

The Soft-Lift Skills of William Shakespeare: An Analysis

***Manoj Kumar Sortha**

Abstract

In the current context of globalisation, soft skills—which were in reality acquired via shared family life and observation—are valued highly. People's views have changed significantly as a result of the altered circumstances and the advent of the nuclear family paradigm, and children in particular are losing out on important educational opportunities and life skills that come from their families. As a result, many individuals struggle with soft skills like having a pleasant, adaptable attitude and interacting with others. Thus, the need for formal training and development of soft skills has increased. One may have picked up soft skills inadvertently through their families, communities, and culture, as well as from books. Because literature reflects life, individuals who read it have a more accurate understanding of the world and its inhabitants. Among the greatest literary works, William Shakespeare's plays and poetry are loved by all people and are a priceless resource for developing one's personality and learning life skills.

Keywords

Globalisation, soft skills, character, mindset, emotional responses, human interactions, aesthetic quality, and charisma

INTRODUCTION

People are giving soft skills, which were really learned by living in groups and observing others, greater significance in today's globalised world. The nuclear family model has robbed individuals, especially children, of important information and education (life skills) imparted by family. Thus, the importance of teaching, training, or grooming in soft skills has increased. Soft skills may be defined as desirable traits for certain occupations that do not only rely on information gained but also on interpersonal skills, social capital, friendliness, optimism, listening, ethical conduct, honesty, responsibility, teamwork, and creativity. One may have picked up soft talents inadvertently through family, friends, the community, or another nice soul. As an example, consider how a nurse calms and engages with her patients. Can everyone learn how to behave well at work? Soft skills are thus crucial for success in the future. Particularly readers have a better understanding of the world and make wiser judgments. They learn how to behave in real life and develop caution because they see the world through the eyes of literary works and the people that inhabit them.

Critical Analysis and Discussion

In recent years, people have forgotten the value of literature and how it shapes values by ignoring its

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significance. They often overlook the fact that literature contains a priceless store of information that, in addition to being entertaining and enjoyable, is pertinent to individual lives. Soft skills may be taught by using appropriate literary examples, as was previously said. Soft talents are those that may be learned by outstanding works and are connected to one's attitude, conduct, emotions, decision-making, interpersonal interactions, and problem-solving ability. Among the great authors, William Shakespeare is renowned for his works and characters that have an attraction to all people and appear to be quite similar to them. Alfred North Whitehead once stated, "Literature is where the concrete viewpoint of mankind finds its expression". Literature has been forever. It endures the test of time and continues to be relevant throughout eras and generations. The past, present, and future are all addressed in it. It allows one to learn without really going through the difficult or unpleasant situations in life. It also captures the time when it was written. One of these all-time great masters and innovators is William Shakespeare. He has authored plays, poetry, and critical writing. He is credited with founding modern English theatre because of the wide range of plays he wrote, each with a unique topic. All social classes are represented in life in his artwork. His works are a part of the social environment, both now and in the future. His characters have a universal quality and are enmeshed in societal structures that fervently hold onto beliefs and feelings.

Shakespeare's characters may be identified with by anybody, regardless of age, and people today are abandoning literature by undervaluing its significance and the ways in which it instils a rich culture. Some of his characters' speech is particularly priceless and noteworthy. Even now, people still use them as quotations. William Shakespeare was an English poet and playwright who is regarded as the greatest playwright in history as well as the best writer in the English language. He is referred to be the "Bard of Avon" and the national poet of England. He is credited with 38 plays, 155 sonnets, and two lengthy narrative poems. Even though he was a well-known poet and playwright while he was alive, his fame did not reach the heights it has in more recent decades. William Shakespeare is praised in particular by romantics, although the Victorians held him in high esteem. He was constantly adopted and rediscovered by researchers in his senior years. Even now, in the age of globalisation, privatisation, and liberalisation, his plays continue to be well-liked. As far as their subjects, they will generally be affected and manage selling out, murder, desire, power, aspiration, and envy, as well as numerous other human characters and their feelings that are nearer to the core of everyman and that they find around them and once in a while experience in their lives. They get the most noteworthy gestures of recognition for managing subjects that reach from expansive satire to verifiable wistfulness. His sonnets also address issues of love, beauty, and death in addition to plays.

People from every culture and age may identify with his characters, whether they are small or important ones, since they are so genuine and show authentic feelings. The magnificent plays of William Shakespeare have been read and performed throughout the years. They are known for their wit, frailty, and strength and have been translated into many languages. His effect may be seen in films not just in English but also in other languages throughout the globe, moving from the stage (theatre) to literature after that. Shakespearean writing has established itself to be authentic literature since even after five hundred years, people still read and perform his plays. Studying them

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may help validate beliefs and aesthetic standards, whether they are ancient or new, since they have long been a source of satisfaction and pleasure. For the current age, they provide rich contexts for investigating cultural identity, power dynamics, and other intricate human concerns like gender, class, race, and ethnicity. He is one of the very few playwrights who has been successful at both composing comedies and tragedies. His plays are a treasure trove for future generations to draw upon in order to gain tremendous, enduring knowledge for their lives. They combine popular appeal with intricate characterisation, lyrical grandeur, and philosophical depth. William Shakespeare is not a graduate of a university, but he had a variety of life experiences at various times that gave him the experience he needed to create some of the greatest masterworks in human history. He has written comedies, tragedies, historical dramas, and tragicomedies during the course of his theatrical career, which spans four time periods.

