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‘W. B. YEATS: STUDY OF MYTHICAL TECHNIQUE, THE SELECTED POEMS’

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BY

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An Executive Synopsis

Research Title: W. B. Yeats: Study of Mythical Technique: The selected poems

Introduction:

The writing is a difficult job, when it comes to research writing, it is more difficult. For an academician Research is one of the most important, among many responsibilities. Research is more advantageous to various agencies, government, academicians, universities to proud of, enrollment of research scholars, for interactional activities, for clinically drawing analysis, for individual researchers research stands for extending knowledge boundaries, credit for research, score in academic career, professional growth, status, recognition, for society research helps in implementing policies.

Thanks to funding agencies which are supporting the newly inspiring researchers to do their research. This is just an attempt to bring all things in short report summary form.

Objectives of the study:

1. To study Yeats' mythical source of inspiration.
2. To find out the mythological significance in Yeats's poems.
3. To study significance of Yeats in contemporary socio political world.
4. To study romantic aspects behind mythological use.
5. To study Pre-Raphaelite aspects in Yeats's poems.
6. To study symbolical meanings behind myths.
7. To assess myths as a tool to escape from materialistic world.

In the following chapters a brief summary of studies have been given.

Chapter 1

The chapter one covers the summary of the research project and about study of Yeats's technique. The chapter focuses on Yeats's achievement as a poet in modern age. Yeats had achieved his position in canon of English Literature. There are few writers who are complex varied as William Butler Yeats. Born in 1865 W. B. Yeats had all influences in his poetry mostly centered on sexual love occult art and its use in life. His psyche was conditioned by writers own emotions intelligence and emotions that are always in his poetry. At the same time he carried

contradictions with his own followings which are both true and false. He tried to express unforgettable by mystic poetry, fusion of subject and object.

The formative years of Yeats began with Romantics but ends with modern poet. Nature remained alien to him. In his twenties, he influenced by Fenian Leader O'Leary. His early poetry was influenced by Pre-Raphaelite, allowed him escape. In 1890, in company of Walter Pater, Symmons, during his stay in London, inclined to Pre-Raphaelite poetry. His poetry moving towards doctrine of mask. He looked for ideas of Shelley and Blake. In 1885, he came under the spell of spiritualism and occult in contact with Mohini Chaterjee. The worldliness of Celtic legends, folklore, and exclusive folk culture of Irish Peasants brought him ideas.

Chapter 2

The second chapter of the project will cast a light on research and areas of research and how researcher could adapt a systematic procedure in pursuit on the topic.

It challenges to the intellect and determination to complete within stipulated time. But at the same time research gives immense satisfaction to the researcher, his family, and other interest holders. Research is not an easy task it invite skills at various level: since it is systematic approach towards finding knowledge, methods of study, approach towards, new convictions, analysis, assertions, and conclusions. It is a systematically designed plan how to carry out the research work in a timely manner, action, planned enterprise and adopted. It is better to see what research stands for and new researches in English Literature have been.

Research Design: This chapter could further discuss how a researcher could work on topic. Research needs to be adopted in systematic way. It needs to be done scientifically and adopting various methods while studying research problem. How data needs to be collected and analyzed what type of data needed what technique to be used? Alike questions are important in this stage. In Literature the study needs to be done mostly with resourceful materials secondary data and primary data, with original writing of the author questioned.

Secondary data is important that are available in reputed libraries in native land and abroad but they are not easily available and accessible for the researcher. The researcher needs to visit libraries from universities colleges and bookstalls that provide series to avail these books. Obtaining data even by consulting foreign publishers is difficult and time consuming job. Rather it needs to be availed through persistent efforts and follow-up. Basic books that are available on research training before undertaking research are very crucial.

It is logical process developed from argument in straight and disciplined way. What kind of information to be collected? From what resources? Under what conditions? It is worth time spending in discussing writing down thinking, piloting acquired data behind the data collection for the thesis. This part in the body of a report will discuss issues about ethical practices.

Chapter 3

Before investigating some literary approaches are very necessary to understand literature. The chapter will write all about that background. For putting some arguments what are topics covered gives hints about the discussion in the following points.

