

OF VALUE (VALUELESS, IF NO EXCHANGE CAPACITY)

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Abstract

In this paper I consider the question: What is Value? Value means the worth of something in terms of money or other goods for which it can be exchanged: a thing is valuable only when it has exchange capacity. From the point of view of economics a thing is valuable if and only if it can earn or has returning capacity. Return on Investment (ROI) is based on this principle: the more earning the more value, the less earning the less value, no earning, no value. Thus no exchange capacity signifies no value at all. This is a narrow account of value. A mother's affection is a most valuable exchange: recalling this affection with nostalgia renders a man sad by the recollection of the past golden days of childhood. The first smile of a lover is valuable to an emotional heart, so valued that a thousand lovers in the future can hardly compensate for the loss of the warm feeling thus exchanged, that beckoned once to conquer the head and heart of the emotional man rendering him homeless ever after. The value is in the exchange – of money, of goods, of affection – changing our lives.

Keywords: Value, Exchange Capacity, Gradation, Valueless

Introduction

Creative writing is based more on manifestation rather than on expression. It does not inform rather reveals. So it bears no reference. The present article is an outcome of creative writing meant for lay readers. As such free style is the methodology adopted so that pleasure of reading can be enjoyed by the common mass. As you know well that Francis Bacon (1561-1626), the immortal essayist, wrote many essays namely Of Love, Of Friendship, Of Ambition, Of Studies, etc. The myriad-minded genius rightly pointed out that all the words of the dictionary can be the themes of essays one can write. But little has been done, in this regard since his death, in order

to finish his unfinished monumental works. In fact Bacon's way of presentation i.e., his unique individual style kindled the imagination already in me and encouraged me as well to write essays, in the light of creative writing, thus to get relief through Catharsis.

Value means the worth of something in terms of money or other goods for which it can be exchanged. Now the question arises, how one can judge that a thing is valuable. In fact a thing is valuable only when it has exchange capacity. Thus, from economics point of view a thing is valuable if and only if it can earn or has returning capacity. Return on investment (ROI) is based on this principle. The more earning the more value, the less earning the less value, no earning means no value. Thus no exchange capacity signifies no value at all.

Every goods has its gradation. It is equally true in case of human being also. A beautiful face conquers everybody's heart. On the contrary an ugly face faces hurdles everywhere. In any production unit there are skilled, semi- skilled and unskilled laborers. And their wages are determined accordingly. The valuation of anything is judged considering all its attributes. It is a summation decision.

They say, value of a thing lies in uses not in decoration. But this concept is not valued always. Emotion ignores this advice, for emotion hankers after beauty ignoring duty. To worship beauty is the nature of youth. Youth seldom cares reality. But in course of time the said promising beauty simply leaves, when the lover fails to fulfill the ever increasing demands of his beautiful fiancée and only then the lover gets back his lost sense. Further, decoration also has its use. Food is primary demand and decoration is secondary option to a hungry stomach. Decoration ignites aesthetic sense that offers classical success. It nurtures emotion. An artist thinks for aesthetic value. An honest person pleads for ethical values.

We preserve a thing thinking its future use. But the paradox is that everything will again be useful in future. Then everything should be preserved. If so, then the house will be a place of garbage. So, we keep a thing of immediate use or which may be useful in near future. If a thing is kept it must be in use in future. But future is unknown. So, it is very difficult to identify or decide which thing we should keep or throw away in the dustbin. A theologian opines that a thing, which is neglected and is thrown away into the dustbin, takes revenge in future. This doctrine seems to be true since sometimes we need that one very urgently which we simply threw away. Similarly, we need a person again whom we kicked once instead of kiss.

However, to keep or not to keep that is a question. Only a judicious brain can take the right decision. In fact one's garbage is valuable to other. Use and throw is the modern strategy. Someone throws away a paper after

use. Someone collects it and sells to the recycle agency just to support his livelihood. Similarly to a fool book is liability but to a scholar it is an asset. So fool is the seller, wise is the purchaser of books.

An experienced personnel gets higher salary. But in case of marriage experience is not desired. Rather experience is considered as demerit. In the patriarchal society chastity of a woman is the yardstick of her purity. In fact a divorcee or deserted woman is valued less for losing her chastity. As such, in the market they experience less demand since they have to compete with the fresher i.e., virgin. In fact these unfortunate women get unequal treatment both in patriarchal and matriarchal society as well. Everybody hankers after garden fresh moistened with dewdrops. As such, feminists naturally protest and agitate against this inhuman event.

In a beauty contest a glamorous heroine wins due to face value. But this face value becomes valueless in an educational institution where an ugly mathematician is welcomed for having talent. The converse is also true.

The, exchange capacity i.e., the general definition of value seems to encompass all the concepts related to valuation. But a thing which is valuable to someone may not be valuable to another. Also a thing which is valuable today may not be valuable tomorrow and vice versa. In seems valuation is a matter of instant but not constant.

A person who has less demand in the society does suffer from inferiority complex. Conversely, a person who experiences, thereby enjoys much demand suffers from superiority complex. Between these two characters the latter one suffers from tension due to fluctuation of demand. But the unhappy and inferior person is free from such tension, since he has nothing to lose except sad luck. Thus it may be easy to create demand but difficult to hold it for long due to rivalry and various known and unknown factors. This is true in case of players whose form does not remain constant. And this is bitterly true in film industry where the heroes and especially the heroines always suffer from nightmare since they know the path of acquiring glamour is awfully complicated.

