

Similarities and Differences b/w philosophy & Literature

د فلسفې او ادب تر مینځ شخړه او هم اهنګي

Habibullah Kakar (PhD. Scholar, Dept. of Islamic Studies, International Islamic University, Islamabad)

Abstract:

The existence of god Apollo and goddess Muse in the Greek mythologies reflects the poetic and literary nature of the ancient Greeks. The sudden rise of philosophy, exploring the world from a natural perspective in contrast to that religio-poetic supra-natural worldview, gave birth to Socrates as a Gadfly in Athens. His objections developed a quarrel between philosophy and literature in the writings of Plato, drawing a separating line between the two disciplines. The Poetics of Aristotle reasserted its value on one side and taught the way to good creation on the other one. Ptolemy Soter's pluralist Alexandria brought the Eastern Hindu and Zoroastrian mystical thoughts within philosophical framework, from where the Cladius Ptolemy made a way to the Plotinus's Neo-Platonism. Plotinus's Enneads through Porphyry inspired the whole Jewish, Christian and Muslim philosophical writing in middle Ages. Here for the philosophical type of mystics, and for their esoteric ideas, literature especially poetry becomes an influential tool of expression. The same nature of poetry taught the humanistic philosophy side-by-side with philosophy during the renaissance till the modernism separated philosophy from natural and social science as well as from literature and poetry, limiting it to the epistemology. In the modern writings of Kierkegard, Friedrich Nietzsche Robert Creeley, William Shakespeare, Leo Tolstoy and Jean Paul Sarter, influencing philosophy by literature and literature and poetry by philosophy and expressing them in each other's forms ended the so-called quarrel between philosophy and literature.

Key words: Philosophy, Literature, Greek mythologies, Neo-Platonism, Christian.