

Humanism And Songs Of Dr Bhupen Hazarika: An Appraisal

Dr. Sanchita Bora

Asstt. Professor,
Dept. of Philosophy,
Nowgong Girls' College, Nagaon, Assam

Abstract: Humanism asserts the centrality of human being and recognizes the dignity of man. This world-view seeks the uplift of human beings. The foremost intention of humanism is to attain human freedom, joyous life with progress and prosperity without any kind of discrimination among men.

Dr. Bhupen Hazarika (1926-2011), an artist of multi-faceted talents and an epoch-making singer is the creator of a good number of significant songs. Primary subjects of such songs are man and society. Bhupen Hazarika has used his songs as an instrument for social change. His songs articulate communal amity, universal justice and empathy. Through his songs, Bhupen Hazarika tries to ascertain the rights, freedom and justice to the common people. His humanistic thoughts and creations stand for the building of a more humane society.

Keywords: Humanism, Bhupen Hazarika, man, society, social harmony, freedom

I. INTRODUCTION

Most commonly, 'humanism' is the general love of humanity. It is a philosophical and ethical perspective that emphasizes the value and agency of human beings. Humanism recognizes the dignity of man and asserts the centrality of human being. It seeks to enrich man's aims, values and goals. Any form of humanism tries to bring intimate harmony of the life of an individual and society. The supremacy of man and the welfare of mankind is the central theme of humanism. It is a philosophy of compassion that is exclusively concerned with meeting human needs and answering human problems for both the individual and society.

The magnificent personality *Asam Ratna* (Jewel of Assam) Dr Bhupen Hazarika (1926-2011), is indeed a cosmopolitan in outlook. He has brought Assamese culture to the international podium. People across the world come to know about Assam and its culture through the songs created by the legendary singer Dr Bhupen Hazarika. He is a complete man- lyricist, poet, composer, singer, director, actor, literateur, journalist, editor, social worker and what not. Dr Bhupen Hazarika, the greatest cultural icon of Assam has realized that humans are social by nature and find meaning in relationships. He is a sincere humanist only one of its kind.

II. THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS PAPER ARE

- ✓ To give a brief introduction of Humanism
- ✓ To evaluate Dr Bhupen Hazarika's evergreen songs in the light of humanistic dimension

III. METHODOLOGY

The method used in this paper is descriptive-evaluative method. The study is mainly review based. It is supported by secondary source of data, i.e. books, journals, magazines, news papers and articles. This paper intends to relate Dr Bhupen Hazarika's songs with the basic notion and design of humanism.

'Humanism' is a generic term which implies a viewpoint centered on humankind. It is not a school of thought, not a philosophical doctrine; rather it is a dimension of thought. The term 'humanism' is linked with terms like *humus* (ground earth), *humanus* (human, earthy), and *homo* (earth being). But popular view is that the word 'humanism' is derived from the Latin word '*humanus*' which means 'human being'. Humanism means a system of thought concerned with human affairs in general. From the chronological perspective, roots of