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THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MEDIEVAL DRAMA AND RENAISSANCE DRAMA

WHAT is drama?

The term “drama” comes from a Greek word meaning “action”. In other words, drama is the specific mode of fiction representing performance. It is also a unique tool to explore and express human feelings.

According to Merriam Webster, drama is a piece of writing that tells a story and is performed on a stage.

MEDIEVAL DRAMA

Medieval period is also called the middle ages. It lasted from 5th to 15th century. It was preceded by Greek and Roman drama and followed by Elizabeth. One of the most importance features of the medieval literature is that most of the literary works were written in old English. Most of the early literatures of the middle age were also anonymous. Religion occupied an important place in the medieval literature such as death and resurrection, good and evil, heaven and earth. The medieval have two themes, the code of chivalry and courtly love were also themes of medieval drama. They are generally called romance or chivalric which generally is about the adventures of a knight errant having heroic and chivalric qualities.

RENAISSANCE DRAMA

It was a cultural and artistic event movement which bridges the gap between the middle age and the modern history. It dates from the late 15th to the early 17th century. The introduction of the printing press was a major event in this period which led to the flourish of literature. It was mainly influenced by the ideas of renaissance art, politics and religion. In addition, it was also heavily influenced by Greek and Roman literature. Drama and poetry were the most popular forms of renaissance literature.

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MEDIEVAL DRAMA AND RENAISSANCE

- 1. Music:** Medieval notation as well as polyphony. The composers of the medieval period were many, the choir sings and people are coming to watch. The church can no longer contain them and they took it out of the church and that is where renaissance drama began and they were called the secular. They learnt about another instrument called the dulcian.
2. They are both preceded by Greek and Roman drama or literature.
3. The mindset of the medieval drama was focused on God the world of the Divine people of the church held in utmost respect. In contrast, the people of renaissance held humanization of the divine; God was viewed as a supreme being. Both proved fascinating to study as they provide a look at the gateways of the knowledge of today.

REFERENCE

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