

A Study on Harmony Theme between Man and Nature of Ruskin Bond Poetry

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Abstract – All people get information via different 'natural' encounters. It even provides wisdom to a passive study of nature. The character and the thought of one have an impact on the sea, sand, mountains, flowers, plants, animals, climate, temperature, and season. The environment affects and motivates people to live environmentally. In this study, we have focused on the harmony theme of Ruskin Bond between man and nature.

Keywords – Harmony, Man, Nature, Poetry

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INTRODUCTION

Ruskin's nature and her lovely items are genuinely fascinated and spellbound, whether alive or not. However, Ruskin is not just a Nature poet, but also a 'man and nature' poet. The harmony between man and nature comes from most of Ruskin's poetry. Ruskin, like Wordsworth, is both man and nature in his poems. He shows a man who tries to conquer Nature's energies to help him. He is showing Man all alone in a hostile world, alone and alienated. Since Man and Nature are located in rural places closer to the city, Ruskin delineates a rural man and takes part in rural activities.

"The peepul was a pleasant tree to sit on hot days in his non-fictional novel 'Rain in the Mountain's Ruskin incites. His heart-fashioned, breeze-sensitive leaf was fluttering smoothly while the nuclei were motionless and no other tree saw the least movement in the air. A peepul tree can be found in every Indian hamlet and a farmer is usually soothed to sleep by the rustling of his leaves in the countryside after a day of work."¹

Through his declaration, Ruskin tells out that between man and nature there is a profound harmony. Whenever a man is wary of working days and comes back with heavy feet, especially a farmer or a shepherd, in the lap of nature is comforting. Nature is like a calming bath to the fatigued guy at that time. Ruskin thinks that nature in the impoverished society living in the lap of nature may be discovered in its pure and original condition.

Ruskin's notion of man-nature harmony is, in reality, commendable. In most of his Nature poetry, he portrays all the lovely natural items of Man. Garhwal

Himalaya Ruskin speaks to a profound and intimate connection between man and nature in his Nature poem

"Where the herd's men pass, their lean sheep cropping

Short winter grass.

And clinging to the sides of mountains,

The small stone houses of Garhwal,

Their thin fields of calcinated soil torn

From the old spirit-haunted rocks."[1]

(‘Garhwal Himalaya’)

Ruskin exhibits wonderful harmony between man and nature in the preceding sentences. He points out that men and women care for Nature so much that they don't fear thunder. They seem to challenge it, though. The kids starved at midday but forgot about it and enjoy sunbathing to sing pleasant melodies. You are so thrilled by the natural environment that you even forget your hunger. It is great that some kids grow old with milk sucking in their mother's arms. The destitute people of Garhwal have the greatest irony in this. But a remarkable harmony exists here among mankind and nature since even poverty does not hinder mankind and nature. In the following lines, Ruskin conveys this-

"There is the hunger of children at noon; and yet

Some sing of the sunset

And the gods and glories of Himalaya,

Forgetting no one eats sunsets

Wonder, then, at the absence of old men;

For some grow old at their mother's breasts,

In cold Garhwal" [3]

(‘Garhwal Himalaya’)

In ‘**Hill-Station**’ The wonderful harmony between Man and Nature explains Ruskin. He says that he feels somewhat almighty in a hill station, but the magnificent mountains provide him with a company to get rid of his alone and make him live. Not only these mountains, but he is known as a resident by shepherds and woodmen and by the trees, also Ruskin's loneliness has been removed. Here, Ruskin reveals a beautiful synergy of nature and man, as he is accompanied by nature (here, shepherds or wooden men) and by mountains and trees. In the following words, Ruskin shows this harmony between man and nature.

