



From Idealism to Realism: A Comparative Analysis of Romantic and Victorian Poetic Visions in English Literature

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Abstract— This article explores a comparative exploration of the poetic visions from the Romantic to the Victorian era and examines a meticulous exploration of the stylistic progression from Romantic to Victorian poetic expression, employing a critical framework that examines both aesthetic form and socio-cultural context. The romantic periods flourishing in the late 18th and early 19th century are marked by prominence on emotion, imagination, and the beauty of nature. In contrast the Victorian period introduced a more complex irresolute poetic vision shaped by industrialization, scientific advancement, conflict and dilemma between religion and science. The famous Romantic poets such as William Wordsworth, Samuel Coleridge, Percy Bysshe Shelley celebrate the beauty of nature, the power of imagination on the other contrary, Victorian poets like Alfred Lord Tennyson, Robert Browning, Matthew Arnold countered to the complexities of their time engaging with conflict, dilemma, faith, social justice and etc. This article also inquires into how romantic idealism of personal privilege and natural beauty adapts into the Victorian engagement with progress, responsibility. By exploring this comparative study this article reveals how poetic expression unrolls from the romantic celebration of idealism and nature to the Victorian focus on intellectual struggle and moral complexity.

Keywords—Poetry, Poetic, Romantic, Romanticism, Victorian.



I. INTRODUCTION

What is meant by the term "Romantic"? The word "Romantic" typically connotes love, devotion, affection, or sentiment between a lover and their beloved in everyday speech. Romanticism generally refers to a loving relationship between a lover and their beloved. However, depending on the context, this word actually conveys a distinct meaning. For example – In literary sense – Romanticism is not all about love; rather it is a movement in the late 19th century and early 18th century that implies "Aestheticism". It suggests that love, affection, and imaginative appreciation of nature are central themes. In Romantic poetry – Nature works as an inspiration and seen as beautiful, spiritual and healing that deals with the human mind. Here feeling and imagination were more valued than logical things. For Ibrahim- The Romantic poetry inspired

empathy, singular passion, and creativity while being incredibly approachable for a broad audience. On the other hand-In Literature, Victorian this also not about victory or triumph rather Victorian period refers to the time or movement during the reign of Queen Victoria. The core ideas of Victorian poetry are- the conflict between religion and science, Loss of faith, moral degradation. Victorian period poetry includes -industrialization, scientific discoveries, religious perspective, dilemma in social values. Allover, a dualism of reason and emotion, materialism and mysticism, the faith or doubt in religion and science are the main literary features of Victorian poetry. So we can conclude that the main notion between romantic and Victorian poetry are - Romantic poetry deals with nature, emotion, imagination. On the other hand, Victorian poetry

illustrates the struggle and uncertainty and dilemma between science and religion.

The purpose of this article is to explore the thematic, stylistic and philosophical differences between Romantic and Victorian poetry and also seeks to examine how the poetic vision expands over time. This article aims to compare the poet's visions in Romantic and Victorian poetry and highlight how these visions and innovation shaped their literary expression and acknowledge the evolving of human beings. The contribution of this study lies in offering a clear and focused comparison that benefits both students and scholars, and also offering a contextualized understanding of how poets responded to the world around them.

II. LITERARY BACKGROUND

The segment titled "Literary Background" will cover the defining characteristics and historical background of the Romantic and Victorian era.

2.1 Literary Features of Romantic Era

This section will discuss the time period of the Romantic age and significant literary aspects of that era. The age began in 1798 with the first edition of Wordsworth's Lyrical Ballads (1798) and it concluded with the first Reformation act in 1832. "The Romantic period is known as Revival of Romanticism because the romantic models of the Elizabethan period recovered during these years". (Rahman 123). There are some important facts that influenced the literature very deeply. For instance- After the France revolution it was declared that all people are free in their own way and they have their own personal thoughts and opinions in every sector. In that time Machines were introduced, steam engines were used in ships and trains. "In European perspective, in a history of critical thought, the technical romantic movements mean no radical change. Whatever their importance in literary politics, they did not in themselves, make for breaking critical ideas". (Wellek 2) According to Wellek, "In France Madame de Staél was the important of the romantic classical distinction and in Italy Romanticism was largely a slogan recommending truth and contemporaneity in literature". (3)

