

Yuhan Guetta, his literary works and Thoughts

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Abstract

In this article, I have tried to show the readers what kind of literary personality, literary works and thoughts Yohan Guetta had and what his opinion was about world literary history.

Key points: Yohan Guetta, his literary works and thoughts

1. Introduction

Every nation has a number of authors and poets whose literary works are internationally popular and have crossed the local borders and limits. They have finally made place in the hearts of people. People of the world read their literary works in order to recognize themselves because their literary works and thoughts contain human pains and messages. Guetta is one of such people who is considered to be a great figure of world literature. Therefore, I wrote this article on his life, literary works and thoughts of such strong poet, literary writer and artist. This article, in accordance with the principles of writing academic articles, has abstract, key points, introduction, objectives, method and methodology, main discussion, conclusion and references at the end respectively.

2. Objectives: Pointing out factors of the international popularity of Guetta, presenting information about Guetta's literary works and thoughts to readers.

3. Method and Methodology: This article has been written using library-based style and descriptive method.

4. Discussion:

Yohan Guetta's Life and Literary works

Yohan Guetta is a famous author, philosophic poet, literary author, painter, politician and researcher of Germany who was born in an aristocratic family of Frankfort, Germany in 1779 AD (2:231). His father was one of the well-educated people of Frankfort and had a job in Royal Durbar. He had given his son the family education. (5:122). After primary education, he went to Lipezeek University for studying rights at the age of 16., but he did not like studying rights. He became interested in literature and philosophy and he always read literary and philosophic literary works. (3-371). Along with higher education, he worked on studying architecture, painting and making sketch. While studying at the university, he started working on his literary work in a literary group called "Wong Aund Shtorum" meaning (Storm and Raid) or (Storm and Need). "The Raiders" were working for the unity and solidarity of German Culture and wanted to make the folk art alive again. For that time a rather Proud German, such work was not only considered to be a usual bravery, but also needed permission. (5: 122) Soon after his graduation from the university, he wrote his literary work, (Geutus phone peerly Hungun) which was a historical tragedy. The said drama not only made him famous, but also made him an intellectual leader of (The Raiders Group). The great hero of this literary work was (Zealous Man) who had taken part in 16th century war of farmers and his quote (Only those people deserve freedom and independence who fight for life and independence every day." Became a slogan of all generation. (5: 123)

Philosophy and Literature were intensely influenced by enlightenment and freedom in the second half of 18th Century. The movement considered wisdom a base and framed the human freedom from the aspect of wisdom. Literature should also enlighten the mind of people and awaken wisdom in it. On the basis of this movement literature was required to create things on the basis of wisdom. "Storm and Need" was a literary period in the history of Germany which lasted from 1767 AD to 1785 AD and was kept active by 20-30 years old youth. The youth included Guetta as well. He revolted against the enlightenment trend of the Literary thoughts and called such literature contract-based literature. In his opinion, literature does not come from mind, in deed, it comes from heart and feelings. (1:180) Guetta was working in the court of the empire and felt as if he were in a cramped cage. His only happiness was love with "Sharlota Bove" who was the daughter of an urban employee, but his love turned into a tragedy because she got engaged to his friend. Guetta could not tolerate the pain of his love. Therefore, he left Vicelar. On the request of

“Herzog” (a military and tribal leader), Karl August, Guetta went to Weimar. He was appointed as the leader of the Weimar Royal Government there. His unfortunate love and deep concerns of (Youth Verns Difficulties) became everlasting in Roman. In comparison with the hero of Roman who committed suicide, Guetta was ready to do a struggle for his emotions and love. He started working in government for reform. It is clear that the reform plan he had made, had imaginary and unusual aspects, but despite of it, he lived in Weimar for ten years hoping to make positive changes in the life of people.

Classic Period of Weimar: Scholars call this period of Guetta’s Literary Life (from 1794 to 1805) a period of friendship between Guetta and Sheller. In this period, Guetta’s literary work took another shape and came out of the influence of (storm and need). Not accomplishing (freedom, equality and brotherhood) slogans of Great revolution of France and dictatorship qualities of Napoleon deeply cast a negative impact on the society of Germany. Also, “Storm and Need” movement did not have a positive result against “Enlightenment”. For example, “Pains of Youth, Velens” encouraged a lot of people for committing suicide. Therefore, people cannot tolerate such literature in a cultural society. Sheller and Guetta’s reaction against these cultural demands paved the way for new literature which was a combination of wisdom and feelings, and reconciliation. Guetta and his friends became aware that extremism of thoughts and lack of wisdom changed the way of the revolution of France and (Storm and Need) Movement, so the foundation of new method was based on humanism and tolerance. Guetta wrote many literary works during the Weimar Period. (1 – 182) In 1777 he left his job and went to Italy and studied spiritual and Greek Literature there. When returned to Weimar in 1788, he refused to have the title of aristocrat and married Cristina Wolipious, a worker in an artificial flower selling shop who had a lower social rank than poets. Guetta could see real beauty and elegance in the face of the village girl and loved her from the depth of his heart. (5:123) Weimar which was a convenient and comfortable place became his residence till the end of his life and the poet could make it to there easily. Guetta hoped to enjoy everything in his life. The thirst he had for life was difficult to be quenched and was difficult for him to depend on long-term advocacy, teaching, architecture, literature and painting. Finally, he made up his mind to have the last two professions. In order to express his thoughts properly and effectively, he chose authoring and painting for the rest of his whole life. (2:233) In 1832, a young German poet, Hayez Hayena wrote a letter to Guetta: Mr. Yohan Wilfong Phone Guetta! I want to have your permission for being with you for a few minutes. My name is Hayez Hayena. My only aim is to kiss your hands, but Guetta did not invite this person to his place. The said poet gained international popularity after Guetta’s death. (4:101) Finally, Guetta died in 1832 AD and was buried in Weimar.

