THE ANGLO SAXON PERIOD

1. THE NAME: The name Anglo Saxon denotes Two of the three Germanic tribe Jutes, Angles and Saxon. These three tribes (Anglo Saxon) left their homeland in the shore of North Sea and Beltic and colonized and conquer Britain.

   - The Angles were the most numerous of the tribes and from them the new home was called Anglalond. By gradual change this become first Englelond and then England.

2. LIFE: The Anglo Saxon lived a Barbarous lifestyle. Their life was constantly hardship, a perpetual struggle against savage nature and savage men. Their lives and imagination was filled with dark and gloomy atmosphere with the notions of Dragons monster and other evil shape. They heavily indulged in drinks and warfare.

   - The first thing we notice about these big, fearless almost childish men is that they love the sea. Naturally this love of the sea finds expression in all their poetry.

3. INNER LIFE: These Sea Men were a marvelous mixture of Savagery and Sentiments, of rough feeling and of deep feeling, of courage and deep melancholy of men who knew their limitation and have faced the unanswerable problems of Death.

   - These men were not only Barbarian but they were men with strong and profound emotions which is vividly revealed in their Literature. Under the Savage exterior was hidden a love of home and homely virtues and a reverence for the one woman to whom he would presently return in triumph.

   - It is this hidden life of the Anglo Saxon that finds expression in all their Literature. There are Five great principles or characteristics which govern their lives:

     (1) their love of personal freedom
     (2) their responsiveness to nature
     (3) their religion
     (4) their reverence for womanhood
     (5) their struggle for freedom

4. ORIGIN OF LANGUAGE: The Language of Anglo Saxon has Teutonic origin. It has dual characteristics where the Anglo Saxon forms the base and strong foundation and the second one which forms the largest class of world come from the Celts, Romans, Normans and other language.

5. THE FIRST POETRY: (1) The great epic or heroic poem Beowulf

   (2) Wisdith