"It has been defined Wordsworth as the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings or the expression of imagination". (Ibrahim 59) There are some major features that are portrayed in every writing in that period. For example-This period all writing evaluates common natural life and rejects artificial urban life as subject of poetry. According to Ibrahim- Romantic poets always predict that nature is a foundation of revelation. He believes that – Romantic poems always employ the natural language and

portrays nature as a God or man. It always idealizes country life and nature plays a divine role. For Rahman- "Romantic writers saw nature as a teacher and a source of infinite beauty. Romantic poetry reflects rebellious views against oppression, suppression, domination and controls. It always celebrates human rights and their own thoughts". (46) In this period most of the writing displays the concept of past, the supernatural things, the mystical and gothic things. This also emphasizes human psychological issues, the theme of melancholy and sadness, where myth and symbolism get prominence. The romantic poet uses imagination, sensitivity in their poem and makes their poem accessible for all classes of people. For Kitson- Romantic poets write about the nature of the individual self and the value of individual experience. The most attractive thing is the myth of king, queen, fairy was replaced by sensible stories that make this unique from other periods of writing. Romantic poetry focuses on individuals, their inner thought, personal experience and also shows the rebellion against social norms and expectations. From Schlegell's "Athenaeum Fragment No.116" it said that – Romantic poetry is a progressive, universal poetry, its aim is not merely to reunite all the separate splices of poetry and put poetry in touch with philosophy and rhetoric.

Romantic poetry often promotes icons like liberty, revolution and the beauty of nature and emotional attachment with nature. Major and famous writers of this period are – William Blake (1757-1827) William Wordsworth (1770-1850). Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834). Jane Austen (1775-1817), Charles Lamb (1775-1834), Percy Bysshe Shelly (1792-1822), John Keats (1795-1821),

2.2 Literary Feature of Victorian Era

"The age is named after Queen Victoria who reigned over England from 1837 to 1901. It is thought that Queen Victoria came to power in 1837, and the Victorian period began in 1832." (Rahman 126) The twelve years from 1848 to 1860 of this age is called the **Age of the Pre Raphaelites** because the artist of that time followed the art form used before the period of Raphael (1483-1520). The last two periods (1880-1901) of this period are called the age of Aestheticism. There are some important factors that influenced the literature in this period, for example – there was happened some reformation act that gave voting rights, the first Reformation act was happened in 1832, the second Reformation act was happened in 1867 and the third reformation act was happened in 1884 that made a very significant role for men and women. In that time the Mechanism of railway and ships was improved which helped normal labor for their empowerment. In 1833 slaves were declared free. There was a Chimney Sweeps act (1840) and Factory Act in (1833) that actually prohibited child

labor. There was a significant progress of women and the agricultural side that helped to develop the industry. That has a very powerful consequence on the rural people. "The Fabian Society was founded in 1833 to help avoid violence within society". (Rahman 127) Michael Sadleir distributed the Victorian era into three distinct periods: **Early Victorianism**, the second phase known as the **Age of improvement** and the third phase known as **Decadence of Victorian Values**.

