



Child Is Born



CHAPTER 14. A CHILD IS BORN -GERMAINE GREER

Summary and Central Idea:

A child is Born' presents a comparison between the parent child relationship in the developed west and the traditional east. The writer compares the role of children in agricultural societies with that of children of industrialized countries. Writer supports traditional child bearing process, which is full of love, care, support and communal help. Greer comments on the modern method of childbirth, which is undesirable, painful and psychologically stressful. In traditional society pregnancy and childbirth are accepted culturally and collectively. So, mother does not have the psychic burden. She forgets her worries. She is supported mainly by husband, family members and relatives. She has sense of security. In traditional society prenatal and postnatal periods are celebrated as rituals. It is an opportunity to enjoy baby. Pregnant mother is given proper attention, love and care. She is given nutritious food to eat. After child birth, baptism and food giving process celebrated with great joy. Mother and baby are given new clothes. In traditional societies, marriage, childbirth are both social pressure. A married woman does not become complete before giving to baby. After giving birth to the baby, she is called by her child's name. The relationship between mother and child are more important than of husband and wife. Giving birth to baby and breast feeding is success for married women. In traditional society, it is better to have a son but the birth of a girl is celebrated with the same joy. In Bangladesh children under five are looked after by the whole family, especially by grandparents. Children are taken to the pond for a bath. They are not given toys to play with, rather grandparents tell them stories. Germaine Greer shows the dark side of the modern west. She says that in western society a pregnant woman feels utterly alone. Breastfeeding is discouraged. The western people think that traditional eastern are backward, cruel and wrong. At a conference of International Women's Day 1981, Muslim system of childbirth was severely criticized. In modern west hospitals the delivery wards are full of groaning and pain. There is a pool of blood in the yard. Nobody cares and shares feelings. The hideous place lacks sympathy and empathy. No doubt infant mortality is less in western society but there is no love, support and mutual cooperation. The pregnant woman is surrounded by machines. Almost no or very rituals are practised. In the traditional east mortality is high but it is managed culturally. But, in the west death and birth are no more important at all. Almost no one is there to welcome the child, to praise the mother and to help her to raise the baby. Thus, Germaine Greer gives emphasis to the traditional method which is full of love, cooperation, support and rituals. Childbirth is a kind of celebration. Greer does not accept technology as a comfortable means rather blames it for the loss of love and humanity. Technology does not bring happiness rather kills our creativity, originality, cultural self and mutual bond.

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

2076 PARTIAL D Q. NO. 2D

Why does one of the Muslim Women decide to hold her tongue? [3]

- Greer presents a Muslim woman in her essay to expose the western treatment to the eastern people. She goes to mark an international Women's day in Vienna. But she is surprised at being criticized. Basically Muslim marriage is criticized. There are rich practices of Muslim marriage which do not have any recognition. She wants to speak against that but holds her tongue because of language barrier and her state of being minor. Later the Sudanese government didn't send the participants despite good feasting there.

2. 2074 SUPP Q. NO. 2C

Why didn't the young woman with university graduation challenge the traditional outdated culture of the East? Was she superstitious herself? [3]

- Germaine Greer in her essay, "A Child is Born", presents an anecdote of a lady to elaborate the cultural practices observed by traditional communities during pregnancy and childbirth. The lady is a university graduate and author's acquaintance. She tackled her pregnancy like an assignment minutely. She observed every child's development. At the same time she observed the old superstition of the traditional society. She did not get equipment for the baby before the birth which she thought as bad luck. She had unmedicated birth of her child which doctors couldn't even believe it. I don't think she was superstitious herself. Perhaps she was influenced by the cultural handling of pregnancy practiced by the people of eastern community. She appears to be Western and Eastern at the same time. The lady wants to show that there are some practices in the traditional communities or societies which are worth imitating.

3. 2074 SET A Q. NO. 2C

Why does the writer bring in the examples of the east to discuss the problems of a modern western society?[3]

- The essayist, Germaine Greer, brings in the examples of eastern or traditional societies to discuss the problems of modern society. The traditional society is full of different customs, traditions, rituals and superstitions. A pregnant woman has to follow all such rites. She doesn't get proper respect at home and society unless she gives birth to a child. Because of the customs, traditions and the culture of the traditional society, pregnant women are loved, cared for and supported by her husbands, members of her family and all the relatives. Because of this, she doesn't worry much about the possible pain and danger in childbirth. But in modern society these cultural aspects of handling pregnancy and childbirth are limited. The writer brings these examples of traditional birth to expose the isolated, secluded and individualized western society. She wants to prove that the eastern society is far richer than the western society in the matter of ceremonial practices of pregnancy, childbirth, and child rearing.

