

## The Role and Importance of Rhyme in English Poetry: A Case Study of William Blake's *The Songs of Innocence*

<sup>1</sup>Faiz Muhammad Brohi

<sup>2</sup>Ghulam Ali Buriro

<sup>3</sup>Abdul Sattar Gopang

### Abstract

*This research paper aims at enhancing readers approach towards analyzing and using rhyme in English poetry. Rhyme is considered one of the best poetic devices in poetry; due to its schemes poems can be easily memorized. In English poetry, many poets have composed poetry in rhyme. William Blake, the poet of the 19th-century uses rhymes abundantly in The Songs of Innocence. His method of using different type of rhymes in poetry is significant, memorable, and readable. His poems are composed in rhyming words. The rhyming scheme helps in identifying pair of sounds i.e. assonance and consonance, perfect rhyme and imperfect rhyme. Besides, rhyme does not only give easy way to memorize a poem but also creates melody in sounds as well. Poetry becomes more rhythmic and musical due to the use of different patterns of rhyme. Nursery rhyme is one of the best rhymes in singing and enjoying poetry. Blake's rhyming structures consists of assonance and consonance, masculine, feminine, internal rhyme, nursery rhyme, and rich rhyme. In English literature, many poets have not followed all the patterns of rhyme like Blake. Blake, is one of the poets, has used the variety of rhyming scheme to make language beautiful and musical. For this study, two research questions have been shown the importance and use of rhyme in English poetry. This research paper follows i.e. textual analysis and close reading to carry the research ahead. In this study, the use of Rhyme and its importance particularly in Blake's poetry is used as the best way to determine the rhyme and its significance in poetry. Further, this study would be helpful for learners of prosody and poetry.*

**Keywords:** Rhyme, Nursery Rhyme, Assonance and Consonance, End Rhyme, and Rich Rhyme.

### 1. Introduction

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<sup>1</sup> Assistant Professor @IELL, University of Sindh faiz.brohi4@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup> Assistant Professor at Institute of English and Literature, University of Sindh

<sup>3</sup> Assistant Professor at Education Department, University of Sindh

History of English literature mentions many great poets who have enriched poetry in the field of prosody and versification. Hamer (1930) emphasizes that Rhyme is one of the best tools in creating sounds which give pleasure to readers. Readers do not only read poetry but get pleasure as well. In the field of poetry, William Blake also uses rhymes abundantly. His poetry is based on rhyme which is the tool of the poetry how the poet uses rhyme and its varieties. Besides, B Bergman (2017) elucidates that Blake is the expert in using rhymes and its different types in his poetry. Pakzadian & Moinzadeh (2013) also state that Blake did not get proper education but his father arranged a tutor at home where he learnt basic education. From the tutor, Blake learnt essential education whereas his interest area was poetry. He used to compose poetry in the untimely stage that is analyzed from his poems in *the Songs of Innocence*. According to Bergman (2017), Blake was also the follower of nature which is analyzed in his *the Songs of Innocence*. His interest in natural scenery is amazing as he was used to go forests; his observation brought him close to Nature. Similarly, Blake's poetry is reflection of Nature. The beauty is added in poetry is due to mastery over rhyme (Blake, 1789).

Pakzadian & Moinzadeh (2013) add that Blake was a keen observer of Nature in his childhood. His interest towards drawing and painting grew, therefore he went to Park's school; whereas he learnt the art of drawing. When he became twenty-one years old, he went to Royal academy where he learnt art, later he was continuously in the search of natural beauty. Painting was his favourite art. He married to Catherine who became dutiful and helpful to Blake. His father left mortal world in 1784. Blake started supporting his family running a shop where he spent his time just to earn livelihood. During Blake's busy schedule, he got an opportunity to meet with Robert. To Blake, Robert was a spiritual mentor. Therefore, it was the belief of Blake that Robert's vision was stronger in the sense that Robert used to see divine knowledge. Likewise, Blake's poetry has the touch of spirituality in *the Songs of innocence* (See Analysis).

