

CHAPTER SEVENCONCLUSIONSArt and Society :

Art has a structure, which can be described, analysed and classified. It creates aesthetic sense and gives pleasure to one's senses. Art is a personal expression, but still derives symbols and images from the society. It expresses forms, emotions, patterns and symbols. Art also helps in communication between the individual and the society. It is created and passed from generation to generation through accumulated wisdom, techniques and tradition. Like wealth and economic power art seems to have become a luxury of a few people.

Art and Home decoration is found to be influenced by one's economic level, religion, profession and the impact and influence of society on the individual. It helps in interaction and socialization of the people. It brings people close to each other and fosters human relations. Therefore artistic creation is a firm link between human society, culture, nature and art. Art is both an inborn quality as well as a social and cultural need. ?

Artistic and home decoration activities reduce the diversions of mind towards socially unhealthy activities and thereby help for the stability and smooth going of the society. How?

Artistic Traditions of Kolhapur and Home Decoration :

Kolhapur derives its importance as a great commercial, religious and educational center. The district is a very large producer of Jaggery (gul) which is exported to different countries. It is known as the "Southern Kashi". The ancient temple of 'Mahalakshmi' and 'Jotiba' are the main attractions for tourists. It is also an educational as well as a sports centre. It has produced many skilled artists and sculptures. It is also the birth place of Marathi film industry. The effect of Shahu Maharaj's economic, cultural and social reforms have affected the people's life. Kolhapur has got its own tradition in different fields and Kolhapurians have developed a distinctive style of living.

Coming to the present situation, Kolhapur is developing at a faster rate, due to industrialization and modernization. Industries like Menon and Menon, HMT, Ghatge and Patil, etc. have expanded within a short period. Due to industrialization financial position of the people have increased, and exports and imports has further increased outside contacts. Transportation has increased. Local people are absorbed in these developing industries. The impact of modernisation is mainly on the economic sphere. Kolhapur has also progressed in educational field by the introduction of professional courses like Engineering, Technical, Management, Social work and so on, which have increased outside contact. As regards influence of views and western education, concepts about social, equality, justice, individual freedom and the place at

religion in life have brought remarkable changes in the customs, manners, beliefs and the values of the people.

These above developments have also an impact on the modern housing in extension areas like Rukmini Nagar, Sane Guruji Vasahat, Sykes Extension, Pratibha Nagar, Tarabai Park, etc. Here they have well-planned houses. A modern approach of home decoration is seen in these above and other residential areas. A beautiful harmony is achieved.

#### Income and Home Decoration :

In the present study, we have observed broadly three different types or grades of Home Decoration as follows :

1) Grade 'A' : In all eight percent families (8 %) fall in this category of art and home decoration. In this type of family we find a good combination of aesthetic and utility attitude and values. Such families can solve the problems easily which do not bring difficulties in creative art. Their approach is intelligent, creative and planned. These families are extrovert and generally mix up in the society.

2) Grade 'B' : In a 'B' grade family the financial position is just satisfactory for their livelihood. Such families are always active. They have an ideal of a rich class and draw ideas of style of living from movies and magazines etc. They consider utility first and then artistic aspects. They plan for their leisure time and spare money. There is no strong

personal touch in their style of Home Decoration. Modernity and religious attitude are beautifully blended together.(39 %). Thirtynine percent families fall in this group.

3) Grade 'C' : This type of family is backward in financial position. There is no awareness and need of new trend in Art and decorative items. There are however traditional symbols and human figures with distorted lines on the wall drawn with lime colour. Many times we find palm prints on the wall. Some of the families in this group however said that their idea of Art and Home Decoration was to maintain cleanliness at home. (53 %) Fiftythree percent families fall in this group.