“There is nothing to keep me here,

Only these mountains of silence

And the gentle reserve of shepherds and woodmen Who know me as one who

Walks among trees.”[4]

(‘Hill Station’)

In his lengthy poem's fourth verse ‘**A Song For Lost Friends**’ The banyan tree is particularly delightful to Ruskin. He enjoys his vision. He feels soothed to touch the ancient robust wood and to sing to him. Their tree supplies Ruskin with a wonderful song that brings them comfort and urges him to enjoy their song, and so exhibits remarkable harmony between man and nature. In the following lines, Ruskin refers to this harmony

“Of aerial roots,

Intruder in your pillared den, I stood

And shyly touched your old and wizened wood,

And as my heart explored you,

the giant tree I heard you singing!”[5]

(‘A Song For Lost Friends’)

Ruskin is highly passionate in the same stroke and demonstrates his friend's Banyan Tree, which pulls him

to a ‘silent throbbing heart’. Ruskin also presents banyans as not only a companion but also a preceptor. In his poem Education of Nature, William Wordsworth presents nature as "the finest teacher." Ruskin deems this banyan tree his 'first instructor' for learning from this tree of silence. This is the finest illustration of man-to-nature harmony. The Man is Ruskin here, and Nature itself is the banana tree. In the following lines, Ruskin draws that harmony

“The spirit of the tree became my friend,

Took me to his silent throb Bing heart,

And taught me the value of stillness.

My first tutor, a friend of the lonely.”[6]

(‘A Song For Lost Friends’)

In his very short poem ‘**This Land Is Mine**’ A few poems about the harmony between nature and Man are composed by Ruskin Bond. Although he is not a true owner of this property, he calls this property his property. Simply because he was born there his sentiments are tied to the entire world. He would want to link himself with natural items like "the dust;" "the grass," the sensitive blade, and the "wetted bark" until his last breath. By using oxymoron Ruskin defends his love for nature, and in the following sentences conveys this harmony.

“This land is mine

Although I do not own it,

This land is a mine

Because I grew up on it

This dust, this grass,

This tender leaf

And weathered bark

All in my heart are finely blended until my time on earth is ended.”[7]

(‘This Land Is Mine’)

In his poem ‘**Don't Be Afraid Of The Dark**’ Ruskin recommends that readers should not fear Nature, but that we should be kind to it. Darkness, like is "light," is likewise a part of Nature. Therefore, we shouldn't fear the dark. Man has a strong harmony with nature, since man also belongs to nature, day and night. In these lines, Ruskin draws that harmony.

“Don't be afraid of the dark, little one,

*The earth must rest when the day is done,
The sun may be harsh, but moonlight never!
And those stars will be shining forever and ever,
Be friends with the Night,
there is nothing to fear,
Just let your thoughts travel to friends far and near.
By day, it does seem that our troubles won't cease,
But at night, late at night,
the world is at peace" [8]*

(‘Don't Be Afraid Of The Dark)

‘**Look For The Colours of Life**’ It's out-and-out poetry about Nature. The flowers of varied hues are lovely and lovely. Green trees with fruit such as mangoes, etc. are loaded as well as the blue sky and green forest. These natural items are drawn to Ruskin. The poet's appeal to the natural things generates a tremendous harmony between man and nature. With colors Ruskin portrays this harmony, creating a whole natural landscape as seen in the following sentences.

“Colors are everywhere,

Bright blue the sky,

Dark green the forest

And light the fresh grass,

.....

The Flame trees glow

At this time of year

The mangoes burn bright

As them on soon draws near" [9]

(‘Look For The Colours of Life’)

In his short lyric ‘**Listen**’ Ruskin calls on readers to take care of all that is in nature. During the night, in the daytime, in the trees, in the pebbles, in summer, in summer, in winter, in the heavens, in the sun and the moon, in the morning and at night, all are parts of nature. Man can't be separated from Nature's components. It thus shows that man, as Ruskin expresses, has wonderful harmony with Nature.

“Listen to the night wind in the trees,

Listen to the summer grass singing

Listen to the time that's tripping by,

And the dawn dew falling

Listen to the moon as it climbs the sky.

Listen to the pebbles humming,

Listen to the mist in the trembling leaves,

And the silence calling.”[10]

(‘Listen’)

In his Nature poem ‘**To the Indian Foresters**’ Ruskin Bond seeks to show that the harmony between man and nature is deep. For this reason alone, for the sake of survival and protection, the foresters try their best. If the woods are not chopped, the land is a 'pot of dust.' If the forests are not chopped off. The man works a great deal to preserve the world's natural environment like foresters, farmers, gardens, etc. While farmers and gardeners do much to preserve the fields and gardens which are also part of nature, Ruskin exclusively stresses foresters as nature protectors in this poem. In truth, this is a unique notion about the harmony between Man and Nature, since most poets in nature only speak about farming and farming, gardening, and gardens. But Ruskin's harmony between nature and man is slightly different from other poetry of nature, since Ruskin speaks not only of forests but also forests, which demonstrate the actual harmony of man and nature, forests and forests being intertwined, as Ruskin points out in the following words: —

“You are the quiet men who do not boast

Although you've done much more than most.

