

## Metaphysical Awareness in the Selected Poems of John Donne

Dr. Balasaheb Gopal Yadav

*Department of English I.C. S. College Khed, (M.S.) India*

### Abstract

The name "Metaphysical" derives from the Greek words "Meta" and "Physics," which suggest that "Meta" implies "beyond" and "physics" respectively, means the physical world. One of the most notable literary eras in the development of English literature is the metaphysical period. Metaphysical is defined as "of or relating to the transcendent or to a reality beyond what is perceptible to the senses" in the Merriam-Webster dictionary. In this study work, John Donne's chosen poems' metaphysical components are highlighted. A distinct subgenre of poetry known as "metaphysical poetry" explores philosophical perspectives on nature and is praised for its pedagogical applications to both intellect and emotion. Donne and his contemporaneous poets have advanced the skilful and adept poetic form.

**Keywords:** Metaphysical, transcendent, component, Philosophical, Poetry, skilful

### Introduction:

The roots of what Samuel Johnson called "metaphysical poetry" can be found in 17th-century England. This kind of poetry is sharp, clever, and profoundly intellectual. It covered matters such as existence, love, and life. The literary devices of similes, metaphors, images, paradoxes, conceit, and fantastical conceptions of reality were all used in metaphysical poetry. In order to introduce readers to a new standard of poetic brilliance, metaphysical poetry represents the magnificent and comprehensive fusion of intellect and passion, innovative wit and cutting humour.

The founder of this metaphysical school of poetry, John Donne, as well as his contemporaries Andrew Marvell, Henry Vaughan, George Herbert, and Richard Crashaw made sign In terms of metaphysical poetry, John Donne and his contemporaries are to be commended for this odd innovation.

T.S. Eliot praised John Donne's metaphysical poetry and regarded him as the best English poet due to his extensive use of logical conceits to convey innermost sentiments and attain unification of sensibility. Each of his conceits is a fantastic work of fabricated imagery that poetry lovers adore.

John Donne's metaphysical poetry was commended by T.S. Eliot, who viewed him as the best English poet due to his wide use of logical fallacies to express innermost feelings and achieve sensitivity unity. Poetry enthusiasts like each of his ideas since they are each amazing works of created imagery.

England in the 17th century is where what Samuel Johnson called "metaphysical poetry" has its origins. Poetry of this kind is witty, incisive, and genuinely cerebral. It tackled topics like life, love, and existence. Metaphysical poetry frequently makes use of similes, metaphors, images, paradoxes, conceit,

It was only natural for him to be thinking about death as he set out for a perilous conflict. He assures her that his heart, where his soul resides, has her picture engraved on it as he hands her his picture. She will remain in his heart throughout the remainder of his life. John Donne and his contemporaries deserve praise for this peculiar innovation in metaphysical poetry.

John Donne's metaphysical poetry was commended by T.S. Eliot, who viewed him as the best English poet due to his wide use of logical fallacies to express innermost feelings and achieve sensitivity unity. Poetry enthusiasts like each of his ideas since they are each amazing works of created imagery.

Both in real life and in the event that he passes away, the image would look closer and more personal. Both he and the image will only be shadows, but even after his death, his memory will live on through the image. It was only natural for him to be thinking about death as he set out for a perilous conflict. He assures her that his heart, where his soul resides, has her picture engraved on it as he hands her his picture.

The image would appear more intimate and close-knit both in real life and when he passes away. Even when he passes away, his memory will continue to exist through the image even though both he and the image will only be shadows. It was only logical that he would be contemplating death as he prepared to engage in a dangerous war. He delivers her his photo and informs her that her image is imprinted on his heart, where his soul resides. She will live on in his heart for the rest of his days. He expresses his love in the following lines:

Little think'st thou, poore flower,  
Whom I have watch'd sixe or seaven  
days,  
And seene thy birth, and seene what  
every houre  
Gave to thy growth, thee to this height  
to raise...

He makes a comparison between his beloved and a flower, whose beauty is fleeting and quickly fades with time. Even if the poet were to pass away, he would still be completely content in every manner since he would make new friends somewhere. He has no need of his heart, thus he wouldn't really miss it.

In another poem Anniversary, he expresses his innermost love to his wife in the following lines:

All kings, and their favourites,  
All glory' of honors, beauties, wits,  
The Sun it selfe, which makes times, as  
they passe,  
Is elder by a yeare, now, than it was  
When thou and I first one another saw:  
All other things, to their destruction  
draw,  
Only our love hath no decay;  
This, no tomorrow hath, nor yesterday,  
Running it never runs from us away,  
But truly keeps his first, last,  
everlasting day.

In this lyric, Donne compare himself and his beloved of the kingdom of love. Poet wanted to say that king will die one day, he further said that only bodies will be separated but their soul will be united in the heaven. This spiritual conceit mention by Poet from this stanza.

He poet makes the analogy between his beloved and a flower, whose beauty is

fleeting and will be quickly destroyed by time. The poet would be completely satisfied even after his death since he would make new friends somewhere else. Given that he had no need for it, he wouldn't really miss his heart.

