

ECHOES OF TIME

A CRUISE THROUGH THE DIFFERENT SCHOOLS OF ENGLISH POETRY



Department of English

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DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

RAJAGIRI COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT AND APPLIED SCIENCES KAKKANAD - 39



ECHOES OF TIME: A CRUISE THROUGH THE DIFFERENT SCHOOLS OF ENGLISH POETRY

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7. Victorian Poetry

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Introduction

Victorian poetry, spanning the reign of Queen Victoria from 1837 to 1901, captures a dynamic era marked by industrialization, social upheaval, and cultural evolution. Emerging in the wake of Romanticism, Victorian poets helmed shifting societal norms and struggled with profound questions of a radical shift from faith to scientific and technological advancement, exploitative capitalist society and the problem of identity. The poetry of this age is fundamentally characterized by a conflict between innovation and tradition. Poets like Alfred, Lord Tennyson, and Robert Browning embraced new forms and themes while maintaining a reverence for classical models and religious ideals. Their works often reflect a deep engagement with nature, the human condition, and the complexities of love and loss.

Characteristics of Victorian Poetry:

Victorian poetry is characterized by a diverse array of themes, styles, and voices. One prominent feature of this period's poetry is its resonance with the temperament of the age which dealt with the complexities of industrialization and urbanization. Poets such as Alfred Lord Tennyson and Matthew Arnold often explored the impact of rapid social change on individuals and

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The Department of English is an integral part of RCMAS offering a comprehensive and diverse educational experience for aspiring writers. communicators and journalists.

The contents of this book offer a comprehensive exploration of the diverse schools of English poetry, spanning from the earliest Anglo-Saxon elegies to the innovative experiments of Postmodernist poets. Each chapter delves into the distinct characteristics, themes and techniques of a specific poetic school, providing readers with a nuanced understanding of its evolution and influence on literary history.

This book is particularly relevant in higher education as it serves as a valuable resource for students and scholars studying English literature, offering a thorough examination of key poetic movements and their significance within the broader context of literary and cultural developments.

Moreover, the book ensures practicality, readability, approachability through clear and concise explanations, accompanied by illustrative examples, images and accessible language, making it an engaging and informative read for both academic and general audiences alike.



