

Post Modern Elements in Paulo Coelho's Selected Novels

Mr. T. Pasupathi¹ and Dr. M. Krishnaraj²

¹Ph.D Research Scholar, (PT) Kandasami Kandar's College, P.Velur

²Associate Professor in English Kandasami Kandar's College, P. Velur

E-mail: ¹pasupathi63@gmail.com, ²mkrishnaraaj@gmail.com

Literature is a fascinating discipline. Latin American Literature alternatively called Spanish- American Literature. It dominates region in all over Europe. Paulo Coelho is internationally acclaimed writers of Latin American literature for his debut novel *The Alchemist*. Coelho's eminent novel *Veronica decides to die*, *Brida* novel focuses of post modern elements like Magical realism, Pastiche, parody and so on. This present study discussed Post Modern elements in *Veronica decides to die*, *The Alchemist*. The second novel *The Alchemist's* protagonist is a shepherd boy known as Santiago. *Veronica decides to die* is a story about a young Slovenian girl who wants to end her life in frustration.

Origin and Development of Latin American Literature

Poems were the first form of oral literature in Spanish American literature. Poets were born in Spain, where they attuned to every trend back in Europe. Poem writers were recognized earlier, in Spain such as the Sevillian Gutierre de Cetina and Diego Hurtado de Mendoza lived in Mexico. Spanish born prose writer, who is Mateo Aleman author of picaresque novel. The first renowned poet in Latin American literature was Francisco de Terrazaz, who composed fine sonnets in the Petrarchan style. The literary style equipped in Latin American writing is Magical Realism. It is chiefly Latin American narrative strategy that is characterized of fantastic mythical elements into seemingly realistic attitude. It has been called as Magic Realism, that realistic attitude portrayed in an unreal manner. The term magical realism is a recent literary designation, first applied in the 1940's by Cuban Novelist Alejo Carpentier who recognized this characteristic in much Latin American. Many critics stated that magical realism is a natural outcome of postcolonial writing which must make sense of at least two separate realities, the reality of the conquerors as well as that of the conquered. An important exponent in magical realism is Gabriel Garcia Marquez. His novel *One Hundred Years of Solitude* focused this particular literary aspect exclusively. Latin American magic realists are Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Jorge Amado, Jorge Luis Borges and Julio Cortazar, and the Chilean novelist Isabel Allende.

An Over-View of Post Modern Element Magical Realism

Magical realism came in literature during modern writings. It depicts from the point of view of those who either their religion be Roman Catholic or some doctrine by indigenous or African origin. Carpentier published an influential collection of stories he had written. In the 1940s and early 1950s, *Guerra del Tiempo* English translation was *War of Time* a work that quintessential expression of magical realism. Asturias and Carpentier who thus successfully combined regionalist trends and avantgarde trends, are the bridge to the new Latin American novel of 1960s and 1970s, the years of the so called Boom of Latin American novel. Latin American literature promptly began with the movement Boom second half of 19th century. It came into culmination during 1950s and 1960s. The Latin American Boom formed the background of the cold war. It is the political turmoil all over Latin America. It rose to particular prominence globally during the second half of the 19th century. An important literary style equipped as well as in Latin America that is called "Magical Realism". This movement broadcasted the writers of Latin America into the world. Some critics would assert that Boom began in 1960s. Latin American literature established with Pre-Boom literature and Post-Boom literature.

Paulo Coelho's Veronika Decides to Die

Coelho's writing style could have been called unique in literary writing. He had depicted life, love and magic as a great impact chosen by him. Life struggles towards true identity of women; recognition of values in everyone's life is well established in his novels. He had given equal importance for traditional aspects, life values through his experiences travel around many European countries. Coelho's characters are soft in nature, seeker of something in their life.

Veronika Decides to Die in Portuguese title *Veronica Decide Morrer* which was published in 1998. The protagonist of the novel Veronika is a beautiful young woman from Ljubljana, Slovenia where she wanted to have perfect life, but she decided to commit suicide by in jesting too many sleeping

pill. While she waits to die, she decides to read a French magazine. After seeing an article in the magazine which they wittily ask where is Slovenia? She decides to write a letter to the press believe that she has killed herself because people do not even know where Slovenia is. Meanwhile, someone has gently crossed the window. She has not noticed anything. Her plan fails and she wakes up in Villette, a mental hospital in Slovenia, where she is told that she had a week to live. In Villette, she meets Zedka who is also frustrated because of her married life. Dr. Igor gives treatment in the mental asylum.

She hopes that she has to live furthermore. Coelho ends up this novel whether she died or not. She decided to die at present but she has not taken that particular decision. The author implanted his own personal experiences in various mental institutions. It is based around the subject of madness. *Manual of the Warrior of Light* in Portuguese title *Manuk do guerreiro da luz* was published in 1997 collection of Paulo Coelho's teachings summed up into one volume. The book's content was first published in various Brazilian newspapers between 1993 and 1996. It was completed in 1997, given a prologue and epilogue, and then published under its current title. The manual described the challenges the warrior faces and solutions to the problem.

Paulo Coelho's *The Alchemist*

The Alchemist in Portuguese title *O Alquimista* was published in 1988. Santiago is a young shepherd boy who is from Andalusia is the protagonist of the novel. He is a shepherd boy who believes recurring dream which he has every night. An old woman appears in his dream and she directs him to find the hidden treasure in Egypt's Pyramid. Early in his journey, he meets her, but she promises to give one tenth of the treasure. She took his palms into her hand and read thoroughly. Finally she regretted not to need the treasure which he finds later. Later he meets an old king then he sends his sheep to travel to Egypt. During his travel, he happened to see a beautiful young Arabian woman in the desert named Fatima. He falls in love with Fatima who explains her about his life. At the end of the novel, Santiago finds out where the treasure is. Thus, Fatima told him, she already knew a young boy from Andalusia comes here. And he fell in love with her. Coelho narrated the novel with symbol of sycamore tree, merchant's shop and Egypt's pyramid. Thus the novel ends like,

The wind began to blow again. It was the levanter. The wind that came from Africa. It didn't bring with it the smell of the desert, nor the threat of Moorish invasion.

Instead, it brought the scent of a perfume he knew well, and the touch of a kiss- a kiss that came from far away, the boy smiled. It was the first time she had done that.

"I'm coming, Fatima", he said (TA 160-161).

Conclusion

Magical Realist narrative as post colonial clash with history illustrating a conversation between the imbibed and privileged notions of imperial history and the subjugated voices within the colonial process. Such discourses are envisioning procedure affirmatively envisioning the renovation and restoration of reality. Magical Realism as postcolonial discourse offers a positive and liberating response to the coded of imperial history and its legacy of fragmentation and discontinuity. This present study aims to focus the core of Magical Realism, Quest for life treasure and The Nature of Insanity towards life of nature in Paulo Coelho's *The Alchemist*, *Veronika Decides to Die*. The next chapter discusses about the nature of life towards finding treasure in Coelho's masterpiece narrative *The Alchemist*.

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