



IMPACT OF PSYCHOANALYSIS AND LITERATURE

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Literature is the human expression derives from human thought and so from human life . It is inseparable from the role of author's own psyche. Both literature and psychology deal with human experiences as study material. Both reflect the social reality and the interpersonal relationship of human beings. In different works of the authors, their own attitudes and the ways of thinking is portrayed. Psychological theories have made their contributions into different fields of studies and are heavily used in literary analysis. Under the influence of these psychological theories literary analysis has changed its shape. The authors begin to concentrate on a particular psychological moment or experience and to probe deeper into the human consciousness and move freely backward and forward in human psyche. Even they probe deep into the subconscious and unconscious and lose themselves in the complex inner life of human beings.

Freud's works and researches affects society and literature to a great extent. Freud was the first to start the interpretation of literature in 1898 when he wrote his research paper on the story 'Die Richertin' by the Swiss writer Conrad Ferdinand Mayer. Freud relating to the author's life to the particular work tried to analyse the work psychoanalytically. Freud's literary analysis paved the way for future psychoanalytical studies of literary works. Jacques Lacan, great psychoanalyst followed Freud. The only difference between their works is that Freud's psychoanalysis focuses on the author and the characters in the literature work , while Lacan focuses on the language of the text.

Carl Jung a famous psychoanalyst argued that literature is an expression of the collective unconscious because it provides readers a clue of the archetypal images hidden in the deep layers of racial memories. It helps to reach to the psyche of the author and his culture. Harold Bloom's *The Anxiety of Influence* is one of the best psychoanalytical work discussing the whole history of literary creation based on Oedipus complex. Most of Freud's followers concentrated on mind of the author or the neurotic aspects present in the work. Following Freud's views many analysts like C.G.Jung, Jacques Lacan, Phyllis Greeacre, Erich Fromm, Henry Rosenzweig, Henry Murray, Earnest Jones, Ernest Kris, Theodore Reik etc. wrote on individual writers and paid attention on sexuality, Oedipus Complex and so on.

The goal of Psychoanalytical criticism is to reveal the latent content of the work that underlies visible or manifest content. Virginia unknowingly or may be knowingly employed free association as similar to Freud in her *Mrs. Dalloway*. Freud's close friend and a great psychoanalyst Earnest Jones realised that the prime cause of Hamlet's indecision was his Oedipus complex. Many literary critics, when they analyse the text or some creative work from Freudian psychoanalytical lence and especially from his concepts about condensation and displacement in reference to the analysis of the literary text they are surprised to know that the creative process mostly springs from those thoughts in the unconscious which result from neurosis. Meyer Schapiro have discussed a wide range of artists and paintings from ancient Greek status to Raphael and interpreted them psychoanalytically. The psychoanalytical approach of Marie Bonaparte gained an understanding in her analysis from Freud. The description of the dead living mother becomes a key to understand and analyse Poe's literary merit. Following Freud's line of thought, much of the early psychoanalytic literary criticism concentrated on either the mind of the author or the neurotic aspects present in the work. Many psychiatrists and analysts wrote on individual writers and emphasized themes like Oedipus complex, homosexuality, guilt, dreams, neurosis and so on. 'A Child Analysis with Anna Freud' shows us a direct access to Anna Freud's ways of thinking and working at a crucial period in the early history of child analysis. It is the great record of an adult reflecting in depth on the experience of being in analysis as a child. All these psychoanalytical studies served as the basis for further psychoanalytical studies by various other writers. The most

important aspect of all these studies is to find out the clues for understanding the creative personality of the author himself.

Psychoanalysis has a far reaching impact upon the various fields of knowledge whether on sociology, philosophy, literature and so on. This theory has also inspired twentieth century writers and philosophers and created several schools of criticism in literary and cultural studies. Many Indian women writers who emerged after Independence concentrate on the presentation of inner lives of their characters to reveal various dimensions of their personalities. If we try to look at different works with psychoanalytical lence we find that there are several names who have either depicted women's sexual urges or focus on women's inner conflicts , their unconscious hidden desires, their agony, sufferings, exploitation and their neurotic problems. In short, their aim is to focus on women's experiences as women in contemporary Indian society. Psychoanalytical reading influenced the literary criticism, method, theory, concept and form. Several psychoanalytical critics devote their works to the exploration of psyche of the authors and characters, to explain narrative mysteries and to develop new concepts in the field of psychoanalysis.

