



Available online at www.jlls.org

JOURNAL OF LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTIC STUDIES

ISSN: 1305-578X

Journal of Language and Linguistic Studies, 17(2), 1261-1263; 2021

Immoral Characters In Iris Murdoch's The Black Prince And A Severed Head

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APA Citation:

Ananthan, P., (2021). Immoral Characters In Iris Murdoch's The Black Prince And A Severed Head , *Journal of Language and Linguistic Studies*, 17(2), 1261-1263; 2021.

Submission Date: 27/10/2021

Acceptance Date: 26/12/2021

Abstract:

Moral values in human beings life are most important. Ethics, Human values, kindness and social awareness are basics of all human beings. Characterization is the only key to have well image. Having good characterization is very simple which needs kindness to all human beings. This research article deals with the characters of Iris Murdoch who have no moral values in his life style. It gives the clear picture of twentieth century England. He does all sorts of immoral activities to achieve their dreams. Immoral character reveals here through this research article. They go towards external happiness. Twentieth century England people get only temporary happiness through immoral way. Only moral way of life style is needed to get real happiness and achievement.

Keywords: Immoral, Relationship, Character, Human.

Introduction

Twentieth century literature has given clear cut picture of freedom and oppression. It specifically focuses on modern human beings inner conflict. They have psychological crisis which has changed the minds of modern people. Literature is often internal and personal. Twentieth century fictions are influenced and dominated by philosophies and theories of the human mind Literature is the mirror of society which consists human's life. Life is very easy till we try to imitate other's life. In the name of success, people fight each other to get success. When they think about success, they should get success with ethics of life but most of the people forget to follow ethics and morality in their greedy life. Greediness misleads humans to reach their goal. They lead immoral life which does not have kindness, humanism, values and ethics. Character plays a vital role in human life. Human beings are respected through good character especially in our traditional bound Indian society.

Moral based characters are liked by all human beings. It is blessed to be live with morality. Most of the literary works guide us to follow the moral values in life always and also it indirectly shows the difficulties of immoral character. Mostly literature gives moral elements to the readers. In all the literary works, there may be moral and immoral characters. Immoral characters are considering as villainy character .but in this the Black Prince. Even the central character does all sorts of immoral activities .Bradley Pearson is a protagonist in *The Black Prince*. He does not follow any morality in his life. He lives as his wish without maintaining any moral values. He has illegal affair with Rachel who is the wife of Bradley's contemporary writer Arnold Baffin and her daughter who is just 18 year old Julian. She is young to be 58 year old Bradley's daughter. Bradley is fully negative character. He looks like abnormal human being who never follows basic human values in his life. This is the biggest tragic elements in this novel. This play revolves around psychological emotions, relationship with others and the selfness of Bradley. The image of Bradley is very worst in the eyes of the jury . Emptiness is there which is unable denied his words are indicative of the crucial feel. He takes strain to build up his image as writer. Julian, Daughter of Arnold is the twenty year old who falls in love with Bradley. She does not get success as a student. As a failure student, unfortunately she plans to be a writer who has basically illiterate in writing world. Her unwanted plan for being writer is totally failure. She has love affair with Bradley. Without understanding the problem of her love with Bradley, she leads her life. She has angrier. Her young hood is properly channelized. She understands the selfishness of Bradley at the time of his arrogant love with her. When Julian weeps, Bradley never take care on her . Lust is higher here than love. Readers as well as Julian realize the reality of Bradley finally. She is cheated by Bradley she is also example of immoral character.

In Murdoch's another novel *A severed Head*. is a satirical novel . Martin is the central character who is a wine merchant .His wife is very beautiful. Though he has beautiful wife, He has affair another one lady named Georgie but when he knows that Antonia, his wife plans to leave him. Palmer Anderson is the reason for her new plan. Martin is also ready to have love affair with Honor Klein who is very charm. No one can resist her beauties. This love affair gives entire changes in the lives of all in this novel. Martin is 41year old man. Martin and Antonia have no children. They do not have mutual relationship as married couple. There is morality in the character of Martin. It reflects till end of the novel. Georgie is his mistress. He never bothers about morality, ethics and goodness in his entire life. Antonia openly tells her affair with her friend, Palmer Anderson to Martin. This is not expected by Martin. Antonia plans to divorce him finally. When he comes to know this, He is fully collapsed..

Martin goes away from Antonio as well as London. Martin is not ready telling that he has affair with Georgie whereas Georgie is very eager to announce her affair with Martin to others. But Antonio and Georgie meet together and share details each others. Martin is the fully immoral man. The remaining characters are also immoral in their life When Martin comes to know that his brother, Alexander is having relationship with Georgie, He gets more upset and drink to relax from his worries In this critical situation. He has love with Honor. It gives recovery from his painful life. He goes to Cambridge for Honor. He stays there. That day he discovers that Honor has sex with palmer who has already relationship Georgie.

None of the characters in this novel are good in morality. Most of the characters have illegal relationships with one another. Murdoch uses the reality in her writings whereas she could not do the characterization with morality. A lot of illegal relationships we come across throughout the novel. Antonia decides to be with Martin only and she insists Martin to discontinue his relationship with Georgie. Alexander tells that he is going to marry Georgie. Martin feels irritations. Palmer informs that he is going to leave the country with Honor. Finally Antonio decides to marry Alexander. Georgie did a suicide attempt and she is unconscious now. Martin joins with Honor. No one has a permanent relationship. They give importance to physical relationships which does not give real happiness. Murdoch tries to tease her reader to think against this kind of immoral elements. Indirectly she insists her readers as well as twentieth-century England people to understand indigestive characters in day-to-day life. Readers can fill up gaps in the writings of Murdoch. The pace is provided here. Sympathy and imaginative power are the basic requirements of the readers to fill the gaps. She takes issues of England in the form of a novel.

Both central characters are the example of immoral characters. They are the representation of twentieth-century human beings. People of the twentieth century live what they like to have. They don't bother about others, especially social norms, ethics, and philosophy. Murdoch simply focuses the reality of twentieth-century England and the mind of the people. Iris Murdoch is a British novelist and philosopher; she is a thinker of reality. Murdoch has consistently remained true to the commitment of writing a novel. She explores the details of human life practically. She simply gives the image of twentieth-century England as she felt in her experience. But morality, reality, ethics, and philosophy are unfortunately not followed by the people of England.

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