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## **Rampant Corruption in Indian Education, Politics and Love in Chetan Bhagat's *Revolution 2020***

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### **Abstract:**

Modern Fictitious Literature focuses on the young generations with their newly motivational perspectives. They are comprehensively escorted by creativity and bravery. But they are manipulated tremendously by the incursion of corruption. Chetan Bhagat is an epoch making and greatly motivational writer of great India who has created a new skyline in his own literary kingdom with an assessment of 20th century modern contemporaneousness. Here, Gopal, Raghav and Arati are the best friends from the very childhood. Once, all of them tried to get admitted themselves AIEEE (All India Engineering/Architecture Entrance Examination). Only Raghav can reach his goal. Gopal becomes frustrated and Arati dreams to be an air hostage. Eventually, Gopal met an MLA and starts earning a lot of money being corrupted. Later, Raghav completed his degree from AIEEE but to be a journalist only and consequently, he started his own news making office naming it "Revolution 2020". Walking this way, Raghav becomes acquainted with several corruptions throughout the whole India and tries to manifest those through his writings but repeatedly is barred. Truly, he wanted to rise up against the tremendous corruptions in All Indian Private Education Systems and others. But, it is also noteworthy that both Gopal and Raghav love Arati more than anything in the world. And in this way, they have a great mental war to get her in any cost. Lastly, Corruption in Private Education Systems become the view points in this story as Gopal remains corrupted with his corrupted achievements and Raghav and Arati start their new lives after being married.

**Keywords: Corruption, Rampancy, Disintegration and Demarcation.**

### **Introduction**

In the modern world, corruption is a buzzword in different sectors. It is gradually affecting other sectors of life as well. Once, corruption was only in Government offices, police stations, private institutions, etc. But, nowadays, corruption has spread its roots in educational system also. It is a matter of reality that modern educational institutions are encircled with their primary stress on capitalization of money despite the sense of making an absolute human development. Now most of these institutions are no more the holy places of education but they have become the buying houses or shops of poor quality education. However the corruption in education is not only prevailing in India but is also observed in many other countries like Brazil (as in appointment, deployment and payment of teachers), Indonesia (as in ghost teachers), Philippines (production and distribution of textbooks), Mauritius (private tutoring), and Haiti (private use

of official cars from the education administration) etc (Hallak and Poisson, 2007). Corruption in the education sector may be defined as “the methodical use of communal office for private advantage, whose influence is momentous on the accessibility and excellence of educational commodities and services as a consequence on access, quality or equity in education” (Hallak and Poisson, 2005). The World Education Forum, Dakar (2000) also delineates that “Corruption is a major drain on the effective use of resources for education and should be drastically curbed” (Hallak and Poisson, 2001 shared by Kushum & Jain). Thus, corruption in education is related to the corruption in politics and offices. Even political leaders, high officials, use the education sectors as a camouflage to deceive people of their corruption. Moreover, corruption affects human emotional relations and feelings in individual level as well.

Chetan Bhagat is an epoch making and greatly motivational writer of great India who has created a new skyline in his own literary kingdom with an assessment of 20<sup>th</sup> century modern contemporaneousness. He has epitomized a great enterprisingness for the young generations that is not ephemeral in the compassion of the world rather prolonging. “Revolution 2020” is one of Chetan’s masterpieces where he has fashioned the triangulated dimensions of “Love”, “Corruption” and “Ambition” through the exploration of the major characters Gopal Raghav and Arati. In different contexts- his prime concern is to relate corruption in sectors like education, politics and even love and this notion has been developed here in this great fiction.

