



CHETAN BHAGAT'S REVOLUTION 2020: RECONCEPTUALIZING SPATIOTEMPORAL UNITY OF INDIA

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ABSTRACT:

The present paper probes into Chetan Bhagat's portrayal of sociocultural, political, and pervasive corruption in Indian society. It discusses about the spatiotemporality of the school system, further emphasizing how privatization of education causes moral and ethical norms to deteriorate within the system and ultimately within society, adding to its absurdities. The paper also mentions a few intolerable conditions by addressing their underlying causes and the corruptive attitude in some sectors through the use of symbolic characters and intervention in the form of rude politics, power abuse, dominance, inhumanity, destruction of social norms, unequal economic standing in the society, and, most importantly, utter ignorance of human relationships. The results are vividly shown, with feelings of sensitivity and embarrassment entwined with aspirations, regrets, and life philosophy.

KEY WORDS: public sphere, globalization, nationalization, Images

INTRODUCTION:

The novel, *Revolution 2020* centers on the hopes and passions of young people who are easily drawn into the corruption web and are willing to sacrifice for and influence political change. The story is told by Chetan Bhagat against the backdrop of local problems in Varanasi, a sacred city. Chetan Bhagat draws inspiration for his *Revolution 2020* from his articles and columns. He claims that although appearing to be a love story, the book elevates the patterns of corruption in many facets of society and is not a political work. Chetan Bhagat's fifth book, *Revolution 2020*, was released by Rupa Publications in New Delhi in 2011. The main thematic issues of the current book are the love triangle, unchecked corruption, and youthful ambition. The title alone conveys the youth's revolutionary zeal and desire to change society from certain immoral to moral; corrupt to reliable.

In his book *Revolution 2020*, Bhagat attempts, as is customary for him, to provide the youth's voice a platform against the inequitable practices of society. The book exposes the unvarnished truth about our country. Bhagat attempts to depict the real-world circumstances in India in *Revolution 2020* by focusing on issues such as love and hate relationships, a flawed educational system, privatization, corruption, ambition, and life philosophy. *Revolution 2020* has three main plot points: the prologue, the flashback story, and the epilogue. The main tale's subplot splits into three distinct sections: "Seven Years Later", "Kota", "Varanasi", and "Varanasi Three More Years Later", which each recount the story and events in the protagonist's life in turn. The town of Varanasi, with its temples and Ghats, the picture of the love triangle, local problems, and politics, all fit the novel's thematic concerns.

Bhagat claims that while around the nation giving talks, he learned about the state of the school system and made the decision to write a book exposing the corruption there. However, he added an

enthraling love tale on top of the problem in an attempt to make it understandable to the majority of people. He makes advantage of a love triangle for it. Every character in the narrative has a relationship with a problem. The book's subtitle, "Love. Corruption. Ambition," informs us that, in addition to love, the book also discusses ambition and corruption. This makes it quite evident that a love triangle requires conflict. Two boys and a female, both in their early twenties, are present. As a result, we have the strongest love and insecure instincts, which can lead to conflict. Each character also has personal goals that contradict with those of the other.

According to the book's back cover, there once lived two bright guys in a little Indian village. One of them wanted to utilize his brilliance to acquire money, while the other wanted to use it to launch a revolution. However, they both had to deal with difficulties since they were in love with the same lady. Thus, love, corruption, desire for wealth, and the desire to create a just society through revolution are all themes in *Revolution 2020*. The book discusses poverty, parental expectations, political corruption, and the decline of human values all at the same time. It also touches on the issue of people's desire to be viewed as nice people. The lives of the protagonists are tragic because all of the topics are related to one another and clash with one another.

RECONCEPTUALIZING SPATIOTEMPORAL UNITY

The novel opens with Gopal, the protagonist and narrator of the story—a youthful 26-year-old director of the Ganga Tech College in Varanasi—telling the writer, the guest speaker, the entirety of his life's tale. The writer has an appointment with the Director following his or her first speech for the MBA coaching program. The writer sees that this is a sensitive subject and questions him about his girlfriend during their conversation. Because Gopal has had too much alcohol, he drops out shortly after the writer asks him this. The author must check him into a hospital and stay by his side until he awakens. The writer informs Gopal that it is almost time for morning "aarti," or prayer, at three in the morning because he feels the desire to depart.

