

Welcome to module #5.

In unit one of the paper END 103 modern

Indian writing in English translation.

The title of this module is Rebati:

characters, salient themes, and features.

In this module,

we're going to cover the following areas.

major characters,

salient themes, and features related

to language and literary techniques.

As a learner at the end of this module,

you will be able to identify and

examine the characters in Rebati,

trace and evaluate the salient themes.

The nodal themes in the short

story with the as well as analyze

the features related to language

and literary techniques used.

In this particular short story.

There are five major and two minor

characters in the short story.

The five major characters are Rebati are

Her father Shyambandhu Mohanty, titular character Rebati and

school teacher Basudev, Rebati's grandmother, and Rebati's mother.

The minor characters are the zamindar and the man who helps the Mohanty family during plague.

It must be mentioned that this zamindar

never really makes an explicit

presence in this short story,

but he is of interest to us as far as

the thematic concern of the short story goes.

But as it has a very minor role,

but he does come to help the family

Let us analyze and look at all

these characters closely.

Rebati has become something

of a legend in Odia literature.

She is the title character and the

protagonist of this short story.

What stands distinct in her is a desire

to learn and a perceptive interest in that.

In fact,

she also goes in formal training

with the school teacher,

Basudev,

but then she becomes a victim of a string

of brutal social circumstances with the

death of her parents and that of Basudev,

she becomes a mere facsimile

of her previous self.

Towards the end we see her

with her arms outstretched,

trying to go into the loving embrace of

her mother and it is really a tragic end.

This character of Rebati,

created by Fakir Mohan Senapati,

has really transcended its time and

become a signifier for the need for

women's education and social reform.

The next major character is Shyambandhu Mohanty, Rebati's father and the zamindar's scribe.

As mentioned earlier,

he is known for his honesty

and sincerity in his work.

What really stands out in his character

is his zeal to get his daughter educated.

It was not easy at that point of

time.

He wanted to do it.

In fact,

many critics concur that in Shyambandhu Mohanty

one can see Fakir Mohan Senapati's

social reform and his voice.

However,

Shyambandhu's character meets

a very tragic end,

and despite his honest reputation,

his family goes into a downward spiral

as the zamindar withdraws all his

support in the aftermath of Shyambandhu's death

The next important character is Basudev,

a school teacher in the newly

set up upper primary

schooling, but poor village.

Must they've developed some very close

association with the Mohanty family.

He in fact becomes a tutor and

informally starts training Rebati.

As a young man, he is a symbol of

an advocate for social change and

emancipation through education.

However, he told me it's an unfortunate and

untimely death as he succumbs to cholera.

The next major character is

Rebati's grandmother.

She's the only strong voice of

opposition to Rebati's education.

In the aftermath of her son's death,

she directs all her outrage towards,

Rebati and calls her a wretched one who provoked in tempted fate.

By expressing the forbidden desire

to get an education.

In that sense,

she is a representative voice of Orthodoxy.

But the short story ends with her last cry,

symbolizing the total annihilation and

destruction of the Shyambandhu Mohanty family.

Rebati's mother,

although a marginal voice in the narrative,

is suddenly significant.

She also supports Rebati's education,

but succumbs to utmost helplessness in

the aftermath of her husband's death.

Towards the end of the short story,

her vision is a symbol

of hope for everything.

The major themes identified in this

particular short story are social

oppression, women's education,

and a perceivable apathy in governance.

Let us look at the theme of

social oppression more closely.

The exploitation of the Monte family that

follows shambles death is an indicator of

the oppressive structures that existed

in the feudal system of those times.

Does that mean that,

as mentioned earlier,  
not only withdraws all economic support,  
but also takes away whatever  
little the family has.

Class and caste consciousness are  
also layered within the short story  
and the acute poverty that the  
people of additional confronted with  
in the aftermath of the cholera  
epidemic also features in this  
short story and the Mandi family  
becomes a representative of that.

Women's education is a much celebrated  
theme in this particular short story  
and that is signified by revathi's  
orientation towards formal education.

Of course here to class hierarchy  
and acute poverty come into picture.

In fact,  
poverty comes as in the aftermath  
of shambles.

Death comes as a major encumbrance

to agree with these education

and her livelihood itself.

The apathy of governance is a

theme that is interwoven within

the short story and you should

really read between the lines in

order to comprehend this theme.

With the epidemic of cholera breaking

out Shambleau Mohanty, his wife Basudev.

All of them succumb to this disease,

but no where in the story do we see a

positive intervention by the administrators.

Coupled with this.

Lack of schools is also discernible rapidly.

For instance cannot get

educated in her own village.

We are also told that the

upper primary school where,

uh,

so they works has been set up only



recently and before that there were no  
schools in in in the purpura village.

The next major point of interest  
in repartee is its language  
and literary techniques.

As mentioned earlier,

\*\*\*\*\* morons enough with these works

joined the concerted movement towards  
the preservation of Odia identity.

And even in the translation,  
this movement is quite visible.

If you read the English  
translation of rapatee.

A lot of native Cordia words,  
such as sport color thank Y pita,  
Jody,

are retained in the translated  
text as our terms of festival  
ceremonies and auspicious days such  
as sheep engineer and with the arm.

The metaphorical references to the

epidemic of cholera as an Azure magic

or leading who comes to pick up dead bodies.

The euphemistic signification

of Liberty's death in the line.

Any Kaviraj would have said citing

a shloka or two that this was

truly the last stage.

Provide layers of semantic

significance to the narrative.

Lastly,

see number.

These rich use of symbolism is especially

prominent in the last part of the story.

In the description of rabies death,

their grandmothers cry is the

last cry of designation.

But it's also a grim reminder

of social apathy and unwarranted

suffering of people at the

receiving end of such suffering.

So in this module you learned

about the main characters,

themes and also the major linguistic

and literary techniques used.

In this short story Ribbity,

I do hope that these modules are

useful in your endeavor to study

the text rated the thank you.