

Ancient Myth versus Modern Myth: A study of the Mythical Characters in Shiva Trilogy by Amish Tripathi

Nilam Joshi¹, Prof. Dr. Prakash Vekaria²

¹Research Scholar, Department of English, Shri Govind Guru Uni., Vinzol, Panchmahals

²Supervised, Department of English, Shri Govind Guru Uni., Vinzol, Panchmahals

Abstract

The study is based on the Shiva trilogy written by Amish Tripathi who is one of the greatest Indian authors. Amish Tripathi, who focuses on the Indian myth in his all novels as the key theme. There are three novels in the Shiva trilogy. First is the immortality of Meluha, the second is the secret of the Nagas and the third and last is the oath of the vayuputras. Shiva is the central character of the novel. There are many gods and goddesses in Hindu mythology, but Amish devotees lead him to Rama, Shiva, Sati, Ganesha, Kali, Daksh, and Virini and included the greatest saints and avatars of Shiva like parasurama, Bhrihaspati, Virbhadra. Amish represent ancient mythological characters in modern form.

Keywords: myth, mythology, character, ancient, modern, Shiva.

Introduction

Characterization of the novels or any writing is the most essential part on which the success of writing depends. The Amish worship of Shiva mirrors in Shiva's trilogy. In novels, characterization helps readers to understand the author's motif. The Novel's character is completely dependent on ancient mythology and also on shiva mahapurana but Amish Tripathi's representation in modern mythology. Amish's thought of human's journey from shiva to mahadeva completely won the heart of readers. All characters thought and representation make the novel more interesting and valuable.

Characterization of the Shiva Trilogy

There are many gods, goddesses, saints, disciples, and avatars in the novels. All of them have their importance, history, and mythology.

Shiva

Shiva, the auspicious, the survivor, and the destroyer. We know Shiva by the many names like mahankal, Nikanth, Shambhu, Shankara, Mahesh, Naresh, Chandrashekhar, Pasupati, Bholenath, and many others names. We worship them in many forms like posters, ideals, and lingo. There are twelve jyotirlingas which are situated in different places of the world. somnath, mallikarjunam, Ujjain, omkareshvaram, paralya, darukavan, Varanasi, gaumatit, Himalaya etc.

सौराष्ट्रे सोमनाथं च श्रीशैले मल्लिकार्जुनम् ।

उज्जयिन्यां महाकालम् उंकारममलेश्वरम् ॥१॥

परल्यां वैद्यनाथं च डाकिन्यां भीमाशंकरम् ।
सेतुबंधे तु रामेशं नागेशं दारुकावने ॥२॥
वाराणस्यां तु विश्वेशं त्र्यंबकं गौतमीतटे ।
हिमालये तु केदारम् घुश्मेशं च शिवालये ॥३॥
एतानि ज्योतिर्लिङ्गानि सायं प्रातः पठेन्नरः ।
सप्तजन्मकृतं पापं स्मरणेन विनश्यति ॥४॥

We know in the ancient myth, shiva the god of gods Mahadeva and his many incidents and the mythical story about Sati's love, Paravati Vivah, Samudra Manthan, Ganesh's birth, Kartikey's birth, and many other incidents and characters.

Amish Tripathi is the biggest worshipper of Shiva so he has chosen. Shiva is a superhero with a modern and unique perspective. Though the story of amish tripathi is a completely different story from the original story of Shiva. All religions of the world are governed by the faith in one's supreme who is considered as supreme Hindus believed in multiple gods. In many plans of Hindu mythology like Shivpurana, skandha purana, and Markendey Purana. Shiva is a supreme god and Shakti is the supreme deity and Brahma and Vishnu are secondary gods oriented from her. Shakti is generally identified in the form of the goddess Paravati, who consorts and worships Shiva. She completed him and become the Shiva Shakti the ardhnareshvar. Shiva is purush and Shakti is prakriti. Shiva is portrayed on canvas as a handsome young man who wrapped tiger skin around his waist. Serpent around his neck .his garments are human skulls and bones. he sits on a big rock of Kailash mountain. most of the pictures of Shiva are present with aadhyasakti Parvati and his two sons, Ganesha, and Kartikey. He has third eyes on his forehead. . he is known as the wielder of the trident means trisuldhari. know vaghcarmdhari because he wears tiger skin around his waist and a serpent around his neck bringing the name for him "Nagnath". Master of the moon called Somnath. Bhalchanradhari bears Chandra (MOON) on his head. There are many names like "Gangadhar" Trinetra, jatdhari, veerbhadra, and bhairava, Mahesh, Mahadev, shambhu, mahankal, Sadashiv, bholenath, Shankar, Nandish Bhootnath, Ramesh natraj, mahamruntyujay, sanyasi, aum. He is known as a creator as well creation. Shiva abode in Kailash, Himalaya mountain. So he is called kaiashnath and Kailashpati. Parvati knew an Annapurna. He is a survivor as well as destroyed. Today, the story of the mythology whose hero is mythical also attracts people. Amish Tripathi tried to interpret the common man who was brought from the society and received the title of Mhadev by his honesty, and valour. The myth of Shiva as a destroyer. Shiva's wrath, Shiva as a sanyasi. Natraj, his two sons, and Shiva as tripurary. Shiva destroys the somras factories. Shiva returned with pasupatshastra when he know about sati's death and destroy Devgiri.

