

Summary of the Poem

The poem "The Child's Prayer" has been written by a famous Muslim philosopher and poet, Dr Sir Muhammad Iqbal. In this poem, he writes the pious and virtuous wishes of a child. The child prays to Almighty god to fulfil his wishes so that serve the humankind in the field of education. The loving hopes in the form of pray rise on the lips of a child in which he wishes his life to be like a lighted candle that illuminates the room removes darkness. He wishes to fill every corner of the world and let the darkness of the world vanish through his light. Just like the blossoms make the garden fair and lovely and let his land lights up because of him. He wishes his life be like a moth that goes round the light in passion and he love the candle of knowledge to his best. He prays his mission to be to serve the poor and help those who are in pain and need his sympathy. In the last lines, he prays to Almighty god to save him from the wrong deeds of evil and always let him be on the right path.

Understanding the Poem

Q1. Who is the speaker in the poem and to whom is it addressed?

Ans. The child is the speaker of the poem and the poem is addressed to god.

Q2. What does the child wish to be? List his wishes in the order they are described in the poem.

Ans. The child wishes to be a lighted candle so that the darkness of the world vanishes away because of his light. To love and get the knowledge, he wishes to be like a moth so that he could get enough knowledge to share with others. He wishes to serve the poor and help pay the sympathy to the weak and those who are in pain.

Q3. Why does the child want to be a) candle b) moth c) blossom?

Ans:

a) The child wants to be a candle because he wishes to enlighten the world with his knowledge.

b) The wants to be a moth so that he could love and have the passion attraction towards the knowledge to receive it.

c) a blossom for his country to make it happy, lovely and prosperous

Q4. What is the child's mission?

Ans. The child's mission is to love and serve the poor and weak and sympathize those who are in pain.

Learning about the literary device

Identify metaphors and similes in the following lines

My tender hopes arise to the lips I pray:

Kindly candlelight may my life be!

As the moth goes round the shining light in zest

So, let me love the candle of knowledge best!

Save me, my God, from all snares of evil:

Ans: **Metaphors:** My tender hopes rise to the lips, Kindly candlelight, the candle of knowledge, snares of evil

Similes: Moth is used as a simile in the poem.