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## **Folk Elements in Selected Novel of Raja Rao and R.K. Narayan**

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## Abstract

Raja Rao's description of India as a patch of triangular earth, girdled by the three swells, is a beautiful metaphor for the country's deep-embedded traditions and myth. The abundance of ancient texts, from the Puranas and Upanishads to the epics and holy writ, have provided India with a strong foundation that has withstood the test of time. This is why India is often referred to as being outside of history – it has been able to remain a stable society despite the passing of centuries. Moreover, the effects of India's ancient texts have been seen in its art: the colors, rhythms, and motifs that make up the country's art are a reflection of its past. In this way, Raja Rao's words can be seen as an ode to the country's long-standing place in history and its unique culture.

**Key words:** Folk element, Mythology, Assortment

## Introduction:

Human beings are concerned with human origin and development, interests and tendencies, feelings and emotions, effort, success, failure, frustration, love, hate, faith, devotion, loyalty, patriotism, and, above all, human literature and literary studies. to create Common behavior, virtues and vices. Language is a means of social interaction that is unique to each culture, passed down from generation to generation, creating identities and conveying a sense of belonging to communities and nations that nurture different cultures. In multicultural societies, the dominant language of the majority group becomes the social language, interacting with minority cultural groups but retaining their own language to interact with their own communities.

## Folk Literature:

Literature represents the language, culture, and traditions of a particular group of people, but is not merely a historical or cultural artifact. It brings us a world of new experiences. By providing different situations for people to engage and learn from, they can delve deeper into the human psyche. Instead of existing as an autonomous entity, it needs to stand in socio-political, cultural, ideological and aesthetic contexts and be accepted in different places at different times. Literature, whether spoken or written, characterizes the entire complex of unique mental, intellectual and emotional characteristics of every society.



## **Folk Element in Selected Novels of Raja Rao and R.K. Narayan:**

Consisting of the body or collection of myths that belong to people and deal with their origins, history, gods, ancestors and heroes, and folklore - the whole of what is orally transmitted, oral tradition is a major component of all literature. It is the process of extending myth and folklore. Thus, literary works tend to create or recreate specific stories that people consider essential to understanding the world, and can be viewed as mythological and folklore.

Raja Rao is one of a trio of pioneering Indian-English novelists. He is arguably the greatest writer India has ever produced. He is unprecedented in fictional technique and style. His pen finds its origins in the ancient wisdom and time-honored traditions of India. His writings and statements were the result of careful and conscious thought on the subject, and he seemed like a perfectionist. This perfectionism of Raja Rao made the hypothetical results poor, even after a long hiatus. He took the essence of Indian literature into his novel and made it philosophical. Swami Vivekananda was a great preacher who spread Indian philosophy to the world. He disseminated Indian philosophy through the culmination of his writings and held unprecedented exhibitions. For Raja Rao, India is not a geographical entity, but a metaphysical and spiritual reality that transcends geographical and temporal boundaries. Although he spent most of his life abroad, his soul was firmly rooted in Indian soil. Indianism, Brahmanism, rituals and rituals are expressed through him and from the mouth of native Indian Brahmins. His philosophical perspective is expressed in his *The Serpent and the Rope*, where rituals and rituals, myths and legends make up his Kantapura structural designs. *Kantapura* (1938) can be called the *Gandhi Purana* because Gandhi was incarnated as Rama. By killing a red alien representing the ten-headed Ravana, he proves the supremacy of good over truth and evil. This story is about the volatile stages of India's struggle for freedom. H. Between Gandhi's Dandy March of 1930 and the Gandhi-Irwin Agreement of 1931

Myths and myths have always been an integral part of literature. Inherited or invented, integrative mythology is the soul of literature. According to Northrop Fry, literature is a conscious myth, society develops its mythological narratives, which become the structural of storytelling, and its mythological concepts, the sun god, etc., are habitual image structures. Diane Wynn Jones said: "



## Use Of Folk Elements in R.K. Narayan's Literature

R.K. Narayan was an Indian novelist, known for his contributions to the Indian English literature. He was born in Madras (now Chennai), India, in 1906. He was one of the most popular writers in the 20th century, and his works have been translated into more than 20 languages. Narayan is best known for his works of fiction, particularly his stories set in the fictional South Indian town of Malgudi. His stories often focus on the struggles of ordinary people in contemporary India, and his writing style has been praised for its simplicity and matter-of-factness. He was also a master of the short story, and his works often contained elements of Indian folklore and Hindu mythology. His most famous works in the folk literature genre are *The Guide*, *The Vendor of Sweets*, and *Malgudi Days*. All of these works contain elements of folkloric themes and stories and are considered to be some of the most influential works in Indian literature.