The Romantic period shows Nature as a divine role but the Victorian attitude to nature also changes. In the Romantic period it was kind of divine and pleasant but to the Victorian it was hard and cruel. In this period Literature reflected the uncertainty between religion and science. That shows people's dilemma on religion and science. "A dualism of reason and emotion, materialism and mysticism, religion and science, faith dilemma, doubt, chaos, freedom or restriction that are the main themes in the literature in this period". (Rahman 131) In this age the poet, the writers, and authors always try to seek knowledge, reason, truth, justice, peace and sensibility. Here alienation, loss of faith, dilemma, despair, women's rights are the very common themes in poems. In this time the poet or writers use dramatic monologue and elegy in their writing. Women's questions for example their sexual inequality, women's rights and their standing, their capacities shown in the early Victorian time period. Women get freedom for working out, they get an education and give their own vote. The novel became the forceful literary form in the Victorian period. A Victorian novel has a long and complicated plot. It has a setting in a city, there is a child protagonist, social themes, there is also an irony. Its common subjects are exploitation of women and children. Victorian poetry has a strong moral purpose, here the poet always tries to share a moral lesson to the audience. The poem often shows the disillusionment and existential concerns. Famous writers in that time are – Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809-92), Mathew Arnold (1822-88), Robert Browning (1812-89), Charles Dickens (1812-70), George Eliot (1819-80).

III. DISCUSSION

In this discussion section, a comparative analysis has been carried out focusing on selected poems from both Romantic and Victorian Period. By closely thematic concerns, and the poet's perspectives on imagination, nature and human experience this study highlights the distinction that define each literary era.

4.1 Dreams, Doubt and Developments: Contrasting the Romantic and Victorian tone in poems

The Romantic period transformed the whole complexion of English literature during the nineteenth century that

prioritized logic, reason, order and scientific inquiry. The Romantic age, *History of Literary Criticism* (1991) here The author Blamires asserts that -The Romantic age was an age of revolution, social and technological, philosophical and literary. Romantic period writers were totally different from classical period writers. They always emphasized the theme of nature, emotion, individualism, imagination in their writing that made their writing more unique than others era. Eighteenth century writers did not pay any attention to nature in their writing but Romantic poets always try to connect nature with human beings. Romantic writers show nature as a source of beauty, truth, inspiration and they mostly glorify individual experience, their inner thought, and their personal freedom. The major writers like John Keats, William Wordsworth, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, P. B Shelly, their writing made a significant effect on English Literature. They always believed that poetry is something that should come from the core of the heart, not just intellect. Poetry is something that is emotion. This section will analyze some of the major writers writing to analyze the theme, characteristic, social and historical background in that time's contemporary era.

John Keats (1795-1821) was one of the most influential and renowned romantic poets who is known for his sensuous beauty, rich imagery and emotional depth. According to Ibrahim- "Everything in nature for him is full of marvel and mystery-the rising sun, the moving cloud, the growing bud and the swimming fish". (62) His major poems are – "Ode on a Grecian Urn", "Ode on Melancholy", "Ode to a Nightingale", "To Autumn" etc. "The Odes of John Keats belong to that group of works in which the English Language finds an ultimate embodiment." (Vendler 3)

His poem, "Ode on a Grecian Urn" (1819), illustrates the connection between truth and art as well as how beauty and emotion are eternally preserved via art. This poem demonstrates how romanticism is portrayed in the celebration of beauty and the importance placed on imagination. Romanticism views art and the imagination as a means of achieving reality. The poem begins the poet's imagination on seeing the Grecian urn. Then he is attributing permanent immortality to the image which he creates in his mind. In the second stanza, there he asserts- "Heard melodies are sweet, but those unread/ Are sweeter, therefore ye soft pipes, play on". (Keats 11-12)

According to him, the music which we hear by our physical ears that are sweet but which we hear only in our imagination is sweeter. This paradox shows the romantic belief in the power of the ideal. In his imagination the trees will never get empty because the leaves will never fall. Again he sees a picture where a lover is supposed to kiss his beloved where the beauty of his beloved will never fade, she cannot grow old. Again the poem shifts on the poet's

feelings of permanence which he created in his mind. He imagined the trees carved on urn will never shed their leaves and the musician will never get tired while singing a song. Then the poem shows a contrast between the real and imaginary world. According to him, the love of modern life is more chaotic than the love of imaginary life. In his imagination the love is more spiritual and happier. The world he sees on the body of the urn is far different from the human world where the characters are pious and evergreen. In the last stanza here the poet states – “Beauty is truth and truth is beauty that is all/ Ye know on earth, and ye need to know.” (Keats 49-50)

The last stanza is all about the appreciation and celebration of the ancient figure of the urn that it preserved long forgotten history. Keats is saying that beauty and truth are essentially the same. If something is truly beautiful it must also contain some truth of its own. So he concludes by showing the unity of beauty and truth altogether that suggests that aesthetic beauty is not superficial but reflects deeper truth about life, nature. Romantic poetry often idealizes nature. Though urn here is an object but trees, leaves, flowers, that actually reflect a harmony between humanity and nature.