Guetta’s Literary Personality

Guetta’s Literary works found an interesting fate and hundreds of extracts were taken from his literary works. However, when World War II began, the violent war in Germany destroyed all his literary works. The Attention of that time government was drawn to the war. Even after the war ended, nobody mentioned his name for tens of years because the poet’s name was completely lost in the country. There were rumors that Guetta’s literary works are old and are not worth reading, but these rumors did not last longer. Guetta’s luck star again started to shine not only in Germany, but also over the world. People had lived in war and all the people of the world revolted against the violent nuclear war. Guetta was a kind of poet and author who had condemned the war and warlords before the start of the war. This way he had done his literary mission. In his literary works, he says about war and warlords, “Wise people never fights. War only harms people and is a mortal disease which has killed thousands of people throughout the history. (4:100)

Guetta had a large study skill. He could understand Latin, Greek, German, English and French. In addition to it, he had a nice vision about Islam and Prophet. He turned the conversation of Hazrat Ali and Fatema into poetic style. Guetta was a fan of Hafez Iradatmand and his poetry. Guetta has written his book (West-East) under the influence of Hafiz Book. Guetta says such words about Hafez, “ Oh Hafez! Comparing oneself with you is madness; because you are a river and we are like drops in comparison with you.” (3:373). Guetta had a peace-wanting sentiment. In war with France, the president of his country asked him to write epic poems for the motivation of German soldiers, but Guetta refused to do so and said, “How can I write poems for war and hate whereas I hate bloodshed.”

(2: 223) It clarifies that Guetta was a peace-loving person and philanthropist and loved humanity because he hated bloodshed. It is said that every year Guetta used to give 1000 Dollars from his income to people who were poor or did not have anything.

Guetta's Thoughts

Guetta has written 1600 poems, several dramas and romance. He had a distinct style which entered anyone's life without any means. Guetta has portrayed hopes of people's lives, desires and wishes artistically in his literary works. The heroes of his poems, dramas, and romances are ordinary people and most of his literary works contain articles about people's traditional life and the beauty of the country. In the world of literature, his literary works have been written in a very beautiful form and content. That is the reason that his articles have a special place in literature of the world and draw the special attention of literature lovers. When famous specialist of the east, Jourph Phone Hamer translated the book of Hafez Sherazi by making a lot of efforts, Guetta took the translated book. After that, he read the translation of Hafez poetry book several times and became aware of the secrets and mysteries of his poetry. It created a special love in his heart for the east. Therefore, he tried to find about more poets and authors of the east and read their literary works and poetry. Guetta has praised the poets of east in his eastern and western books. Especially Hafez, who in his opinion, was an everlasting poet and such poet has never been seen yet in east and west and called him (King of the poet). When Guetta read the literary work of the poets and authors of Persian language, he was astonished by their talent and became submitted to their talents. He said, "During the last five centuries only seven interesting poets were born in Khurasan, namely Ferdosi, Nezami, Anwari, Saadi, Jami, Maulana Jalaludeen Balkhi. Guetta admits these poets are better poets than him and adds there are also good poets in other nations who have high positions than him in the world of poetry. It shows the bravery and humbleness of Guetta. Guetta has a special consideration and honor to the poetry of Hafez and considers himself as a devoted reader of his poetry and mentions him in his books. Guetta says about the position of poet: "If a poet does not express the facts of a society objectively, he is not a poet." This shows that a poet makes poems considering the demands of his people and reflects their demands in it. It would be better if every piece of poems of a poet were made according to the demands of the time and to keep objective facts, lives, environment, political, and social affairs into consideration. Also, Guetta criticizes church in his poetry and considers people sinners who are there. As in the following poem under the title of Sin:

He

Does not live in monastery

Because the burden of sin

He does not carry on his shoulder

If it is early or late

Perhaps, not to be deprived of the taste of life (4:102-103)

Some of the sayings of Guetta which express his thoughts are mentioned below:

1. Talking is a requirement, but listening is an art.
2. We are equally stupid in love affairs.
3. It is anyone's primary duty to raise his skills and get benefited from his energy.
4. If you have strong intention, you can own anything.
5. Useless life is death before death
6. Personality grows with the passage of life and becomes clear.
7. Love is the leader of life and everlasting luck
8. People who take their leg out of their quilt will not have a safe leg.
9. Everyone cannot become a human.
10. Mother is the masterpiece of nature.
11. Lucky person is the one who seeks luck in his/ her home. (3: 371-373)

