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class - B. A. I
Paper - II

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Topic - About

Lecturer No. - 05

of the poem To A Skylark - P. B. Shelley

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It is one of the finest poems of Shelley. In the spring of 1920, Shelley stayed at the house of one of his friends in the villages. Mrs. Shelley's note tells us that on a beautiful summer evening, while wandering among the lanes, the poet heard the carolling of the skylark. This experience inspired him the writing of this fine poem.

The poet addresses the skylark as a joyful spirit. The poet feels that skylark is something more than a bird. It pours from heaven a shower of spontaneous melody. It soars higher as it sings. At sunrise, the bird begins to fly like a spirit of joy. At sunset, it becomes a sightless song. As it rises higher and higher in sky, its song can be heard, but it can not be seen.

The notes of the skylark are as keen as the beams of the moon which gradually contracts so that its presence is rather felt than seen. Its song is like the flood of light which the moon pours forth from behind a lonely cloud in a cloudless night.

Dr. Anand Kumar
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