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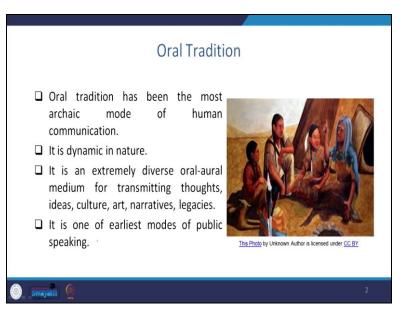
# Lecture: 18 Forms and Stages of Public Speaking\_ Part I

Good morning friends and welcome back to NPTEL online certification course on Public Speaking. You remember well that in the previous lecture we talked about digressions and I had ended on a note saying---- I digress to come again to the main topic and once again we are coming to the main topic and the topic today, of course, the main topic is public speaking but here today we are going to talk about forms and stages of public speaking.

Now you might be thinking what are these forms and what are the various stages and why they are essential. Right from the beginning we have been talking about public speaking being actually from the olden times in practice. So, if we can make a historical analysis or take a historical background of public speaking, you will find that earlier we had a sort of oral tradition even in scriptures, in many of our religious books.

Even in many of our other books also you will come across the uses of speeches to make people entertain and educate in India especially we had the ashrams where students would live as disciples and the teacher being the guru will give them a discourse and the discourse students will carry back and they will employ in their own lives as a sort of something that they should be proud of.

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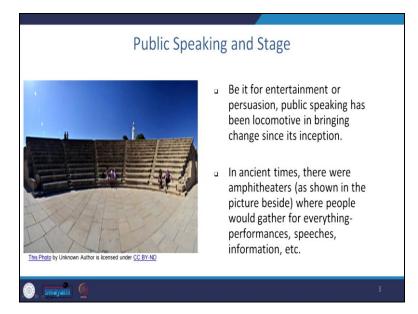
Now since public speaking also has a sort of oral tradition and we try to understand here that oral tradition has been the most archaic mode of human communication. History is witness to the fact that earlier we did not have much of the written material before the printing press came out or was invented. So, all forms of education were also through a method where oral tradition was practiced.

So, this oral tradition is quite dynamic in nature. It was actually a sort of diverse oral medium. I mean speaking and listening. We have a long tradition even you know in many of the ashrams you still find that this tradition follows. Of course, now in an age of science we come across such things very rarely but still if you can come to certain ashrams where still this tradition follows they actually keep on, I mean, students keep on reciting.

Sometimes you know they actually keep responding to what the teacher speaks or teacher says. So, it is one of the earliest modes of public speaking. Now we have come a long way and we have different modes. Now, we have different sorts of medium. But then in order to understand the nitty-gritty of public speaking, it is better that we actually go a little bit into our past when we did not have the proper theatres, cinema halls and other things as modes of entertainment.

But even then because we did not have this system of recording where people can get recorded version of things and all. So, everything used to be very live.

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So, even for entertainment or persuasion, public speaking has been quite locomotive in bringing change since its inception. In earlier days when we did not have the facilities and people, of course, had to learn a lot. So, where could they learn and where could they watch such activities of public performances. I mean they had amphitheatres, fine. Here you can find on the left hand side that here is an amphitheatre.

In most of the kingdoms in olden days we had these amphitheatres and the king or the head of that kingdom would come and sometimes they would deliver justice sometimes they would talk about something and the people will listen instantly and much in awe much in concentration. So, in ancient times there were amphitheatres, where people would gather for performances fine speeches, information.

Even you know, we are cognizant of the fact that our Indian system apart from what has been described in our scriptures, we still have in our villages a form of local Panchayat where such things are delivered, even where the scientific wings have not reached people used to practice these public speaking through different modes sometimes through drama as well, sometimes through speeches as well.

Even in many corners of India, you can still find that sense continue this tradition of public speaking when they deliver some lectures and they are for our advantage. (Refer Slide Time: 06:35)

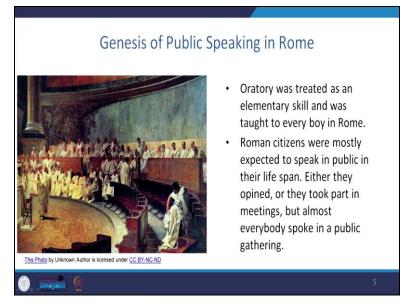


Now when we come to know about the genesis of public speaking it actually started first in Greece and the known facts depict that Greek society greatly relied on oral expressions. So, whatever could be spoken and whatever could be heard. Now these people especially the Greek people--- they also made use of epideictic speeches what are these epideictic speeches they are actually meant to praise or blame someone.

