**The Coromandel Fishers**

**-- Sarojini Naidu**

Rise, brothers, rise; the wakening skies pray to the morning light,

The wind lies asleep in the arms of the dawn like a child that has cried all night.

Come, let us gather our nets from the shore and set our catamarans free,

To capture the leaping wealth of the tide, for we are the kings of the sea!

No longer delay, let us hasten away in the track of the sea gull's call,

The sea is our mother, the cloud is our brother, the waves are our comrades all.

What though we toss at the fall of the sun where the hand of the sea-god drives?

He who holds the storm by the hair, will hide in his breast our lives.

Sweet is the shade of the cocoanut glade, and the scent of the mango grove,

And sweet are the sands at the full o' the moon with the sound of the voices we love;

But sweeter, O brothers, the kiss of the spray and the dance of the wild foam's glee;

Row, brothers, row to the edge of the verge, where the low sky mates with the sea.

**SUMMARY**

Sarojini Naidu is a poet whi belongs to an era of struggle, slavery, and freedom fighting. She was a part of the Indian freedom movement and become the first woman president of Indian National Congress.

The poem 'Coromandel Fishers' is about the fishermen, yet it metaphorically reflects the poet’s desire for free India and thus she encourages the people of the nation to hasten their struggle.

The poem consists of three stanzas having four lines each. The rhyme scheme of the poem is AABB.

Sarojini Naidu in the poem, 'The Coromandel Fishers', has described the beauty of nature and the folk culture of the Coromandel Coast of India. It depicts the relationship of fishermen with nature. Nature stands as a symbol of beauty that expresses the optimistic view of life.

She asks the fisher folks to wake up and offer their prayers to the morning light. The wind is calm and quiet like a child that sleeps soundly after crying the whole night. She asks the fishermen to gather the nets and set their catamarans free and set out into the sea to gather the leaping wealth of the tide as they are the kings of the sea. She asks the fisher folks not to delay and quickly set forth in the track of the sea gulls call.

She comforts the folks by saying that the sea is their mother, the cloud is their brother and the waves toss their boats at sunset and drive them far, God who controls the storm will protect their lives from its rage.

She also says that the coconut glade gives shade and the sweet fragrance of the mango grove is soothing. Moreover the sight of the sands on a full moon night is very beautiful, mixed with the voices of the birds early at dawn. But beyond all this, the kiss of the spray and the dance of the wild foam in joy is far sweeter. So she asks the fisher folks to row their catamaran to the edge of the borders, the horizon, where the low sky appears to unite with the sea.

Who are referred to as 'brothers' by the poet?

The poetess Sarojini Naidu was a distinguished poet, renowned freedom fighter and one of the greatest creators of her time. In the poem 'The Coromandel Fishers', she addresses the fishermen as brothers. She considers herself one among them. The poem is a call to the fishermen to gather their nets and set to said to catch fish. Addressing them as their comrade, she calls them to join her on the fishing expedition. She expresses her concern for them and asks them to rise and at the break of dawn to catch the leaping wealth of the tide. This helps in building a rapport with the fishermen. She considers them as her own kith and kin.

What is described as 'sweet' by the fisherman?

The poem 'The Coromandel Fishers' by Sarojini Naidu is a call from the poetess to all poets to go on a fishing expedition at the time of dawn and return safe and sound by dusk. The fishermen who call themselves as the kings of the sea love the sweetness of the coconut glade, the scent of the mango grove, the golden sand on a full moon night and the voices of the birds at the break of day and the sound of the waves. But beyond all these they find the kiss of the spray and dance of wild foam in joy far sweeter.

When do the fishermen set out for the sea?

The poetess Sarojini Naidu possesses a sharp aesthetic sensibility and is an admirer of the varied colors of nature. She has beautifully said that the fishermen set out for the sea at dawn when the wind is still sleeping as quietly as a child that sleeps after crying the whole night. Everything around is quiet and calm. It is the most suitable time for the fishermen to set out on their fishing task. This is an appropriate time for the fishermen to set out their fishing task. This is an appropriate time for the fishermen to set out for the sea gathering their nets and setting their catamarans free.