CHAPTER III

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Chapter III
Shakespeare’s English Historical Plays
3.1 Henry VI Part I
(1 Henry VI) 1590

3.1.0 Introduction –

The Shakespeare’s one of the historical English plays, Henry VI Part. I (commonly written as 1 Henry VI) has been written in the year 1590-91 or 1591-92 and came on stage on 3rd March 1592. The play mainly includes the war episodes between English Army and French Army on the territory of France. The Drama 1 Henry VI consists of 5 Acts and 27 scenes. The sequence is as follows. Act I scene I,II,III,IV,V & VI Act 2 = Scene I, II, III, IV & V Act III = Scene I, II, III & IV Act IV = Scene I, II, III, IV, V, VI & VII Act V = Scene I, II, III, IV & V.

The drama starts from dead march funeral of king Henry V of England (Act I/Scene I) to Suffolks dream of Ruling England through king and would be queen Margaret (London----London the Royal palace Act V Scene V.)

Major location of the drama are either in England or in France. In England, the locations are Westminster Abbey, London Tower, Temple Garden, Parliament House, Royal Palace etc. While in France, the location’ are orleans, Paris palace, English camp near Bordeaux, plains in Anjou, Angiers etc.

Major characters are 1) King Henry VI 2) Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester (uncle to king and guardian) 3) John, Duke of Bedford (uncle to the king and regent of France) 4) Henry Beaufort, (Bishop of Winchester cardinal, great uncle to Henry VI) 5) Lord Talbot (Earl of shrewsbury – Terror of France) 6) Charles Dauphin (afterwards king of France) 7) Margaret
(Daughter of Reignier afterwards married to king Henry VI) and 8) Joan La Pucelle (Daughter of the shepherd, Famous fighter and known as “JOAN OF ARC”)

Though the play was staged in 1592, the publication of the book of this drama was made in 1623 (After 31 years)

1 Henry VI is richer in Military incidents Deals and poorer in poetry and history than any other plays of the Shakespeare. The loss of France, inversion of English French relation are the major points to be noted in the drama. The end of the English circle with the death of Henry V, Rise and fall of Talbot and his rivalry with Joan, the intestine division of the nobility, disputed succession, Henry’s marriage with Margarette and suffolks wooing of Margarette for Henry are the notable incidences found in this drama.

The theme of the play is the loss of France and the ruin of England and outbreak of civil wars between the roses. The drama 1 Henry VI ends in the downfall of England. The first part of the Henry VI can be studied from historical point of view on the following lines.

1) 1 Henry VI – a Talbot play
2) Joan La Pucelle (Joan of Arc) an iron Lady of France
3) The Margaret – Suffolk Episode
4) Loss of France and ruin of England
5) King Henry VI – A pawn on the chessboard

3.1.1 1 Henry VI – a Talbot Play (Talbot’s Heroism)

The 1 Henry VI is often described as a ‘Talbot play’ Lord Talbot (Earl of Shrewsbury) is the outstanding single character who is completely fearless and patriot as he gives his life to England’s kingship, he and his son John Talbot equally heroic die, martyred to England’s internal dissension. -- Talbot in Act I scene V line. Line 9, said “Heavens can you suffer Hell, so to prevail is the central and substantial theme of this drama. Talbot has only 13 out of 27 scenes and dies at the end of Act IV. Talbot, by many writers described him as “heroic Talbot”, Talbot is the hero of this play while John of Arc is the Villain, both are kept in dramatic opposition to the end of both lives

Talbot is brave, honourable, selfless, he is ‘noble minded’ and a renowned noble gentleman.
Talbot is a leader of the English Army bearing the hated French. His presence became a rallying point for their own intense patriotism. He is compared with Saint George and S. Michel. Lucy on the battlefield cries (Act IV Scene VII lines 68-70)

Knight of the noble of Saint George worthy S. Michael and the Golden fleece, Great Marshall to Henry the sixth.

Shakespeare pictured Talbot as a symbol of Goodness. He is painted more emotional. Talbot as he carries (Act IV scene VII) The body of his own son, having a special Shakespearean touch, cries with utter emotion. He (Talbot) speaks over his dead son. (Act IV scene VII lines 23-32)

O thou, whose wounds become hard-favoured death
Speak to thy father, ere thou yield thy breath
Brave Death by speaking, whither he will or no:
Imagine him a Frenchman and thy foe
Poor boy, he smiles, me thinks as who should say
Had Death bene French, then Death had dyed to day
Come, come and lay him in his father’s arms
My spirit can no longer bear these harms
Soldiers, adieu. I have what I would have
Now my old armes are young John Talbot’s grave (Old Talbot dies)

When soldiers enter with the body of young Talbot, the father, being wounded, cries. Here Shakespeare has remarkably illustrated the fatherly love towards his son—knowing he is dead, he said “Speak to me (speak to thy father); your death is brave, you are brave and when you have died, France has died herself. “There is also a death of a death” (death had dyed today)

Shakespeare had very lucidly narrated the tragic scene of demand of his son’s dead body in the hands of his father.

“Come, come and lay him in his father’s arms” ---------

Bring my beloved son’s body in my old hand “How sadly father demands his son’s body in his hand” - this tragic end the author has painted in this drama. Hats of to Shakespeare.

In the whole cannon of Shakespeare’s play this is the unique example that characteristic quality which makes a truth of common human experience by a poetic combination of general emotion and concrete individual example.
Talbot, a leader of English Army in France battlefield was a terror to the France. His and his son’s heroism is observed in the battlefield. His patriotism towards England and his bravery is nicely painted by the Shakespeare in Act IV scene V. The English camp near Bordeaux. Talbot welcomes his son and directs him to run away from the battle. Scorning such a dishonorable action, son overcomes his father’s arguments and lastly wins consent to fight together and dies together.

Talbot – fly, to revenge my death --------

John – He that flies so will ne’er return again (Act 4, Scene 5, Lines 18 and 19)

John – To fight I will, but not to fly the foe (Act 4, Scene 5, Lines 37) Lastly father agrees with son and we both will go to heaven for the sake of our motherland, England.

Talbot – Come, side by side together live and die and soul with soul from France to heaven fly (Act 4, Scene 5, Lines 54 & 55)

To die for one’s motherland is to go in salvation and to climb on the heavens doors – the great Nationalism and Patriotism is seen in this drama.

3.1.2 An Iron Lady of France (Joan La Pucelle) – “Joan of Arc.” The Divine Heroic Character

Shakespeare has introduced a lady character in the drama with courage and daring having heavenly/divine blessings a character some what on the border line of fiction and reality (poetry and History and that is of Joan La Pucelle – Joan of Arc – The daughter of a shepherd.)

Shakespeare has manipulated the history in terms of span of time in this Drama (Shakespeare I by G.L. Evans, 1969 page 33). The most notable example is the retention of La pucelle at the battle of 1451 in which Talbot was killed, Joan, in fact war burned in 1431. Shakespeare’s theatrical sensitivity has overrived the historical events. Talbot is the male hero of this drama and Joan, the female villain – they are kept in dramatic apposition throughout their lives. Joan of Arc is a woman warrior she claimed high birth but was of shepherds family claiming control from the God but calling upon evil spirits in time of need. She stands for the supreme enemy, the French, regarded by all true Englishmen in treacherous in friendship and vicious in war.

Shakespeare has made her entry in this play in a very dramatic way. In Act. I scene 2, she appears as divinely blessed girl came for the welfare of the France.
Bastard: “A holy made hither with me 1 bring which by a vision sent to her from heaven ordained is to raise this tedious siege and drive the English forth the bound of France (Act 1 scene 2 lines 51-54)

Joan pucelle enters and introduce herself “Dauphin, 1 am by birth a shepherd’s daughter, Lo, whilst I waited on my tender lambs and to sun’s parching heat displayed my cheeks, God’s mother deigned to appear to me and in a vision full of majesty, willed me to leave may base vocation and free my country from calamity” (Act 1 scene 2 lines 77 -81)

This is Divinity and not the History. The Divine power of Joan is impressed by the Shakespeare, where he deviates from history in to ethics.

Joan Pucelle has been honoured as a saint of France by Charles (but Joan La Pucelle shall be France’s saint – Act 1, Scene 6, Lines 29) Joan was shown as clever warrior as she had entered the Rouen in the costume of peasants, (Act III scene II) Joan of Arc with four soldiers disguised as peasants deceive the watchman and entered in Rouen, she succeeded and entered in top of the wall with a flaming torch and French commanders lead their forces into the city. This is dramatization of the event by the Shakespeare.

Shakespeare seems to be a perfect diplomat. He has used the concept of war Diplomacy for the first time in this drama. The character of Joan Pucelle seems to be a perfect” “War Diplomat” she has used (of course, through Shakespeare) war Diplomacy in turning Burgandy the French Duke, who was to the side of English Army was called back to Join French side. Joan’s appeals to Burgandy’s Patriotism is the perfect example of war Diplomacy. Lastly Burgandy deserts Talbot and embraces the French lords as allies.

Shakespeare here said to every mankind that one has to punish who hurts you and one has to help who helps you. This is the universal truth if everybody follows, there will be all peace, peace and peace only.

3.1.3 The Margaret Suffolk Episode.

The English French conflict lastly results in the marriage of Margaret with Henry VI and the real hero is the Suffolk and hence “The Margaret Suffolk Episode” needs to analyzed through Shakespeare’s writing.

Reignier, is the Duke of Anjou and Maine and the King of Naples and the Margaret is his daughter. Earl of Suffolk makes Margaret the captive on the plains of Angiers. Suffoks decides to arrange with Henry VI Hurriedly Suffolk proposes the royal marriage to Margaret to which
her father, Reignier, the king of Naples, gives his consent in place of retaining his countries Maine and Anjou. This is give and take policy as a “Treaty of war”. Suffolk wants to control England through Margaret thinking that Margaret will accept him as her lover. This relationship remains continue even after her marriage with Henry VI.

The Drama 1 Henry VI ends with suffolks statement.

“Margaret shall now be queen and rule the king,
But I will rule both her, the king and realm. (Act 5, scene 5, lines 107 to 108)

Shakespeare has shown suffolks character as a great Diplomat. Suffolk did not make Margaret a captive in war. This marriage has not acceptable because Duke of Gloucester was wishing a more prosperous alliance. It was presumed as to bring peace when English were losing French possession one after the other. Shakespeare has taken the Suffolk – Margaret episode out of the context of history and fitted it in romance between Suffolk and queen Margaret. Here Shakespeare has taken the events from huge sources of history and fitted it in the story of Human passion. After Talbots death, there is a suffolk’s peaceful diplomacy in favour of king Hensy is well portrayed by the Shakespeare.


The result of the wars portrayed in henry VI is nothing but “loss of France – and ruin of England”. France even after retaining Maine and Anjou provinces (in place of Margaret) out breaks in civil war. England and France, both are ensured with the breaking of Armagnac’s contract. Margaret’s entry in England is in fact the loss towards England. The Drama 1 Henry VI ends with the down fall of England. Henry’s marriage is nothing but a turning point of his fortune and even of England too. From this moment nothing seems to have prospered with him or his army. In Act V scene I, Gloucester supports kings marriage contract with the daughter of the earl of Armagnac. (Act V/scene I lines 17-20)

Gloucester – The Earl of Armagnac near knit to Charles,

A man of great authority in France,

Prefers his only daughter to your Grace

In marriage, with a large and sumptuous dowry

This marriage has not taken place, instead, marriage with Margaret and loss of Anjou and Maine country is a great set back to England.
Thus Margaret follows Joan of Arc. (After Joan’s death) as part of the French role in the ruin of England through the beginning of the wars of the Roses and the increasing intensity in the nobles’ rivalry and Margaret’s advent is prepared for, through her father and through Gloucester’s opposition to the breach of contract (between king Henry and Armagnac) of marriage. All are the examples of the Downfall of England.

3.1.5 King Henry VI – A Pawn on the Chess Board

King Henry VI – the hero of this drama was only of one year, when his father Henry V has passed away. The council of ministers were looking after the administration of England in the name of minor king VI. King Henry was physically and mentally ill too. He was even a patient of Schizophrenia. In this drama, king Henry was shadowy figure. He was ineffective among his quarrelsome nobles, his pity and his indecisiveness but above all, with all his wickednesses, he was loyal to his commonwealth, he said (Act III scene 1 lines 72 and 73)

“Civil dissension is a viperous worme
That gnawes the Bowels of the common-wealth”.

The main subject related movements of Shakespeare’s drama is indicated in this play and that is order and disorder, faction, rebellian, the sin of usurpation, honours, cowardice, deceit, the thirst of power, the gigantic force of a sense of right and blood.

