



Thematic Concerns in Birendra Prasad's *Search of Soul*

Kumar Pankaj, Ph.D., Department of English
Mahendra Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Gopalganj, Bihar, INDIA

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Author

Kumar Pankaj, Ph.D.

E-mail : krpankajmilan@gmail.com

shodhsamagam1@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

This article studies a deep and transformative inward journey of a new poet who explores a new way of self -help, motivational and inspirational thinking. By examining Birendra Prasad's Search of Soul, it tries to depict the relationship between human and universe. Through these verses, he invites readers to explore the complexities of the human spirit and the universal emotions that connect us all. This article also makes a compelling argument for a more global or universal approach to think about a poetic reflection on the pursuit of truth and self-acceptance. Prasad is such a writer who is very much conscious about human condition in all its complexity, its beauty, its sorrow, and its boundless potential for transformation. The way he offers a source of motivation and inspiration for anyone searching for hope, love, and the strength to overcome life's challenges is worthy to discuss in detail. In his collection of poem, Search of Soul the novel, Prasad has beautifully shown his concern about the deepest corners of the soul which reflects the struggles, triumphs, and aspirations that shape our lives. Prasad tries to discuss raw emotional intensity, the verses capture the longings and desires we all face, the yearning for love, the ache of loneliness, and the quiet struggles we often face in our hearts and minds. Hope, love, and the strength to overcome life's challenges are major concerns for him. His outlook towards life is very positive and he raises many serious concerns about issues which unbalance emotional intensity. This book is an intense and memorable collection of poem expected only from a writer of this stature.

KEY WORDS

Transformative, Inner Exploration, Complexity, Humanity.

Dr. Birendra Prasad is an accomplished Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer from the 2004 batch, hailing from Jamui district, Bihar. A social scientist and administrator, he holds postgraduate degrees in Veterinary Science and Economics, along with an MBA in Finance. Renowned for his contributions to public service, veterinary science, and cultural studies, Dr. Prasad has published research papers and authored books, including the inspirational poetry collection *Search of Soul* and *The Sautar: In Search of Identity and Livelihood*. A nature enthusiast, he has received several awards for his work in social services and administration. His writings reflect deep insights into self-discovery and societal issues

Prasad writes about *Search of Soul*:

"The poems in this collection emerged from the depths of my soul's exploration- an inward journey to find truth, connection and self-acceptance. They are raw expressions born from my myriad emotional landscapes we traverse as human beings. Some shed light on the universal longings we share- for wholehearted love, abiding hope and a sense of inherent worth. Others hold space for the ache of loneliness, dreams unfulfilled and the quiet battles of the heart and mind. Throughout these pages you will find echoes of humanity's deepest yearnings laid bare. Allow yourself to be swept away by the raw beauty and transformative power of this poems. Let them be a catalyst for your own soul-searching and a reminder of the resilience and beauty of the human spirit."

Dr. Birendra Prasad's *Search of Soul: Self Help, Motivational & Inspirational Poetry Book* is a collection of poetry that explores themes aimed at personal growth, self-discovery, and emotional resilience. As we delve into this collection, we find poems that resonate with universal themes: finding inner peace, building self-confidence, embracing love, and understanding the value of personal growth. These verses will not only inspire you to reflect on your own journey, but also encourage you to embrace your true self, knowing that the power to heal and grow lies within you. When we go through the thematic world of Prasad in the light of *Search of Soul*, we find following points to be discussed:

A new way of Self-Discovery and Inner Exploration: The title *Search of Soul* suggests a focus on introspection and the quest to understand one's true self. The poems likely encourage readers to reflect on their purpose, identity, and inner values. Self-discovery is the process of gaining a deeper understanding of your own character, values, beliefs, emotions, and purpose in life. It involves reflecting on your thoughts, actions, and experiences to figure out who you truly are beyond what others expect or assume. Self-discovery can happen gradually through life experiences, or more intentionally through practices like journaling, meditation, therapy, or travel. Inner exploration is the process of turning your attention inward to understand your thoughts, emotions, beliefs, desires, and values. It's like being both the traveller and the landscape—digging into who you are beneath the roles, expectations, and noise of everyday life. Dr. Prasad writes in his poem, 'My Best Self'

*"I love you
not just to stop
of being alone
But as I am
only my best self
when I am with you
and wrote my definition
of life's perfection
is you, only you" (P-31)*

