Quest Journals Journal of Research in Humanities and Social Science Volume 10 ~ Issue 5 (2022) pp: 61-62

ISSN(Online):2321-9467 www.questjournals.org



# Research Paper

# Feminist Aspect in the Works of Virginia Woolf and Sylvia Plath

# JYOTSNA CHAUDHARY

(MA English (Final semester), Department of English, Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies, Faridabad, Haryana, India)

# Dr. Jayashree Hazarika

(Assistant Professor, Department of English, Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies, Faridabad, Haryana, India)

## **ABSTRACT**

This research paper is an attempt to elaborate the feminist aspect in the selected works of Virginia Woolf and Sylvia Plath. In the proposed research paper, Virginia Woolf's A Room of One's Own is presented from a Feminist Perspective, Virginia Woolf is a cultural within the patriarchy that prevents women from reaching their creative potential. She used her fictional character Judith, Shakespeare's fictional sister, to explain that a capable woman in Shakespeare would have been denied the opportunity that Shakespeare enjoyed. Woolf argued that patriarchal education and reading practices were a condition. "My room retains the original feeling that a woman talks to a woman. "Widow" is a poem by Sylvia Plath about the sadness, and suffering of the widow after the death of her husband. This poem is autobiographical, but at the same time universal. "Mushroom" is another poem by Sylvia Plath about women's resistance to social acceptance. Mushrooms are a metaphor compared to women. of statues. The aim of this paper is not only to advocate women's right but to raise them equally as men, irrespective of their caste, creed, color.

Received 05 May, 2022; Revised 17 May, 2022; Accepted 19 May, 2022 © The author(s) 2022. Published with open access at www.questjournals.org

#### I. INTRODUCTION

**Virginia Woolf:** Life and Works- Every writer is a product of the era in which he was born, worked and created. Virginia Woolf was born on January 26, 1862 in London. She was not just a writer who reflected the times, but a zeitgeist. Mrs. Woolf, a typical modern novelist, believed that the purpose of the author in his or her work was to examine her life. She started writing from the established tradition of the novel. Her first two novels, The Voyage out and Night and Day, are mostly traditional. However, she soon recognized the insufficiency of traditional novels in, and her art soon matured.

**Sylvia Plath:** Life and Works- Sylvia Plath (27 October 1932 – 11 February 1963) was an American poet, novelist, and short story writer. Her most notable achievement was the genre of her confessional poetry, which often reflected her intense emotions and her struggle with depression. Despite her complex background and life, she has won her posthumous Pulitzer Prize and continues to be a popular and widely studied poet.

Virginia Woolf as a Feminist Writer- Virginia Woolf is one of the maximum well-known and distinguished modernist literary writers of the 20th century and is taken into consideration an image of the feminist movement. This essay hyperlinks to Essay, "My Room," which displays her increase as a feminist writer, her contribution to gender equality, and her reminiscence of her position as a person in society. Virginia became born in a Victorian environment. She grew up in with seven siblings in a wealthy family. Her father became one of the maximum well-known essays and thinkers of the time. Therefore, Woolf became privileged and housed in the "Victorian Cultural Center". Nevertheless, she became now no longer glad together along with her position that her society imposed on her. During this time, it became nevertheless not unusual place for males and females to have separate balls with unique roles and related behaviors.

**SYLVIA PLATH AS A FEMINIST WRITER** - Sylvia Plath is one of the writers who has endorsed femininity in all walks of life, even in her poems called Sylvia Plath's feminism. She sees women as equal to men. She raised her voice against the rule of men. Sylvia always believes that society is depriving women of their legal and ethical rights. Society should give women the same status as men. As a woman, she feels responsible for fighting for women's rights.

# FEMINIST ASPECT IN VIRGINIA WOOLF'S A ROOM OF ONE'S OWN

A Room of One's Own written in 1929 was a classical novel of the feminism. Feminism is glued to the essay called 'A Room of One's Own'. Virginia Woolf investigated the cultural, economic, and educational handicap of patriarchy In the Room of one's own (1929), which prevented women from reaching their creative potential. She, along with the fictional character Judith (Shakespeare's fictional sister), revealed that Shakespeare's talented wife would have been denied the opportunity to enjoy it. Woolf studied the careers and works of female writers such as Jane Austen, George Eliot, and Brothers Sisters, and found that the patriarchal education system and reading practices kept women away from men (or "Question"). These values are male centric, but perhaps a universal for internalizing the aesthetic and literary values created / adopted by patriarchal male writers and critics. It was accepted and promoted as a product.

# FEMINIST ASPECT IN SYLVIA PLATH'S POEMS WIDOW AND MUSHROOM

In "widow" Sylvia Plath explores the sufferings of women who suffers the death of the man who is closest to them. She portrays the pain that widow feels after her husband's death and relates it to her own troubled relationship. Widows are pictured as suffused with immense amount of sadness. They devote their lives to the memory of their departed husbands and are lacking hope and positivity about their present lives. Plath split from her husband who was English poet Ted Hughes because of his adultery so she is not writing autobiographically about widowhood. However, she may have felt stranded, lonely and obsessed with her disloyal husband after their separation. Plath may also be exploring the connection between being a widow and a victim of adultery. In her poem "Mushrooms," Plath sees mushroom growth, determination, and population growth as a woman's struggle for status, self-rule, and, sovereignty, as she sees, the inescapable controlling of the majority. Side by side.

## II. CONCLUSION

This study places particular emphasis on the contribution of feminism to women's lives and what women should have on an equal footing. Undoubtedly, Virginia Woolf and Sylvia Plath use different types of imagery, metaphors and symbolism to emphasize feminist themes in their works and poetry. Her work reflects her childhood life. Sylvia Plath was one of the people whose problems and troubled life not only led to her suicide, but also influenced most of her work. Sylvia Plath's poems often deal with dark themes, reflecting her problematic relationship with her father, female oppression, and her own experience of depression. There is no doubt that Woolf left her mark in the literary world, but one of the biggest of these is that of her campaign. From the beginning, she was a writer who couldn't understand why men and women were treated differently and the latter so unfairly. Through this call for equality, Woolf began incorporating feminism into her literary work. She did it dramatically in the publication of her novel The Room of One's Own.

#### **REFERENCES**

- [1]. David. (2000), Free Market Feminism, Liberty Press.
- [2]. Snaith, Anna. (2003) Virginia Woolf: Public and Pivate Negotations New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- [3]. Susan M. (1985) Virginia Woolf and London: Sexual Politics of the City Chapel Hill University of North Carolina Press.
- [4]. Mina. (2004) Virginia Woolf: İstanbul: Press.
- [5]. Woolf, Virginia. (1945) A Room of one's Own, London: Penguin Books.
- [6]. The Collected Poems. Edited by Ted Hughes, Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc., 1981. ---. Letters Home. Edited by Aurelia Schober Plath, Faber Paperbacks, 1983.