King Henry was a ‘mere pawn on the chess board of England;’ the game which was far from completed.

3.1.6 Conclusion

King Henry VI, The first part, Shakespeare’s historical drama, is richer in military incidence and poorer in poetry and history. The loss of France, inversion of English – French relations, Rise and fall of Talbot and his rivalry with shepherd girl, “Joan of Arc”. Henry’s marriage settlements with Margaret and Suffolk – Margaret’s courtship are the notable incidences of this play.

The play is often described as a ‘Talbot play’ - the real hero of this drama, a great warrior and loyal to English king and his motherland. He is compared with saint George and S. Michael. Talbot is a symbol of Goodness. He became too emotional when the body of his son was brought before him.

Joan La Pucelle, popularly known as Joan of Arc is the Iron Lady of France. Shakespeare has portrayed her in the form of Divinity. Her character is full of courage and brevity and even as
a war diplomat. She has convinced Burgundy, the Duke of France, to his motherland side appealing his sense of Patriotism - An appeal of Joan to Burgundy is the best example of war diplomacy. The author has portrayed “strike those that hurt and hurt not those that help” is the lesson given by Shakespeare to worlds mankind which everybody must follow.

The Margaret - Suffolk Episode and, the English French conflict are interrelated as they are the part of the ‘politics’ in between England and France. The result of the wars is “Loss of France and ruin of England”, King Henry VI, a central character in this part is a ‘mere pawn on the chess board of England’; the game of “chess” is yet to be completed. The drama ends with the downfall of England.

In sum, Shakespeare’s part I of Henry VI drama is one of best historical ten plays ever written by him in his life.

Reference
3.2 Henry VI<sup>th</sup> Part II
(2 Henry VI) 1590-91

3.2.0 Introduction:

The second part of the drama on King Henry VI has been prepared by the Shakespeare in 1590-91. There is a criticism that part II and Part III of Henry VI are not the original drama of Shakespeare. Shakespeare has written them in 1595-1596 respectively but the original writer might be Greene Marlowe and on Marlowe's "Contention", Part II is based while his "true tragedy of Richard, the Part III of Henry VI is based. The play bills exhibited in London street in 1595 gives the evidence as -

The firft part of the contention betwixt the two famous Houfes
Of Yorke and Lancafter with the death of the good Duke Humphrey.
And the baniffment and death of the duke of Suffolke and the
Tragical end of the proud cardinall of win chefter
With the notable Rebellion of Jucke cade;
The true tragedie of Richard Duke of York and
The death of good King Henry Sixth with the
Whole contention betweene the two Houfes
Lancafter and Yorke...........

The present drama, 2 Henry 6th as written by Shakespeare includes 5 Acts and 24 scenes. The distribution Act and scenewise is as follows : Act I - Scene I, II, III & IV, Act II Scene I, II, III and IV, Act III Scene I, II, III, Act IV Scene I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX & X, Act V Scene I, II, & III. The major locations of different scenes are in London - The palace, Duke of Gloucousts's House, his garden, Saint Albans, Hall of Justice, Duke of Yorks Garden, Tower, Crown street etc. The drama opens with Suffolk's statement about Henry's marriage with Margaret as her marriage contract and lastly queen Margaret and Henry run from the battlefield of St.Albans to avoid capture to London.

One of the most important aspects of this play is the depth and skill of author's depicting political manoeuering. It was a grim human truth and covers ambition, deceit, expediency, cruelty and ineffective political honesty. There was a danger to Henry's Kingship with relentless inevitability. More acts of Treachery and deceit are found in this play.
The major characters around whom the drama is based are - 1) King Henry VI, 2) Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, King's uncle and dangerous protector, 3) Margarettte, Henry's queen, 4) Jack Cade - a rebellion Leader, 5) Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York-Ambitious Agressor and 6) Earl of warwick.

In the following text, the characters of Gloucester as a real protector (but dangerous too) of king, Plantagenet's aggression and ambition, Margarettte's villianity, Warwicks Diplomacy is discussed in detail.

3.2.1 Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester:

Humphrey, the Duke of Gloucester is the uncle of King Henry VI. He is honest, regent but ineffective protector. When he hears about Henry's marriage with Margeretette and with unfavourable terms of marriage settlement, he with great sorrow said, "France will be lost ere long." (I prophesised France will be lost ere long." I/I/144). Actually Gloucester's blood is tied with Henry VI. He represents the last vestiges of the spirit of order, having seen created by Henry V is now in swift dissolution. He has no allies, not even his wife and he is in real sense an ineffective man, still he is patriot and real protector of his nephew. He said to duchess (wife Eleanor) Banish the cansks of ambitious thoughts and may that thought, when I imagine ill, Against my King and nephew, virtuous Henry, Be my last breathing in this mortal world! (I/II 18 to 21)

In this play, Gloucester's qualities are personal and symbolic. He, in first and second acts of this drama, comes to stand for the rule of law and for the integrity of nobility and commons. Gloucester's learning is civil law takes the form of a wearisome passion for litigation. In this play, he is first the severe executor of law and then its vicarious victim. As protector, he declares, "This is the law and this duke Humpreys Doom (I/III/208). When Eleanor is banished, he again speaks in the formal language. "The law thou seest hath judged thee, I can not justify whom the law condemnes (II/III/16) It is the universal truth that "the private man is never for long masked by a public office. Gloucester speaks of his condemned Duchess in tones admirably poised before personal feeling and the decorum of his office (II/I/185) and he speaks from his office unequivocally when she is led from the court (II/III/16) - Eleanor, the law thou seest hath judged thee. I cannot justify whom the law condemns "But as soon as she is gone, his eyes" full of tears" he asks Kings permission to leave - "Mine eyes are full of tears, my heart of grief........ I beseech your majesty, give me leave to go (II/III/20)
The trial of Gloster before the King as per Act III Scene I is portrayed by the Shakespeare in the very poetic but in lucid way. In the Parliament, when Gloucester enters, Suffolk arrests him for high treason. The reason of his arrest has been explained by York: York charges him with accepting bribes from France, non payment of army's salary, and administering justice with cruelty and demands for. Gloucester a cardinal's custody. In reply, Gloucester explains the envy and malice with which his many enemies have tried to discredit him. "A staff is quickly found to beat a dog" (III/i/171). Cardinal orders the guards to arrest Gloucester. While going, Gloucester warns King that he is amongst the gnarling wolves ............. "This is the Shepherd beaten from thy side and wolves are gnarling who shall graw the first (III/i/191 and 192)

Gloster's murder is a piece of political butchery at the centre of the predetermined tragedy of the conspirators (The queen, the cardinal, york and suffolk) Who are credited with a preserve skill in making an unnatural offence taste of expediency and practical wisdom: 'but yet we want a colour for his death' tis meet he be condemned by course of law (III/i/236-237). Gloster himself before death, says himself on his death is the prologue to the plotted tragedy (III/i/153) and virtue is chocked with foul ambition (III/i/143)

Thus Shakespeare through this play has unfolded a period of English history when atrocities became part of the routine of public life and stayed so for some twenty years. Hence, Shakespeare's knowledge of the arts, of English seneca becomes relevant to his own art as dramatic historian.

3.2.2. Queen Margarette:

Queen Margarette is the daughter of Regnier, Duke of Anjou and maine, afterwards marries with King Henry VI and becomes the queen of England. The marriage is being arranged by Earl of suffolk. This Margaret of Anjou has no respect for any status quo which does not minister to her own ambitious desires. She is portrayed by Shakespeare as female villian. Her feminity is sexual and her villianty is calculated already in 1 Henry VI, there has been more than a Hint of her sexual attractiveness. In this act, the emphasis is on her consuming ambition to be undebated queen of an unquestioned King and on the strange fidelity of her love with suffolk. She complains that her husband neglects her as he became Pope and engage in religious rituals and studies,

Margaret treat Suffolk as a means which she can us to achieve her goal. She plays masterfully with her tongue in maligning Gloucester; she keeps a keen eye on all the factious
impediment of her desire. Margarete's presence in this drama, gives a tense intimacy to the underline theme of order and disorder for she is near and dear to the King and at the sametime nearest and dearest to one of his potential successors. Lady Margaret was near and dear to suffolk and the relationship between them was very open. When suffolk's head was brought in London palace queen Margaret looks at suffolk's head and grieves for the dead Duke. She thinks on revenge, wishing that she had Suffolks body to embrace : Queen Margaret (Act IV scene IV lines 1 to 6) : "Oft have I heard that grief softens the mind and makes it fearful and degenerate; think therefore on revenge and cease to weep. But who can cease to weep and look on this? Here may his head lie on my throbbing breast : But where's the body that I should embrace?"

3.2.3 Jack Cade - A rebellion leader :

Richard Plantagenet, the York was ambitious to obtain what he considers to be his by right - the throne of England. He was making all efforts in that direction. But he was asked to lead the army to Ireland. Meantime he has invited Jake Cade, a rebellion to make civil strike in England. Jack Cade was having some resemblance with John Mortimer. York saw him in Ireland having stubborn appearance. In Act III Scene I lines 356-383, he describes the courage of Cade.

The chosen instrument of York, Jack Cade, is the first of Shakespeare's low class rogues. Shakespeare has described Cade as popular rebellion with ridiculous promises, having inferior complex of superior quality and he is cruel. Cade's characteristics are reflected from Act No.IV scene No.II to scene No.X. When Cade enters in England, he gives ridiculous promises to the people that he will bring reforms in England. Cade - "..... and vows reformation there shall be in England. Seven and half penny loaves sold for a penny : the three-hooped pot shall have ten hoops; and I will make it felony to drink small beer; all the realm shall be in common; and in cheapside shall my palfry go to grass : Act IV Scene II lines 63 to 68)

........There shall be no money : all shall eat and drink on my score; and I will apparel them all in one livery, that they may agree like brother and worship me their lord (Act IV scene II lines 70 to 73).

On the advise given by Dick, that all the pleaders of England be killed, Cade replied -

"Is not this a lamentable thing, that on the skien of an innocent lamb should be made parchment? that parchment being scribbed o'er should undo a man? Some say the bee stings; but I say' tis the bee's wax; (Act IV scene II lines 76 to 80)
Cade collets some civilions and makes mutiny. at smithfield, London, succeeds partially and declares himself as Parliament of London This is Cade's over confidence as portrayed by Shakespeare. Cade declares himself as king of London -

Cade : "Now is Mortimer, lord of this city ................. I charge and command that of the city's cost, the pissing conduct run no thing but Claret wine this year of our reign and now hence forward it shall be treason for any that calls me other than Lord Mortimer" (Act IV/ Scene VI/lines 1 to 5)

Cade himself is the legislative body of England ------ "burn all the records of the realm, my mouth shall be the Parliament of England ------ (Act IV/Scene VII/ lines 12 & 13)

Cade is a character full of lust and vigour, he express his desire that every girl of England, before her marriage be submit her maidenhood to him ........ there shall not a maid be married; but she shall pay to me her maidenhood ere they have it (Act IV Scene VII lines 115 to 117)

Such a crooked, over ambitious and cruel Cade lastly killed by a gardener of Kent, the Iden, when Cade was hungry and thirsty. Even Iden called him as "monstrous traitor". Jack Cade was in fact "really a monstrous traitor"

3.2.4 Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York - An ambitious aggressor

Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York has strong ambition to obtain the throne of England as his right. Of course, he has all the qualities for strong Kingship, including title and prestige. He is an astute diplomat when he agrees to go to Ireland with troops, he calls Jack Cade to make revolt in England. For same time, he wish to remain out of England, but will return with strength like that of black storm - "....... yet be well assured you put sharp weapons in a mad-mans hands, whiles I in Ireland, Nourish a mightie band, I will stirre up in England, some blackstorme shall blowe te thousand souls to Heaven, or Hell." --- (Act III/Scene I/Line No.347-351)

He has undisputed courage and warlike strength, yet in his brain there is a hot reckless ambition, having a quality of sinister self-regard a kind of doting on self aggrandizement.

When Duke of York returned from Ireland with a powerful army and is determined to be the prospective King of England, Henry, Knowing that York is a major threat to his security and office, asks Buckingham to negotiate with York. Before the army, Duke declares that he has come to seize the throne. He said - "Let them obey that know not how to rule." (Act V/Scene I/Lines 1 to 7) York :- "From Ireland, thus comes York to claim his right and pluck the crown
from feeble Henry's head, Right bells aloud; burn, bonfires, clear and bright to entertain great England's lawful King. Ah! Sancta Majestas, who would not buy the dear! Let them obey that know not how to rule; this hand was made to handle nought but gold."

