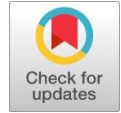


Kama Sutra, a Pandora's Box of Evils?

Sandeep S. Jaiswal



Abstract: *This paper shows that Kama Sutra, the oldest living literature on sex, love and relationship has a flawed core concept that is neither holistic, moral or uplifting nor balanced and harmonious to human nature. It has some positives in speaking about the truth but it is patchy as most of the verses speak about satisfying a human desire with "just do it" philosophy rather than control your lust to seek pleasure but not at the cost of sacrificing your values. When this Pandora's box is open it will do more harm than good to society as the fundamental foundation is weak and verses speak from ignorance of real knowledge.*

Keywords: *Kama Sutra, harmonious sensor, Diversity*

I. INTRODUCTION

The Kama Sutra is an ancient Indian text that is often associated with the art of love and sexual practices. It was written by Vātsyāyana, a scholar who lived in India around the 6th century CE. The Kama Sutra is divided into seven books, each focusing on different aspects of human relations, including courtship, marriage and sexual pleasure. It is important to note that the Kama Sutra is not solely focused on sexual techniques but its core philosophy also emphasizes the importance of emotional connection, respect and understanding between partners [7]. It promotes a holistic approach to love and relationships, encouraging individuals to explore their desires while maintaining a sense of harmony and balance in their lives. The defining object of the Indian Kamasutra literature, according to Laura Desmond – an anthropologist and a professor of Religious Studies, is the "harmonious sensory experience" from a good relationship between "the self and the world", by discovering and enhancing sensory capabilities to "affect and be affected by the world". Vātsyāyana predominantly discusses Kama along with its relationship with Dharma and Artha with a passing mention of Moksha in some verses [9]. The text is one of many Indian texts on Kama Shastra. It is a much-translated work in Indian and non-Indian languages. The Kamasutra has influenced many secondary texts that followed after the 4th-century CE, as well as the Indian arts as exemplified by the pervasive presence Kama-related reliefs and sculpture in old Hindu temples. Of these, the Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Among the surviving temples in north India, one in Rajasthan sculpts all the major chapters and sexual positions to illustrate the Kamasutra.

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According to Wendy Doniger, the Kamasutra became "one of the most pirated books in English language" soon after it was published in 1883 by Richard Burton [1] & [10].

II. OBSERVATIONS

Following are some of the observations from the book that describe about its dark nature in detail:

- Chapter 1.5 (verses 6-20) and Chapter 5.1 discusses about adultery enumerating the reasons for which a man is allowed to seduce a married woman, permissible women, when to commit it, pursuing adultery, finding women interested in extramarital sex, the nature of adultery but also recommends a faithful spousal relationship.
- Chapter 6.1 discusses about courtesans, what motivates them, how to find clients, deciding if someone should just be a friend or a lover, which lovers to avoid, getting a lover and keeping him interested. Chapter 5.6 discusses about Public women (prostitutes), their life, what to expect and not, how to find them, regional practices, guarding and respecting them.
- Chapters 5 and 8 in Book 2 includes verses describing homosexual relations such as oral sex between two men, as well as between two women with Lesbian relations are extensively covered that includes a woman who lives a conjugal life with another woman, not interested in a husband, also mentions a girl losing her virginity with a girlfriend as they use their fingers.
- Chapter 1.5, 2.1, 5.2-5.5 and 6.1 discuss about finding sexual partners, sex, being lovers, types of love and lovers, about finding many lovers, which lovers to avoid that also includes intimacy of various forms, including those between lovers before and during sex.
- The text also mentions about oral sex, oral sex for women, oral sex for men, oral sex between two men, as well as between two women and the use of sex toys between women and many styles of fellatio and cunnilingus.
- Kamasutra also mentions about sadomasochism and group sex [1].

In the colonial era marked by sexual censorship, the Kamasutra became famous as a pirated and underground text for its explicit description of sex positions. The stereotypical image of the text is one where erotic pursuit with sexual intercourse include improbable contortionist forms. This is where the seed of the Pandora's box began and when it was opened all the evils of lust started flowing and is now ingrained not only in the western culture but has also effected the eastern lifestyle that cover the entire planet in this modern age [8].

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Just to see it's fallacy, in the Western media, such as in the American women's magazine Redbook, the Kamasutra is described as "Although it was written centuries ago, there's still no better sex handbook, which details hundreds of positions, each offering a subtle variation in pleasure to men and women" [2].