Art is both an inborn quality as well as a social and cultural need. The higher income group are more conscious of their social status which makes them to give more attention to home decoration. The lower income group (below Rs.500 and Rs.501 to Rs.1500) consider art and home decoration as a waste of time. Families with above Rs.3000 income can devote special time for planned modern home decoration. We observe a trend, that as the income goes on increasing the traditional type styles and forms of home decoration decrease. The higher income group people also get ample time and money and are aware of new techniques and ideas and do not face problems in finding required materials. Thus they face no difficulties of any kind in the home decoration.

The three observed modes of sitting arrangements in home decoration in Kolhapur as follows :

- 1) Liking of Western sitting arrangement  
which constitutes 11 %
- 2) Indian-Western sitting arrangement which is  
in majority that is 67 % and
- 3) Indian sitting arrangement which constitutes 22 %.

In Indian-Western style of home decoration there is a combination of traditional and modern approach. In lower income group, we find purely Indian sitting arrangement because there is low income and poor understanding about art and home decoration. No special efforts are taken to improve their sitting arrangement. But as a suggestion we may indicate here that to make these families conscious and show its importance it is necessary to arrange exhibitions on low cost artistic and home decoration items in their own residential areas. Films and slides, posters may also be used for developing their tastes and interest.

Colour : It was observed that 65 % of the people having a liking for colours. They paint their home walls with water colours, commonly called 'Distemper'. Mostly they use secondary colours like green, orange and purple etc. 13 % of the people apply primary colours like blue, yellow, red and lime white. They are lighter in tone. Light green and cream colours are commonly used by the people of Kolhapur. The green colour is the symbol of prosperity and cream is the symbol of love and faith. In modern homes we find a maximum use of light violet and pink shade colours. In lower income group we find dark colours being used because they think in terms of a long range

benefit. Normally gaudy or fast colours are used in Muslim and Gujarati houses. The use of lime and yellow earth colour (pivadi) for colouring are common in use. These colours are more cheap in price and different shades can be created in combination with other materials like Kajali, Rawsena or Burntsena etc.

#### Religion and Home Decoration :

Different religions have got different outlooks towards Art and Home decoration. In Hindu religion, symbols like Swastik, Om, Kalash, Shree have a religious importance. They are believed to bring good to the family. These symbols are exhibited artistically through many mediums like painting, wall hangings, and embroidery. Thus religions, beliefs and traditions find expression in their artistic behaviour.

The Muslims respect the number '786' as their religious symbols. We find this number is carved with different costly materials among the rich, but among the poor family it is written on the wall with the help of a chalk.

In every Christian family, they place the photo of Jesus Christ and the symbol of cross at an important place in the house.

#### Occupation and Home Decoration :

In case of occupation we see that in farmer's family there is no proper planning in home decoration. They have no strong choice or attitude towards home decoration. They follow

suggestions given by others. Decoration is done without understanding. In professional families they have planning, good income and do home decoration with understanding. It has a combination of Art and utility. In job or service oriented families they use whatever material is at their disposal. In case of daily wage earners they think home decoration as expensive and that they lack, time.

#### Types of family and Home Decoration :

In nuclear families the members have freedom to decorate their homes according to one's tastes, likings and artistic vision, whereas in Joint families no special efforts are taken to motivate the individuals for home decoration.

#### Education and Home Decoration :

It is observed that educated families are aware of home decoration as a necessary and planned activity. They take it as a hobby. They have a sense that home decoration has a good effect on the life of individuals and helps to bring better relations, whereas in uneducated families they are rather unaware of home decoration.

#### Suggestions :

On the basis of the above conclusions I suggest the following things :

1) Artistic and Home decoration consciousness and interest should be developed among primary school boys and girls. Creativity of the children should be developed rather than imposing ones own ideas and values.

2) Ideal and Low cost house types as well as Home decoration forms and items should be made popular by exhibitions, film shows or through models.

3) More and more importance to artistic and aesthetic development in our society should be given which is likely to bring a good and healthy atmosphere in the society. Working efficiency is also likely to increase which is good from the country's economy point of view as well as bringing social stability.