

THE LOST SPRING

THEME

The Lesson brings out the plight of street children forced into labour early in life and denied the opportunity of schooling. The callousness of society and the political class to the sufferings of poor.

ABOUT THE LESSON

- Anees Jung analyses and examines the miserable ,sub- human conditions and traditions which condemn these slum children to a life of exploitation and suppression. They are devoid of education and basic amenities of life.
- Saheb –e- Alam , a rag picker and around 10,000 barefoot ragpickers live in Seemapuri, a wilderness –a place on the periphery of Delhi .They are poverty- stricken and live a life of scarcities and hunger .Survival in Seemapuri means ragpicking.
- Slum dwellers do not have other identifications other than ration cards. Children do not go to school And they are excited at the prospect of finding a coin and sometimes ten rupee note from heaps of garbage..
- Saheb –E-Alam means the ‘Lord of the Universe’ but lives in impoverished conditions and struggles badly.
- Saheb works in a tea stall and he is paid Rs. 800 and meals but he is dissatisfied with this new job as he lost his carefree look and liberty .He feels that steel canister is heavier than the rag picking bag.
- The author narrates a pathetic story of Mukesh, a victim of injustice and exploitation in Firozabad U.P. He wants to become a motor mechanic.
- Around 20000 children work illegally in the glass furnaces at high temperature and in the suffocated factories .They lose the brightness of their eyes in dingy cells and face health hazards.
- Bangle makers face acute poverty and hardships .His father failed to renovate the house.
- Savita ,a young girl does not know the sanctity of bangles.. They are caught in the vicious web of the money lenders , middle men , police and the traditions.
- Mukesh is a young , sensible and practical boy who genuinely wants to remove the poverty of his family. No bangle maker dreams but Mukesh dreams of driving a car.