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A CRITICAL STUDY OF SHAKESPEARE’S HAMLET IN THE LIGHT OF ARISTOTLE’S CLASSICAL THEORY OF POETICS



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Abstract

Aristotle (384-322 BCE) - a Greek Philosopher and a man a polymath in multidisciplinary branches of knowledge wrote an epoch-making book named 'Poetics' in the realm of literary theory and criticism. The present study sought to analyze Aristotle's theory of poetry and drama in the light of Shakespeare's Tragedy of Hamlet which deals with the aspects of tragedy discussed by Aristotle in his Poetics. It focuses on Aristotle's argumentative nature in concern with the principles of the poetry. It discusses Aristotle's views on the tragic flaw which plays dominant role and by nature it is reasonable and realistic. It focuses on the constituents like plot, character, thought, diction, melody and spectacle. It delineates with Aristotle's notion of ideal tragic plot. He discusses plot should be complex and should incorporates the journey of protagonist from good fortune to disaster. The study focuses on the Aristotle's concept of tragic hero who should be moral and inherently good. The present study not only as part of mere understanding of a set of theories for the interpretation of any literary text but it attempts to explore the systematic framework of his critical theory for the exploration of new avenues of literary texts. It concentrates on the major issues related to the classical texts of his contemporary art and literature.

Key Words : Tragedy, Critical, Constituents, Theory, Classical etc]