

9th Standard English

Kathmandu Summary

Two famous temples in Kathmandu

The lesson 'Kathmandu' is a description of the two famous temples of that city. One is the Pashupatinath temple. The other is the Baudhnath stupa, the Buddhist shrine of Kathmandu.

Pashupatinath temple

At Pashupatinath temple, a sign proclaims 'Entrance for the Hindus only'. There is much crowd and utter confusion. All sorts of animals roam around through the grounds. There are so many people. They are pushing each other to somehow make their way to the Lord. A group of Westerners claims itself to be Hindus. It struggles for permission to come in. But the policeman at the gate is not convinced. Monkeys can be seen fighting.

Belief about it and the river

The holy Bagmati flows by the side of the temple. It has washer women at its banks. There is a small shrine also on the river bank. It seems that half of the shrine is in the river. The other half out of it. The people believe that the whole of the shrine will come out of the river, one day. Then the goddess inside will escape. Then the evil period of Kaliyug will come to an end.

Baudhnath stupa

At Baudhnath stupa, there is a sense of stillness. There is a road running

round the temple. Small shops of Tibetan immigrants stand on its outer edge. There are no crowds here.

What the author says about Kathmandu bazaar

Kathmandu is a crowded place. There are deities in the busiest streets. These streets are r crowded with fruit sellers, flute sellers, hawkers of postcards etc. The shops sell “ Western cosmetics, film rolls and chocolate.

Film songs can be heard. Car horns play. Cycle bells ring. Stray cows low at people. In the r market place, the author indulges himself mindlessly. Then, he plans to go back home. He enters a Nepal Airlines office and buys a ticket for Delhi. He comes back to his hotel.

About the flute seller

In a comer of the square near the hotel a flute seller catches his attention. His carefree style pleases him. He doesn't sell his flutes like others. They cry to sell their wares. In fact, flute music always attracts him. It reminds him of the commonality of all mankind.

Different flutes and flute music

There is no culture that does not have its flute. The deep bansuri is of Hindustani classical music. The flutes of South America are clear and breathy. The Chinese ones are high pitched. The music of the flutes is universal. Its motive force is the breath. It unites all in one single thread of universality.

The author's analysis about the 'bansuri'

The author is affected by the phrases on the bansuri. It surprises him. He

returns home after a long absence abroad. He did not think earlier of the details and their significance.

