

Concept Note

Gospel of Equipoise: Searching Threads of Harmony

Entropy and equipoise rest on the opposite end of the material dialectic. The literary mind forever has been fascinated with the idea of equipoise on one hand and entropy on the other. While energy and matter, so assert the scientists, tend towards chaos and all systems drift to disorder, the literary mind is inclined to seek evenness and order. The 'method in madness' of Hamlet's soliloquies is an expression of this quest for 'balance' where the surrounding reality threatens to overshadow the certainties that the inherited value-systems grant to the subjects.

The end of grand narratives has become an axiom ever since Einstein's theory of relativity influenced the intellectual zeitgeist declaring a collapse of absolute positions. Yet, it is a constant human endeavour to move from uncertainties to clarity, problems to solution, issues to resolution; and entropies to equipoise. The asymmetries of global world are checked through revolutions while in regional contexts we hear of coup d'état(s).

This turning of tables and rise of the 'underdog' through merit, constitutional means, or violence is symptomatic of the society's unarticulated need to strike the 'balance'. Senility is unacceptable, status quo is moronic, and change is welcome 'lest one good custom should corrupt the world'. Humans display the uncanny ability to reason out uncertainties.

Paradoxes residing on frontiers of science prompt breakthroughs and usher in new advancements - resulting in a 'state-of-the-art' technological marvel or a 'giant leap for the mankind'. We thrive on paradox. Nature, of which we are a part, regulates itself through constant reproduction as well as death, decay and decomposition.

Ultimately, the way forward is inspired by the need to counterpoise the old with the new - to evolve and in case of humans to consciously evolve. We celebrate diversity, appreciate versatility, yet our incessant quest is for 'balance' of forces and of interests, for equity, equilibrium, stability, steadiness, symmetry, poise and the like.

The evil within checked by the angelic propensities – a constant stichomythia prompting acts that contribute to seeming randomness but are part of a pattern.

The present volume of the journal is thus focusing to selectively drive attention from all walks of life - literary pieces, film studies, journalistic writings, documentaries, web-series etc. - to search for the 'connecting threads' that balance life immeasurably and holistically. Directed in this gamut of dimensions, the current (4th) edition of December 2019 invites rigorously researched articles, translations, reviews, interviews, poems, plays, and monographs.