Lastly York, the ambitious aggressor wins the battle and the Clifford dies.

3.2.5 Earl of Warwick:

In this drama, Shakespeare has portrayed the Character of Earl of Warwick as great noble rebel. Shakespeare's picture of him is exactly that of Kingmaker. He is militarily powerful, he is faithful, he is an obvious but effective diplomat. He is honourable. Warwick does all things for what he believes to be the best possible reason. He is most honest. He is Shakespeare's first noble real and as character, has strong affinities with the elder Northumberland of Henry IV although he is never crafty sick. Warwick always back York and lastly states that "Saint Albans battle won by famous York and we will march towards London."

3.2.6 Conclusion:

The 2 Henry VI drama has some important aspects which Shakespeare has portrayed with great depth and with depiction of political manoeuvring. Human truths, ambitions, deceit, cruelty and ineffective political honesty has been shown through different characters. Treachery and deceit are mainly found in this drama through number of scenes.

In the whole text, Gloucester is shown as real protector of King and that of England. Plantgent's, Duke of York's ambitious aggression to become King, Margaret's villanity and warwicks diplomacy and above all, rebellion labour leader's character through Jack Cade is being displaced perfectly. Through this drama, Shakespeare has unfolded a period of English history when atrocities became part of the routine of public life. Shakespeare, through this part has really acted as dramatic historian. Gloster's murder is a piece of political butchery and pre determined tragedy. Margaret is a perfect female Villain. Jack Cade is a perfect low class rougues and popular rebellion with a ridiculous promises and cruel at the same time. Jack Cade as described by Shakespeare was a perfect "monstrous traitor". Duke of york is a symbol of over ambitiousness and he always having dream of throne of England. Earl of warwick is militarily powerful and a perfect diplomat. In short, Shakespeare's part 2 of Henry VII is a classical example of battle, History of England during Henry VIth regime.

References:
3.3 Henry VI\textsuperscript{th} Part III
(3 Henry VI) 1590-91 (3 H 6)

3 3.0 Introduction:

The third part of the drama, King Henry VI, has been prepared by the Shakespeare in 1590-91 but there is a strong criticism that this part is not an original contribution of the Shakespeare. Shakespeare has written this part in 1596 and the original writer is Greene Marlowe and his "True tragedy of Richard" is nothing but the mirror image of Shakespeare's 3 Henry VI. The play bill exhibited in London Street in 1595 gives support to this statement – "The true tragedie of Richard, Duke of York and the death of good king Henry Sixth with the whole....."

"The present drama 3 Henry VI as written by Shakespeare, includes 5 Acts and 28 Scenes. The Act and Scenewise distribution is as follows - Act I - Scene I, II, III and IV, Act II - Scene I, II, III, IV, V and VI, Act III - Scene I, II, III, Act IV - Scene I, II, III, IV, V, VI VII and VIII, Act V - Scene I, II, III, IV, V, VI and VII. The major locations are 1) In London - Parliament House, Castle, Battlefield, Palace, Tower etc. and 2) In France - Palace etc. The drama open with Scene at Parliament House London when warwick speaks - "I wonder, how the King escaped our hands? and the drama ends with – Edward’s Statement - "Send the Margaret to France and Sound drums and trumpets."

The Three parts of Henry VI drama are perfectly serially links and having perfect continuation in the speeches of characters in the beginning and of the end of each part.

Suffolk ends part one of Henry VI drama with the words:

"Margaret shall now be queen and rule the King : But I will rule both her, the King and Realm."

And the same suffolk begins Part II of Henry VI in a position of honour and potential power: "In sight of England and her lordly peers deliver up my title in the queen. To your most gracious hands, that are the substance of the great shadow I did represent.

A similar impression of serial intention occurs at the end of 2 Henry VI and beginning of 3 Henry VI. Warwick ends 2 Henry VI with "Sound Drumme and trumpets and to London all And more such days as these, to us befall" and warwick, begins the drama 3 Henry VI with -

"I wonder how the King escaped our hands and at the end of 3 Henry VI again, Edward announces "Sound drums and trumpets"
This is the poetic sense of Shakespeare observed in all 3 parts of drama Henry VI th.

The subject of this part of the drama rounds around the major characters like King Henry VI, Edward his son, Levis XI, the King of France, Richard plantagenet Duke of York and his four sons 1) Edward, 2) Edmund, 3) George and, 4) Richard III, Queen Margaret, Lady Grey (Queen to Edward IV) i.e. queen Elizabeth and Bona, the beautiful sister of French King.

The whole subject of 3 Henry VI is focused around 4 incidences and they are

1) Death of good King Henry Sixth
3) Ambitious Queen Margarett
4) Richard III (Son of Duke of York) (Duke of Gloucester) - Senecan, Villian, avenger and instigator of bloody deeds.

In this part, mainly tragedies are displayed. King Henry VI prefigures the sacrificial victim, he will nor fight nor fly, Richard of York is only Killer who despises the law of arms rejoicing in the superstitious prophecy, while his son Richard III is only unchivalrous avenger.

3.3.1. Death of Good King Henry VI :

All the three parts of Henry VI express the plight of individuals caught up in a cataclysmic movement of events. There is a prolonged violence of two figures representing the ultimate of man as a political animal - Henry VI and Richard, Duke of York, martyr and Machiavel. The helpless King is pictured throughout this part and lastly renounces Kingship and becomes hermit but Killed pitiably by Richard III (Son of Duke of York).

King Henry's helplessness is observed from the Act I Scene I when York is found on the seat of England. King Henry demands that York should vacate the throne and Duke refuses to yield.

King Henry – “My Lord, look, where the sturdy rebel sits,
Even in the chair of State; be like he means'

(Act I/Scene i/lines 50-51)

And shall I stand, and thou, sit in my throne?

(Act 1/Scene i/line 83)

What title hast thou, traitor, to the crown?

I am the son of Henry the fifth (Act I Scene I lines 104 and 106) Henry knows that his title as a King is weak, he sorrowfully makes a shameful treaty with York. This is
actually surrender before Richard Plantagenet, he said, York's claim after his death is admitted by him.

King :” Let me for this my life-time reign as King
(Art I Scene I Lines 171)
Richard Plantagenet enjoy the Kingdom after my decease
(Act I scene I Line 174)

Here King has became helpless and made compromise with powerful Duke of York and even pray not to kill him in civil war or by treason and hostility.

King......... " cease this civil war and whilst I live, to honour me as thy King and Sovereign and neither by treason nor hostility To seek to put me down and reign thyself” (Act I/Scene i/lines 197 to 200)

King Henry, though weak in his office was a loving father, he was full of virtues and was willing to give virtuous deeds to his son because "things ill got had bad success" was the ideal before the King.

King –“ that things ill got had ever bad success?
I'll leave my son my virtuous deeds
behind. (Act II/Scene ii/lines 46 and 49)

King is frustrated by his Kingship and he wish to be free from this life. He wish, he would have enjoyed shepherd peaceful comfortable life. Here King Henry wants to become hermit, willing to renounce his troublesome career of a King, that King who is surrounded by care, mistrust and treason.

King - "And to conclude, the shepherds homely curds
His cold thin drink out of his leather bottle, His wonted sleep
all, which secure and sweetly he enjoys. Is
far beyond a Princess delicates, His viands
sparkling in a golden cup, his body couched in a curious bed, when care mistrust and treason waits on him (Act II/Scene V/line 47 to 54). Here Shakespeare's poetic observation is well reflected by comparing common man's comfortable but simple life with Kings uncomfortable luxurious life.
Through frustration, lastly King has decided to lead remaining life in devotion and in worshipping the God. His thinking is towards becoming Hermit. After declaring Warwick and Clarence as the protector of England, he states that

King - "I make you both protectors of this land
While I myself will lead a private life,
And in devotion spend any latter days,
To sins rebuke and my creator’s praise"

(Act IV/Scene VI/Lines 41 to 44)

King Henry's becoming hermit is the outcome of the civil war. Due to civil war, King is willing to renounce the office as his sorrow as a King is much more than his subjects. King thinks that there is nothing more sad and pitiful than the father who has killed his son and the son who has killed his father. (Act II/Scene V)

“Son - was ever sonne so rew’d a father's death?
Father: was ever father so bemoand his sonne?
Henry: was ever king so greev'd for subject's
Woe? Much is your sorrow, mine ten times so much.” (At II/Scene V/ lines 109-112)

Henry VI is a victim commentator and prophet of the historical process and even according to Shakespeare a suffering man. He is the victim of events and condition and for which he is completely unsuited. Lasty Gloucester in London tower stabs King Henry while reading the holy books. He lastly utters "O, God forgive my sins, and pardon thee! (Act V/Scene VI/line 60)

3.3.2 Death of Richard Plantagenet - True Tragedie of Richard, Duke of York:

The original drama of 3 Henry VI written by Greene Marlowe was entitled "True Tragedie of Richard" This Part III opens with Richard, Duke of York moving forward to take his seat upon the throne in Parliament House and the wars of two roses begins. The war of two roses starts on the battlefield in between Sandal Castle and Wakefield where York finally is stabbed Clifford and Queen Margaret. This is the tragic end of York. York’s two uncles are dead, all of his followers are in retreat, his sons have disappeared and York does not know their fate. The wounded Richard, due to faint, unable to move further and lastly he is surrounded by Queen Margaret, Prince Edward, Clifford, Northumberland and Soldiers. Lastly, Margaret sarcastically mocks York, inquires about his sons and showing him a napkin on which blood stains are of his
sons. At last, in 'a mock coronation ceremony, she places a “paper crown” on York’s head and finally Queen Margaret and Clifford Stab York to death and his severed head has been set on city gates. The whole episode of tragic end of York is described in act I Scene IV of 3 Henry VI by the Shakespeare in a very descriptive way. The wretched death of and York’s helplessness on the battlefield is heart touching narration done by the author in this scene.

York - " and all my followers to the eager foe.  
Turn back and fly, like ships before the wind.  
Or lambs persuade by hunger-starved wolves"

(Act I/Scene IV/lines 3 to 5)

A perfect comparison is used by the Shakespeare. York knows only two possibilities - "Death or Crown"

York - "and cried, "A crown or else a glorious tomb  
A scepter or an earthly sepulcher"

(Act I/Scene IV/lines 16 to 17)

Northumberland asks York to surrender -

“Yield to our mercy, proud Plantagenet (Act I/Scene IV/line 30)
But York, the brave fighter denies and says that new soldier will take birth from my ashes like a ‘phoenix’ bird who will take the revenge.

York - "My ashes, as the phoenix may bring forth ,A bird  
That will revenge upon you all” (Act I/Scene IV/lines 35 and 36)

Now Margaret moves forward and puts a paper crown on his head. This is excellent description given by the Shakespeare "of the mock coronation ceremony of Richard on his death bed."Lastly, Queen Margaret, in the honour of her husband King Henry VI stabs York along with Clifford.

Queen Margaret - "And her's to right our gentle - hearted king" (Act I/IV/175)

This is the -------- "true tragedie of Richard, Duke of York" of Shakespeare and Greene Marlowe.

3.3.3 Ambitious Queen Margaret :

Queen Margaret, the wife of King Henry VI, is the daughter of Reignier, Duke of Anjou and Maine. Suffolk fixes this marriage. The queer Margaret as portrayed in this part by Shakespeare is the Ambitious mother of Prince Edward, the son of Henry VIth.
When Queen Margaret knows that her son's claim on thrown is surrendered at the feet of York, she looses her temper and angrily scolded the King showed his helplessness and Queen declares the march and take the field against the Yorkists (Act I/Scene i)

Queen: 'Ah, wretched man would I had died a maid and never seen thee, never borne thee son, ............ Hath he deserved to lose his birth right thus? (Act I/Scene i/lines 216 to 219) King said York enforced me.

Queen: "Enforced thee! art thou King, and wilt be forced? I shame to hear thee speak, ah thy timorous wretch? thou hast undone,

thy son and me; (Act I/Scene i/lines 230 to 232)

She marches against York -

Queen ......... Come, son, lets away, our army is ready, come, (Act I/Scene i/lines 254-255)

Lastly, Margaret alongwith Clifford and Northumberland kills the York, the Richard.

Queen Margaret diplomacy is nicely explained by Shakespeare when she is the palace of king of France convince warwick to return back to Henry's side and be not loyal to present king, the son of York, Edward who has made marriage with Lady Grey,

Warwick gives a promise to Queen Margaret:-

(Act III/Scene iii/lies 194-198) Warwick –“ I here renounce him and return to Henry. My noble queen, let former grudges pass; and henceforth. I am thy true servitor ......... and replant Henry in his former state (Act III/Scene III/lies 194 to 196 and 198)

This is the cleverness in diplomacy observed in the character of Margaret of course.

