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RELEVANCE OF IQBAL AND WORDSWORTH IN NUCLEAR AGE

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ABSTRACT

Iqbal and Wordsworth have written verses for humanity to sooth its bleeding heart. And in this nuclear age the importance of their verses have increased many folds. Both the poets believe that nature is the only source which can provide peace and harmony to men in this nuclear age. The beauty of nature can remind man it's true nature which it had received from its forefathers, who lived in peace and harmony in this world. The thought and message of Iqbal and Wordsworth is for all ages. Both the poets craved for the betterment of humanity. Man, according to them, has buried his heart with greed and hatred. He has forget the lessons which taught him to love humanity, share love for mankind, work for the welfare of humanity; he was a peace ambassador and could save humanity at the cost of his own life. In this nuclear age the importance of love for the mankind and the responsibility of sharing it has increased to great extent. This planet of ours has become unfit for peaceful living, everywhere blood is being spilled for material gains and to satiate the soul of devil. This paper will prove that the importance and relevance of both the poets have increased multiple times in this nuclear age.

Key words: Nature, Nuclear age, Scientific laboratory, Man, Peace and Harmony, Soul, Spirituality.

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*Once again the world is faced with the
combat of soul and body; Once again
civilization has let loose her beasts-**Iqbal***

*To her fair works did nature link, The human
soul that through me ran; And much it
griev'd my heart to think, What man has
made of man-**Wordsworth***

MAIN ARGUMENT

Great poets are born for universe and their message is universal, their lines become eternal lines with each passing day. They wake up people from deep slumber; prepare them for great cause and guide them for future. The true poets guide masses with

their poetry and their verses show relevance for all ages.

Every age usher new things like ideas, discoveries, inventions and indelible relevance which accompany the same in future. Since the invention of wheel, life on this earth is revolutionized in every department. Some inventions prove beneficial to the mankind and some brought tribulations and disorder. What our age has brought for us and for the coming generations? I do not think this is a difficult question to answer. At this juncture what is the relevance of Iqbal and Wordsworth in this age? Let us find out.

The thought and message of Iqbal and Wordsworth is for all ages. Both the poets crave for the betterment of humanity. Man according to them has buried his heart with hatred. He has forget his lessons which taught him to love humanity, share love for mankind, work for the welfare of humanity, be peace ambassador and save humanity at the cost of his own life. In this nuclear age the importance of love for mankind and the responsibility to share it; is very crucial and important. This planet of ours has become unfit for peaceful living; everywhere blood is spilling for material gains and to satiate the soul of devil. Iqbal's heart is throbbing for the welfare of humanity and he writes in the 'Picture of Pain':

*Love's effect turns the heart a light,
With little seed it turns into the garden of
Sinai.*

*Love has healed the morbid nations,
Waked up from deep slumber with it.*

*Love is the destiny in wilderness,
It is bell, the caravan, the guide, the
robber(52,61,63)*

Iqbal believes that when heart is without love, it is full of fog but love can change it into a bright light which can enlighten the man. Love can revive and infuse new life to sick nations which are killing each other. Love, according to Iqbal, is destiny in wilderness, and is guide in deserts. There is a great need of the men who can spread peace and harmony in the world at this juncture. This world has become scientific laboratory to carry out deadly experiments at the cost of mankind. Can't this world be changed into the garden of Sinai, garden of paradise and land of meadows and flowers?

Like Iqbal, Wordsworth too craves for the betterment of mankind. He believes that man has become killer and destroyer. The lessons God taught to men has been left far behind by the modern men i.e. he has forgotten it completely. Wordsworth's heart grieves to see the bad condition of man. According to him man has shunned the angelic character, and has surrendered his soul to devil. Wordsworth writes in 'Lines Written In Early Spring':

*In that sweet mood when pleasant thoughts
Bring sad thoughts to the mind.
To her fair works did nature link
The human soul that through me ran;
And much it griev'd my heart to think
What man has made of man.(3-8)*

Wordsworth's above lines portray the true image of man. Man, according to him, has turned to a wild beast, who is far away from the spiritual connection which nature could offer to him. Do not these mountains, streams, hills and flowers call man for help from the brutalities of the man himself? Wordsworth delivers eye opening lesson to man in this nuclear age. He wants to drag the attention of man towards the beauties of nature, and Wordsworth writes in 'The Tables Turned':

*Sweet is the lore which nature brings;
Our meddling intellect
Misshapes the beauteous forms of things;
—We murder to dissect.(24-28)*

According to Wordsworth, man has learned to kill innocent creatures in the name of scientific knowledge and scientific advancement. Man has turned the beautiful face of this earth into ugly one, killing has become enjoyment for him. In the same poem he writes:

*Enough of science and of art;
Close up these barren leaves:
Come forth, and bring with you a heart
That watches and receives.*

The scientific laboratories in our time are 'barren leaves' which manufacture things which destroying humanity. Wordsworth says to such people come out from your laboratories and 'bring with you a heart' which can understand the language of heart not the language of bombs and bullets.