Furthermore, it may be observed that Gopal informs the storyteller that his girlfriend's name is Aarti after being reminded of her by the term "aarti." When the author inquires about his level of love for her, he responds that it is greater than the sadhus' faith to God and that she not only adored him yet additionally acquired him. Gopal told the writer his tale at his request. In class five, it starts with Gopal and his friend Raghav robbing Aarti of her chocolate cake tiffin. The instructor finds Gopal and punishes him, but that episode ends up uniting Gopal and Aarti. Gopal presents Aarti a box of laddoos the following day. Asking Gopal to offer her tiffin, Aarti questions him about why he takes other people's tiffins.

In addition, Gopal informs her that his father did not want to go to the hassle of cooking tiffin because his mother passed away when he was just four years old. At this juncture, it may be premised that the reader also understands their goals. Gopal wants to be wealthy, while Aarti wants to be an air hostess. Gopal is impoverished, which is another reason we know why he aspires to wealth. Gopal's father is sixty years old, as far as we know. Because of his persistent coughing, he loses his job as a teacher. The treatment of Gopal's mother consumed all of their resources. By falsifying the documentation pertaining to his father's 15-acre parcel of property and obtaining a bank loan, his older brother has pilfered his father's land. The bank charges lawsuits against both brothers, while the brothers file charges against one another.

As a result, the cases have been pending for a very long time. Gopal attempted to offer Aarti the laddoos who had been provided by Dubey uncle, who is their lawyer, as they were scheduled for a court appearance. Gopal's father says he is a farmer's son and would not give up his property; if his brother wants the land, he will have to murder him. Gopal's uncle offers to pay ten lakh rupees for his father's land. After seven years, Gopal and Aarti are in their adulthood, in the 12th grade, and they quickly become friends. They have been going boating on Assi Ghat for the last five years. The most attractive girl in the school is Aarti. Gopal makes an effort to shield her from other males. She says she hasn't seen Raghav in a while and says she want to see him. He doesn't, however, accompany her to the cricket

stadium. at gathering with Aarti and Raghav for a drink, Gopal becomes agitated at witnessing them both giggling over each other's jokes.

Gopal is furious, but Raghav and Aarti continue their pranks. We can detect the love triangle and the approaching disaster by observing how things are going here. When Aarti phones Gopal at night as usual, he complains about Aarti and Raghav's laughing. Aarti says that Raghav is only a buddy and that she speaks to him since Gopal is close to him. They have been friends for eight years. Gopal wants to talk to Aarti about his feelings, but she declines, saying they will discuss after the admission test. His dad wants him to enroll at a college for engineers. Gopal has little interest in attending a reputable university and has little chance of being accepted. He is asked to get ready for the JEE by his father. Gopal, nevertheless, worries about his father's condition. Gopal recommends surgery for his father when he is unable to control his fits of coughing.

However, his father disagrees, claiming that they lack the two lakh rupees needed and that he will take care of it when he graduates as an engineer. He becomes enraged with Gopal and says that a farmer never sells his land when Gopal suggests that they ought to have taken his uncle's ten lakh rupees offer and tells him the land is worthless. The author's focus here is on how human ideals are eroding. As Gopal's father, the younger brother, succumbs to a lack of funds, his elder brother, who is regarded as the younger brother's father, plunders him.

On the one side, Gopal does poorly on the AIEEE; his score of 52043 is insufficient to be admitted to any government-aided college. When his father hears this, he is shocked. He feels so discouraged that he doesn't want to talk to Gopal. What should they do next, he asks Gopal. He claims that there won't be an opening for a BSc. applicant when Gopal informs him he can pursue Bachelor's degree in Sciences. His father becomes irate and informs him that if he had taken his brother's money, they would have had enough money for a good college when he recommends retaking the exam.

Furthermore, it may be observed that this comment made by Gopal offends his father, who informs him that he didn't put in enough effort and asks him to leave. Gopal believes he should talk to his father about his problems when he can't sleep. As a result, he withdraws to his room where he makes a vow to become an engineer and assures him that he would do everything he pleases. In order to prepare for the JEE and AIEEE, Gopal's father chooses to send him to Kota. He informs Gopal that he possesses a forty-thousand-rupee fixed deposit. Gopal asks him about the remaining sum because that is insufficient. He points out to him the heavy gold ring on his index finger and talks about the jewelry that Gopal's mother had. He informs Gopal that his age will be lowered by 10 years if he enrolls in an engineering institution, notwithstanding Gopal's suggestion to save it for medical situations.

Nevertheless, since he is going for Kota, Aarti is not prepared to commit; he expects her to do so. She refuses to let Gopal kiss her, saying that he would ruin their friendship if he does. She assists him in getting the things he needs in Kota, but when it comes to a "more than friends" connection, she claims they are too young and that she doesn't see him that way. However, Kota is unavailable via phone for three days as soon as he gets to her. Though, he eventually wins her over to Raghav's place. He objects to Aarti being in Raghav's residence. She claims that the reason she went there was to choose her topic. They decide to have an online conversation after Gopal offers her his landlord's phone.