In life of Blake spirituality was at the beginning stage. His learning from the tutor brought him in excellence of using rhyme. Blake produced *The Songs of Innocence* (1789) as the first major work in his new process, followed by *The Songs of Experience* (1794). The magnificent lyrics in these two collections

i.e. *the Songs of Innocence* and *the Songs of experience*. These works of Blake are a milestone because they are a rare instance of the successful union of two arts as rhyme and rhythm formed by the author. The mastery of rhyme in the Songs of Innocence is superb (see analysis).

### *Blake's the Songs of Innocence*

Bergman (2017) asserts that Blake's *the Songs of Innocence* consists of rhyme. The art of rhyme and its structure has given readers a message regarding rhyme and its usage. His mastery over rhyme and its types in the poems is helpful for readers' i.e. matching sounds in poetic lines.

"Gave thee such a tender voice,  
Making all the vales rejoice?  
Little Lamb, who made thee?  
Dost thou know who made thee?" (Blake, 1789)

The above poetic lines help readers to know how rhymes are perfectly matched. In poetry, it is the rhyme which gives readers pleasure. Similarly, Blake's the art of rhyme in poetry has given types of rhymes and its varieties in poetry.

The poems in *the Songs of Innocence* are all symbolic. For instance, the poem *The Lamb* gives two symbols i.e the lamb and the piper.

"Little Lamb, who made thee?  
Dost thou know who made thee?  
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed,  
By the stream and o'er the mead;" (Blake, 1789).

Blake has used two symbols in the above poetic lines. It is the direct communication between the piper and the lamb. The piper symbolizes the person who sings the glory of God. Besides, the symbol of the lamb signifies the purity and innocence. Whereas the lamb and the piper communication is symbolic of between the Creator and the Child i.e the Piper symbolically conveys message of God to people. Bergman (2017) asserts that Blake's the

use of symbolism in poetry is superb. Similarly, Blake's the art of using rhyme in *The Songs of Innocence* gives readers melody.

### **1.1 Significance of the Study**

Rhyme is an interesting area on which different research articles are published in different countries (Bergman, 2017; Galway, 2013; Harper, 2011). This study is beneficial in numerous ways. The students of world literature read poetry for the sake of melody that lies in rhyme. This study will be helpful for the readers of undergraduate level to know the use and function of rhyme in poetry. This research article will be additional knowledge on the use and importance of rhyme in English poetry. From this study, the students can learn types of rhyme and its structures (see analysis). We all have those snatches of commercial jingles or old nursery rhymes that stick to our brains and pop up only to drive us crazy. We might be driving to work or the mall. We might be sitting quietly and contemplating life or trying to get the kids off to school. Wherever we are, and whatever we are doing, suddenly there it is; that song we learned in first grade, or that commercial jingle for soap or hot dogs. Rhyme is endeared to parents and children when we are at any place to recall our past memories. Firstly, school life comes in our mind to recall nursery rhymes which are the part of our memory. The reason we remember those old nursery rhymes and commercial jingles is because they have a rhyme structure, or pattern of rhymes, that create a repetition that attracts, and engages, our sense of sound.

In poetry, Blake uses rhyme and its structure in such a way that poetry becomes rhythmic due to pattern of rhyme. There are three ways in which rhyme is used i.e beginning, middle and end rhyme. Similarly, Blake's beginning, middle, end rhyme are analyzed in the analysis part. Secondly, Blake's art of using assonance, consonance, masculine, feminine rhyme are used beautifully in poetry. Thirdly, slant rhyme, perfect rhyme, eye rhyme, and rich rhyme are the part of Blake's in using rhyme. Fourthly, Nursery rhyme makes language beautiful whereas Blake uses simple and natural language for children.

### **1.2 Research Questions:**

Q.1. What is the significance of Rhyme in English Poetry?

Q.2. What is significant art of using rhyme in Blake's poetry?

### 1.3 Objectives

1. To indentify the structure of rhyme in English poetry.
2. To highlight art of using different structure of rhyme in Blake's poetry.

## 2. Literature Review

According to Advanced Oxford Dictionary (2020), Rhyme is the repetition of similar sounds in poetry. Bergman (2017) also elucidates that poet uses rhyme to make language rhythmic and melodic. Further, he asserts that end rhyme in English poetry is the identification of using same repeated sounds i.e hill and mill. The author defines types of Rhyme in different methods some time rhyme is used end to end means ending lines have identical resemblance. On the other hand, internal rhyme is used to affect poetry melodic because middle rhyme matches with end rhyme. This is easy way to remember a poem. The writer also highlights the impact of rhyme is not only seen in poetry but also in the Bible and the Holy Quran.

