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## **HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITEARTURE**

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**Introduction:** the story of English literature begins with the germanic tradition of the anglo-saxon settlers the most significant turning point from about 1100 is the development of middle English differing from old English in the addition of a French vocabulary after the Norman conquest.

*Abstract: History of English literature Convey the depth of thought, richness of emotion, an insight into the character It lead us intellectually and emotionally and demons are understanding of our history, society and, and each of our lives. English literature is a part of an important subject for study for students majoring in English education.*

## IS OUR LITERATURE OUR HISTORY?

*The study of literature can enrich our lives in all kinds of ways .this study is a part of their culture heritage will stop the study of literature lends to an understanding of history ,are certain sometimes ourselves. with literature we see the countries and people as they were.*

### IMPORTANCE OF HISTORY IN LITERATURE

*History Plays a fundamental role in shaping literature. Every novel , play or poem one reads is influenced by the political context in which it is written, the people that the author knows and the wider society that frames the entire work.*

*The difference between history and past .when used as nouns , history means the aggregate of past events , whereas past means the pillar of time that has already happened , in contrast to the present and the future .History is also verb with the meaning to narrate or record .*

### BENIFITS OF LITERATURE:

*Reading great literature exercises the imagination. We enjoy stories ; it is a pleasure to meet characters and to live in their world , to experience their joys and sorrows . in a practical sense , an active imaginations helps us to perceive truth , make value judgments and deal with the complexities of life in creative ways .*

*Literature influences us and makes us understand the every walk of life Narratives in particular ,inspire empathy.*

### Glimpses about history of English literature

- *The history of English literature starts with the Anglo Saxons and Germanic settlers in Anglo-Saxon England in 5<sup>th</sup> century .*



- *The oldest English literature was in old English which is the earliest form of English and is a set of Anglo frisian Dialects.*

- *Beowolf is the earliest and most popular work in old English literature as the Normans conquered England middle English replaced the old English and was used by the father of English literature Geoffrey Chaucer in his famous work, The Canterbury tales. Further, William Shakespeare came to be considered as the most iconic and greatest writer in the history of English literature as he is revered for his legendary plays and sonnets. Here is the outlet history of English Literature:*

*Old English(Anglo- saxon period) 450-1066*

*Middle English period 1066-1500*

*The Renaissance 1500-1600*

*The Neoclassical Period 1600-1785*

*The Romantic Period 1785-1832*

*The victorian Age 1832-1901*

*The Edwardian period 1901-1914*

*The Georgian period 1910-1936*

*The Modern period Early 20<sup>th</sup> century*

*The postmodern period Mid -20<sup>th</sup> century .*

*The golden age in the history of English literature brought a gallery of authors of genius and literary masterpieces. It*

*was a dynamic age filled with intellectual and religious revolutions s and upheavals. As a new humanism surged ,there were many significant works like Sir Thomas Hoby's Castiglione and Sir Thomas North 's Plutarch. add Edmund spenser is another prolific names in Golden age who is also known as the poets poet his famous poem in 1579 ,The Shapaheardes calender 'under 89 sonnets got highly popular .Sir Philip sidney's Archadia , 'Michael Drayton, Sir Walter Raleigh, 'Ben Johnson' are some of important names in the medival English literature.*

*There was a group in the golden age which was known as the university Wits this group would include noted alumni writers from the University of Cambridge and University of Oxford. John Lilly ,Christopher Marlowe, Thomas Nash ,George peel were some of the celebrated names under this group .John Donne*



*also played a great role in metaphysical poetry and beautiful sonnet's of Elizabethan age. Sir Francis Bacon popularised the scientific method of analysis and wrote many intellectual and analytical essays in this period. Moreover literary dramas have a crucial role to play in making this age Golden .*

*The first comedy under this age was Ralph Roister Doister by Nicholas Udal. From Hamlet King Lear ,Othello and Julius Caesar to A Midsummer night's dream; As you like it and Romeo and Juliet .William Shakespeare contributed many historical dramas and tragedies as well as romantic plays and comedies to this Golden age Notable writers of the Elizabethan era also include John Milton John Webster Thomas kid ,George peel, Ben Jonson amongst others.*

## **RESTORATION AGE**

*Another revolutionary change in the history of English literature was brought forward by the restoration age which immensely affected by political conflict of the late 17<sup>th</sup> century John Dryden emerged as one of the prominent literary figures of this age. he wrote a famous heroic poem Astra Radix and was also known for Mac Flecknoe . To attack his contemporaries he wrote mock poems and wrote essay on criticism .Oliver Goldsmith's The traveller and the deserted village was highly popular in this era .Another prominent writer for the restoration literature was John Milton ,a well known controversialist who wrote the famous Paradise Lost.*