His other poem – “Ode on Melancholy” (1819) is the reflection of intense emotion, where he uses vivid natural imagery to illustrate emotional states and other romantic elements. He firstly tried to describe the characteristic of the feeling of melancholy where he advised the reader not to care about melancholic feeling. In the second stanza he says- “But when the melancholy fit shall fall/ Sudden from heaven like a weeping cloud”. (Keats 11-12)

Firstly, Romantic poetry always deals with natural elements so here the poet compares melancholic feeling with Weeping cloud. He uses several images like- “Blooming rose”, “weeping cloud”, “dropping flowers”, “rainbow”, that is the reflection of the romantic ideals of finding emotional and spiritual truth in the natural world. The poet expresses the view that- “She dwells with beauty- Beauty that must die/And Joy; whose hand is ever at his lips”. (Keats 21-22)

Secondly, Romantic poets try to be interconnected with beauty, joy and sorrow in their writing to portray the transience of the world. According to him melancholy is associated with its own beauty, joy and spirit. Melancholy lives close to the intense pleasure and it has its own shade. Only a very sensitive soul can taste the joy of melancholy. So the whole poem embodies the romantic idea that sorrow is not a weakness to escape but a deep and essential part of beauty.

William Wordsworth (1770-1850) in the first generation of English Romantic poets. In his Preface to the

second edition of the “Lyrical Ballad” he says- “Poetry should deal with everyday situations and incidents. It also deals with ordinary, humble and rural people. “For better in the case of good poets or worse in the case of bad ones, Wordsworth's legacy is the general understanding that poetry is about the subjective expression of any poet's peculiar view of the world”. (Robinson 1). It also deals with ordinary, humble and rural people”. There is a reason for his choice, he thinks that men are better when they are close to nature and far from the artificial civilization. According to Wordsworth -Poetry is a natural representation of feeling and originated from emotion recollected in tranquility. That means the poet produces poetry on recollecting tranquility. As a romantic poet he portrays some major themes in his writing – nature, the countryside as opposed to the town, source of feeling, active force. When he actually describes urban settings he uses natural settings like – valley, rock, hill, river, mountain. His poems are full of words that convey the joy for example- Daffodils or solitary girls working and singing along in the highland. “Michael” (1800) is a famous romantic poet that reflects several key elements of romanticism that emphasize emotion, nature, and individual experience. Nature is the major theme of romantic poems that we see in Michael. The poet sets the poem in the pastoral setting. For example – the poem has been started by describing a tall mountain by the side of “Greenhead Ghyll”, where the Shepherd Michael lived. He used to collect stones to build shelters for the sheep. “Greenhead Ghyll”, “River, Mountain”, Sheep, “wind,” brook, stones, kites, rocks, all are the pastoral elements that he used in his poem. Here nature is depicted as a nurturing force that shapes characters' moral values.

As his poems are full of words here emotion, sentiment, feelings are a very major theme in his writing. Firstly, the poet places an emotional bond between man and animal and secondly father and son. In the first stanza we see how much he loved his sheep, he collected stones for building their house. When the wind blew he knew the storm was coming and he knew how to protect his sheep. He hurried to the mountain top to bring his sheep to a safe place for protecting them, which is a reflection of feelings for animals. Secondly the poem shows the inner life of its protagonist, exploring his emotion to his wife and son. “Exceeding was the love he bore to him, / His heart and his heart's joy! For oftentimes”. (Wordsworth 155-156) These two lines actually show Michael's emotional response to hardship particularly his relationship with his son Luke illustrates the romantic ideals of sincerity and authentic feeling.