As far as the view of Hamer (1930, p.19-23) regarding rhyme is concerned, he asserts that the use of rhyme in poetry is to draw the attention of readers to use sounds in bulk. Readers are interested in reading and reciting poetry to show their impression as a philosophical approach which lies in poetry. The writer adds that poetry has identical look in appearance, prose has direct but poetry has turning owing to perfect rhyme. Rhyme has structure like beginning, middle and end rhyme how sounds are spelled and pronounced identically but differing in meaning, whereas Imperfect rhyme is divided into two types of rhyme which we called Consonance rhyme and Assonance rhyme. The imperfect rhyme is where we hear the connection between the two words. Imperfect rhyme also called the slant, near a half-rhyme. This rhyme is in which consonance a stressed syllable agreed but the vowel sounds do not match, such as "bridge" and "grudge", this is an example of an imperfect rhyme because the syllable agreed but the vowel sounds do not match.

Hamer (1930) further asserts that the poet also explains the assonance rhyme where two words share a vowel sound, such as, "thumb" and "sung". The same vowel sound of "u" appears in both words, so assonance occurs. Consonance rhyme is; where two words share a consonant sound such as, "home" and "time". The same consonant sound occurs with the "m" in both words, so consonance occurs. In consonance rhyme, there consonant sounds are repeated i.e. slip, slop. Here letters like s,l,p are consonant. Letter o and I are not repeated but letters or sounds like s, l, p are repeated to give similar consonant sounds.

In addition, Hamer (1930) adds that End rhyme is used in every language, English poetry is mostly written in end rhyme as English poets use it. The first poetic line matches with the second one i.e pray and gray. Middle rhyme is known as Internal rhyme. Middle rhyme gives a same sound to the end line where middle and end sound have identical resemblance in sounds i.e "I drove myself to the lake / and dove into the water." "Drove" and "Dove" rhyme within one line of poetry, so these lines contain internal rhyme.

In the same prospective, Galway (2013) declares that the use of rhyme is not only used in the one country but in all countries. Rhyme is near to children. Nursery rhyme is one of the rhymes which is liked by children. It helps in memorizing a poem. Nursery rhyme is more suitable in poetry where the poet uses simple vocabulary. The writer adds that the history of rhyme is the old one, but in the record, its roots develop in the end of 18<sup>th</sup> century and beginning of 19<sup>th</sup> century. He also points out that Mother Goose rhyme is the interchangeable to nursery rhyme. He further links the development of rhyme in record to 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards. Before 16<sup>th</sup> century rhyme was used by the poets. Later, nursery rhyme is used to date.

Harper (2011) affirms that nursery rhyme is one of the favourite patterns to children. The writer adds that nursery rhyme helps readers in reading and writing simple and easy vocabulary in poetry. It makes language charming and beautiful because of the use of daily routine words which are used for children in the initial stage. Nursery rhymes are used for singing and memorizing poem. Children remember easily nursery rhymes due to rhyme and rhythm. It is the favourite activity for the children to sing nursery rhyme. The author adds that what is the reason behind nursery rhymes

which are the part of people and their traditions. Seniors and juniors like nursery rhyme at all places and times. In English poetry rhyme is used by poets. Blake also uses nursery rhymes for readers.

Farnen (2016) emphasizes that rhyme creates rhythm, and rhythm creates melody. Rhythm and melody are owed to the rhyme. Rich rhyme gives readers pleasure of sounds, vocabulary, resemblance, sounds and musical words. Pleasure comes owing to rhyme which is the most favourite art in literature. Beginning rhyme helps to identify beginning sounds in the initial words or syllables. Blake also uses beginning rhyme in poems.

Pakzadian & Moinzadeh (2013) asserts that Blake's *The Songs of Innocence* is par-excellence in using rhyme in poetry. His method of applying beginning, middle and end rhyme is impressive (see analysis). He also uses types of rhyme like assonance, consonance, masculine and feminine rhyme to make poetry rhythmic. Blake's art of using slant rhyme, eye rhyme, perfect, imperfect and rich rhyme are the best tools in English poetry. He knows the psychology of children and readers whereas readers and children like Blake's poems due to rhyme. Poetry is superior to prose because of rhyme. People may read novels, newspapers, dramas but they cannot memorize prose as compared to poetry. Therefore, rhyme is loved by children and readers. Similarly, Blake has used rhyme as the tool for reading and memorizing a poem.