Kamasutra teaches adulterous sexual liaison as a means for a man to predispose the involved woman in assisting him, as a strategic means to work against his enemies and to facilitate his successes. It also explains the signs and reasons a woman wants to enter into an adulterous relationship and when she does not want to commit adultery. The Kama Sutra discourages adultery but then devotes more than fifteen sutras to enumerating the reasons for which a man is allowed to seduce a married woman. The Kamasutra teaches strategies to engage in adulterous relationships, but concludes its chapter on sexual liaison stating that one should not commit adultery because adultery pleases only one of two sides in a marriage, hurts the other, it goes against both Dharma and Artha [3].

The text states that there are two sorts of "third nature", one where a man behaves like a woman, and in the other, a woman behaves like a man. In one of the longest consecutive sets of verses describing a sexual act, the Kamasutra describes fellatio technique between a man dressed like a woman performing fellatio on another man. The text also mentions same-sex behaviour between two women, such as a girl losing her virginity with a girlfriend as they use their fingers as well as oral sex and the use of sex toys between women. Svairini, a term that translates as a lesbian is described in the text as a woman who lives a conjugal life with another woman or by herself fending for herself, not interested in a husband. Additionally, the text has some fleeting remarks on bisexual relationships. The Kamasutra also mentions pretend play sadomasochism, and group sex [1], [4].

Vātsyāyana also goes on to say that "a person should learn how to make a living; youth is the time for pleasure, and as years pass, one should concentrate on living virtuously and hope to escape the cycle of rebirth". The approach of Kamasutra clearly states "that a treatise demands the inclusion of everything, good or bad", but after being informed with in-depth knowledge, one must "reflect and accept only the good", thereafter let the individual make the choice by aiming to be comprehensive and inclusive of diverse views and lifestyles. The approach found in the text is one where goals of science and religion should not be to repress, but to encyclopaedically know and understand, thereafter let the individual make the choice. The text states that it aims to be comprehensive and inclusive of diverse views and lifestyles [1], [5][6][11][12][13][14].

III. DISCUSSIONS

What kind of book tells you to do morally wrong acts in your youth and later correct them? Be promiscuous in your teens, commit all the sins for pleasure and later repent in your life and maybe you will attain your salvation? Accept the bad you do but rather than telling to never do the bad again by telling you what bad is or not do it in the first place?

Have you seen such an advice in any scripture, books or literature anywhere on this planet? Which books tells you to

go to prostitutes and explains about their lifestyles, hire high class escorts (courtesans from those times) for pleasure, enjoyment, love and tells a day in their life's and how to handle them?, commit to what we called in modern day as swinging, adultery while you are married or not, homosexuality, sadomasochism, group sex, gay marriage, be promiscuous by having multiple sexual partners of all kinds, enjoy oral sex?, the very same acts that is destroying the world of today.

Kamasutra teaches adulterous sexual liaison as a means for a man to predispose the involved woman in assisting him, as a strategic means to work against his enemies and to facilitate his successes. The question is why have adulterous sexual relations just for getting the women to assist you in your objective if the same could be achieved through other means or by not having a sexual relationship but still taking her out in a seductive way? Sex with a married women is always immoral whether you do it to achieve a purpose, get around an enemy or facilitate your success and Vātsyāyana later on goes to accept that too. Similarly he does it for all the sins mentioned above to be against the Dharma, Artha and Moksha but still goes on to put it in the book, knowing well that is it against all good. Why put the wrongs in the book when you know well that it is wrong act for a human? You cannot be two minded here and encourages both as he does in his book.

All the acts mentioned above are morally wrong, inappropriate and sexual excesses, a form of depravity, decadence, dissolution and the like that ultimately leads to the fall of humans, community and nation. This book was written during the lag end of the Gupta empire around 6th century AD, the golden age of Indian history and it was during this period that many of the great achievements of Indian culture were made. This book also inspired the building of Khajuraho temples by the Chandela dynasty in the 12th century that showed the Hindu deities, demi-gods and even Gods in various sexual positions, chiselled all over the holy temple. The amorous carvings in the Sun temple of Konark during the reign of eastern Ganga Dynasty in the 13th century was also one of the inspirations from the book. All such empires including the Gupta empire where later destroyed and went into oblivion as karma caught with them when decadence fell to extreme, showing as multiple invasions by foreign barbarians, invaders and the enemies inside that lead to the decline of social, culture and moral fabric, the death of a nation. This is similar to the modern day fall of the western world where all such evil mentioned in the Kamasutra text has now entered mainstream and is now degrading the entire planet.