The following day, Gopal asks her to date him, but she advises him to focus on his studies instead. He informs her that he has improved to the 50th percentile in the class after a month. He attempts to wish Aarti a happy birthday after three months. Her phone is always on. Raghav's phone is occupied as well. He needs to go five kilometers at precisely midnight in order to contact her. She lies to him, telling him she has been chatting to her cousins in the US, when he phones her after thirty minutes to inform her that her phone was engaged for an hour. She becomes enraged but stays silent, claiming that her father is nearby, and they plan to talk on Sunday when he tells her that she was communicating with Raghav and asks her what was going on between them. However, she is not online on Sundays. Upon contacting her residence, her mother informs him that she and Raghav have traveled to Kanpur for a celebration.

Raghav has been admitted to BHU (Banaras Hindu University) after receiving a high JEE rank. Gopal is skeptical that Aarti would have selected Raghav over him despite Raghav's high JEE score. He

finds it difficult to focus on his studies and struggles to get a good night's sleep. He believes her to be a callous ditcher, liar, and ditcher. He performs poorly on the surprise test the next day, and the teacher reprimands him for not being able to correctly respond to a straightforward question. The next Sunday, they converse online, and Gopal asks Aarti's forgiveness for yelling at her. She confesses to Gopal her love for Raghav and their near-sex. This infuriates Gopal, who then labels Aarti a slut, and she deletes him from her contact list.

Gopal quits completing his daily practice sheets and has been frequenting the cybercafé ever since. He also started consuming tea at the tea stalls. At the tea store, he runs across Prateek, a frequent customer. They end up becoming pals. Pratik almost gave up this year, having given up last year. Only because his parents believed he could handle it did he remain there. However, Prateek informs Gopal that there is just a three percent success rate at JEE. They start hanging out and drinking rum together. He has a three-month loss of grasp. He goes to class, but he finds it hard to focus because of the drinking hangover. Instructors pause to listen to him. In addition, he must beg money from his sick, impoverished father. His impoverished father has already taken out a loan for fifty thousand rupees. In addition, he owes the hospital twenty thousand rupees. However, Gopal is left with little choice except to beg for money from him on the guise of needing to purchase some significant books.

Upon hearing about his father's miserable living circumstances, Gopal makes the decision to focus on his studies. He works very hard to school, but his first want is for rum. His determination wanes as he heads to Pratik's chamber. Five months after coming to Kota, on his birthday, Aarti calls him late at night to wish him happy birthday. Again pleading for her forgiveness, he acknowledges that Raghav and Aarti are now a couple and that Raghav is the guy of her dreams. He struggles to comply with her, not wanting to lose contact with her once more. He finds his life in Kota intolerable at this point. Then he cheers up as soon as she adds him to the chat. Subsequently, he informs her that his presence on "the-improved-list" startled the Career Path professors. He told her the story of every incident in the class in an attempt to impress her. He believes she'll have a change of heart. He thereby achieves the class's 20th percentile. However, the JEE and AIEEE exams occur in just two months.

The professors are really encouraging him on the eve of the JEE exam. He phones Aarti first, then his father. The call goes to Raghav instead. Aarti informs Gopal that she has prayed for him when they speak. She also says that she accompanied Raghav to the Temple of Vishwanath. However, he also hears the lovers' repartee. He experiences temporary discouragement, and the terrible irony of the circumstance is that Aarti begs him to swear that he will walk into the exam room with absolute confidence. He breezes over the exam's first few questions. However, he wastes time later on – on an issue that is based on the subject that he was taught when he was inebriated and miserable. He can't provide answers to every query.

After a few days, everything with the AIEEE proceeds rather well. However, he is unsure. After the exams, he returns to Varanasi. The following sentences capture his sentiments regarding his city.

Even the filthy and crowded streets of Gadholia seemed beautiful to me. No place like your hometown. More than anything, I wanted to meet Aarti. Every inch of Varanasi reminded me of her. People come to my city to feel the presence of god, but I could feel her presence everywhere (95).

At Raghav's magazine launch, he first meets Aarti and Raghav. They proceed to the BHU canteen following the inauguration. Gopal believes that Raghav's goal of changing the world is difficult to accomplish. Aarti adjusts Raghav's nose while calling him Mr. Stubborn during their conversation. Gopal describes how their intimacy has affected. Either Aarti didn't know how her actions were hurting Gopal, or she was doing them on purpose. After asking Gopal to remain inside the car for a while, she exits the vehicle and gives Raghav a kiss. As they drive back, Gopal remains quiet in the vehicle. When she asks Gopal why he is so silent, he tells her that Baba is to blame.