### **3. Research Methodology**

In this study, the qualitative method is used in order to carry the research ahead. Igwenagu (2016) states that close reading and textual analysis are the best tools in qualitative research. Further, Shank (2002) discusses that the qualitative method is used for non-empirical study to interpret data and codes which carry symbolical significance. In this regard Denzin and Lincoln (2000) affirm that qualitative research is based on interpretation and analysis. Therefore, the researcher focuses on articles, text, and written material. Keeping in view this perspective, the researcher has followed close reading and textual analysis to interpret the data accordingly.



Bryman (1986) affirms that the researcher illustrates the data in order to find themes in the text. The purpose of the study becomes significant to find allegorical interpretations in the text. Similarly, in this study Blake's *the songs of Innocence* to read poems and to interpret poems (see analysis).

Igwenagu (2016) claims that research tools i.e. close reading and textual analysis are applied in the study to find the information in the text. The process of the study involves through codes or themes in the text, the researcher interprets codes or themes accordingly. In this study, Blake's selected text *the songs of Innocence* (see Analysis) is based on codes or symbols and themes which are interpreted through text.

#### **4. Analysis and Discussion of Rhyme in Blake's *The Songs of Innocence***

Here, the study deals with textual analysis and close reading, whereas the researcher would discuss rhyme and its importance in English poetry. To this research, two research questions (see the research methodology section) help in analyzing and interpreting the data.

In this study, rhyme types i.e. end rhyme, assonance rhyme, consonance rhyme, perfect rhyme, internal rhyme, and nursery rhyme are explained in detail, As we have discussed rhyme (see in Literature Review). Actually rhyme is the exercise of repeating sounds in the end lines. There are different rhymes are used in the poetic lines i.e masculine rhyme which consists of singular sound like hill and mill. The feminine rhyme is based on two syllables or more than two syllables or sounds for instance, richness and happiness. The units of rhyme may be composed in couplet form, triplet, and quatrains and vice versa

Mason, William, M (1820, p. 428) says that "rhyme which is a handcuff to an inferior poet, he who is master of his art wears as a bracelet. Jonathan Swift was of the latter description; his lines fall as easily into the best grammatical arrangement, and the most simple and forcible expression, as if he had been writing in prose. The numbers and the coincidence of the rhymes, always correct and natural, though often unexpected, distinguish the current of his poetical composition, which exhibits, otherwise, no mark of the difficulty with which these graces are attained".



While on the other hand poetic lines have their identical structures. Rhymes are used in every language. The simple diction is used for children. Therefore nursery rhymes are famous in the world. Language attracts due to simple vocabulary and matching words or repeated sounds. This is the reason; people remember poetry easily as compared to prose. In prose few dialogues or phrasal words or idioms may be remembered. It appeals to all and always due to rhyme. Similarly, Blake's *the Songs of Innocence* posses appeal explaining as to how literature teaches and delights owed to mastery over rhyme. He has not the only command over nursery rhymes but also other types of rhyme i.e end rhyme, internal rhyme, beginning, assonance, and consonance. Besides, he uses all ways of rhyme with musical words or sounds to attract readers in English poetry.

#### 4.1 End Rhyme

In End rhyme, the lines of the poem are ending with the same sound words (Bergman, 2017). An example of 5 rhymes couplet stanza is described below. The identity of end rhyme is known as how ending words which are used in the poetry. These lines are matched because of the rhyme or musical sounds. Similarly, Blake is an artist of using end rhyme. As

Little Lamb, who made thee?  
Dost thou know who made thee?  
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed,  
By the stream and o'er the mead;  
Gave thee clothing of delight,  
Softest clothing, woolly, bright;  
Gave thee such a tender voice,  
Making all the vales rejoice?  
Little Lamb, who made thee?  
Dost thou know who made thee? (Blake, 1789)

