



POURNIMA

DETAILED LECTURE NOTES

Campus.....

Course.....

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Name of Faculty.....

Name of Subject.....

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NO MEN ARE FOREIGN

James falconer kirkup

About the Author:—

James falconer kirkup, born in England on 23 April 1918 was a prolific English poet, translator and travel writer. He wrote over 30 books, including autobiographies, novels and plays. He Fellow of the Royal society of Literature in 1962

After writing simple verses and rhymes from the age of six and the publication of his first poetry books, 'The Drowned Sailor' in 1947, kirkup's publish work's encompassed several dozen collection of poet.

His first poetry books "The Drowned Sailor" was published in 1947. kirkup has recieved the Atlantic Award for Literature and Scott-Monchieff Prize for Translation. He become a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 1962. He died in 2009.



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SUMMARY

- This poem 'No men are foreign' is all about human beings. Also, it tells that every human being lives on this earth are brother and are same, we all have some kind of body and need sun, air, water and clothes us. We all walk the land and feed ourselves with harvest of this earth. Upon death, people will bury us in this same land.

- In the beginning, the poet says that 'no men are strange and no country is foreign'. So the poet tries to remove all the borders of countries from the earth surface. Only then no country will be foreign. And we can feel free to move around. In this way, the entire earth is one and all people who live on this earth belong to one human race.

God has made us all similarly. Poet says all soldiers are brother.

In next part 'they' refer to people of other countries. We also fight with them, discriminate them and call them foreigners. God has given everyone equal & never discriminate



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When there is no war, we all do farming. We live a comfortable life and eat things given by nature. During war and winter we starve and the people of another country also face the same things. He says they have same hand as ours and they work hard like us.

Poet asks reader to remember something in mind that God has bestowed our enemies with similar appearance to us. God has given them similar eyes that open and shut like ours. God has also given them strength which we can win through love. When we realize that they are like us, then there will be no war. When poet says that we should stay away from such negatively thought. During war both parties bear losses. This is the reason why people say the war is not in anyone's

When we pick a weapon against anyone, we defile the earth with their blood. As in war, fire, death and bloodshed. The war pollutes the earth and impure the air. The poet writes, no men are foreign and no countries are strange.



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Glossary

(i) Fed : Feed - $\frac{1}{3}$

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(ii) Harvest : crop, yield

(iii) Produce -

(iv) Dispossess : deprive, divest, disinherit

(v) Betray : deceive, be disloyal to

(vi) Condemn : criticize, attack

(vii) Defile : corrupt, pollute

(viii) Outrage : offend, anger, annoyance, rage, fury

(ix) Defile : to trample, to make filthy something that is clean.

(x) Uniforms : clothes.



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Question and Answer:—

- Q1. What is the theme of the poem 'No Men Are Foreign' by James Kirkup? Explain.
- Q2. Critically appreciate the poem 'No Men Are Foreign' by James Kirkup.
- Q3. Why does the poet say that we "define" the human earth? Bring out the significance of the word "define".
- Q4 Explain: "Beneath all uniforms, a single body breathes".
- Q5. What are harvest called peaceful? What do they symbolize?
- Q6. Give a critical analysis of "No men are foreign" by James Kirkup.
- Q7. What is the central message of "No men are foreign"?
- Q8. What happens when we take arms against each other?