Lastly King Edward sents Margaret back to France

3.3.4 Richard III Duke of Gloucester :
Senecan villain, avenger and instigator of bloody deeds.

Richard III, as portrayed by Shakespeare in, 3 Henry VIis a senecan villan - as avenger, as instigator of most bloody deeds. He, on his secret ambition to ascend the throne of England. He must remove Edward, his brother Clarence, Henry VI, and his son (Prince Edward) and all "the unlocked for issue of their bodies." Supremeely confident of his patience, persistence and ability to dissemble, Richard vows to achieve his goal.

"Why I can smile, and murder while I smile, and cry, content, to that which grieves my Heart and wet my cheekes with artificial tears, and frame my face to all occasions........... I can add colours to the camelion change shapes with prolens for advantages and set the murtherous
Machevill to schoole. Can I die this and cannot get a crown? Tyt, were it farther off, I'le pluck it downe (Act III/Scene II/line 181 to 195)

Richards cruelness is obscured when he kills the Prince. Richard becomes a sympathetic brother to the Clarence in the scene of dying Edward. Richard was perfectly an actor who was changing his colours like Chameleon.

"I can adde colours to the Chameleon,
Charge shapes with proteus for advantages
(Act III/Scene II/lines 191-2)
Richard always dreams of being King and for achieving that seat he can do anything.
Why, I can smile and murder while I smile,
and Cry "content!" to that which grieves my heart
and wet my cheeks with artificial tears and frame
my face to all occasions (Act III/Scene II/lines 182-185)

Lastly he succeed in achieving the crown.

3.3.5. Conclusion -

The war between roses is well described by Shakespeare in this part of Henry VI. There are two major Characters 1) Good King Henry VI, 2) Richard Plantagenet - The true tragedie of Richard. In this part, many tragedies are displayed. King Henry VI pre figures the sacrificial victim. Richard, Duke of York is the only Killer who despises the law of arms.

The flustered King Henry VI, lastly become Hermit and Kills the time in reading the holy books, still Richard III murders him. Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York was knowing only two things, either crown or tomb and lastly be gains death i.e. tomb.

The ambitious Margaret, a real mother who wishes her son should get the crown lastly kills York but still her son does not get the crown and Margaret has to spend her last days in France. Again this is the tragedy of Margaret.

Richard III, a Duke of Gloucester is a villain, avenger and instigator of bloody deeds willing to get the crown which he lastly gets.

Tragedy and death of bad villain i.e. York of Richard and tragedy and death of good King Henry VI, the two opposite characters are lucidly displayed through English History in this drama and hence included in tragedy category.

Reference:
1) Waith EM () Shakespeare - the histories, Prentice Hall
2) Henry VI/3- The new shakespear
5) L.L. Shucking, (1922) Character Problems in Shakespeare’s Plays New York Holt
3.4 Richard IIIrd

3.4.0 Introduction:

Shakespeare's English Historical Play, Richard III was first published in 1597 with the Title."The tragedy of Richard the Third with into the landing of Earl Richmond and the Battle at Bosworth Field." The period of 1 year i.e. 1592-1593 might have pictured in this drama. The whole play is divided into V Acts and Total 25 scenes. They are as follows; Act I scene I, II, III and IV, Act II scene I, II, III and IV. Act III scene I, II, III, IV, V, VI and VII, Act IV scene I, II, III, IV and V and Act V scene I, II, III, IV and V. This scenes are distributed at different platforms from London street to Bosworth battlefield. London street, London Palace. The power, the front of Lord Hastings House, Pomfret castle, tower, walls of the tower, Baynard castle' Lord Deraby's House, Salisbury's open space, camp near Tamworth and Bosworth Battlefields are noble places Drama played through different scenes. Total seventeen characters are being painted in this drama but the major characters are five in number and they are: 1) Richard III King, Duke of Gloucester (Brother of King Edward IV 2) Lady Anne (widow of Edward Prince and warwicks youngest Daugter) 3) Earl Richmond - Henry (Afterwards King Henry VII 4) Margaret (widow of King Henry VIth, 5) Clarence (Richard III brother)

The Shakespeare’s first edition of Richard III opens with the statement -

"The tragedy of King Richard the Third, containing his treacherous plots against his brother Clarence: the pitiful murther of his innocent nephews : his tyrannical usurpation : with the whole course of his detected life and most deserved death!"

Shakespeare has accepted this drama as a tragedy of crucked King with Royal Sins, murder of brother Clarence and Richard III nephews. This is the whole cause of Kings detested life and ultimate most deserved death at the hands of Earl of Richmond at the Battlefield of Bosworth.

The death of Richard III is most deserved. Sinner be punished with the death is the message given by the author of this play. As quoted by Shakespeare, this drama is the tragedy, the Historical tragedy. Hence major outcomes of this Historical drama are :

1) Tragedy versus History- the dilema.
2) Richard III - A royal criminal.
3) ‘Wages of sin is death’ - Shakespeare's moral universe.
4) Perjury and murder
5) ‘Despair and Die’ versus ‘Live & flourish’
6) Whole Kingdom for a horse – ‘Man's Lust for life’.

3.4.1. Tragedy Versus History - The Dilema:

The play, Richard III shows tragedy meets with History or vice versa. The play can with justifications be classed as either tragedy or History. Shakespeare's head title is "The tragedy of Richard the third." To understand this play, one has to distinguish tragedy from History and the fundamental distinction between these two genres are private virtues and public virtues. Private virtues come out through ethics while public virtues is the outcome of politics. Tragedy deals with an ethical elements, while History deals with political elements. Private sins are averaged by the God (Ethics) while publi sins are avenged by monarch, the sovereign.

“Richard III, himself, accepts that he is a villain and kills the opponents; again Richmond (in Act V Scene III Line 247) calls him as "a bloody tyrant and a homicide.”

The killing of the little Princes in the tower is itself the private sin which can only be avenged by the God. Violation of the private virtues is nonethical, will be punished. What is unethical always results into tragedy. Richard III’s deeds are mainly of Bloodsheds than that of Tyranny and Hence tragedy supersedes the History; Richard’s behaviour is more personal than his office i.e. King & hence all the misdeeds of the Richard III are his personal wrongs which ought to be resulted in his tragic i.e. the death of Richard III and hence it is tragedical history of the life of Richard III.

3.4.2. Richard III - A Royal Criminal:

King Richard III was a cold blooded murderer. he is desired by Shakespeare as a Royal Criminal. He has not hesitated in murdering, Edward, Clarence, two young princes and Lady Anne.

In Act I Scene IV, two murderers approach before Clarence – Clarence asked "(line 171) who sent you hither? wherefore do you come? - to murder me ? Both murderers - Ay, ay, prepare to die! Clarence advise them. The deed you undertake is damnable (line 192). By murdering me, you will make the war with God (line 253), and you are loosing your chances of entering in spiritual salvation after your death Despite Clarence's repeated pleas for mercy, they
stab him and 2nd murder announces (line 271) "A bloody dead and desperately dispatched. Thus Clarence's death is the notable crime made by Richard III.

Richard's two young cousins, two princes were also killed by him. These murders were made by Tyrrel (Act IV scene III) in the cold, dark Tower of London. Tyrrent reported to King Richard that he saw the princes dead (Act IV scene III lines 27 to 30)

King Richard - But did'st thou see them dead?

Tyrrel - I did my lord

King Richard - And buried, gentle Tyrrel?

Tyrrel - The Chaplin of the Tower hath buried them. But where, to say the truth, I do not know.

Richard III - Come to me, Tyrrel, soon after supper when thou shalt tell the process of their death.

King III - The sons of England sleep in Abraham's bosom

(Act IV scene III line 38)

The King Richard is so cruel that he asked the Tyrrel the procedure by which princes were killed. This shows the highest cruelly of the Richard III, he is thus proves to be a Royal Criminal.

The Richard also arranged for the murder his wife Anne and has shown his willingness to marry Elizabeth (her niece) (Act 4 Scene IV line 204) King Richard- You have a daughter, called Eliezabeth, virtuous and fair, royal and gracious line 204)

---- I mean that with my soul love thy daughter And do intend to make her queen of England (line 264). Queen Eliezabeth starts cursing him. Now, Richard III, diplomatically demand's Eliezabeths hand so that whatever cruelty he has made will be pacified. This shows that King is a born criminal expresses his apology and demand in the following way (Act 4 scene IV line 290 to 299)

King Richard – “Look, what is done, cannot be now amended. Men shall deal unadvisedly sometimes which after - hours gives to repent. If I did take the Kingdom from your sons make amends, I'll give it to your daughter. If I have killed the issue of your womb,. to quicken your increase, I will beget mine issue of your blood upon your daughter”.

How Shamelessly, King Richard states that he will give birth to child through your blood that is be by marrying the neice Elizabeth.
3.4.3 Wages of sin is death - Shakespeare's moral universe:

In almost all histories and tragedies, Shakespeare has written one moral universe and that is, "Wages of sin is death". Reward for sin is only death and nothing else. His tragedies and histories are God's judgments. The killing of the little princes win the tower, Anne's death and Clarence death all are the sins made by the Royal criminal Riohard III, for his highest sins, the highest punishment God has bestowed on him is the death in the hands of Henry, Earl of Richmond. In hand to hand combat, Richmond kills Richard. Shakespeare portrayed the passion of ambition that caused Richard to sin and passion of fear that at the same time punished him for his sins and forced him to wade still further in blood (Campbell, Lily B. Shakespeare's political use of History on XVI P. 317) The pattern of sins is political in nature. Richard III willing to be a king, kills Edward and his elder Brother Clarence. The obstacles in his Kingship office were two princes, hence both were killed. It seems that as Richard was of his ugly body, his mind was too dark. He was a symbol of super human cunning truely a dark Prince. Richards ambition loosed caused anarchy on the land of England, marked by cruelty and chaos. All are sins of political nature resultantly end of his life will also be of a political nature. In the battle of Boswarth, he was killed by the sword of Richmond standing on the earth without horse. Wages of sin is death is the universal truth announced by Shakespeare in this drama.

3.4.4. Perjury and Murder:

Perjury, Perjury, in the highest degree
murder, stern murder in the dir’st degree
All several sins, all used in each degree
Throng to the bar carrying all, Guitty Guitty
Boswarth field
(Act V, scene III. lines 196-199)

Perjury and Murderers Sins which brand Richard a villain. A sinner against the moral order. Perjury and murder are not only the sins which Richard III commits with each of his victims. In turn, they are also the sins which doom the other sinner to divine vengeance, Moral sins are repeatedly made by King and other offenders and hence who drama is shaded by these two offenses.

King Richard accepts that both the sins are made by him and hence he is a villain
My conscience hath a thousand several tongues,
And every tongue brings in a several tale,  
and every tale condemns me for a villain.  
(Act V scene III lines 193-195)

For Perjury and murder he repents, he knows that no body will forgive him for the  
perjury and murders made by him.  

“There is no creature loves me;  
And If I die, no soul will pity me” (Act V scene III lines 200-201)

For the offence of murder, the ultimate punishment is death and even after death, no body  
will pity him. No sorrow will be expressed by anybody on the death of Richard III, but still, he  
prepares for a morning battle.

Shakespeare has measured purjury and murder as moral sins but they are actually crimes  
of various degrees. The word "in each degree" is measuring the criminality with relative degrees.

3.4.5 ‘Despair and Die’ versus ‘Live and flourish’:

This is the real message given by the Shakespeare in this drama. (in Act V scene III lines  
118-176) "Despair and Die" is the message to cruel Richard III and “Live and flourish” is the  
message to Richmond. The "bad" is to be despared and result in deah while "good" is to be lived  
and flourish.

Richard and Richmond go to their tent on the battlefield for sleep and the Ghosts of  
Richard’s victims visit his tent and pass onto Richmond’s tent. To Richard, they recall the  
vioence, they have suffered and end their speeches with the words "Despair and die”! To  
Richmond, they blessed success and prosperity by the words" Live and flourish".

The sequence of the Ghosts is as follows:

1) Prince Edward son of Henry VI  2) Henry VI  3) Clarence  
4) Rivers, Grey, vaghan  5) Hastings  6) The two princes  
7) Lady Anne & 8) Buckingham.

3.4.5.1: Ghost of Prince Edward son of Henry VI:

Act V scene III lines 120 to 123

Ghost to Richard: "Think now thou stab's me in my prime of youth at Tewkesbury,  
despair therefore and die.