R K Narayan was known for incorporating folk elements into his literature. His writing often featured stories and characters that were based on the everyday lives of people living in rural India. He often used local dialects and familiar characters to evoke a sense of nostalgia and connection with his readers. He also often used folk tales and songs to illustrate a particular point or to provide a context to the narrative. This was particularly effective in his novel *The Guide*, which used folk songs to add a certain air of mystery and intrigue to the story. Overall, Narayan's use of folk elements helped to create a unique and memorable literary experience for his readers.

R. K. Narayan's novels often draw upon traditional Indian folklore and culture, exploring the lives of ordinary people in the fictional South Indian town of Malgudi. In the novel *'The Guide'*, Narayan weaves in elements of folk tales to tell the story of Raju, a poor but ambitious man who is accused of defrauding a temple and is ultimately redeemed by a holy man. In *'The Dark Room'*, Narayan uses elements of Panchatantra, a traditional Indian collection of animal fables, to tell the story of a woman who has been neglected by her husband and is ultimately saved by a wise, compassionate judge. In *'The Bachelor of Arts'*, Narayan uses folk elements to portray the struggles of a young man to find his place in the world. Narayan's use of folk elements in his novels serves to provide a unique insight into the lives and culture of rural South India.



## Use Of Folk Elements in Raja Rao's Novel

Raja Rao was an Indian writer who made significant contributions to Indian literature, particularly in the area of folk literature. He wrote several books about the folklore and culture of India, including *The Cow of the Barricades*, *The Serpent and the Rope*, and *Kanthapura*. He also wrote extensively about the oral traditions of India, examining the stories, songs, and rituals of the Indian people. His writing was heavily influenced by his Indian heritage, and he was a strong advocate for Indian independence and self-determination. He was awarded the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Award for his work in Indian literature. Raja Rao's contributions to folk literature opened the door to a deeper understanding of the culture and traditions of India.

Raja Rao's writing is known for its use of folk elements to bring Indian culture and philosophy to life. He often drew upon his own experiences and traditional Indian culture to craft his stories and characters. He was particularly adept at weaving in traditional Indian elements like proverbs, folk songs, and religious symbols to enrich his works. His use of these elements was not only to create a more authentic atmosphere, but also to explore the deeper meanings and implications of Indian culture. He also used Indian English, a unique language that incorporates both Indian and English words, to further explore the nuances of his writing. Raja Rao's works are a prime example of how folk elements can be used to create a richer, more meaningful literary experience.

Raja Rao's novel, *Kanthapura*, is well known for its use of folk elements. Rao draws heavily from the folk culture of South India, weaving in folk stories, rituals, symbols, and music to create a vivid and engaging tale. He also uses folk idioms and language to create an immersive experience that transports the reader to the world of the novel. The use of such folk elements provides a unique and captivating perspective on the struggles and triumphs of the characters in the novel.

### Conclusion:

The story is told in Indian mythology. As a symbol of a fundamental truth in a society with a strong oral tradition. They usually deal with some extraordinary things that influence literature, drama and art. Many types of mythology are prevalent in Indian society. Some deal with cosmological events and key moments in an individual's life cycle. Space mythology deals with the origin of the universe. Myths about the human life



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cycle deal primarily with birth. Adolescent marriage baptism, initiation. like death. Festival myths are widespread in India. Here it is appropriate to quote Saat Vaar and Aaath Tyohar, a proverb commonly used in Indian society. This means that one week is his seven days, but in seven days he celebrates his eight festivals. Thus, myths and myths are the embodiment of basic and common truths that shape the way people think. Major episodes of mythology can reveal different shades of meaning and shape deeper layers of the psyche. India is a continuation. India is constantly changing, and its timeless gods and goddesses, their exploits and stories, depend in many ways on the people of India. Writers and critics alike have seen it through different lenses.



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