Gopal, Raghav and Arati are the best friends from the very childhood. Once, all of them tried to get admitted themselves AIEEE. Only Raghav can reach his goal. Gopal becomes frustrated and Arati dreams to be an air hostage. Eventually, Gopal met an MLA and starts earning a lot of money being corrupt. Later, Raghav completed his degree from AIEEE but to be a journalist only and consequently, he started his own news making office naming it “Revolution 2020”. Walking this way, Raghav becomes acquainted with several corruptions throughout the whole India and tries to manifest those through his writings but repeatedly is barred. Truly, he wanted to rise up against the tremendous corruptions in All Indian Private Education Systems and others. But, it is also noteworthy that both Gopal and Raghav love Arati more than anything in the world. And in this way, they have a great mental war to get her in any cost. Lastly, Corruption in Private Education Systems become the view points in this story as Gopal remains corrupted with his corrupted achievements and Raghav and Arati start their new lives after being married.

A rampage of black money is engulfing the whole society which is really rampant. Like Gopal, we often fall in corruption. This corruption leads us to an evil path which ultimately becomes the reason for a moral or social disintegration or degeneration.

### **Corruption in Education**

Mostly, corruption in education begins with the process of admission test in India. Colleges, universities and schools organize Entrance Test for admissions. All corrupt educational institutes have started making money through entrance exams. Many coaching institutes are making money in the name of preparation

of these entrance examinations. On the other hand, most Indian education institutes whether they are college or schools, get donation for admission in their institutes under the name of management seats quota. They are maltreating the noble word “donation” to get bribes for the admissions. These institutes also conduct their own entrance test and take admissions according to their own interest. Many students have ability to perform their best but this educational privatization is indirectly depriving the children from taking education. Many reputed institutions demand very high charges for admission fees and hostel fees, saying that this is management quota fee. Talented students or backward class student try to take loans which again create a problem for them. This problem makes their life worse and some who do not find a way out of this problem often ends their life. The suicide rate is increasing every year in students who do not get their desired institutions. (Corruption: it’s silent penetration into the Indian education system by Kusum Jain and Shelly)

By and large, the fiction, “Revolution 2020”, manifests several corruptions in education. Gopal, in this story, represents corruption though he is innocent in some cases. At the outset, was an innocent boy having a great dream of becoming a good engineer. His father would dream to see him like that until her last breath. But nothing happened as his dreams went through. After failing in AIEEE, he turns to be a loser just for some mistakes in multiple choice questions. Now, his father advised him to start coaching again to get a chance in AIEEE with the money left. Afterward, Gopal started for Varanasi to attend the coaching. Here, he had to pay a high amount of money for taking an admission in the coaching. If he gets a chance, he will have to pay more money to be admitted there. So, there is a logical connection of this story with the previous discussion here.

At educational sectors in India, corruption begins with the “Career Fair”, the advertisements for college admission. In chapter 13, we see that the organizers of the Career Fair were giving the leaflets having the pictures of the newly made buildings into those which were not built completely right at that time. They are incomplete and full of corruption. The regulatory bodies are busy in money making business in short cut ways. MLA Shukla is one them in Revolution 2020.

All the educational institutes are governed by regulatory bodies like UGC, AICTE, MCI etc. These governing bodies form rules and regulations with some guidelines regulate the implementations of educational institutes. Presently many education institutions do not complete eligibility standards of association to these regulatory bodies since they do not have the minimum teaching staff, laboratory or tools as prearranged by the authoritarians, even they do not fulfill minimum demands of basic facilities for fundamentals like electricity, water, ventilation, sewerage, toilets etc. however many deceptive private institutes have been united without following policies, systems and strategies of the statutory bodies by means of hush money, partiality or nepotism. In a recent issue of corruption in technical educational institutes, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has called off recognition of five engineering colleges allied to Rajasthan Technical University (RTU) on the basis of their involvements in unprofessional conducts. The AICTE has withdrawn the affiliations granted after CBI organized cases

against these associations in different segments from cheating to bribery. Most of the students studying here are from rural background and the surrounding areas (TOI, 2012 shared by Kusum Jain and Shelly).