I mean people had to be made aware if somebody had to be praised or somebody had to be offered praises. So, for that also public speak public speaking was a mode and this was actually done by Greek people. They practiced rhetoric that is why Romans were considered to be better actors than others, fine. So, they constantly evolved with governing structures with the use of public speaking.

Here, you can find on the right hand side how somebody is delivering and people there are listening to them. Of course, it is not that much structured but then there we can also come across such descriptions in Shakespeare's plays and in many other places, we will come to that.

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So, when we talk about the genesis of public speaking in Rome, oratory was considered to be one of the major and elementary skills and every boy was taught to speak in public. So, this oratory was an important skill and you can here find that how if we compare it with the modern day the way we have made today our classrooms in many institutions and all, we can find that there is, of course, a reminder of what used to be practised in Rome.

And the structure used to be like that. Even when such a sort of structure was not there, it was actually practiced in the open fields. Still you can find that one form of it is practiced as a street plays. Even in many parts of our country as well we can find the depiction of a street plays, the enactment of a street plays that is also one way of making people realize the worth of speaking.

So, Roman citizens who are mostly expected to speak in public in their life span either they opined I mean they gave their opinion or they took part in meetings but almost everybody spoke in public gathering. So, this was actually a sort of skill which Roman students or a Roman boy had to practice right from the beginning.

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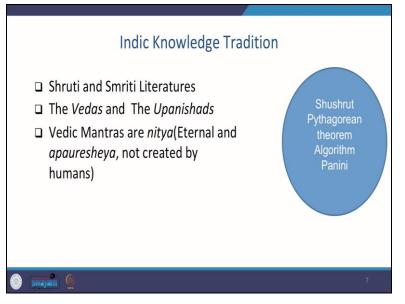


Even in India, if we come we find that we have a vast tradition of Shruti parampara or the *Shruthi* tradition, fine. Now what is this *Shruti* tradition you might have come across these two terms Shruti and Smriti. Srithi actually means something that can be heard or we have many you know works which are based on what has been heard through generations. And you know one form of it was a storytelling.

You might all realize that even today this story telling which we started in our grandmother's lap during the bed bedtime, that continues of course the form has been developed but it is also a form of public speaking. So, oral tradition has also existed in Indian subcontinent since time immemorial. And this *parampara or* this tradition I mean learning through hearing learning through hearing flourished in cultural, spiritual and social life.

Many of you might remember well that the four Vedas they are reminiscent of this fact and the *Ramayana* and the *Mahabharata* fine. They are part of this Indian tradition the ancient classic most of you might be acquainted with Thiruvallur's *Kural*, Thiruvalluvar's *Kural* which is actually a Tamil classic text it has actually been translated in English as well will come to that also one pope and two other writers they translated it.

It is actually full of for the relations and there a lot of emphasis has been given on the power of speech. So, it actually contains two chapters on the virtues of our good speech. (Refer Slide Time: 11:38)

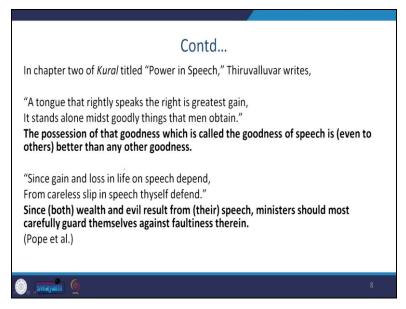


Now my dear friends, if we come to know about this Indic knowledge tradition as we have been saying that in India also much before the world thought of many of you might be aware of or might have heard the name of Sushruth Samhita where you know much before all these surgeries and all these medical facilities took place. So, Sustruta makes a mention of it then the Pythagorean theorem we all know that we have some way or the other some of its remaining origin in India.

And then the Algorithm which was actually developed by *al-khwajim* and who does not know are the name of Panini's Astadhyayi which is the modern day in modern day times we can say the grammar that you are using it has its base in Panani's *Astadhyayi*. So, the *Vedas* and the *Upanishads* are actually are the burning examples of Indic knowledge tradition. These Vedic mantra, s these Vedas comes from the word Vid that means to know.