We, all know about Shiva- the god of gods, but know only their different names. In our history of Indian literature especially in the field of mythology, there are lots of books about him. New-born authors of Indian literature in all languages always try to represent history and mythology in a modern and attractive way. One of these our great author Amish creates Shiva's image on his canvas. He represented Shiva as a simple human being and depicted his journey from man to god. He conveys the message to mankind that man becomes god by his karma.

Shiva is a common human being who belongs to Kailash Mountain. Shiva is the prime character in the novel who is a Tibetan settler to meluha and leader of a tribe. In meluha, he drinks somras and his throat

turns blue, so people accept him as Nilikanth according to the ancient story. Shiva becomes the destroyer of somras. He married Sati and become the father of Kartikey. At the end of the story, the sari has been murdered. Shiva returned to Kailash Mountain from where he belonged.

Sati

The Sati verbal meaning is that who devoted his husband to satire is a form of Shakti. Sati also known as Dakshyani is a goddess of longevity and marital felicity. The suite is the wife of lord Shiva. The sari has a frightening temper, but she is also loving by nature. According to Hindu mythology sati and Paravati are aspects of Adhya Shakti who helped Shiva come away from his isolation and involve himself in the samsara. Sati is famous for the incident in which she immolated herself in the sacrificial fire when her husband has been humiliated by her father. According to Amish's Tripathi sati's character is a strong woman character who is the daughter of Daksh and Virini she spent her life as Vikarma because she had given birth to a dead child. We show some unnatural theories of vikarma. She is a princess of meluha with whom Shiva falls in love. Sati married Shiva and becomes part of his journey of survival of meluha at the end Sati has been murdered. This reflection of sati's agnisnan also remembered Shiva's rudraswarupa.

Sati is the strong female character who is the female protagonist of the novel. She falls in love with Shiva but does not agree because she is cursed as a vikarma. She had been first married to chandrathwaja and gave birth to the dead child. He husband met the death on the same day and she become a widow and was announced as a vikarma and also untouchable. He debates with Shiva on the topic of vikarma. Shiva says, " I felt it from the moment I know about it. I was a vikarma long before I know sati(page 206)

Shiva proposed to her and married Sati. sati is a great fighter and courageous girl. She is a great wife and mother also and dies in martyrdom. Amish Tripathi described sati's beauty in infinite words and introduced Sati as an angel. She rides leading a horse on a chariot with long hair. Her eyes are blue and stunning. Her flawless face was a concentrated image as a skilfully maneuvered chariot.

In the mythical tales after the separation from the sati Shiva comes to earth to find sati. When Shiva found her yoni at kama rupa in Assam. she took the form of linga and reunite into it where they remained permanently united.

Nandi

Nandi is savari of shiva. A skipper in the Meluha's army forced who is completely devoted to his Prabhu.

Veer Bhadra

Vir Bhadra was born from the jata of Shiva when sati pushed herself to the sacrificial fire, Shiva's anger to the point of a mountain. he took one hair Vir Bhadra born. In meluha, Virbhadra is a skipper of the military and his nearest beloved friend. His title vir bhadra earned by once crushing a tiger without any assistance.

Daksh

Daksh is the father of sati. Daksh Prajapati is a son of Bhrahma .he married the daughter of Mannu, Prasuti, and the daughter of Viran, Virini. He has 84 daughters from both wives. 27 known as Nakshatras in Hindu mythology who were married to chandrama. 17 married to Kashyap, one married to Kamdev, ten married to Yamraja. Brahma gave the responsibility of Milan of Shiva and Shakti to Daksh. Daksh worshiped and adhyashakti was born in Daksh's life. In Amish 's trilogy, Daksh is a father of sati and kali who was the king f meluha. He abundant kali as she was vikarma. at the end of the story, his character bears some negative and villainous qualities.

Virini

Virini is the daughter of king viran and the second wife of Prajapati Daksh. She gave birth to 60 daughters. They got adhya Shakti and become the mother of sati. In the trilogy, her character is silent and she has the qualities of the best wife and best mother ever. she is the queen of Meluhan who bears mother-figure qualities.

Ayurvati

In our ved, upanishda and Purana Ayurveda play a very important part. Dhanavanari is the avatar of Vishnu who is known as the father of Ayurveda. Ayurvati is Vaidhya (chief of medicine). Ayurvati is an old lady and another respected lady who is fit to cure any infection. She is one who earlier understands that shiva is their survival “ Nilkanth”

Kali

Kali is the form of Shakti. Kali was born from the hair of Shiva's jata when Shiva was in Rudra form. According to Kali puran which is the major puran of the 18 purans. Devi was born from the hair of Shiva's jata known as dakshiyani or Bhairavi. In the Shiva trilogy, Kali is the twin sister of Sati who was isolated from her by her parents after her birth because she was vikarma. She is the queen of nagas and rises Ganesha like his mother. Her bond with Ganesha is the holy and strongest bond in the novel.