Myths

The present chapter discusses the one of the scintillating aspects of human history that not only signified its eternal perpetual presence of everything in human life but also significance in all aspects of human expressions. Myths continue to be a vast term with palimpsest of interpretation in every society. Myths have become one of the constituent of human culture covers legends. Folk stories folk literature and literature and ancient myths born out of religious background symbolically prevalent in every society. The discussion will throw some light on myths that are very much predominant in human civilization till date or that very much manifested in every walks of life in the form of archetypes.

Myths : An overview - Myth is a collective term denoting a symbolic narrative in religion. It is distinguished from symbolical behavior of all and ritual. It is manifested by concrete images, objects, or symbolic places, like temples, icons, deities, images. Myths are stories, specific accounts of gods, superhuman beings with extraordinary events or circumstances in a time that is unspecified.

Myth : Origin: This chapter will discuss the origin of myths to tune the minds of the reader to read with some profit and satisfaction. The word myth derives from Greek myths, which has a range of meaning from word through 'saying and story' to fiction.

Myths in Narrative forms: In western culture, number of literary narrative genres from different ways derived from myths, for example, fables, fairy tales, folktales, sagas, epics, legends, etiological tales. But true and false stories can be divided in.

Fables are presented in personified features of animals or natural objects, presented as characters. They may be false to explicit moral message that highlights characteristics feature. But myths are true; a class of supernatural malevolent beings tend to be placed in geographical settings and vague.

Folktales are subdivisions of myth stories told with motifs, encounters often humble ordinary, human beings, supernatural adversaries, witches, giants in historical settings.

Approaches in study of myths.

Under this head the discussion will be centered on what are the approaches adopted in literary study of myths in literature and criticism. Myths, owing to its pragmatic, continue to influence human culture, behavior, beliefs and culture. They serve the readers to complete

answers to their theoretical problems. The interest continues in study of particular culture, literature art and other art manifestation of that culture form which that art originated. The study is termed Mythology. The study of myth championed by Friedrich Van Schillers That myth was a form of expression characteristics of particular stage in human development

The study of myth approached in 19th century development, has been comparative study of myths.

Types of Myths: In human world various ethnic society following myths, which are in short discussed here. Myth is used so frequently that one can expect to come across, in many books on literary and cultural studies. Myth is synonym to ideology. There is some overlap in myth and mythology. Some narratives which are mythic are fertility myth, creation myth, deliverance and hero myth in ancient Egypt.

Literature in the backdrop of myths:

The literary forms are not less in mythological background whether its poetic truth mythic ideology, archetype, socio-psychological or collective unconscious. The artists used mythical stories for their work of art.

The study is bound at cultural level, of mythic and literary texts is important to discover mythology. The body of inherited myths in any culture. This is important element in literature.

Chapter 4

The present chapter will discuss what precedents are for Yeats to mould his poetic technique. Yeats firmly believed on occult magic closely allied with Mohini Chatterjee's Hermetic Society. It may give Yeats direct access to existing world of spiritual world. He worked very hard, researched seeking such trances, strange trance experiences, phenomenon. He got in touch with Madame Blavatsky's Theosophical Society and circle, his wife's automatic writing.

Yeats's interest in Sligo and Irishness:-

Without looking at Yeats's formative influences and years of his living in the background seems imminent. Yeats had enchanting experiences in his grandmother's country home in Sligo. Yeats listened to stories of adventures seamanship from grandmother.

His early poetry garnished paucity of ideas but later, he had grown to the fact he tried to revive and rekindle their true Irish self, Yeats until Irish independence strived for it. The more he become engrossed within himself, tried to be independent, self sufficient, not alienating with social needs and politically direct affiliation. The richest in the sense of poetry were in 'The Tower' and 'The Winding Stairs'.

His interest was in Ireland and problems of his beloved motherland. Yeats's mythological insights merged into his patriotism nationalism and expression of beauty, emotions and love. The

mythical traditions of Ireland for a sensitive mind like w. b. Yeats, couldn't be isolated from love poetry. All these mingled in his poetic inspiration. his intention rekindle in his mind. The themes predominantly from this period brought these pains.

Chapter 4

Mythical Technique in Prescribed poems

Sailing to Byzantium

The east always been a source of inspiration for Yeats : both in the form of art and for poetic traditions to compose the poems based on. Byzantium is well known for its art, sculpture, architecture of mosaic walls, paintings and music. The arts were divinely blessed by the artists of genius. Yeats had read widely from libraries, the occultist, source of inspiration from Rabindranath Tagore the mythical background to the poem brought Yeats to be called escapist poet.