4. 2074 SET B Q. NO. 2C

What kind of positive treatment does a young Sylheti woman get before and after childbirth? [3]

- The child birth in Sylheti Community in Bengal in India is celebrated with joy. During the last few months of pregnancy or the early two months of baby's birth the woman goes to her parents' house for celebration. People gather and sing and dance. The woman is bought a new sari and the child is given a new dresses. A name putting ceremony is held on the seventh day of a child's birth. The women in the village participate in the celebration. The males come and have a look and go away. The birth of both the boy and girl is celebrated, though they like to have a son. The males eat betel and enjoy the ceremony. The approach in Eastern society is ritualistic. The mother is covered with taboos and prohibitions which reduces her psychological burden. All the relatives including the husbands remain present during the process of giving birth. It decreases the pain of the mother. Their presence gives a sense of security to her. They create such an environment which makes mothers feel safe. Nevertheless, the chance of the mother dying is high in Eastern society. In many of the Eastern

societies, a pregnant woman goes to her mother's house. For example, the writer presents us with an example from the society of India. In Rajput society, the woman goes to mother's house prior to giving birth and after the birth of the child. She is taken care of properly. The birth of the child is celebrated with singing and dancing. The pregnant woman is taken care not only by family members but also by the members of the community. It gives her a sense of security and she becomes less worried about giving birth.

5. 2073 PARTIAL W. Q. NO. 2C

How is a child birth celebrated in the Sylheti community in Bengal in India? [3]

- Please refer to **2074 SET B Q NO. 2C**

6. 2071 SUPP Q. NO. 12C

What differences does the writer show between a traditional society and a modern society in matters of child bearing? [3]

- Germaine Greer presents a comparison between what she calls an advanced western society and traditional eastern society in matters of child bearing. She finds agricultural eastern society rich in the matter of child bearing. As soon as a woman conceives her child, the bearing begins. The pregnant woman gets total support of her husband, kinsfolk and other members of the community whereas the woman in the west has to conduct her pregnancy herself. The pregnant woman in the east, unlike the women in the west, feels secure as she has been helped and cared for by family members and relatives. She feels that she's conducting the pregnancy but not vice versa. Unlike the women in the west, the women from traditional society barely visits hospital; even they do, they leave the hospital ward in two days. In technocratic society pregnancy is a matter of choice of an individual mother but in the eastern society a women becomes pregnant not by her own desire but at the wish of her husband and family members. They celebrate pregnancy and childbirth in the east and go to the mother's house during the last few months of pregnancy. She is being given emotional security showing these differences of childbearing Greer discusses the problems of modern society.

7. 2071 PARTIAL SET A Q. NO. 12F

What are the practices of child-bearing seen in traditional societies? [3]

- The practices of child bearing in traditional societies are varied and many. Greer, in her essay, "A Child Born" enlists such principles. She finds the traditional practices of child bearing of eastern or non technocratic societies praiseworthy as they involve the maximum participation of the husband, kinsfolk and family members. Since they are surrounded by their relatives and their husbands, the women don't feel so much physical and mental burden while giving birth to a child. The approach is ritualistic as all the relatives including the husbands remain present during the process of giving birth. It decreases the pain of the mother. Their presence gives a sense of security to her and she feels someone at her back easing. Such an environment of childbearing in the eastern society makes mothers feel safe. The birth of the child is celebrated with singing and dancing. The pregnant woman is taken care not only by family members but also by the members of the community. It gives her a sense of security and consequently becomes less worried about giving birth to a child. Thus, the notable principle of child bearing in the traditional society is its ceremonial practices. They have a cultural richness which even dominates the pain felt by the women during her labor. In short, in traditional societies, when a woman becomes pregnant, she has to observe certain prohibitions and carry out the pattern religious and cultural practices. The practice of bearing is observing the taboos and prohibition ultimately help a woman in her process of child bearing

8. 2071 PARTIAL SET B Q. NO. 12F

How did traditional society look into pregnancy childbirth?