Literary Works and articles of Guetta

Yohan Welfang Guetta is one of leading and well-know figures who had a very deep and philosophic thoughts. He was as important as Danta in Italy and Shakespeare in England. He has written the following literary works during his life:

1. Songs of Rome, 2. Itinerary of Italy, 3. Theory of Colors, 4. Foust, 5. Youth Welter's Pains 6. Egmont,
7. Effi Zheni, 8. Eastern and Western Poetry Books, 9. 1600 poems, 10. Pro Drama

Some of the literary works mentioned above will be explained below:

Young Welter's Pains: Guetta wrote this literary work when he was a member and companion of (Storm and Need) movement. At that time, he fell in love with a girl namely Sharlot who was engaged. Disappointedly, Guetta left the city. Then he fell in love with another girl, Mackeliamiani. She married someone else. Guetta presented his disappointment and broken heart in "Young Welter's Pain". Guetta wrote this love story in at the age of 23. In the romance, Welter fell in love with a girl, Delota, but she was the fiancée of another person. Welter, who is a painter, commits suicide. (4-1: 71). The love story turned Guetta into a very famous author of his time. The literary work, "Young Welter's Pains" sold more than any other book at that time. The story became so popular that people started getting dressed like Welter, and talked and wrote like him. Even some youth committed suicide as Welter had done. Guetta completed writing this romance in less than a month. In 19th Century, Teudor Fontani wrote that this was a work of a genius. The said literary work was translated into Persian by Mohammad Safa Dorzada, Noorullah Falsafi, Enayatullah Shekebapore and Fareeda Hadoi.

Foust: Guetta wrote this literary work in the period of Weimar and is considered to be one of his most famous literary works. This literary work has a lot of importance for the English. Guetta has spent 15 years on writing this book. In sixteenth century before Guetta, In English Literature Christive Farmarlu and Shakespeare have also written dramas on it. This character was well-known in all Europe and is considered a bad and unfortunate character who was aware of world secret. In order to control it, he sold his soul to a devil. Foust has been divided into two parts. In first part is about perception, introduction, and love. Actually, it was about his disloyalty with a student in university and Guetta was feeling regretful for that. In the second part, Foust is tired and brave. He goes to the evil king and in return of service, he is given some lands near the shore of the river. He lives there till the end of his life. (7:4)

Western Eastern Poetry Books: German specialist for east, Yousaf Phone Hamer translated the poetry book of Hafez into German Language in 1813. In 1814, Guetta read this book and wrote against the saying "East is east and west is west and these two will never come closer to each other." of the English poet, Rudyard Kipling who had won noble prize in 1907. Guetta did not see any difference between the east and the west. He wrote, "Someone, who recognizes himself and others, will understand that the east and west cannot be separated from each other any longer. Based on it, Guetta is considered to the mender of the east and west. Guetta read Hafiz's book at the age of 65 and was impressed with it. He saw an independent human in Hafez and considered him as his twin. He benefited from mystical (I) in his poetry book and left religious prejudice like Hafez had done. He was so impressed with it, that satire and fun can be seen in his poetry book. Like Hafiz, he benefited from metaphor and symbol of (wine). Hafiz used this word for divine love. Guetta was influenced from east which had no background before. (7:5) Following the poetry of the east, he has compared himself as (Hatem Tayee) and his darling, "Kanzeyana" as (Zulaikha) in his poetry book. In this book, he has mentioned the names of (Saadi, Maulana, Hafez and more Persian poets.

Similarly, when he read Gulistan translated by Hardar for the first time, the majesty of the eastern poetry became more trust-worthy in his heart. Then he read the translation of holy Quran and its interpretation in German Language and became impressed by the personality of Prophet Mohammad (Peace Be Upon Him). He wrote a tragedy about Prophet Mohammad (Peace Be Upon Him) which portrayed his personality positive. He had shown it to Napoleon and he too liked it. One of his poems is called (String of pearls) which describes Prophets (From Adam (Peace Be Upon Him) to Prophet Mohammad (Peace Be Upon Him)) and praises them. (1:186)

Pro: It is a versified drama in which the poet raises great social and political problems, talks about cruelty and injustice. Its dramatic abstract is mentioned below:

“ Pro who lives in the Darbar of Zius and had enmity with him. Although Zius wanted to submit his ruling affairs to him, he did not accept it and was doing the struggle against the injustice and slavery. In this drama Guetta specifically says about Pro, “Pro is an interesting wise human who calls on people to do the struggle against injustice, cruelty and tyranny, always condemns slavery and praises every hard-working human. On the contrary, Zius is a symbol of ignorance and ineptitude.” It means Guetta condemns cruel human, the mentioned literary work expresses objective facts. (4:104-105)

5. Conclusion:

In this article we reached the conclusion that Guetta is a famous literature figure. His literary works and thoughts are everlasting because he has presented a lesson and message of love, sentiments and affection in his literary works not only for his own community, but also for all mankind. These thoughts have given Guetta international popularity.

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