Ghost to Richmond: Be cheerful – Richmond, comforts thee
Ghost of Edward curses Richard “despair and die” while he has blessed Richmond saying: be cheerful and comfortable.

3.4.5.2 Ghost of Henry the Sixth:

Act V scene III lines 125 to 130

Ghost to Richard -
1. When I was mortal, my annointed body.
2. By thee was punched full of dedly holes---- despair and die
3. Henry the sixth, bids thee despair and die.
4. You have punched my body with many holes by
5. The snood now I bids you despair and die.

Ghost to Richmond -
Virtuous and holy, be thou conquerors! Thou shouldst be King, Doth comfort thee in thy sleep, live and flourish

Ghost of Henry VI blessed Richmond that he will win and will become king; He blessed him with comfortable sleep and live and flourish.

3.4.5.3 The Ghost of Clarence

Act V scene III lines 131 to 138

Ghost of Clarence to Richard
“Let me sit heavy on thy soul tomorrow,
Tomorrow in the battle think on me fall thy edgeless sword – Despair and die”
your sword will fall tomorrow and you despair and die.

Ghost to Richmond:
Thou offspring of the house of Lancaster, Good angels guard thy battle! live and flourish

Clarence blessed Richmond that Angles will save your battle, Good angles will save you hence long live and flourish.

3.4.5.4. Ghosts of Rivers, Grey and Vaughan:

Act V scene III lines 139 to 145

Ghost of Rivers to Richmond - Let me sit heavy on thy soul tomorrow, Rivers that died at donfret - Despair and die!

Ghost of Grey to Richard - Let thy soul despair and die
**Ghost of Vaughan to Richard** - Let fall thy lance despair and die

Rivers, Grey and Vaughan curses Richard for his misdeeds and utter “Despair and die”

**All the 3 Ghosts to Richmond** - "Awake .......... and win the day!

Consider about wrongs done by Richard to ourselves and awake from the sleep and win the day, you will win the battle.

**3.4.5.5 Ghost of Lord Hastings** :

(Act V scene III lines 146 to 150)

**Ghost of Hastings to Richard** - Blood and Guilty, guiltily awake, sin a bloody battle and thy days!......... despair and die.

Hastings says to Richard that you are guilty and in the battle, your days will come to an end, you will despair and you will die.

**Ghost of Hastings to Richmond** : Quiet untroubled soul, awake - Arm, fight and conquer for fair England's sake!

Hasting calls Richmond asa holy soul and peacefully awakens him. He advises Richmond to be well equipped with different arms and weapons, fight with the Richard and win against Richard for the welfare of England. Country's welfare is thought by Hastings. No Ghost has given blessings like this to Richmond. For Country's welfare your success in the battle is needed. This blessing seems to be more important than individual blessings.

**3.4.5.6 Ghosts of two young princes** :

(Act V scene III lines 151 to 158)

**Ghost to Richard** :

Dream on thy cousins smothered in the tower, let us be lead within thy boson, Richard and weigh thee down to ruin, shame and death!

Thy nephew’s, soul and bid thee despair and die.

You have killed your cousin in the Tower. Now we cursed you with shame that you will ruin and you will die. Your Nephews soul bid you that you Despair and die!

**Ghost to Richmond** :

“Sleep, Richmond, in peace and wake in joy, Good engles guard thee from the brains! Live and beget a happy race of King! Edward's unhappy sons do bid thee flourish.
Richmond you sleep well and wake with energy, Live as a king, you will win the happy race of becoming King of England in the morning. We, the Edward’s sons wish you happy Kingship and you will flourish like anything.

3.4.5.7. Ghost of Anne:

(Act V scene III lines 159 to 166)

Anne, his wife's Ghost to King Richard:

"Richard, that wretched Anne, thy wife
............. Now fills thy sleep with perturbations
Tomorrow in the battle think on me, and fall thy edgeless sword, “despair and die”
Your wretched life who could not sleep for a single hour in her life with you, now will make your night sleepless. Tomorrow you will loose battle, “despair and die”. This the real cursing King Richard III received from his wife Anne.

Anne to Richmond:

Thou quiet soul sleep, thou a quite sleep,
Dream of success and happy victory. Thy adversary's wife doth pray for thee

Anne, the rivals wife blessed to Richmond for his peaceful sleep and wisth him success and happy victory, for your success, I pray God against my own husband:

This is most valuable blessing Richmond received from his adversary's wife. Shakespeare has very cotiollously put the words in the mouth of Ghost of Anne.

3.4.5.8. Ghost of Buckingham:

(Act V scene III lines 167 to 176)

Ghost Buckingham to Richard:

------“The first I was that helped thee to the crown. The last was I that fell thy tyranny, O, in the battle think on Buckingham and die in terror of thy guiltyness! Dream on, dream on, of bloody deeds and death, fainting, despair, despairing, yield thy breath”:-

Buckingham was the first noble who helped Richard III for making him King and then he become the victim of Richard as tyranny. Die in the terror of your guiltiness. Think of those bloody shameless deeds and murders committed by you and your breath will come to an end by fainting your body Despair, Despairing, yield thy breath!
Buckingham to Richmond:

I died for hope eve, I could lend thee aid
But cheer thy heart, and be thou not dismayed;
God and Good angels fight on Richmond's side
and Richard falls in height of all his pride

-------I am sorry I could have helped you but now I am dead, I express you cheerful life and God and angles will help you in the battle. They will fight from your side and Richard will die, he will fall with all his pride and lust.

Every Ghost reminded Richard about his misdeeds to their side and cursed him with despair death while Richmond received all the blessings with live and flourish, be cheerful and comfortable. Happy victory's blessings to Richmond from Anne and Lord Hastings blessings to became King of England for country's welfare are notable and Shakespeare seems to be always thinking about London's wellbeing.

"Despair and Die" versus “Live and flourish” analogy is the very valuable contribution of Shakespeare to this Drama.

3.4.6 “Whole Kingdom for a horse”? - Man's Lust for life :

In Act V, scene IV in the battle, Richard III has lost his charger and continues on foot in search for Richmond. Richard started searching for a horse shouting "A horse"! a horse! my Kingdom for a horse". I will give my whole Kingdom of England, if anybody gives me one horse for ride, because Richard III know that without riding on horse, Richmond will kill him then in hand to hand combat, Richmond killed Richard

A horse! a horse! my Kingdom for a horse! (Act V scene IV line 7)
A horse! a horse! my Kingdom for a horse! (Act V scene IV line 13)

Here "horse" is a symbol of his being alive, If he gets "horse", he may survive. He puts his whole Kingdom at stake in returns of horse; his being alive is more valuable than his kingdom and his kinship. This is man's lust for life.

What is more important is life to remain alive. The Richard III, a cruel criminal murderer demands and prays for his life; The king who have ruthlessly murdered Edward, Clarence, Anne, Two young princes, lastly prays Almighty God for his own life by demanding the Horse.

This is the real outstanding contribution of Shakespeare is this drama where he has given the message that individuals life is the supreme even than his prestige and Honour.
3.4.7. Conclusion:

The tragedy of King Richard the third, containing his treacherous plots against Clarence the pitable murderer of his innocent nephews and Anne, has tyrannical usurpation with the whole course of his detested life and morst deserved death has been beautifully painted by Shakespeare in his famous drama, Richard III.

In this play, tragedy meets with History or Vice-Versa, Tragedy supersedes the history as Ethics supersedes the politics. The Death of Richard is a result of private sins- private virtues. Really this is the example of tragical history of the life of Richard III.

King Richard III was an cold bloded murderer and thus he was a royal criminal and for him the punishment was the highest i.e. his own death. The highest sin rewarded with highest punishment i.e. ones death.

Shakespeare has putforward and a moral universal truth through this drama and that is wages of sin is death. King has murdered his brothers, his innocent little nephews and his own wife Anne ruthlessly. Of course! he has to die. Death of the Richard was natural in that sense. No other way was there to wash up these sins by giving his own body and blood.

Shakespeare has measured purjury as moral sins but they are actually the crimes of varying degrees. For purjury and murder nobody will forgive you. "There is no creature loves me, And if I die no soul will pity me" - How pitiable condition of Richard III has been painted by Shakespeare.

"Despair and die verses live and flourish" is the dilema Shakespeare has put through the voices of Eight Ghosts in this drama. This is the real message of Shakespeare. Good virtues always live and flourish while bad virtues always despair and die. Richard is the symbol of bad virtues, while Richmond is of good virtues. Good always supersedes bad, "Be good in life and avoid bad" is the message of Shakespeare in this drama.

“Whole Kingdom in place of one horse" - is the man’s real lust for life which is best illustrated by the author in this drama. If I remain alive, “I can get my Kingdom back" To remain alive in the topmost lust of every human being and Richard was not exception to it To beg for once life by putting his prestige and Honour at stake", is the universal feeling of every individual though he may be king earth. or like a common man like Richard any human being on this

Shakespeare’s Richard III is one of the best tragical history not only of England’s king but of the whole England.
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1) Campbell, Lily B., - Shakespeare Political use of History - Page 346
3) Margaret Hotine(1910) , ‘Richard III and Macbeth – Studies I Tudor Tyranny? Notes and Queries
3.5 King John

3.5.0 Introduction:

It is generally said that Shakespeare's King John is directly not based on history sources but on the play in two parts 1) The troublesome Raigne of King John of England (from Holinshed) and 2) Kynge Johan (John Bale). Shakespeare might have written this drama sometime after 1591. The play is divided into 5 acts and 16 scenes. In Act I scene I, Act II, Scene I, Act III Scene I, II, III and IV, Act IV Scene I, II, III and Act V Scene I, II, III, IV, V, VI and VII. The Scene locations are in England - Palace, Room-in Castle, Battlefield, Swinstead Abbey and in France-infront of Angiers, French Kings Tent, Plains near Angiers. The major characters portrayed in this drama are - 1) King John - born 1166, became king on 27 May, 1199 died - Oct. 19, 1216, 2) Prince Henry - Son of King John, born 1206, became king 1216 (as Henry III) died 1272, 3) Arthur, Duke of Britain (i.e. Brittany) posthumous son of Geoffrey (King John's elder Brother). Arthur is the nephew of King John about whose claim on English crown, war took place between Philip of France and John on 3rd April 1203. Arthur was murdered, 4) Philip Faulconbridge, the Bastard, 5) Philip Angustus, King of France- born 1165, became King 1180 died 1223 , 6) Queen Elinor - (Widow of King Henry II, mother of King John) - Elinor of Aquitaine (born 1122 died 1204). As coheiress of her father, she in herited Angon, Touraine and Maine. She was first married to Louis VII of France, who divorced her, afterwards she became the wife of Henry II of England. In the after division of Henry's family, she sided with her sons against her husband, 7) Constance (Mother of Arthur) Daughter of Canon, Duke of Brittany, Succeeded her father, she married Geoffrey, third son of Henry II, who died in 1186. After the death of Richard I in 1199, she supported her son Arthur in his claims to the French fiefs on the English crown. She died in 1201.

The play opens with the (Act I Scene I) claim made by King Philip of France to King John that Arthur is the real successor after your father's death. Elinor, King's mother accepts this claim. Arthur's claim is a just one and that John is a usurper.

The drama ends with (Act V Scene VII lines 112 to 118) Bastard's prophesies that England will be the independent Sovereign State, safe in our hands. As per Holinshed's Chronicle of England [(1587) ed III (1323)
“This Little Iland, God having so bountifully bestowed his blessings upon it, that except it prove false within it self, no treason whatsoever can prevailed against it, and the pope being hereof verie well persuaded by reason that all his attempts have proved of no effect : he hath found out a meane, whereby the assureth himself to speed of his desire. Secrete rebellion must be strived here at home among themselves, the hearts of the people must be obdurated against God and their prince, so that when a foren power shall on a sudden invade this realme, the subjects thus seduced must join with these in armes, and so shall the pope atteine the some of his wish.”

At the end of the drama. King John appears striken with illness. The dying melun betrays the real French design on England. The nobles become again loyal Englishmen and the Dauphin is forced to leave in England. John is poisoned by a monk and Prince Henry at the age of Nine years is recognized as his successor [Henry III] When peace is restored between France and England.

Treatment of Shakespeare to the history of England through the drama 'King John' can well be studied through various characters displayed. The study of following characters will give full justice to the work
1) King John
2) Arthur - the blinding scene - memorable creation of Shakespeare
3) Bastard - Philip Falconbridge - clash between actual illegitimacy and legal legitimacy.

