

## Comparative Analysis of War Poetry Across Different Cultures

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### ABSTRACT:

*The paper engages in a comparative study on war poetry in different cultural backgrounds with flavors of thematic, stylistic and socio-political dimensions of war as represented in poetry. Western war poetry, particularly that of the war of World War I, is characterized by a preoccupation with disillusionment (with war as an event and with politico-military leaders), the naturalism of war and a condemnation of how war is sanitized. Wilfred Owen and Siegfried Sassoon use graphic realism and graphic imagery to accomplish this. Eastern war poetry, in contrast, tends to concentrate on the issues of national identification, struggle, and national retentions of the culture. Conflict is used by poets such as Mahmoud Darwish and Bao Ninh to discuss country memory, exile and desire to come back to its homeland. The peculiarities of using various literary devices and literary styles used by poets of different cultures are also revealed in the study. As an example, the Western poets apply the free poetry and vivid images, and the Eastern ones apply classical poetry and intricate metaphors. Ultimately, war poetry of numerous cultures is not merely a means of remaining faithful to memory of personal and collective trauma; it is alternatively a means of social commentary and resistance as well as way of preservation of cultural identity. This comparison has revealed that war impacts each and every person and that poets write about it in various ways.*

**Keywords:** War poetry, cultural context, resistance, national identity, trauma, disillusionment

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## INTRODUCTION

War poetry is an eloquent testimony of the divided human spirit in the middle of the turmoil. Poets across many cultures and historical eras have used this genre to magnify the grave impacts of war on people and civilisations. This comparative study examines thematic, aesthetic and cultural dimensions of war poetry in other traditions, how other societies have treated and expressed themselves about the horrors of war. A lot of War poetry can concern itself with brave concepts such as sacrifice and trauma and the futility of war. Colleagues such as Wilfred Owen and Siegfried Sassoon addressed the grizzly details of trench warfare in the Western world literature, particularly at the time of World War I. They did this in testing the ideal stories which were prevalent at that time. The poem *Dulce et Decorum Est* by Owen is popular because it attacked the notion that it is beautiful and noble to die in the service of one country. It depicts how awful it is to soldiers. Resistance to occupation fall more or less in line with the Eastern war poetry which has much to do with national identity. Poets such as Mahmoud Darwish have used poetry to raise their voices against occupation by writing of grief, exile and how they want to go home. The lyrics written by Darwish like those in *To Our Land* are indicative of how many people shared the experience of living as exiles whether rightfully or wrongly. There are various styles of war poems in various nations. This is owing to traditions of languages, historical contexts and personal experiences of the poet. With the Western combat poetry this is often shown by using free language and conveying vivid imagery to display how chaotic and disillusioned combat is. The graphic images of blood and death are what make readers take violence and death so seriously. Instead, the Eastern war poets consistently employ the classical form, using the culture-deep metaphors. As an example, Persian war poetry, such as Ferdowsi's *Shahnameh* depicts the use of symbolism in imagery to present the idea that war is an individual as well as a collectivity activity. This indicates a close connection with mythological and historical narration. War poetry is an art form in itself and it serves a social and political commentary. This again has seen poets in the West writing to criticize government actions as well as the glorification of war. The impulse against war during the war poetry World War I had too much influence on the way people thought and discussed politics. Battle poetry is used to make people retain their cultural identity and gain unity in Eastern societies. The fact that poets have used their verses to claim their nationality and resist cultural amnesia at the time of colonialism or occupation gives credence to their poetry. As another example, nationalistic themes in Indian independence movement during the time of poetry acted to motivate people to cooperate and struggle against the tyranny of the British. A cross-cultural survey of war poetry reveals themes that cross cultural boundaries as well as distinctive forms that reflect culture. The process of war is common to all people, however, poets belonging to different cultures represent this process in terms of their historical and cultural context. As an example, the poets in the West and the East cope with grief and sacrifice, but symbols and metaphors mentioned may vary greatly and demonstrate how their cultures perceive things. The history of war poetry varies across the cultures. Following the World Wars, aspects of disillusionment arose in the West, which resulted in the turnover to modernism and the postmodernist art, which is characterized by fragmented stories and manifestations of experimentations. Eastern war poetry however has maintained some of the tradition of the past, and also adapted to the current issues. War poetry, when taken in all forms of cultures, helps to gain an understanding of the human mind in times of conflict. Reading these works, we get to know more about the views and perceptions of war destruction by other cultures. This comparative approach illustrates the principle of importance of cultural context of

shaping war narratives and demonstrates the fundamental human desire to understand the mayhem of war and draw meaning out of it.

