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**THE THEMES OF TRADITION VS MODENITY AND RELIGION VS SCIENCE IN THE STORY “THE MARK OF VISHNU BY KUSHWANT SINGH”**

As we know India is a country of different people with their different religions.

“The story – The Mark of Vishnu” deals with the superstition and reason or science.

In this story Gunga Ram of course believes in the Hindu trinity of Brahma, Vishnu and Mahesh the creator, the preserver and the destroyer respectively. He had a lot of faith in God Vishnu that’s why he put a V mark on his head and used to give milk to Kala Nag every night and in morning the saucer finds empty. As a blind superstition Gunja Ram thought the black snake drinks all the milk but it was not true. The children who used to live their always tried to break his superstitious but he do not want. Scientifically oriented school boys know the fact about that. One day when Gunga Ram not their they put cobra in a box.

They takes snake to their school when Gunga Ram comes to know about this, he comes to apologize to cobra but the cobra was injured, so cobra bite on all his forehead, the teacher noticed the little drops of blood on Gunga Ram’s forehead and saw also the v-mark where the Kala Nag has dug his fangs.

The issue is presented between superstition and science. Gunga Ram represents a superstitious belief which is representative of general Hindu religious through the snake or the cobra called Nag which occupies an important place in the Hindu view of the chain of being. It is ritualistic creeds and traditional modes of thinking. The Hindu worship snakes of different variety are killing a snake is against this creed and traditional modes of thinking. The school boys and their science teacher and the classroom stand for the scientific attitude and the changed attitude vice-versa superstitious beliefs. Superstition, it appears is still an integral part of the average Indian’s mental makeup. The writer acutely aware of the dangers of superstition shows in this short story how superstitious beliefs persist among the poor, illiterate religious minded persons. If you live in Indian, you will see many more superstitious people like this story and there will be some who is lost their dear ones due to blind faith. But now we should go ahead paying attention to science along with traditions so that our lives a little smooth.

**Reference:**

* <https://www.academia.edu/36226446/The_Mark_of_Vishnu_A_Critical_Study>
* <https://brainly.in/question/2070917>
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