3.5.1 King John :

King John’s character in this play is the mixture of Kings characters as given in the troublesome Raigne and Kynge Johan (of John Bale) King John became King of England on 27-5-1199, after the death of his brother Richard coeur-de-lion. Kings claim over England's throne was disputed by Prince Arthur, the nephew of King John. As per precedent of England's succession, through male representative, King John's selection was accepted by nobles and Archbishop. But King of France supported Arthur, Duke of Brittany after denial, war broke into. Thus John is the oppressor of an innocent child [Arthur] and at the same time he is champion of England against the Pope. He is at the same time hero and villain. There is a clash between dominance of Church and that of Kingship's authority. John said that he is an anointed King, he does not recognise Pope’s jurisdiction and authority. No Italian Prist "Shall tithe the or toll. In his dominions.

King John (Act III Scene I lines 152-160)
“To charge me to an answer, as the Pope
Tell him this tale and from the mouth of England
Add thus much more, that no Italian Priest
Shall tithe or toll in our dominions;
But as we, under heaven are supreme Head
So under Him, that great supremacy
Whom we do reign, we will alone uphold
Without the assistance of a mortal hand
So tell the pope, all reverence set apart
To him and his usurp'd authority.”

Thus, King John challenged the authority of Pope and said that he is supreme under the heaven and hence he has every right to be the King of England. Lastly Pandulph, the holy legatee of the Pope orders the King of France to break his alliance with John and to raise the power of France upon his head, unless he submits himself to Rome. King Philip, thus breaks the treaty.

Shakespeare painted King John as man, greedy of power and reptile in craft for selfish ends a striking murder and an ungrateful King. To the other side, he is at the head of England and because he represents England by his position, he is to be supported not for his own sake but for the sake of country.

Lastly, King John has been poisoned by one of the monks at Swinstead on 19th October 1216.

3.5.2. Arthur, Duke of Britain - Blinding Scene- memorable creation

Arthur was a son of King John's elder brother Geoffreys. His claim on the throne of England was supported by Philip, King of France. Arthur was born in 1187. as posthumous son of Geoffrey and Constance, Richard I named him as his heir in 1190. After the coronation of John as King of England, the nobles in France asked the Kingship of England for Arthur. War ensued between King of France and John. John got victory. Treaty was made Again in 1202, Arthur, at the age of 15, was forced into war with his uncle by Philip. Arthur was captured by John on 1-8-1202. He was imprisoned at Falaise and then at Romen. In a room, in London castle, the Arthur was imprisoned. A boy of hardly 14 years was to be punished by blinding him with hot Iron rods. This blinding scene, (Act IV Scene II) is one of the great scenes that redeem the play. The lovable boy, Arthur pleading so persuasively for his eyes and the stern Hubert, who in
spite of all efforts melts at last. These are the two most memorable creations of Shakespeare. The language of the Scene on the whole is thrilling in its simplicity and directions. Before actual blinding various threats were given to Arthur, Such as murder, blinding, castration, etc. [Holinshed mentioned murder and blinding of Arthur at John's instigation Ralph of coggeshall reports that certain counsellors suggested Arthur be blinded and castrated.]

In the early morning, Hubert enters with a rope and irons:-

Arthur –“ Mercy on me! (IV/I/13)

....... my uncle practices more harm to me (IV/I/20)

He is afraid of me and I of him

Is it my fault that I was Geoffrey's son?

No indeed it's not, and I would to heaven

I were your son, so you would me, Hubert (IV/I/24)

Arthur appeals him not to blind him, if you were my father, would you have done this act?

Hubert –“ If I talk to him, with his innocent prate

He will awake my mercy which lies dead

Therefore I will be sudden & dispatch

Arthur ask Hubert whether he is more tough than hot Iron bar.

Arthur - are you more stubborn - hard than hammered iron?

Lastly Arthur said - O save me, Hubert, save me (IV/I/67)

Do not bind me - I will sit as quiet as a lamb I will not stir nor wince, nor speak a word, not look upon the iron angrily. Lastly, Hubert decides not to hurt the (IV/I/80 to 82) eyes of the Arthur and says him the pretty child

Hubert - .... And pretty child, sleep doubtless and secures, that Hubert, for the wealth of all the world will not offend thee (IV/I/130 to 133)

Shakespeare blinding scene is the memorable creation in the historical dramas of England. Shakespeare has used the careful words while convincing the cold blooded murderer i.e. Hubert.

Lastly, in the attempt to escape, Arthur leaps from the castle walls, falls on the stones below and dies.

3.5.3 Bastard - Philip Falconbridge - Clash between actual illegitimacy and legal legitimacy
This character has been described by Holinshed in the older drama as "The same year (1199) Philip, Bastard son to King Richard I. Killed the Vicount of Limoges, in revenge of his father's death who was slaine .......... in besieging the castles of Chalus Chenerell"

Robert Falconbridge (Act II Scene I Lines 114-115 and 130-131)
"Let me have, what is mine, my father's land as was my fathers will"
"Shall then my father’s will be of no force, to dispossess that child which is not his?"

Philip (the illegitimate son of Richard I) and Robert (the legitimate son of Richard I) approaches King John and said that Robert is denying his claim on his father's property as he is bastard. Robert is depriving Philip from income from their father's estate. Queen Elinor points out resemblances in speech and physical appearance between Philip and late Richard I. John observes the striking similarity in both, even being illegitimate, King John decreed that Robert has no legal basis for the suit and Philip, the Bastard may inherit title and property despite Sir Robert Falconbridge's will. Queen Elinor offers Philip to be the noble and John King John's service. King John legitimizes Philip by dubbing him Sir Richard Plantagenet. Lady Falconbridge the widow of Sir Robert and the mother of Bastard, confesses that Richard cocur-de-lion seduced her and begate Philip. Then, the Bastard thanks his mother for giving him such a father and tells her that she was guilty of no sin in conceiving him.

In Act I scene I, Shakespeare has put forward a legal question about wills interpretation and legal legitimacy and actual illegitimacy.

Of course! Bastard was knighted by John and becomes the hero of the play. The representative of English courage, humour and common sense.

Bastard, as shown by Shakespeare was a political diplomat. He advised King John and King Philip (Act II Scene I) To keep aside their rivalry temporarily, join forces, conquer the people of Angiers and then resolve their disputes in battle. Both the Kings accepts Bastard’s diplomacy.

Bastard as portrayed by Shakespeare was a patriot, a soldier and a diplomat, besides that, he was also gifted with an ebullient source of humour which enables him to survey mankind with a measure of detachment, But his cynicism and detachment are mingled with good humour which enables him to excuse his mothers adultery. To him, her fault was not her folly. How could a mere woman resist the advances of a man - "Against whose fury and unmatched force. The aweless him could not wage the fight (I/I/265-66)
When King John, proudly proclaims the prowess of his 30000 hearts of England's breed and King Philip of As many and as well borne bloods as those, the Bastard jokingly recalls that both the armies, trut-bred as they are, contain a fair portion of bastards, too!

Other characters in this drama i.e. Philips – King of France, Queen Elinor (Mother of King John) Constance (Mother of Arthur) are supportive to the subject portrayed in this drama.

3.5.4 Conclusion :

The Shakespeare’s drama King John is a delicious combination of the troublesome Raigne of King John of England and Kynge John. The play open with the claim made by France King that Arthur is the real successor after the death of King Henry II, the father of King John. While the drama ends with Bastards prophesies that England will be the independent, sovereign state safe in the hands of English King, nobles, and subjects. This England never did nor never shall, "lie at the proud foot of a conqueror.

The King John dies by poisoning through a monk and Prince Henry at 9 years age is recognised as his successor (Henry III) and peace is restored inbetween France and England.

King John is the historical drama of a new style. It is the history play and a drama of ideas. Many critics admit that this drama is dimly historical and historical medly and not a history play at all. The history is mainly depicted through -1) Arthur challenging Jon's title (Actually Arthur never challenged, it is challenged by King of France and his mother Constance) as King of England, 2) The French Kings championship of Arthur's cause, 3) French invasion and, 4) John’s inglorious death - all these incidents are true to history of England and France. This is the drama of ideas.

The blinding scene of Arthur is the memorable creation of Shakespeare. In the early morning Hubert enters with a hot iron-rod and Arthur demands mercy - If I were your son, you would have blinded me? The question asked by the innocent boy is heart shaking. Shakespeare has used careful words while convincing cold blooded murder i.e. Hubert. Lastly Arthur falls from the castle walls and dies.

Bastard’s character is nothing but a legal clash between actual illegitimacy and legal legitimacy. The difference between testament and will is discussed though it is having similar meanings in the present law references. The patriotism, sense of humour are the qualities of Bastard portrayed in this drama.
In sum, this drama is a perfect combination of historical fact and ideas. The most important in this drama is the message given by the Shakespeare at that time that England will be the Sovereign, Independent state and no other country in this world can move its independence. It is true still today.

References:
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3.6 Richard II

3.6.0 - Introduction:

Historical drama is based on the facts of history. A good historical play is a skillful mixture of facts and fiction, reality and invention. Shakespeare was an author of his age sharing the views. He was concerned with the life of the nation, still his concept of history was more royal than national and more personal than social and political.

Richard II cannot be dated perfectly. It might have written before 1595, while first quarto edition has prepared in 1597. In globe theatre, its first show was arranged on 7-2-1601. The play consist of five Acts and 19 Scenes and most of the Scene are pictured in London (Palace, Elee's palace, Windsor Castale, Gloucester, Shire Westminster Hall.) And in wells (Bristle, Coast and Flint Fort).

The material of the drama is taken almost entirely from Raphel Holinshed’s (1577) chronicle with some additional hints from stowe, though a few episodical scenes such as the death of John of Gaunt and Richard’s last interview with his queen are of Shakespear’s own invention. Dr. Forman mentions in his diary the performance at the Globe on 30.4.1611 of Richard II, whose incidences were taken chiefly from the early years of the reign and thus differs essentially from those handled by Shakespeare.

The main characters in the play are - 1) Richard II King 2) John of Gaunt – duke of Lancaster 3) Thomas Mowbray – Duke of Norfolk 4) Henry Bolingbroke – Duke of Hereford and 5) Queen Isabel - wife of King

The Richard II play, is perfect reflection of the patriotism, as during Shakespeare's lifespan there was nationalism and patriotism in England. In this play, any English King is not the hero but the whole England herself is the real hero. All the characters in the play show loving devotion to their country and total welfare of England. The King, the nobles, the commens love their country.

The nationalism has been well reflected through following characters in Richard II.

1) Richard II the King
2) John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster
3) Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk
4) Henry Bolingbroke, Duke of Hereford
5) The Gardeners
3.6.1 King Richard's Patriotism:

King Richard came back from Ireland to his country. He saluted the country in the sense of patriotism. He loved his country as he loved his mother. He addresses his nation as mother. He stood upon his Kingdom with the weeping tears. King Richard was a great patriotist. He broke into tears for getting, a chance to come back to his soil. He calls his Kingdom, the dear Earth and Salutes her mother earth with his hands. He curses the rebellians who have wounded his mother with the horses hoofs. He calls himself as a child who remained parted for number of years away from his mother. King has two distinct feelings in his mind, the sorrow of remaining away from England and the joy of coming back on the Earth, England, so with weeing and smiling he has greeted the beloved mother. The Earth, is Kingdom, the England. This clearly depicts his patriotism towards his country. His love for his country is more sentimental.

3.6.2 John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster:

Shakespeare, through Richard II play, has made glorious tribute to England, her King and her people. Gaunt’s dying speech and advice to King Richard is a master piece which contains every sense of patriotism and every cause producing it.

England in the earth of Majesty. England in the other Eden, This is semi-paradise. Paradise is in the heaven but the demiparadise is on the Earth and that is England. Nature has itself built this England as a beautiful fortress for herself. "England is the precious stone installed in the silver sea."

The England herself is earth's blessed plot. England is the realm of the Gold. The "Geography of England" is properly depicted by the Shakespeare as a poet. This poetic Historical Geography is the precious golden realm in the Richard II play of Shakespeare.


The gratitude of Shakespeare towards the people of England is also reflected through the mouth of Gaunt (Act II, Scene I)

This land of such dear souls, this most beloved country of ours is enclosed by Victorious Oceans and whose rocky shores are strong to resist and firmly stand the furious nature the mighty sea.
Shakespeare has beautifully painted the glorious history and beautiful Geography of England through the mouthpiece of Gaunt. Thus Shakespeare was really the great historian and Geographer of England of those days.

3.6.3 Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk:

In Act I Scene III, Richard has announced severe punishment for Mowbray, the Duke of Norfolk, of the banishment for ever and never to return. After this announcement, Thomas Mowbray expresses his love for English language, his mother tongue, the English tongue and he regrets that he would never been able to pronounce it.