As the AIEEE results are released, Gopal is once again unsuccessful. His 44342 ranking is insufficient for admission to any college that receives government funding. One and a half lakh rupees has already been borrowed by his father. Due to higher costs, he had opted not to have surgery. Upon hearing of Gopal's status, his father becomes enraged. He smacks Gopal and accuses him of doing nothing in Kota. Following that, he stops talking to him, and when Gopal touches him, he discovers a

fever and informs him of it. Gopal is informed by his father that he is the reason behind the fever. Gopal believes it would be best to avoid talking to him. He considers taking his own life by plunging into the Ganga.

Subsequently, it may be observed that the protagonist thinks of enrolling in a private institution in the interim, but he doesn't have any money, and a private college requires a minimum of one lakh rupees per year for four years. After three days—during which he hasn't talked to Gopal—he visits his father and promises to work at a cafe if permission is granted in order to earn some money. However, he discovers his father dead when he touches him. Aside from his evil uncle's family, Gopal has no family. He doesn't know who to tell, so he tells the attorney representing his father, who then tells Gopal's uncle. They carry out his father's cremation. At the funeral site, he learns from the loan sharks that his deceased father owes them a total of 2 lakh rupees. The loan sharks warn him with serious repercussions. They are identified as MLA Shukla's men by his estranged associate Sunil, who requests that Gopal give him the full tale.

Following this, when the thirty acres of property on the Lucknow route are mentioned, Sunil becomes alarmed and drives Gopal to MLA Shukla. This is where Gopal's future unfolds. Varanasi is barely ten kilometers away from his grandfather's thirty-acre property. Shukla's men intimidate his uncle, forcing him to accept eight lakh rupees and sign the land's documents. MLA Shukla treats Gopal as "his" guy and provides assistance in developing a technical college on the fifteen acres of his father's property. MLA Shukla takes possession of his uncle's remaining fifteen acres of land. Gopal establishes the Ganga Tech Engineering College and the Ganga Tech Education Trust. Gopal's new status has an impact on his relationship with Aarti. He has self-confidence as well. Gopal is still working hard on his college's building. He hasn't communicated with Aarti.

In reference to his connection with Aarti, he states that he too saw no benefit to staying in contact. Screaming at construction workers was more effective for him than listening to her tell tales of her dates with her boyfriend. She quickly drifted away as well as he began to ignore her calls (146). But at Raghav's graduation celebration, Gopal and Aarti cross paths once more. Aarti chuckles as Gopal offers her an engineering degree during their conversation regarding Gopal's college. Even though he has made an effort to move on from her, he finds that nothing has changed between them because of the chuckle that reminds him of her. Gopal is asked by Aarti if he is dating someone. She advises him he should acquire one when he shakes his head. According to her, being in love is a fantastic feeling and an emotion that surpasses passion. She also tells him he will find someone better. However, Gopal informs her that he would never find a finer person than her.

Gopal is working on his college assignments in the interim, but he also collaborates with MLA Shukla and Raghav. He turns down a job opportunity from Infosys to work as a journalist for a third of what Infosys would have paid him, and he uncovers dishonest people like MLA Shukla. Gopal and Raghav fight not just to obtain Aarti but also in the process of achieving their objectives. Gopal aspires to wealth, but he is receiving assistance from the dishonest guy Raghav is exposing. Raghav is asked by Gopal to write a piece on his college. Raghav does, but he also discusses where the funding for its construction came from. He questions if Shukla's money from corruption is invested in it.

Thus, Gopal only gets in touch with Aarti when he needs her assistance. Aarti emphasizes the importance of their frequent meetings. Gopal disputes her assertion that Raghav won't approve of it. Aarti emphasizes that Raghav won't even be bothered by such things and believes there's nothing wrong with getting together for coffee. Aarti also shows up for Gopal's college's opening ceremony. She asks Gopal to visit the Ramada hotel, where she works. This is unknown to Raghav. She informs Gopal that he pushed too hard with her at the wrong moment as they discuss their previous relationships. She needed to chat; she tells Gopal. However, Aarti had already disclosed to Gopal that she had a unique affinity with Raghav. Gopal brings her a bouquet of white roses on her first day of work at the hotel. He should have pals, Aarti reminds him, adding that she has him and Raghav doesn't have time for her. As a result, Gopal and Aarti hang around till Raghav has some spare time.