Relevantly, in this story, we see that Gopal comes of a rural family. He is searching a good college in the carrier fair coming in Varanasi. Suddenly, he got hurt and starts escaping from there- "I had given my blood and sweat to studies." He was seriously injured by the clash of the greedy people. So, here we get the black pictures of corruption in the ways of private educational sectors. In fact, they were trying to capture capturer the students to get admitted giving many instant offers but their institutions were not prepared completely right that moment. This way, their Carrier Fair goes on very often. The regulatory bodies pay poor attentions on those.

Education System in India at present represents an immeasurable contradiction. There are many organizations like IITs, IIMs, AIIMS, BITS, CSIR, Space Research and Atomic Energy Commission that rank among the best institutes in the world. Besides, most of the institutes in the country do not even have the minimum basic infrastructure (Singh and Purohit, 2011 by Kusum Jain and Shelly)

Moreover, there are lots of Certificate Businesses in every corrupted educational institution, more than ever, in private education sectors. In universities or colleges, the directors or the trustees make a business to make huge money in a very easy way selling printed papers as certificates. The poor and professional seniors or juniors who need just a certificate rush to those short of private universities or colleges to have a printed certificate. Even, they are lead by disguised teachers who have not a higher degree according to his or her post. Initially, the corrupted people start these businesses giving a huge amount of money as bribes in every sector. These people do not know what education is but run their institutions in evil ways that leads the nation to barrenness. In other countries like Bangladesh, we find this picture also.

In a report of TIB on private education sectors, conspiracies were found to some great extents. In the selections of the VC, Pro-VC and Treasurer, the corresponding authorities have to pay Tk 50,000 or more than Tk 2 lack to get the authorizations of those posts. Besides, false certificates are being provided exchanging Tk 50,000 to Tk 2 lack or more to some greedy students for each of the certificates.

Indeed, an educational institution should be run with good and morally educated persons who have no intension of making a corruption. In this story, Gopal figures out that these bad issues are running to a great extent all over in India. Furiously, he articulated, "It scares me to think of studying at these places. Liquor barons running colleges?" Consequently, Sunil, his fellow, said, "Yea, politicians, builders, bedi-makers. Anybody with experience in shady business does really well in education." "Revolution 2020' could be an effort to emphasize the inborn corruption entrenched in India's education system and brought out the malfunction of non-profit organizations as well as commercialization in education.

In the way of corruption, we observe many persons are running forward. Intentionally or unintentionally, they are just being engaged in it. Similarly, Gopal starts walking in the corrupted way being with MLA. Psychologically treating like "You have already a big man because you have me behind you", the MLA

brings him into the line of corruption. In a moment, the MLA gave ten thousand rupees, the black money, to Gopal to start the college workings and made him active in the world of corruption. Gopal handled the situation with force. He had money that he transferred it in to power. He ran the college well and also kept up good terms with upper classes. He proved himself as a best player of corrupted games. (Raval Priyanka R.)

Chetan has started his narration of primary corruptions to correct the society and to establish a corruption free institution in the heart of the society. He has showed us the most corrupted sides, in education sides specially, of the present Indian societies that are uprising highly. MLA Shukla is the representative of those dark enemies in this section of narration. Like him, the big guns always deceive the society in the name of social welfare. They try to establish themselves as good persons making a sense that they are trying heart and soul for the betterment of the people as well as nation. So, paradoxically it is worth mentioning, "And our city; Shukla-Ji said. 'Let me tell people I did this for them when the time comes.'" So, the invasion of corruption begins in the full swing. It is the revolution of corruption. Now, Gopal dreams to make money a lot, "Money, I want to make a lots of money."