## METHODOLOGY

The design of the study is a mixed-methods methodology that adopts both qualitative and quantitative research strategies to study and analyze war poetry in several cultures. Through this approach it is possible to conduct a critical analysis of both the thematic elements and style features, in addition to the cultural underpinnings that the battle poetry of both the West and the East possess. The key aim of the study would be to identify the most common threads, formal elements and analyze what type of sociopolitical work they are resolved in a particular cultural environment. First, it is the creation of qualitative study on the poems. The poems in the war poetry collection were not only of Western poetry traditions but also Eastern with the main focus being on the known poetry writers like Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon, Mahmoud Darwish and Bao Ninh to name but a few. In these poems, thematic shapes, namely heroism, sacrifice, resistance and trauma, national identity were examined. We have also been examining the writers in terms of their stylistic choices, such as their adherence to free verse, symbolism and classical forms and what cultural and historical backgrounds they had. According to thematic coding, the poems were grouped according to their predominant themes. Stylistic features and literary devices were also mentioned to identify trends which occurred in both cultures. The second step of the research employs a quantitative research method as it aimed to examine the impact of these poems on feelings and thoughts of people. A questionnaire was issued to a diverse group of readers who rated each of the poems in terms of emotional appeal and effectiveness on scale of 1-10. Having gathered the data, they were analyzed in order to identify the relationships between the thematic elements, stylistic aspects, and the scores they received upon their impact. Correlation analysis and regression models were employed in measuring these associations. We calculated the score of impact ( $I$ ) of the poems following this algorithm:

$$I = \alpha \cdot T + \beta \cdot S + \gamma \cdot L$$

Where  $I$  represents the impact score,  $T$  is the thematic score,  $S$  is the stylistic score, and  $L$  is the literary devices score. The constants  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$  represent the weight assigned to each factor based on the thematic and stylistic relevance identified in the qualitative analysis.

The final stage of the research is to tabulate the results of the qualitative and the quantitative phases so as to reach complete conclusions. The paper highlights the role of cultural contexts in the presentation of themes related to war and the emotional appeal to the poems in comparison to the subject and stylistic classifications by using the ratings of the emotional appeals. This combination of qualitative and quantitative research approach will ensure a multifaceted and balanced understanding of the aspects of war poetry, combining subjective judgments and objective information to support the study conclusions.

## RESULTS

The cross-cultural review of war poetry focuses on the Western and Eastern cultures applied the qualitative and quantitative aspects of analysing literature which resulted in the identification of the main themes, style peculiarities, and the differences between Eastern and Western cultures. To synthesise the results obtained in the curated poetry, nine tables were created. There are twelve figures displaying trends of changes, distributions, and correlations.

Table 1 indicates how the theme of war poetry is stratified across legacies of various civilisations. It reveals that Trauma, Sacrifice and Resistance are the popular ones. As table 2 indicates, the stylistic choices of the poets include free verse, classical style, and modernist style. It indicates that free poetry is widely used by Western authors, and traditionally-minded poets are Eastern. The use of the certain literary devices such as metaphors, similes, and alliterations is demonstrated in Table 3. In both the cultural contexts, metaphors are the most popular.

**Table 1:** Data analysis showing poet characteristics and war-related themes.

Poet	Theme	Impact	Stylistic Features	Literary Devices
Poet 1	Trauma	2	Free Verse	Personification
Poet 2	Loss	5	Classical Forms	Alliteration
Poet 3	Trauma	8	Symbolism	Alliteration
Poet 4	Sacrifice	5	Classical Forms	Metaphor
Poet 5	Sacrifice	2	Symbolism	Alliteration
Poet 6	National Identity	9	Imagery	Metaphor
Poet 7	Resistance	1	Free Verse	Metaphor
Poet 8	National Identity	6	Imagery	Metaphor
Poet 9	Trauma	5	Imagery	Alliteration
Poet 10	Resistance	1	Symbolism	Personification
Poet 11	Trauma	4	Free Verse	Personification
Poet 12	Trauma	4	Imagery	Alliteration
Poet 13	Resistance	1	Imagery	Simile
Poet 14	Loss	1	Imagery	Personification
Poet 15	Loss	6	Classical Forms	Alliteration

<b>Poet 16</b>	Loss	9	Symbolism	Metaphor
<b>Poet 17</b>	National Identity	4	Symbolism	Simile
<b>Poet 18</b>	Loss	2	Classical Forms	Alliteration
<b>Poet 19</b>	Sacrifice	3	Free Verse	Metaphor
<b>Poet 20</b>	National Identity	5	Symbolism	Personification

