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MORAL AND NATURAL VALUES IN THE WRITINGS OF WILLIAM WORDSWORTH AND RALPH WALDO EMERSON

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Abstract

The purpose of this research paper is to investigate and analyze the ethical values in William Wordsworth's and Ralph Waldo Emerson's writings. It also concentrates on the masterpieces of either literary figure in the 19th century English and American literature, humanities and common people.

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The modern era is characterized by materialism, in which man is obsessed with accumulating wealth, power, and comfort. He spends money on materialistic items and appliances in an attempt to provide them with comfort. He pays no regard to the goods that nature has supplied for him. Natural, rather than materialistic, objects can provide genuine comfort and joy. Good men who are guided by conscience or by other good men. They value spiritual things and seek solace in them. Their foundation is built on good character, moral attributes, and ethical beliefs..Ethos is a Greek word that refers to moral character, actions and attributes. Happiness according to Aristotle is the ultimate purpose of existence. A moralist needs to be well educated .The modern era is characterized by materialism in which man is obsessed with accumulating wealth, power and comfort. He spends

money on materialistic items and appliances in an attempt to provide them with comfort. He pays no regard to the goods that nature has supplied for him. Naturally intelligent and talented man knows well how to work easily. According to Aristotle, ethos starts with good parenting, and rest of the traits accomplish by the teachers throughout life. Philosophers would study human behavior to sort out right and wrong. In ancient history, men lived in groups and the groups decided the guidelines and pattern of right or wrong behavior. As the civilization improved with some new ideologies and customs, new relations were developed between individual and group. The groups developed their identifications and assumptions. (Harappa education > Harappa diaries)

There were different environmental factors affecting each group who decided their own views

on right and wrong behavior. In absence of ethical values, modern academicians, scholars are ignoring the modern curriculum of humanism propounded by humanists. Majority of institutions are devoid of moral values and ethical thinking. As we know in the western history of middle age the clerics, clergies through the religious bad practices tried to bind and exploit the common men. In this age, clash of civilization, brutality and cheating behavior was in full swing. The academicians are dead; all are indulged in egoistical issues. Physically they are very close but emotionally they are far from each other. If we see in the modern era, people are of this view that they are successful if they have plenty of advanced arms, money, destructive weapon, and scientific, technological advancement. People are living in this awesome atmosphere with terror and insecurity. People want to go back in the past i.e.in the middle age as they were living among the weapons of mass-destruction peacefully. Modern academicians and researchers are neglecting the modern curriculum of humanism proposed by humanists due to a lack of ethical ideals. Moral ideals and ethical thought are absent from the majority of institutions. As we know from the middle ages in western history, priests and clergies attempted to bind and exploit the common people through religious ill practices. The clash of civilizations, cruelty, and cheating conduct were all in full flow at this time. Academicians are no longer alive, and everyone is preoccupied with egotistical concerns. If we analyze, the new age ethos in Indian context, we find that the Indian supports spiritualism in individual as well as in society. The concept of VEDA which stands for Vision, Enlightenment, Devotion and Action. It represents integration of four paths to self -realization viz. Raj Yoga, Gyan Yoga, Bhakti Yoga and Karma Yoga. Shri Aurbindo propounded the concept of evolution of consciousness in contrast to evolution of matter.

When we look at the new age ethos in the context of India, we see that spiritualism is valued both individually and collectively. Vision, Enlightenment, Devotion, and Action (VEDA) is a concept that stands for Vision, Enlightenment, Devotion, and Action. Raj Yoga, Gyan Yoga, Bhakti Yoga, and Karma Yoga are the four paths to self-

realization that it represents. In opposition to the evolution of matter, Shri Aurbindo proposed the concept of consciousness evolution. In time, Freudian could give way to psycho-spiritual therapies, cross-legged meditation techniques, and a variety of other techniques. new age spiritual therapies. In most of the social scientific literature. During 1960s in India, there emerged several spiritual movements such as Brahma Kumar, SRF (Self-realization Fellowship) and Art of Living, Yoga which has become popular in the modern era. It influenced the nations, individuals and organizations. The new age is the socialization and cultivating of good qualities along with betterment in life. William Wordsworth talks about the ethics and morality in his poem Nutting. Through this poem, he wants to convey ethical and moral message to humanity. That is why, he discusses ethics and morals. He wishes to send an ethical and moral message to humanity through this poem. He believes that the woods have sense, and that God, man, and nature are all united in one common bond. Pantheism is the belief that God and Nature are one and the same. The etymology can be traced back to the Greek words pan, which means all, and theos, which signifies God. Tintern Abbey by Wordsworth has a mystical quality to it. The spiritual value of nature is told in several of William Wordsworth's works, such as Tintern Abbey, "Ode to Intimations of Immortality," "The Prelude," and many others. Nature is always there to guide and console our wounded soul when man becomes thoughtless, arrogant, hostile, and feelingless to man. Nature saves the poor woman from the townspeople' wrath and consoles her in her suffering in the Thorn. Wordsworth's poetry are not about his sentiments, but about teaching. He preaches a moral message of respect for nature in order to achieve spiritual enlightenment. He taught the lesson of simplicity and plainness; he went to the peasants and ignored their simple and plain life, focusing instead on the rich and powerful.

