A STYLISTIC ANALYSIS OF ARUN KOLATKAR'S AN OLD WOMAN

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ABSTRACT:

The present research paper 'A Stylistic Analysis of An Old Woman by Arun Kolatkar' is related to stylistic analysis of the selected poem 'An old Woman'. An old Woman concerns the collection of Jejuri poem. It was written by Arun Kolatkar. It is a collection of 31 poems, every poem dealing with unusual characteristics of the Jejuri in Maharashtra. The poem suggests a diversity of linguistic idiosyncrasy and therefore is chosen for its stylistic study. This research paper assumes the analysis of linguistic aspects.

KEYWORDS: *Phonological, Lexical, and Graphological.*

STYLISTICS:

Stylistics is a main branch of linguistics; it is belonging to the methodology of the linguistics. Stylistics is the systematic study of the style used in language by the writer.

According to Wikipedia, "Stylistics, a branch of applied linguistics, is the study and interpretation of texts of all types and/or spoken language in regard to their linguistic and tonal style, where style is the particular variety of language used by different individuals and/or in different situations or settings. "

According to Nina Nørgaard, Rocío Montoro and Beatrix Busse, "Stylistics is the study of the ways in which meaning is created through language in literature as well as in other types of text. To this end, stylisticians use linguistic models, theories and frameworks as their analytical tools in order to describe and explain how and why a text works as it does, and how we come from the words on the page to its meaning".

According to Lesley Jeffries and Dan McIntyre, "Stylistics has been defined as a sub-discipline of linguistics that is concerned with the systematic analysis of style in language and how this can vary according to such factors...."

LEVELS OF STYLISTICS ANALYSIS:

The following are the major levels of Stylistics and their relation with the technical term in language analysis. The present research paper studied the poem according to levels.

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1) Phonological level:

Phonology is the study of the sound system in the personal language in common, examining not the creation of the sounds themselves, but how the sound produces different meaning and the patterns and rules by which they do.

2) Graphological level:

Graphology is the study of the writing system of language. In the largest sense graphology, suggest to the image of language. It depicts the languages printed system as punctuation, spelling, alphabet, paragraph structure and style.

3) The lexical level:

The lexical level is the study of personal vocabulary. The word used to show the vocabulary of the language. The word lexis and vocabulary are always used similar but they are different. Lexis is the full glossary which creates the body of language.

INTRODUCTION TO THE POEM 'AN OLD WOMAN'

Arun Kolatekar was a famous Indian poet. He wrote Marathi and English language. Jejuri is a collection of 31 poems. All poems pivot Jejuri place. Arun Kolatekars tone is ironic and he focuses on Indian religion. The Jejuri is a place of pilgrimage. Several people visit the place. Therefore Indian religious place becomes the subject of research and study because people visit various proposes. Psychologically people visit the religious place to pay their tribute. Arun kolatekar depicts the same case in the poem. Old women hold the sleeve of man and demand fifty paise and after she is ready to show him the jejuri place. The merciful man gives her money. The poet throws the light upon beggar at the holy place.

THE THEME OF 'AN OLD WOMAN'

The major theme of poems is keeping what is important in point of view. In the poem, old woman is depicted a realistic point of view. The woman is helpless and poverty position. Vaghya and Murli have protection but the woman didn't have. She is alone. The old woman held the sleeve and demand the paise. The tourist gave her paise and she changes the won mood. This is a potable condition of woman.

Stylistics analysis of 'An Old Woman': An Old Woman

An old woman grabs
 hold of your sleeve
 and tags along.

She wants a ?fty paise coin.
 She says she will take you
to the horseshoe shrine.

You've seen it already.
She hobbles along anyway
 and tightens her grip on your shirt.

 She won't let you go.
You know how old women are.
They stick to you like a burr.

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You turn around and face her
with an air of ?nality.
You want to end the farce.

When you hear her say,
'What else can an old woman do
on hills as wretched as these?'