## **The 18<sup>th</sup> century English Literature**

*Concluding the Restoration period of the history of English literature the 18<sup>th</sup> century witnessed the publication of political literature as well as the advent of novels. Robert Harley, Daniel Defoe and Jonathan swift were amongst the major political writers of this era. During the mid 18<sup>th</sup> and late 18<sup>th</sup> century, novels were introduced in the world .Deniel Defoe experiments add with the prose narrative and wrote a novel called Robinson Crusoe he was one of the streamed and prominent writers introduced novel writings of the literary world in prose writing Richards steel and Jonathan swift were all some of the popular names in prose writing as renowned for their satirical style of writing.*

## **The Romantic period**

*The Romantic age of the history of English literature experimented with the earlier Forms of poetry and brought many interesting genre of prose fiction .The key feature of the poetry of this period was the emphasis laid on individual thought and personal feeling William Blake, William Wordsworth and*



*Samuel Taylor Coleridge were a brilliant poetry geniuses of this era as they curated glorious works rooted in nature, love, romance as well as contemporary thought. The later Romantics were Shelley, Keats and Byron who carried on the legacy in the 20<sup>th</sup> century .The novels of this era were written as a form of entertainment to the now literate public and were written as a form of entertainment to the now literate public commentary on many prominent events such as French Revolution the gothic novel is an important invention in prose fiction and some of its prominent writers were Horace's well fall Matthew Lewis and Radcliffe and Mary Shelley on the other hand Jane Austen stood by the conversation form of prose fiction through popular romantic novels like pride and prejudice .*

## ENGLISH LITERATURE

*English Literature the body of written works produced in the English language by inhabitants of British Isles including Ireland from the 7<sup>th</sup> century to the present day. The major Literatures is written in English outside the British Isles are treated separately under American literature, Australian literature ,Canadian literature, and New Zealand literature. English Literature has sometimes been stigmatized as insular. it can be argued that no single English novel attains the universality of Russian writer Leo Tolstoy's war and peace or difference writer Gustave Flaubert's Madame Bovary. Yet in the Middle Ages the old English literature of these subjugated saxons was leavened by Latin and Anglo Norman writings, eminently foreign in origin in which the churchmen and the Norman conquerors expressed themselves from this combination emerged a flexible and stable investing instrument exploited by a Geoffrey Chaucer and brought to supreme application by William Shakespeare. During the renaissance. the renewed interest in classical learning and values had an important effect on English literature ,as an all arts and ideas of Augustan literary property in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and reverence in the 19<sup>th</sup> century for a less specific ,though still selectively viewed, classical antiquity continue to shape the literature .All three of these impulses derived from a foreign source ,namely the Mediterranean basin. The Decadents of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and the modernist of the early 20<sup>th</sup> looked to continental European individuals and movements for inspiration. Nor was attraction towards European intellectualism dead in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, for by mid -1980s the approach known as structuralism, a phenomena predominantly French and German in origin ,infused the very study of English literature itself in a host of published critical studies and university departments .Additional influences was exercised by deconstructionist analysis, based largely the work of French philosopher Jacques Derrida . Further, Britain's past imperial activities around the globe continued to inspire literature in some cases wistful ,*



*in other cases hostile. Finally ,English literature has enjoyed a certain diffusion abroad, not only predominantly English -speaking countries but also in those other countries where English is the first choice of study as a second language.*

*English literature is therefore not so much insular as detached from the continental European traditional across the channel .It is strong in all the conventional categories of the booksellers list in Shakespeare it has dramatist of the world renown in poetry a gender notoriously resistant to adequate translation and therefore difficult to compare with the poetry of other literatures, it is so peculiarly rich as to merit inclusion in the front rank. English literature's humour has been found as hard to convey to foreigners as poetry if not more so-- a fact at any rate pre permitting best over of the label I do idiosyncratic; English literatures remarkable body of travel writings constitutes another counter thrust with a charge of insularity in autobiography biography and historical writing English literature compares with best of any culture and children's literature fantasy essays and journals which tend to be considered minor genres are all fields of exceptional achievement as regards English literature .Even in the philosophy .writings popularly thought of as hard to combine with literary value thinkers such as Thomas Hobbes John Locke ,David Hume, Jone stuart Mill and Bertrand Russell stand comparison for lucidity and grace with the best of the French philosophers and the masters of classical antiquity.*

