

John Milton (1608-1674)

--Milton was the representative poet of his age, the Puritan Age.

--Milton was a puritan and believed in moral earnestness in life. He said, “he that hope to write well hereafter in laudable things ought himself to be a true poem; that is the composition and pattern of the best and most honourable things.”

--Milton was a puritan, businessman, a fine scholar and a musician. He was well versed in Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Spanish, French, Italian, English literature, music, theology and maths.

--Milton rejected every form of outward religious authority in face of the supreme puritan principle, the liberty of individual soul before god.

--Milton’s poetic style was grand and sublime.

--Some of his important works are **Paradise Lost (1667)**, **Paradise Regained (1671)**, **Samson Agnostices (1671)**, **“On the Morning of christ’s Nativity”**, **Lycidas**, etc.

--The Influence of Spenser’s Faerie Queen is clearly visible in Milton’s Paradise Lost.

--Paradise Lost is an epic poem written in Blank verse. It tells the biblical story of creation, the fall of Satan, and the expulsion of Adam and Eve from the garden of Eden.

John Bunyan (1628-1688)

--John Bunyan was a writer, a preacher and was a devout puritan.

--His *The Pilgrim's Progress* (1678) is the characteristic expression of puritan religious outlook.

--**The Pilgrims's Progress** is a symbolic vision of the good man's pilgrimage through life. At one time second only to The Bible in popularity, *The Pilgrim's Progress* is the most famous Christian allegory in print.

-- His other writings are **Grace Abounding** (1666), his spiritual autobiography and *the Holy war* (1682), an allegory.