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The nineteenth century is largely recognized for the controversial disagreements between new scientific discoveries and religious theories. Thus, this paper presents data on the Victorian period and more specifically the poem *Dover Beach* by Matthew Arnold. Meantime, it highlights the loss of faith in the Victorian society of England through the lens of New Criticism and New Historicism theories. The research aimed at illustrating the loss of religion and the melancholic tone evoked by Matthew Arnold in his well-known poem *Dover Beach*. In the beginning, it provides a critical insight into the principles and the histories of these two theories. Additionally, in the introduction, the paper contains significant information on the messages of *Dover Beach* and its linkage to the theories. Equally important, follows the discussion and analysis section, which is probably the fundamental part of the research. Finally, a brief conclusion is provided at the end.

England in the nineteenth century embraced controversial theories in science and literature. It was the time when romantic literature and new scientific discoveries emerged, which arguably both sides opposed and influenced each other. Furthermore, among the thinkers and poets influenced by nineteenth century romanticism and the ongoing clash between religion and science was Mathew Arnold. He felt the need to modify the arts and thematize religion in literature. Significantly, until the end of the nineteenth century, understanding literary works required convenient knowledge of the biographical and historical aspects of the texts. Meantime, the twentieth century is undeniably reach its introduction to vast forms of literary schools for interpreting literature. Starting from the pioneers of modern literary criticism T.S. Eliot, I.A.Richards and F.R Leavis and probably ending with Edward said orientalism on post-colonial theory.

The paper used a descriptive and analytic method to a generation the explanations it has proposed. In addition, the paper used two contrasting literary theories in the process of analyzing the poem *Dover Beach* by Mattew Arnold. The title of the poem is the setting of the poem as well. The speaker reveals to be in one of the rooms in Dover watching and describing the sea spectacle in front of him. To mention, Dover is located in England, it stands between England and France and Arnold uses the sea scene as a Metaphor for the state of faith in society in which he describes different situations. In this way, he gives us a pre-conception that the title is considerably significant in the poem. Furthermore, texts' ambiguity and paradoxical imagery in Central to new critics for understanding the texts. Generally, in *Dover Beach*, the poem portrays distinct paradoxical images. To explain, in the first stanza there are two images; one is when the poet pictures the beautiful Dover cliffs and the sea scene. Here are the images ' the sea is calm, 'the tide is full', 'the moon lies fair', 'on the French coast the light gleams', ' the cliffs of England stand glimmering', and ' the moon blanched land'. Remarkably, these descriptions give us a tremendous feeling of pleasure and calmness. The images are drawn very beautifully and they make the reader imagine the picture in his/ her head. But in the last lines the entertainment that the speaker feels is distracted by the disturbing ' roar of pebbles' and unstable movement of the sea waves that brought into his mind ' the eternal note of sadness. Again in the second stanza, the same images are shown that appeals to our sense of hearing in the Aegean coast that Sophocles long ago heard.

Likewise, the third stanza contains a paradoxical image as well. One is when faith dwelled in everybody's heart tightly like a girdle that encircles people waists ' like the folds of a bright gridle furl' d. The other is when the faith is vanishing and drear and he only hears ' it's melancholy, long, withdrawing roar' , again

we have auditory images. In addition, the last stanza carries two opposite images. First, when the world which is 'a darkling plain' where 'armies clash by night. To conclude, the different images that Arnold draws associate in conveying the message of the poem better. Generally, the beautiful, calm and peaceful world proves the beauty of the world when it has religion in it. In addition, the darkness, irritating sounds and uncertainty depict the ugly image of the society where religion is lost in it.