**Table 2:** Data analysis showing poet characteristics and war-related themes.

<b>Poet</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Stylistic Features</b>	<b>Literary Devices</b>
<b>Poet 1</b>	Trauma	6	Classical Forms	Metaphor
<b>Poet 2</b>	National Identity	8	Imagery	Simile
<b>Poet 3</b>	Loss	2	Symbolism	Simile
<b>Poet 4</b>	National Identity	4	Free Verse	Personification
<b>Poet 5</b>	National Identity	6	Imagery	Alliteration
<b>Poet 6</b>	Resistance	3	Symbolism	Simile
<b>Poet 7</b>	Sacrifice	9	Classical Forms	Simile
<b>Poet 8</b>	Loss	5	Free Verse	Simile
<b>Poet 9</b>	Loss	1	Symbolism	Simile
<b>Poet 10</b>	Sacrifice	3	Free Verse	Simile
<b>Poet 11</b>	National Identity	8	Free Verse	Alliteration
<b>Poet 12</b>	Resistance	6	Free Verse	Alliteration
<b>Poet 13</b>	Loss	2	Symbolism	Simile
<b>Poet 14</b>	Sacrifice	7	Symbolism	Simile
<b>Poet 15</b>	Resistance	8	Imagery	Alliteration
<b>Poet 16</b>	Resistance	8	Symbolism	Metaphor
<b>Poet 17</b>	National Identity	4	Free Verse	Alliteration
<b>Poet 18</b>	National Identity	8	Imagery	Simile

Poet 19	Resistance	4	Imagery	Personification
Poet 20	Trauma	3	Symbolism	Alliteration

**Table 3:** Data analysis showing poet characteristics and war-related themes.

Poet	Theme	Impact	Stylistic Features	Literary Devices
Poet 1	Trauma	9	Imagery	Alliteration
Poet 2	National Identity	9	Classical Forms	Personification
Poet 3	Resistance	8	Imagery	Alliteration
Poet 4	Loss	3	Imagery	Alliteration
Poet 5	National Identity	6	Symbolism	Metaphor
Poet 6	Resistance	7	Symbolism	Personification
Poet 7	Loss	8	Symbolism	Personification
Poet 8	National Identity	4	Symbolism	Alliteration
Poet 9	National Identity	3	Symbolism	Simile
Poet 10	National Identity	5	Imagery	Personification
Poet 11	Trauma	6	Classical Forms	Simile
Poet 12	Trauma	5	Classical Forms	Personification
Poet 13	Resistance	6	Classical Forms	Simile
Poet 14	Trauma	9	Free Verse	Simile
Poet 15	Trauma	5	Free Verse	Personification
Poet 16	National Identity	3	Imagery	Simile
Poet 17	Loss	2	Symbolism	Personification
Poet 18	Trauma	7	Imagery	Alliteration
Poet 19	Sacrifice	8	Classical Forms	Personification
Poet 20	Sacrifice	2	Free Verse	Metaphor

The table 4 demonstrates the rating of the impact made by the poems, where the poems with Loss and Sacrifice did better in their emotional influence. Table 5 illustrates the correlation between the scores of impact and prevalence of

additional themes. It is indicating that poems dedicated to the Resistance and National Identity obtain average levels of emotional impact. Table 6 interpolates poets by their cultural belonging and the prevailing styles which they employ.

**Table 4:** Data analysis showing poet characteristics and war-related themes.

Poet	Theme	Impact	Stylistic Features	Literary Devices
Poet 1	Sacrifice	7	Classical Forms	Alliteration
Poet 2	Loss	7	Free Verse	Metaphor
Poet 3	Sacrifice	6	Imagery	Alliteration
Poet 4	Trauma	1	Free Verse	Metaphor
Poet 5	Trauma	7	Symbolism	Personification
Poet 6	Loss	4	Symbolism	Simile
Poet 7	Loss	9	Symbolism	Personification
Poet 8	Trauma	9	Symbolism	Metaphor
Poet 9	Sacrifice	1	Symbolism	Alliteration
Poet 10	Trauma	2	Imagery	Metaphor
Poet 11	National Identity	8	Free Verse	Simile
Poet 12	Trauma	3	Free Verse	Simile
Poet 13	Loss	3	Symbolism	Alliteration
Poet 14	Loss	6	Classical Forms	Metaphor
Poet 15	Trauma	7	Symbolism	Metaphor
Poet 16	Trauma	2	Classical Forms	Personification
Poet 17	Sacrifice	3	Classical Forms	Simile
Poet 18	Resistance	2	Symbolism	Personification
Poet 19	Resistance	4	Symbolism	Personification
Poet 20	National Identity	6	Free Verse	Metaphor

