

## **Tussle Between Sohrab and Rostum Mirrors Victorian Era**

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Victorian era, a pride of British crown, sunshine of English nation, a period of material prosperity, a torch of political consciousness, a champion of democratic reforms, a stronghold of industrial revolution, a scene of colonial ascendancy, an open slaughter of basic human values, a chasm between givers and beggars, a battleground of an unending tussle between science and religion, stands best depicted in the literary efforts by Matthew Arnold. Being an extra-ordinary mind of his race and age, took upon his shoulders the responsibility of bringing back the dying belief of materially progressed and morally degraded Victorian public in Faith and Fate. The best reflection of which is found in *Sohrab and Rostum*, an epic by Matthew Arnold, where two great champions apart from being man of heroic-actions, stand as symbols of religious and scientific elements at daggers drawn in Victorian society, resulting in the short term victory of science, which very soon started feeling the pangs of inaccessibility to what lay hidden beyond the materialistic existence of mortal life. Because, the charms of science which had bewitched the minds of Victorian public had power on materialistic possessions, but what lay hidden beyond that was an unknown realm to it. To put it in a nutshell, *Sohrab and Rostum* is not mere a tale of tears, battleground for crowds of armies, show of heroic-actions, and sublime flow of words and ideas, but truly speaking it stands as a vivid depiction of the age and race, and as such Matthew Arnold by writing *Sohrab and Rostum* made an excellent literary effort as to represent the fatal tussle between science and religion, which as a matter of fact was slowly and gradually gnawing at the roots of well-entrenched spiritual edifice of mid-nineteenth-century industrial England.

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