Moreover, bribery is a very common phenomenon in every moot point of corruption. Again, we get this view of using hush money in implementing any corruption. There in after, we get more pictures of corruption of using bribes. Chetan has criticized the all Indian Education System especially on the follies and vices of (AICTE), All India Council for Technical Education. Like Jhule Yadav, they gave a lot of money as bribe for the positive impression of the college to all. Gopal spent 5 lakh rupees to the inspection committee at Taj Ganga hotel room, "Oh, I said. "You mean the envelopes. Of course, I have them ready." ---- "Good. Give it to them after dessert. How Much?" "Two for Yadav, and twenty five each for the rest?" Thus, the educationalists and others are devouring huge hush money like the black sheep, MLA Shukla. Once, Shukla said to Gopal, "It's okay, If we had a strait forward and clean system, these professors would open their own colleges". "The system is twisted, they don't want to touch it. That is where we come in." Later MLA insists on giving more money to the inspector to take their approval of establishing the college - "Pay them some more." "We will get the approval in week." So, judging these lines above, it can easily be measured what the extent of corruption is presented here with the high government officials. But, very often, these dishonest officials turn down their faults as like the shameless people. Typically, this process is running on in every country of the world.

In fact, many capitalists are trying to establish their private institutions expending a huge amount of black money to privatize them. Privatization of education has emerged in several forms in the recent decade in India. Government allowed opening the self-financing private institutions with credibility, which may be expressed as profitable private educational institutions. Many private institutions have started course on many disciplines having no fundamentality and qualified teaching faculties (Singh and Purohit, 2011 shared by Kusum & Jain). Similarly almost all private universities show reports to UGC establishing the view that that they are paying all from their structural salary but most of the cases, they never do that. (Singh and Purohit, 2011a). Recently in the deemed university status swindle, the status was granted with a massive violation of the University Grant Commission rules with nepotism type of corruption and MRD

ministry has decided to derecognize 44 deemed universities (Gupta and Gupta, 2012 by Shelly and Kusum Jain, 2012). In another case, CBI has found that 42 institutes were granted illegal approval by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). In this fraud, the CBI detected that the experts appointed by the AICTE thrice and recommended approval for three different colleges for the same building inspected one building (common man, 2010). Recently the anti-corruption bureau (ACB) inspected 48 private nursing colleges in Rajasthan and find that at least half-a-dozen of them were operating from buildings that house other colleges of different streams including nursing, B. Ed and even schools. Besides, it was found that in records, the address of some colleges at a different location. (TOI, 2012 by Kusum Jain and Shelly).

The MBBS seats sold between 12 lakh to 40 lakh rupees by two private colleges in Chennai. The scam gets bigger as the post graduate in medical field that are necessary for a successful career. The price for a postgraduate seat in radiology in most leading private colleges across the country is 2 crore rupees while in cardiology, gynecology and orthopedics are priced around rupees 1.5 crore (Pushpa Narayan, 2009). The Medical Council of India constitutes for the maintenance of uniform standards of medical education and recommend for recognition/de-recognition of medical institutions in India. CBI has arrested President of Medical Council of India for allegedly accepting hush money of Rs. two crore to allowance acknowledgment to a medical college in Punjab. After that, the CBI found that the President of the MCI and his family possessed disproportionate assets worth Rs 24 crore (The Hindu, 2010) by Kusum Jain and Shelly.

The indiscipline are prevailed also in the others sections of teaching. “An expert says that he has urged the UGC to organize national examinations like the JEE for admitting to MBBS and PG courses. It is a moral disintegration to commercializing education. Besides, the death of a merit has an effect on the quality of medical education. When money is paid, colleges ensure that the departure is sure. The students are passed, qualified or not are not the facts (TOI-2009).

The rampant growth of private education particularly in medical engineering, dental, pharmacy and nursing and management disciplines created a huge unwaged youth and the professional degrees are made into a commodity and are being sold (Singh and Purohit, 2011 by Kushum Jain & Shelly). Due to the mechanical and pragmatic process the private institutes are unable to produce a complete ‘human capital’ with ethical standards. On the contrary every year they are producing thousands of money minded machines and India has the world’s largest number of inexpert, unqualified and unpaid trainer (Garg and Kaur, 2012 by Kusum Jain and Shelly).

