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RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE

The beginning of medieval drama is said to be traceable to medieval church sermon and mass which had some dramatic characteristics. This medieval drama is preceded by Greek and Roman drama and followed by Elizabethan drama. Greek drama arose from Roman drama and became the fountain – head of modern drama because it was full of ideas and was essentially theatrical. During this medieval era, two drama sprang up which are the mystery plays were based on the lives of saints. The mystery plays were based on Biblical events. Also, morality plays were also introduced to teach important moral lessons through allegorical characters. The medieval drama just like the Greek drama is religious. Having known what medieval drama is, one may say that there is no clear relationship between the medieval and the Renaissance drama except the fact that the (English Renaissance drama grew out of the established medieval tradition of the mystery and morality plays even though they gradually withdrew their focus from being religious to being political.

The Renaissance period is said to be a period of cultural rebirth. It is a period of great intellectual and artistic achievements. The Renaissance period

marked the age of rediscovery of Greek and Roman civilizations. This period is also marked with a number of invention which include the invention of printing, the establishment of universities and fall of Constantinople which caused scholars of classical literature to spread all over Europe. The neo-classical age which is used in France to depict the Renaissance age went back to the ancient to revive or adopt the Greek and Roman practices. Renaissance period therefore is the re-examination of life.