

A Scientific Study of Clouds in Kalidas

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Introduction:

Kalidasian clouds like that of Wordsworthian is a study of the native energy of the soil that consoles and responds to the genuine passions of human beings, trees, plants, fruit, herb, creepers, insects, birds, animals, mountains and the sky. By its application, biotic and abiotic strength is infused in each other. This study has been detailed in The Meghdoot. The theme of Meghdoot is deeply entrenched in the background of ancient science of telepathy that has been represented through the colourful languages of the poem. In Schiller's "Maria Stuart" the captive Queen of Scots sends a message to the land of her youth through the clouds. Kalidas gives the composition of cloud- how does it form?. The poet observed the cloud is simply a combination of smoke, light, water, wind etc. The poet invests the inanimate cloud with the feeling of the animate. In reality, it has no life. But the bereaved Yaksha smitten with love makes no distinction between animate and inanimate objects. He requests to a passing clouds to convey his message to his beloved wife:

What is cloud but of smoke, water, light and air a mixture mere?

While an envoy must have competent sense organs that are clear

Yaksha without this reckoning approached the cloud by zeal oppressed

Dead and animate cant distinguish love-sick men deprest ⁽¹⁾

In the first line of the aforesaid poetic piece, Kalidas scientifically represents the components that make up clouds. On seeing the alluring appearance of clouds in the sky, during the rains, the cranes are flying joyfully here and there in amorousness and greetings the clouds:

When they hear your thunder's roar, which is so grateful to their ear

As it'll rendered the earth fertile, plantain trees flowers to bear,

The flamingos carrying as food the lotus fiber will Be your fellow - travelers, you'll see, as far as Kailasa hill" ⁽²⁾

The clouds laden with waters and as being heavy with high pressure rest a while on the high peaks of the mountain and then process for the common good. In this atmosphere, the clouds look like mountains. It is the clouds that render fertility to the earth. All the aspects of environment like flowers, birds, trees, plants, animals, sky, rivers, and human beings become gladdened.

Like a sane and sincere person, the clouds perform the duties of an envoy by carefully listening the instructions given by Yaksha about his house. The Yaksha gives certain indications of his house to the cloud messenger, lest he (the cloud) should miss the house:

O my friend! In your heart faithfully store the marks I did state

Figures on door of conch shell and lotus my house indicate,

In my absence ancient grandeur does it, friend, no longer show,

As shows not its splendor lotus when is gone the sun's bright glow. ⁽³⁾

Yaksha describes the piteous condition of his wife in separations. She is leading a very poor life in the absence of her lord. Her smiling glorious face is faded like a lotus shattered by the frost. She has become very lean and thin in grief and seems like a digit of the moon rising in the east:

She by grief reduced on separation's couch on same side prest

Like a digit of the moon on eastern horizon, does rest

Nights, like moments with mea faint in amorous sweet pleasure spent,

Now pass slowly since distressing parting, as to tears gives vent. ⁽⁴⁾

Further, Yaksha tells the cloud how to introduce himself to his wife and to inspire her with confidence:

Ye! Whose husband is alive, I'm his friend,
water-carrier,

I am come to you here with a message from
your husband dear

On the way, know, ye, urge many a tired
traveler I, fair,

With my deep loud rumbling to unbind their
dear wives braided hair.? ⁽⁵⁾

Yaksha's message to Yakshini is full of hope and love. She will receive the message with pleasure as if she has approached her husband herself. Yaksha conveys his message to his beloved to bear the sufferings of separation only for the duration of four months. The day of their reunion is fast approaching:

When the god Vishnu from the serpent couch
will rise will end our curse

So keep your eyes shut and let the four
remaining months yet pass,

Then we shall, by full-grown autumn's brilliant
moon illumined, at night

Heart's desires fulfill planned while were
parted and held in min tight" ⁽⁶⁾

After imparting his love message to the cloud, Yaksha tells a secret incident which will serve as a token for the recognition and will inspire confidence in the heart of Yakshini:

Many a time, so your husband to me has
described, in sleep

In bed you have clung to his neck waking up
from slumber deep,

Cried with smile suppressed and told him
when pressed for the reason, aye

You rogue! Saw you in dream sporting with
another woman I. ⁽⁷⁾

Thus we see that both the poets are same in their treatment of the clouds. Both the poets treat the cloud as envoy that is the special similarity between the both poets. However, the title of this chapter is an apt one. For both the poets consider the cloud as the native energy of the soil, for the soil becomes fertile only after coming in touch with it, Which is indispensably an important ingredient of our environment.

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