Moral Values Injected Through Nature and Literature

Vignesh M.
M.A. English and Comparative Literature
Madurai Kamaraj University
Madurai
Tamilnadu, India

Abstract
This article shows the moral values that are projected in the literature. For my findings I involve the fiction “The Selfish Giant” by Oscar Wilde. The selfishness and solitude nature of the giant without accepting any relation, paved way for the permanent winter season. Children are always meant to have joy & playful nature throughout their childhood days. The literature taught the giant a great lesson through nature. However, he may be strong and unperishable to nature and literature, two heavy deadly elements forced to make the giant’s hard stone heart melt down.

The story The Selfish Giant projects that each and every particle of nature has the great connection with life of all creation in the world. Children are shown as a symbol of joy and innocence. Loneliness can teach you many things, but the world is a cycle, we all are directly or indirectly dependent on someone or something.

Keywords: Selfish, solitude, nature, kindness, moral values.

Introduction
The story “The Selfish giant” is one of the stories among the collection of “The happy Prince and the other tales” written by Oscar Wilde. Oscar Wilde wrote a couple of interesting Christmas stories. It is based on the story of Christmas Eve. The tales of this collection suit the genre of children's stories of Christmas.

Brief Summary
Children are meant to play and have a fun time all over their childhood. Some restrictions can be made in order to prevent them from unexpectable bad occurrences. But it is not a lawful thing to restrict from playing, As, done by the giant in the story. Every afternoon, after school all children would sneak into the garden and have their play time. It was a lovely garden with soft grass and lining meadows, the flowers bloom with happiness and pleasant smell. The water droplets would shine like a star. There are 12 Peach trees, the birds sat on the tree and sang their melody by their own musical note.

After 7 years, the giant returned from a long stay at his friend’s house, A Cornish Ogre. The Giant is the real owner of the garden, he restricted the trespassers. The presence of the children in his garden took his rage to its peak. No sooner had he chased away the children
and built a great wall around the castle. The winter season came, though the giant loves solitude, he can’t bear the loneliness in winter. The winter persisted and there was no spring in any corner of the Giant’s garden. This made the giant feel very bad about him. Surprisingly, one day he saw sunlight and spring in the small corner of the garden. There was a small hole in the wall of the garden from where a small child crept into the garden. When he went to investigate the change in the particular area. There he found a child on the branch of the tree. Only that tree had sunlight, then he understood that even nature is the indication of happiness.

Then he realised the reason for the fall of the spring season. So, he made a word that he would lift the children on the tree and then immediately he would knock down the walls of his garden. He did everything as he said, later the garden became the place for children and the Giant to have a happy moment with the children. Till the last moment in his life he had a memorable joyful memory given by the children.

**Nature a Media of Moral Values**

Nature has an immense power that it can either create or destroy any being on earth. It doesn't stop with physical cause, also make its change in mental and moral values of the being. Nature is the reason for the living of all beings in the world and their death is also a natural occurrence. Such nature with a heavenly power which can also teach moral values to those who need it.

Giant is a creature with unbeatable strength, and no one dares to fight or raise his voice against him. But once he seems to go wrong with nature, the supreme power immediately comes forward to make the giant understand what is right and what is wrong. The Giant lives on the basis of nature but still doesn’t show any interest towards it. He loved the independent solitude life and had an imaginary circle around him. But through the children nature broke up the giant’s circle of restriction.

**Literature as a Moral Carrier**

Literature is a vast field of life and life science in various points of view. It brings many positive moral ideas through the optimistic and pessimistic way of working. Literature basically gets the idea of nature to develop its own tree. So, all authors use nature as a part of their key. Oscar Wilde here uses nature as a carrier of moral values. Here Wilde indirectly brings the idea of Karma. Once the children were sent out, all of them would have felt and suffered as the giant did during the winter season. Yes! The fact “Karma is a Boomerang” is proven by Wilde through Nature.

**Conclusion**

This is the creation for Christmas. So, it goes with the concept of Christmas, ‘The purity drives away evils and impurities. The happiness (Children) bring the pleasant spring and drives away the confessing winter. Though the purity of winter snow made him more suffer and feel it uncomfortable and bad. Too much of anything is good for nothing.“

Language in India www.languageinindia.com ISSN 1930-2940 20:3 March 2020
Prof. Dr. S. Chelliah, Editor: Select Papers of the International Conference on Human Praxis and Modern Configuration through Literature -- VOLUME 2
Vignesh M., Moral Values Injected Through Nature and Literature 205
Work Cited

Oscar Wilde
The Selfish Giant