

George Bernard Shaw

G.B. Shaw was born on 1856, died in the year 1950. He is the writer who won both Nobel prize as well as Oscar prize. He was born in Dublin and then he also went to London a few times in his life. And finally he was settled down in Dublin Ireland. He was a son of a farmer, he didn't like school therefore he studied on his own. He also worked as a critic before writing the plays. In his plays Shaw successfully gave the taste of sense of humour which could make public laugh. From 1884 onwards, he was an active member of the "Fabian orator".

His first play *Widower's House* was produced in 1892 with slight success. It was followed by *The Philanderers* (1893) , *Mrs. Warren's Profession*. These three plays were called as *Unpleasant Plays* which were collectively published in 1898. *Arms and the Man* is one of his best plays. It is a comic play which shows futility of war and hypocrisy of human nature. *Devil Disciple* (1897) is a play which talks about American War of Independence and it is set in the revolutionary era. *Candida* is a play of great charm. There were so many plays, a few novels, short stories, essays written by G.B. Shaw.

Shaw was a master of witty dialogue and his best plays have just enough plots to keep them moving. He is so full of ideas that they overflow into long introductions, which are sometimes as witty and as important as the plays they introduce. His influence on British and continental thought has been immense: but he is so witty that somewhat to his own chagrin, he is often not taken seriously. He has always regarded the stage as a sort of pulpit from which he could disseminate his views to the world in general; his views consist of serious thought; his method of expressing them is not.

CANDIDA

The title of the first two volumes of Shaw's dramatic works *Plays Pleasant and Unpleasant*, published in 1895. *Candida* is one of the "pleasant" plays. It was written in 1895. The play presents a parson (Morell), his wife (Candida) and a poet (Marchbanks) involved in the eternal triangle of love. The conjugal relations of a clergyman with his wife form the entire contents of the play. A stranger named Marchbanks is introduced. He declares his love for the Clergyman's wife. Thus the "eternal triangle" of love is complete. The motive of the play is to attack on the

hollow, meaningless and worn out conventions of society. Honesty, virtue and such other qualities are abstract notions with which society is not concerned. Shaw aims at completely purging the society of all these senseless conceptions.