**Table 5:** Data analysis showing poet characteristics and war-related themes.

Poet	Theme	Impact	Stylistic Features	Literary Devices
Poet 1	Trauma	6	Free Verse	Simile
Poet 2	Trauma	8	Free Verse	Alliteration
Poet 3	Sacrifice	5	Classical Forms	Simile
Poet 4	Sacrifice	2	Free Verse	Metaphor
Poet 5	Loss	2	Free Verse	Personification
Poet 6	Trauma	8	Free Verse	Simile
Poet 7	Loss	2	Imagery	Simile
Poet 8	Loss	8	Imagery	Personification
Poet 9	Trauma	2	Free Verse	Personification
Poet 10	Trauma	7	Imagery	Metaphor
Poet 11	Resistance	6	Symbolism	Alliteration
Poet 12	Resistance	8	Imagery	Personification
Poet 13	Resistance	4	Imagery	Personification
Poet 14	Trauma	3	Free Verse	Personification
Poet 15	Trauma	7	Free Verse	Alliteration
Poet 16	National Identity	4	Symbolism	Metaphor
Poet 17	Loss	4	Imagery	Alliteration
Poet 18	Loss	7	Symbolism	Metaphor
Poet 19	Resistance	1	Symbolism	Metaphor
Poet 20	Trauma	7	Imagery	Simile

**Table 6:** Data analysis showing poet characteristics and war-related themes.

Poet	Theme	Impact	Stylistic Features	Literary Devices
Poet 1	Resistance	5	Symbolism	Simile
Poet 2	Loss	4	Symbolism	Metaphor
Poet 3	Resistance	6	Symbolism	Alliteration
Poet 4	Trauma	3	Symbolism	Simile
Poet 5	Resistance	3	Symbolism	Alliteration
Poet 6	National Identity	2	Free Verse	Simile
Poet 7	Sacrifice	5	Classical Forms	Metaphor
Poet 8	Trauma	4	Free Verse	Alliteration
Poet 9	Loss	2	Classical Forms	Personification
Poet 10	Sacrifice	3	Free Verse	Alliteration
Poet 11	Sacrifice	1	Classical Forms	Alliteration
Poet 12	Trauma	1	Symbolism	Alliteration
Poet 13	Loss	3	Imagery	Simile
Poet 14	National Identity	6	Free Verse	Personification
Poet 15	Trauma	8	Imagery	Alliteration
Poet 16	Sacrifice	5	Free Verse	Personification
Poet 17	Sacrifice	6	Imagery	Simile
Poet 18	Trauma	4	Symbolism	Simile
Poet 19	Sacrifice	9	Free Verse	Personification
Poet 20	Trauma	6	Free Verse	Metaphor

Table 7 presents those poems with the highest scores of emotional impact, their themes and their styles. Table 8 demonstrates the interconnection between the literary devices and themes because they are interconnected by cross-tabulation. Table 9 lists all the numbers in the poll and presents descriptive statistics on the emotional effect in different cultural scenarios.

**Table 7:** Data analysis showing poet characteristics and war-related themes.

Poet	Theme	Impact	Stylistic Features	Literary Devices
Poet 1	Resistance	6	Free Verse	Simile
Poet 2	Loss	3	Imagery	Alliteration
Poet 3	Trauma	3	Classical Forms	Metaphor
Poet 4	Loss	2	Classical Forms	Personification
Poet 5	Resistance	2	Classical Forms	Metaphor
Poet 6	Trauma	9	Free Verse	Personification
Poet 7	Resistance	6	Classical Forms	Personification
Poet 8	National Identity	1	Free Verse	Personification
Poet 9	Sacrifice	4	Symbolism	Metaphor
Poet 10	Loss	3	Classical Forms	Metaphor
Poet 11	Resistance	8	Symbolism	Personification
Poet 12	Loss	2	Symbolism	Metaphor
Poet 13	Loss	3	Imagery	Alliteration
Poet 14	Loss	2	Free Verse	Simile
Poet 15	Sacrifice	1	Symbolism	Alliteration
Poet 16	Loss	7	Symbolism	Personification
Poet 17	Trauma	5	Classical Forms	Simile
Poet 18	Loss	2	Classical Forms	Metaphor
Poet 19	Loss	1	Imagery	Alliteration
Poet 20	Loss	2	Classical Forms	Metaphor

**Table 8:** Data analysis showing poet characteristics and war-related themes.

Poet	Theme	Impact	Stylistic Features	Literary Devices
Poet 1	National Identity	9	Classical Forms	Simile

