

Paper VII

KSMC On-Line ENGLISH Class

B.A. Hons. (English) part III

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Heaven of Freedom: A Critical Appreciation

"Heaven of Freedom" is a fine literary composition by R. N. Tagore. R. N. Tagore is a great Indian poet, dramatist, story-writer, philosopher and humanist of international repute. He was the first Indian and the first Asian to get the Nobel Prize for literature. He was awarded this highest honour of the international significance for his famous book poem "Gitanjali" in 1913.

The present poem too has been taken from the same book.

The present poem is one of the best remembered patriotic poems, composed by R. N. Tagore. This poem is in form of a prayer to God. It makes us realize how Tagore wanted India to be awakened into a heaven of freedom. The poet wants his motherland to be free no doubt, but only political freedom will not serve the purpose. He wants freedom from ignorance, fear, and numberless other problems facing India and the Indians. He wants his countrymen to be bold and fearless. He wants the unity and

integrity of the nation to be maintained. He wants narrowness to vanish and broadness of mind and vision to prevail. He wants Indians to be truthful and striving for perfection. He wants them to be modern in outlook and free from old, rotten evil thoughts and habits. He wants them to have scientific view-point along with faith in God and good things. At last, he says that God alone could do all these things and establish a heaven of freedom on the Indian soil.

Thus, this poem is a song of patriotism. It shows the poet's profound love for his country and countrymen. It also presents a ~~view~~ the poet's vision of Indian freedom. God is omnipotent. He can do everything. So, the poet prays to Him.

The whole poem is a single complex sentence having eleven lines. The principal clause is in the last line, "My Father, let my country awake into that heaven of freedom." Most of the words are simple and homely. Idea is clear. The lines have just musical grandeur about them. It is a highly successful poem in our poetry - selections.