Panoptic Vision and Ontological Belief in William Golding’s *The Double Tongue*

Dr Mukesh Yadav

*Associate Professor, NIMS University Rajasthan, Jaipur-303121*

**Abstract**

The present paper focuses on William Golding’s panoptic vision and ontological beliefs prevalent in his novel *The Double Tongue*. The paper attempts to revisit the binary oppositions of good and evil, rational and spiritual which form the basis of his ontological analysis. The antithetic form of faith and reason has been analyzed to understand Golding’s panoptic vision which shows gradual shift from ignorance to revelation. The paper has undergone an enquiry into the limitations of binary world amid chaos of existence, taking readers to a flight from panoptic vision to beyond the boundary. William Golding's Ionides is by all accounts a character of oddities, yet it is Arieka who is the developed character, pure in heart and assumes her job with him strictly as a steady friend. Ionides is a critic, a skeptical, contriver while Arieka, showing up in Delphi at fourteen years old, has confidence in the Olympians, "every one of them twelve". Arieka has an intensity of prognosticating and mending what provoked Ionides to bring her at Delphi, yet at the center of the fiction Arieka at Delphi is by all accounts encompassed by question about the intensity of Apollo or prophet where as Ionides, "self-conflicting man ". Hence, Golding’s ‘The Double Tongue’ quests a panoptic vision of truth that is beyond the darkness of evil and sin, passions and desires, apparently seeking revival of mankind amid the prevalent chaos of existence.

Keywords: Panoptic Vision; ontological belief; spiritual; existence

**INTRODUCTION**
William Golding's Double Tongue (1995) is an incomplete draft and it was distributed posthumously in 1993. Unequivocally, this is the last work that Golding has written an authentic account of his love for Greek culture and civilization. It is set in Delphi in the first century BC when the Hellenic culture was going to be bound by the Roman assault. William Golding could barely acknowledge that Greek qualities and social practices would die from the earth as he constantly considered, "Delphi, the focal point of the earth" (Double Tongue p. 33).

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Arieka very well identified Ionide's incomprehensible character and his going to God was a joke or profane! Indeed, he was set on going to anything for sparing the Greece and its social qualities against Roman assault yet it was the pragmatist's nonsensical energy for Hellenic culture. Arieka, who felt that the divine beings have dismissed their appearances or she has diverted her back from the divine beings, presently recognizes the divine beings' presence as a quiet admirer, not the one who’s peddling for name and acclaim. Impervious confidence in Apollo, the preeminent God, empowers her spiritualist experience. Following his unfulfilled want of sparing the Hellenic culture, Ionides acknowledges passing getting away into the void, 'not-god, not-man—nothingness' (DT 163). Arieka too faces the void however she feels there is 'delicacy' in it. Arieka for a mind-blowing duration moves among conviction and skepticism; she oscillates between the universe of science and the universe of otherworldliness. Despite the fact that she sees herself as 'jumbled', she is, in reality a motion of both devotee and non-adherent all at time as having been gotten among conviction and skepticism. It’s noteworthy to say that as a Pythia she returns it to the prophet itself about its own legitimacy: "Ask the prophet for your own
sake! Inquire as to whether it existed? What jabber was that? A Paradox, was that what they would call it? The void at that point. What's more, the hexameters" (DT 126).

DISCUSSION

The Double Tongue opens with the memory of Arieka, the hero's record of the hour of her introduction to the world right now might be contended as her ontological acknowledgment as it is herself approving characters: "Bursting light and warmth, undifferentiated and experiencing themselves. There! I've done it!" The creator is sharing his experience through Pythia about the province of 'Being' in the domain of soul no shape, no structure - just a sort of vibration in immortal nearness. Time never skims by; time is an evident discernment. He surely communicates in suggestive words his own ontological experiences through his hero in the equivalent relax:

> It was a quality of , a kind of naked being without time or sight (despite the blasting light) and nothing preceded it and nothing came after, It is separated from progression, which implies, I assume, it might have occurred anytime of time – or out of it (Double Tongue p.3).

