Traces Of Individuals Emotional Intelligence In Chetanbhagat’s Revolution 2020

Dr Akkara Sherine¹, Mr Kavithamizh²

¹Professor and HOD Languages, Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science, Chennai
²Research Scholar, Department of Languages, Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science, Chennai


Abstract

Humans have evolved with more intelligence as individuals. Although, the restless life of an individual has becomes poor in emotional balance and impulse control. This contributes to a major portion of blame behind the growing number of suicides, divorces, and mental disorders which have increased in today’s society. Daniel Goleman's Emotional Intelligence’s mixed ability of self-awareness, self-regulation, social skill, empathy, and motivation suggests ways to overcome these problems. ChetanBhagat is an Indian writer who portrays the stress and pressure undergone by modern Indians through the characters in his novels. The purpose of this study is to find resilience and emotional stability among the characters in the select novels of ChetanBhagat through the application of Daniel Goleman's four aspect mixed model. Indian people are well known for intelligence however, they struggle to handle failures due to societal pressure. Emotional intelligence is an essential life skill that helps to control depression, frustration, and anger; meanwhile, it improves confidence, motivation, and relationship management in personal and professional life.

Index Terms: self-awareness, self-regulation, social consciousness, empathy and motivation

I. INTRODUCTION

Every man possesses the ability to be successful in life. For decades, it was thought that classical intelligence, which encompasses both intellect and cognition which is referred to as intelligence quotient (IQ), was to blame for a person's success. In today's hectic society, IQ alone is not sufficient for success. Emotional Intelligence (EI) is a term that refers to a person's capacity and intelligence in dealing with emotions. It is also essential to control one’s emotions to cope with the difficult life that he leads owing to a variety of factors and reasons. Individuals in today's environment suffer from variety of issues, including alcoholism, drug addiction, mental illness, violence, employment uncertainty, financial hardship, and civil war which are issues that need to be addressed.

Peter Salovey and John D. Mayer used this concept to investigate the distinction between an individual's ability and emotions in a 1990 empirical study. According to this research, it was evident that some people are better than others at recognizing their own feelings, the feelings of the other three, and resolving emotional problems. In his book working with Emotional Intelligence (WEI), released in 1998, Daniel Goleman popularized the concept. This book delves into the relationship between the human brain, human emotions, and human conduct. It’s paved the path for more research into the idea of emotional intelligence.

The most prominent and generally acknowledged hybrid model of emotional intelligence was presented by Daniel Goleman, a former Harvard University professor, and science writer for nearly twelve years in The New York Times, and book. As an author, he's written about creativity, meditation, social and emotional development, and, more lately, environmental themes including Eco literacy and ecological calamity. Emotional Intelligence: Why Does It Matter More Than IQ? (1995), Working with Emotional Intelligence, and a Harvard Business Review article titled “What Makes a Leader?” are among his works on the subject (1998). He raised awareness of the
importance of emotional intelligence in the business sector. In this approach, emotional intelligence is considered a combination of personal and social qualities. Empathy and social skills are considered social competencies, while self-awareness, self-regulation, and motivation are considered personal competencies.

In this study, Daniel Goleman's idea of emotional intelligence is used. Goleman's theory was chosen as the theoretical foundation because it encompasses both personal and social competencies, whereas other theories focus solely on individual characteristics.

Goleman's theory is based on the premise that persistent EI development in an individual's personal and professional life leads to successful existence. Novels with round characters who confront obstacles in their personal and social lives can benefit from EI theory.

The purpose of the novelists is to depict the various parts of society and its complicated functioning by using plot, language, diction, theme, and characterization to create an acceptable narrative expression. Literature's primary goal is to not only entertain but also to communicate with its audience. For more than a century and a half, Indian English novels have existed in various genres. With the influence of British writers during the 19th century, the literary form of the novel was introduced in the country. In the twenty-first century, the Indian novel has emerged as a remarkable genre with a distinct identity. The Indian English novel has paved the road for artistic inventiveness, freedom of expression, and new areas for experimentation. Indian English fiction can be divided into two periods: pre-independence and post-independence.

In Indian writing in English, the novel as a genre occupies the prominent place. A novel is a long, fictional narrative which describes intimate human experiences and makes use of prose style. It has a writing style, plot, subplots, themes, conflict and resolution with major and minor characters. These are indispensable elements that facilitate the action to develop in a logical connection that the reader can follow. It is an extended exposition of narrative which alludes to the unusual problems and reflects social conditions. The subject is portrayed as a fundamental idea of a literary work. It is a picture of the author's mind and how he or she pursues human life. The theme has generally been the most created range of the novel. The experience or assessment of an adventure becomes the theme. It is noticed that the theme of a novel is a conceptual idea, developed by the reader through the reading of the novel. It is a fact that shows unity.

