



John Keats's Subjectivity and Kumaranasan's Romanticism are examined with the Goal of Discovering Potential Connections

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Abstract

According to Van Tieghem, comparative literature investigates the connections between various literary creations. Comparative literature investigates "binary links between two elements, whether these elements are specific writers and works, collections of writers and works, or the entirety of literature." Two major works of romantic literature from English and Malayalam literature-John Keats' Ode to a Nightingale and Kumaranasan's Veenapoovu-are contrasted based on the themes they explore.

Keywords: Romanticism, pessimism, subjectivity

Introduction

Keats' odes frequently feature sensual imagery. His works are well-received and frequently analysed in English literature. His life had been full of accidents. He suffered psychological harm from the early deaths of his mother, father, and brother as well as from criticism of his debut poem, Endymion. His TB was brought on by his family. His health deteriorated in 1820. In 1924, while travelling from Alappuzha to Kollam via boat, eminent Malayalam poet Kumaranasan perished. The only Mahakavi who didn't write a Mahakavyam was Kumaranasan in Malayalam. The sensuous Poet is how Keats is known. In Keats' poem Isabella, a woman rejects the suitor her family has picked for her in favour of falling in love with a man who is lower on the social scale. Autumn in the 1820s is characterised by ripening fruit, worn-out workers, and a developing sun.

Finding parallels and contrasts is part of comparison. The following concepts serve as the comparison's foundation.

The form of Poetry is Sensual Viewpoint

It is romantic to read Veenapoovu by Kumaranasan and Ode to a Nightingale by Keats. Veenapoovu's perspective in An Ode to a Nightingale is negative. These poems explain mortality, the mortal nature of humans, the transience of life and beauty, and romantic intrigue with ethereal search. The form, subjectivity, and sensuality of the poetry are all examined in the first chapter. The literary content of the poem is examined in the second chapter. The third chapter examines the life philosophy of Kumaranasan and Keats' Ode. Study of Keats' pessimistic undertone in reference to his beliefs about life and death.

Poets in the latter half of the 18th century rebelled against it. Classicalism was detested because of its rigidity, abstraction, and concern for literary standards and rules. A new poetic form resulted from this contempt. They speak simply and naturally. Instead of intelligence, their poems were the product of feelings and imagination. Poetry about love is sentimental. The poet's attitude while writing is shown. Pantheists were Romanticists. In pantheism, nature is revered. Asian culture is pantheistic. The earth, moon, sun, and snakes were all respected by Easterners. Nature-lovers. The poet's thoughts and emotions matter in romantic poetry. They held the view that nature should be seen as a living force, produced by a creator or divine, and that humans should take care not to abuse it. A large portion of their poetry praised the beauty of nature or denounced industrialization, machines, industry, slums, pollution, etc.

An ode is called Ode to a Nightingale. Ode is a poem-centric work. A ceremonial song from Ancient Greece that extols its subject, the Ode. A good example is the Horatian Ode. liked by Horace. The stanza length and metre of a Horatian ode are fixed. Keats' Ode, which reflects on mortality and life's challenges, is his longest and most intimate poem. The stanzas in Greek odes are poetic. A traditional ode consists of a strophe, an antistrophe, and an epode. Odes that are homostrophic and irregular are other kinds. It is well-organized poetry that honours a person or thing and depicts nature both intellectually and emotionally.

The Nightingale was addressed by Keats. The sound of a nightingale makes the poet's heart ache. numbed and paralysed. He is not aware. It appeared as though he had consumed a poison that numbs the senses or a sedative. He has the impression of having sipped from the river of

forgetfulness and is unaware of his surroundings. Not being envious of the Nightingale's happiness is the cause of this melancholy. The delight of the Nightingale has made him ecstatic. He experiences numbness, drowsy anguish, and amnesia due to the bird's joy.

