

PRÉCIS

Central Superior Services Examination (CSS) 1971

abstract - The

Passage.

The ⁵⁰⁰essence of poetry is that it deals with events which concern a large number of people and can be grasped not as immediate personal experience but as matter known largely from heresy and presented in simplified and often abstract forms. It is thus the antithesis of all poetry which deals with the special, individual activity of the self and tries to present this as specially and as individually as it can. The poet who deals with public themes may himself be affected, even deeply, by contemporary events at some point in his own being, but to see them in their breadth and depth he must rely largely on what he hears from other men and from mass instruments of communication. From the start his impulse to write about them is different from any impulse to write about his own affairs. It may be just as strong and just as compelling, but it is not of the same kind. He has to give his own version of something which millions of others may share with him, and however individual he may wish to be, he cannot avoid relying to a large extent on much that he knows only from second hand.)

fundamentally this may not matter, for after all what else did Shakespeare do: but the political poet does not construct an imaginary past, he attempts to grasp and interpret the vast present. Between him and his subject there is a gap which he can never completely cross, and all his attempts to make events part of himself must be to some extent hampered by recalcitrant elements in them, which he does not understand or cannot assimilate or find irrelevant to his creative task. In such poetry selection which is indispensable to all art, has to be made from an unusually large field of possibilities guided by an exacting sense of what really matters and what does not. On one side he may try to include too much and lose himself in issues where he is not imaginatively strong, on the other side he may see some huge event merely from a private angle which need not mean much to others. Political poetry oscillates between these extremes, and its history in our time has been largely attempts to make the best of one or the other of them or to see what compromises can be made between them.

Essence of Political Poetry

The soul of poetry lies in dealing with group of people and not in an individual and to present it in simpler theoretical form. This is reversal of poetry which concerns with personal experience. The poet relates personal views with public views to study them deeply. The inspiration of writing about people is different from our's. The poet has to make his writings relatable to millions. A political poet always talks about present, within certain limits. He fails to relate public views with personal views due to some uncooperative and confound elements. This kind of poetry requires very cautious selection. The poet may indulgeⁱⁿ so much or may ignore so much. In history, political poetry oscillates between these two edges to develop understanding between them.

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Up to a point the Second German War resembled the first. Each began with a German bid for power which almost succeeded in spite of the opposition of France and Great Britain. In each the United States came to the rescue after year of neutrality. Each ended with a German defeat. But the differences were easier to see than the resemblances. The powers were differently grouped: Italy and Japan were on the German side, Russia was neutral until the Germans attacked across what had been, to begin with, Poland and Baltic States. The second war lasted even longer than the other. It pressed harder on the civilian population. After a period of restraint, perhaps, intended to conciliate American opinion, both sides dropped bombs from the air, without respect for the nature of the targets, wherever the officers concerned expected to cause the greatest effect. In Great Britain 60,000 civilians were killed. Though the Island was not invaded, the population was more directly involved than it was in any former war. Children and others were evacuated from towns into the country. Food supplies ran so short that, at the worst, even potatoes were rationed. Of all the states opposed to Germany, Great Britain was the only one which fought throughout the war. The resources of the nation were concentrated in the war effort more completely than those of any other nation on either side. Labour for women as well as men, became compulsory. Nevertheless, once the war reached its full severity in the west, eight months after it was declared, there was less disunion between classes and interests than in any other five years within living memory. Fighting spread all over the world. The Pacific was as vital a theatre as Europe. Scientists, especially Physicists, made revolutionary discoveries during the war, not only in the fields of weapons and defense against them, but in supply, transport, and control in action. Strange to say the fight services suffered fewer casualties than in 1914-18: 300,000 of the armed forces and 35,000 of the navy were killed. There was nothing like the trench warfare of former war, though there was almost every other sort of warfare, from mechanized war of movement in the North African desert to hand to hand jungle fighting in Burma. Both sides experimented and built up stocks for gas warfare and biological warfare, but neither side used them. (George Clark: English History: a survey)

Final Draft

The Two World Wars

According to George Clark survey, Germany with coalition of Italy and Japan fought two world wars for power with France and Great Britain, but ended up in defeat. America rescued both wars while, Russia joined after attack on Poland and Baltic states. The second war had more horrendous effect on the population. In spite of years of conciliation, both groups attacked on each other. Great Britain, the only one to fight throughout the year, not defeated but this war took many lives of Great Britain and the entire population suffered, children more drastically. The nations united and invested their all resources, for a war that spread over entire Pacific. Scientists made great discoveries in every field of warfare. In second war every mode of warfare was adopted from mechanics to non-mechanics but nothing like trench war. Gas and biological warfare were built by both sides but not used.