
UNIVERSALITY IN RABINDRANATH TAGORE'S WHERE THE MIND IS WITHOUT FEAR

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ABSTRACT

Where the Mind is without Fear is a beautiful composition of Rabindranath Tagore. Though the poem is written for India and Indian people but the poem has universal message for humankind. All his expectations are for humankind.

Keywords: humankind, freedom, reason

INTRODUCTION

Rabindranath Tagore was a philosopher, a nation builder, a poet, a dramatist, a novelist and a short story writer, a translator. He was the first non European to win Nobel Prize for his rendered work *Gitanjali* in 1913. *Where the mind is without Fear* is a beautiful composition of Rabindranath Tagore. 'The Heaven of Freedom' is another title for this poem. This poem is most anthologized poem in Indian Literature. It is a prayer for India and Indian People. Though it is written for India and Indian People but it has a universal touch.

Where The Mind Is Without Fear

Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high
Where knowledge is free
Where the world has not been broken up into fragments
By narrow domestic walls
Where words come out from the depth of truth
Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection
Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way
Into the dreary desert sand of dead habit
Where the mind is led forward by thee
Into ever-widening thought and action
Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake.

*<https://www.google.co.in>

Universality in the Poem

In this poem Rabindranath Tagore expecting fearless mind for him head should be held high. There should be self respect and pride in one's freedom. He also expects that knowledge should be free for everyone. In old days it was monopoly of a particular community. *Shudras* (people belong to low category) and female were not allowed to take education in India. The treatment given to Negro was the same in America. These people were lost their self respect. They were deprived of education.

Through the fourth and sixth lines he expects the world without narrow domestic walls. These walls may be walls of caste, religion, race, states, language, country etc. He also expects that every word we speak should come out from depth of truth. This message reminds our father of nation, Mahatma Gandhi and his autobiography *My Experience with Truth*. Everyone, he may be Indian, American, British etc should not utter untruth.

Rabindranath Tagore longs that the constant efforts of human being should lead towards perfection. Only human being can create beautiful things out of his imagination. His/hor efforts should lead towards creativity. He has both creative and destructive energy. He should utilize the first energy for the innovation, and creativity.

In the next two lines he is worried about the stream of reason. While studying world history we notice that dead habits, superstitions used to harm reasonable thinking. He wished that the desert of these dead habits should not hinder the stream of reason. The stream of reason should not lose its way means reasonable thinking of the human being should live forever.

At last Tagore prays to God that He should lead the mind of human being into ever-widening thought and action. Everything that is produced in the world is a result of someone's thought. All above expectations of Rabindranath Tagore will create heaven of freedom. He also prays to God that He should awake Indian people from the darkness of slavery, discrimination, superstitions. Broadly speaking human being should awake and create beautiful world out of his thought and action. The world would be heaven of freedom.

CONCLUSION

By and large, *Where the Mind is without Fear* is vastly discussed poem in Indian English Literature. The freedom of education, expression of truth and reasonable thoughts, and creativity etc will lead towards perfect human life. He is expecting paradise on the earth not in the sky. Basically the poem or prayer is for the India and Indian people but it has universal message for the humankind.

REFERENCES

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