

Central idea of the poem

The poem 'No Men Are Foreign' is about the Universal brotherhood. This is the paramount need of the hour. All the people on the earth are alike because all breathe and feet in the same way. The poet says that people should not differentiate on the basis of caste, colour, creed, gender, or religion.

Summary of the Poem

"No Men Are Foreign" is one of the best poems of a prolific English poet, translator and travel writer, **James Kirkup**. This poem conveys a message of universal Brotherhood, to the people in the whole world. The word 'men' in the title does not refer to any 'particular' gender but to all people living in the world. Through this poem, the poet wants to bring all people close to each other. He says that no one in this world belongs to a 'particular' place, no one is stranger. The Creator of the earth is only one. We walk on the same earth, wearing the same dresses. The air we breathe is to all. All of us enjoy the taste of Sweet air and Water under one sun. People living in other places also have the seasons of harvests and winters like we have. We work and read with the same hands and eyes. We have the same eyes that are used to enjoy the taste of sleep and beauty of nature. Strength can be achieved only by love and this is the love which helps to recognize and understand each other. We are all brothers. If we hate others that means we hate ourselves, By taking arms against each other We kill our brothers. No one is Stranger and no one belongs to a 'particular' place. This earth and the air we breathe in is ours. By fighting wars, we pollute our own earth and its air. The poet in the poem conveys a message that we should not discriminate people because of Caste, colour, religion or gender. We are the same and we should live like brothers.

Understanding the Poem

Q1. What does the poet mean by 'uniforms' in the poem?

Ans. The word 'uniform' in the poem means the clothes we wear. It may refer to the clothes worn by the soldiers so that to avoid discrimination among the soldiers. 'Uni-' is a prefix that means 'one' or 'single'. School Children also wear the uniform.

Q2. What according to the poet makes all the people alike on the earth?

Ans. According to the poet, we live on the same earth where we enjoy the taste of

air and water under one sun. We have the same hands and eyes by which we work and read. These things make. These things make all the people alike the earth

Q3. What outrages the innocence and beauty of this earth?

Ans. Our wrong deeds, wrong activities, hatred, wars, outrage the innocence and beauty of this earth.

Q4. What do you get from the poem?

Ans. The poem clearly conveys a message of 'Universal Brotherhood' 'Union is always strength". It says that we are not different from each other, we are same and we should not hate each other because of Caste, religion, or gender. We have relations, if not by the blood but by the things we commonly use.

Q5. DO you find any rhyme scheme in the poem?

Ans. No, we did not find any rhyme scheme in the poem. All the lines have different kinds of syllables and sound differently.

Q6. What is the style used by the poet in the poem?

Ans: The poem is written in a Simple Style. If we look at the Structure Of the poem, We see it consists of five stanzas and each stanza contains four lines.