

HISTORICAL AND LITERARY REPRESENTATION: DRAWING PARALLELS IN GIRISH KARNAD'S TUGHLAQ

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ABSTRACT

This paper is an attempt to trace similarities between the character 'Tughlaq', and the historical Sultan, to delve into the literary creation and analyze Karnad's delineation of an idealist king who was 'ahead of his times'. Tughlaq is a chronicle play, and it is interesting to study it both in its historical and contemporary context. The play was first written in Kannada (1964), was translated into English and was published in 1972. Since then it has been produced and presented on a stage umpteen number of times, and is now prescribed in Universities and colleges as one of the important texts by an Indian author. It is pertinent to find out the ever-swaying relevance of the play, which is evident in its acceptance and laudable response from the audience despite almost five decades since it was originally written. The paper seeks to study the appositeness of the play at the present times, thematically and as a literary piece of work in terms of its dialogues, use of language and lucidity.

KEYWORDS: *Historicity, Tyranny, Visionary, and Contemporaneity*