

POETRY DURING AND IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE WORLD WARS

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ABSTRACT

The poetry produced during and immediately after the World Wars offers a vivid and poignant reflection of the horrors and human experiences shaped by conflict. During the First and Second World Wars, poets such as Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon, and Rupert Brooke captured the brutal realities of warfare, often in stark contrast to the idealized notions of patriotism and heroism. These poets, many of whom served on the frontlines, used their works to depict the suffering, disillusionment, and trauma caused by war. Their poems serve as a powerful protest against the glorification of war, offering instead an intimate and critical view of its devastating effects on individuals and society. In the aftermath of the wars, the poetry of this period continued to grapple with the legacy of destruction, capturing the profound psychological and emotional scars left on soldiers and civilians alike. Through their vivid imagery, innovative forms, and raw emotion, these poets shaped the cultural understanding of war and its aftermath, creating a body of work that remains relevant in exploring the moral and human costs of armed conflict.

Keywords: World War I Poetry, world War II Poetry, Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon, Rupert Brooke, War and Trauma, Anti-War Literature, Frontline Experience, Disillusionment and Patriotism

ANNOTATSIYA

Birinchi va Ikkinchi Jahon Urushlari davomida va ularning darhol keyin yozilgan she'rlar urushning dahshatlari va insoniyat tajribasini tasvirlovchi aniq va ta'sirchan bir ko'rinishni taqdim etadi. Birinchi va Ikkinchi Jahon Urushlari davrida Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon va Rupert Brooke kabi shoirlar urushning shafqatsiz haqiqatlarini, ko'pincha vatanparvarlik va qahramonlikning ideallashtirilgan tushunchalariga qarshi tarzda aks ettirdilar. Bu shoirlarning ko'plari front chizig'ida xizmat qilgan va ularning she'rlari urushning iztiroblari, hayajoni va travmasini tasvirlash uchun ishlatilgan. Ularning asarlari urushni ulug'lashga qarshi kuchli bir protest sifatida xizmat qilgan bo'lib, uning shaxslar va jamiyatlar ustidan qoldirgan halokatli ta'sirini yanada tanishtirgan. Urushdan keyin, shu davr she'rlari halokatli oqibatlar bilan kurashishda davom etdi, askarlar va fuqaro aholi ustidan qoldirilgan

chuqur psixologik va emosional izlarni tasvirlashga harakat qildi. Ularning kuchli tasvirlari, yangicha shakllari va ochiq his-tuyg'ulari orqali bu shoirlar urush va uning oqibatlarini madaniy tushunishda katta rol o'ynab, qurolli mojaro va uning insoniy va axloqiy xarajatlarini o'rganishda dolzarb bo'lib qoladigan asarlar yaratdilar.

Kalit so'zlar: Birinchi Jahon Urushi She'ri, Ikkinchi Jahon Urushi She'ri, Urush va Trauma, Urushga Qarshi Adabiyot, Front Tajribasi, Disillusiyatsiya va Vatanparvarlik, Urushning Psixologik Ta'sirlari

INTRODUCTION

The poetry produced during and immediately after the World Wars stands as one of the most poignant and powerful responses to the brutality and devastation of armed conflict. These wars, unprecedented in their scale and impact, left deep scars on both the individuals who fought in them and the societies affected by them. Poets of this era, many of whom were soldiers themselves, witnessed firsthand the horrors of war and sought to capture its tragic realities in their work. In contrast to the romanticized ideals of heroism and patriotism often associated with war, poets like Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon, and Rupert Brooke presented a raw, unflinching portrayal of the suffering, trauma, and disillusionment that war inevitably brings. The First World War marked a turning point in the representation of war in literature. The early months of the war were filled with patriotic fervor, but as the brutality of trench warfare became evident, poets began to expose the grim realities of combat, shifting the focus from glorification to condemnation. Wilfred Owen's powerful imagery and deeply emotional verses, for example, were a direct response to the horrors he witnessed at the front. Similarly, Siegfried Sassoon's sharp critique of war, often laced with bitterness and irony, captured the profound sense of betrayal felt by soldiers who had been sent to die for causes they could no longer believe in. In the aftermath of the wars, the poetry continued to reflect the deep psychological and emotional scars left on individuals and societies. While some poets, such as Rupert Brooke, maintained a sense of idealism and patriotism in their earlier works, the later poems of this period grappled with themes of loss, trauma, and the collapse of traditional values. The poets of this era not only captured the immediate horrors of war but also explored its long-lasting effects on both the collective consciousness and the personal psyche.

