INTRODUCTION
Sri Janaki Vallabh Shastri in his youth.
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1. Utility of the study of the Subject

The importance of the present study lies in the fact that it seeks to show Acharya Janaki Vallabh Shastri as the last of a long line of romantics in Hindi Literature on the basis of a thoroughgoing analysis of his prose works. The present study also emphasizes the importance of another species of Shastrijee’s Prose writings viz. his essays in criticism. In fact one of the major aims of the study is to show Shastrijee as one of the pioneers in the field of criticism of Hindi literature. We seek to prove that Shastrijee has developed a new type of comparative Shastrijee as it appears, does not believe in the worth of Arnoldian ‘Chunks’ of literature. He makes a comparative criticism of whole books selecting them from a wide range of the word literature’s throwing a new eight on them. For instance he compares Mudra Rakshas with Julius Caeser, The geeta with Gitanjali, Jaydev with Vidyapati, Vidyapati with Surdas and so on.

Another importance of the present study lies in its review of Hindi literature so as to find the exact place for Shastrijee prose works in it. He is the fifth and the last Chhayawadi poet (Romanticit) and his setting is exotic and his prose, poetic. Although poetic, Shastrijee’s prose works are distinguished by their realistic presentation of social problems. Thus facilitate the trend for modern prose writing. In his prose style he blends
the romantic and the classical. Booth his creative and critical prose works have a unique place in Hindi literature as they anticipate the modern age by their humanistic concern.

2. Subject matter and Source

The present study is related to Acharya Janaki Vallabh Shastrijee’s Prose works. Therefore, all his novels, short stories, Belles lettres (Lalit Nibandh) Letters, Sansmaran and alochana have been examined and studied. The following is the list of books studied:

Novel

1. Ek Kiran : Sau Jhayian
   Anupam Prakashan, Patna, 1976

A. Kanan
   Pustak Bhandar, Laheriyasami, 1940.
   (i) Kanan
   (ii) Bhayi Bahen
   (iii) Ganga
   (iv) Vinah ke Path Par
   (v) Do Dost
   (vi) Ishwar

B. Aparna.
   (i) Aparna
   (ii) Do Bahane

(vi) Antardwand
(vii) Bakare kee Maa
(iii) Prabha
(iv) Abhinetri
(v) Jeevan-Maran
(viii) Bagmati ke Kinare
(ix) Bargad ke Saye mein
(x) Manwata kee Neeta

C. Lila Kamal
Raka Prakashan, Muzaffarpur, 1955

(i) Lila Kamal
(ii) Malwika
(iii) Chhaya
(iv) Chimta

(v) Dhire Chalo
(vi) Kahani Ka Plat
(vii) Rupa

Belles -Lettres (Lalit Nibandh).

1. Smriti ke Vatayan.

2. Man kee Bat
   Vaishali Prakashan, Muzaffarpur, 1970
   Sansmaran.

1. Natya Samrat Pritviraj Kapoor
   Lok Bharati Prakashan, Allahabad, 1972

2. Hansbalaka
   Antara Prakashan, New Delhi, 1983.

   Parag Prakashan, Delhi, 1985
4.  Ek Asahityiki kee Diary
    Preeti mandir Prakashan, Delhi 1988

Letters

1.  Nirala ke Patra
    Rajkamal Prakashan, New Delhi, 1971

(It contain 109 letters of Nirala sent to Shastrijee)

Alochana

1.  Chintadhara
    Ajanta Press Patna, 1955

2.  Pachya Sahitya
    Kala niketan, Patna, 1957

3.  Sahitya Darshan
    Bharaati Bhawan, Patna, 1967

4.  Trayee.
    Lok Bharati, Allahabad, 1970

Magazine

1.  Raka,

(A literary magazine)

Nirala Niketan 1950 Muzaffarpur

2.  Bela

(Literary magazine)
In addition to these there are various publications, research articles dealing with different aspects of prose works of Shastrijee have been studied. And dictionary, criticism books have also been studied.

3. Methodology

The main aim of the present study is to analyse the prose works of Alochya Janaki Vallabh Shastri. The method used in this research work had been analytical, descriptive, biographical, comparative and containing a mixture of all. I have adopted the mixed method because it can neither be completely analytical nor descriptive. The novels, stories, Sansmaran and Belles lettres are studied on the basis of descriptive arts and hence the technique has become analytic. However, the method of Shastriya alochana has remained descriptive, comparative method has been adopted in comparative essays. Therefore, it is confirmed that the method followed in the present study is mixed of all.

A close study of his prose literature shows that it is poetic prose reflecting the true picture of the society. It is not correct to say that Shastrijee is simply guided by imagination in his fictions rather they consist (yatharth) truth which may be revealed only to imagination or intuition or insight.

4. Works done on Shastrijee

Acharya Janaki Vallabh Shastri is basically a 'Chhayawadi' poet and so most of the work already done on him is confined to his 'Kavya' which is not related to the present study and is not considered. The prose works of Shastrijee have a significant place in
Hindi literature but not much work has been done on the prose writings of Shastrijee and much more remain to be done. Some significant study on Shastrijee are done and some are being done. But the present study on Shastrijee' prose works is quite different from the previous studies and purely original in approach. Some significant works on Shastrijee are given below:

3. Acharya Janaki Vallabh Shastri : Vyakti Aur Shakti , Prof. Bihari Lal Mishra

The present work has been divided into seven chapters with a general introduction. The introduction consists of the utility of subject matter, sources of subject matter, methodology and works done on Shastrijee.

The first chapter of this work has under taken biographical study of Acharya Janaki Vallabh Shastri's life. This chapter has shown the development of creative personality of the artist. The main thrust has been directed towards biographical and socio-cultural factors which have moulded Shastrijee's literary self.

In the second chapter an attempt has been made to critically evaluate Shastri's views on literature and literary theories. We find that Shastrijee is a pioneer figure in
Hindi comparative criticism. His theories also have made a substantial original contribution to twentieth century criticism.

The third chapter of this work has made preliminary study of all his prose writings including novel, stories criticism, short stories and autobiographical works. The discussion in this chapter helped to bring Shastrijee’s whole range of writings under the purview of a single creative activity.

The fourth chapter deals with general characteristics of Shastrijee’s prose work and the narrative techniques. It has come to light that Shastrijee’s prose style has guaranteed him a place in history of Hindi literature. He is unique both in his critical and creative works for his style. The techniques adopted by him are also original and innovative.

The fifth chapter entirely deals with Shastrijee’s fictional works. Here an analysis has been made on the theoretic and technical aspects of all Shastrijee’s story and novels. Here attempts have been made also to apply Shastrijee’s own critical theories to his creative works. It has been found that Shastrijee is true both to his theories and there practice.

In the sixth chapter it has been found that Shastrijee’s unique prose style even suits to his travelogues and belles-lettres.

This study taking the previous discussions into consideration comes to the conclusion that Shastrijee’s prose work are not only independent and valuable in themselves but also illuminate the whole range of his creative activity.