His other famous poem “Tintern Abbey” (1798) is one of the most significant works of English romanticism. The whole poem illustrates central romantic themes such as nature, personal emotion, importance of memory and

imagination. In this poem, Wordsworth sees nature as a source of moral guidance, comfort and emotion. He says nature taught him many spiritual things. If he wouldn't learn from nature, he would suffer more and his general spirit would decay. He thinks that nature has trained him to praise beautiful things.

Again he uses imagination to reconnect with his past experience in nature. In the first stanza the poet remarks that- "Five years have passed; five summers, with the /Of five long winters! and again I hear-/These waters, rolling from their mountain-springs/With a soft inland murmur". (Wordsworth 1-4)

Romantic poets always use imagination in their writing. These four stanzas actually focus on how memory plays a great role in poets' present. He lost five beautiful summer, five long winters. Here he tells us how he passed those five years and how he was impressed with the scene of nature. He had passed five long summers and winters away from the river. The beautiful scene makes him forget his past. He hears the musical rippling of the waves in rivers as it flows down from its mountain. The scene of the land and the sky creates a deep peace in his mind. He is impressed with the peaceful and lonely hills. The poem deeply reflects personal emotions. Wordsworth values feeling over reason in line with romantic ideals. He felt emotional and showed his younger age when blood and heart remain excited, this beauteous form basically learns how he can control his emotional states. Here childhood and imagination are idealized and Wordsworth contrasts the instinctive delight he felt in nature as a youth with the deeper.

Samuel Coleridge (1772-1834) was an English poet, critic, philosopher who was a founder of the romantic movement in England. He wrote the poems "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" (1798) and "Kubla Khan" (1816) as the major work of *Biographia Literaria, a collection* of his thoughts and opinions on literature which he published in 1817. His critical works were highly prominent and his poems directly influenced all the major poets of that age. He was known by his contemporaries as a meticulous craftsman. "An Overview of the Romantic Age, Romantic Poets and Romantic Poetry in English Literature: A Critical Analysis" in this article the author Rahman claims that -In the prose 'Biographia Literaria', written by Coleridge he mentioned some thoughts of his master such as "Poetry had a logic of its own as severe as that of science; more difficult, because subtler, more complex, and more dependent on more, and more fugitive, causes". (48) Coleridge admired the simple and regular style written in everyday language, He called those poems 'the properties of flesh and blood'. Samuel Coleridge's "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" is a famous romantic poem that shows several core elements

of romantic movement emphasis on nature, the supernatural, individual emotion, imagination and so on.

Firstly, one of the most prominent romantic elements in the poem is its deep thought for nature. In this poem part I the poet writes- "And Now the STORM BLAST came and he was /Tyrannous and strong". (Coleridge 51-52)

In this poem the poet not only portrays nature as a beautiful thing but also presents that reacts to the action of the ancient mariner. This line says – as the ship sets sail people have cheered it and given it best wishes but suddenly nature shows its terrible face and a storm blast comes and the ship begins to move with the tide. Because -The killing of the albatross is a symbolic act of violence against nature. Only when Mariner begins to appreciate the beauty of the sea creatures and say- "a thousand slimy things" that "lived on" does the curse begin to lift. Beyond the shadow of the ship the mariner watched the playing of water snakes, within the shadow of the ship the mariner saw the Rich color of the snakes. They are "blue, glossy, green" and "velvet black". Moonlight lit up these tracks and made them look like "flashes of golden fire". Sometimes the sweet "Skylark" sang a song and it came to the mariner's ears. Then he started to appreciate the beauty and joy of the creatures. Within this poem the writer actually shows nature is a moral intensity that is efficient of both punishment and healing.