Homosexuality is not normal in humans that is not only unwholesome, unethical and immoral but also something that is psychological, done in an imbalanced state of a negative mind-set that emanates when one is vulnerable, confused and deviant. Kama Sutra describes such acts in details for men on men, women on women that also includes the third gender. It also professes the women can marry with other women and goes on to describing their sexual relationship in detail.



It is now widely accepted in this world that a union between a man and a woman or between a third gender male and a third gender female are the only ones that are moral, ethical and wholesome. Also encouraging women to use sex toys as a masturbation tool can further stoke the fire of lust in them and make them tend towards nymphomania mind-set, leading to their and society's downfall. Sadomasochism is something that is again not normal act for a human during sex and emanates from hatred, anger and revenge feelings in humans. So is group sex that can make human have a hangover for life that can destroy him and all the people in such despicable act. A real wholesome sex is always between the vagina and penis organs of humans that can be tried in various positions for pleasure, along with foreplay and playfulness that is always within the bounds of marriage.

Oral sex to mention one is a mainstream activity since the early days of humans and is considered part of a normal sexual activity among humans. How can a man or a woman go down on man or a woman to take the same organ that they use to remove the waste from the body in your mouth? You are bound to ingest some urine along with the human semen or vaginal discharge. Also how can you put your sexual organ during an anal intercourse from the same place you defecate from? All these are unwholesome acts that a sane human in a fully balanced state of mind that is in harmony with nature will never do during a sexual intercourse. Kamasutra encourages such acts.

The paper proves that Kama Sutra does not stand up to its original core philosophy of holistic approach to love and relationships as the knowledge it gives is incomplete, just a subset and not the absolute truth. The real truth is to enjoy sex, pleasure, the knowledge of sexual positions, love making foreplay, real play and play after sex but also staying within the limits, boundaries of morality. This moral boundary is not to engage in pre-marital sex, sex within the limits of marriage, no adultery, no promiscuity, no multiple lovers in any age, no post-marital sex, staying within the boundaries of self-control in these areas and winning over lust. The person who wins over lust and rather does not have lust but has lust too, enjoys sex but also does not and is always righteous, happy and in balance is the ultimate truth of any relationship related of love, sex and marriage. Kama Sutra does not explain this and instead imparts knowledge that stokes the fire of lust and not control it (Kama), imparts ignorance and not the real truth (Artha), goes against righteousness (Dharma), against ultimate salvation (Moksha) by telling to do immoral acts that you cannot control in your life but the goods too if you develop the control. A real book should teach how to avoid such acts in the first place but not to go with the flow and do it just because you think it is natural thing to do. The four such goals that are necessary and sufficient for a fulfilling and happy life (Kama, Artha, Dharma and Moksha), the book goes against them at most of the levels. It makes one's mind full of desires that destroy the sense of harmony and balance in human life by encouraging to do lustful activities without developing control over them by the defined boundaries mentioned above and thus making the mind unbalanced and not in harmony with nature. Although there are some good things in the book that are worth noting but the core concept, the tenet, the fundamental assumptions, the approach to the book is wrong that defeats all the positives in this text.

To sum it up as can be seen clearly from the facts described above that Kamasutra is not a good book to read, review or discuss about in any conversation, the so called dark literature that is based on a flawed concept and describes about things that are opposite to human values, principles and existence. If someone really want to understand more about sex, sexual positions, love, marriage and relationships there are many books available these days that describe these in more detail, morally correct and wholesome way, guiding you like a pole star and not taking you down the spiral of darkness, storms and uncertainty with no light in sight. A book that opens the Pandora's box of lust that can engulf the person, the community and the entire planet, if made mainstream...that by the way, has already been opened...with it all the sins, evils and demons of adultery, prostitution, escorting's, courtesans, promiscuity, homosexuality, gay marriage, swinging's, group sex, decadence, dissolutions, depravity, ignorance, hatred, envy, jealousy, all the negativity associated with lust, especially, and the likes are all out in the open...

IV. CONCLUSION

It can be clearly concluded that Kama Sutra was written with partial knowledge of truth in perspective as can be seen in some fundamental flaws in its core concept that is based on immediate satisfaction of human desires of lust rather than self-control. All its positives gets hidden by the negatives which is more likely to be captured by a person reading this literature thus acting like a Pandora's Box of evil that once opened can destroy the nation and the planet as a whole, which is exactly what is happening in this world to date.

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