

ANALYSIS OF MAIN THEMES IN SHAKESPEARE'S TRAGEDY HAMLET

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Abstract: Hamlet is a complex and multi-layered work that explores a variety of themes. This article provides an analysis of the main themes present in the play, including revenge, madness, morality, and the complexity of human nature. It examines how these themes are developed throughout the play and how they contribute to the overall meaning and impact of the work. Through this analysis, we gain a deeper understanding of the enduring relevance and power of Hamlet as a work of literature.

Keywords: madness, morality, revenge, tragedy, Shakespearean tragedy, Hamlet, sense, death, human nature

Annotatsiya: “Gamlet” murakkab va ko‘p qatlamli asar bo‘lib, turli mavzularni o‘rganadi. Ushbu maqolada asarda mavjud bo‘lgan asosiy mavzular, jumladan qasos, jinnilik, axloq va inson tabiatining murakkabligi tahlil qilinadi. Bu mavzular asar davomida qanday ishlab chiqilganligi va ular asarning umumiy ma‘nosi va ta‘siriga qanday hissa qo‘shishini o‘rganadi. Ushbu tahlil orqali biz Gamletning adabiyot asari sifatidagi abadiy dolzarbligi va qudratini chuqurroq anglaymiz.

Kalit so‘zlar: jinnilik, axloq, qasos, fojia, Shekspir tragediyasi, Gamlet, his, o‘lim, inson tabiati

Описание: «Гамлет» — сложная и многоплановая пьеса, раскрывающая различные темы. В данной статье анализируются основные темы, присутствующие в пьесе, включая месть, безумие, мораль и сложность человеческой природы. В нем рассматривается, как эти темы развиваются на протяжении всей работы и как они способствуют общему смыслу и воздействию работы. Благодаря этому анализу мы получаем более глубокое понимание вечной актуальности и силы «Гамлета» как литературного произведения.

Ключевые слова: безумие, мораль, месть, трагедия, трагедия Шекспира, Гамлет, смысл, смерть, человеческая природа.

INTRODUCTION

William Shakespeare was an English playwright, poet and actor. He is widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's pre-eminent

dramatist. He is often called England's national poet and the "Bard of Avon" (or simply "the Bard"). His extant works, including collaborations, consist of some 39 plays, 154 sonnets, three long narrative poems, and a few other verses, some of uncertain authorship. His plays have been translated into every major living language and are performed more often than those of any other playwright. Shakespeare remains arguably the most influential writer in the English language, and his works continue to be studied and reinterpreted. Shakespeare produced most of his known works between 1589 and 1613. His early plays were primarily comedies and histories and are regarded as some of the best works produced in these genres. He then wrote mainly tragedies until 1608, among them Hamlet, Romeo and Juliet, Othello, King Lear, and Macbeth, all considered to be among the finest works in the English language. In the last phase of his life, he wrote tragicomedies (also known as romances) and collaborated with other playwrights.

Literature Review

Hamlet by William Shakespeare, i.e. the Bard of Avon has been diversely constructed by researchers and scholars belonging to manifold schools of theories, manners, and thoughts, as Hamlet is flooded with dramatic, social, personal, political, and historical issues. From a critical study of Hamlet, P. Madhan, (2020) traces the life of Shakespeare pre and post being a famous dramatist in London, covering his life as a bachelor, married, actor, and a sonnet and play writer. Through the analysis done to Shakespeare's life, it is demonstrated that the plays of Shakespeare's time have not impacted Shakespeare, as he leans on his hand to writing various plays, catapulting the Bard of Avon to boundless fame. Viewing Hamlet within a comparative analysis, the study by Al-Lami et al. (2020) reveals that enormous directors have adapted Shakespeare's plays to movies across the globe. Among these adaptations Kadın Hamlet of 1977 which is regarded as a contemporary adaptation of Hamlet. With the use of the adaptation theory, an analysis constructed on comparing Hamlet and its Turkish movie adaptation with an eye on differences and similarities is presented. A framework based on the 3-question adaptation theory gives an insight into the new meanings of Hamlet and the movie, as the three questions of „What“, „Where“, and „When“ play a key role in identifying the changes occurring in the transfer process from narrating to showing style. The findings gleaned from this study indicate that the movie is fine-tuned to fit with the culture and traditions of Turkish society in the twentieth century. From another angle, Hassan (2019) clarifies Hamlet's tragic aspect embodied by Prince Hamlet's father's death. Of the most notable images of the tragic aspect in the drama is Hamlet, the young Prince, envisaging how revenge for his father can be fulfilled, and this poses the overriding theme relating to the nature of people's reaction to death. It is also shown that although the core revenge story of Hamlet for the death of his father is incorporated into every version of the play, a less