Secondly, Romantic poets use the presence of the supernatural in their writing which is another hallmark of romantic poetry. In this poem supernatural is not merely for dramatic effect it is the reflection of moral and spiritual forces. For example- The mariner has noticed with horror. When the sun peeped through them like a prisoner he noticed only one woman in the ship. He encounters two terrifying figures. One is Death and the other is Life-in Death. The woman, Life- in- Death has "red lips", her looks were free. Her hair was "yellow as gold" and her skin was "as white as leprosy". Her Life-in- Death symbolizes eternal spiritual suffering, and reinforces the poem's moral implication about sin. Indeed, supernatural is not used simply to thrill- it is essential to the poem's ethical and spiritual structure.

Samuel Coleridge's another poem "Kubla Khan" (1816) is considered as a romantic poem due to its vivid imagination, focus on nature, and evaluation of the unconscious mind. Romantic poets celebrated the power of imagination and Kubla khan wrote like that. At the first of the poem we see the poem describes a fantastical mystical landscape. The poet implies that- "And there were gardens bright with sinuous rills/ Where blossomed many an incense bearing tree/ And here were forests ancient as the hills/Enfolding sunny spots of greenery". (Coleridge 8-11) Kubla khan made a "Stately pleasure" which is attractive to

look at. The palace was enclosed with high walls, that's why it was down to "sunless sea". There are fine gardens inside the walls with many "incense-bearing-tree". The ground side is covered with an "enfolding sunny spot". The beautiful place was decorated by tall "Cedar trees". The palace is considered as a "Savage place". It is a grimy and beautiful spot. Sometimes the water of the river breaks into little fragments and becomes like "chaffy grain" which came flying up from the "thresher flail".

Secondly Nature in the poem is vast and powerful elements of romantic poems. In "Kubla Khan" nature is not passive but dynamic and overwhelming. The poem's landscape- rivers, caverns, forests, hills, gardens, shows the natural elements. The opposition such as- "sunny pleasure dome" and "caves of ice" emphasize nature's dual power to encourage both wonder and fear. So the poem "Kubla Khan" exemplifies the romantic spirit through its exploration of the vision, shows the power of nature and the role of the poets as visionary.

Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792-1822) stands as one of the most passionate, idealistic, renowned poets of the romantic era. His poetry and prose acts as a revolutionary idea and challenging social norms, political issues. Shelley's poetry is stained by a deep engagement with nature not merely as a framework but as a living force with moral and spiritual significance. Ibrahim mentioned in his research – Romanticism has been determined to explain the poetry of Romantics as a whole and the visible depiction in Shelley's *Skylark* in particular. He thinks that Shelly has a special view about beauty that he portrays in his writing "To Skylark" (1820). A defining characteristic of Romantic poetry is its celebration of nature not merely for its beauty but for its spiritual and moral sight. In the first stanza of this poem Shelly addresses the bird as a "spirit" which is considered as more powerful than human. He imagines the bird as "royal", "untouchable", "noble". The bird is not a bird; it is from heaven. Its melodious voices help people to be conscious about "unpremeditated art". We see he is comparing the bird as a "cloud of fire" and tries to appreciate the bird's singing quality and its own spirit. He mentioned the bird fly keenly like the "arrow" of the "silver sky". By saying that he mentioned the freedom of the bird singing. Firstly, he compares the bird's song with "rain" and secondly with "poet". Again he compares the bird with "high born Maiden" who is rich and beautiful. Again the bird has been compared with "worm" insect with glow Altima. And lastly he compares the bird with "Rose". By comparing all these he tries to give a message that beauty is not permanent. It's not matter how it looks, the quality matters. Indeed, *To Skylark* by Shelly embodies the spirit of romanticism through its idealization, celebration of imagination and critique of human qualities.

