

Humility should not avenge divinity because divinity is the more superior force to humanity and is capable of protecting or avenging itself properly because as seen here when humanity tries to avenge divinity, it always ends up with humanity being used as a tool only for destruction by divinity. Divinity should be left to avenge itself.

In the short story “Dead men’s” by Chinua Achebe a cultural clash between. The rather traditional and almost superstitious inhabitants of a small African village and the new headmaster of the school Michael Obi and his wife is shown.

Michael Obi and his wife Nancy are introduced to the reader as very progressive and modern people. Michael is considered to be a “young and energetic man” by the mission authorities and that is the reason why they send him to Ndume central school.

He absolutely rejects the “narrow views” of the “older and often less educated ones and instead prefers modern ones. In contrast to this “modern” and “progressive” couple there’s the population of the village, which is really traditional. This is clearly shown when a teacher tells Michael how important a path which connects the village shrine with the place of burial is for the villagers and that it crosses the school compound. The peak of the conflict is that Michael decides to close the path with “heavy sticks” strengthened with barbed wire”. As a

result of that the village priest, Ani, goes to see Michael and ask Michael to remove the fence.

The priest symbolizes the traditional attitude of the villagers and he does now meet Michael who symbolizes progress and western values. This leads to the series of unfortunate and mysterious deaths that makes the villagers retaliate by tearing down the school and destroy the compound. This ruins his work and when a supervisor arrives to Judge Michael's progress he writes a corrosive report commenting on the "tribal war" situation. This goes to show that divinity can avenge itself and does not need humanity.

Reuben Onyishi's clash of Divinity is a fictional text that captures cultural and religious conflicts where humanity fights for divinity and by so doing make themselves swords in the hands of divinity for their own destruction, having breached the principles of a superior force. These goes to show that Divinity is for better and stronger than humanity.

Humanity should rather be avenged by divinity.

## Question

Discuss Race and gender in Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and Alice Walker's *Color Purple*.

First of all we examine Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, which explores the plight of black women in the white dominated American society. The Novel depicts the Afro-American women as victims of both gender and racial abuse and discrimination. *Beloved* typically documents their lives as a struggle to claim back their sense of self, which they have either lost or never had.

In *Beloved*, Morrison depicts gender differences between male and female slaves. She underscores the particularly brutal form of double oppression suffered by black women on account of their race and gender. The main character escapes from her master and her work place at Sweet Home, Kentucky to Cincinnati after twenty-eight days in Cincinnati. Her former slave master arrives to arrest her, she resorts to killing her children in order to avoid them during the brutal life of slavery. As a female, she is seen as a breeder and was tacked down only to produce more slaves.

While race in the play is explored as Morrison depicts her Afro-American characters in such a way that their sexual identities are necessarily shaped by patriarchal society promoting not only sexism but racism and classism too. The plot

of the novel moves around the deplorable condition of racial discrimination resulting in the alienation of blacks, this is seen through the cruel and inhumane system of slavery practiced, enduring the unbearable condition of slavery. Small children were separated from their slave mothers who were sent out to work in the field by slave masters and left in the care of older and weak women. Sethe is separated from her husband and kills her eldest daughter, this makes her physically distant from her sons due to the brutality of the system of slavery scaring her two sons away. The experience of slavery is starkly manifested throughout the novel

In Alice Walker's *Color Purple*, we are provided with a disturbing and realistic account of gender and racism. It discusses the life of Celie, a poor black woman with a sad and abusive past, and Sphynx, another poor southern black woman with a sad and abusive past. Talking about gender, the women in the South were denied masculine power in being forced into domestic service and serving others. Black women are also forced to mind white men.

In racism, the whites in the United States were against the blacks, viewing them as inferior. Alice Walker portrays racism that black women in the South endured, such as when Harpo's wife Sofia gets asked to clean a house by the white mayor's wife. Sofia replies "hell no". The Mayor slaps Sofia for her comments, she later punched him.