Chetan Bhagat is a prominent writer Indian writer who uses simple language to enhance the readability of his novels. The characters he portrays in his novels are good with high emotional intelligence which is evident in decision making at a tough moment, motivating others, empathy for their loved ones and the society. Chetan Bhagat's fictional world is a representation of postmodern society, in which people continue to suffer as a result of many external reasons.

Men have no choice but to become more or less rebellious against established social values when the situation becomes serious. This can be solved by positive acceptance of the situation, and societal values serve as a shield against troubles. India as a country encourages important values such as family, community, personal relationships, and nationality. These ideas contribute to the nation's prosperity and unity. In Chetan Bhagat’s novels the protagonist’s progress as the plot develops. The individuals face different challenges and overcome them with emotional intelligence. The present study highlights Bhagat's depiction of emotionally intelligent women.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Social Imbalance in Chetan Bhagat’s Revolution 2020 and One Night @ the Call Center (2018) Gayathridevi et al discussed the darker side of the India’s education system and the uncontrolled corruption. It states that education is seen as one of the assets of all middle-class families and that by educating their son or daughter; all parents felt they have accomplished something in their lives. As a result, they invest their whole lifetime earnings in their children's future. They spend all of their money on these coaching classes so that their children easily get into Engineering Admission and raise their family standard.

Bhagat answers to the question by Diksha Sahni about Revolution 2020 that
Revolution 2020 is foremost a love story, in fact a love triangle, as both Gopal and Raghav love the same girl. Corruption particularly in the education sector is the back drop of the story. Like all his novels the best-selling writer tries to show the problems of the young generation and finally he also suggests the best ways to solve it. The writer tries to show the present condition of the three friends. In this novel both the characters Gopal and Raghav strive to achieve love, fame and success. (3)

In Commercialization of Education – A Social Crime: Study Based on ChetanBhagat’s Novel Revolution 2020, Love. Corruption. Ambition (2017) Dr. Mathew P Joseph et al discussed about corruption in education system which is socially acceptable in India but illegal by law. It depicts coaching centers, private colleges with self-financing as commercialization of education, as well as the government’s attitude towards this system. A society’s backbone is its educational system. The presence of corruption in education is a scourge for any nation’s citizens. According to the law, everyone has an equal right to education. However, the commercialization of education has exacerbated the problem, exposing the Indian education system’s corruption. If the current system continues, a large proportion of Indian youth will lose their jobs. As a result, we require a change. ChetanBhagat’s "Revolution 2020" aims to demonstrate that corruption exists not only in human society but also in the human mind.

In Degradation of Moral and Ethical Values in Revolution 2020 (2014) Rahul Singh Sundram discussed about debasement of moral and ethical value in modern India. To demonstrate positive answers that threaten the tenacious drive of the young to succeed, I want to emphasize that we must not forget our tradition and culture’s values. Without a doubt, we live in a technological age, but we must also protect our culture and legacy. Desire is the source of all evil and renders us soulless. To grasp the meaning of moral principles, we must dig deep. These principles, however, are deteriorating in the present period. Everyone is self-centered and just thinks about themselves. Indian kids have little discipline and show no regard for their elders. We usually think about personal values like family, religion, and respect for elders when we talk about social values. Our society is severely harmed by Western values. We must not look to the west for guidance. India is famed for its culture, honesty, and love. All of these ideals, however, are ignored by the west.

All the papers are discussed about social imbalance in all aspects, commercialization of education system and degradation of moral and ethical values. But none of the paper is focused on portrayal Bhagat’s characters through emotional intelligence.

Here, we applied Daniel Goleman’s emotional intelligence mixed ability model of the characters in the ChetanBhagat’s novel Revolution 2020.

III. METHODOLOGY

Self-awareness– the ability to know one's emotions, strengths, weaknesses, drives values and goals and recognizes their impact on others while using gut feelings to guide decisions.

Self-regulation – involves controlling or redirecting one's disruptive emotions and impulses and adapting to changing circumstances.

Social skill – managing relationships to get along with others

Empathy – considering other people's feelings especially when making decisions

Motivation – being aware of what motivates them.

Self-awareness

Revolution 2020 is a novel dealing with love, corruption and ambition within three friends. Significant characters of this novel are Gopal, Aarti and Raghav. Gopal is the protagonist of the novel. ChetanBhagat gives more importance to the female characters in all his novels. Likewise he expressed the love a two men for a women pleasing the readers.

Gopal fears about the Engineering entrance exams like AIEEE and JEE, more than that his father is a retired teacher who is very eager for his son to be placed in IIT. He believes that his son will take care of his life and as well his father’s too if he gets into IIT.
“I didn’t particularly want to become an engineer. Baba wished to see me as one, and that was why I went to JSR” (23)

He couldn't focus on his studies due to his lack of self-confidence. To be aware of our strengths and weaknesses is important to regulate self-awareness. Gopal is aware of the importance of education so he is ready to sell his land to his uncle at a low cost meanwhile he is aware of the importance of the money so he picked up the offer of Shukla ji to help him to grab the remaining land of his uncle and built his college.