- Unlike Western Society, Greer posits, the Tradition society looks into pregnancy and childbirth culturally. Both pregnancy and childbirth become the part of celebration for the family members. During pregnancy, the woman is not left alone, during childbirth mostly the woman is at her mother's house. She is not left alone in both the cases. The pregnant lady is helped by her husband and other members of family and community which enhances her sense of security. In traditional societies, child birth irrespective of its sex is celebrated although there is a greater risk of the lives of the mother and the baby. The traditional behaviors make the pregnant women forget their worries because they are helped by their husband, their relatives and communities. In traditional societies, when a woman becomes pregnant, to observe certain prohibitions. Pregnant women are loved, cared for and supported by her husbands, members of her family and all the relatives. Because of this, she doesn't worry much about the possible pain and danger in childbirth. The pregnant woman is attended by her husband and relatives. The relatives and family members give importance to her pregnancy.

Moreover she becomes pregnant not at her own desire but at the whim of her family members. Similarly they look into childbirth in different ways. After the childbirth, the women in the traditional eastern society is respected and praised much for their courage. Many people attend her with gifts to see the child and to congratulate the mother. People organize parties to celebrate the birth ceremony. There is feasting, singing and dancing. The mother is given permission to go to her mother's house for a few months. The whole family helps her to rear the child.

9. 2070 SUPP SET A Q. NO. 12C

Describe the appalling scene Sheila Kitzinger observed in the hospital set up for Bantu patients in South Africa. [3]

- To point out the impacts of Western technology and sophisticated medicine, Greer draws into the case of the Bantu Patient in South Africa that Sheila Kitzinger observed in the hospital. She saw that the delivery ward was full of groaning. The majority of the women were laboring alone. The pumps were widely used. The pools of blood lay on the floor. The nurses ignored the laboring women and kept themselves busy with the advanced equipment. The birth was far from normal. Sheila observed that the birth was conducted the way the American hospital, which she claims she toured the black clinic patients from the large urban ghettos. The excessive use of medicines and equipment were seen used in African the Bantu patients

10. 2070 SET C Q. NO. 3 B

The author has introduced a number of examples of the east, in matters of pregnancy, childbirth and child rearing, in order to discuss the problems of the west. In your view, what is the significance of the author's purpose to introduce them? Does she want to ask the West to follow examples of the East? Explain. [3]

- The author has introduced number of examples of the east, in matters of pregnancy, childbirth and child rearing, in order to discuss the problems of the west. Germaine Geer in her essay, "A child is Born", discusses the state of pregnant women, and different methods of having babies. She does it to compare traditional eastern societies with modern ones. Writer says that in traditional societies there are different methods of having babies and are extremely useful because they make mothers secure. The traditional behaviors make the pregnant women forget their worries because they are helped by their husbands, their relatives and communities. In traditional societies, when a woman becomes pregnant, she has to observe certain prohibitions and carry out the set rites. All these taboos and prohibitions help her keep herself mentally free and lessen the pain and fear. The pregnant lady is helped by her husband and other members of family and community. Similarly, the woman, after the birth of the child, is fully accepted by the new family and she is allowed to visit her father's house. The women in such societies have started calling after the names of their children ignoring their original identity which the western people criticize calling it a wrong behavior. In my view, the author brings forth these examples to show how western society lacks these cultural and ceremonial aspects of pregnancy. The significance is that she wants the western society to correct. The writer argues that the traditional east is far better than the modern west in matters of pregnancy, childbirth and child rearing although there is high risk of mothers and children mortality rate in these societies. The writer by showing the rich eastern society suggests the isolated western society to follow them. Since the western society's women conduct pregnancy alone and have had a higher degree of psychic burden, they could get a level of comfort and relief.