Ganesha

Ganesh is also known as the Ganapati and Vinayaka. Ganesh is a god of new beginnings, wisdom, and luck, remover of obstacles. He was born from the body of Paravati. Shiva cuts his head and later joins the elephant's head. He is the younger child of Shiva and Paravati and married to Ridhdi and Siddhi. In the Shiva trilogy, Ganesh is the oldest child of Sati. When he was born Daksh announced him dead as he was brought into the world with physical affirmatives. Ganesha was raised by Kali and become the king of the Naga army forced.

Parasuram

Parasuram was the son of jamadgni and renuka. He is known under the name of Rama. According to Bhagavad Gita, he was one of Ram's avatars. He destroys 21 times the Kshatriya race from the Earth. Parasuram got an axe from lord Shiva. Parasuram is known for his love for righteousness. He was known to be the Guru to Bhishma, dronacharya, and Karna. according to some myths he gave sudarshan chakra to Vishnu.

Brahaspati

Brahmana Angira, is the son of Manas. He was very smart professional and intelligent. He knows Vedas and Shastras. Once he began to Shankara's prayer and focused on kasha for 30 thousand years. Shiva appeared and says he is praised for his devotion so whatever he wants Shiva fulfilled his desire. He said that he had done so much dedication to be the lord of all deities and that he would be honored and valued in the universe. His name is Brahaspati. He is great and also called Vachaspati. Linga prayer established by him Bhrama made him king of all deities. Angira got this position as a Shiva worshipper. Brahaspati is short and medium size. He has a white and long beard and knowledgeable eyes.

Seigneur Manu

Manu is known as our father and progenitor of human civilization. Brahaspati tells Shiva in the novel. "Yeah, we think so Lord Manu lived more than eight thousand years ago in any case. He was probably a South Indian prince. On the Narmada River, where the Earth and the great ocean start the Tamil land is Sang."

Tamil is the greatest state in India and also the wealthiest state in India. Manu's gotra is Pandya who ruled for many years. Shiva was surprised to hear all this. Brahaspati understood Shiva that this was not shocking. He has created a socially equitable world. He gave up his strength to fulfill all his ambitions. In ancient India, the word for a priest is Pandit derived from the family of Manu Pandya. The Sanskrit word for human Manav comes from the word Manu or children of Manu. Manu is the title of the 14 rulers of Earth. The text named Manusmriti is named after the Manu.

Another strong female character

Amish Tripathi is the finest creator of Indian literature especially in the characterization. He has drawn some strong female characters and developed them through his imagination. All his female characters bear all qualities like beauty, strength, and honesty. All female characters left the finest impression on the reader's mind. Principal female characters are:

Sati

Kali

Ayurvati

Tara

Anandmayi

Uma

Conclusion

Shiva trilogy is based on Hindu mythology and is also a representation of them. Shiva is the protagonist of the novel. Through his character Amish Tripathi validation of the novel's theme. Shiva's journey through Meluha from finding evil passed through Shiva's destroyer, Sati's death, Daksh's death, Shiva's wrath, Shiva as a sanyasi, Shiva and Shakti, Shiva with son, Shiva with Kali. Amish Tripathi's characterization makes the challenge for the modern intellectual reader.

Reference:

1. Tripathi, Amish. *Immortal of Meluha*. Chennai: Westland, 2016. Print.

2. Tripathi, Amish. The Secret of Nagas. Chennai: Westland,2017. Print.
3. Tripathi, Amish. The oath of vayuputras.chennai: Westland,2017. Print.
4. Vyas,Ved.Shivmahapurana.Surat: sahyasangam,1999.print
5. Vyas, Ved. Shivmahapurana.Dreamland2008. Print.
6. Kumari, Neh, and Rajesh Kumar “The correlation of Myth and Feminism as presented in Amish Tripathi Shiva trilogy.” The Criterion: an international journal in English. Vol .8. Issue IV August(2017)
7. Mukharji, Moumita. Critical Analysis of Amish Tripath’s Shiva Trilogy: Rewriting Myth. Journal Of Advanced Multidiscipari Scientific Research (IJAMSR). Vol 3. Issue 12,2020.
8. <http://hi.m.wikipedia.org/wiki>
9. Galchar, Hardas. And Gandhi, Ankit. “mythological character in the shiva trilogy: an analytical study of the Novel of Amish Tripathi” Journal of Advanced and Scholarly Research in Allied Education. Vol. 16 issues no 5, April-2019, ISSN 2230-7540.
10. Patnaik, Devdatt. Seven Secret of Shiva. New Delhi: Penguin Books India, 2007.