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Third stage\Poetry

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Romantic characteristics

6. Glorification of the Past (Medievalism)

Romantic poets admired:

- The Middle Ages
- Folk traditions
- Myths and legends

They rejected modern industrial society and idealized:

- Rural life
- Ancient times
- Simplicity

This love for the past is called **Medievalism**.

7. Revolt Against Industrialization

The Romantic period coincided with:

- The Industrial Revolution
- Urbanization
- Social change

Romantic poets reacted against:

- Machine culture
- Pollution
- Loss of nature
- Materialism

They believed industrialization destroyed:

- Human values
- Emotional life
- Natural beauty

Wordsworth criticized the growing cities and loss of rural simplicity.

8. Common Man and Simple Language

Romantic poets rejected the artificial poetic language of Neoclassicism.

They believed:

- Poetry should use simple language.
- Ordinary people are worthy subjects.

Wordsworth stated that poetry should use:

“The real language of men.”

Thus, Romantic poetry focuses on:

- Shepherds
- Farmers
- Children
- Common rural people

9. Love and Beauty

Beauty is an important theme in Romantic poetry.

Keats famously wrote:

“Beauty is truth, truth beauty.”

Romantic poets saw beauty in:

- Nature
- Art
- Love
- Human imagination

Beauty was considered eternal and spiritual.

Romantic Poets and Their Contribution

1. William Wordsworth

- Poet of nature
- Focused on simplicity
- Spiritual view of nature

2. Samuel Taylor Coleridge

- Supernatural themes
- Imagination and mystery

3. Percy Bysshe Shelley

- Revolutionary spirit
- Political idealism
- Optimism

4. John Keats

- Beauty and art
- Sensuous imagery
- Deep emotion

5. Lord Byron

- Rebel hero
- Passion and satire
- Strong individuality

Conclusion

Romantic poetry represents a major shift in literary history. It emphasizes:

- Emotion over reason
- Nature over civilization
- Imagination over logic
- Individual freedom over social rules

Romantic poets transformed English poetry by making it:

- More personal
- More emotional
- More imaginative
- More connected to nature

The Romantic movement continues to influence modern poetry and literature.