According to Wordsworth there is lot for man in the world of nature. Nature would teach him the important lessons of the life. In this nuclear age, man can overhaul his heart and soul in the company of nature. Nature will taught him how to respect the humanity, provided one has to spend some time in its company. When a man would spend his time in

nature and he would come to know that as if he is 'her first-born birth'. Wordsworth writes:

*You look round on your mother earth,
As if she for no purpose bore you;
As if you were her first-born birth,
And none had lived before you.(9-12)*

The modern man preoccupied with the materialism has hardly sees the beautiful world around him. He burns midnight oil for wordily achievements. Life of bookworm is not fascinating one, it cannot enjoy the spiritual flights which are available outside. Wordsworth advises man of nuclear age in one of his famous poems 'The Tables Turned':

*Books! tis a dull and endless strife,
Come, hear the woodland linnet,
How sweet his music; on my life
There's more wisdom in it.
Come forth into the light of things,
Let nature be your teacher(9-12,16)*

Iqbal like Wordsworth, believes that a life spend in closed 'four walls' is not worth living. One can't understand the secrets of nature, when one lives like a bookworm. Iqbal writes in *Zarb-i-Kaleem* (Stroke of Moses):

*Books have made you so passionless,
Even in morning breeze, you do not find
rose's fragrance.*

And Iqbal further says in *Zarbi Kaleem*(Stroke of Moses):

*School has blind folded your inner eye,
The secrets are open in deserts and
mountains in solitude.*

Iqbal and Wordsworth are not against science. The way the man in nuclear age submitted to science has not only put his own existence in danger but also the lives of other creatures on earth. How come the destroyer of humanity becomes its benefactor? The so called superpowers of the world have piled enough nuclear arsenal to destroy the whole planet. In nuclear race the developing nations are also following the steps of the former. This cut throat competition in nuclear weapons has led the nations towards destructive path. The same energy could

prove beneficial for the humanity if it is employed for its betterment.

Iqbal and Wordsworth are the ambassadors of peace and universal brotherhood. The poetry of both the poets preaches peace and love. They reject the idea of war and violence both on economic as well as on religious grounds. Iqbal believes that "peace in human society is not possible unless the nations of the world develop their 'Khudi'(Ego), i.e. completely subordinate themselves to the Divine Command, and power will be exercised only for the law and not for self aggrandizement"(Nehvi 2001: 196) in present time perhaps majority lacks this type of passion to establish peace.

An inner of an individual directly affects the external peace. Generally, people talk about peace but are themselves devoid of this heavenly thing. Only peace lovers can create peace on this earth provided they have experienced it in true sense of the word. Nature gives this lesson to man so that he would make this world a real paradise for living. Peace and calmness are nature's gift which, according to Wordsworth, are friends for those who seek them. Wordsworth writes in 'The Prelude Book' XIII:

*From Nature doth emotion come, and
moods
of calmness equally are Nature's gift: these
two attributes
Are sister horns that constitute her
strength.(1-4)*

Wordsworth believes emotion and calmness constitute the strength of nature and these two gifts can be attained in the company of nature. The things which mar emotion and calmness should be avoided. If one's heart is full of peace he will prevail the same around him. A heart which is full of conflict will inflict conflicts and tribulations which the both poets believe is a decaying message. Sufferings can be eliminated from the hearts, when one understands the importance of peace and calmness. Wordsworth writes in 'The Borders' that " *Conflict must cease, and in thy frozen heart/The extremes of suffering meet in absolute peace*". Iqbal and Wordsworth

wrote verses which are imbued in human values. Both the poets sing for the welfare of whole of humanity, and both have poetry which abounds in such elements as are important and essential for all human beings in current circumstances. Both poets were born lovers of humanity. Love and peace was their religion which they wanted spread all over the world through nature verses. The message of peace and calmness in their nature poetry is the need of the hour in this nuclear age.

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