



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

Absurdism a Literary Style and aspect of present society in relation with complete despair based on Samuel Beckett and others

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Abstract:

We see confusion and chaos all across the globe, the integral part of this life is hustle and bustle and that too is devoid of purpose. What yields at the end of the day is void and vogue. It yields to a mental trauma we sense the nonsenseness and our end in despair. However this paper discusses all about the absurdist approach about the modern society. The theory of Absurdism is and its critical effect on modern life in relation with a play *Waiting for Godot* written by Samuel Beckett the sense of despair nothingness and living a motiveless life the wounds created by Samuel Beckett are still fresh and bleeding in the present scenario of life.

Keywords: *Absurdism in English writing , Absurd writers, Devoidness, and Life.*

Absurdism was introduced in English back in mid 20th century by European and American dramatists. The first book written on absurd literature was by Eugene Ionesco "*The Bald Soprano*" published in 1950. From that date the trend of English writing remained continue and today not only male but female writers have made their own field in this Literary genre. Female and male writers made their contribution through great novels poetry and prose. The paper will provide a brief introduction about the writings and motive of absurdist writers based on their primary secondary sources.

After the bloodshed of world war I, the world was devoid of purpose goal destiny before it the unification of world was God, and belief on religion, but now most of the people believe and some share clearly that the life is devoid of definite aim, everything seemed broken, the images were lost that all happened due to world War I. Modernist writers tried to assimilate the same. They tried to experiment with these things by the poetic terms like simile paradox irony and many other internal features of both prose and poetry genres but failed they couldn't get up from the set back as the world war II happened just after world war I.

Modernist writers lamented as the toy was broken. They took this toy and further broke it in smaller pieces and played with them they tried to celebrate the tension of warfield. Writers like James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, T.S Eliot, Ezra Pound were replaced by the Postmoderns like Samuel Beckett, Harold Pinter, Albert Camus, Aldous Huxley, then after this movement Absurdism flourished in France and America finally in the streets of England. They structured the clueless purposeless and meaninglessness of life, because the world war had left the world tormented which could obviously be seen as life was just a living then more. A person had no clue what to do and why to do, among modern writers like Samuel Beckett in his book "*Waiting for Godot*" we find gloominess, vacuum and nothingness all – across, where man question his existence, the play is introduced by a line Nothing to be done, then they find world without God, they found the world a wasteland, where nothing could or was to be done.

This writing of Samuel Beckett is further supported by Nikos Kazantzakis a Greek writer who in his book "*Zorba the Greek*" where he pens down

"We come from a dark abyss, we end in darkabyss, and we call the luminous interval life as soon as we are born the return begins the goal of life is death as soon as we are born the return begins we start to struggle to create and compose and to turn matter into life we enjoy the passing moment and we lament the same"

This all started from the mass killings of world war II, which disillusioned people from their grand narratives like Religion, God, Enlightenment, Reason, and Equality this shattered all the beliefs of being a man from God, here from a man started questioning everything, even his own existence and the purpose of being alive. As from all sides meaninglessness was obvious the words of Bible were questioned that "*I have created man in my own image*". There was a clear contradiction of Man's inner with its outer justice. The belief of religion was put in contrast to technology. The thinking was shifted from historical to vertical in aesthetics view we came across Jean Paul Sartre the precursor of Friedrich Nietzsche, Soren Kierkegaard, Albert Camus and Martin Heidegger. The concept of Friedrich Nietzsche in his book "*Thus Spoke Zarathustra*"

"*The God is dead*" is that he finds the universe without God without purpose. Voltaire further extends to

"There is no God now we had created one."

J.P Sartre gave the concept of Choice and decision, to him the universe is devoid of purpose so we set the goal for ourselves and had to face our choice and decision further dragged to more by Martin Heidegger, who points that

"A man is a diseased animal who had been thrown headlong into this universe without his choice and consent"

Albert Camus who had written a great play "*Myth of Sisyphus*" published in 1942 where he set the stage by a man who try to pull a stone to a Mountain top while carrying to the peak it slips and he joins his own task again and again

"Likewise and during everyday of an unillustrious life, time carries us. But a moment always comes when we have to carry it. We live on the future: "tomorrow", "later on", "when you have made your way", "you will understand what you are old enough such irrelevancies and wonderful for, after all, it's matter of dying. Yet a day comes when a man notices and says that he is 30. Thus he asserts his youth. But simultaneously he situates himself in relation to time. He takes his place in it. He admits that he stands at a certain point on a curve that he acknowledges having to travel to its end. He belongs to time, and by the horror that seizes him he recognised his worst enemy. Tomorrow, he was longing for tomorrow, whereas everything in him ought to rejected it. That revolt of the flesh is the absurd."

The same way we start our day with new setting and aim to pass the set of days called life or living all human efforts end up in nothing. Here we conclude that universe is irrational and meaningless Martin Esslin define absurd theatre in his book “The theatre of Absurd” published in 1961

“as it strives to express its sence of sencelessness of human condition”.

Simply we live in a universe where human try to find meaning in meaninglessness.

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