So, these four Vedas are they are actually *nithya*, *nithya* that is eternal something that cannot be changed. And *apaurusay* meaning thereby that it was actually not created by humans rather it was created by some divine forces. So, now do you not believe that we had this oral tradition and we had it even in our ancient scriptures and we must be proud of it. My dear friends, as we are mentioning Kural.

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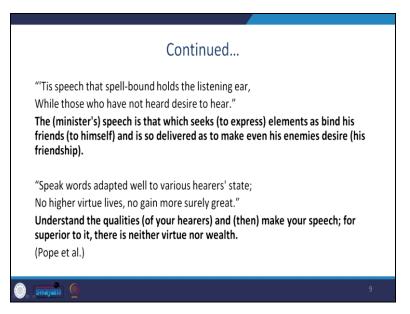
So, this Kural actually a part of this classic Tamil literature which is actually famous for the power of speech and the writer of this is Valluvar, Tiruvalluvar, fine Tiruvalluvar. Now we can take some of the lines, where also a lot of importance has been given on the power of speech and when this was translated into English let us take some lines where it is said. "A tongue that rightly speaks the right is greatest gain".

A tongue that rightly speaks. Now the power of speech, "it stands alone/ meets goodly things that men obtain." Now you can find that there is a very beautiful rhyming here also. And the meaning is that the possession of goodness which is actually called the goodness of speech or the power of speech is better than any other goodness's. All the worldly things all the worldly positions they actually do not stand before the power of a beautiful speech before the power of a golden tongue golden tongue why because it is powerful.

Then again we can take another one----"Since gain in loss in life on speech depends", let us look at the lines--- "Since gain and loss in life on speech depend/ from careless slip in speech thy self defend." Now, very beautifully it has been analyzed that both gain and loss--- they actually depend on speech. So, such is the power of speech both loss and gain, wealth and even evil result from speech.

So, from careless slip, if there is a careless slip in speech thy self defend. So, ministers should carefully guard themselves against fault or faulty speech, is not it beautiful? So, you will find that the public speaking that we boast of today has its past even in ancient and old scriptures. Now two more couplets: "It is a speech that spellbound holds the listening ear./

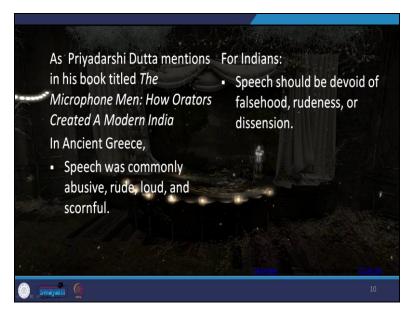
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So, here "Tis speech that a spellbound holds the listening ear/ while those who have not heard desire to hear." So, such is the power of speech that which seeks elements as bind his friends. I mean it creates a sort of union and it is so delivered as to make even his enemies desire. I mean speech has got such an advantage. And that advantage which actually even enemies also desire ----"Speak words adapted well to various hearers' state. /

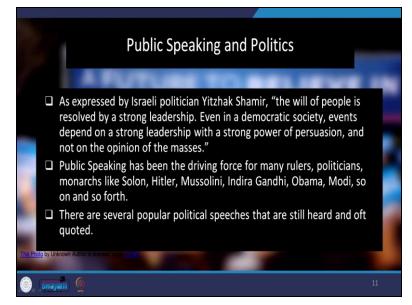
We are talking about the forms and stages of public speaking: Speak words adapted well to various hearers' state/ No high virtue leaves no gain more surely great." So, one has to speak words which are actually well- adapted to various hearers, meaning thereby, various audience. "No higher virtue leaves, no gain more surely great. "Understand the qualities of your hearers, understand your audience and make your speech; For superior to it, there is neither virtue nor wealth". Neither virtue nor wealth is superior to speech. Meaning thereby, speech has actually got more power than anything else on earth. So, such beautiful lines have been uttered or have been written in Thiruvalluvar's work that is *Kural*, fine.

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I came across one very beautiful book in which Priyadarshi Datta mentions in his very significant book entitled the *Microphone Men* how orators created a modern India fine. And there he says that in ancient Greece speech was commonly abusive, rude, loud and scornful whereas for Indians what he says speech should be devoid of falsehood, devoid of rudeness and devoid of dissension. So, such is the power of speech such actually should be the form of speech.