In the meantime, Raghav loses his job after disclosing Gopal's college's illegitimate permissions and construction. To offset the costs, Raghav starts his own publication, "Revolution 2020", which is

basically a one-page sheet with news on one side and marriage advice on the other. Aarti outlines the newspaper's concept. "Revolution 2020. That's his goal. That India must have a full-blown Revolution by 2020. Power will be with the youth. We will dismantle the old corrupt system and put a new one in place" (197). Politicians would be treated by the system more like laborers than rulers, according to Raghav. After many years, Gopal and Aarti went rowing. There, she answers Raghav's phone and tells him falsely that she works at the hotel. Aarti does not respond at first, maybe due to the effects of the marijuana cigarette, but eventually she gets up, doesn't talk to him, and leaves for home by herself.

Following this, three days later, she tells him in a message not to call her again. However, a few days later, she asks Gopal if he has seen the R2020 issue and pleads for forgiveness about that night. She urges Gopal not to worry about it when he too expresses sorrow about it. Gopal wants to kiss her and take her as his wife right now, and he wants to be upfront about their connection. He then asks her what she would do if he gave her another kiss. Despite admitting she did not know; she accepts to meet with him. He pretends to be a faculty member and cancels his trip in order to secure a room at her hotel. After that, they spend the night in the hotel. She tells her mother a falsehood, saying she works two shifts. They dine there and have wine. For Gopal, the combination of the wine and the room's seclusion was highly motivating. It was getting harder for him to stay away from Aarti, so he urges her to flee from there. She admits to him that she is lonely as well and shares her concerns about her marriage and Raghav's employment prospects.

Subsequently, they get intimate in this way, and Gopal has his first intercourse with her. She doesn't look at Gopal or protest him when they are making love. When they reunite, Aarti had been silent for a few days, and Gopal questions her about why she consented to have sex. She informs Gopal that Raghav needs a few years and that her parents are pressuring her into marriage. After deceiving Raghav, Aarti feels bad, but she can't stop herself. She believes that her relationship with Raghav is going nowhere, and Gopal adores her in every way. She gradually comes to her senses and becomes preoccupied exclusively with telling Raghav this. The state of love is much different now than it was while Gopal was in Kota. He had gone to Raghav's house to speak with Aarti.

Furthermore, Gopal had heard the couple laughing in the background as they were speaking. At a particular point of time, when Raghav phones Aarti, she's lying, refusing Raghav's request to get coffee with him at midnight, and sitting on the armrest of Gopal's chair, pulling faces to stop him from messing with her hair. She used to dodge Gopal's calls from Kota, and now she is dodging Raghav's. Raghav writes on the corruption in the Dimnapura Sewage Treatment Plant in the interim. MLA Shukla is consequently fired and taken into custody. The news is published on the top page of every newspaper. The news is also broadcast throughout the day via electronic media.

Subsequently, it may be noticed that in an interview on a certain TV channel – Raghav asserts that a society where truth, fairness, and equality are valued more than power is what he mentions when outlining the goal of the revolution. Power-driven cultures are similar to animal societies. The maxim "Might is right" holds true for both monsters and humans in the jungle. Furthermore, he mentions that humans advance, not animals (Bhagat, *Revolution* 243). Following this, Shukla's men become enraged and damage Raghav's office's computers and printers. Subsequently, he needs to personally deliver copies of "Revolution 2020". The tragic aspect of a revolutionary's existence is that, while working nonstop to improve the world, his own loved ones—Aarti—leave him.

Aarti breaks off contact with him and spends the night in his home with his adversary Gopal. And she chooses to accompany Gopal even though she is aware that he is collaborating with the dishonest MLA. Gopal and Aarti make the decision to inform Raghav that Aarti will be accompanying Gopal. Gopal wants to inform Raghav about his girlfriend's theft personally in order to humiliate her, but only Aarti wants it done without causing him any harm. Gopal visits Raghav's garage-turned-office for that reason. The electricity is off. Ankit, his sole coworker, informs Gopal that Raghav writes articles and he writes marriage proposals; together, they disseminate one hundred manuscripts.

Furthermore, it may be observed that in Raghav's office is a farmer with his sick son. The father is from a hamlet one hundred and twenty kilometers from Varanasi named Roshanpur. He claims that his community is home to another plant. He describes the village's predicament. "There's sewage

everywhere. Half the children are sick. Six have already died” (261). Raghav informs him of his predicament. “I am a nobody. My paper is at the verge of closing down. We distribute a handful of handwritten copies, most of which go into dustbins” (261). The farmer does not believe the government will punish the wrongdoers. He simply requires a few physicians. Raghav decides to accompany the farmer and offers to send his friend's father, a physician.