‘Thirty. Keep the remaining for later. It is close to the city... Once the college opens and the airport is built, we may even get residential or commercial zoning.’ (124)

He knows that the tricks that he played with Aarti to make her fell in love with him are biased and the deal with Shukla ji is an unfair to solve his problem. Soon he recognised and worried about his mistake of snatching his friend's girlfriend and selectsthe wrong people.

Raghav was aware of his strength when he studied in BHU (Banaras Hindu University). He started writing about college events for the college magazine about what was happening around him. He believed in the power of writing and focussed particularly on investigative journalism in college magazine and wrote about hygiene of college hostel food and canteen maintenance, that’s when he realised his strength of writing.

‘I want to do journalism part-time. I have contacts in newspapers here,’ (40)

After his studies he neglects the IT company offers and he is much focused in his perspective to explore the corrupt politician through his writing. He took journalism as a tool to expose the scams which happened around Varanasi, the river Ganga project is one among them. He was picked out of his office because of exploring the truth still he never gave up his passion and started his own journal to expose the corruption in his city.

Aarti is aware that she is not good at studies so she planned to complete any degree even though she doesn’t have a concrete idea about her future, still she wants to become an Air-Hostess.

“She had no intension of becoming an engineer. She had joined JSR because a) attending coaching classes could supplement her class XII CBSE studies, b) I had also enrolled so she would have company, c) the tuition centre never charged her, given her father was about to become the District Magistrate, or DM of the city.” (24)

From her school days she was very affectionate towards Gopal who was mischievous in class and had lost his mother. She shared all her wishes and they used to spend time boating. After the Engineering entrance exam results Gopal went to Kota to clear the exam. In the absence of Gopal she was attracted towards Raghav. Even though he is a school friend he is not as close as she was with Gopal. Both fell in love with each other. Due to their hectic work schedule Raghav doesn’t spend proper time with her. Gopal used this as an opportunity to grab her attention towards him and he successfully did that. Soon she realised her mistake and got back to Raghav.

Self-regulation

Gopal, Raghav and Aarti were friends from childhood. Gopal always competes with Raghav, from school till life, he knows that Raghav is far better than him but he never quit, to become rich he agrees to the terms and conditions of Shukla Ji. While in the approval and construction of college he controlled his anger upon government officials and committee members.

Gopal unfortunately joined a corrupt MLA Raman Lal Shukla. He was clueless after his fathers’ death. His uncle didn’t help him either. The dispute in land was not in a proper manner and he could not manage his education either. Even though, he wanted to study he could not. He was aware that he could earn through education.

‘I don’t know. I feel so...so defeated. I let Baba down.’

‘He wants me to try again. He is obsessed with making me an engineer.’ (36)

But he is too young to be aware of education as an earning platform. Gopal knew that the influence of corrupted MLA Raman Lal Shukla will make him suffer one day so he took a tough decision to avoid his love Aarti. Aarti
was a school friend and he loved her from his childhood. During his absence to clear JEE/AIEEE entrance exam at Kota, she become closer to his friend Raghav and fell in love.

Raghav who is an AIEEE aspirant got a placement in an IT company but he wants to serve in Varanasi so he remains as a reporter in Dainik. Gopal is aware his friend Raghav wants to explore the corrupted political activities.

‘It is not a hobby. Journalism is my passion.’(40)

As a reporter, he faces many life threats but he ignores all, even though he was pulled out from his office and none of the newspapers were ready to accept him as a reporter because of the political pressure still he never gave up, he started Revolution 2020 a small journal with a single paper. One side of the paper had a local body news story another side was a marriage advertisement.

Aartiis in a dilemma to choose between Raghavand Gopal as her life partner. Gopal was a close friend to her from her childhood who went to Kota to clear his AIEEE and Raghav secured merit seat in BHU. During the absence of Gopal, she become close to Raghav and she fell in love with him. When Raghavwas busy with his work to prove his worth and the power of journalism to the corrupted politician Shukla ji who removed him from the Dainik, he never spent proper time with Aarti.

‘My parents are pressurising me to get married. I can’t fight them forever,’ she said. ‘Raghav doesn’t seem to understand that.’ (226)

Gopal expressed his love to her but she didn’t accept at first. In a course of period she fell in love with him. Before breaking up with Raghav she finds that Gopal is cheating on her. Finally, she understands the pure love of Raghav and married him.

Social skill

Gopal is good at relationship management. Gopal had a healthy relationship with his father. When he failed to secure ranks in AIEEE his father burst out and he tried to console him.