On the other hand, Victorian poetic vision refers to the themes, movement or styles, perspective that formed poetry during the Victorian era (1837-1901). "Victorian literature shifts from Romantic utopianism to utilitarianism, from romantic imagination to reality from the common man to middle man." (Rahman 131) Victorian poetry often shows the dilemma and conflict between religion and science. Victorian poets often portray a sense of faith, innocence, and loss. And this poetry becomes a space for ethical reflection of debate and faith. For Christ -Victorian poetry does offer occasion for a convenient summary; for poetry since the restoration there has been confusion between imaginative and scientific organization and the Victorian period will furnish an illustration of this confusion in its final and most extreme form. The Victorian era was an age of materialistic prosperity, expansion of wealth, culture, scientific progress, industrial reform.

Matthew Arnold (1822-1888) was considered one of the first modern poets in the Victorian era. "Arnold accomplished something in poetry that no other English poet of his century tried-he made his poems serve the great critical effort which he felt was requisite to the best creation. (Stange 4) His writing often explores loss of faith, nature of beauty, melancholy and classical influence. His famous writing "Dover Beach" is considered as a Victorian poem by showing the crisis of faith, doubt and dilemma between religion and science, the theme of melancholy, modernity and human condition. Firstly, we see the poem has begun by showing the natural atmosphere. The speaker describes the sea shore in the moonlit night. The "Turbid ebb and flow of the sea" brought to his mind and made him sad. The poet contends that- "The Sea of Faith/ Was once, too, at the full and round/ Earth's shore!! (Arnold 21-22)

In these lines he compares religious faith to a sea and calls it "The sea of faith". Once it was filled with a tide that means once the earth was full of faith and passion on religion but when scientific things arrived people's faith, believe all are disappearing gradually. That's why he said the belief, faith is all disappearing along with the "night wind" and it appears to the speakers that the world is now "naked shingles". And lastly he shows a metaphorical comparison and refers to a man's life as "Armies with dark plain". In the war the armies are fighting, struggling. Without knowing any purpose similar humans are going to earn their materialistic things without knowing any purpose. In this way Arnold lamented the dying of the light of faith in "Dover beach".

Alfred Tennyson (1809-1892) is another pioneer in the Victorian era who was renowned for his most famous writing "Tithonus" (1859). That shows conflict between science and myth, the fear of immorality, melancholy and isolation, moral and philosophical inquiry. We know the

Victorian era was remarked by deep emotional melancholy that we see in this poem. The poem begins by surveying the scenery about him and complains to God that he cannot die but he forgets to ask to give him eternal youth. He grew older and watched “the wood decay and fall”, “summer swan dies”, but he was alive. Once upon a time he was smart and younger but now he has only “gray shadow”. Now he suffered. Now he felt frustrated and sorrowful. He said – “The God gift themselves cannot recall their gift.” Now he recalls his younger age and felt sorrow. His immorality brings only endless isolation, sorrow, regret that he remarks that- “Me only cruel Immorality/Consumes, I wither slowly in thine arms”. (Tennyson 5-6)

Secondly, the Victorian era was marked by the crisis of identity and alienation, which Tennyson also shows in that poem. “Isolation, loss of faith, despair and emancipation are common themes in poems”. (Rahman 131) Tithonus no longer belongs in either the mortal or immortal life, He is totally isolated now. And prays to God- now release him and restore him in the ground. He is just a shadow and that’s why he wants to come back to his own life. By using myth to express modern conflict, showing a deeply personal tone, reflecting anxieties, isolation. morality the poet clearly portrays a Victorian perspective in his writing.

Robert Browning (1812-1889) was a major English poet of the Victorian era best known for his dramatic monologue and reflection of psychological issues. His writing shows a deep psychological insight into the characters. He explores the theme of morality, ambition and human condition in his writing. He uses historical settings in his poem. His famous poem “Porphyria’s Lover” (1836) is a Victorian poem that embodies Victorian key themes, for instance- psychological realism, gender and power, science versus religion, the theme of madness. The poem is about Porphyria and her lover. The poem begins by showing a “Stormy night “and “windy night”. It is quite an icy and critical situation outside. The beloved came to her lover and she “Dripping the cloak and shawl”, she left her own hat. The lover wants her, but he knows her beloved will go back home. That’s why he made a plan. To him her beloved is pure. He tries to kill his beloved; he injures her three times by her long yellow hair. It seems that she does not feel any pain. She dies like a “bee die”. He opens her lid and it seems to him her blue eyes are laughing. At the end of the time her cheeks blushed and she died. The psychological realism has been clearly portrayed here. He is not a normal person, rather has a psychological disorder. Victorian people are always concerned about their own selfish needs that we see within the lover. He doesn’t want to lose the lady, that’s why he killed her. The Victorian dilemma has shown there. Christianity or religion says murder is a crime and sin. Her