This patriotism of Mowbray is reflected through following lines (Act I/Scene III):

"The language, I have learned these fourty years, my native English, how I must forgo, I must now renounce forever and forget it. To me now my tongue would be unstrunged violin or a harp of which the strings have been dismantled. My tongue would be like a valuable musical instrument kept in lock and key. You have enjailed my tongue within my mouth encircled in my own teeth and lips, hence your punishment for me is nothing but a speechless death as you have taken out my tongue from speaking my mothertongue (Act I Scene III)

The Mowbray, saying is nothing but a love towards English language which is soul of English people. To lock one's speech is violation of "freedom of speech and expression " as guaranteed in various constitutions. To love one's own language is to worship ones Nation, ones Country. This is the real patriotism, which Shakespeare has uttered through the vice of Mowbray, Shakespeare's love towards English as a mothertongue is a remarkable example for those people who hate their mother tongue and run after foreign languages.

3.6.4 Henry Bolingbroke, Duke of Hereford:

Henry Bolingbroke is the son of John of Gaunt, He is Duke of Hereford. His patriotism is noteworthy and is reflected though following lines:

"Then England's ground, Farewell sweet social adieu
My mother, and my nurse, that bears me yet!
Wherelet I wander, boast of these I can
Though banished yet a true born Englishman.

Henry Bolingbroke is a true Englishman. He is a true lover of his country. Against all his other ambitions, his love and lust towards England ranks top. His patriotism is more practical and not sentimental or emotional as that of Richard. He never made the open exhibition of his
love towards country. His feelings are silent and speechless. He is as patriotic as his father John of Gaunt. The soil of the England is a sacred ground full of sweet soil. The soil is as sweet as of Honey and sugar. My England is my mother and nurse. I am true Englishman, born Englishman; Shakespeare through the words of Bolingbroke, speaks out to be a true Englishman; This is the real history that Shakespeare came out through Richard II.

3.6.5 The Gardeners :

The common people of England too love their country. Their patriotism is well reflected through the voice of Gardener in Act III scene IV of Richard II. The common subordinates of England worship their country in a following way:-

“Hath seized the wasteful king, O what pity is it,  
That he had not so trimmed and dressed his land.  
As we this garden! We at time of year  
Do wound the bark, the skin of our fruit trees  
Had he done so to great and growing men.  
They might have lived to bear and to taste  
Their fruits of duty, superfluous branches  
Had he done so, himself had borne the crown.”

Gardener blames the King that he did not keep in order his Kingdom, as gardeners do their gardens. Even we at appropriate time peel away the back of our fruit trees. The Gardener painfully blames the king by saying that if the King had pruned and controlled his overambitious men, they might have lived and grown to bear fruit and the king would have eaten and have tasted the fruits of their duty. The England of Shakespeare's dream is reflected well through above lines. This is the sense of patriotism of Shakespeare and hence his all dramas are of Historical in nature.

3.6.6 History of England through Richard II

Shakespeare’s approach is more royal and personal while writing all the historical plays. He has used Holinshed’s chronicle of England, Scotland and Ireland and tried to place before the reader; the Kingship during 14th century. All the important events and characters are taken from history. Loyalty to the Kingship is well reflected in Richard II. Patriotism is found in almost all major charaters including King, officers and common people. To one side King seems to be more loyal to his seat and office but to the other side, the author has tried to unfold the black
side of Richard II. The weaknesses of Richard II as a King and his misdeeds have been highlighted in the Drama. Killing the uncle and grabbing the property of the cousin i.e. Henry Balingbroke are Kings misdeed which England has faced during 29-4-1398 to March 1400. Richards office of Kingship was sheded with the revenges and thus King was traitor but the country should not suffer as Head of the country made the misdeeds.

According to Herford, Shakespeare’s view is “The usurpation was necessary for England but it was not the less necessary that England should suffer for it”

The play Richard II was published first in August 1597. Shakespeare might have written it 1595 mainly because the queen Elizabeth's Kingdom was worried by number of problems. The Shakespeare by publishing Richard II was trying to bring out before the then politicians, the Reign of Richard II. A true historian is one who puts before the people what happened in past, so that they should learn the lesson in the present time to safeguard their future. In that sense Shakespeare was a true Historian.

3.6.6 (a) History leading towards tragedy :

Richard II is true history of England lastly ended in tragedy. It is political tragedy of Richard II. Henry Bolingbroke revolted against the King. King was imprisoned and put to death. King Richard II suffered owing to his own faults and mistakes. There is a fall of the King from prosperity to perishness. Shakespeare gives warning to the then Kings, noble and common people that, "As you sow so you Reap" Shakespeare was the silent spectator of English Kingdom during his life time. He has observed the regime of queen Elizabeth and silently criticized it comparing with Richard II administration. Richard II is a political tragedy in which author approached towards the tragedy of character which is the quality of Shakespeare's maturity and acute observations of the current political affairs of the then Kingdom.

The History of the political situations of the England during Richard II Kingship is properly reflected in this play.

The King, the nobles and the common people here having contradictory visions with vivid interrelationship. King was sovereign, using his divine powers and priviledges nobles were opposing King and his administration and common people were ignorant about their rights and even duties. Thus there was a chaos which is perfectly reflected in drama. Hence Richard II drama is the well illustration of political theory that when sole power is given in the hands of a
single ruler and he uses it as per his own whims, the tyranny is the only result. Shakespeare has put forward this theory through Richard II drama.

3.6.7 Conclusion

The Richard II Drama is the one of the best outcome of Shakespeare on political History of England during 14th Century. The Patriotism, Nationalism is well reflected through major character i.e. King, Duke of Lancaster, Duke of Norfolk, Duke of Hereford and Gardner. King Richard loved his motherland after returning from Ireland. The poetic Historical Geography is the precious golden realm in this play. John of Gaunt expressed his patriotism through narrative description of England. Gaunts advice to King Richard is a masterpiece which contains every sense of patriotism. Thomas Mowbray has expressed his nationalism through his mothertongue. He loved English language as his mother. Henry Bolingbrook's patriotism was more practical. England is the mother and nurse for him. The Gardiner, the common servant has blamed the king as he has not taken care of his Kingdom comparing it with Garden.

Richard II drama is historical one, his approach is royal and personal. The Richard II’s Governments and administrations shaded with revenges and misdeeds. Shakespeare has painted the weaknesses of King and his misdeeds. A true Historian is one who puts before the reader what happened in the past, so that they should learn the lesson for the present to safeguard their future. In that sense, Shakespeare was a true Historian. Richard II is the History of England lastly ended in tragedy "As you sow, so you reap" is the outcome of this drama and hence Shakespeare's Richard II is the masterpiece in painting Historical – political — tragedy of the then England in the poetic way; we have to salute Shakespeare for producing such a nice dramatic literature.

References :
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3.7 King Henry IVth Part I (1596)
1 Henry IV (1 H 4)

3.7.0 Introduction:

King Henry IV is, “an epic drama, and the creation of dramatic epic is the noblest achievement of Shakespeare’s genius” (Tillyard, 1962). The play as a whole, Both part I and Part II embodies National ideas and ideals. It dramatizes, the contemporary Tudor view of History. Both the parts of King Henry IV, constitute a single play of 10 acts, even though, each part is divided in to 5 acts. Both the parts have the same main characters i.e. King Henry IV, Henry Prince of Wales, Henry Percy the Earl of Northumberland, Sir John Falstaff, the irregular humorist and his comrades etc. Because of this, there is sometimes repetition, while judging the plot construction, characterization and the treatment of history.

The part I of Henry IV might have been written in the year 1596, while it has registered with the stationer’s company on February 25, 1598. Its quarto might have published in the year 1598. The drama consists of 5 Acts and its distribution is as follows: Act I – 3 scenes, Act II-4 scenes, Act III 3 scenes, Act IV 4 scenes, and Act V-5 scenes (Total 5 Acts and 19 scenes) The main locations are in England and Wales.

For Henry IV drama as a whole, Shakespeare found his materials from Holinshed’s Chronicle, which he followed with great fidelity, even with its errors. For the comic scenes, he drew hints from an old play, The famous victories of Henry V, which dealt in rough fashion with prince Hal’s youthfull escapids and suggested the names of East cheap, Gadshils and Sir John old caste. This part i.e. 1 H 4 covers a period of rather less than a year. From the battle of Halmedon Sept. 14, 1402 to that of shrewsbury, July 21, 1403. In principle of unity of the Act, there are some lacunas. Historical and comic scenes alternate without apparent connection and the presence of Falstaff, an offspring of the dramatic imagination amidst the figures of national tradition is a puzzling problem.

The reign of H4 was not the smooth one. King Richard had nominated the Earth of March, Edmund Mortimer as his heir to the throne, he being childless. Henry with this danger, was also involved in the civil war. Percies became dominant and demanded high returns for their
services in making Henry the king. But the treasury was empty. The precise had won battle at Hamildon hill in which Douglas and other were made captives. Harry Hotspur refused to have over prisoners to the king unless king paid for the ransome of his brother in-law, Mortimer, who was taken captive by Owen. King refused this demand.

At last, Hotspur raised the arms against the king. Hotspur expected his allies to come to his help with big army. But Owen Glendower, Earl of Northumberland and Archbishop of York do not join with Hotspur. Poor Hotspur is left entirely to his own resources and army and is compelled to find against the large military of king. A battle is fought at shrewsbury in July 1403. The rebels fight bravely but lastly Hotspur was defeated and killed in the hands of Price of Wales. But the rebellion, Still three powerfull rebels were alive i.e. Earl of Northumberland, Archbishop of York and Owen of Glendour. Hence, immediately after the battle is over, the king starts preparation for subduing them. King devides his army into two parts, swords are under the command of his son and he himself leads as a commander of the other parts towards Wales.

The first part of king Henry IV, thus presents the revolt of Hotspur against the king which ends with his defeat and death in the battle of Shrewsbury.

1H4, embodies the Elizabethan conception of History. According to Elizabethan belief, King was supposed to be Gods deputy on Earth, and the deposition of king or the usurpation of his crown amounts to sin, which brought with it, the curse of revolt, insurrection, civil war and rebellion. It is this moral view of History which Author has illustrated through the events which followed the deposition and murder of Richard II an and the usurpation of the English throne by Henry Bolingroke. Though Henry became king, he could know not a moments peace of mind. His conscience pricked him, he was continuously on the march putting downs. One revolt after the another, till his death. The life of Henry IV is a world of violence, bloodshed and disorder and Prince Henry, the price of wales, himself leads a Bohemian life in the company of certain disreputed characters and the life which he leads is symbolic of the decay and corruption that has over taken the land.”

The following characters and incidences can be studied from this part from the research point of view :-


1) Falstaff :- “A man of witty and cause of will”
2) Henry IVth play :- “Creation of Tudor Erastian world.”
3) Hotspur : “A man of Impulsive Rashness.”

3.7.1 Sir John Falstaff :- “A man of witty and cause of will”

Sir John Falstaff, the fact and giant knight in Henry IV is at the centre of this comic underpot. Much of the wit and humor comes from him. The author has fully exploited all the possibilities of producing humour through his character. His bulk, his actions, his lies, his wit, his behavior produce all the humour in the play. He dominates the comic plot so much that we nearly forget the other comic characters.

In the whole range of English literature, this is most popular character. Shakespeare’s own audiences adored him and the queen herself is said to have asked shakerspare to write a play showing Falstaffulf in love. Sir, Maurice Morgan, the great critics has devoted nearly 200 pages to his Vicidication. Maurice Morgan writes :- “Falstaff is a man at once young and old, enterprising and fat, a dupe and awit, harmless and wicked, weak in principle and resolute by constitution. Cowardly in appearance and brave in reality, know without malice, a liar without deceit, and a knight, a gentleman and a soldier without either dignity, decency or honour.

Falstaff is an uncommonly bulky fellow and Shakespeare has made ample use of this bulk for humour. Prince Hal always makes fun of this fatness of the Falstaff :- “He is that swollen parcel of dropsies, that huge, bombard of sack, that stufted cloak bag of guts, that roasted Manistee ox with a pudding in his belley”….

Even Falstaff uses his own fatness for creating humour. zest for life is a very possible and notable quality of Falstaff. He is not a young man any more. But his love of enjoying life is very contagious. His chief sources of enjoyment are eating and drinking. He is addict of sack. Even during the battle, he carries bottle of wine in place of a sword.