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Now when we talk about this public speaking we find that this public speaking has found its room even in political circles. And somebody who actually wants to become a very efficient effective leader has also to practice his skills in public speaking. We can here take one line by Israeli politician Yitzhak Samir who says---" The will of people is resolved by a strongly

leadership. Even in a democratic society events depend on a strong leadership with a strong power of persuasion."

You might have found that beautiful speeches have got actually the power of advocacy, the power of persuasion and not on the opinion of the masses. That is why leaders always have an edge over the common public. Today, all of you might always be eager to listen to good many political speeches. Of course, here I am not talking about those speeches which can be termed as hate speeches.

But those speeches which actually talk about the welfare of the society even you know in modern India. We can listen to the speeches of even our present prime minister, Narendra Modi whose speeches are very persuasive and one finds glued to, one finds himself stuck to when our leader speaks. So, public speaking has been the driving force for many rulers, politicians, monarchs like Ceylon, Hitler, Mussolini.

In India we can find Indira Gandhi, Vajpai, fine even in U.S Obama. Earlier we had Clinton, even present day Hillary Clinton also is a very good speaker. And then in India, of course, Modi here, fine. So, there are several popular political speeches that are still heard and often quoted. When we shall have a discussion on speeches of the famous people and speeches for all occasions.

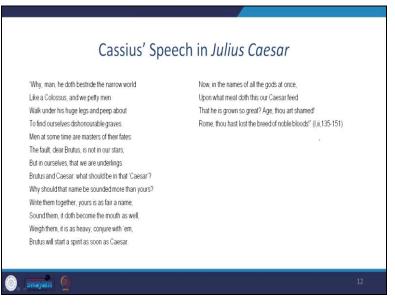
We will also see to it how we can find out the traits of an effective speech but here even in literature you can also find that there are plenty of examples in many literary books. Where you will find that speeches have always been able to persuade a sort of advocacy and have helped people do the desired thing. We can take a very classic example of one of Shakespeare's plays entitled *Julius Caesar*.

All of you know this story that Julius Caesar was killed by none other than his most faithful friend Brutus. Now initially Brutus did not want to kill Caesar because they were friends and Brutus was a noble, Brutus was a republic and he knew that Rome could not survive well under the rule of Caesar. And you know conspirators actually tried to have a sort of advantage over or tried to defeat Caesar.

So, what they did? They decided that they should some way or the other conspire and fill the mind of Brutus with such thoughts that Brutus becomes ready for this conspiracy and they hatched a conspiracy. In this regard we had Cassius who was very intelligent and he was the person who incited Brutus that Caesar must be killed.

Alia Brutus did not want to kill Caesar. Now, here you can find a glance off or a glimpse of the political change or the political advocacy that Cassius makes. Let us have a look at what he says I mean what Cassius says in his speech.

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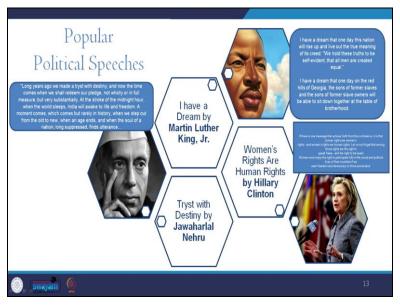
"Why man he doth destroyed the narrow world/Like a colossus and we petty men /walk under his hues legs and peep about// to find ourselves dishonourable graves. Men that sometimes are masters of their fates/ the fault dear Brutus is not in our stars/ but in ourselves that we are underlings/ Brutus and Caesar what should be in that Caesar?/ Why should that name be sounded more than yours./ Write them together yours is as fair a name/ sound them it doth become the mouth as well/ weigh them it is as heavy conjure with them/ Brutus will start a spirit as soon as Caesar./ Now in the name of all the gods at once/ upon what meat doth this our Caesar feed/ that he is grown so great age thou art shamed! Rome thou hast lost the breed of noble bloods."

Now you can find here how it can even stir the minds of people who are quiet and the purpose was just to incite Brutus so that Brutus may actually be convinced that Caesar has to be killed and after all these persuasions and all these persuasive advocacies there came a time when Brutus said----' Yes, it must be by his death.' And you know later, what happened Caesar was killed . Caesar could not believe in. Caesar said---- "Et tu Brute." So, the question

is that in political circles also, speeches have been very powerful speeches have always have got a sort of power.

Now, these forms of speeches whether in politics, in culture in society, in science, we have had. So, many people who have made their marks and why they have made their marks. Some of the popular political speeches we can take here.