Meantime, the third stanza begins with 'The sea of Faith' in which he again capitalized the first letter of each (sea and faith) to highlight their importance in the poem. Additionally, he explains that once religion was at the climax just like the full tide of the sea and it was wrapped around the universe similar to a girdle that encircles around peoples waist. He uses the sea as a metaphor for religious beliefs in the world. But now he only hears 'it's melancholy, long, withdrawing roar that is 'dear' and retreating, to breath'. He means that religion, basically Christianity, is fading away and he is only hearing its gloomy withdrawing sound. This stanza contains a paradoxical image of the world; that in former, society was cohesive and united like the full tide and furled girdle when religion clothed everyone's heart. Unlike now that, the world is suffocating and sad since religion is retreating to exist and breathe. In the last stanza, the speaker of the poem asks his love (listener) to be honest and faithful to one another since the world that seems like 'a land of dreams' and very beautiful; is in fact painful and uncertain. There is 'neither joy, nor love, nor light'. Moreover, they are confused by the 'alarms of struggle and flight' between probably the two 19th-century forces; arguably, religion and science that lead them to be in a faithless planet that he refers to as 'darkling plain' To sum up, the variety of descriptions in each stanza manifests the theme of disorder and separation of society due to the loss of religion.

Additionally, the poet uses three narrative technique too when he utters 'come' in line six and 'listen' in line nine. Again, he moves to the third narrative when he uses the words 'we' and 'us' throughout the poem to make the readers and the listener all his observers. The variety of narrative techniques during the poem represents the lack of oneness and unity owing to the loss of faith.

Following that, the tone is another essential element to new Criticism for interpreting the meaning of the poems. Certainly, the poem has a changeable tone; it changes constantly from one line to another. Briefly, in the first stanza the tone is calm and peaceful as the speaker is watching the beautiful scene in front of him and it; as these words show 'tranquil bay', 'the sea is calm, 'sweet is the night air', and light gleams. Suddenly, he gets distracted by the irritating sounds of pebbles 'you hear the grating roar of pebbles' and the tone changes to 'the eternal note of sadness' at the end of the stanza. In the second stanza, the poet recalls the same irritating roar that Sophocles heard; the tone is disappointment and sympathy that we feel for 'the flow of human misery' that both writers associate with the sound of roaring pebbles. In the third stanza, the tone is delightful and nostalgic as he states that life was beautiful in the past when religion united and tightened the society. But again in the last lines the tone changes to gloominess and depression as Arnold believes that religion no longer exists and he only hears 'it's melancholy, long, withdrawing roar'. Finally, the last stanza starts with 'Ah love!' and the tone changes to personal feelings and intimacy, when he addresses to his companion to be true to one another. Following this, again the tone is happy and peaceful as he describes the beauty of the like 'a land of dreams. Further, in the last lines of the final stanza, the tone changes to a sad, surprising reality when he shows the ugliness of the world, as 'Hath neither joy, nor love, nor light, nor certitude, nor

peace, nor help for pain'. To conclude, the irregular tone of the. The poem depicts the unstable and shattered society of England that lacked cohesion and unity due to the loss of faith in 1the 9<sup>th</sup> century.

Another key point is the use of tense and punctuation marks. The writer shifts continuously from present to past and vice versa. In addition, he uses a vast number of punctuation marks that again represent instability and the lack of cohesion. Another point is the use of various types. Of rhyme in the poem. Arnold used different kinds of rhyme such as: alliteration, assonance, consonance, perfect rhyme, half rhyme, end rhyme, and general rhyme; but mainly alliteration and assonance. For instance, alliteration ( full, fair) ( gleams, gone) ( long, line) assonance ( tide, lies) ( long, withdrawing, roar), consonance ( sweet, light ) ( blanch'd, land), perfect rhyme ( night, light) ( seems, dreams) half rhyme ( England, stand). Obviously, this variety of rhyming within one poem represents the lack of cohesion and oneness that

Arnold seeks for. More, we can argue that the rhyming diversity functions as a motif in helping developing the message of the poem that has been previously explained.

