
ROBERT FROST : A STAUNCH FOLLOWER OF THE MARXIAN IDEOLOGY

*Eknath D Tatte

A number of critics and researchers have discovered the various dimensions of Frostian poetry. Some remarkable aspects among them are Frost's attitude to nature, wisdom in the poetry of Robert Frost, and the typical quality of the Frostian poetry.

No doubt that the Frost's poetry put substance in all the above mentioned compartments. But if one studies them again thoroughly and analytically his poetry's inclinations towards the Marxian ideology appear clearly. Being a modern poet he could not stay aloof from the great flood of Marxian thinking.

In his renowned work 'Das Kapital' Karl Marx put forward some facts which shows Marx's deep knowledge of the economic history of mankind. According to Marx the capitalistic system is dangerous for man and society.

- It will disappear very soon.
- In the economic world there are only two classes the working class and the capitalistic class
- In 'Das Kapital' Marx interpretes the value of commodity in proportion to the amount of labour.

Here Marx, expects a busy working class rather than a privileged class and its tyranny. Generally, in our society as well as in literature most of the times the privileged class and its life is celebrated by the writers. On the contrary, Robert Frost chooses his characters from the working class and while depicting in his poetry he especially create a particular agrarian background which easily speaks the profession of his characters.

In his 'Mowing' he says,

"There was never a sound beside
The word but one, And that was,
My long scythe whispering to
The ground, what was it whispered?"

*Dept of English, B. S. Patil Mahavidyalaya, Paratwada Di. Amravati-444805

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I know not well myself; perhaps
It was something about the
Heat of the sun."

These lines show that the speaker is a farmer and he is deeply involved in his profession of farming, that his utensils like scythe speaks to him. He can understand the mood of weather as well as his corps. Similarly, in the last lines of 'Mowing' he says,

The fact is the sweetest dream that
Labour knows my long scythe
Whispered and left the hay to make.

Here the poet dreams of labour his 'scythe' beacons him to work in the farm. Instead of dreaming leisure he dreams labour in the farm. We may say that Frost is the successor of the vision of 'Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin' who wanted to develop the agrarian set up in America. Both of them dreamt of busy and reason minded civilization, which was actually expected by Karl Marx.

Secondly, in his 'Mending Wall' the poet is enjoying the profession of farming. He is always busy with the various activities in the farm. In other words he celebrates each and every moment of hard work in the farm.

'He is all pine and I am apple
Orchard the apple trees will never
Get across and eat the cons under
His pines, I tell him.'

In this poem he enhances the profession of farming on a magnifying level. He compares the simple wall between the two farms with the border between the two countries. He wants to show that a peasant has also got a particular and honorable life style like a privileged class.

Actually, Marx dreamt of the rule of working class people. He wanted to make their existence important. Here, Frost, through his poetry sustained the Marxian principles.

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He stepped the common farmer's life at a spectacular level that the whole world took the notice of it. Like Alexander Pope or John Dryden he never run after the privileged, rich class. Instead of this capitalistic class he involved in the loving, down to earth working class and drew their simple green dreams in his poetry.