‘I am sorry, Baba,’ I said. He didn’t say anything. ‘I’ll do whatever you tell me. I will try again if that’s what you want. I’ll become an engineer, Baba,’ I said. He placed a hand on my head as if in blessing. It acted as a tipping point for my emotions. I broke down. ‘I’ll work extra hard,’ I said as tears rolled down my cheeks. ‘God bless you, go to sleep,’ he said.” (34)

His schoolmates Raghav and Aarti were close to him. When Gopal failed his AIEEE exams everything changed. Raghav secured good rank in AIEEE and JEE with that he grabbed Aarti’s attention towards him. During the absence of Gopal, who went to Kota to clear his AIEEE exam her closer to Raghav and become lovers.

FlyingAarti: Yeah. He’s mad. Mad stupid Raghav!!! He trapped me. (76)

After Gopal’s father’s demise, his friend Sunil introduced MLA Shukla to him and explained about his property which is closer to the city. Shukla Ji helps Gopal to solve his land dispute and wants to open an Engineering college; Gopal remains the Director of the institution called Ganga-Tech. He creates a good rapport with Shukla Ji. Aarti feels lonely while Raghav is busy in collecting reports for the story for his newspaper article, Gopal and Aarti used to meet often without Raghav's knowledge and she slowly falls in love with Gopal. He found the affair with Aarti is not a genuine act so he made some arrangements to break up with Aarti.

Empathy

However, Gopal becomes corrupt because of MLA Shukla, he never lost his humanity. When he went to Raghav’s office to reveal the truth about the affair with his girlfriend, he found a poor farmer in his office named Bishnu from the village Roshanpur who lost his wife and one kid because of the Dimnapura plant sewage scam the deadly disease spreads all over the village and his kid Keshav whose innocence question about his death

‘Baba, will I also die?’ Keshav said, his voice a mere thread. (262)
Made him realise that what he is doing right now and felt guilt to be a part of corrupted people. He wants to become rich but not as corrupted. He always thinks about the future likewise he wants to save the future of the poor farmer's kid and Varanasi.

Aarti’s grandfather was a reputed MLA, after his demise both Aarti and her father are interested in politics; the person who marries Aarti will have the opportunities to become MLA.

‘I have three prospective grooms lined up for meetings next week. All from political families’ (265)

Gopal wants Raghav to become MLA who wants to eradicate the corruption from Varanasi and the perfect suit for Aarti.

‘You know there’s pressure on Aarti’s family to enter politics?’

‘So, Aarti father can’t and Aarti won’t. Son-in-law, maybe?’ (287)

However, they love each other because of Gopal influence Aarti fell in love with him. He understands the emotions of the farmer and the kid. He finds the need for a good political leader for Varanasi future. He shows concern and empathy towards Aarti to lead a better life with Raghav.

Motivation

In Revolution 2020 Gopal and Raghav had different personalities and different aims to achieve but the author never reveals the definition of the characters instead he focused on their purpose. Gopal wants to become rich but as a poor youngster, he decided to study higher. His uncle offered him to sell his undisputed land with a little amount of money. To solve his land dispute his friend Sunil, introduce MLA Shukla Ji to him. He motivates him to build his college. He believes in him because after the death of his father no one on his side even his uncle cheated him on the land dispute. Shukla Ji acted as external motivation. Internal motivations like his money and education motivate Gopal to build the college Ganga Tech to earn fame and to become rich in society. Apart from money and education, he receives additional motivation that is Aarti. His love for Aarti doesn't change till the end of the novel. Even though, he gave her up for her bright future.

The untreated river of Ganga is through (Ganga Action Plan) corrupt politicians which motivates Raghav to choose journalism and expose the scams around Varanasi. Even though he joined BHU (Banaras Hindu University) his focused on college magazines and articles in that he did a serious story about the state of the college hostel kitchen which is filthy and occupied by cockroaches. After his graduation, he joined the journal Dainik. He made an article about the new engineering college at Varanasi which built through the corruption money of corrupted politician. After this article he was removed from the news journal Dainik then he started his own journal called Revolution 2020. He never gave up at any time to explore the corruption in Varanasi.

IV. CONCLUSION

IQ is the inborn process. But EQ or EI can learn from the external environment especially through their experience. To balance the professional and personal life emotional intelligence is most important. ChetanBhagat is an Indian writer who wants to explore the modern-day crisis, stress, depression, anxiety, and anger. Analysing the individual characters of Revolution 2020 with the help of Daniel Goleman’s mixed abilities model of emotional intelligence we found the characters are slowly improving their awareness about their strength and weakness, regulated their impulse emotions, maintain healthy relationship in home and work place, the rising of resilience power in all aspects which are essential to lead a happy life.

V. REFERENCES

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