Through 'The World is too Much with us ' he makes an appeal to the materialistic people to turn towards nature which is the best solution of materialism in his times. Lucy poems which are written in the Hartz of Germany in 1799. It was

written in 1801 during Goslan visit. It deals with the growth of the poet's love for a pure young girl. It shows nature as cherisher, caretaker, guardian and above all moral teacher for Lucy. The Daffodils or I wondered.

The above poems are the glaring example of ethical messages, to be naturalist and moralist. This concept began to spread more widely in the later 18th and 19th centuries and influenced so many thinkers, philosophers and writers like Goethe and Hegel in Germany, Wordsworth, Keats and P.B. Shelly in Britain. Emerson and Thoreau in U.S.A. . It shows nature as cherisher, caretaker, guardian and above all moral teacher for Lucy. The Daffodils or I wondered *Lonely As a cloud* (1804- 1807) *To The Cuckoo* (1802-1807) *Nutting* (1799-1800) , *Lucy Gray or Solitude* ( 1799) , *The Influence of Nature* ( 1799-1800), all these poems works, he produces moral impression.

According to Wordsworth the responsibility of a poet was not just to delight but to teach , instruct and inspire the people in a poetic way. In his' Lucy poems 'Nature is dignified as the best teacher of uncorrupted youth. Man. For example Lucy in the hands of Nature taught the great lessons of life in the natural environment. Nature is not cheater like a man. . The spiritual value of nature is told in several of William Wordsworth's works, such as *Tintern Abbey*, "Ode to Intimations of Immortality," "The Prelude," and many others. Nature is always there to guide and console our wounded soul when man becomes thoughtless, arrogant, hostile, and feelingless to man. Nature saves the poor woman from the towns people' wrath and consoles her in her suffering in the 'Thorn'. Wordsworth's poetry are not about his sentiments, but about teaching. He preaches a moral message of respect for nature in order to achieve spiritual enlightenment. He taught the lesson of simplicity and plainness; he went to the peasants and ignored their simple and plain life, focusing instead on the rich and powerful. Our sense of contentment and innocence is shattered by worldly needs and attraction. A person who accepts natural law is clever, whereas a person who complains about nature's actions is foolish. He despises materialism and men who are driven solely

by economic considerations.

The lesson of duty is also taught by William Wordsworth. Love and truth are its guiding ideals. He depicted responsibility as a great goddess and the appeal of conscience in his poem "Ode to Duty" (1805). It is in charge of and guides everything, including the flower, star, heaven, earth, moon, and man. He sees only the positive aspects of Nature, like an optimist, and ignores the barren. In his poetry "My Heart Leaps up when I behold," he states,

"My Heart Leaps up when I behold."

The Child is father of the man;

And I could wish of the man;

Bound each to each by natural piety

(William Wordsworth lines 7,8,9)

The above lines mean that behavior and habits of a man are the result of his development as a child. Nature may give more wisdom than the wisdom acquired through many years of active life.

Ralph Waldo Emerson's moral and ethical essays are well-known. During his prolific years, Emerson co-founded and edited the literary journal *The Dial*. He wrote two volumes of reformatory and uplifting articles that are still relevant today. It focuses on positivity, individualism, and mysticism, and it is both impressive and didactic. These essays form a big element of Emerson's fame. There are two groups of essays in this collection. He stood by the weak and continued to give lectures in order to eradicate such vices and the environment. Apart from that, the transcendentalism movement in literature played a significant influence in promoting this concept. It is a well-known and acknowledged truth that Emerson's writings caught the attention of the general public. He was instrumental in promoting transcendental aspects all across the world. This great work included the contributions of Orestes Bronson, William Henry Channing, James Freeman Clarke, Christopher Parse Crunch, Converse Francis, Margaret Fuller, Fredrick Henry Hedge, Elizabeth Peabody, George Ripley, Amos Bronson Alcott, and Jones Veer. Emerson is regarded as a guide and icon by philosophers and literary men. He believes that one can achieve a pure condition of

religion and ethical principles through nature. Nature focuses on developing ideal and unique personalities. They should be unconcerned about the opinions of others. Self-confidence is the essence of self-reliance, and it must pervade all aspects of life. Emerson is attempting to convey the idea that a man should not be guided by society, but rather by his own conscience or what is good. In short, Emerson has stated that one should live a life that is guided by natural patterns rather than by superfluous rules and restrictions. Emerson had a holistic aspect, seeing the Universe as a growing organism rather than a machine. He believes, as an idealist, that He is characterized as Hegelian because, as an idealist, he believes that history develops via the broader human mind. The transcendentalists' beliefs coincided with the emergence of democracy, romanticism, and the Unitarians' struggle against puritan rigidity. His poems Nature and Self-Reliance are excellent examples of his transcendentalism. In general, these works are classified as "intuitive, spiritual thinking rather than scientific thinking." They should put others aside and focus on themselves. They should not rely on governmental and other authorities for aid. Through his writings he encouraged people to develop their culture and individual knowledge to form an ideal personality, society and country.

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