William Golding ontological beliefs’ in The Double Tongue is evident through the following lines, "I had put stock in the Olympians, each of them twelve. What amount did I accept now following quite a while of hearing Ionides designing addresses for me? How much following quite a while of concocting them myself? … Of looking for a proof that all I had confidence in was a living certainty and if twelve divine beings didn't live on that mountain, they did in actuality , in genuine truth, live some place , in some other mode, on a far more noteworthy mountain?" (DT 136). This likewise reminds us Christ's lesson on the mountain where Christ was encompassed by twelve of His agent holy people who were god-like mirroring a similar Christian qualities. Golding was honored by that heavenly capacity to talk his articulations and its blend unquestionably weakens the pith. What is the contrast among Golding and a typical individual involves level of discernment and it generally changes from individual to
individual and Arieka, with regards to subjection answers it, "What I am searching for is an expression… Yes I recall. It is an issue of degree" (DT 139). Bondage, for her, is restriction of opportunity, yet something else, every individual are either ways slaves, she contends: "You could regardless say that we are for the most part captives of the divine beings or the possibility of the divine beings, or subject, in the event that it ends up like that, to the law" (DT 139).

Golding recommended that it isn't feasible for the 'philistines' to comprehend everything right now the issues of otherworldliness or snapshot of blaze through which the everlasting information comes to individual: "Yet I had started crying uncontrollably and appeared to be very unfit to control them. In spite of the fact that whether I was tragic or cheerful or on edge or completely accomplished or I think that it’s difficult to state" (DT 48).

Ontological consultations became noticeable issue in the west under the overwhelming weights of present day logical research. The western overbearing religion shook and stood hypnotized where it expected to answer all the questions and loss of confidence. Maybe a sledge mallet of exact science blew the fine, yet weak, porcelain of western religion. The western religious philosophy at that point, and it is still currently, is at its absolute limit to adapt to the ever-rising tide of forceful present day thought. In the organization of Ionides and without her mom Arieka has consistently felt awkward and brought into her own self-a condition like Sammy: "However what it feels like is a purposeful drop into the earth. Further and further down. Each time I understood once more the monstrosity of my disrespect, the profundity of my disgrace; I attracted myself and push myself down, down, away from the sunshine, away from individuals. Likewise away from the divine beings." (DT 22).

During the marriage excursion of Arieka, which is similar with person's excursion to endlessness, the omniscient storyteller says that, "there are divine beings all over yet permitting themselves to be detected, as though at any minute with a blaze of light and an applause of thunder one would begin nearness and reason and power"(DT 41). The best approach to comprehend the inconspicuous is extreme. Individuals require immaculateness and the commonplace world has a wide range of allurement of intensity, industrialism and delight of faculties. The Pythia in Double Tongue cautions Arieka to watch certain poise and put forth
cognizant attempt to accomplish the most noteworthy way: "It is less complex to go with the tide… Be solid and maybe the god won't request a torn mouth or visually impaired eyes from you...For the rest monitor your virginity. The god himself will guide them and misfortune betides you in the event that you transgress." (DT 54).

Greece was the seat of learning and ontological inquiry in old Europe and has delivered the wellspring of information since the hour of Plato and Aristotle to the cutting edge age and Golding, a careful researcher and admirer of Greek writing has on numerous occasions makes reference to about its scholarly and otherworldly enthusiasm: "Delphi is the focal point of the world… In those days Athens was the scholarly and imaginative focal point of the world. I need them, the two spots, and resuscitated (DT 56). The Double Tongue is the response to that which has investigated Arieka's character from women's activist perspective and the book is the aggregate of what Golding is tied in with joining all his anecdotal undertaking in the last unpublished final appearance. What individuals investigated of his works till the Double Tongue experienced a little change toward a superior clean on the pursuing topic the after death production of it and as of now recognized respectable laureate as an extraordinary craftsman is presently investigated as more noteworthy than previously.

Golding investigates moral difficulties at the focal point of human presence and he as often as possible places his characters to confront extraordinary circumstances to recommend a fanciful measurement to their lives. The characters consistently move around a twofold view and an essential argument of restricting philosophies. Distracted with underhanded and unique sin, he treats these subjects in a way that rises above the limits of standard Christianity. The idea of good and wickedness, as Golding has introduced, is so summed up and all encompassing that unwinds the inquiry what type of animal is man? What’s more, make man face the pitiful realities of his own savagery and desire. Martin in the Pincher Martin (1956) had no faith in anything besides his own life, no God. The ravenousness forever constrained him to decline the benevolent demonstration of biting the dust. He kept on existing independently in a world made
out of his own dangerous nature. Having suffocated, his cognizance despite everything attempts frantically to hang on in a watery limbo.