You look right at the sky.
Clear through the bullet holes
 she has for her eyes.

 And as you look on
 the cracks that begin around her eyes
 spread beyond her skin.

And the hills crack.
 And the temples crack.
And the sky falls

with a plateglass clatter
around the shatter proof crone
who stands alone.

And you are reduced
 to so much small change
 in her hand.

1) Phonological Level:-
        Poet is a generally conscious artist who possesses a natural emotion for a sound and rhythm. Traditionally the poem makes use of sound texture in consonance with the sense of the poem. And the sound texture formed the various patterns. The most patterns are repetitive use in the poem. The categories like alliteration, sound symbolism, assonance and consonant clusters.
        The poem 'An Old Woman' is written in free verse with natural rhythm and tone. The sound patterns are suited to the beggar at the holy place.

1) **Rhyming words:** Rhyming words are following in the poem - already-anyway, say-sky, holes- eyes, crone-alone, reduced-hand.
2) **Imagery:** It is a style of Arun Kolatekar, He uses clear and expressive language. Imagery is concrete in the poem.

"Clear through the bullet holes
She has for her eyes
And as you look on
The cracks that begin around her eyes
Spread beyond her skin" (20-24).

3) **Alliteration:** The poet uses repetition and alliteration in his poem to indicate luminous Style of the poem.

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"And the hills crack
And the temples crack
And the sky falls" (25-27).

4) **Simile:** A simile is a type of a figure of speech which compares two different words by the "like" and "as" which are not common.

"They stick to you like a burr" (12).
"Clear through the bullet holes
She has for her eyes" (20-21).

2) Graphological level:
1) **Question Mark**- the question mark is used in the poem to indicate the pathetic condition of the old woman and produced emotional discourse.
2) **Full stops: -** The poet used full stops 15 times in the poem.
3) The comma: - The comma used five times in the poem to point out the situation and interpretation of the line.
4) In the poem have 11 stanzas, 33 lines and poem is completed.
5) The structure of the poem is very simple in the simple words,
6) The lines are short but the pattern of two stressed syllables.
6) Poet uses graphological pattern as a full stop, comma, apostrophe and question mark

3) The Lexical level:
　　　　The poem is imagist wherein poet generates a concrete image of a poor woman in the visual image. The lexical pattern creates the image of a woman in the mind of readers. The carefully chosen words in the poem reveal the reality of the woman. That she is a lonely, Old Wretched, clear, through, alone- descriptive word added to convey a realistic picture of the old woman at the holy place. This explains the high density of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs, adjective, preposition and conjunction.

Noun	pronoun	Verb	Adverb	Adjective	Prepo--sition	Conju nction
Woman, grabs, sleeve, Tags, Fifty,Praise, coin, shrine, shirt, , burr, face, air, Finality,End, Farce, Hills, , sky, Bullet holes, Eyes, skin Temples, plateglass, proof crone, , hand.	You, she, It, They, her, what, that, who.	Grabs, hold, wants, say, will, take, hobble, grip, Go, know, are, stick, like, turn, want, hear, can, do, look, has, spreads, look, crack, begin, falls, clatter shatter, stands, are, reduced.	Along, already, anyway, around, else, Right.	Old Wretched, Clear, Through, alone.	Of, along with, to, on, as, At, through, for, on, that, around, beyond, to, in.	And, as, For, And.

CONCLUSION:
　　　　In this way, the stylistics approach is applied to the poem for analysis systematically. The stylistics approaches completely get around about poets biographical, psychological life to understand the meaning of the poem. The study of the poem is an authentic and final storehouse of its meaning and

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linguistics choices the poem is analyzed well-established linguistics practices as denoted in this study. The clean insight of the poem does not exist in the normal literary analysis.

THE SCOPE OF THE STUDY:

This research paper shall be completely stylistic. The researcher used stylistics levels as phonological, Graphological, and Lexical.

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