**IJCRT.ORG** 

ISSN: 2320-2882



# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

# The Theme Of Wastage Of Lives And Remembrance In The Poem "Anthem For Doomed Youth" By Wilfred Owen

# Priya Thakran

(M.A. UGC - NET & JRF in English)

H.NO. 93, Islampur (Gurugram), Haryana, India

#### **Abstract:**

War is an extraordinary furnished struggle between states, legislatures, social orders, or paramilitary gatherings. It is for the most part portrayed by outrageous brutality, obliteration, and mortality, utilizing customary or sporadic military powers. One has just to think back to the devastation to appraise the horrendous impacts of war. In all ages, war has been a significant subject of examination. It has prompted a considerable number of slaughters and has shown us the malevolent that exists inside the spirits of humankind. With the episode of WWI, the present day emergency go into another stage. Powers which had laid dorment since the renaissance started to obliterate and change the design of the general public. WWI brought to public notification many poets, especially among the young fellows in the military. Simultaneously, it gave another wellspring of motivation for authors to lay out standing. A considerable lot of youthful writers were killed or passed on in the battle and it is difficult to gauge the misfortune endured by English verse because of their demise. Throughout history, war has been a problem for humanity and has left both winners and losers with permanent scars. The effects of war are sweeping, including each part of human life. One of the quickest results is the lack of lives. Fighters and regular people, the same, succumb to the persevering savagery of war, leaving families broken and networks deprived of their friends and family.

# **Keywords:**

Struggle, brutality, obliteration, sweeping, First World War, broke, deprived.

## **Introduction:**

Wilfred Edward Salter Owen has been viewed as the best of the conflict writers who arose during WWI. He was not imbued with gallant romanticism. The battle for him was dreadful, the joy and energy of the gallant Kind. It was dirty, hopeless, terrible and painful. Affected by Keats, Tennyson and French poetry, he started his composing profession. After his gathering with Sassoon, his topic profoundly changed. With plain authenticity, Owen set off on a mission to introduce the entire truth of war. His major works include The Seed, The Next War, Futility, The Strange Meeting etc. His poems manage the appalling parts of war. Owen himself experienced WWI as a battling fighter. He had an extremely reasonable mentality towards war. He never celebrated war or romanticized demise. His conflict poems show the truth of war. Anthem for Doomed Youth was composed by Wilfred Owen in 1917, while Owen was in the clinic recuperating from wounds and injury coming about because of his tactical assistance during the First World War. The poem regrets the lack of youthful life in war and depicts the tangible repulsions of battle. It alludes to war and the uncalled-for predetermination that youthful troopers face, whenever they are shipped off for battle. It honors the children who died in the conflict.

The sonnet talks about the demise of warriors in the fight. It makes sense of how the troopers die powerlessly on the front line. They don't have anybody to give them legitimate entombment after their penance. It presents the speaker's trouble and misery on the deficiency of lives during the conflict. The sonnet starts with the horrendous passings of the troopers. He says:

What passing-bells for these who die as cattle?

Only the monstrous anger of the guns

Only the stuttering rifles' rapid rattle

Can patter out their hasty orisons.

The writer says that no sort of burial service ringers can really reflect the ruthless demise confronted the fighters in war. They died like cattle with tremendous mercilessness and savagery in the war zone. In the wake of seeing their destiny, they prevent all the extravagance from getting a memorial service custom. In this manner, no burial service will be satisfactory to celebrate the passing of troopers who were butchered during wartime.

He claims that the sounds of enormous guns blazing will be the only thing that affects the soldiers. Only the hesitant rifles' rapid clatter, he said, can quickly respond to their hurried actions. According to him, the soldiers' destiny can only be determined by the sound of firearms and rifles.

The poet shows how brutally soldiers are killed. He portrayed the traumatic horrors of war in the poem. The loss of life is depicted in the poem. The poet was saddened by the deaths of the soldiers. And even after their deaths, they are not receiving proper funerals. They died on the European landmass. Numerous English fighters can't have legitimate memorial services, and those they have left behind can grieve without the customs that make grieving more endurable. Those on the home front couldn't rest assured that their friends and family would return.

The poem is a funeral song. It is an elegy wherein the artist conveys his misery and nausea over the death toll. He communicates a feeling of uneasiness with the main distinction within the conciliatory idea of war. The poem is a funeral song. It is an elegy wherein the artist conveys his misery and nausea over the death toll. He communicates a feeling of uneasiness with the main distinction within the conciliatory idea of war. He says:

No mockeries now for them; no prayer nor bells

Nor any voice of mourning save the choirs

The shrill, demented choirs of wailing shells

And bugles calling for them from sad shires.

