

Character of Macbeth

Dr. P. Sankar yadav

A William Shakespearean tragic hero is brave and noble by nature. But his inherent weakness of character brings him in contact with the hostile agencies, circumstances calculate his ruin. A Shakespearean hero is good and noble at heart. But his error leads him to tragedy. There is a spiritual havoc and the tragedy comes inevitably. It is with Macbeth as with any other Shakespearean tragic hero like other tragic heroines. Macbeth is betrayed by an obsession. His ambition dominates his mental make up. He thinks of the sin of the action but he is unable to prevent.

Macbeth is the hero of Shakespeare's most poetic play with the same title. He is brave and powerful. He is gifted with a poetic nature. He is kind and compassionate. He helps King Duncan in definitely the theme of coward. All these virtues of life are ~~subordinated~~ subordinated to one weakness that is ambition for the crown of Scotland. There is a difference between the ~~Shakespearean hero~~ the Greek tragic hero and the Shakespearean hero. A Greek tragic hero suffers because he is destined to suffer. But a Shakespearean hero suffers on account of some defect of character. Macbeth's ambition is exploited by the external agencies like the three witches. His life partner is equally ambitious in life. She rebukes the

the dictates of Macbeth's conscience. She virtually drags him on the path of crime and murder. The atmosphere equally hostile as he views the dagger floating in the air and leading to Duncan's chamber. The murder of Duncan by Macbeth is the climax and the anticlimax inevitably follows: His conscience is shattered. His poetic heart ~~repents~~ repents, "All the Neptune's waters cannot clean the blood stains."

Once that he becomes a bloody murder, there is no check to his crime. His poetic fancy and weak conscience fail to prevent the murders of Banquo and the family of Macduff. The pitcher of his crime is full to the brim. His ambition is further intoxicated by the strong support of Lady Macbeth. He has full faith in the witches.

The death of the wife and the attack by Macduff shatters his hope of life. The news of the Lady Macbeth reminds him of the futility and unproductiveness of such an ambitious life. There is little wonder in the mind of the reader when Macbeth is beheaded by Macduff. Macbeth incarnates Shakespeare's conception of the villain as hero. The reader is sympathetic to the brave soul suffering greatly on account of own weak conscience.