Both the poet makes the analogy between his beloved and a flower, whose beauty is fleeting and will be quickly destroyed by time. The poet would be completely satisfied even after his death since he would make new friends somewhere else. Given that he had no need for it, he wouldn't really miss his heart.

Both in the real world and after his death,

He will be completely blessed, just like all other spirits in paradise, and they won't betray one another until the other one becomes disloyal. They will kindly extend their unending affection year after year.

Another poem, "Sweetest Love, I Do Not Goe," explores the poet's sweet love for his beloved, as stated in the following lines:

"Sweetest love, I do not goe,  
For wearinesse of thee,  
Nor in hope the world can show  
A fitter Love for mee;  
But since that I  
Must Dye at Last, 'tis best,  
To use my selfe in jest  
Thus by fain'd deaths to dye."

One of the poet's loveliest love ballads. The poet set up his journey to abroad so his beloved being very sad about it. He says that don't cry about his departure. He will love her more than today. He does not think about another woman. He considers that his wife is more beautiful woman on the earth.

Since Jonson, a critic, was unable to pinpoint the sensitive metaphysical poetry's flaws, it is

important to ask whether the seventeenth-century poets' success could not have been achieved by using the opposite strategy. The previous age developed directly and normally. When Jonson notes that their attempts to be analytical are constant, he may have unintentionally identified one of their idiosyncrasies. He would disagree that they combined the material into a oneness following that disassociation. They will be completely blessed, just like all other spirits in paradise, and they won't betray one another until the other one becomes disloyal. They will kindly extend their unending affection year after year.

Donne's metaphysical presentations have attained their pinnacle. The dramatic verse of late Elizabethan and early Jacobean periods demonstrates a good degree of development of sensibility. John Donne's extraordinary performance, which infused philosophical poetry with wit and jarring language, making it alive, has become a role model for his admirers.

There was no exclusive group of metaphysical poets, as Edward Dowden correctly noted. But compared to the other writers, he or she gave in to the trend more willingly.

We won't be able to comprehend Donne by studying him as the head of a school, though. I think that his biography and our interest in his personality as a person give us the easiest access to his writings.

Donne's metaphysical presentations have attained their pinnacle. The dramatic verse of late Elizabethan and early Jacobean periods demonstrates a good degree of development of sensibility. None of the prose has any

poetry by Jacobean authors have John Donne's outstanding performance.

One of the poet's loveliest love ballads, it is. The poet departs for abroad at the beginning of the drama, leaving his beloved inconsolable. She is asked by the poet not to mourn over his leaving. Because he believes his wife to be the most beautiful lady on Earth, he promises her that he will love her even more than he does now and won't look for any other women outside of her. A different poem called "Sweetest Love, I Do Not Goe" examines the poet's wonderful love for his beloved. He goes on to say that she should get used to it because eventually he will die and that she should view this as a mock imitation of his death. She won't experience much pain and will feel helpless if such agony is caused. There is no reason to be sad because of their brief separation. The poet urges readers to savour the intensity of love as it is right now, without worrying about the future.

He begs her not to cry, explaining that even a temporary physical separation won't keep them apart for life and that they will still be united spiritually. One of the poet's loveliest love towards her beloved.

He continues by saying that she should get used to it since eventually he will pass away and that she should regard this as a mimic imitation of death until that time comes. She won't experience severe agony or a sense of helplessness when such suffering is produced. There is no reason to weep because their separation is just temporary. The message from the poet is to savour the

intensity of the current love without worrying about the future.

He asks her not to cry because even if they are physically separated for a short time, their spiritual union will endure. A simple parting cannot keep them apart forever. It is one of the poet's loveliest love ballads. The poet opens the scene.

He feels remorse for allowing people to sin and for letting them travel the path of sin. The poet asks God to promise that when he dies, His son, Christ, will shine upon him just as the sun shines because he is afraid that because of these crimes, he won't be able to cross the sea of forever. Only then would he have a strong confidence in God. He goes on to say that she should get used to it because eventually he will die and that she should view this as a mock imitation of his death. She won't experience much pain and will feel helpless if such agony is caused. Their divorce is

### **Conclusion**

One of the most distinctive and versatile metaphysical poets is John Donne. He is well-known for his astounding philosophical poetry conceits. He has produced a wide variety of inventive types of satiric portrayals of the modern day that would even win the hearts of contemporary poetic lovers. His satires and metaphysical pretensions are completely natural. He developed metaphysical poetry, a distinct subgenre of poetry that explores philosophical perspectives on Nature. This paper presents how John Donne has explored Metaphysical elements through the study of his selected poems.

**References:**

- [1] Reeves, James, Ed., Selected Poems of John Donne, London, Heineman, 1952
- [2] Daiches, David, A Critical History of English Literature, Vol. I, Ronald Press Company, Supernova Publishers, 2015
- [3] Bennet, Joan., Five Metaphysical Poets: Donne, Herbert, Vaughan, Crashaw, Marvell, Kolkata Radha Publishing House, 1988
- [4] Reeves, James, Ed., Selected Poems of John Donne, London, Heineman, 1952 [5] Donne's Poetic Works: JC Grierse