

W.SHAKESPEARE`S LEGACY IN 21 CENTURY

Samadova Sohiba Uchqun qizi

Student Chirchik State Pedagogical University, Uzbekistan

E-mail: sohibasamadova2004@gmail.com

ABSTRACT. *In this paper the life and work of the famous English writer William Shakespeare and his legacy in the 21st century will be considered. William Shakespeare (.26 April 1564 – 23 April 1616) was an English playwright, poet and actor. He is widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's pre-eminent dramatist. His extant works, including collaborations, consist of some 39 plays, 154 sonnets, three long narrative poems, and a few other verses, some of uncertain authorship. His plays have been translated into every major living language and are performed more often than those of any other playwright.*

Key words: *tragedy, heritage, plays, literature, comedy, playwright, trilogy.*

INTRODUCTION

Shakespeare was born and raised in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire. At the age of 18, he married Anne Hathaway, with whom he had three children: Susanna, and twins Hamnet and Judith. Sometime between 1585 and 1592, he began a successful career in London as an actor, writer, and part-owner ("sharer") of a playing company called the Lord Chamberlain's Men, later known as the King's Men after the ascension of King James VI of Scotland to the English throne.

MAIN BODY

Shakespeare's career as a playwright flourished during the Elizabethan and Jacobean eras, spanning from the late 16th century to the early 17th century. He wrote a diverse range of plays encompassing history, tragedy, comedy, and romance,

often exploring universal themes such as love, jealousy, power, ambition, and the complexities of the human condition. His works are known for their rich language, complex characters, and profound insights into human nature. Some of Shakespeare's most famous plays include:

"Romeo and Juliet" (1597) - A tragic love story of two young star-crossed lovers from feuding families in Verona.

"Hamlet" (c. 1600) - A revenge tragedy about the Danish prince Hamlet, who seeks to avenge his father's murder.

"Macbeth" (c. 1606) - A dark and bloody tragedy about ambition, power, and the corrupting influence of unchecked ambition.

"Othello" (c. 1603) - A tragedy about jealousy, manipulation, and the destructive power of suspicion, set against the backdrop of Venetian society.

"King Lear" (c. 1605) - A tragic exploration of aging, family, and madness, centered around the titular king's descent into madness and despair.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream" (c. 1595) - A romantic comedy set in a magical forest, featuring a cast of fairies, lovers, and amateur actors.

"The Tempest" (c. 1610) - A fantastical romance about betrayal, forgiveness, and the power of reconciliation, set on a remote island inhabited by the sorcerer Prospero.

In addition to his plays, Shakespeare wrote numerous sonnets, which are among the most celebrated in English literature. His 154 sonnets explore themes of love, beauty, time, mortality, and the poet's relationship with his muse. Shakespeare's legacy extends far beyond his literary achievements. His works have been translated into every major language and adapted into countless stage productions, films, operas, ballets, and other artistic forms. His influence can be seen in literature, theater, music, and popular culture around the world.

In recent years, there has been a renewed interest in Shakespeare's works and legacy, driven by innovative adaptations, digital technologies, and interdisciplinary scholarship. Projects such as the "Shakespeare's Globe" theater in London, which aims to recreate the experience of Elizabethan

theater, and the "Shakespeare First Folio" digital archive, which provides access to high-resolution images of the original texts, highlight the ongoing relevance and significance of Shakespeare's cultural legacy in the 21st century.

In conclusion, William Shakespeare's enduring legacy as one of the greatest playwrights and poets in the English language is a testament to the power of his words, characters, and ideas. From his humble beginnings in Stratford-upon-Avon to his lasting impact on literature, language, and culture, Shakespeare's influence continues to be felt and celebrated around the world, ensuring that his works will be cherished and studied for generations to come.

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