11. 2066 Q. NO. 12 D

What differences does the writer show between a traditional society and a modern society in matters of child bearing? [3]

- Please refer to **2071 SUPP Q. NO. 12C**

12. 2066 (PARTIAL) Q. NO. 12 D

Sketch the differences of child bearing in traditional and modern western society. [3]

- Please refer to **2071 SUPP Q. NO. 12D**

LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS

13. 2076 PARTIAL E Q. NO. 3B

The writer, Germaine Greer, in her essay 'A Child is Born' differentiates the modern society and traditional society in matters of pregnancy, childbirth and child rearing practices. Do you agree with the writer? Give reasons. [10]

- Greer shows many differences between a traditional and modern society in matters of pregnancy, childbirth and childbearing. The traditional society is full of different customs, traditions- rituals and superstition. A pregnant woman has to follow all such rites. In the traditional society, pregnant women are loved, cared for and supported by her husbands, members of her family and all the relatives. She doesn't worry much about the possible pain and danger in childbirth and has had emotional security. But in the modern society a pregnant woman lives an individual life and is not cared like this. Since the people in the modern western society don't believe much in different rites, traditions and superstitions, the pregnant woman is not attended by her husband and relatives. She is not free from mental burden. She is always worried about the possible danger and pain of childbirth. She has to practice prenatal exercises and make other preparations herself. She frequently visits doctors for advice and to get her pregnancy checked up. Her pregnancy is not given much importance by her family, relatives and the society. The traditional childbirths are conducted among various superstitions, customs, rites, rituals and traditions. The pregnant women don't visit hospitals for checkup whereas in the west the pregnant women shouldn't carry on various customs, traditions and superstitions. They frequently visit doctors and follow their suggestions. They practice many modern methods and equipment for childbirth. If the life of the mother or the infant is in danger, the doctors conduct operations to save them. Thus, the women in the modern society give birth very easily and safely among the modern methods and facilities. After childbirth, the women in the traditional Eastern society are respected and praised much for their courage. Many people attend her with gifts to see the child and to congratulate the mother. People organize parties to celebrate the birth ceremony. There is feasting, singing and dancing. The mother is given permission to go to her mother's house for a few months. The whole family helps her to rear the child. However, there is no such system in modern western society. In such a society, there is no one at home to welcome the child and to praise the courage of the mother.

14. 2073 SET D Q. NO. 36

What differences does the writer show between a traditional society and modern society in matters of pregnancy, childbirth and childbearing? [10]

- Please refer to **2076 PARTIAL E Q. NO. 3B**

15. 2072 SET E Q. NO. 3A

What differences does the writer show between a traditional society and a modern society in matters of pregnancy, childbirth and childrearing? [10]

- Please refer to **2076 PARTIAL E Q. NO. 3B**

16. 2070 SUPP SET A Q. NO. 13 B

Many countries of Asia and Africa have realized that mother child death is a tragedy and it should be minimized as much as possible. Yet they are still irrational in this regard: they compel a woman to follow rituals, taboos and prohibitions and give birth at the cost of her life. Explain this statement in the context of the essay, 'A Child is Born'. [10]

- African and Asian societies are termed as the eastern, traditional and backward societies in the essay, "A Child is Born" by Germaine Greer. But in terms of in matrimonial practices she says they have greater advantages than those of the western attitudes. But eastern societies have realized that the mother and child death have been a tragedy in their lives. In other words, Greer believes that in eastern societies the people who surround a pregnant woman make her feel good and lessen her mental pain but these taboos, rituals and prohibitions no longer save the lives of women and infants, thus must be minimized as much as possible. The relatives, neighbors including the husbands remain present during the birth of a child in the African and Asian Societies. Greer believes that it decreases the pain of the mother. Their presence gives a sense of emotional and psychic security to the mother. They create such an environment that the mother feels she is not lonely and is conducting the pregnancy herself. Nevertheless, the chance of death of the mother is high in such societies. So the pregnant woman should go for regular health checkup and should give birth to a baby as per the

advice of the doctor. We should not be proud of handling something that is rotten. The eastern societies, where the mother and child death is the tragedy, must observe the western methods of conducting pregnancy, childbirth and child care in order to minimize the deaths. Affected by modernization, people in the Western societies use modern equipment. The modern equipment certainly saves the lives of mother and child. Consequently, their women do not die in giving birth to a baby. A pregnant woman in the West takes care of herself with the guidance of nurses and doctors which again must be observed by the African and Asian women. In Western women's and children's health is sold. Though Greer mocks at such western practices showing ceremonial advantages, our women will not die less with such praise. We must be realistic fiction and culture at the stake of someone's life. Finally, though the writer shows the problem brought up by western medicine in the eastern societies must not ignore this for the observance of our practices. We must work to check the effects of medicine. Greer writes that the modern medical facing which is considered as the pride of the modern west have brought a lot of problems in backward traditional societies but we must not be horrified by them. The poor and weak patients are given strong and very expensive medicines by the doctors that should be corrected by our own efforts. Giving an example, the writer mentions that in a modern hospital established with foreign aid in South Africa, the condition of African women is very pathetic while having babies in labor rooms. But we should also question if we are saving the lives of thousands of the women who are dying while following the taboos and rituals. Thus, to minimize the deaths, we should not be content on what Greer glorifies, instead be practical and realistic.

