

Class- ix
Subject- English
Poem- Wind
Teacher's Name- Atoshi Sharma

Theme

Written by Subramania Bharati, the poem 'Wind' is a symbolic poem. The wind symbolizes all difficulties, obstacles, struggles, and obstructions that we have to face in life. Through the symbol of wind, the poet teaches its readers an important lesson that one must be strong and bold. We must have strong hearts as well as will power to face any troubles or hardships of life. Only courageous and confident people can surmount these difficulties and emerge victoriously.

Summary-

The poem 'Wind' contains a deeper metaphorical meaning. The poem depicts the power of wind and how it is destructive. The poet describes the wind as violent that breaks everything around. It breaks the shutters of the windows, scatters the papers, and throws down books from its shelves, and even tears their pages. The wind, through its fierce force, holds the capacity to cause a lot of destruction. Its power destroys rafters, houses, doors as well as people's hearts and lives. The poet has linked this powerful wind with the difficulties, obstacles, and struggles of life.

Just like the wind that destroys everything weak, these difficulties can also break down weak people. The poet says the only way to withstand the wind is to become strong. The poem then encourages the readers to have courage and firm determination. He says that by being strong, we will become friends with the wind. As a result, we will be easily able to tackle the wind as well as the difficulties we face in life. Thus, it helps us in achieving success and flourishing our lives.

Explanation line by line-

Wind, come softly. Don't throw down the books on the shelf.

In the first stanza, the poet requests the wind to blow gently and not destroy anything with its force. He asks the wind not to break the shutters of the windows and scatter the papers here and there. He also requests the wind not to throw the books on the shelf.

There, look what you did – you threw them all down..... You brought rain again.

In these lines of the second stanza, the wind did not pay any attention to the poet's request of not being blowing strongly. The poet says that the wind threw everything down from the shelf

and it also tore the pages from the books. The poet gets angry and blames the wind to bring rain along with it.

You're very clever at poking fun at weaklings..... the wind god winnows and crushes them all.

In this stanza, the poet is sad as well as has a critical tone. The poet calls the wind clever as it makes fun of all weak things. The strong wind in these lines represents all the hardships and the struggles that an individual faces in life. The poet says that the wind destroys all weak things such as houses, doors, rafters, and wood. It even destroys people, their lives and hearts with its mighty power. The wind God continues to destroy or separate weaklings until they become strong to face the challenges.

He won't do what you tell him..... Do this and the wind will be friends with us.

In the fourth stanza, the poet addresses the readers and asks them to make themselves strong because the wind will not listen to anybody's request. The poet asks everyone to build strong houses and the fox the doors tightly so that wind cannot intrude the house and destroy everything. This is a metaphor by which the poet is encouraging his readers to become bold and strong to face all the troubles in life. The poet asks the readers to practice hard to get a firm mind as well as a strong body so that they can face the wind and any challenge in life. If they can do this then the wind will become their friend and will not harm them.

The wind blows out weak fires..... We praise him every day.

In the last stanza of the poem, the poet describes the wind as both a creator and a destroyer. As a destroyer, it blows out the weak fire and as a creator, it encourages and nurtures strong fire. In other words, wind can destroy all things that are weak and feeble and at the same time, it can also flourish a thing that is strong and determined. If we are strong, then wind becomes our friend that means strong people will stop fearing wind and not allow harming them. We then praise the wind of God every day for building our strength. Through this poem, the poet says that we should be mentally and physically prepared to accept all challenges.

About the Poet

Subramania Bharati is considered as a prominent writer and poet in the Tamil literary world. He was also a journalist and an Independence activist. He was regarded as the Father of the modern Tamil style of writing.