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Q2

Poets are the unacknowledged legislators of the world.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2022 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Name Shelley:** poets as unacknowledged legislators
- **One stand:** song, story and slogan write the law before the Gazette does
- Move through culture, politics, media, constitution. Keep one honest counter
- Close on words that bind, not only words that trend

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a street that knew before the Gazette. Stand:** imagination legislates.
- **Headings:** culture, politics, feed, **preamble**, then one counter.

Earn **Shelley** once; **Tagore** or **Ambedkar** once.

Close on words that bind.

Note

This is a map, not the full 1,000-1,200 word essay.

Anecdote

A street already knew 'we are not a flock' before a section was struck. A film, a bhakti line, a classroom poem had legislated a feeling. **Shelley** called poets the unacknowledged legislators of the world. The Gazette arrived later, panting.

One stand

- **Imagination sets what a people will accept as normal. Write the poet widely:** **Tagore**, a folk singer, a meme-lord, **Ambedkar's** sentences. Then ask who is unacknowledged - and who is merely loud.

Heading map**What the line is asking**

- **Poets:** makers of images that organise desire and shame.
- **Legislators:** they write the unwritten code - caste honour, national myth, a girl's curfew.
- **Unacknowledged:** the Gazette pretends it thought of it first.

Culture

- **Bhakti, a protest song, Premchand:** laws of the heart.
- A soap opera can legislate dowry more firmly than a section.

Politics

- 'Garibi hatao', 'ache din', a hashtag: poetry of power.
- **Ambedkar**: the constitution as a poem of procedure against the poem of birth.

Media and digital

- The feed is a mass poet. Deepfakes legislate a past that did not happen.

Republic

- **Preamble**: a legislative poem we did acknowledge.
- Courts sometimes quote verse; better when they quote a file.

The counter

Poets can legislate hate (a rumour in metre). Unacknowledged is not innocent. And a drain still needs an engineer. The line ranks culture's power; it does not abolish the Act and the budget.

Last paragraph

- **Close**: read the street's verses, then write a law that can survive them. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures

Shelley

Poets are the unacknowledged legislators of the world - A Defence of Poetry. Name it once.

Tagore

Where the mind is without fear - a poem that wanted to become a republic.

Preamble

An acknowledged legislative poem - justice, liberty, equality, fraternity.

Ambedkar

Constitutional morality against the older poem of caste.

IT / media

The feed as mass poet - due diligence is how a republic answers unacknowledged verse.

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