17. 2069 Q. NO. 13B

Write about the place of a mother in the Nepali family with reference to different stages of her life. [10]

- A Place of Mother in Nepali Family Most of the Nepalese families are still patriarchal. A mother has her time to spend on household work. During her total life in the family, the mother has different roles to play. Sometimes she takes care of her children while at other times she manages the family affairs. In fact, she has a special place in the family. At different stages of her life in the family, she takes care of the children and husband, makes her mother in laws and other members happy by assisting them in the works and then manages the total household affairs. After a woman gets married, she has a house of her husband and in-laws to go to. Slowly, she copes up with the family members and becomes pregnant at the whim of the husband and other family members. She cooks and feeds the family members but after she becomes the mother she is fed, dressed and washed. All the members watch her, surround her and support her. This is her initial place in the family to live.

She alters her life then, to her children's life. She admits them to the schools, brings them up and assists in every step. A mother's total time is spent in taking care of her children; however she is assisted by the family if it is a large one. Father, however, manages the economy in the family. In the course of time, the mother's place changes. She respects and loves her husband and children. By this time, she becomes responsible to the family deeds. At this stage of her life in the family, the mother is heard and her place remains significant. In decision making, in the family management, she is informed and consulted. Mainly, the mother makes her in-laws and other members happy. They seek her support and love. Some of the mothers, however, can't manage this part of the role, so the family splits. Mother is worshipped and this is the mother who becomes a good host, decorator and manager. Mother's responsibility goes on increasing in course of her living in the family. Her absence gives her family an ugly look. Again, as time passes, the mother's place in the family transfigures. The mother replaces her mother in law. She worries about her children and the whole family. She conducts the marriage for her children, by now they are grown up. The mother expects a lot from the children. Many times, the mother looks into her past. One is the sole responsible woman in the family. Her role of a mother slowly changes into the grandmothers. She thinks of herself as the responsible woman. Most of her time passes in religious activities. Donations, charity and temple visit increase in this phase of her life. To sum up, a Nepali mother has a varied place at different stages of her life in the family. Sometimes, she has a narrow place where she struggles to adjust, at other times she has a place to direct and guide the whole family. Though the mother has a complex role of satisfying her husband and children and family, when she fulfills them she is worshipped. Our family without a mother and their good role is nothing. But, still mother is confined only to domestic affairs. We are waiting for the time when our daughters and the mothers rise from these stereotypes and work in the multinational companies and assist the fathers.

18. 2067 Q. NO. 13 A

The essay 'A Child is Born' is often found controversial and one-sided. Do you agree? Give reasons for your agreement or disagreement? [10]

- Yes. The beauty of the essay lies in this method of Greer's argument. She adopts the rhetoric of magnifying the eastern rituals and practices by condemning the western practices. In other words, she draws into the eastern society to mock the western society. But the critics regard the essay as controversial and one-sided. She sounds biased. Greer tends to consider the material practices of the traditional societies as having greater advantages than those of the western societies. The advantages she points out are only those of the traditional society. She says a woman in eastern society does not have much physical and mental tension while giving birth. The approach in Eastern society is ritualistic. She is covered with taboos and prohibitions which reduces her psychological burden. All

the relatives including the husbands remain present during the process of giving birth. It decreases the pain of the mother. Their presence gives a sense of security. But Greer doesn't elaborate the death rate as much as she describes these ritualistic performances. The birth of the child is celebrated with singing and dancing. The pregnant woman is taken care not only by family members but also by the members of the community. It gives her a sense of security and she becomes less worried about giving birth. There is a difference in child rearing also. In the Eastern society, the mother gets respect after she gives birth. She is called by the name of her first child. The newly born child is taken care of by all the relatives. The mother has to spend less time taking care of the child. So, the child family relation is stronger than the child-mother relation. Thus, the Eastern society is better than the Western society in the matter of childbirth and childcare. Greer's elaboration of the eastern practices has nothing to do with saving the life of the woman here. The western medicine, health and hygiene are ignored on the one hand and eastern taboos are glorified on the other. Her argument is really controversial. Something that looks unrealistic is praised by Greer in the essay. She even praises the way mother becomes happy expecting a live child even at the cost of her life. The inclusion of western medicine is also criticized. Her essay thus, looks really one sided. She deliberately targets the western society. This way of getting relish by making others weak doesn't hold logic. When she says in modern societies, a child is born in an isolated bed in a hospital surrounded by machines and the child birth is not celebrated either, her prejudice manifests. Giving birth in the hospital bed is a thing to be praised which of course should be followed by the traditional societies. She gives a tag of the rational society but makes it modern in its practices, this is ridiculous. Anyway, the essay is a brilliant write up despite the controversial arguments it presents.