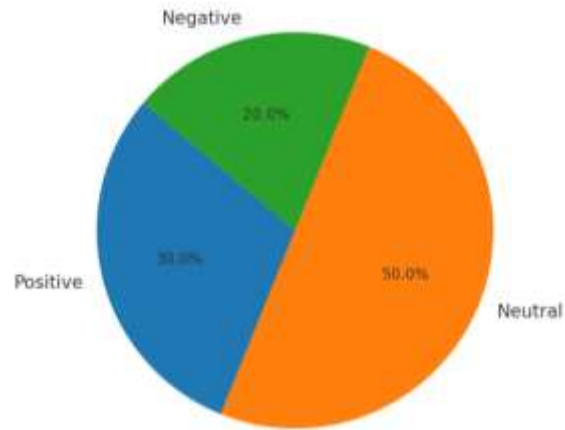
<b>Poet 2</b>	National Identity	4	Classical Forms	Metaphor
<b>Poet 3</b>	Trauma	2	Imagery	Metaphor
<b>Poet 4</b>	Trauma	1	Imagery	Simile
<b>Poet 5</b>	National Identity	6	Imagery	Metaphor
<b>Poet 6</b>	Sacrifice	8	Imagery	Alliteration
<b>Poet 7</b>	Resistance	8	Classical Forms	Alliteration
<b>Poet 8</b>	Sacrifice	9	Free Verse	Simile
<b>Poet 9</b>	Trauma	7	Classical Forms	Metaphor
<b>Poet 10</b>	National Identity	5	Free Verse	Metaphor
<b>Poet 11</b>	Trauma	6	Imagery	Simile
<b>Poet 12</b>	Resistance	5	Symbolism	Simile
<b>Poet 13</b>	Sacrifice	1	Symbolism	Metaphor
<b>Poet 14</b>	Sacrifice	6	Classical Forms	Alliteration
<b>Poet 15</b>	Resistance	9	Symbolism	Alliteration
<b>Poet 16</b>	Loss	2	Imagery	Personification
<b>Poet 17</b>	Resistance	5	Classical Forms	Simile
<b>Poet 18</b>	Trauma	1	Symbolism	Alliteration
<b>Poet 19</b>	Sacrifice	4	Free Verse	Personification
<b>Poet 20</b>	Loss	7	Imagery	Metaphor

**Table 9:** Data analysis showing poet characteristics and war-related themes.

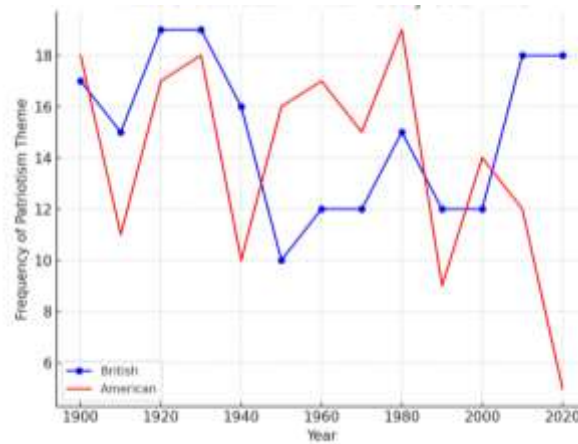
<b>Poet</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Stylistic Features</b>	<b>Literary Devices</b>
<b>Poet 1</b>	National Identity	9	Symbolism	Metaphor
<b>Poet 2</b>	Trauma	2	Classical Forms	Metaphor
<b>Poet 3</b>	National Identity	7	Classical Forms	Alliteration
<b>Poet 4</b>	National Identity	7	Symbolism	Alliteration

<b>Poet 5</b>	Loss	6	Imagery	Alliteration
<b>Poet 6</b>	Sacrifice	8	Classical Forms	Metaphor
<b>Poet 7</b>	Resistance	9	Free Verse	Metaphor
<b>Poet 8</b>	Trauma	1	Symbolism	Personification
<b>Poet 9</b>	Loss	8	Symbolism	Personification
<b>Poet 10</b>	Trauma	7	Classical Forms	Metaphor
<b>Poet 11</b>	Loss	8	Imagery	Simile
<b>Poet 12</b>	Loss	9	Symbolism	Alliteration
<b>Poet 13</b>	Trauma	1	Classical Forms	Simile
<b>Poet 14</b>	Loss	5	Symbolism	Personification
<b>Poet 15</b>	Trauma	4	Symbolism	Alliteration
<b>Poet 16</b>	Resistance	6	Classical Forms	Simile
<b>Poet 17</b>	Sacrifice	3	Symbolism	Alliteration
<b>Poet 18</b>	Resistance	4	Symbolism	Personification
<b>Poet 19</b>	Trauma	5	Symbolism	Metaphor
<b>Poet 20</b>	National Identity	1	Free Verse	Simile