Gopal identifies with the father and the son when he sees them, seeing himself in the roles of the father and the youngster, respectively. Asking if he will die like his mother and sibling, the child addresses his father. Gopal is impacted by the father-son team. Gopal tells Raghav that he was simply checking up on him when he is asked why he is visiting. Raghav requests Gopal to forgive him and asks not to punish him if he has harmed him. When Gopal questions him on why he does all of that and why he is not as successful financially as everyone else. In response, Raghav says that nothing will change until someone takes action. He informs Gopal that a revolution is necessary to alter the system as it is too corrupt for one individual to handle. He anticipates a willing populace willing to give up all for the revolution.

Furthermore, it may be mentioned that Gopal, the farmer's son, has a dream that causes him to wake up at three in the morning at home. Keshav's dream ends in death. Gopal explains to Keshav why he continues going back to him. He makes the decision to give Aarti back to Raghav and assist him in his revolution since he believes that she would not love a dishonest Gopal. He keeps the door open so that Aarti may witness him pretending to sleep with two call girls. When Aarti sees it, she is startled. She flees and ceases communicating with Gopal. Additionally, Gopal gives the Dainik editor a call and requests that he hire Raghav once more. Gopal begs Raghav to take a day off work to meet Aarti when he visits him at the Dainik office. He tells him that Aarti is very devoted to him. In addition, because MLA Shukla is in jail and the party is looking for a strong candidate, he asks Raghav to wed Aarti and run for office as Pratap Pradhan's son-in-law. Since none of the Pradhan family members are prepared to run, the party has asked Mr. Pradhan's son-in-law to do so.

Gopal closes his conversation with Aarti and watches their wedding via the glass of the Taj Ganga hotel. Since Shukla is still incarcerated and in need of money for other projects, he chooses to purchase his portion of the college. Raghav is running for office. Gopal expresses optimism that, “He'll be a better MLA than me. What would I have done? Made more money. With him, there is a chance he could change something.” (294). Gopal tells Raghav that India would undergo a revolution and become a great country. He decides that he will reform the system and bring about change once his college gains significant traction. Gopal gives up his life for Aarti, making his sacrifice greater than Raghav's.

The writer begs Gopal to locate someone while he's taking his leave to catch the trip, but Gopal doesn't guarantee. He remains silent and replies that he hasn't seen her since her marriage when the writer asks if he misses her. Bhagat stated in an interview that the moral of the novel is that people's kindness never truly dies. The writer responds to Gopal's query on whether or not he is a nice guy as the narrative of Gopal also comes to an end. In response, the writer tells Gopal that he is a decent man. Bhagat also brings up the anti-corruption campaign led by social activist Anna Hazare. In his interview, he states:

“Two years back when I started writing columns, I would have been considered a lunatic for imagining the India I would like to see. But when I see a movement like this, I think there are plenty of people who want an equal society based on excellence...” (“Q&A.” *indiarealtime*).

As was already noted, the author also discusses the pervasive corruption in Indian society.

The author attempts to demonstrate how pragmatic and materialistic concerns, and the corruption that follows, impact not just institutions but also interpersonal ties. The older brother of Gopal's father, who is meant to look after his younger brother, takes things away from him. Gopal's altered social standing also affects Aarti's relationship with him. MLA Shukla, who is meant to represent the people, is prepared to use whatever means necessary to take the land from its rightful owner as soon as he discovers it has commercial potential. Shukla responds when Gopal informs him that they would only take their portion of fifteen acres: “Why fifteen? When there is thirty, why would we take fifteen?” (124).

Gopal, a simple young man at first, doesn't understand why they aren't selling the property to raise money rather than establishing a college. Shukla-ji resolves his conundrum. Gopal consents to collaborate with Shukla-ji in this way. further consents to grant him shares in the trust as well as half of the land. Shukla's men entered Gopal's uncle's house in order to purchase property, and on their first visit, they dumped a bottle of goat blood onto the front balcony. The second time, they used a variety of knives to stab every sofa and bed in the home. In the third, "they brought out guns and proposed to buy off my uncle's share of disputed land for eight lakh rupees" (130). They abduct Bittoo, his four-year-old grandson, while his uncle is still unprepared, even after this. He distances himself from what was going on with them when his uncle and his family visit Gopal. He declares, "They can do anything. Bittoo is a little, young thing, it won't be difficult to hide his body. Anyway, it is Varanasi, dead bodies are easy to dispose of" (133).

