

- Have you ever visited any historical places?
- Name those places?
- What are they noted for?
- Have you seen the historical place Chittor?

Let us now enjoy the poem 'Chittor'.

About the poet and the poem:

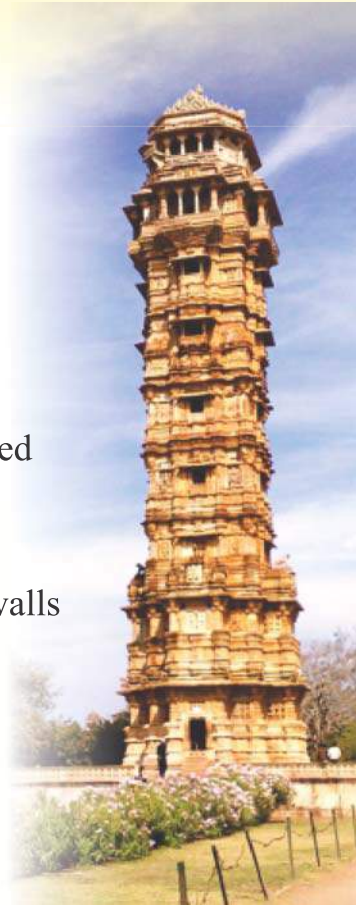
The Poem is written by Shyam Sunder Lal Chordia. It was brought out in the collection of his poems in 1928. Like an English ode, the poem is addressed to Chittorgarh; the Kingdom of ancient Mewar. The poem begins with the delineation of the age old immortal glory of Chittorgarh, where the Rajput warriors fought against the Moghuls ;the illegal trespassers who ventured to usurp the territory of Chittorgarh and sacrificed their lives for the sake of their holy motherland.



Chittor

Here is the old Chittor, queen-like and crown'd
 With deathless glory; in the long sad past
 For thee the legion Rajput chiefs fell fast
 Amid the shock of battle; and falling found
 The lotus-heaven of the Lord.
 What streams Of precious blood they shed!
 What wars they waged
 When marched and counter-marched the foes and blazed
 Their swords in the dark hour of doom when dreams
 Of pulsing life shone dim in them!
 They fought for thee, they died for thee whene'er thy walls
 Guarding thy places, temples, towers and halls,
 Were by the mighty hordes of Moslems sought.
 O Nurse and Mother of the brave and free!
 How red with blood the path that leads to thee.

Shyam Sunder Lal Chordia



GLOSSARY:

deathless glory	:	immortal glory
sad past	:	because of unlawful attacks
blazed	:	shone
thee	:	you
sought	:	wanted
hordes	:	wandering tribes
foe	:	enemy
doom	:	ruin
path	:	way
lord	:	God

Activity - I

A. Tick the correct alternative.

I. The Rajputs shed blood for the sake of their motherland whenever :

- a) The Moslems attacked their motherland
- b) They thought to do so at their will
- c) They were furious
- d) None of the above

II. The Rajput fought against Moghuls because

- a) They were envious of them.
- b) They were quarrelsome
- c) they ventured to usurp the territory of Chittor
- d) they wanted to create terror

B. Say whether the following statements are True or False.

- I. The glory of Chittor is immortal,
- II. The Rajputs waged war whenever Moghuls tried to trespass their territory.
- III. The Rajput always picked quarrels unnecessarily,
- IV. The motherland was of great importance for Rajputs.
- V. Chittor has a long sad past because of unlawful attacks.

Activity - II

A. Match words in column 'A' with their rhyming words in column 'B':

A

glory
sought
path
found
fort

B

flood
bound
court
shy
sand

sad
land
blood
life
thy

knife
brought
sorry
mad
bath

B. Read the following pair of words and learn their meanings too.

pool
fool
who'd
cooed

pull
full
hood
could

Now read the following pairs of sentences:

- I. They needed a pool. They needed a pull.
- II. They pulled the fool out of the pool.

Activity - III

The teacher recites the poems and the students follow her/him -

Bravery

The War Horse what an amazing animal,
True beauty and bravery intertwined.
It's not his fight yet
He does not take flight.

On the battle field his true colours are revealed,
This magnificent beast is not about to yield.

Loyal and fearless,
Full gallop towards the front line he strides.
The enemy not knowing what to make
Of this valour and might.

Activity - IV

One day you visit the fort of Chittorgarh. You hire the services of a guide for this purpose. The Guide tells you several things about the fort. Besides, you make several personal observations too. Describe your visit to the Fort in the live way. You may title this paragraph as 'A visit to the Fort of Chittorgarh'.