Kumaranasan addresses a flower in Veenapoovu. A flower falls, as seen by the poet. The poet was dejected by this dismal sight. It is poetic, elegiac, and intense. His analysis of the significance of life in the brief life of a flower, however, took on a deeper tone as a result of the relaxed rigour of a classical school. The poet chose an unexpected subject. The poet contrasts the cycle of a withering flower with that of a person.

Except for the eighth line, the metre of Keats' Ode is Iambic pentameter. Each line in an iambic trimeter poem contains six rather than ten syllables. Each of the ten syllables in iambic pentameter lines has an accent. Keats' Ode is shorter than Veenapoovu. There are 41 four-line stanzas in his poem. Each stanza consists of four lines. Four-line Malayalam poetry is known as "sloka." Veenapoovu employs the "Vasanthathilakam" metre, with 14 characters each line. The final rhymes of Keats' Ode are ABABCDECDE. The internal rhyme of the poem is aided by the repetition of the second letter in each verse. This repeat is referred to as "Dwittheyyaksharaprasam." In Keats' Ode, alliteration and assonance are employed. A literary device known as alliteration repeats the first consonant in a string of syllables or the same sounds at the start of words.

Sense of Morality and Impartiality

While Veenapoovu is about a fallen blossom, Keats' Ode is about the poet's subjective thoughts regarding a nightingale. No one has ever so thoroughly pleased the five senses as Keats. His form of religion is aesthetic enjoyment. The terms that Keats uses to describe his love for red wine from wellspring of the people or Provencal wine appeal to our senses of smell and taste. Although the Poet is unable to see the flowers at his feet in the forest or the blossoms on the fruit trees, he can infer from the aromas that permeate the nighttime air that the woodland is full of white hawthorn, sweet brier, violet, and mask-rose buds that will attract flies in the summer. The poet claims that because of the way your perfume hypnotises the world, it is in awe of you. The nectar of the flower is mentioned by the speaker, who remarks on how sweet it is. You are the only one with as many "Gunas" (qualities) as everyone else.

Life Philosophy

Keats' negative outlook on the fleeting nature of human life and his awareness of his own sorrow are both evident in the poem. It also captures the melancholy and despair that Keats suffered from for a variety of causes. The third stanza depicts the various sorrows that might be experienced throughout life. In order to be with the Nightingale in the forest and forget about himself, the poet wishes to flee. The excess of joy brought on by the bird's singing is what contributes to the poet's languor. The mention of the "light-winged Dryad of trees," "the melodious plot of beechen green," and "summer" however helps to lessen the narcotic impact. Because it is not a human and has never experienced "weariness, fever, and concern," the poet thinks the nightingale is content. Although he is aware that what is human must perish, he also realises that his happiness comes from mentally emulating the bird as it flies into its lush realm. His delight comes with a depression. The poet states two new concepts in the final

stanza: first, even the Nightingale's song cannot be heard continuously and must fade away; and second, the poetic imagination has only fleeting flights, and after seeing lovely regions, one must return to life's dreadful truths. Thus, the Ode ends in frustration after beginning with delight.

Conclusion

The Ode to a Nightingale showcases Keats' wit, creativity, graphic quality, and command of language and imagery. It deals with the poet's personal impressions of a nightingale. In the current trinity of Malayalam poetry, Kumaranasan was the most delicate blossom and a genius. The Romantic Movement gained momentum because to his poem Veenapoovu. His speech and manner are gentle and straightforward. He dealt with each of them knowing their strength and power. These two poems are written in the ode style: Veenapoovu and Ode to a Nightingale. These two poems engage the senses of the reader. The use of appropriate language by poets satisfies human senses. It's difficult to satisfy the human senses with words. These poems are the best illustrations of their exquisite sensuality. The romantic tradition is shared by both poets. He will be the focus and subject of his writing because he is a romantic writer. Whether or not society acknowledges them, he is the only one with such feelings and emotions. Because they locate their subjects in nature, it is clear that they are lovers of the outdoors. In Veenapoovu, Kumaranasan's pessimism progressively inspires the reader to see the positive side of things, yet in Keats' Ode, the reader is abandoned in agony and alone.

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