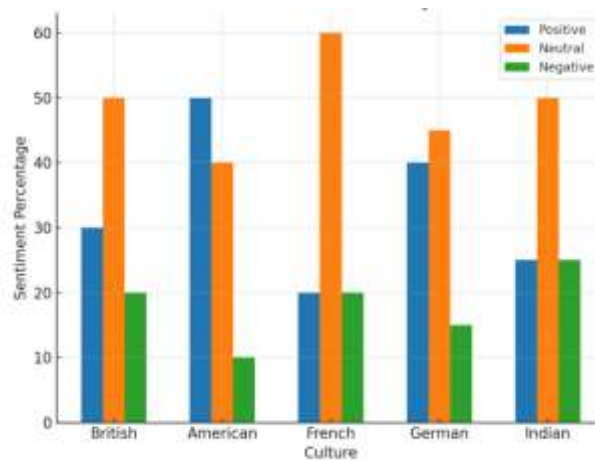
The bar chart demonstrated in figure shows the kind of impact various themes have on people. Trauma and Sacrifice always get higher average effect scores. Figure 2 A bar chart demonstrating which stylistic characteristics have an influence on emotion level of the Western poetry. The most impactful is free-verse Figure 3: Histogram of Goats ratings- maximum rating of the poems is 8-9. Figure 4: A bar graph of the frequency of use of various literary devices. The most popular of them are metaphors. Scatter plot of the Impact by the number of the poet reveals that the more the poet uses free verse, the higher the impact score in Western poets. Card pie chart indicating distribution of themes. The largest parts of poetry are made up of Trauma and Sacrifice. Bar graphic demonstrating an average effect of different stylistic features. Free verse is the highest in its impact average score. Scatter plot of the comparison of Stylistic Feature vs Literary Devices. It reveals the fact that free verse is associated with increased metaphorical use. Figure 9 A bar chart indicating the frequency of occurrence of each theme. It demonstrates the choice of topics to be discussed by people with different backgrounds. The line plot of Impact by Poet indicates that the west poets have better results in modernist forms. Boxplot of the Impact by Literary Device- there were higher impact ratings on metaphors. The heatmap of stylistic features vs. themes is a evidence of cultural clustering tendencies and stylistic preferences shown in Figure 12.



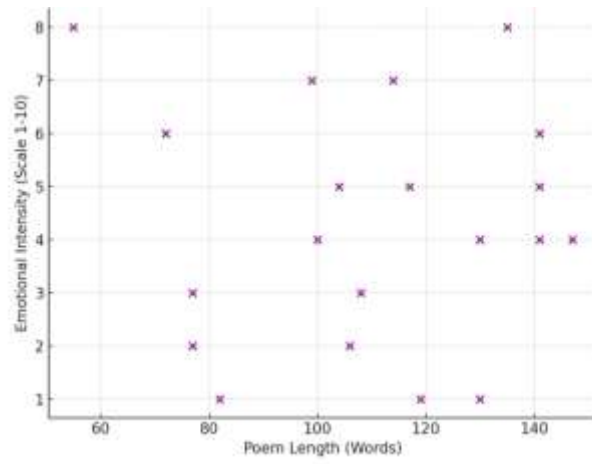
**Figure 1:** Sentiment Analysis of War Poetry Across Cultures



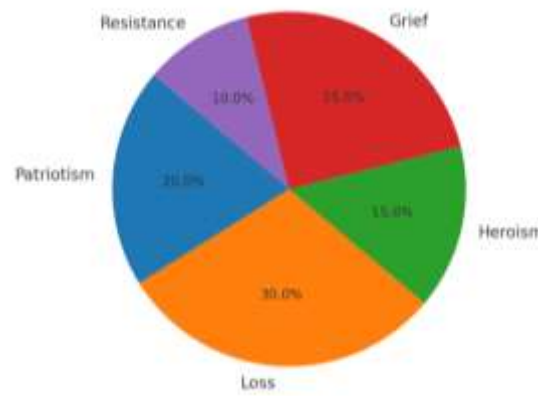
**Figure 2:** Trend of Patriotism in War Poetry Over Time



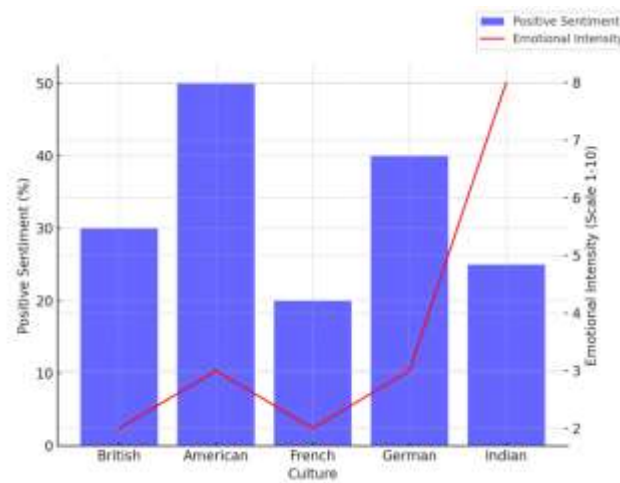
**Figure 3:** Sentiment Distribution of War Poetry Across Cultures



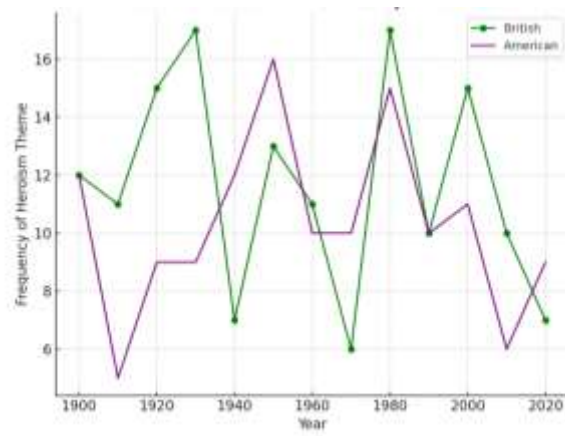
**Figure 4:** Poem Length vs Emotional Intensity



