

## English Subsidiary; U.G. - I

Topic: Introduction to John Milton

John Milton [1608-1674] is considered a "child of Renaissance" as most of his works sing the glory of Puritanism. Milton was a voracious reader since his childhood and he had read Greek and Roman literature at his early age. It is because of his continuous reading habit that he developed eye-sightedness in his early age.

During the years of the English Civil War, Milton worked under Oliver Cromwell to create pamphlets advocating for religious freedom, divorce and the freedom of press. He also supported the beheading Charles-I by Oliver Cromwell and worked as a Secretary under Cromwell's for foreign languages under foreign languages. It was in 1651-59 that Milton became completely blind. "On His Blindness" a Sonnet by Milton, recounts his sufferings of physical disability. When Charles-II came back in power in England after beheading Oliver Cromwell, Milton was arrested and forced to live a secluded life the rest of his life in seclusion. It is in this secluded phase of life that



He turned himself from the world of politics to the world of literature and wrote the first English epic "Paradise Lost" in which he seems to give voice to the defeated Lucifer Satan. The entire poem has been composed written in the light of Renaissance and is deemed among the greatest poems ever written.

Milton died in 1674 in England shortly after finishing the works, "Paradise Regained", and "Samson Agonistes". Milton's works continued to inspire the Romantic poets like Wordsworth, Keats, P.B. Shelley and William Blake.