

Discuss Coleridge achievement as a literary critic.

Introduction :-

One of the greatest critics in the history of literary criticism George Saintsbury say about him, "Coleridge's range is necessarily wider, he takes in a their class forbode to take them all literature in a way which must for centuries him as" Head and shoulder above every other English critic. "A Richards Consider him as the for-rumour of the modern Science of Romantic". To Scott James he is "The Transcendental, philosopher critics Who seeks philosophic grounds for the Romantic Conviction".

Coleridge achievement or Contribution to English literary criticism is follows.

Theoretical Criticism :-

Coleridge differs from almost all the English critics in his keen interest in theoretical criticism. The aim of Coleridge as a critic is not so much analysis of a finished product but the finding out of a theoretical certainty in his literary master piece of criticism biographia literaria he says, "My aim is to established the principle of writing rather than to furnish rules how to pass judgement or what has been written by others". His criticism is also descriptive. His analysis of Wordsworth poem and his impressive lectures on Shakespeare have an ulterior theoretical purpose.

Coleridge most important and greatest contribution to critical theory is his conception of imagination. He is the first critic to

discriminate between imagination and fancy of course, through his theory of imagination Coleridge of artistic imitation poetry is not imitation but creation, this creation is passed on the sensation and impression received from the external world. We can say that his entire criticism depends on imagination and emotion. He discovers the creative power behind art and literature in this way the field of literary criticism.

Descriptive Criticism :-

Coleridge's descriptive criticism has else own significant applies his own theories of poetry and drama into practice without his descriptive criticism his theoretical criticism might have appeared valueless. His descriptive criticism consists of lectures on Shakespeare and other dramatists, lectures Milton and chapter of the biographia literaria and his lecture on the various English poetries of the 17th century. Essencing his position as a descriptive critic his achievement is brilliant but sporadic, and offers no single example worthy to be advanced as a model if his criticism survives, as it iforouth does it is not by virtue of what it demonstrates but by what it abundantly suggest for no critic has show points of departure for 20th century critics.

His philosophical criticism :-

Coleridge provided criticism with a philosophical and psychological around.

He brought poetry closer to philosophy and made criticism a part of philosophical inquiry. He introduced psychology into literary criticism. We find that his concept of fancy and imagination is perfectly passed on human psychology. T.S. Eliot says about Coleridge, "Coleridge with authority due to his great reading probably did much more than Wordsworth to bring attention to the profoundly of the philosophy problems in to which the study of poetry may take up".

- His position or place in literary criticism:-
Coleridge taught English critics to think for themselves rather than parrots. Those who parroted others. His most remarkable contribution to literary criticism is his theory of imagination. He established that a poem is an organic whole and that its form is determined by its content, and is essential to that content. His demonstration of the organic wholeness of a poem is one of his major contributions. ~~"of dubitative", also marks an~~ important to literary theory his theory of "willing suspension of disbelief", also marks an important advance over earlier theories on the subject.
- Conclusion :-

It can be concluded that Coleridge's views are extremely philosophical. He is a critic not easy to understand. It is only in the 20th century that his literary criticism has been truly understood even

Today in the 21st Century his reputation as a critic stands very high and being go to him for inspiration and elimination. Despite his fragmently nature of work. He is now regarded as the most original critic of England. Coleridge represents in himself the whole movement of a passionate curiosity to explore the deapth of creative art of which he is the first and last representative.