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GlocalEnglish: A bigger challenge to the world

Dr. Ali Hasan

Lecturer of English
Government College, Malpura(Tonk)

There is no doubt in it that English has achieved the status of glocal language. It is no more a foreign language in Indian context. English is widely accepted as a second language. But there is less to cherish than to ponder on this fact. The purity of the language has deteriorate according to the stages of its ascending scale. To some extent, English users are increasing day by day, but the perfection of expression is missing everywhere. It is reduced to mere clichés, repetition of certain phrases idioms and a set pattern of language used by corporate world etc.

The majority of the masses are indifferent or unaware to the rhythm and music of the language. They are not exposed to the aesthetic pleasure which English language evokes. In our case, people justtry to find equivalents to their mother tongue. They are unaware to this fact that a language cannot be totally transliterated. Every language has its unique pattern. English teachers are confronted with these problems and a precious time is wasted to wean away these misconceptions. It is very hard to unleash knowledge which they have wrongly learned. IndraniBagchi has rightly pointed out in <u>Sunday Times of India</u> of Sept. 11, 2011 that glocal Qaida has posed a far greater threat to the world than the original Al-Qaida. Similarly in our context if learning of English is not checked or monitored properly by experts, it should pose greater challenge. There is an old proverb that old habits die very late or human being cannot change their habits overnight. Therefore it is a big task for experts to inculcate the feeling of appeal among the learners so that they can enjoy language from the inner core of the heart rather than feel satisfied in communicating few routine expressions.

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The Popularity of English language has crossed all borders and limitation. One can not surprise to hear a crisp or contorted expression in any remote area of the world. There are many factors which motivate persons to use this language. In this reference Braj B Kachru has rightly pointed out, "English is open learned because of its heritage, because of the status it may confer on the reader or speaker, because of the doors which it opens in technology, science, trade and diplomacy" (P.3). Similarly, English is working as a link source of communication across cultures and countries. It's a required necessity for professional acumen in the private sector. It's the language used by the elitist class to show one's superiority over others. In many countries, it's a part of curriculum necessarily to be passed in order to get degree. It's the vigorous pursuit of the individuals, educationist and government's policy to learn and use it efficiently. But all these efforts are not enough to imbibe the true spirit of the language. In this sense, language is measured according to the needs and its achievement is considered prime source of satisfaction. Language is not like a pond in which one can dip or feel fresh. It's a big ocean which has no fathom. It's a great task for experts to remind learners that so far they are exposed to the pond, the real ocean lies far away.

The basic problem is this that learners are unable to connect it with thinking faculty. They use it consciously. There is no free flow of thinking just like the mother tongue. How can it be? Learners have not full command over language. But one should keep in mind that there are few native speakers who know or are aware of the intricacies of their mother tongue. They are thousand miles away from the classics of their own language as they are from the English language. Therefore, one should not worry about the exposure. In both the cases, it is limited to the surface level. In this regard Mathew Arnold theory of touchstone would be of great help. It should open new horizon to learners. Reading good literature should be promoted. The abridged text, short stories should be used to evoke their interest. But unfortunately in our age bookshops are diminishing. It's replaced by mobile stores. There is hardly any book store in big Malls which claim to fulfill all the individual needs. People raise fingers Why waste money upon books. It is available free of cost on internet. But how many of them read a complete

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novel by using this device. The language of the SMS would stir any lean grammarian in his grave. Therefore it's a big task for experts to connect people or evoke their interest in books. It is time now that we should come over from the mess of grammatical rules.

In our context, an intermediate pass student of any faculty, English is no more beyond the curriculum. He turns towards it at the fag end of his career for securing a job. There is a huge gap between these two ends. During this period, he hardly gets time or interested to look at any language whatsoever. There are many instances where students performed remarkably well in theory, but they were utter failure in interview and group discussion in which personality is tested through communication, gesture and body language. Therefore it should be our endeavour to remind learner that good command over language is quite essential to success.

It is also extremely important that teachers should have enough knowledge of their students native language varieties in order to distinguish between genuine mistakes. It is a great task to uplift the learner from the quagmire of localised variety of language to the widely accepted one. Here the tough challenge lies in the spoken form. It is a herculean task to harmonize the different incoherent voices into the sweetness of the English language.

Glocal English provides a platform and legitimacy to the local variety of English in any society. Looking at the spreading role of English language across culture, kachru had predicted in 1983 in his book, The Other Tongue, "that by the year 2000 its non-native speakers will outnumber its native speaker" (P.3). Similarly, John Adams, the second President of United States of America foresaw destiny of English when he said, "English will be the most respectable language in the world and the most universally read and spoken in the next century." (Methews,P.42). But the point is this that all these visionaries would never had in mind the varieties of English language which is in use nowadays. There is nothing good in reflecting chauvinism about the particular variety of language. For making teaching intelligible and interesting one should use local variety of native speaker. But one should not indulge in it

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deeper. The teacher should use it as a launching pad, ready to shift towards the standard version. In this sense, glocal English is a big challenge to the language experts. The neglect of this aspect would have severe impact and consequences, moreover a grave injustice to the learner.

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