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## **STUDY COURSE MATERIAL**

**ENGLISH**

**SESSION-2020-21**

**CLASS- VII**

### **TOPIC: Wandering Singers**

**-By Sarojini Naidu**

### **DAY-1**

## **Wandering Singers by Sarojini Naidu**

### **About the poet**

Sarojini Naidu, (born February 13, 1879, [Hyderabad](#), India—died March 2, 1949, Lucknow),

political activist, feminist, poet, and the first Indian woman to be president of the [Indian National](#)

[Congress](#) and to be appointed an Indian state governor. She was sometimes called “the Nightingale of India.”

Naidu's poetry includes both children's poems and others written on more serious themes including patriotism, romance, and tragedy. Published in 1912, "[In the Bazaars of Hyderabad](#)" remains one of her most popular poems

### Poem

WHERE the voice of the wind calls our wandering feet,  
Through echoing forest and echoing street,  
With lutes in our hands ever-singing we roam,  
All men are our kindred, the world is our home.  
Our lays are of cities whose lustre is shed,  
The laughter and beauty of women long dead;  
The sword of old battles, the crown of old kings,  
And happy and simple and sorrowful things.  
What hope shall we gather, what dreams shall we sow?  
Where the wind calls our wandering footsteps we go.  
No love bids us tarry, no joy bids us wait:  
The voice of the wind is the voice of our fate.

## **DAY-2**

### **WORD MEANING**

1. Lute- amusical instrument
2. Echo-a sound that is repeated as it is sent back of a surface such as the Wall of a tunnel
3. Kindred- very similar , related ; your relatives and family
4. Wandering –to work somewhere slowly with no particular sense of direction or purpose
5. Gather-to come or be brought together in a group
6. Battles-a fight especially between armies in a war
7. Fate-your future

### **Central Idea Of The Poem**

The poem “Wandering Singers” by Sarojini Naidu is about the band of folk singers who wander from town to town and from village to village to spread the message of love through their singing. They play the lute; a musical instrument as they roam from place to place. The voice of the wind symbolizes the welcoming tone of the song that echoes through the forests

and streets. To the wandering singers, all mankind are like their extended family and the world is their home.

The theme of the songs that they sing goes back to stories of ancient battles or of old kings. They also have songs about the beauty of women and about happy and sad things.

The wandering singers have no dreams or hopes of their own; they go wherever the wind calls them. No love can make them go slow or no joy can bade them to wait. The voice of the wind is the voice of their life and also their destiny.

## **DAY-3**

### **Summary of the poem**

**The poem “Wandering Singers” is about the band of people singers who wander from Place to Place to unfold the message of affection through their singing. They play the flute and move from place to place. The voice of the wind indicates the welcoming tone of the Song. To the wandering singers, all humanity is like their relatives, and therefore the world is their home.**

**The Motive of the songs that they sing goes back to stories of ancient battles. They even have songs concerning the wonder of ladies and concerning happy and unhappy things. The wandering singers don't have any dreams or hopes of their own. They're going along with the Winds. No love will build them go slow or no joy will encourage them to attend.**

**They count the world as their home and all people around their innate family and relatives.**

**They hold lutes in their hands and they always song about the cities sheen and about the past.**

**Their songs radiate laughter and beauty of the women of past, legends of sword and old battles and about the crowns of old kings.**

## **DAY-4**

### **A. Answer these questions.**

1. What is the song Wandering Singers about?

**Ans.** The song is about the band of folk singers who wander from town to town and from village to village to spread the message of love through their singing. They play the lute; a musical instrument as they roam from place to place.

2. **Do the singers stay at one place or do they wander about? What determines where they go?**

**Ans.** They wander about from one place to the other. The call of the wind determines where they go.

3. **What do the singers sing about?**

**Ans.** The song of the Wandering Singers is about the stories of ancient battles or of old kings. They also have songs about the beauty of women and about happy and sad things. All mankind are like their extended family and the world is their home.

4. How do the singers sing?

**Ans.** The singers sing songs with lutes in their hands and travelling from place to place.

5. Are the singers homeless travelers? Why do you think so?

**Ans.** No, the singers are not homeless. They think that the world is their home and people are their brothers and sisters.

## **DAY-5**

6. What do the singers sing about?

Ans. They sing about the stories of cities whose beauty has long gone; the happiness and the beauty of the women which has been robbed either by the wars or by the time. They also sing about ancient battles or of old kings. They have songs on simple, happy and sad things of life too.

7. What has happened to the cities?

Ans. It has been ravished by wars, famine etc., so, the beauty has gone.

8. What does, “The laughter and beauty of women long dead” mean?

Ans. The laughter and the beauty has died because of wars or because of famine.

9. What songs do the singers sing of the sword of old battles?

Ans. They sing about the brave warriors who fought bravely with the sword.

10. Why do the singers feel nostalgic of the crown of old kings?

Ans. They feel nostalgic because during the kings’ period, these singers used to get rewards which made them to lead a comfortable life.

### **Reference to context**

1. “What hope shall we gather, what dreams shall we sow?” Explain these lines.

Ans: The poetess tells us that the wandering singers cannot have any hope or dream of bright future because of their wandering nature.

