

Gerontion. By T. S. Eliot

Gerontion symbolize the inactive society. Gerontion that means 'little old man' refers to the inertia of the society in which T. S. Eliot lived because as we can infer, old man moves slowly and sometimes he is stable.

In the initial level of the poem Eliot introduces the protagonist, Gerontion, the little old man. We can infer that "an old man is a dry mouth" symbolize the corrupted inactive members of the barren and unproductive western society in the 19th century. The inactive old man is blind and can not read and can not do anything but waits for sth to happen.

This old man is disconnected from the nature because he has never seen to a fight in the warm rain, like farmers fight with nature. This fight has no negative sense. This fight means the relation and correlation with nature. However, Gerontion is aware of his state: He suffers from what he has not done.

As we can infer from the lines of the poem, 'the decayed house' where the little old man, Gerontion lives symbolizes the western culture and the western society, and the 'Jew' is the money, which is the most powerful element in that society, it is the

materialism of the West. The 'decayed house' can be interpreted as the European family, the mind of Europe, the body, finally the brain. Antwerp, Brussel and London which are most important industrial and mercantile cities of Europe, symbolize and emphasize materialism that lacks moral and spiritual values.

As this researcher thinks, Romanticism and Humanism set up new values through experiences and disregard traditional values but both of them fail, because their values are only materialistic and do not include spiritual values. Hence, people who live in such a system cannot be happy and they suffer from what they lack in their spirits. Only mind and knowledge don't mean anything, man also needs passions and emotions, man is not merely a chemical substance. We can conclude that the chief implicit theme of the poem is the criticism of the Western culture and the society with the laughing goat.

The lines of the poem given above tell us Gerontion's consciousness of his sterility. For Gerontion, 'signs are only traces' which put him into curiosity and astonishment. Actually, these signs should have shown Gerontion the existence

of God. Generation is aware of his failure in ~~creating~~
 allowing a multiplicity of points of view in
 order to grasp all the dimensions.

Generation, as we can infer from these lines,
 is surrounded by darkness and cannot see
 the truth. Pharisees, which means false believers
 or false religious people. Democritus' wonders?
 To prove God's existence, they didn't see
 the signs, that is, the signs in the nature
 which indirectly prove God's existence.

Great acts of forgiveness

with such kind of knowledge which is disconnected
 with God and Nature is possible. History has many
 corners and gates which were built with cunning
 knowledge. Cunning knowledge is disconnected
 with faith which is misuse of intelligence.
 Such kind of knowledge puts us in the
 wrong direction. With such kind of knowledge
 man deceives himself. History does not
 create a better future for Generation because
 what he knows about history, is deceptive,
 and he takes each line of history
 consciously he reaches in the history
 as an absolute truth.

Conclusion,-

Gandhi's message is universal. men first must know himself and has a perspective of life in order to understand other points of view. if we do so, we can love other people and reach the spiritual level of existence.