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Say for example one speech by our first prime minister Pandit Nehru when in his "Tryst with Destiny". What he says--- "Long years we made a tryst with destiny and now the time comes when we shall redeem our pledge, not wholly or in full measure but very substantially." I mean we are now in a different world but we still go back and listen to such a speech. And not only in India but we can also be reminiscent of Martin Luther King junior's speech.

"I have a dream" where in the midst of his talk he says-----" I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and leave out the true meaning of its creed. We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal. I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood."

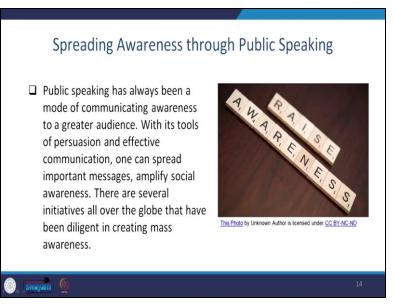
My dear friends, what Martin Luther King talked of equality through his political speech was also a sort of advocacy and in today's times who does not remember well the speech given by Hillary Clinton. When she gave a speech entitled "Women's Rights are Human Rights", and she says----- "If there is one message that echoes from this conference, it is that human rights are women's rights. And women's rights are human rights. Let us not forget that among those rights are the right to be heard. Women must enjoy the right to participate fully in the social and political lives of the countries. As if we want freedom and democracy to thrive and endure."



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I mean speeches have always helped create a sort of awareness fine. And that also through public speaking. We have from time to time seen it even depicted in literature so, this public speaking has been a mode of communication there are several initiatives, my dear friends.

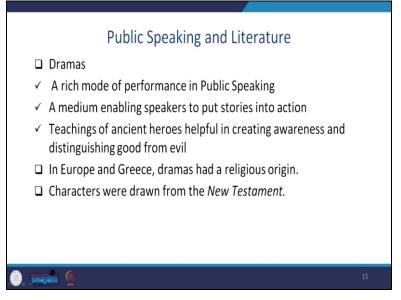
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And in literature you can find plethora of examples even if you go to the genesis of dramas, I mean, special English dramas we have found that it also used to be a rich mode of performance in public speaking because public speaking is a sort of performance speaking. It

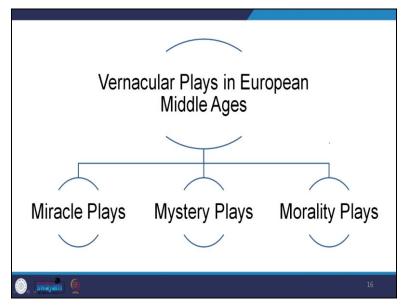
is actually a sort of medium through which the speakers put stories into action, they convert their stories into action.

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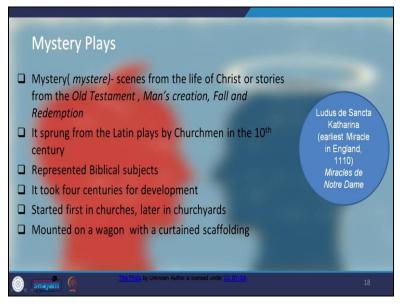
In Europe and Greece, dramas had a religious origin and you know the dramas if we come to the beginning of it when it began, no? The vernacular plays in the European middle ages were named as miracle mystery and morality plays.

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In miracle plays, there was depiction of the martyrdom of saint. It could be real or fictional but then it was all through oral. You know it was all through oral recitations and all, by 13th century it comprised unecclesiastical elements as well. On the right hand side, you can see picture, you can see have a look at pictures and you can relate to it.

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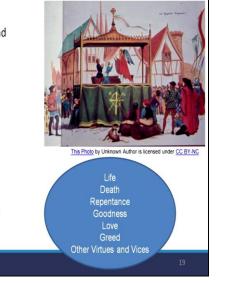


Now when we talk of mystery plays these mystery plays they also represented Biblical subjects I mean the need was to talk about or to make people aware about man's creation fall and redemption. It since it did not have proper structure, it started in the churches later when the number of actors increased it started being enacted in churchyards and then they did not used to have the prejudice style of theatres and all. So, the dramas were mounted, I mean on a wagon and the wagon having wheels and then with the curtain scaffolding and the lower part of the wagon used to be the green room or the dressing room. My dear friends, later on you know in the 16th century Europe morality plays came into being. And then the major focus was to let people understand the difference between good and evil.