Money is most valuable. They say money is sweeter than honey. In fact, the most benefit that money offers is its easy handling, transportability and liquidity. A man may fail to keep promise. But money always pays and thus keeps its promise to its bearer. So it is called promissory note. The most dangerous and important fact against money is that it keeps promises to its bearer only, not to third party. A thief takes this advantage of being bearer. So the warning of 'beware of pick-pocket' is seen. Thus the merit of money is that it keeps its promise. Simultaneously, the demerit of money is that it keeps its promise. Money gets full exchange capacity but kind may not always be kind enough to return back its principle value. As such, boss

always is so kind that he accepts only cash. He is afraid of taking any kind of risk.

Goods suffer from decay. Man loses complexion or power and becomes valueless due to old-age. But money never loses its value. To survive, money is must since it serves basic needs. But money has its limitation. Because money can hardly solve all the problems of life as are faced with. Also through money everything cannot be purchased. Money can purchase man but not mind. The paradox is that mind needs money. This need stands for basic need, the classical demand. When this demand surpluses the basic need it becomes commercial.

All cannot exchange even resource is at hand. One has to know the mechanism of exchange. A child does not know how to exchange a promissory note but an adult knows it. Similarly a child knows not the thrill of love as is experienced by a lover. A man has to attain certain age and maturity thus to enjoy the romance of love.

An inanimate object cannot exchange itself of its own. A car cannot move alone. It needs a driver. A swimmer or a diver has value. He can save a drowning man or matter. He has to learn the art of swimming. A man has to know how to swim. Many animals get it by birth. A duckling gets it by birth. A tiger crosses a river for hunting.

A man forgets its lesson if not practiced regularly. But a man does not forget the art of swimming even not practiced further. Thus an old man who learnt the art of swimming or riding a bicycle at childhood can swim or ride a bicycle, at old age, even without any single practice till learning.

A handsome person can attract easily than an ugly one. Similarly, an aged woman experiences less demand thereby value than a younger one in the male-dominated market of love and marriage. In the patriarchal society women are merely considered as commodity only nothing else more.

A cricket player when scores century is valued most. In the very next day if he scores zero then that very yesterday's hero becomes valueless and ridiculed as present day's zero. Again if he scores double century, in the second day, then his market value obviously becomes double. Man seldom knows his future value.

Share market depends on uncertain future. Share certificate is exchanged with the face value of present day. Value of anything either man or material depends on supply and demand theory of economics. Value of labor is determined by the wage policy of any nation and a laborer earns accordingly. But value of president or prime minister of any country cannot be determined by that wage policy. These are honorary post and they earn honorarium. In some private firms employees enjoy perks which sometimes are more than salary itself. It is done either to insist for better work or to avoid tax or both simultaneously.

Uncertainty compels a man to save for future. The more the merrier. Thus the more saving the more security, the less saving the less security, no saving no security. Poor men have no savings. So they have no value. Savings is an art. Only the rich knows it. The poor is only interested in present. They bother only for day to day life. Also they have to support their livelihood through poor earning. They have no future. They live a meaningless hand-to-mouth existence. They live with present, die with present. To them, present implies face value or face value implies present. Common people hope and desire to get anything at once. They desire to have anything instant just like instant coffee. To them present is more valuable than future. A good student reads attentively thereby exchanges valuable moments of student life to build up his career. A bad student, on the contrary, wastes valuable time of childhood. This misuse of moments of student life can hardly and seldom be compensated by thousand hours of future.

Value of God varies. God experiences various valuations depending upon time and place. It is culture free. It depends upon the emotion of the concerned devotee. Since mood and motif of human being are gloriously uncertain god also experiences various devotion. It depends upon the demand of the concerned person. It fluctuates always since human mind vacillates always. God enjoys much demand when a man faces danger. The degree of prayer depends upon the gravity of the danger. The more problem the more prayer, less problem less prayer, no problem no prayer. But a real devotee never prays god's favour whatever severe the situation may be. Intrinsic value deals with genuineness of anything or which is inherent in nature. Commodity value implies the utility of anything. Essential commodities are valued most to run the engine of life. As such every nation takes care so that its citizens get those items at ease.

Aesthetic value quenches the thirst of romantic hearts. Also it serves and satisfies the taste of a sensitive soul. A solvent character honours ethical value much. A person possessing ethical value is honoured and welcomed everywhere. Such a character is alias and akin to pious heart. Value and canon offers didactic lessons. Medieval literature is the store house of these didactic lessons and morality as well. Every doctrine has its limitation. One idea is replaced by another one that can explain the unexplained matter clearly. Research means to agree or disagree with the existing standards. If agreed then further advancement of the idea is rendered. If not then the cause of disagreement is to be explained.

Formal value is attained by the customary norms. Emphasis and accent within texts are influenced by the customary norms. Also reception of guest falls within this category.

Value and editorial decision give birth to authoritative text that is authentic and scholarly in nature. An editor possess this power due to his wisdom. In case of publication the reviewers may have choice but voice of editor is final. A good editor seldom compromises with quality of publication. The value, or non-value, of certain methods and approaches to the study of literature is very important.

An attempt to resist the allocation or expression of value is illegal. Hidden or concealed values cannot be realized by all. The power of assumed values is very crucial to determine the real value of the concerned thing.

Conclusion:

Mother's affection is most valuable. Moral values are the greatest of all. Nostalgia renders man mad by its past golden days especially of childhood. First day smile of lover is valuable to an emotional heart. First lover is so valued that thousand lovers of future can hardly compensate the warm feeling thus offered and thereby beckoned once to conquer the head and heart of the emotional heart rendering him homeless bohemian. Mother, moral values, nostalgia, lover, etc. are valued much in the field of literature thus to create immortal creation.