19. 2066 (PARTIAL) Q. NO. 13 B

Write in about 100 words about the values held by the traditional Nepali society in which a woman who can not bear children is considered a failure in her personal life and a useless woman in the eyes of the society. Give your own views on the subject. [10]

- Nepalese society is still traditional. Women who can't bear children are considered failures in our society. The social orientation is that a woman should be the mother. They never take infertility as a matter of biology. They connect it with the religion and say that a barren woman goes to hell. She lives a cursed life. They are punished by their husbands by second marriage. She then feels that she has missed the most important part of her life. By looking at the woman with children, she curses her own fate because society has created the discourse that a barren woman is an outcast. The woman

living in this society is convinced to think that she has committed the sin in her previous life. She remains hopeless and imagines her coming lonely life. She thinks of her un-honored death and bemoans. She imagines her life in hell and considers it a failure. All other prosperities and success remain worthless before this. The society has created a norm that a childless woman is a failure. She is not accepted as the member of her husband's house. This worries her parents, friends and relatives too. She is supposed to stop the generation of her husband. Such a mother is alone to be blamed for her childless condition. Thinking of her as the woman of bad omen, she is even driven out from the family. Her presence in social functions and gathering is more or less forbidden. The society really insults her to such an extent that she thinks of committing suicide. But our traditional society needs to understand that infertility is a only biological defect. The traditional society needs a reorientation that a whole life of the woman is more than her compulsion of giving birth to a child. Today, many of the couples have started adopting the orphans. Even some of the women choose their right to not becoming a mother. It seems necessary that male can be responsible for not having a child. A woman's precious life shouldn't be crippled by social conviction. She should get equality and freedom in the society in which she lives in.

20. 2065 Q. NO. 13 A

What differences does the writer show between a traditional society and a modern society in matters of pregnancy, childbirth and child bearing? [10]

- Please refer to **2073 SET D Q. NO. 3B**

21. 2061 Q. NO. 13

Write in about 100 words about the values held by the traditional Nepali society in which a woman who cannot bear children is considered as a failure in her personal life and a useless woman in the eyes of the society. Give your own views on the subject. [10]

- Please refer to **2066 (PARTIAL) Q. NO. 13 B**

22. 2060 Q. NO. 11

What differences does the writer show between a traditional society and a modern society in matters of pregnancy, childbirth and childbearing? [10]

- Please refer to **2073 SET D Q. NO. 3B**

23. 2059 Q. NO. 3 A

Discuss in about 200 words the advantages rearing in a traditional society. How is the child-rearing a beneficial practice for the young mother? [10]

- Greer in the essay, "A Child is Born" brings examples of child rearing from the traditional. Her examples reflect the advantages of such rearing. The advantage of such rearing is that the mother has a free time. She gets relief. On the other hand the family has a sort of ceruminous feeling. The child become happy and satisfied. The mother's individual burden reduces. The rest of the time she can contribute to the household work. Similarly, the mother recovers soon from her post pregnancy complications. Moreover, a sense of friendship between the family members increases. This gives the sense of collective responsibility. The family members become cheerful by thinking that the mother has satisfied the desires of the relatives. For young mothers and their children, Greer thinks traditional child rearing practices are beneficial. In traditional society, the children are usually looked after collectively by the family members, which makes the child happy on the one hand and mother free. The entire family is involved in bathing and to feed the children collectively. This reduces the workload of the mother. In the evening, children are told fairy tales by members of the family. However, these aren't seen in modern western societies. The family members have to take care of their children by themselves as there is no help from other family members in the matter of child care. In this way, both mother and child are benefited.