

SYNOPSIS

Ted Hughes is one of the noteworthy British Poets emerging after world war II. He is known for his immensely prolific writings. Through his enormous writings he displays the contemporary disillusionment, and chaos. He belongs to the generation of the Britishers which suffered from the two world wars. Ted Hughes is a conscious poet of the modern age who voices of the modern civilization.

The present dissertation attempts to study the variety of mood and themes in Ted Hughes's poems with special reference to his two major volumes - 'The Hawk in the Rain' (1957) and 'Crow : From the Life and Songs of the Crow (1970)'. It also tries to study Hughes's subjective exploration of themes such as man's relationship with nature, dominance of force of nature, and also inner turbulence of modern man.

The dissertation has been divided into four chapters. The first chapter consists of six sub-sections. The first chapter, by listing major definitions of poetry, attempts to define the nature of poetry. It also highlights the various features of modern age. It tries to trace the development of poetry in modern times. The first chapter highlights some major events in the life of Ted Hughes. Works and poetry of Ted Hughes are also discussed in the chapter. The chapter attempts to trace the formative influences which cultivate the creativity of Ted Hughes.

The second chapter attempts to evaluate Hughes's 'The Hawk in the Rain'. This volume of Hughes creates a sensation in literary circles. Through his animal world and world of nature, Hughes tries to bring new trends in modern poetry. Hughes tries to satirize the inner turbulence of modern man by employing new themes.

The third chapter deals with Hughes's Crow poems. Through this monumental work, Crow, Hughes tries his hand at different sort of poetry based on primitive epic-folk tale, legends, fables, and primitive myths. But his revival of poetic genre in modern poetry, enriches and places him in the first rank poet. Hughes universalises his personal experiences by adopting such strategies and he lifts himself out of the personal loss on account of his wife's death.

The fourth chapter of Conclusions sums up the discussion made earlier upon Ted Hughes as one of the distinguished poets of modern times with special reference to the two volumes selected for the study.