In this stanza, Blake uses end rhyme to create an impact on the readers to remember verses easily. A couplet or triple and quatrain have their structure of rhyme either aa, ab, aba, abab, or abba. In the above poem, Blake uses aa, bb, cc, dd, and ee rhyme structure. This structure is most suitable in poetry

where the readers can easily recognize rhyme or matching sounds i. thee and thee, feed and mead, delight and bright, voice and rejoice, and thee and thee. This method of using rhyme does not only give matching sounds but also melody with pleasure. Poetry can be remembered easily by heart as compared to prose due to poetic structure i.e rhyme. The structure of rhyme has melody due to selection of sounds in form of syllables "feed/mead", "delight/ bright", "voice/ rejoice".

In the first and last couplet of the above stanza where sound or rhyme thee is used in the beginning and last, whereas in the second couplet "feed" and "mead" rhymes are used in poems, which also shows the same sound. The words "delight" and "bright" in a third couplet and "voice" and "rejoice" rhymes used in the fourth couplet of this stanza also show the same sounds. This way, these lines of each couplet contain the End rhyme.

In this stanza, the poet Blake (1789) elucidates that how the little Lamb is created and who is the creator of the Lamb. The writer asks questions from the readers and gives answers to readers as well. The question is between creation and the creator. The Lamb is the creation and God is the creator. Blake beautifully expresses the qualities of the Lamb. The creator has created the lamb and has created the nourishment of the lamb. The writer evaporates that the Creator has created this world beautifully where we analyse blessings of God. Further, the writer adds that while colour of the lamb symbolizes purification or innocence. If the purification or innocent element comes in people they would serve the humanity. The author also praises feed of the lamb. Every creature is blessed with different feed and living standard of every creation.

#### **4.2 Assonance Rhyme**

According to Hamer (1930), assonance consists of syllables or words which have vowel sounds in poetry. assonance create effective sounds through vowel sounds. Similarly, Blake's art of using assonance gives vowel sounds to memorize rhymes. He is not the only expert in end-rhyme but also in assonance to create vowel sounds. The assonance sounds are used in end rhyme, internal rhyme, and nursery rhymes. Similarly, Blake's mastery over assonance sounds is noteworthy. As

My mother bore me in the southern wild,

And I am black, but Oh! My soul is white;  
White as an angel is the English child:  
But I am black as if bereaved of light. (Blake, p.138, 1789)

Blake uses abab rhyme in the above quatrain. The first line matches with third poetic line. The second poetic line matches with fourth line. The beauty of poetry is analysed from the variety of rhyme as Blake uses in his poems. He uses aa, bb, cc, etc structure in poetry (see end rhyme). In the above stanza, he uses abab rhyme. This variety is used to recall previous sound and the preceding one. The sublimity of poetry gives variety in rhyme as Blake gives in his poetry. Therefore, his poetry gives rhythm and music to children and readers. The above Blake's poetry is taken from the poem "*The Little Black Boy*" in "*the Songs of Innocence*". The above quatrain gives an example of Assonance rhyme which readers see in the final words of each line. Like, "wild", "white", "child" and "light". The same vowel sound of "i" appears in four words and also these words are close enough to the repetition of sounds. The assonance sounds i.e wild, white, child and light are used to create vowel sounds. Therefore, the readers point out rhyming in the end. In the first verse, there are ten syllables. The first line ends with vowel sound as wild. Another poetic line has also ten syllables, the last word is assonance one. The third poetic line carries ten syllables where the last word has assonance rhyme which is matching with first poetic line. The second poetic line matches with fourth poetic line. Similarly, Blake's charm of rhyme has identical in poetry. He never adds assonance with consonance sounds. This art of the writer is unique in selection of rhyme.

#### **4.3 Consonance Rhyme**

This rhyme is, in which consonance a stressed syllable agrees but the vowel sounds do not match. The consonant words or sounds are used in the poetic line in order to create consonance units or syllables which have similar consonant units (Harper, 2011). Blake is expert enough in using consonant sounds to create charm in poetry. As

There's little Tom Dacre, who cried when his head,  
That curled like a lamb's back, was shaved: so I said

"Hush, Tom! Never mind it, for when your head's bare  
You know that the soot cannot spoil your white hair." (Blake, p.158,  
1789).

