

Sun rise

The poem “Sun rise” has been written by Padma Sachdeva in dogri language and translated into English by Dr. Karan Singh. It smacks of Dogri folk song influence which has given it a typical Earthly flavour. The poem conveys the message that just as Nature’s phenomena follows a “once for all” set pattern and rule, the ways of human behaviour should also follow the set norms otherwise they are sure to verge on arrogance resulting in nothing but chaos and confusion all around.

The reversal of set rules creates nothing but an atmosphere of heart rending gloom and a devastating sense of the instability of the entire cosmos.

Written under the title “Sunrise” the poem highlights reversal, depicts the sun as “descending” in the sky and is compared to a cataract in human eye which deprives it of its beauty and utility.

The sky is overcast and lightening is echoing across, creating a dreadful atmosphere. There seems to be a sort of war going on between clouds and the sky. The clouds are making the sky seem forlorn and drenched, unleashing their wrath on it in the form of lightening and rain. The mighty Sun too seems to be deprived of its glow and glamour momentarily and forced to seek refuge behind the dark edged nimbus.

Finding the sky and clouds engaged in a horrible combat, the Sun capitalizes the situation and emerges from behind the cloud layer, not in its usual glow and glamour, but as semi pale and shaky yellow deadened luminary.

Comparing the Sun with an arrogant boy, who when asked the reason of his being late, responds boastfully that his arrival should be taken as the beginning of the class. It is equivalent to Sun’s boasting that its emergence behind the clouds should be taken as Sunrise.

The poet has used befitting similes and metaphors and extended metaphors to create images which aid the poem with vividness and realistic flavors for example, a simile depicts the late comer as shaky like the sun emerging from behind the clouds. Another example of simile is the sun shining in its full glow a little after its emergence and then late school boy speaking arrogantly a little after having sneaked in shakily.

The sun was not dazzling and lucid as it was coming down the sky to set in the west. Due to the overcast, the sun was covered by clouds like the eyes sheltered by cataract. The rain was continuously washing the sky to upshot a clear picturesque of wet and lonely sun in the Vast Blue. The secluded sky was devoid of blissful company as the sun was not glowing; rather the wrathful sun was expressing anger by branching thunders over one and all through clouds.

The sun got the chance to push the clouds away to come into view. It tiptoed like a school boy by quickly entering into the class-room and sitting in fear at the back to avoid the angry stare of the teacher. The sun started to spread its rays in all direction with vigor and velocity. The sky documented a change in complexion of the sun, therefore, asked it whether its slate was not clean or if it had not got enough to eat.

The poet questions the wisdom of the school master who admonishes the students when they fail to turn in time without trying to know the reasons that holds them. The poet is of the view that it is better to be late for the light of knowledge than to have no light at all. While reciprocating, the sun answered that there was no wisdom in under estimating the gleams of the sun for there is no fixed time for the sun to rise. The poem brings out two facets of Padma's poetry. Love for children, desertion of ignorance. She believes that there is no set time for intellectual freedom and enlightenment. All school children must be taught with love and to be trained to love knowledge.