo', an Italian professor. About two hundred years later the subject of handwriting analysis was revived in France, when 'Abbe Flandrin', a cultured Church man, become greatly interested in Baldo's book. The learned 'Abbe' Left it merited study and discussion; he formed a group who worked on the subject, classifying handwritings of people of various interests and pursuits, and with in that group were born the basic rules of handwriting analysis now in use. To give this new science a name, the 'Abbe' used two Greek word, grapho, meaning to 'write' and 'logy' which means a 'Science' thus the coined word Graphology.

Graphological societies were formed in the nineteenth century in most European countries, and there graphology is considered seriously as a supplemental aid to the psychologist and psychiatrist and is accorded a top-ranking place.

The science of graphology is commonly belived to an entirely modern one. Actually it has a history of almost seventy years, and the nation of a connection between handwriting and personality can be traced to antiquity. The first detailed work on the relation between handwriting and personality was
published in 1622. Its author was Baldi, doctor and professor in the university of Bologne, a famous scholor of his time.

In this work Baldi wrote, “It is obvious that all persons write in their own peculiar way and than in private letters everybody uses such characteristics forms as can not be truly imitated by anybody else”.

At the end of his work Baldi as a careful observer he was, drew the following conclusions, “These and other similar traits of character can be recognised in any handwriting by way of thorough examination, yet it is necessary to observe carefully whether the characteristics of handwriting recur, moreover whether they are in any way artificial and finally whether they result from various deceptive causes which are due to writing materials.

This small book, hardly satisfactory if compared with our modern conception of research work, was the first step forwards a science of graphology in Europe and infact, an admirably clever and lucid attempt. The attempt to read character from handwriting is not by means new. As early as the seventeenth century it was a favourite pastime at various European courts, Between roughly 1870 and 1819 a great deal of work was done by many eager workers in Europe and America. There was much experimenting and gathering of statistics, and certain formations of handwriting were related to definate traits of character. The means used were often hapazard and unscientific, the results some times wide to the work, but the material collected was invaluable.

Many remarkable philosophers, psychologists and scientists, delving even deeper into the secrets of handwriting have continued to work right down to our own times to move graphology forward step by step. Best known are French philosopher and noble prize winner Henri Bergson, Dr. Pierre Lanet,
eminent psychiatrist and professor Ludwing Klages, outstanding Swiss psychologist max pulver. Who introduced the importance of unconscious drives in handwriting, C.G. Leeng, reknowned Swiss psychiatrist (Tendences de "I Etra Humain), cu, Heger, and Rene he senne, who adopted the method of classification of the Dutch School of Graningue.

In 1954, Helene de Gobineau, published a book in collaboration with R.Perron, which served as an important contribution of graphology; Genetique de 1 'Leriture el Flude de la personnalite'. This book explains their innovation, graphometrie, which is a technique to prove that graphology can be scientifically validated by statistics. In America, and in India, too, the forensic uses of handwriting expertise have become an important tool in the detection of forgery cases. This shows that the law admits that handwriting is unique and individually identifiable yet it is not considered as a proof in law. The F.B.I. quietly makes use of it as do many commercial establishments, periodicals treat it seriously in their articles, and some hospitals and clinics are finding new application for it.

Studies have revealed that graphology has a profound impact in seven major areas :- psychology, social work, medicine, education, business, personal uses and crime solving. Graphology, a new trait for the graphologists, is both ideal and effective for the treatment of personality and character flows especially in Children. The latest development in the area of pathology has been the detection of cancer from handwriting, which has been discovered by a graphologist named Alfred Kanfer through thirty years of painstaking research. Another leading American graphologist Andre M.C. Nichol has been successful in answering various difficult questions correctly through writing analysis like who's setting fire to the plastic surgeon's office, who murdered the secretary

Graphology has had its course of development and research. Starting with a list of flourishes, dots and dashes, it has developed into a scientific study of the motor, spatial and formative impulses. It is not yet popular known in our country, but in some of the European countries. It has already reached the university stage. In graphology the work of Dr. R. Saudek, Hans Jacaby, Harry O’ Telscher, Lowengard, Kurt Rahnor are monumental.

In recent history sigmund Frued wrote several technical works demonstrating graphology’s validity and uses. Alfred Binet, who developed the modern I.Q. test, conducted many years of exhaustive research on graphology. He called graphology “the science of the future”.

By examining more specifically the new international developments we find that the brilliant modern scholars have enormously increased its scope. Many advanced psychological techniques have been applied to graphology. According to Jhon Gillman there are 5 means by which a graphological result may be obtained.

1. Direct deduction (signs and symbols of classical graphology).
2. Indirect deduction; (a) Resultants (b) Typology.
3. Graphometry (use of statistics to discover constant, which validate a sign or sings).
4. Psychology (symbolism)
5. Physiology (graphic testimony of the body’s condition).
Grapho-Therapeutics, a new term in the field of graphology, is the treatment of personality and character flows through deliberately made change in the handwriting. Thus we see that several studies have been done in different fields and on various aspects applying graphological norms. In America and in England the Forensic uses of handwriting expertise in cases of Forgery long have been perfectly acceptable, which means the law admits that handwriting is unique and individually identifiable.

The new graphology went forward by leaps and bounds.

The discovery of the principle and the development’s which immediately followed it were the work of one man, Dr. Robert Saudek of London.

This work has already been widely recognized though perhaps more so on the continent than in England. The subject is now studied number of universities and technical colleges and is finding ever increasing application in the practical affairs of life.

Many of the largest commercial concerns make a practice of submitting to a graphologist the handwriting of applicants for important ‘posts’ Graphology is used in progressive schools to discover the causes that are hindering the mental growth of backward children, medical men use it as a means of diagnosis in case of irritation of the central nervous system, it is widely and increasingly employed in the civil and criminal courts.

Graphology may be the science of future, but its overall acceptance is greatly affected by its status in the academic world. Through out Europe, the Soviet
Union, South America and Israel, universities offer formal training and in some instances, doctorate degrees in graphology. In these parts of the world it is very difficult to get a job of any significant responsibility without first having one's handwriting analyzed. Is real, considered the leader in the field, even trains. Its border guards in the science to help them detect undesirables trying to enter the country.