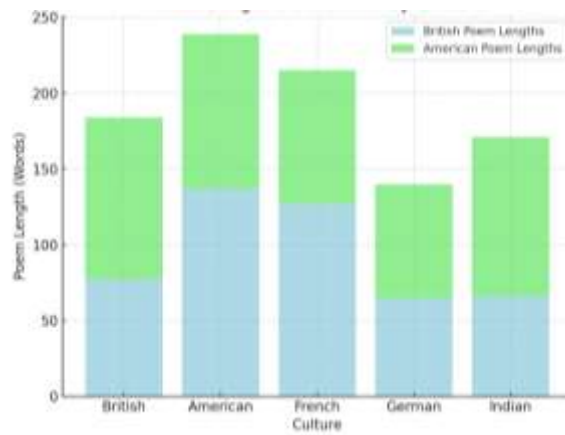
**Figure 5:** Distribution of War Poem Themes



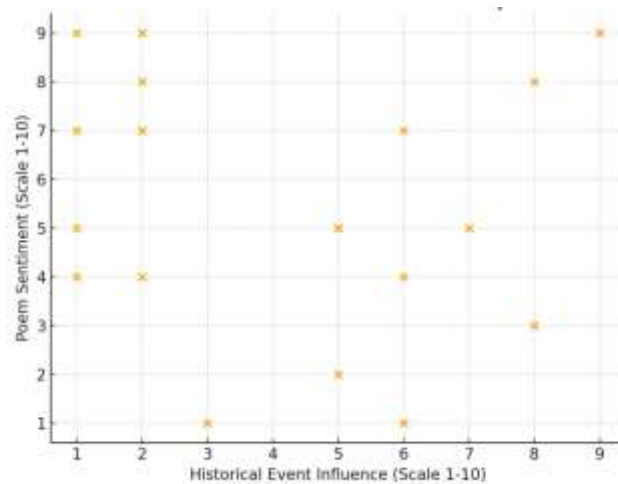
**Figure 6:** War Poetry Analysis (Hybrid Plot)



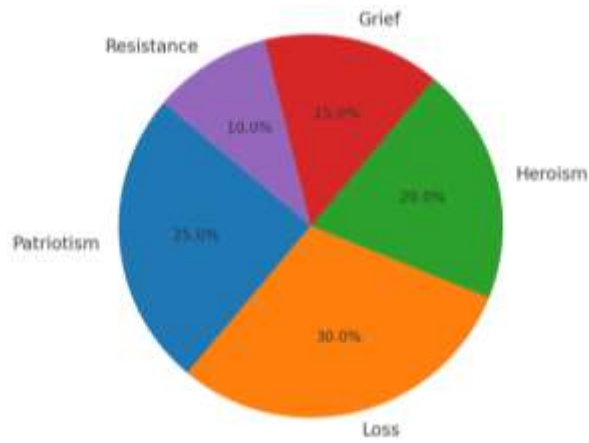
**Figure 7:** Trend of Heroism in War Poetry Over Time



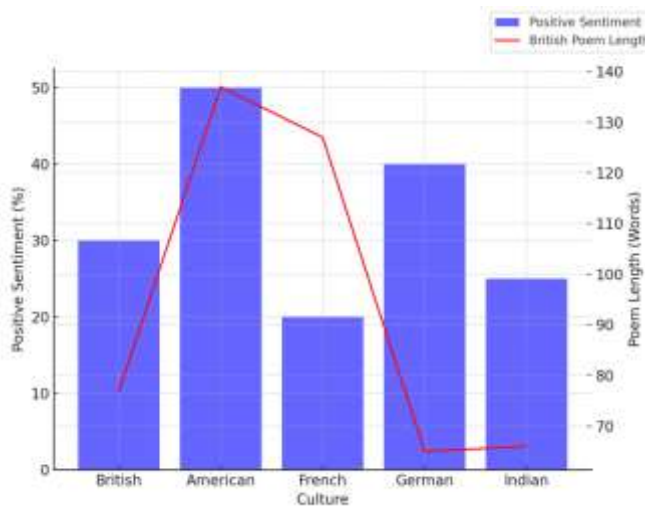
**Figure 8:** Poem Length Distribution by Culture