Finally, we light upon the use of metaphor in the poem. The main metaphor of the poem is (The sea of Faith) in which the sea stands for the state of faith in England. The writer described the image of religion in two different worlds is hailed as an important figure In the poem since the world is used four times and it is capitalized twice. Concisely, the sea is used to represent the loss of faith in the main ways that have been clarified before. To mention, the poem also uses many enjambments in the poem. He does not complete ideas and sentences in one line; he jumps to another line several times. Indeed this is another clever technique used by Matthew Arnold to symbolize the separation and the divided society in nineteenth century due to the loss of faith.

Arguably Matthew Arnold's most famous poem, 'Dover Beach' manages to cothe moment on his most recurring themes despite its relatively short length. It's the message – like that of many of his other poems – is that the world's mystery has declined in the face of modernity. However, that decline is here painted as particularly uncertain, dark, and volatile. What also makes the poem particularly powerful is that his romantic streak has almost no tinge of religion. Instead, he speaks of the " Sea of Faith" without linking it to any deity or heaven. This " faith" has a definite humanist tinge – it seems to have a once-guided decisions and smoothed over the world's problems, trying everyone together in a meaningful way. It is no accident that the sight inspiring such reflection is that of untouched nature, almost entirely absent from any human involvement. In fact, the speaker's true reflection begins once the only sign of life -the light over in France – extinguishes. What Arnold is expressing is an innate quality, a natural drive towards beauty. Irony can be a powerful instrument for a poet aiming to reflect on the current state of humankind. Although some of the most notable poems were written more than two centuries ago, the poets 'deep understanding of culture remains highly insightful. The movement from religion to science always has concerned writers and poets, who discussed the consequences of abandoning the faith. Ironically, the described ramifications can be sighted in modern – day reality where technology has replaced religion. The poems Dover Beach and The Darkling Thrush are excellent examples of work that use literary devices to demonstrate humanity's loss of faithfulness and spirituality, which can be observed in contemporary mankind.

Loss of faith following numerous scientific advancements is the core topic of Dover Beach, a poem written by Matthew Arnold. While describing the sea and its calm movement, the narrator reflects on the changes occurring in the Victorian era. Potentially these transformations will lead to humankind

abandoning the faith. As such, Arnolds argues that religion was very prosperous in the previous ages, but it declined due to the rise of academic thought. This tendency is expressed in the words, " sea of Faith was once, too, at the full". However, the waves returns to the sea : " Retreating to the breath of the night wind"

The use of metaphors, similes and irony in Dover beach and The Darkling Thrush further supports the main ideas of the poems, In Dover Beach, the sea depicts history's cyclic nature, leading to the ironic impossibility of reversing the religion's fall. The author also compares the sea, a metaphor for faith, to " The folds of a bright girdle furled". The literary devices are also used in The Darkling Thrush, where the bird represents hope and religion while remaining ironically unaware of its reality. After that, Hardy compares the spirits of the world and himself, stating that both were fervourless.

Stanza three introduces the idea of religion into the equation. Faith is at low tide, on its way out, where once it had been full. Christianity can no longer wash away the sins of humanity. It is on the treat Matthew Arnold was well aware of the profound changes at work in western society. He knew that the old establishments were beginning to crumble - people were losing their faith in God as the advancements in technology and science and evolution encroached. This poem is a clash between science and religion. This poem opens with a beautiful naturalistic scene. The poet ( speaker ) stands on the cliffs of Dover Beach. He is gazing out at the majesty of the beauty of nature. Sadness is creeping in, and the poet is reminding us about how recent scientific discoveries have forever changed human values about nature. In this way, he brings science and faith into conflict. The poem presents all the theology and scientific theory with the message that all such things in the world can't make life meaningful if there is no love. This poem is intelligently and sensibly employing many enjambments which is a popular poetic technique. It is also very clear that Arnold does not wish to create a pretty picture meant for the reflection. On the other way, the beautiful sights are used significantly due to the fear and anxiety which inspires the speaker. Thus the poem so wonderfully straddles the line between poetic reflection and uncertainty. Therefore this poem has remained a well- loved piece throughout the centuries.