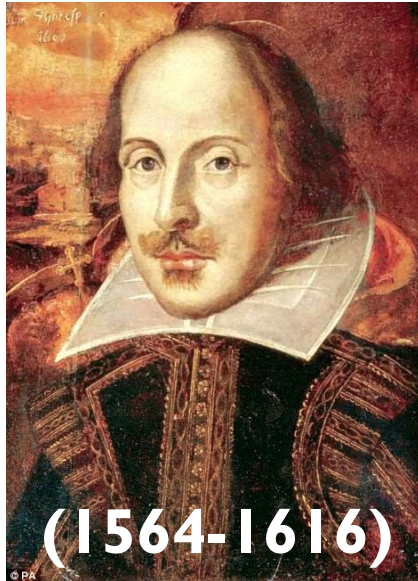


# Shakespearean Tragedy



**By**

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## **These are Shakespearean tragedy**

***1. Hamlet***

***2. Othello***

***3. King Lear***

***4. Macbeth***

***5. Antony and Cleopatra***

***6. Romeo and Juliet***

***7. Julius Caesar***



## ***According to Aristotle...***

***Tragedy is an imitation of action that is serious, complete and of a certain magnitude. It is in the form of action not of narration. Through pity and fear it affects the proper catharsis.***

**The hero in a Shakespearean tragedy is a person of high rank such as king, prince or a military general.**

***For example:***

***Hamlet is a Prince***

***Othello is a Military General***

***Lear is a King***

***Macbeth is a Military General***

***But in modern tragedy, a hero is common man like us.***



***Shakespeare used supernatural elements in his drama in order to satisfy the taste of his audience. He knew what the people wanted.***

***Hamlet started with the introductory speech of the ghost and Macbeth started with entry of three witches.***

***A Shakespearean hero is responsible for his downfall.  
He has tragic flaw in his character.***

***His struggle is of two types:***

***I. Internal Struggle ( In his mind with self)***

***II. External Struggle (with society)***

## Elements of Shakespearean Tragedy-

- ❑ **The Fatal Flaw** – All of the heroes in Shakespeare's tragedies have a weakness in personality that eventually leads to their downfall.
- ❑ **Fall of the nobleman**- Many characters in his tragedy have extreme wealth & power , making their downfall more tragic.
- ❑ **External pressure**- Tragic heroes often fall victim to external pressure from others , such as evil spirits and manipulating characters who play a role in their downfall.
- ❑ The hero has opportunities for redemption but never takes advantage of these in time, which leads to death.

# Features of Shakespeare's Tragedies

- ❑ Shakespeare's tragedies begin in an ordered society but end in chaos.
- ❑ Change is often reflected by changes in the environment, with storms or other happenings in the natural world.
- ❑ The audience often develop sympathy for the hero.
- ❑ The protagonist is usually a person of good character who is destroyed by his own ego or desire for self-advancement.



**The basic difference between tragedy and comedy is –**

***A tragedy ends with the death of its hero, sometime hero and heroine both. The atmosphere is full of horror and terror.***

***A Shakespearean tragedy is a five act play ending in the death of the major characters.***

***A comedy ends with the ringing bell of marriage of hero and heroine. The atmosphere is full of fun and laughter. There is boisterous humor and songs in comedy.***



**THANKS**  
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