Three days later, his uncle accepts the eight lakh rupees and signs the documents. He puts a lot of effort into getting the college's construction approved and underway after the site is purchased. He spends the money and begins the construction. He must pay 12,50,000/- rupees to the Deputy Corporator for converting the land from "agriculture into education land" rezoning and building plan permissions from the VNN; 40,000/- rupees to the registrar of companies; UGC for approval of the inspection date and in-principle approval for the construction work; and AICTE for approval to the engineering college, electricity connections, and construction laborer permissions.

Subsequently, it may be noted that not only are these individuals good at corruption, but so are the teachers. Upon hiring the dean for their institution, he requests a salary of two lakh per month. Prof. Shrivastava responds that they don't have to reveal the dean's true pay when Gopal worries that other instructors would demand large compensation if they learn about it. In an attempt to avoid income taxes and envy, he proposes to make his official pay even lower than that of the academics. For Shrivastava, they thus agreed to a monthly package of one lakh cash and seventy-five thousand checks. In addition, he requests an additional ten thousand dollars for each instructor hired. Additionally, he promises to visit the college three days a week. Gopal, who is startled, questions him about staffing the classrooms and teaching the first-year students. He is informed that the senior students do this.

The author discusses about the engineering colleges in his essay "The Bootlegging of Education" (Bhagat, *What Young* 124). Shrivastava inquires about their endeavors to gain admission. After Gopal informs him that they have placed ads in newspapers, participated in education fairs, made contact with teachers, presented in schools, and coached classes, Shrivastava says they must make amends with principals and teachers by giving them 10% of the admissions fee. They offer advice to applicants who do not pass the entrance exams in order to get into a specific college. He had to pay five lakh rupees for the AICTE inspections, which included envelopes for each team member and dinner at the Taj Ganga. Following this, it may be mentioned that the senior government officials, the faculty's whole family, and those who assisted them were in attendance. "How many lathe machines are there in the machining lab?" was one of the inquiries posed by those who sought more money. Therefore, Gopal had to offer him a larger envelope. Each participant receives twenty-five thousand rupees, while the questioner receives fifty thousand. Gopal buys off hundreds of employees in the public, private, and academic sectors. Shuklaji, however, requests that Gopal spend more money so that the inspectors would give a positive review of their college.

Furthermore, it may be noticed that Shuklaji advises Gopal to calm down when he informs him that they have spent six crore rupees and have not yet received a single rupee. The Vice-Chancellor was also hesitant to grant the college university permission. Gopal needs to establish a non-political touch with Aarti's father, DM Pradhan. Thus, he sets up a meeting between Gopal and the vice-chancellor. In addition, he begs Gopal to give him a bribe as he talks smart but demands his cut. The DM remarks when Gopal informs him that in fact he isn't acquainted with such matters (of bribing authorities): "Good, you are like me then," he said. "Practical enough to leave the people who do the funny stuff alone" (170)

The author also aims to illustrate the ways in which education is funded by Black capital. Gopal's buddy Raghav Kashyap attempts to illustrate how black money is used to fund college

construction in a few pieces he publishes on Gopal's college. "New engineering college opens in city – with corrupt money?" is the headline of the first story. He poses a query, enquiring as to whether MLA Shukla is investing the illicit funds obtained from the Ganga Action Plan scam.

In another piece titled "Varanasi Nagar Nigam eats, builder cheats," Raghav Kashyap discusses how the VNN and landowners are breaking the law on building and rezoning. The construction of a college on farmland involves breaking all social conventions. The author's revolutionary spokesperson In his piece, Raghav conveys the author's opinions that "the government should allow colleges to make a legitimate profit, so that corporate bodies could enter the sector and improve quality" (Bhagat, *Revolution* 152).

The arrival of VNN officer Amrit Rao to remove the college's unlawful construction serves as yet another illustration of how influential individuals may poison the judgments of obedient government employees. After speaking with him over the phone, Shuklaji suggests that Gopal pay him two lakh rupees in the form of a sand bag because he has a strong reputation as an honest official. He leaves the machining lab in this manner after breaking it for a performance. The author also notes that those in the nation's liquor industry are becoming more interested in education as a result of "Money. There is huge money in private colleges.... Now they are noble people in education, not liquor barons.... Yeah, politicians, builders, *beedi*- makers." (116).