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### Morality play

- Allegorical drama popular in 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century Europe
- Allegory in dramatic form, origin in sermon literature
- Abstract human qualities
- End in the triumph of virtue
- Everyman The most talked of morality play
- It depicts the summoning of every man by Death
- It was somewhere between the transition from liturgical drama and secular professional drama



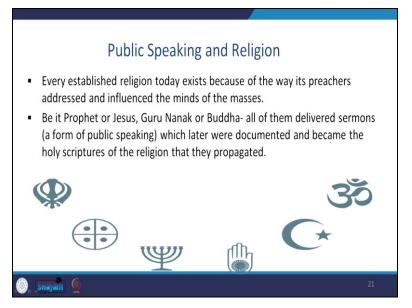
One of the best of all times morality play is every man where you know *Everyman* is summoned by death and the implication is that nothing in life can help you escape death it was somewhere between the transition from the liturgical drama and secular professional drama. And in those days we did not have the characters as human beings they were abstract characters and these abstract characters were life death repentance, goodness, love, greed other virtues and vices.

So, in a way what I intend to say is that through public speaking there has been an aim to create a sort of awareness and people have also been filled with a desire to speak, to enunciate to enjoy and to appreciate the beauties of life through speech.



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Now it is in modern day times there are so many initiatives. People get times to speak on different topics on a myriad of topics like International Overdose Awareness day, on Autism no, Health Pollution I mean quite a good number of things and topics are available. And all these actually help. These are different forms all these actually help the speakers to bring into their talk or in their speeches several nuances that can help them become a better person. **(Refer Slide Time: 30:46)** 



So, public speaking has its wings in religion and we find that even our major prophets and major saints namely, Jesus, Guru Nanak or Buddha all of them delivered servants and through these sermons everyone came to be aware and which were later documented also even you know many of you might be aware of the fact that Buddha's sayings came to be written in the form of Dhammapada fine.

And in the later part when you know Ambedkar wrote a very beautiful novel based on Buddha's teachings.

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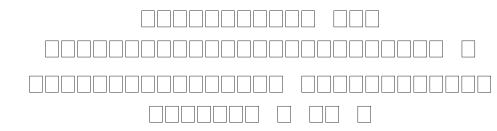
So, we have plenty of examples public speaking was in practice since sentient days and the major aim of these speeches were to bring a sort of awareness among the mankind and to distinguish between good and evil. We can take here Buddha's first sermon where he says—

"The Noble truth of suffering is this: Birth is suffering; aging is suffering; sickness is suffering; death is suffering; sorrow and lamentation, pain, grief and despair are suffering association with the unpleasant suffering; dissociation from the pleasant is suffering; not to get what one wants is suffering; in brief the five aggregates of attachment are suffering." Now you can find how beautifully the words have been chosen. And then the small sentences I mean three word sentences but in those three words, the words of wisdom have already been told.

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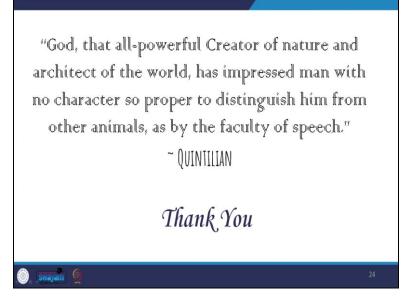
My dear friends, public speaking has been in practice since long. Of course, we have come a long way. And all of us if we want to be public speakers, because we understand from this lecture, that nothing in the world is as important as having a good tongue, as having a good speech. Here we can take one extra excerpt from Gita where it says.



So, I mean this is these are lines which Arjuna is told by Krishna.

And the meaning is--- "Our senses mind and intellect act as the breeding ground for desire. They cloud one's knowledge and delude the embodied soul." So, as a public speaker also we have to see the importance of speech and for that our sense, mind and intellect should commingle.

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If we do that perhaps will be in a better position to speak on various occasions and we will be able to understand the various forms and stages of public speaking which we are going to discuss in the lectures to come. But before we come to wind up this talk let me take a quote by Quintillion who was one of the earlier or writers who says: "God, that all powerful creator of nature and architect of the world, has impressed man with no character to distinguish him from other animals as by the faculty of speech." So, speech has come to stay and it will stay always. When there is a proper co-operation between the audience and the speaker and as speaker all of us have to realize this fact. With this let me come to the end of this talk. Thank you very much for your patience.