Blake's above stanza consists of four lines whereas readers can see the consonant sounds in each line at the end of the word, where we see that their vowels do not match each other.

For example: In "head" and "said" vowel sounds do not match with "ea" and "ai", and in "bare" and "hair" there also vowel sounds that do not match with "a" and "ai". Blake's art of using assonance to create vowel sounds which give musicality to poetry (see assonance rhyme). Here, Similarly, Blake's art of using consonance is superb.

#### **4.4 Internal Rhyme**

When the rhyme comes in middle of poetic line and matches with the same end poetic line is called internal rhyme. Hamer (1930) asserts that the variety of internal rhyme may differ in poetry. Sometimes first poetic line (end line) has two rhymes whereas middle rhyme matches with end line. This variety of rhyme is famous in the world as Blake uses it in his poems. Second variety of middle rhyme is that when first end line matches with second half poetic line. It is one of rhymes which create sounds like ending line. Therefore poetic line becomes rhythmic or musical. Middle rhyme is called internal rhyme. It also plays role like beginning or end rhyme. The structure of middle rhyme differs from end rhyme because it occurs in middle. Blake is the master of using internal rhyme or middle rhyme in his poetry i.e *Nursery Song*

"When the voices of children are heard on the green,  
And laughing is heard on the hill,  
My heart is at rest within my breast,  
And everything else is still".

"Then come home, my children the sun is gone down,  
And the dews of night arise;  
Come, come, leave off play, and let us away  
Till the morning appears in the skies." (Blake, p.151, 1789)

Blake's poetry is rich in internal rhyme i.e rest and breast. These two rhymes occur in third poetic line. The line is same but two rhymes are used in order to create musical sounds. The word 'rest' is used in the third poetic line; there also 'breast' word is used. Both are matching words with one poetic line. It shows the middle sound matches within the same end line. Similarly, Blake's art of using internal rhyme is superb. He uses it throughout poetry. He has not only command over end line (see end line, assonance, consonance, internal rhyme etc). in the above poem beautifully internal rhyme is used in every poetic line which is the mastery of Blake over poetry. As,

"No, no, let us play, for it is yet day,  
And we cannot go to sleep;  
Besides, in the sky the little birds fly,  
And the hills are all covered with sheep." (Blake, p.151, 1789)

In the above stanza, the internal rhyme is also used by Blake i.e play and day in the first poetic line. 'Play' and 'day' rhyme are used in the first verse. Furthermore, Blake also uses internal rhyme in third poetic line i.e 'sky' and 'fly'. These two rhymes like 'sky' and 'fly' are used as middle rhyme.

"Well, well, go and play till the light fades  
away,

And then go home to bed."  
... leaped ... laughed,  
... echoed". (Blake, p.151, 1789)

The above stanza carries middle rhyme i.e play and away. These types of rhymes are used also in nursery rhymes. Middle rhyme helps to identify the same sound in the end line. Blake's art of using middle rhyme gives readers charm of creating music or matching words to remember poetic line easily. This type of art in poetry is liked by readers as well. Similarly, Blake is the famous enough in using internal rhyme.

#### 4.5 Perfect Rhyme

Perfect rhyme is called rich rhyme whereas the identical words or syllables or sounds have perfect matching in sounds. The first poetic line has the same effect with the second one and third one and vice versa. Rhyme mostly has stressed syllables (Harper, 2011). Blake is an expert in all techniques of rhymes where the beauty of rhyme is maintained in the Songs of Innocence.

Blake's poetry has got fame in literature due to perfect rhyme. The structure of the poem may be aa, aba, abab, aabb, abba. This whole structure carries musical syllables. His below stanza is based on abab structure whereas the first poetic line matches with third one. The second poetic line matches with fourth poetic line. This scheme of rhyme goes continuously in poetry. Blake's mastery over this structure is superb. As,

"Piper, sit thee down and write  
In a book that all may read."  
So he vanished from my sight,  
And I plucked a hollow reed," (Blake, p.126, 1789)

The above structure is called perfect one. Therefore, Blake's poetry is liked by everyone. The first poetic line has rhyme i.e write, on the other hand, the poet uses resemblance sound in third poetic line i.e sight. The rhymes like write and sight are called perfect rhyme. This structure is carried by Blake in his poetry. furthermore, his second poetic line has rhyme as read, on the other hand, the poet uses in fourth poetic line word as reed. Here rhyme like read and reed are matching one. Therefore, the perfection is assonance and consonance is suitable in poetic lines. Blake's mastery over rhyme namely perfect rhyme is superb.