To make this land a sea of green

From here to far Cape Comorin.

Without your help to Nature's thrust

This land would be a bowl of dust.

.....

Dear foresters, you have not sought fame or favor

Yours have been a love of labor.

Our thanks! Instead of desert sand

You've given us this green and growing land.”[11]

(‘To the Indian Foresters’)

Even birds and animals enjoy unending harmony with Nature in the same poem Ruskin also states. Nature is your home and you get nourishment for survival, as described in the following lines

*“And we need trees to hold together
Beats ', and birds of every feather,
And leaves to help the air smell sweet;
All this land more is no mean feat.”[12]*

(‘To The Indian Foresters’)

In ‘**A Bedbug Gives Thanks**’ The insect seems to be pleased with its lot since it has a specific human blood-feeding privilege. The portion of Nature is both man and insect. Man, and other species need Nature too. Ruskin illustrates here the harmony between nature and other natural items. For him, people and little animals like insects worry Nature, as Ruskin explains in the following words, somehow or the other:

*“My place
Chief pest
Upon the human race!
I'm here to stay
To feast upon their delicate display,
Those luscious thighs.”[13]*

(‘A Bedbug Gives Thanks’)

In ‘**The Bat**’ Ruskin points a bat sometimes coming and sat beneath his bed but at its entry he doesn't have an issue since he feels a bat may be a nice comrade when he's alone, too. This illustrates the affection of Ruskin for little beings with a remarkable harmony between nature and man.

In ‘**The Message of The Flowers**’ After the winter season, Ruskin tells him he feels immense happiness when he views the flower's nasturtium. He seems like a nice and kind buddy of this bloom. This connection with the Nasturtium flora is Ruskin's because this flower brings Ruskin closer to a relationship, as does a man. It is very much in harmony between man and nature. In the following lines, Ruskin said it

*“How can I forget you, humble friend?
You gladden my heart to winter's end.”[14]*

(‘The Message of The Flowers’)

‘**All Is Life**’ Ruskin's little poem also has serious concerns about man-nature harmony. In his Ruskin, his companion encourages us to take advantage of Nature since it provides us with anguish and terror. In the following sentences, he conveys it

*“Let's make the most of it, my friend.
Make happiness our pursuit,
Spread a little sunshine here and there
Enjoy the flowers, the breeze,
Rivers, sea, and sky
Mountains and tall waving trees.”[15]*

(‘All Is Life’)

William Wordsworth's poem Nature conveyed the same sentiments ‘**The Tables Turned**’. Wordsworth, a passionate nature lover, calls on his friend William Hazlitt to abandon studying art and science literature. He's been writing

*“Up! Up! my Friend, and quit your books,
Or surely, you'll grow double;
Up! Up! my friend, and clear your looks,
Why all this toil and trouble?
.....*

*And hark! how blithe the throstle sings!
he too is no mean preacher.*

*Come forth into the light of things,
Let Nature be your Teacher.”[16]*

(‘The Tables Turned’)

In ‘**Night Thoughts**’ Ruskin tells out that Man is so harmonized sometimes with Nature that he sees him as his mother, his father, his teacher, even as God. In this poem, Ruskin Bond conveyed the same emotion. He names his mountain, sea the dad, and river the well of pleasure. The night's darkness offers him delight too. It produces a remarkable harmony between man and nature, as seen in the following sentences.

*“This mountain is my mother,
My father is the sea,
This river is the fountain*

.....
The day has gone, sweet night comes on,

Its darkness helps me see”[17]

(‘Night Thoughts’)

CONCLUSION

In this article, we have studied the harmony theme in Ruskin Bond between man and nature. It is concluded that Bond, because of his modest life in the middle for almost sixty years, has a long connection with nature. Bond has carefully noticed many hues of nature throughout his life. His friends in his literary universe, like in his actual one, were mountains, rivers, valleys, glades, bowers, forests, and animals. Bond is aware that man is an environmental product and that it is impossible for him to live without an environmental connection.

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