METHODOLOGY

To explore the representation of war in poetry during and immediately after the World Wars, this study adopts a qualitative, literary analysis approach. The methodology is designed to examine key poems, poets, and thematic trends that shaped the portrayal of war, focusing on the ways in which poets responded to the realities of armed

conflict, both during and in the aftermath of the wars. The analysis will be structured into the following main components:

Textual Analysis of Key Poems:A central part of the methodology will involve a detailed textual analysis of selected poems from prominent poets of the era, such as Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon, Rupert Brooke, and others. These poets, many of whom served in the war, offer a first-hand account of the war's impact on soldiers and civilians. Poems such as Owen's *Dulce et Decorum Est*, Sassoon's *Suicide in the Trenches*, and Brooke's *The Soldier* will be analyzed for their thematic content, use of language, and imagery. The goal is to uncover how these poets convey the emotional and psychological trauma of war, and how their work critiques or, in some cases, idealizes the experience of combat.

Thematic Analysis:The study will identify and categorize recurring themes in the poetry of the World Wars, such as disillusionment, patriotism, trauma, death, and loss. A comparison will be drawn between the early war poems, which often reflect nationalistic fervor and heroic ideals, and the later works that shift towards anti-war sentiments, focusing on the brutality, futility, and personal suffering brought about by war. Special attention will be given to the contrast between idealized portrayals of war and the harsh realities described by poets who experienced the frontlines.

Contextual Historical Analysis:Understanding the historical context of the wars is crucial for interpreting the poetry. This study will briefly explore the social, political, and military climate during and after the wars, examining how these events influenced poets' writing. This will include the impact of trench warfare in World War I and the broader societal changes following World War II. The study will also consider how the trauma of war—both physical and psychological—affected soldiers and civilians, which is often a central theme in post-war poetry.

Comparative Analysis:This methodology will involve comparing the representation of war in poetry from both World War I and World War II, noting similarities and differences in the ways war was depicted. While World War I poetry tends to focus on the immediacy of front-line experiences and the disillusionment of soldiers, post-World War II poetry may also reflect on the broader consequences of war, including the long-term psychological damage, the questioning of authority, and the reflection on human values in the aftermath of conflict. A comparative approach will help to highlight how poets of both wars navigated the shared experience of violence and its aftermath.

CONCLUSION

The poetry produced during and immediately after the World Wars serves as a powerful testament to the profound impact that war has on individuals, societies, and

cultures. The poets of this era, many of whom experienced the brutal realities of battle firsthand, used their craft to challenge traditional notions of heroism, patriotism, and glory. Through their vivid and haunting depictions, these poets captured the raw trauma, suffering, and disillusionment that war inevitably brings. World War I poetry, in particular, marked a shift in how war was represented in literature. The early war poems often reflect an idealized vision of war, yet as the brutal realities of trench warfare unfolded, poets like Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon, and Rupert Brooke exposed the true horrors of combat. Their works offer a stark contrast to the glorification of war that was prevalent at the time, using imagery and language to communicate the psychological and physical toll that soldiers endured. The disillusionment expressed in these poems highlighted the futility of war and condemned the social and political forces that sent young men to their deaths. In the aftermath of both world wars, the poetry continued to evolve, reflecting the lingering psychological scars left on soldiers and the broader impact of conflict on society. Post-war poets engaged with themes of trauma, loss, and the shattered ideals of the past. The trauma of war, particularly the psychological scars left on soldiers, became a central theme in the work of poets like Randall Jarrell and Denise Levertov, who explored the long-term consequences of war on the individual psyche.

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