So, let us come to Revolution 2020 again. We see that MLA suddenly phoned Gopal very furiously because the article of Raghb has been published in “Dainik” bearing the lines regarding him (MLA), “New engineering college opens in the city-with corruption money.” Because of this publication, the CM (Chief Minister) has cancelled his visiting of that college for that day. But, this writing is presented without any strong substantiation this time. Next time, Raghav imprinted another article in Dainik that upholds three legal and certain evidences of MLA’s corruption. Again, Chetan has criticized on the

corrupted manners of VNN because they came to demolish the newly created college building based on the certain proof focused by Raghab. Now this time, with the permission of MLA, Gopal just made them stop bulldozing. So, again, the corrupted money goes to the corrupt one. The destroyer, then, saw off Gopal and went out gulping 2 lakhs money. This time Raghb was sacked from his job at Dainik going against the ruling party's member.

Here, Chetan has criticized the policy of the ruling party. It is a very common picture all over the world because, very often, a person like Raghb is dismissed from his job unscrupulously without any misdemeanor. This is a big corruption indeed. In addition, Chetan tries to point out that there are no job securities in private jobs. One may have good qualifications than the others in private or corporate sections. But very often, they do not understand this completely as Raghab is here. These people could do better also. A nation should show more respect for these people. However, after the dismissal of Raghab from his passionate job, the people of MLA did not remain silent. They smashed and demolished everything of Raghab's tiny office. They broke his only computer with the hammers. They just destroyed everything but not his spirit.

Besides, emotionally blackmailing is a silent penetration in this capitalist world. Chetan Bhagat did not forget it to show us. In chapter 41, we see that, the CM betrays the MLA and sends him to the jail compelling him to beg pardon in front of the people because the election is near. Here the CM is also corrupted because he is not out of this circle because he knew everything but would not take any decision against him. But he is out of network. Here rises the political corruption. Everybody makes corruption but the leaders just save themselves only for the betterment of the party. Indeed, they take it as their credits and the general people cannot understand these issues. Even the may kill anybody for the protection of the party.

### **Corruption in Politics**

In politics, the tsunami of corruption is swallowing up day after day. It is going to be almost uncontrolled with the tide of time. In Revolution 2020, we can have tremendous views of corruption in politics also. Chetan has tactfully underestimated some vital issues like this. We see that Gopal becomes resentful because of losing the fever of Arati as a true lover but a very good friend. Every time, Arati makes confusing attitude that may make him humiliated, rampant, devastated and corrupted as well. Eventually, he joined with the crook MLA Shukla, a local political leader in Varanasi. MLA Shukla seized a huge amount of money in "Ganga Action Plan" (GAP) leaving no evidence directly and is trying to use those money in some good ways. In Indian perspectives, GAP has not been implemented for ages and there has not any effective result of it. Each ruling power takes project for it after coming in the power but cannot be able to complete it rather they remain in numerous corruptions.

India's most ambitious river cleaning project, the Ganga Action Plan (GAP), is a huge failure. The project is 13 years behind agenda. In an astonishing affirmation to CNN-IBN's Special Investigation Squad, the

legal counsel to the Central Pollution Control Board named Vijay Panjwani, has broken out that the Ganga River remains dangerously polluted even after spending Rs 20,000 crore to clean that up. (Bahar Dutt, CNN-IBN).

The Comptroller and Auditor General Of India did identify many reasons for this dismal failure. Among these were uncontrolled planning, simple implementation, and widespread fraudulence, nonexistence of well co-ordination between Central and State Associations as well as between the States themselves. (Ganga clean-up a Herculean task, By Maitreyee Mukherjee and Asit Biswas).

In fact, Chetan has given a message to the society to be aware of this man like MLA. There are lots of big guns in this society who are just sucking the pure bloods of the society and breaking the backbones of the nation. They are selfish and destructive. Here, we see that MLA starts establishing a new college named "GangaTech" in a no fly zone. It is completely against the contemporary law to use an agricultural land for establishing any educational institution. But, it is a game of chess to the MLA for the reason that he has the CM (Chief Minister) in his hand. Nothing will be a problem before him.