Both, Byzantium or Istanbul are two adjacent cities merged into one. In 1395. Roman empire was divided but Turks occupied in 1453 to be a Capital.

This historic Byzantium was remarkable for the skills of craftsmanship, beauty of buildings. Byzantium is important as he stated in his vision. It was mathematically convenient. The art served as a centre of 2000 years cycle. It is beginning and end of modern times.

The symbols are intricately woven by Yeats. The company of sages, who are elevated to spiritual stance, what they had the pleasures of Godly presence to experience such everlasting experience. Yeats had in mind sages statues in the presence of church, the saint in mosaic of images.

Byzantium is richly represented by lords and ladies inscribed, achieved in the form of art and culture. He like to move and see changing, passing time as an object of eternity. Yeats is largely creative through as a piece of poem brings out the serious, degenerated world, where he opt to become as a catalytic agent.

Leda and Swan

Yeats's soul was disturbed soul, he was influenced by Greek mythology to use mythic oriented for his expression of personal anguish against his refuted beloved. Maud Gonne's refusal and overall his entire conception of love had received utter change by his experience. The character of Leda was raped by Zeus. Zeus the mightier and strong father figure in the mythology from whom the universe and whole creature are supposed to had originated, is the son of Cronus and Rhea, the supreme power of all Olyimpian gods cronus been told that he would be replaced by one of his children.

The story of Zeus's love affair with Leda, what W. B. Yeats enchanted and stroke poetic sensibility to write on, is a one of the crucial mythical reference to compose on. Zeus met Leda in the guise of Swan. Zeus's love affair with Ganymedes, in the form Zeus meet her on the mound Ida.

The scandalous behavior of Zeus didn't escape of his wife or English poets to rekindle their association of subjects and mythical imagery in the modern age. Robert Bridges Christopher Marlowe utilized the myths for the treatment of passions. It was to Zeus glory power, Ruler of God, punisher of wrong Olympia was erected, forty feet high statue that Phidias the renowned sculptor erected.

The poem 'Leda and Swan' written on 18th Sept, 1923 but published in the collection 'The Tower' after sailing to Byzantium. The age old decrepitude world, the loss of imaginative quality overwork, the doctor's prescription and forced rest made as one of the thinker precipitated in Sailing to Byzantium.

The mythical horror rendered on Leda by the Greek Mythological episode of a gigantic Swan raping Leda.

His mystical output express his convictions about different attitude. As a scientific activity, he modeled his entire philosophical, poetical theory in such way to serve his purpose. Yeats's historical cycle moves on her believed on life after death cycle gets completed the next round of cycle moves on.

Mythical Technique in 'Songs of Wandering Aengus'

The poet composed this poem in an escapist mode figured in 'The Wanderings of Aengus. Oisín was a Gaelic hero who ruled island of Young. Aengus loss was supposed to have been transformed to birds. These birds flew constantly about his head, Aengus had a golden harp and his kisses took the shape of birds to feel love sick. They are amorous and infatuated to lovers. Yeats tried to exploit this myth into his personal myth. Finn is an Irish hero whose exploits were very much subject of Fenian group.

To understand Yeats's use of poetic language which was significant in his phases of writings, could put a big question. The scholar or researcher needs to order Yeats's poetry in the order they had been written to study his stylistic development and maturity.

Yeats who continued to revive Celtic mythology and been more public as he intended to be great poet of Ireland to achieve as a distinct poet, he tried to the voice of the people.

The dramatist in him dominated at this stage of his writings, brought dramatic personae over his personality, from his poetic plays. Like a dramatist who told to

compose poems, sees his own character combination of personalities. Both to his attachment and at the same time feelings his conscience mostly centered on his personal life experiences. These mythical and personalities were personalities of typical patterns with a fire of imagination, burning self, are patterns of arbitrary symbolism. His mythical personalities become an imposing imagery. He tried to be more lyricist and poetic in these poems.

Adam's curse

The poet's technique modeled with mythical references like Celtic, Greek and Gaelic. The scriptural references with the fall of man. Since Adam's curse everything becomes difficult.