They only hear the rapid, jarring rhythms of rifle fire as prayers. These men won't have any offensive traditions, like bell-ringing or prayers, in their names. Except for the choirs—the high-pitched, demonic noises of falling artillery—no voice will weep for them. The young men from depressing hometowns and villages will be summoned by bugles. He says they never get any proper services to respect their passing. Rather, the two sides of fighters get outraged at the weapons and rifles. In spite of the fact that they battle resolutely, they get no mockeries, no grieving sounds, no chimes, and no incineration. They are ruthlessly shot and killed. The poet communicates his misery in the sonnet. He asks:

What candles may be held to speed them all?

He inquires as to what kind of candle can lull the warriors to sleep and send them on their way. He claims that none of the candles carried by the youth who would perish will provide comfort and sleep to the fallen soldier. In order to respect their passing from this world, only the sad tears of the troops who are doomed can be seen sacredly shining from their good spirits. He says:

Not in the hands of boys, but in their eyes

Shall shine the holy glimmers of goodbyes.

He claims that the memory of their wives and girls melancholic, pallid faces will undoubtedly bind the soldiers. Upon death, the troops will not be covered by a pall, instead, the memories of the people they love both dark and beautiful will cover them. They should be covered by the memories of their loved ones. It will give them peace. He says:

The pallor of girls' brows shall be their pall

Their flowers the tenderness of patient minds

And each slow dusk a drawing- down of blinds.

He says that his friends and family calmly waited that their coffins would show up. At the point when the blossoms of these women's love arrive at their burial service, they will be given the hottest fondness to these warriors. Further he says that the feeling of farewell will likewise be felt in their blossoms, the delicacy of patient personalities. This sensation of concern and cherish will be reached out to their sweethearts when they

take in obscurity the sensation of distress and sharpness at every single dusk. In the poem, the speaker shows the loss of lives in the wars. Many soldiers died brutally in the war. They received no funeral for their deaths.

They died like cattle on the battlefield. Through the poem, the poet wants to show the harsh reality of war. He portrays the theme of the wastage of lives and remembrance in the poem. Owen himself encountered WW1 as a battling soldier in this manner. He had an exceptionally sensible demeanor toward war. He never celebrated war or admired death. Even he expresses his sadness towards war. He depicts the harsh reality of life for the dead one and his family as well. As they are waiting for the coffins of their dead ones.

His poems portray the loathsomeness of war, and its results, which isn't helpful for one or the other side. He feels distress and outrage towards the conflict. Owen double-crosses the men of youthful age being severely butchered, similar to cattle, and were destined to death. Owen perceives the sensations of loved ones of the casualties of war, individuals grieving over the lack of their friends and family.

Owen, who encountered the conflict himself, composes reality with regards to battle through his poems. He is additionally prevailed with regards to depicting the truth of the conflict through his compositions. Rather than direct depiction of the resentment and dissatisfaction of individuals because of the decimation of war, Owen indirectly conveys his messages by painting clear imaginaries through his perspectives.

### **References:**

IvyPanda, 2020. "Anthem for Doomed Youth" by Wilfred Owen Literature Analysis essay.

Kousar, Rehana, Sarfraz, Nida, Qasim, Khamsa, 2016. Expressionist Analysis of Wilfred Owen's Poems: Anthem for Doomed Youth, Dulce Et Decorum Est, A Terre, Futility And Strange Meeting. International Journal of English and Education, Volume 5, Issue 2, PP-68-80.

Owen, Wilfred Edward Salter, Anthem for Doomed Youth.

Posey, Horace G., Jr, 1971. Muted Satire in 'Anthem for Doomed Youth'. Essays in Criticism, Volume XXI, Issue 4, PP- 377-381.

The New York Times, 1993. Anthem For Doomed Youth, Section 4 Page 2.

Timucin Metin, 2016. A Hundred Year Old Agony And Its Reflections: Wilfred Owen's Anthem for Doomed Youth. The Journal of Social and Cultural Studies, Volume II, Issue 3, PP-227-236.

The Reader. Featured Poem: Anthem For Doomed Youth.

Tayeb Dyar Govand, 2023. The Concept of Death in the Houseman's "To an Athlete Dying Young" and Owen's "Anthem for Doomed Youth". Academic Journal of Nawroz University, Vol. 12, No.3, PP-74-78.