This poem is a perfect example of Self-Discovery and Inner Exploration which expresses a deep and sincere love. The speaker clarifies that their love isn't out of fear of loneliness but comes from a place of self-betterment and emotional truth. They feel like the best version of themselves when with their partner, and for them, this person alone represents the perfect life. This can be done only when we have curiosity for self-discovery and inner exploration

Motivational and Inspirational resilience: When we go through the poems of *Search of Soul*, we find it as a self-help and motivational work which always emphasizes uplifting and empowering messages. It aims to inspire readers to overcome challenges, pursue their goals, and maintain a positive outlook towards life. Prasad writes in his poem, *'I Will Rise Again and Again'*

*My weapon is kindness
my shield is compassion
you may attack now and then
the flower grows again and again
Love sprout all this sadness
help and grow, my passion
learn to turn the page when
you try to a spoil again and again
Bitter is always less then sweetness
you blow, one more invitation
a gentle nudge, crippling pain
but I will rise again and again.(P-57)*

This poem is a powerful declaration of inner strength, resilience, and emotional courage. The speaker chooses kindness and compassion as their tools for facing life's hardships and the negativity of others. Despite being hurt or challenged repeatedly, they remain unbroken, likening themselves to a flower that continues to bloom. The poem emphasizes the transformative power of love and passion, encouraging personal growth through pain. It acknowledges the presence of suffering, but asserts that sweetness and goodness ultimately prevail. In the end, the speaker vows to rise, no matter how often they are brought down a message of enduring hope and perseverance.

Emotional and Spiritual Journey: The poems of *Search of Soul* likely addresses ways to navigate life's difficulties, fostering emotional strength and spiritual growth all the time. Poems may include the themes of hope, perseverance, and finding meaning in adversity. Prasad writes in his poem, *'Plausibility of Belief'*

*"Life is beautiful
grace to raise
art of recognize
is art of praise
euphoria and dejection
glaze in time braise
plausibility of belief
strenuous to erase." (P-47)*

This poem suggests that life is a blend of grace, emotional highs and lows, and the deep impact of belief. Recognizing beauty and hardship is part of a reflective, almost spiritual journey one that shapes us through time and is grounded in enduring belief. The poem *Plausibility of Belief* delves into the intricate relationship between belief, emotion, and spirituality, offering a profound exploration of the human experience. In it, Prasad masterfully intertwines emotional and spiritual dimensions, portraying belief as a multifaceted force that influences and is influenced by human emotions and spiritual quests. The poem serves as a reflective mirror for readers, prompting them to examine their own beliefs and the emotional landscapes that accompany them. Through this exploration, Prasad invites a deeper appreciation of the complexities of belief and its role in the human experience.

Connection with Nature and Humanity: Dr. Prasad is very much connected to nature and has noted

affection for nature, the book may incorporate themes of harmony with the natural world and interconnectedness with others, reflecting a holistic view of personal and social well-being. Prasad writes in his poem, '*Divine Fate*'

*Does the Sun promise to shine
Darkest cloud rain its behind
mountain for birth of a river
or rose petals, give fragrance forever
It is all its nature, devine fate
to love you is not my promise, my fate
I will born for you tell my core
until, I can burn, no more.(P-34)*

This poem "*Divine Fate*" explores the idea that just as natural elements like the sun, clouds, mountains, and flowers follow their inherent nature without promises or conditions, so too is the speaker's love. It is not a conscious choice or vow, but a destined, natural force. The speaker expresses that loving the other person is as inevitable and essential as the sun shining or a river being born an unchangeable part of who they are, enduring until they can give no more. The main concern of the poem is the interplay between nature and human emotion, especially love. It draws parallels between the inevitable forces of nature and the inevitability of deep, consuming love in human life. In essence, the poem suggests that just as natural elements fulfil their roles without question, humans are also subject to powerful, inescapable emotions like love making it a meditation on the inevitability of human passion as part of the natural order.

CONCLUSION

Thus we see that Birendra Prasad's "*Search of Soul*" delves into the profound journey of self-discovery, exploring the intricate layers of human consciousness and the quest for spiritual enlightenment. The narrative unfolds as an introspective exploration, guiding the reader through the complexities of identity, purpose, and the essence of existence. It also transcends the conventional boundaries of storytelling, offering a reflective mirror to the reader's own spiritual journey. Prasad masterfully intertwines philosophical musings with narrative elements, prompting a deep contemplation of the soul's true nature and its connection to the universe. The work serves as both a literary and spiritual compass, encouraging individuals to embark on their own paths of self-realization and inner peace.

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