In section VI of the Double Tongue, Arieka admits in regards to the force and immaculateness one needs to achieve the tallness whence one can talk in raised terms. Golding purposely utilized such raised terms and left his grandiose treatise as he knew sure that in twentieth century the world is dove into the legend of progress and in distraught quest for everything commonplace neglectful of the genuine pith of the world and in the event that the world is past the point where it is possible to acknowledge, at that point harm could be huge. Consequently, Golding took the endless supply of waking and noting individuals into height, "I did once in a while offer and response in hexameters however that answer was rarely simple. It required a specific height of the soul however it caused a more noteworthy mix than I knew about at that point" (Double Tongue: 115).

Every human spirit is bound by the universe of separations and insufficiency. So our vision and judgment have fundamentally to be tainted by true individual. Human condition itself is capable and we will undoubtedly acknowledge it. Golding had no existential difficulty or any ridiculousness thereof for mankind. His vision is straight and basic as he could talk through the hexameter. It is progressively significant that we have to make a measure for ourselves what legitimizes our parcel. Pythia had her measure that she could articulate reality of god and massively venerated. Thus, in the realm of twofold, we are to make us immaculate woodwinds the compass of which would be utilized by God to play upon and the better the compass better would be its music. Maybe, Golding made him an ideal woodwind of whose music enchanted the world with an enchantment to scatter all haziness, however not with no imperfections as he was an individual of fragile living creature and blood.

Arieka maintained a strategic distance from the bit of Ionides as at whatever point he contacts her she feels a shiver. The dread consistently frequents her, dread of being contemptible; here and there she chuckles at her experience of liberating her of him and here and there she agonizes as to being a lady, a powerless animal groups, "Together we strolled forward. The shivering had gone. The dread was still there, however blended, I do no know how or why, with
sorrow. It was anguish about lady I think. Distress for them as instruments to be played on by divine beings or men." (DT 68). When Arieka feels the fear when her idea comes back to her own undertakings, the omniscient voice reminds her, "Consider yourself a trooper… Your fear is that of an officer who realizes that one day he should confront his dread however not yet" (DT 70). All the Golding characters have confronted life, its feelings of trepidation and figured out how to defeat it through consistent undertaking.

Arieka could articulate truth that she got from god out of her visionary force. She got astonishing settlement, endowments and specialists for supporting in the entirety of her needs, however she thought about such common solaces. On the other hand Ionides, her absolute opposite, was common individual who was content with wealth, "Individuals are putting not in you, yet in reality… You will be rich lady in your right, my dear. The prophet benefits" (DT 70). This world ever proceeds with the admixture of good and fiendishness. It is neither acceptable nor malicious. It is the perspective that decides fortunate or unfortunate and accordingly the activities follow. The perspective just guided Roger or jack to be reprobates, Sammy for his desire lastly, Matty or Simon went to be holy people. Fire in itself isn't acceptable or insidious. The utilization delivers the consequence of fortunate or unfortunate. So additionally is it with the world. It is flawless to meet the closures. The manner in which we take a gander at it, a similar impression we structure and as needs be we shape our idea design.

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**CONCLUSION**

Golding's arrangement of books pivots upon one fundamental inquiry and one single answer as his proposal proclamation that all the separations are just superficially. All the things are important to smoothen our own insight and experience. We should experience the procedure gradually yet absolutely till we come to understand reality that there is solidarity in everything noticeable and non unmistakable. This, he called as Delphic Oracle or self-information on one bringing together force at the back ground of all disorder and separation. The world, for him, has been consistent. The Inheritors doesn't talk about just of decimation of guiltlessness however it came in creator's brain as the reference point of future state of worldwide fear mongering and odd episodes of neo provincial rivalries emerging out of post innovator wonders to which 21st century bears declaration to. Henceforth, Golding's philosophy is an astronomical good faith of resuscitating the feeling of direction of the humankind in the midst of the clear confusion of presence.

**Works cited**


All quotations have been taken from the book: Golding, William. The Double Tongue. London: Faber and Faber, 2013.