lover has no belief in God and is confused about God’s existence.

Christina Rossetti (1830-1894) is another pioneer of the Victorian age whose writings offer a distinctive poetic vision that reflects the key characteristics of the Victorian age like -personal emotion, religion, faith and social commentary. Her famous writing “A Birthday” (1861) reflects several Victorian elements. Victorian poetry focused on personal emotion and inner experience that we clearly see in this poem.

In the first stanza we see she is calling herself as a “Singing bird” and she lives in a water shoot like a bird’s house. Secondly she compares herself with her heart with an “apple tree”, thirdly she compares herself with a “rainbow shell”, we know the rainbow has a different color and it shows excessive happiness that reflects her inner joy. Fourthly we see she compares her heart with “halcyon sea”. And now she feels like a queen, this actually reflects she is expecting her own true love. And this true love can be the mercy or kindness from God. She finds her true lover GOD. that shows her true love for religion, God and Creatures. All over “A Birthday” this poem embodies Victorian traits through its emotional intensity, spiritual depth, and several comparisons. At the same time, it challenges Victorian norms by celebrating personal joy and showing devotion to God.

IV. RESULT

The results indicate that Victorian poets concentrated on social ideals, while Romantic writers tended to romanticize nature. Nature is more than just a setting for human activity in the eyes of romantic poets. For everyone, it is a source of moral and emotional insight, a living existence, and a spiritual energy. Second, Romantic poets valued passion and imagination above intellect and reason, a process known as recollecting the past and viewing them as superior to reason and intellect. The romantic vision celebrated and mostly the romantic poets were fascinated by the mysterious things. The romantic vision was praised, and the enigmatic things primarily captivated romantic poets. In addition to reflecting nature, romantic poetry delves deeply into human emotions. Their visions serve as a powerful reminder of beauty that is still relevant today. In contrast, the Victorian poetic vision is characterized by a conflict between the past and the present, faith and skepticism, duty and desire, and imagination and reality. The Romantic observed inward marking the self and natural world while the Victorian looked outward confronting the challenges of modernity and reflected a more complex engagement with social realities including industrial progress, class struggles. Romantic and Victorian poets had quite different

worldviews, as this comparative analysis makes evident. Victorian poetry reflects on the inner world, scientific progress, and moral ambiguity, whereas romantic poets focused on nature, imagination, and idealistic belief.

V. METHOD

This is a Comparative article. Being a comparative article it will follow the Comparative literature method on Romantic and Victorian poetic visions in English Literature. There are two kinds of data sources. The primary data source is some books based on Romantic and Victorian poems, and the secondary data sources are literary books, journals, some other articles and other online resources related to that topic. By analyzing data, the reader can understand the distinction between Romantic and Victorian poetic visions in English Literature.

VI. CONCLUSION

The Romantic and Victorian eras, through chronology conjoining, incorporate markedly different poetic visions shaped by their respective socio-political context. Both Romantic and Victorian literature capture a profound shift in cultural, social, and philosophical shift of that time's society. While Romanticism embraced emotion, imagination, idealism, aestheticism, Victorian poetry inclined towards realism, dilemma, conflict and moral reflection. Though their poetic visions differ, both traditions share an obligation to explore the inner life. Together they form a rich field that reflects not only the transformation of poetry but also modifying perception of an age. Together these periods reflect a rich embroidery of artistic and intellectual responses to the intense challenges of the 18th and 19th centuries.

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