

Global World of
Shakespeare

Translations, Adaptations, Transformations

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A Comparative Study of *Auchitya* Theory with Special Reference to Shakespeare's Plays: *Othello* and *Macbeth*

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A systematic exposition of the principles of poetics in India began with Bharat's *Natyashastra* though its traces started peeping through the earliest known works in Sanskrit like Vedas and Puranas. Similarly, literary criticism in the west may be traced back to the earliest Homeric hymns, while a systematic presentation of its underlying tenets is to be seen in the writings of Plato and Aristotle. Thus, literary criticism has been developing for around two thousand years simultaneously at both the places. After going through a comparative study of both the traditions, we come to know that the literary critics and artists, whether Indian or western, claim one element indispensable underlying all the theories and that is *Auchitya* or Propriety.

In fact, the concept of propriety has loomed large in the speculation of Indian Acharyas over ages and it has come out in two-fold ways, first, harmony with social sanction and second, harmony with artistic expression. Right from the ancient time, the behaviour which is based on *Auchitya* or propriety is viable and that which is inconsistent with it, is not approved by society. In a way, the society consists of the group of behaviours. The relationship between parents and children, teacher and disciple, brother and sister, wife and husband and man and man is based