#### **4.6 Nursery Rhyme**

Farnen (2016) calls Nursery rhymes as the tool to remember natural sounds which are mostly used by children. Nursery rhymes are not only liked by children but it is for all due to selection of natural sounds in poetry. Likewise, Blake has used nursery rhyme. As,

"Sweet dreams form a shade  
O'er my lovely infant's head;  
Sweet dreams of pleasant streams  
By happy, silent, moony beams.

Sweet Sleep, with soft down  
Weave thy brows an infant crown.  
Sweet sleep, Angel mild,  
Hover o'er my happy child". (Blake, p.146, 1789).

Blake's perfect rhyme gives variety of sounds like assonance and consonance whereas readers enjoy the use of rhymes. His above structure is very long of eighth stanzas but here is written two stanzas to explain Nursery rhyme. According to Blake (1789, p.148).

This study shows that Blake has used Nursery Rhyme to please the child's nature whereas the mother uses suitable words to give pleasure to the child how the child likes the musical words. She knows the psychology of the child and also the art how to handle a child. She uses soft language and vocabulary that can be understood by the child. Above all, Blake knows the background of the child and mother how to use Nursery Rhyme between a child and mother. Besides, readers are delighted and entertained with music and meaningful note.

Blake uses Nursery Rhyme to know the level of Children and readers how to memorize a poem, stanza, poetry. Galway (2013) asserts that the syllabic pattern helps in remembering poetry the less you use syllables the more poetic lines would be easy to remember. He further adds that the rise and fall of sound are created through using syllables in poetry. Blake's art of using syllables in Nursery Rhyme is noteworthy. As

"Merry, merry sparrow!  
Under leaves so green;  
A happy blossom  
See you, swift as an arrow,  
Seek your cradle narrow  
Near my bosom.  
Pretty, pretty, robin!  
Under leaves so green;  
A happy blossom



Hears your sobbing, sobbing,  
Pretty, pretty, robin,  
Near my bosom". (Blake, 1789, p.156).

Blake uses Nursery Rhyme in the Songs of Innocence many times. It is easy to remember a poem. Simple vocabulary is the main factor in nursery rhyme therefore readers and children like it. Blake's poetic line contains three to six syllables in the line. Hence, the nursery rhyme is helpful in musical words as Blake uses in the Songs of Innocence.

## 5. Conclusion

Blake, the great poet of 19<sup>th</sup> century, is known an artistic poet. His poems contain simple structures and patterns i.e. rhyme and its kinds. This study has focused on rhyme and its varieties. The given research questions show that Blake's mastery over rhyme is different from other poets. Other poets might have focused rhyme in particular way but Blake brings all types of rhymes at one place. Therefore, the charm of poetry becomes more significant. This study focused the importance of rhyme in English poetry whereas the role of Blake is sublime (see Analysis). He uses nursery rhyme, internal rhyme, and end rhyme to entertain people particularly the children as he has used the rhyme in order to create music for children as well as his readers. Therefore, his poetry has become charming and effective. Galway (2013) asserts that poetry can be remembered easily as compared to prose. In prose, people may remember few dialogues or phrases or idioms whereas in poetry, the structure of rhyme, metrical composition brings rhythm with attention in his verses. Similarly, Blake depicts his mastery over the rhyme and its varieties especially in *the Songs of Innocence*.

This research contains testimony to remark that he has utilized myriad types of rhymes namely nursery rhyme, internal rhyme, and end rhyme to stimulate the poetic feelings of readers. The rhyme is based on arrangement of syllables or sounds to predict something new in poetry. Simply, if one tries to remember one line, he/she more likely to remember a second line; it happens due to the power of rhyme. Likewise, Blake has brought readers attention and interest due to his proper application of rhyme in poetry.

To wrap up the discussion, it can be safely said that rhyme possesses highly importance in the field of poetry; without it, poetry lacks appeal, fascination,

and charm. This study helps the students of prosody in analyzing the above all elements.

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