or more different narrative is inevitably presented in each version, as some versions omit the entire scenes and even the basic story threads. Accordingly, this expounds why Hamlet the play and Hamlet the character are exceptionally interpreted, focusing on one of the protagonists' tragic situations; the father is murdered by his mother and uncle. A related study conducted by Wagiyo (2021) investigates Hamlet's tragedy from an intrinsic analysis by tracing the structure of the play starting from the exposition of the characters, the prevailing political situation, and the death of the Prince's father to show the modern audience's drama-based attraction. She has also highlighted other rising actions, conflicts, and complications occurring among the main characters such as the fencing match held between Laertes and Hamlet based on the proposal by the king. On the subject of the falling actions, it is represented by Fortinbras's arrival with the ambassadors and the army to speak of the death of Rosencrantz, Hamlet's friend. Another related article by Al-Ghammaz et al. (2021) demonstrates that social power, distinction, and freedom are simply attainable under the prevalent social and moral standards, leading to the distinction and triumph of a person, and thus the characters differently respond to the established social traditions and norms. Prince Hamlet, therefore, shall face his destiny to avenge his father, King Hamlet so that he is psychologically, personally, politically, and socially stabilized. On a parallel line, Kubresli (2013) addresses Shakespeare's Hamlet from a death and psychological perspective, demonstrating the extraordinariness of the play as the play's structure is swamped with drama, melancholia, deception, and intrigue. The study also shows why and how the Hamlet-death relationship has changed throughout the play. The findings reveal that Hamlet's association with death is primarily a haven from continuous pains, but that it sequentially associates with honor.

Discussion

There are a number of prominent themes of William Shakespeare's Hamlet. Each of the key themes we have identified in the following article, though, throws out some surprising details and interpretations, so it's worth probing some of the play's most important themes and subjects in more detail.

Revenge is obviously an important theme in Hamlet, if not the most important theme of all. Indeed, Hamlet is not just a tragedy but an example of a 'revenge tragedy', a subgenre of play which was already established when Shakespeare wrote Hamlet. Revenge has multiple resources and motivations, represented in personal, social, religious, and political conflicts. It is a living human feeling, which never fade. The theme of revenge is a good dramatic stuff that tempts many writers to employ it in their works. The concept of revenge was widely used by the Greek, and the Elizabethan playwrights inherited this concept as a part of literary inheritance. He run his plays in a completely different way, adding terror, scenes of blood, and screaming in his plays Doubtless, when Shakespeare wrote Hamlet he follows the dramatic tradition in writing

revenge tragedy. Shakespeare had previous experiences in writing such kind of tragedies, so Hamlet was clearly written in the same way of writing the previous plays. In fact, choosing the theme of revenge is very important; it gives the writer a wide area to show emotional feeling, rhetorical questions, and act of violence. Moreover, revenge tragedy provokes emotional irritations more than regular plays. Shakespearean tragedies, almost all dealing with a great man of high standing falls in an unusual ordeal leading to his death. The man must be of a high rank and the ordeal must be extraordinary in order to provoke a case of pity, terror, and emotional irritation, so the play of „Hamlet“ is of such kind. Hamlet was a beloved prince who hold a prominent in political life of Denmark at that time, found himself in a big problem because of his mother's misconduct and her quick marriage within two months after the death of his father, king Hamlet. She married a man of lesser rank than her first husband. Worst of all he discovers that his uncle, the new king, is the one who killed his father.

Madness is a central theme in William Shakespeare's play Hamlet. The character of Hamlet himself feigns madness to disguise his true intentions and to gather information about his father's murder. However, there are also other characters who display signs of madness, such as Ophelia, who descends into actual madness after the death of her father. The theme of madness in Hamlet serves multiple purposes in the play. It adds an element of psychological depth to the characters and creates a sense of uncertainty and instability. It also raises questions about the nature of sanity and insanity, and how they are perceived by society. Hamlet's own "madness" is often debated by scholars and audiences alike. Some believe that he truly becomes unstable as he grapples with his grief and seeks revenge for his father's death. Others argue that his madness is simply a ploy to achieve his goals.

Morality is explored through the actions and decisions of the characters. The play delves into questions of right and wrong, justice, and the consequences of immoral behavior. One of the most prominent examples of morality in Hamlet is the question of revenge. Hamlet struggles with the idea of avenging his father's murder, and whether it is moral to seek revenge. His internal conflict over whether to kill Claudius highlights the complexities of moral decision-making. Additionally, the characters in Hamlet often grapple with ethical dilemmas. For instance, Claudius's guilt over his immoral actions is evident when he tries to pray for forgiveness but ultimately cannot repent. This reflects how morality can weigh heavily on an individual's conscience. Hamlet's indecisiveness and internal conflict reflect the complexities of human nature. His struggle with avenging his father's death and his contemplation of mortality are universal experiences that resonate with audiences. Additionally, his descent into madness and his complex relationships with those around him further illustrate the intricacies of human emotions and behaviors. The other characters in the play also exhibit various aspects of human nature. Claudius's ambition and deceit, Gertrude's

loyalty and guilt, Ophelia's innocence and vulnerability, and Laertes' thirst for revenge all offer insights into different facets of human nature. Furthermore, the play's exploration of betrayal, love, and loyalty highlights the complexities of human relationships. The actions and choices of the characters in Hamlet reveal their inner desires, fears, and motivations – all of which are deeply rooted in human nature.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Shakespeare's tragedy Hamlet explores a variety of themes, including revenge, madness, mortality, and the complexity of human nature. The play delves into the psychological and emotional turmoil of its characters as they grapple with these themes, ultimately leading to their downfall. Through intricate character development and rich symbolism, Shakespeare prompts the audience to contemplate the consequences of seeking revenge, the fragility of sanity, and the inevitability of death. Hamlet stands as a timeless exploration of the human condition and continues to captivate audiences with its profound themes and thought-provoking insights.

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