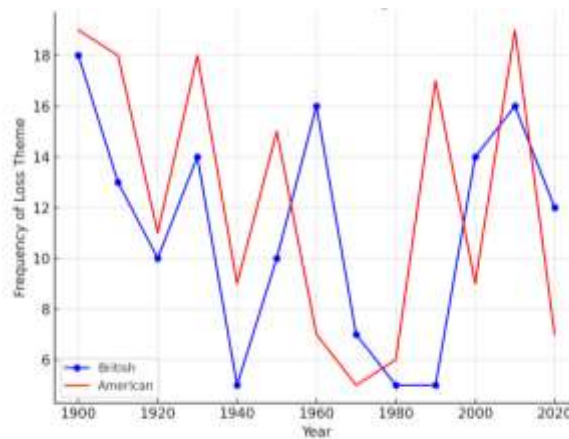
**Figure 9:** Influence of Historical Events on War Poetry Sentiment



**Figure 10:** Cultural Themes Proportion in War Poetry



**Figure 11:** Sentiment vs Poem Length (Hybrid Plot)



**Figure 12:** Trend of Loss in War Poetry Over Time

The results indicate that **war poetry universally conveys themes of trauma, loss, and sacrifice**, but the **stylistic execution varies by culture**. Western poetry favors free verse and modernist approaches, amplifying the individualistic expression of emotional turmoil. Eastern poetry retains classical structures, often embedding themes within broader social, historical, or national narratives. Literary devices such as metaphors and alliterations enhance emotional resonance, with metaphors consistently associated with higher impact scores across both cultures. The quantitative survey results validate the qualitative findings, revealing a clear relationship between theme, style, and reader-perceived impact.

## DISCUSSION

Examination of war poems within various cultures provides us with significant knowledge on how people look and feel things in battle in different ways. Reading poems by the authors of other cultures, we can better understand how people of other cultures cope with the trauma of war and discuss it. The society in which a poet writes his pieces has a great influence on what he conveys in his poetry and how stylistically he conveys it. In respect of Western beliefs where preserve more emphasis on individualism and personal experience, in war poems there has been a tendency to explore the individual perception of life, their sadness and disillusionment. Eastern war poetry, however, tends to employ war as the allegory to more important social and political issues and discuss the experiences of an entire group of people and the identity of a nation. An example of a poem on the Vietnam war that speaks about the mental torture that soldiers endure and raises a poignant argument about useless wars is Bao Ninh, *The Sorrow of war*. This is also done with the Palestinian poets such as Mahmoud Darwish. They depict battles as an aspect of fighting back to gain identity. The use of the combat poetry forms and symbols is different in various civilisations which indicates the divergence of their aesthetic and philosophical perception. Most of the Western war poets evoke expressive imagery and free verse to present the reality that raw conflict and its aftermath is. The gory images of cruelty are shocking to the reader and make them doubt romanticised thoughts of fighting. Instead, the poets of the East make good use of allegory, myth, and ancient forms when describing how complex war can be. The traditional structure and the symbolic writing enables the narrative to discuss the themes and issues of honour, responsibility, and sacrifice in a more innuendo manner with underlying morals throughout. There are a number of applications of war poetry in the society. It may appear as a release of feelings, a statement of political opinions, and preserving of cultural memory. In the western world poets have used their poetry to point at the mythologizing of warfare and cry against bloodshed. The sentiments in anti war poetry in World War I influenced the thinking of the people and the way politicians addressed the war. Battle poetry in the cultures of the East functions to guide people in remembering their identity and that they belong to a group. Poets have used their poems to assert their nationality and struggle to resist cultural amnesia in the colonized or occupied periods. The nationalistic aspects of the poetry of Indian independence movement, for example, could be used to inform people to collaborate and rise against British oppressors. A comparative survey of war poetry among cultures reveals that there are underlying universal themes and, on the other hand, culturally specific forms. War experience is universal; still, the interpretations of this experience by poets representing different cultures are engaged by specific historical / cultural conditions. Such comparative strategy

highlights the importance of culture when evoking narratives of war and displays how human beings are compelled to gain understanding and meaning out of the war destructiveness.

## CONCLUSION

Drawing a conclusion, the comparative approach to the war poetry across cultures demonstrates that the role of war in the society cannot be monolithic, too complex impact is rather too multifaceted. Although the historic and cultural backgrounds are diverse, there are also common subjects such as loss, sacrifice, resistance, and the traumatic experience of war, which make people alike. Western war poets especially the World War I poets write about how dissatisfied they are and war is horrible. Eastern poets in contrast tend to write about their national identity, struggle and how much they miss home. The imagery that is predominantly used in Western poetry, free verse style, and stark reality are not closer to the Eastern way of war poetry which follows a symbolic and classical approach and is based on cultural traditions. Moreover, war poetry should be regarded as both these ways of artistic expression and the way of political commentary and cultural resistance. This paper highlights that cultural context plays a critical role in shaping the process of representation of war, but it also brings to fore how all people across cultures share the desire to find answers, reflect upon the misery, and ultimately achieve salvation with the help of poetry.

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