**“In writing of Indian culture, I am highly conscious of my own subjectivity; arguably, there is more than one Indian culture, and certainly more than one view of Indian culture.”**

* **Shashi Tharoor**

**What does his statement imply? Express your opinion in not less than 1000 words.**

Context matters. While representing any topic or argument it is important to know the facts of what you are going to portray. But at the same time spouting out facts alone is not enough, an emotion attached with that fact is what gives it meaning and makes it interesting. To present one’s culture comes with a lot of responsibility and a certain sense of pride. We all are aware of our cultures and our traditions, but do we really take time to investigate the history and reason as to why we have such culture in detail. Knowing how and why we do such things gives it even more meaning. Talking about why we follow our cultures to this date involves us knowing facts about them. Writing about our culture involves a whole of dedication and interest. The writing should involve it’s history, how it came to be, why was it done, why do we still continue to do it, what meaning does it signify and a lot of other things such as this.

Every culture has a meaning attached to it, which provides us with hope, hope of something to look forward to, a hope that can symbolize our desires and wishes through whatever deity or force the culture represents. This hope doesn’t manifest by itself, we are required to be thought about our culture from a very young age. Our parents play a major role in this, then our relatives, friends and then our own interest in learning the history of our culture. Without knowing the context of culture, we will not know how and why this culture gives hope to others and there can be a possibility that we ourselves might feel lost.

“Everything we hear is an opinion, not a fact. Everything we see is a perspective, not the truth.” – Markus Aurelius.

What might seem right to us, very well might we wrong to others. The view we have of our culture depends from person to person. While it might be true that what we value is what gives us pride, we must not judge others for what they value from their culture. If we could simply see things from their perspective and put an effort to understand what they take pride we, maybe we can too learn something about ours and other’s culture as well. When we learn new things our mind broadens and shows us the things that we might have missed out or not noticed about the culture.

India is a land of many cultures, each with its own uniqueness and profound history of how it came into existence. When we expose ourselves advertently or inadvertently, we come to know about a how amazing each of them and why people take pride in them just as we take pride in our own culture. When we learn something about another culture, we learn more about India in itself. When we learn about our history, we come to notice the humongous amount of hardships our ancestors had to go through, how things have improved with time and why we celebrate those important occasions.

When we interact with people of different cultures, they expose us to new things that we otherwise might have not tried at all. This new experience is sometimes so rejuvenating that we immediately get interested in it, and this is how most of Indian Cultures are, every one of them are worth of stealing the spotlight. Having many different cultures is boon that we might as well be proud of. Life tends to get boring if we keep following the same thing over and over again. The abundance of Cultures which would take a lifetime to learn about gives each and every one of us an opportunity to learn, explore and grow as human beings.

What makes it even better is the fact that ever one has a different view of his or her culture. The amount of time it would take to get every individual opinion for a single culture would be more than a lifetime! The fact that we can learn not only about different cultures and how they came to be, but also their different views from every individual would be a very fascinating experience. When we have different views, we get to see why people place pride in their cultures and not as a whole but as individual bits, One might take pride in its history, next might take pride in an individual associated with the culture, other might take pride in a color. The possibilities are endless! Wouldn’t learning such variety of views be an amazing experience in itself?

Having different cultures helps us become more innovative as it exposes us so many new things that we could possible not imagine of. In the end what matters is that we be open to others and their culture and take an initiative to learn the other persons worldview and maybe take part in them and explore the diversity it has to offer along with all the rich experiences.

The statement, “In writing of Indian culture, I am highly conscious of my own subjectivity; arguably, there is more than one Indian culture, and certainly more than one view of Indian culture.” Said by Sashi Tharoor, could be interpreted as declaration of an opportunity that most of us seem to miss out on.

The above statement implies that we should venture out whenever we can and explore the vast range of cultures and their emotion that they have to offer to us. Learn from them, gain value from them and share the joy with others as well. This statement could also imply that we are not limited and that we might be more diverse that we might think we are.

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