In politics, sometimes, emotion emerges as corruption. There are some cunning persons who always try to persuade somebody to have wealth and power through love. This is also a big corruption. If anybody loves someone, it is very easy for him to convert his or her beloved. But that is greatly heinous to love anybody to gain properties. But we see that the hateful MLA is suggesting Gopal that her father DM Pradhan has a great reputation in the locality. According to him, he (Gopal) will be the future MLA of Varanasi if he marries Arati because DM Pradhan, father of Arati, has no intension to attend in election with his two injured legs. On the other hand, Arati has also no eagerness for election. Regarding this, The MLA says to Gopal, "Show her mother your car and money. Don't take dowry. Even if the daughter does not agree, the mother will." Here rises the emotional corruption. Gopal felt in quandary whether Arati will marry her or not. He recalled the words of Arati, "May be my husband can if he wants." His mind got corrupted for in a jiffy although there should not have any precondition in true love. It's all but mental or emotional corruption.

### **Corruption in Love**

I think, corruption happens not regularly in human society but hardly in the in the human mind also. In different part of Chetans story, we have this view now and then. We can see that Raghab is hitting a bad time and not giving so much time to his love Arati being in great frustration. This time Gopal comes close to her and wins her as a life partner giving a kiss suddenly on her lips in an evening. Gopal made amorousness and sexed with her later. He has her body and mind. But, in his birth day, Gopal betrayed her. Arati came to his home with a very special birth day cake for him made by her. Entering into the room, she saw that she was enjoying sex with the three call girls. Seeing this horrible side of her love, she could not tolerate him and ran off from him. In fact, it was his plan to rebuke her that way.

My question is why Gopal betrayed her so cruelly. He waited for her for long long time to get her as a beloved of his life. He had been to suffer a lot more for this. So, why is he like this? Is it a blessing scarifies for them to be happy? May be so but it is a big cheating and silent but dangerous crime in love. She kills her ever tender heart without any fault and broken her love into pieces. He has contaminated their relationship and played with her mind as if she were an apparatus for any system. He has burnt all the tender memories of her true love. It is a burning corruption in love. So, Chetan's line can be the tonic here- "Don't be serious, be sincere."

As a story, 'Revolution 2020' offers nothing unusual or novel in rivalry between two friends vying for the love of a girl. The burning activity of Raghav who dreams to bring about an important change in the contemporary society through journalism, in spite of having graduated as an engineer, is a distraction from the despondency of Gopal's tale, which is much stronger and rooted in real life. (Rituparna Chatterjee).

### Conclusions

Finally, we may draw conclusion saying that a huge amount of corruption is engulfing our society. It needs a demarcation. If this present world is sunk into the vast ocean of corruption, nothing will remain good. This world will have to face a catastrophe in the long run. Corruption in education, politics and love can be controlled primarily by raising awareness in oneself and then in public. In educational institutes, code of conduct should be reviewed for the corrupt giants and government should create hard laws to eradicate the bad practices. Educationalists, scientists, politicians, lawyers, philosophers, engineers, economists and other honest intellectuals should think morally for the betterment of education and politics considering the morality of effective love and emotion for each and everybody as all these are the keys to build a blissful nation. Everybody will have to be constructive in every implementation. Invalid use of emotion and love, money laundering, and evil practices of principles should not be the healing power of getting any success. We should not be disintegrated at all. We should remember that Money Can Do All Things But Not Everything. We may buy a bed with a crore of money but not a sound sleep. So, bad practices lead a nation to a dark side that is very near to the destruction. Only good practices and moral initiatives can make a true success. Honestly, we should be in the constructive ways and think beautifully. That is why; Chetan Bhagat has tried to finish it with his enlightened and positive messages in "Revolution 2020" to motivate the Young Generations to be aware of these facts above. At last, we may fix it thinking like Wordsworth- "Come forth into the light of things, let nature be your teacher."

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“The Tables Turned” By William Wordsworth.