Shakespeare portrays human traits in their most authentic form. Strong humanization is seen in his characters. They are actual people with the majority of typical human emotions and flaws, not gods or demons. The indecencies and imprudences of people, their violations and interests, their sufferings and misfortunes, their shortcomings and assets, underhanded partners and open foes, misleading brown nosers and legitimate companions, and the horrible fate and vindictive heart that seize and kill them are totally portrayed by him.

His characters are so believable that everyone may recognise them in practically any society or culture, including Hamlet, Othello, King Lear, Polonius, Laertes, Macbeth and Lady Macbeth, and Banquo. Furthermore, individuals of all classes and generations often employ a few of their astute and insightful sayings as quotable lines in their daily conversations. Most of the time, Hamlet's quandary, "To be or not to be," confronts each and every one of us.

The majority of his quotes may be utilised in personality development training since they teach valuable life lessons and warn against the perils of acting on emotional impulses, like in the famous tragedy "Othello."

Shakespeare's plays remain popular today despite globalisation and modernity because they not only contain a wealth of knowledge and truth but also provide rich forums for the examination of difficult subjects like gender, race, class, and ethnicity as well as cultural identity and power systems. For instance, even in today's world, a worried parent will counsel his son in the same way that Polonius counsels Laertes in Hamlet: "Neither a borrower nor a lender be; for loan oft loses both itself and friend." The worried parent will also make a truthful statement about one's thinking and attitude, such as "the mind that makes hell out of heaven, and heaven out of hell." Similar utterance we find in Hamlet, "There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so" How realistic it is! The next phrases make it clear that even while making decisions, one should follow the advice to "listen to everyone's remarks but utilise your knowledge in making a conclusion. "Give every man thy ear, but few thy voice; Take each man's censure, but reserve thy judgement"

Some of his romantic quotations include "But love is blind, and lovers cannot see the pretty follies that themselves commit." "The course of true love never did run smooth." "Love looks not with eyes,

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but with the mind. All that glitters is not gold” are so prominent, that they have become very common in day to-day usage For inspiration and encouragement in one's personality development, consider the following quotes:

“our doubts are traitors, and make us lose the good we oft might win, by fearing to attempt” “Cowards die many times before their deaths; The valiant never taste of death but once.” “How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is to have a thankless child!” “Nature teaches beasts to know their friends”. “All the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand.”

Shakespeare's plays include an underlying philosophy of life; it may have been mostly unintentional, but the gist may be inferred from the following expressions:

“All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances; And one man in his time plays many parts”

Macbeth makes the following remarks on how transitory and pointless human existence is: Life is like a limping shadow, an unreliable partner. that struts and frets on stage for his hour And ten is no longer heard; it is a fable. Stupid story with plenty of noise and fury that means nothing.

Shakespeare often conveys his opinions on life's insignificance via his fools. Shakespeare's finest works explore human emotions that are prevalent in contemporary society, such as the desire for power, envy, flattery, love, and retribution, drawing readers closer to his characters. He seems to think that there is evil—evil that is always at odds with good. In the struggle between good and evil, the good is sacrificed, and the bad is likewise punished. It takes us right to the source of the issues that face us with life's biggest mysteries. He seems to be sympathetic towards nobility and grandeur of life; yet, seems to be of the view that the gods are on the side of good:

“As flies to wanton boys, Are we to gods, They kill us for their sport”

Shakespeare says as much in King Lear. Desdemona is slain despite her perfect virginity, Cordelia is killed despite her maternal love and compassion, Duncan is killed despite his modesty and composure, and Hamlet ultimately perishes despite his high qualities of heart and mind. Shakespeare's portrayal of himself is fresh and distinctive because he was always developing and changing to fit the times.

CONCLUSION

Many of his sayings and exchanges include insightful concepts that might be used to the teaching of soft skills. His characters teach us a lot about how to live our lives and how to comprehend human emotions. Even after five hundred years, his timeless dramas in blank verse are still read and performed in several languages. He is a shining star in the galaxy of literary greats that shed light on ignorance's gloom. He was a poet who, unlike other mortals, studied the mysteries of nature and gave his best interpretation of them to other creatures.

Dr. Johnson is known as "the poet who held up his readers an accurate mirror of manners and life," to

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use his words. His characters are not influenced by local traditions; rather, they are the true offspring of everyday mankind, as observation will always reveal.

William Hazlitt, a fervent admirer of Shakespeare, observes that "he possessed a mind representing centuries past and present. People around him did not respect one another. His brilliance shined on everyone equally, including the smart and the ignorant, the ruler and the beggar. Additionally, Shakespeare triumphantly overcame the criticism of scholarly writers of all stripes.

To sum up in Thomas Carlyle's word "The Indian Empire will go, at any rate someday, but this Shakespeare does not go, he lasts forever with us, we cannot give up our Shakespeare!"

Shakespeare's plays may be reaped from more and more that one reads them, we can claim with pride. No other dramatist's plays have received as much attention from readers in as many different countries and languages and publications. Shakespeare is without a doubt a memorable playwright for as long as the Sun and the Moon are there. Shakespeare started his life at a Globe theatre and ascended to a worldwide level, giving an example for young people to aim high and pursue their ambitions. As a result, William Shakespeare is regarded as one of the best playwrights in all civilizations.

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