Subsequently, the author discusses how the media engages in corruption on behalf of businesses. They produce advertorials—articles about their own institution authored by the colleges themselves—under the guise of journalism. Raghav also writes on the corruption that the powerful people engage in. A news article describes MLA Shukla's involvement in corruption at the Dimnapura Sewage Treatment Plant. The full news report is provided below:

"MLA makes money by making holy river filthy!'.... '25 crores sanctioned for Dimnapura Sewage Treatment Plant. MLA pockets 20 crore,' said the sub-headline.... The construction company, Allied Con, is owned by the MLA's uncle, Roshan Shukla, who made fake invoices for pumps that were never purchased..." (Bhagat, *Revolution* 234-35)

The author also discusses political corruption. The CM pays a visit to MLA Shukla and informs him that if he does not quit, he would be forced to dismiss him. When questioned by the media about the fraud, he claims that he is not completely aware of the issue. It appears to him to be a smear campaign. His party is unequivocal about corruption. Even if there are complaints, they will demand that their leaders resign (234). Shukla, however, has supplied the CM with wine and funded his campaign throughout the whole state. Merely Shukla is being sued, whereas the CM gained money at the facility. The MLA receives special care while he is imprisoned. He is given wine and fruits, held in a separate room with a TV, and has the parcel delivered by security personnel once they retrieve it from the guests.

The author also discusses the issue of nepotism in politics and the potential for the wrong individuals to continue a legacy. The DM is compelled by the party workers to either allow his daughter run for office or run for office himself in Shukla's place. Shukla invites Gopal to wed the DM's daughter after learning that the DM is not yet ready (255). Gopal predicts the amount of development that may be made in India by engaging in corrupt activities, just as he, Shukla ji, and his fellow brethren have been doing: Additionally, Raghav reveals the dishonesty committed by the proprietors of cremation shops, LPG cylinder suppliers, ration store owners, and RTO authorities in Varanasi who sell common wood that has been sprayed with fake scent as sandalwood. The book also discusses the pay reduction that Gopal's institution, being a new college, demands from corporate HR managers when hiring from them (273).

The scenario at Roshanpur village, where there is deception in yet another drainage facility, is also mentioned by the author. "There is sewage everywhere. Half children are sick. Six have already died" (261). The novel also speaks regarding an upsurge and transformation, as was previously said. In *Revolution 2020*, Raghav is an influential person, but Gopal's final choice is also significant. Corrupt behavior is also encouraged by illicit money. Raghav Kashyap initially had to give Gopal an apology as a

result of exposing the truth about the powerful individuals. He also promises not to write without supporting documentation. MLA Shukla later fires him from the 'Dainik'.

After publishing an article in "Revolution 2020" about the Ganga Action Plan fraud, he receives an attack on his workplace, resulting in ruined machinery. Gopal explains how power and wealth are respected. Further he mentions the incident where the professor was teaching and becomes silent – all of a sudden when the professor notices him walking into the room where a math class was in session. All forty students in the class rise up. He mentions that it is a pleasant feeling. Moreover, he goes on mentioning that the same would occur if he entered any one of the eight classrooms. Despite what others may think of them, having wealth, prestige, and power earns you respect in life. Moreover, he remembers that he had been pleading for admittance at employment fairs a few years ago. And, at the present moment, his arrival had made hundreds of people stand and pay attention to him. (207).

Gopal affects Aarti's romantic decision as he advances with shady money. She finds herself drawn to him over time. Gopal maintains physical contact with Raghav's girlfriend even though he is aware of it. Additionally, Raghav hosts two wine parties with his pals. For his graduation party, he sends his parents outdoors for the evening. Regardless of his moral character, Raghav has been having sex with Aarti for over six years, but he is delaying getting married to her. This demonstrates how Indian youth behavior has evolved. Youth are not meant to be so puritanical when it comes to sex and drinking. Although Aarti is Raghav's girlfriend, she is seeing Gopal in parallel. Gopal and Aarti indulge in cannabis use. Regardless of how sincere his intentions may be, Gopal's hiring of call girls is unethical.

CONCLUSION

The book also discusses parental expectations and how they affect young people's lives. Gopal's father is hoping he would pursue engineering. After failing the engineering admission tests, Gopal is prepared to pursue a BSc and accept any work to support his father. However, his father is not prepared to comprehend Gopal's predicament, which leads to tragedy in Gopal's life. In Kota, Gopal meets Prateek. He befriends him. Pratik's parents are teachers and they want him to become an engineer, which is why he has been spending time in Kota. After failing twice, Prateek realizes he won't be able to get good enough scores to pass the IIT admission exam.

Because his parents wish to flaunt to everyone that their son is studying engineering, his friend Vineet also enrolls at a private institution. IIT is Raghav's dream school, as do his parents. While Aarti's parents forbid her from leaving Varanasi, she pursues her dream of becoming an air hostess and works as a guest relations officer in a hotel instead. Through his writing, Chetan Bhagat shows how all of his idols are inventive. They are also victims—either of the contemporary Indian situation or of the offenders. In every one of his books, love appears as a motif, frequently as a co- or sub-theme.

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