

## T.S. ELIOT'S THOUGHTS IN HIS WRITINGS ARE CLEAR MIRROR OF MODERN LIFE

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**Abstract:** *This paper attempted to understand influence of modern life on Eliot's thoughts and writings. Therefore Eliot's thoughts in his writings are considered as a clear mirror of modern life. After reading Miss Weston's book "From Ritual to Romance" definitely influenced T.S.Eliot to write a long poem "The Waste Land" which bagged Nobel Prize. The quality of the poem in five parts is incomparable including its subject and information derived from different sources. Eliot carries us with hit to travel around the globe and show memorable places and priceless preaching. In the Old Testament, the Biblical thing about The Waste land is one part. But here what Eliot thought about modern materialistic life is most important. Love, lust, sex, hatredness, careless behavior etc. are the prominent points observed in his poems. In his poem The Love song of J. Alfred Prufrock love and age can be realized. Modernity, modern thinking touched every hearts of people in the society. Whole Europe was as a Waste Land. He often depicted the modern life and attitude of the society in his poems. Europe seemed, by all accounts, to be a profound waste Land, ruined by the sexual sins of the cutting edge man.*

**Key Words:** *Modern life, Modern society, Love, Lust, Sex, Old age, Generation, Materialistic life.*

### 1. INTRODUCTION:

It is really a herculean task to put his views on modern society in a research paper. Although few things been discussed in this paper. The Waste Land is there because of sins of sex and fire of desire i.e. lust and disdain and wrongs of material human advancement and absence of confidence and commitment. The world, in which we are living, is loaded with scorn, trickery, foulness and craftiness. This all exist a result of the nonattendance of any positive confidence. Every one of our esteems whether it is moral, profound, mental, social, social, scholarly, physical or religious have been overlooked by the cutting edge individuals. F.R. Levis opined about Eliot's writings as, "Eliot's genius is that of the great poet who has a profound and acute apprehension of the difficulties of his age."<sup>1</sup> Bertrand Russell explained about the then present age as, "Brief and powerless is man's life, on Him and his race the slow sure doom falls Pitiless and dark."<sup>2</sup>

We do witness the moral and cultural degeneration in "The Waste Land" and "The Love Song of Alfred Prufrock". These two poems represent a clear vision of death of spirituality, love for lust, lavish nature in the powerful modern society. One should keep this view in one's mind that, The Waste Land represent not only external things but also inner values, morality which washed out in the modern land. Man lost his originality, morality, spirituality in this modern era. Cleanthes Brooks observes this as, "The poem is not merely a cry in the wilderness over something past and gone. It is a positive 78 assertion of the need to rehabilitate a system of belief known but now misdirected."<sup>3</sup>

The ideas of the first sin, the unfathomable length of time of torment and enduring in human life, the battle between the great and the insidiousness, the expectation of salvation through apology and the likelihood of the convergence of the worldly and the endless involved his psyche. Therefore T. S. Eliot expressed as, "The trouble of modern man is not merely the inability to believe certain things about God and man which our forefathers believed, but the inability to feel towards God and man as they did."<sup>4</sup>

Well known literary critic Northrop Frye identified few aspects and by pointing out the imperfections of present-day human advancement, he is affirming a perfect that will be achieved later on. In this modern society he occupied the position of the social or cultural critic rather than a historical critic. He focuses on the qualities of the cultural critic and historical critic as, "Just as historical criticism uncorrected related culture only to the past, ethical criticism uncorrected related culture only to the future, to the ideal society."<sup>5</sup>(Northrop Frye) In addition another critic F.R. Levis identified about the poem that, The Love

Song “Represents a complete break with the nineteenth-century tradition, and a new start. It must indeed have been difficult to take 84 seriously in 1917, for it defies the traditional canon of seriousness.”<sup>6</sup>

Individuals will watch the bare spot amidst his hair. Despite his brilliant and present-day dress, in particular, his morning coats, his firm neckline, his bowtie, his stick, individuals will watch his thin arms and legs meticulously. Prufrock is developing old and even so he is ending up increasingly ambivalent and meek. He is aware of his seniority and aware of the age. Stephen Spender critically examined the poem as, “Prufrock’s recital defines his characteristics, but as narration is negative; he sees himself as existing passively in the minds of those whose 93 society he frequents. It is they who remark that his arms and legs are growing thin.”<sup>7</sup>

Apart from The Waste Land if we can have a glance over Eliot’s another most important poem without which the study does not have any value. The poem The Love song of J. Alfred Prufrock is neither an affection tune nor an unconstrained upheaval of the sentiment a sweetheart for his darling, rather it is an investigation of the psyche of the darling who can't take a choice about making the proposition to the woman he adores. In a progression of passages, the sweetheart investigations the explanation behind a determination and re-choice and endeavoured to legitimize his weakness and absence of nerves, which make him totally unequipped for planning a proposition of love and affection towards his beloved.

“The modernist movement, which dominated literature during the first half of the twentieth century, was featured, among other characteristics, textual experimentation, an emphasis on subjective experience, and a radical break with traditional forms of Western culture. Modernist writers continually questioned the certainties of established institutions of religion, morality, and self-definition, often concluding that there were no ready answers or solutions to whatever problems they perceived.” (encyclopedia.com)

He wishes to tell his woman that he has seen forlorn men inclining out of the windows of their homes and smoking their channels at night. This would accentuation his own particular dejection and requirement for an organization. He doesn't prefer to take a choice. He needs to defer and to delay his announcement. He wishes to be some observe angle with harsh paws moving rapidly over the floors of quiet oceans. In this context Stephen Spender writes as, “In his surroundings Prufrock is like an eel at the bottom of a tank. He knows the depths and the darkness which the deceived creatures who swim around in their artificial light do not know. This self knowledge becomes realization of what physically he is: “I should have been a pair of ragged claws scuttling across the floors of silent seas.”<sup>8</sup>

## 2. CONCLUSION:

After the above discussion it is learnt that the world, in which we are living, is loaded with scorn, trickery, foulness and craftiness. This all exists a result of the nonattendance of any positive confidence. Every one of our esteems whether it is moral, profound, mental, social, social, scholarly, physical or religious have been overlooked by the cutting edge individuals. The Waste Land, due to materialistic life, desire i.e. lust and reluctant to the materialistic human advancement and absence of confidence and commitment makes researchers to think a lot In order to understand Eliot’s then the state of mind. The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock is a poem neither an affection tune nor an unconstrained upheaval of the sentiment a darling for his adored, rather it is an investigation of the psyche of the sweetheart who can't take a choice about making the proposition to the woman he cherishes. The whole social, political, financial and abstract inclinations of his age practiced a gigantic impact on him. The social milieu in which Eliot was conceived has been reflected in the tone of his verse. Eliot's The Waste Land is depicting an example of the cutting edge of the modern age, which shows a distinctive and straightforward display of the political agitation winning in the alleged contemporary human advancement.

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