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FACULTY: EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT: EDUCATION ENGLISH

LECTURER:

TOPIC: DISCUSS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MEDIEVAL DRAMA AND RENAISSANCE DRAMA

Renaissance Drama began in Italy, with scholars initially attempting to recreate the original staging's of Greek and Roman plays, then adapting them to contemporary dress and speech. The new interest in classical drama was fired by the rediscovery of texts by Euripides, Seneca, Plautus, and Terence. Aristotle's *Poetics*, which defined the classical genres of tragedy and comedy, came to light in the 15th century. The disreputable profession of acting began to assume a new dignity and the first professional companies were formed. In the field of tragedy, the main influence on Renaissance writers was the work of Seneca.

Medieval Drama refers to theatrical performance in the period between the fall of the Western Roman Empire in the 5th century A.D. and the beginning of the Renaissance in approximately the 15th century A.D. Medieval Theatre covers all drama produced in Europe over that thousand-year period and refers to a variety of genres, including liturgical drama, mystery plays, morality plays, farces and masques.

Medieval Period is also called the middle ages. It lasted from 5th to 15th century. Medieval Drama was therefore preceded by Medieval Drama and followed by Elizabeth drama. Medieval

Drama arose from the ashes of Roman Drama just infamy which entered it and which was that level of the church. That was why some critics describe it as degenerate theatre and its disappearance during the barbaric invasion of the sixth century was the immediate aftermath of that degeneration.

The beginning of Medieval Drama is, therefore, traceable to the medieval church sermon and mass which had some medieval characteristics. The human impulse to indulge in mimesis which receives impetus from the religious troupe gave birth to a new form of drama prevalent during the medieval era. The Drama that emerged after the degeneration was the product of the church, born out of the desire to suppress certain infamous elements of past dramatic traditions, and out of the desire to fashion drama, dramaturgy and service along ecclesiastical lines for the propagation of the Christian faith.

Medieval Period is the middle ages. It lasted from 5th to 15th century. Medieval Drama was therefore preceded by Greek and Roman drama and followed by Elizabethan drama. Medieval Drama arose from the ashes of Roman Drama just before it evolved into Medieval Drama, there was that level of infamy which entered it and which was vehemently opposed by the church.