Yeats in his search for mythical script to have his personal anguish towards his expression of his longing love for Maud Gonne. The opportune night to have an informal discussion on everything difficult with Cathleen, and Mau Gonne. Yeats had heart rendering incidents that took place during these years. The problems at dramatic practices at Irish Theatre, marriage of Maud Gonne in 1903, were incidents drawn Yeats to poetry of heart and hardships. All this are contributing in this period to difficulty in achieving artistic, beautiful, and a piece of poem to manifest the truest expression of something noble and artistic to give the readers pleasures. His enterprise is too difficult to strive.

As a rejected suitor of Maud Gonne, frustrated in love, Yeats corroborate Adam's fall brought the disillusion and labour in the world. During these years of composition Maud Gonne has broken off from John MacBride in 1905. He tried in all these ways to keep these poems in tragic and powerfully saddening.

No Second Troy

Yeats was busy these years: during the publication of in the poetic volume 'In the Seven Woods' . The poem 'No Second Troy' figured in The Green Helmet and Other Poems' . He spent lots of time in revising his poetry cogitating on order . He spent the time As a playwright and playwright dominated in him more fiercely to model his poetic technique with dramatic quality. Yeats going back to Greek Mythology brought his Helen, the sweetheart of the heart as an object who caused havoc in the lives of people. The mythic Helen the beautiful lady to restore the wife to Menelaus prolonged the war to seven years.

Yeats was critically in question about the decision of Maud Gonne to reject him as a life partner and a cause to tragedy to more people, she has done some wrong. She been divorced from MacBride, the drunkard, 'the vainglorious lout', he was executed in active participation in Easter 1916. The innocent people who suffered by her elopement , 'taught ignorant men most violent ways'.

The imagery helped Yeats to evoke mythical ambience, allusions that create the atmosphere of tragedy and feeling. Yeats's blatant question is 'was there another Troy for her to burn'. The question Yeats put at the end of the poem evokes a strong feeling to the readers. The implied poetic truth as Yeats asserts to write on Irish themes, and Irish soil.

Mythical Technique in 'The Second Coming'

The poet brought tragic theme in the poems that are nearby the poem 'The Second Coming' in a volume 'Michael Roberts and Dancer' which is a recognition of a man who lived for Ireland and died in action. Yeats just to reconcile and remove Lady Gregory's irk he dedicate his poetry to expose the patriotism of Lady Gregory.

Yeats continued the types of figures, imageries, cast in the phases of moon type of personalities and things. He categorized these personalities on that basis. His search for theosophical imagery in literature. He achieved some complex symbols with loads of mythological meaning in the poems from the volume.----- Unterecker.

The automatic writing practiced by Mrs. Yeats gave him visionary imagery, symbols, masks, aid him to create more imageries. Yeats had firm belief on second birth after death. The visual dream once Mrs. Yeats seen turned into a poem. The system he developed in 'A Vision' brought him highly perfect poet. The prophetic vision of his wife of devastating world, new revelation is at the apocalyptic world, a vision in which St. John's coming of evil precedes the devastation. The great detail this process in symbolized cones.

'The end of an age, which always receives the revelation of the character of the next age, is represented by the coming of one gyre to its place of greatest expansion and of the other to that of its contraction'

The ceremony of innocence, in drowned, the anarchy loosened on the world. Yeats brings two diverse meaning together by peace of mind, innocence at Coole Park and innocence symbolically opposing all kinds of violence.

Future Research opportunities:

The research is progressive thing; it could be further researched over its significant in the development of mythic subject. Myths are always interesting to research given that the authors are utilizing these even today. William Butler Yeats rein still in the academia and universities to be studied, the topic may be approached by some other perspectives like; archetypal, structural, social perspectives and Marxists approaches.

Conclusion:

W. B. Yeats's poetry received a wide acclaim in English Literature, he was a voice of Ireland, the true poet as a spokesman of rich culture, both Celtic and Gaelic. He was Irish renaissance

poet in his entire life as his Nobel Prize ceremony lecture tells us. His poetry brings out his mythical source, his precedent of Victorian influences. His poetic technique was modeled on lots of resources, influences, the Hindu philosophy, and Theosophical philosophy, Sligo the land of enchanting beauty and peasant stories. The automatic writing, the visions, the early life séances of Yeats at Madame Blavatsky society, the visions at night, his wife's sleep walking, the peasant stories, ghost stories were all flown into his poetry to develop his technique and perfect in later part of his career. The immediate concern of Irish nationalism, revive Irish myths and reading class.

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