## **FOUNDER OF ENGLISH LITERATURE:**

### **Geoffrey chaucer**

**Geoffrey . he was born in London sometime between 1340 and 1344. He was an English author and poet philosopher, and diplomat. He is also referred to as the father of English literature**

## **FIRST ENGLISH LITERATURE**

**The earliest forms of English, a set of Anglo Frisian dialects brought to Great Britain by Anglo-Saxon Invaders in the 5th century , are also called old English. Beowulf is the most famous work in old English, and has achieved National Epic status in England, despite being set in Scandinavia.**



## **FATHER OF ENGLISH NOVEL:**

**Henry Fielding**

He tried to advocate a healthy philosophy of life. He imbued his writings were the very Solomon purposeful stop on these Grounds sir Walter Scott rightly call him the father of English novel.

## **LITERATURE AND HISTORY**

Literature and history, however, observed differences: Literature maybe figments of the imagination or events devoid of truth that have been written down , why history is made up of events that really happened. Literature is present during the era of the ancient world.

## **OLD ENGLISH LITERATURE:**

The old English language or Anglo Saxon is the earliest form of English. The period is a long one and it is generally considered that old English was spoken from about 8600 to about 1100. Of the poems of the pagan, in particular width and Beowulf.

The greatest English poem, Beowulf is the first English Epic the author of view is anonymous. In this Epic poem he oval says to Denmark with a band of Warriors to save the king of Denmark.

The difficulty encountered in reading old English Literature lies in the fact that the language is very different from that of today. There was no rhyme in old English poems instead they used alliteration

## **MIDDLE ENGLISH LITERATURE:**

The term middle English literature refers to the literature written in the form of English known as middle English, from the late 12th century until the 1470 during this time the answer standard a form



of London-based English became widespread and the printing press regularised the language.

### Five types of English literature

- Fiction
- Non Fiction
- Drama
- Poetry
- Folktale

### THREE MAJOR TYPES OF LITERATURE

- Drama
- Epic
- Lyric

Plato, Aristotle and Horace originally conceived of three genres.

### ENGLISH LITERATURE

The English language has developed over the course of more than 14000 years .the earliest forms of English a set of Anglo Frisian dialects brought to the Great Britain by Anglo Saxon Invaders in the fifth century are called old English.

The English language spread throughout the world with the development of the British Empire between the late 16th and early 18 centuries. At its height it was the largest empire in the history. During the nineteenth and 20 centuries of these colonies and the USA started to produce their own significant literary traditions in English. And the last hundred plus years numerous writers from Great Britain both the Republic of Ireland and northern Ireland The USA , and members of other former British colonies have received the Nobel Prize for works in the English language, more than in any other language.

### Objective of writing research paper on literary research:

*Any off literary research is to find out actual meaning of relevance and hidden linkage of this*





*sutra in the current practice example Definition of Rassayna a given in various sutras give close more research in resign as even scope and limitation of research can be defined .*

*The goal of research paper is to bring together Different views for my evidence, and facts about a topic from books, articles and interviews then interpret the information into your own writing.*

### Literature based Research paper

*All literature review is a comprehensive summary of previous research on the topic the literature review service scholarly article's books and other sources relevant to a particular area of research. The review showed a numerate described summarised objectively evaluate and clarify the previous research.*

#### Major goals of Literature review

*To determine what exists in the scholarly literature.*

*To identify possible gaps in the scholarly literature for further research .*

*To inform the research topic, theory and associated methodology .*

*To compare and contrast against findings resulting from current study.*

### MIDDLE ENGLISH LITERARY PERIOD

*The later middle English literary period The medieval English literature comprises of a diverse range of works as the population of England during this time was literate and a considerable portion was also bilingual and trilingual. Geoffery Chaucer is almost the highly regarded poets within the period of 1342 - 1400 and was renowned for his courtly love poetry include the famous "Canterbury tales" thought it was left incomplete ; " The House of Fame", and "The Book of Duchess". He became one of the core political servants in British court .William Langland's famous religious works including "piers plowman" also deserves a crucial mention as it represents another popular genre of this period of English literature which was secular and religious prose. During the era of Medieval English Literature ,the most esteemed works also include morality plays, miracle plays and interludes 'Everyman' was noted Morality play of the time and Miracle plays were taken from the Bible and were frequently performed in churches.*

### CONCLUSION

- Studying English literature opens up a world of inspiration creativity, one also developing



skills that are essential for today's global environment it is a chance to discover how literature and makes sense of the world through stories points novels and plays.

- The study of literature leads to an understanding of our history comma and sometimes ourselves. With literature we see the countries and people as they were. To experience the different climates language and tone literature also gives glimpses of much earlier ages.

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