The chief source of humour in the play is John’s wit and resourcefulness. Once he remarks, “were it not here apparent that thou art heir apparent.” Here, he makes use of fin pun on the word “apparent” The main source of humour is Falstaff skill in parody. In Henry IV drama there are many examples of parody. There is, for example to double parody, of style and
plot in which Falstaff plays the part of the king to give Prince Henry an opportunity to practice his excuses. Mounting his throne, he dismisses the Hostess, who is half hysterical at the mimicking of royalty, in over rhetorical verse—“For God’s sake, lords, come my tristful queen; for tears do stop the flood-gates of her eyes.”

Here; Falstaff paralyses the style of Lyly’s Euphes a work characterised by exaggerated antithesis and alliteration, and by similies and metaphor’s drawn from far fetched natural history. In a nutshell, Falstaff is certainly the greatest triumph of Shakespeare’s comic arouse” Hazlitt said, “He is perhaps, the most substantial comic characters that ever was invented.”

3.7.2 Henry IVth Play—“Creation of Tudor Erastian world”

The true vision of Richard III was that of a kingdom, the evil kingdom, under God. This kingdom is inspired by secularism of expediency and commodity where god plays no role. Before his exposition on Governance the issues, predominate were “Is the king right or wrong?” “Is the state just or unjust?” Dan be changed these as—“Is the king strong or weak? And is the state secure or insecure?”

The political affiliations of Shakespeare seem to have been vacillated from one extreme to another. He has probed into political philosophy that he existed till his age. In Henry fourth, he created “The Tudor Erastian World.” The reference to religious is superficial and incidental. The play or both plays reflect a cause and effect of political effort and a sense of compelling reality. However religious sentimentality is not deleted completely.

The Author follows Holinshed, in being pedantic about the sin and grief and keeps the play strong secular leaving out the nonsecular emotions of his source. Here Henry’s conscience troubles him, but his worry is mainly due to the futility of an inevitable disaster. King’s reign was unquiet and troubled as rebels were untruly and riotous. Rebles were overambitious. Normal order was flouted or disrupted in the rebellions.

Shakespeare is undoubtedly fawing the Elizabethan spirit as brought out by Ribner while referring ‘Tydalls obedience of a christian’ man where he states:

“Yea, and it is better to have a tyrant unto the king than a shadow.”
3.7.3 Hotspur – “Man of Impulsive Rashness”

Hotspur or Henry Percy is the son of Earl of Northumberland. Of course, son and father are in sharp contrast to one another. Father is chillingly calculating while son is almost reckless, burning fire blazoning inside him. Father has sugar-sweet tongue, while the son’s disregard for people around him is phenomenal. Hotspur’s anger and rage are uncontrollable and he needlessly expends enormous energy which he could have used to advantage in battle. The range with which he contributes to the coup to overthrow the king is hardly biffing a man of high intellect and can not possibly anger well for the rebels. His gigantic and a city has its purpose though in actual battle and this is well recognized by his father and uncle who know worth of his intemperate favour that can kindle the spirit of those sharing in dangerous undertaking and be inspired into a similar disdain for the authority of the crown. He is a man of action. He is powerful, brilliant soldier and is bound to be their main weapon, if they are to succeed. Hotspur is a soldier in the real sense of the world. No danger is too great for him. No problem is too acute that it cannot be solved. To Hotspur the battle ground is his playfield as well as him Church. He is over enjoyed when he learns that the king is rushing to meet them in battle, That the time has arrived when “fields and blows and groans” shall appland their sport. He is even more eager to meet the madcap prince of Wales. Hotspur is bad example of statesmanship and he makes no pretension to being a statesman. To him, statecraft is an Alien and even disdainful subject. But, he is honorable courageous and full of profound lofty thought.

“Hotspur is the hero of the tender stage, in different to culture, and polish faithfully to his brother in arms to the point of risking every thing for his sake, caring neither for state, king or commons arebel, not for the sake of any political idea but because independence is all to him, a proud, self reliant, unscrupulous vassal, who himself a sort of sub-king, has deposed one king and wants to depose the usurper he has exhaled, because be has not kept his promises. Clothed in renown and even more insatiate of military honour, he is found from the independence of spirit and truthful out of pride.”

3.7.4 Conclusion:

The basis of Henry IV is in history. The author has treated history imaginary and creatively. He has condensed some events and modified some facts in order to give greater
intensity and effectiveness. In Henry IV, the Shakespeare has found out its material from Holinshed’s chronicle accepted it along with its errors. The major characters in this play are King Henry IV, Henry Prince of Wales, Henry Percy, Sir John Falstaff and few more. Henry IV part one is the creation of Tudor Erastian world. Author has probed into political philosophy. The references to the religion are superficial. Elizabethan spirit is brought out in this play. Without mentioning sir John Falstaff, the study of this play will be incomplete. Much of the wit and humour comes from him. The Author has fully exploited all the possibilities of this comic character. In the whole range of the English literature, this is most popular character. Shakespeare’s own audience adored Falstaff and queen Elizabeth asked Shakespeare that Falstaff’s character be displayed in such a way that he is in love with beautiful girl. Parody is the feature which comes out through his character.

Hotspur, the another important character, is the man of impulsive rashness. He is straightforward rough & bold. He is the hero of the feudal stage, indifferent to culture and polish. He is not interested in statecraft but found of battle. He compares battlefield with play ground and moves in a battle as a skillful player on the ground. I sum, the play is the unique creation of the Shakespeare.
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3.8 King Henry IV\textsuperscript{th}, Part II (1597)  
2 Henry IV (2H4)

3.8.0 Introduction -

Part I and part II of Henry IV\textsuperscript{th} in reality constitutes one play in 10 acts. Part II was written in 1597 and its separate publication is in the year 1600. The 2H4 consist of 5 acts and 19 scenes (act I-3, act II-4, act III – 2, act IV- 5, act V-5) As part I and part II are based on the same theme, the sources are also the same. Shakespeare has used Holinshed’s chronicle of course with errors as the main source for the other scenes; he drew hints form an old play, “The famous victories of Henry V, as 1 H 4 covers a period rather less than a year from the battle of Holmdon sept. 14 1402 to that of Shrewsbury, the 21-7-1403 remaining year till Henrys death in the year 1413, the total drama of 10 acts, because of its big length might have divided into two parts. This play instead of working to climax dwindles as it proceeds in purely dramatic interest and has a decidly tame ending.

Both the parts of Henry fourth, have the same theme viz the revolt of the barons against king Henry IV. Hotspur dies at the end of 1 H 4. still rebellion are alive and hence king Henry becomes again active and at the beginning of 2 H 4. the king sends an army against rebellions dividing in 2 parts. The king himself moves against Owen Glendower, but unable to crush his power completely. The main rebels in 2\textsuperscript{nd} part are Archbishop of York and his allies lords Hastings, Mowbray and Bardolph. Later, they fall into the trap which Earl of westmoreland lays for them. Lastly rebels are subdued and rebellion were crushed but Henry IV got disturbed. his reign was troubled with a prolonged (civil) war, his peace of mind and his physical health was disturbed. Anxiety and overwork ruin his health, he suffered by insomnia and he dies. The play ends with Henry V as the new king of England with the new king dawns new era in English history. The civil war ends at longlast and the restless energy of the English barons is utilized for a new purpose i.e. the conquest of France one cannot therefore separate the glorious days of Henry IV nor can one dissociate them from the dissentiaus with which the country was turn after him,for the simple reason that these dissentiaus were a sequel to his victories.
The following main facts can be studied from research point of view.

1) Henry IV as unique, historical play.
2) Humour in the play – “An endless source of laughter“
3) Character of king Henry IV

3.8.1 - Henry IV – “As unique historical play.”

As seen in major English and Roman plays, Shakespeare’s historical play consist of dominant theme i.e. man’s success or failure in life. How a man may fail or how he may succeed in attaining a practical mastery of the world. Shakespeare studies not what man is but what he does, it is his success or failure in the world which determines what he does.

Shakespeare’s vision in his historical plays is limited to this world and its values. Hence, they lack in depth of spiritual significance. The issues with which they deal are not the infinite issues of life and death. They deal with the finite issues of failure or success in the achieving of practical ends. Shakespeare’s real concern in his tragedies is man’s spiritual experiences, his joys and sufferings and the forces responsible for them. Does man bring about his own doom, or is there a divinity that shapes his will? Power and greatness suffers and fails to achieve this end? Are there mysterious powers above which shape our doom and destiny or is our doom brought about for them. Does man bring about his own doom or is there a divinity that shapes his will? How is it that man in spite of all his nobility and goodness by some flaw in our own nature? These are some of the problems with which Shakespeare is concerned in his tragedies and is trying to solve these riddles, he tries to understand the moral constitution of the universe itself and the nature of the forces operating in it.

Life in Shakespeare’s historical plays is not a mystery but a known fact and the forces beyond man’s control. Life in them is a known fact. There is a direct relationship of cause and effect between man’s character and his success or failure in life. Certain qualities are needed for success, their absence lends to failure and their presence to the achievement of desired end.

As a historical play, King Henry IV presents hostility and fight between two groups of rebels and the royalists. Rebels are disunited and this is the main cause of their defeat. While king has strong army. On the contrary, Hotspur does not get the promised help from allies, even
his own father has not helped him. Hotspur was compelled to fight alone, In 2H4, the same history was repeated. The Earl of Northamberland does not go to help the York at a time when he and his friends are in sore need of his help.

The other factors of rebel’s defect are selfishness, insincerity and incapacity to understand the other side’s real motive. The king’s supporters like the Prince of Wales, The Duke of Lancestar and the Earl of Westmoreland are superior to the rebels both in use of arms and in the employment of guide. The Kings own qualities coupled with the ability and faithfulness of his allies lead ultimately to his success.

3.8.2. Humour in Shakespearean play – “An endless source of laughter”

Humour in Shakespearean play is featured by universal sympathy, infinite tolerance and unique catholicity. The characters in comic roles are downright cheats, Thieves and cowards and yet form their personality radiates an extremely delightful Humour. That Archhumourist Falstaff, who is not only witty in himself but also the cause of wit in other men, is a bundle of vices. He has only one ideal in life and it is to live and live well at the costs of others. Good food and sack he must have and must consume both heavily; and to get them, he must rob others. He makes no difference in rich and poor while cheating. He cheats a poor hostess out of her money with as much readiness as wealthy justice shallow. He and his huge circle are huge sources of comic in the play. Shakespeare has made delightful humour in this play. “He does not laugh at, but laughs with Falstaff.” Because humour is the sympathy with the seamy side of life. Shakespeare’s humour is born of his philosophy of tolerance of his attitude of universal sympathy.

Variety is another feature of humour. Shakespeare’s humour ranges from sheer Buffoonery, meant to please the groundlings, to the subtlets and most refined wit. It ranges from dogberry and verges on one side to the fool in ‘King Lear’ on the other. Force, satire, wit and Irony all are found in Shakespeare’s humour.

The variety is found in 2H4, for example, pistol and Justice shallow both are farcical characters and as such farcical humour emanates from their speech and action. Again, Mistress Quickly’s Misuse of words given rise to farcical humour. Some examples are seen in Act I Scene II lines 133-139. One notable example is given below:

-
“Prince :- Why thau globe of sinful continents, what a life dost thou led ?
Falstaff:- A better than thau ;I am a gentleman, you art a drawer (IIIV|240-243)”

The example of ‘Satire’ can be found out in pistols silly bombasts. The Elizabethan audience was excessively found of puns and quibbles, and to gratify the taste of his audience, Shakespeare freely introduces satire in the play, Even Falstaff while talking to such a high official as the chief justice, does not hesitate to use pun and quibble.

The humour is also found on the battlefield in the scene whose Falstaff arrests and colville(ActIV Scene III)

In this play, the serious and comic scenes have common characters for instance, the prince and Falstaff belong both to the world of serious affairs and comic subplots. The chief justice also appears in two comic scenes namely in Act I scene II Act II and scene I. Bardolph, Pistol and pains, the characters appearing in the comic scenes have some slight connection with the main story also. They are at least soldiers in the kings army. Then in another comic scene, (III/ii) Falstaff recruits soldiers from the kings army, which is an action directly connected with civil war. In another scene (i.e Act IV scene III), he chases the flying rebels and arrests Colville.

3.8.3 Character of King Henry IV

Henry IV, the king of England usurped the throne from Richard II and suffered continual rebellion, and civil turmoil until his death. Weary of constant political strife, and the unprincely conduct of his son and heir, the iron willed king continues to defend the crown by any means available him, hoping only for civil peace, to allow him to mount an expedition to the holy land where it has been prophesied that he will die. Illness seizes him at the moment his forces have finally put down the last rebellions. When the king regains consciousness, he discovers the crown gone from his bed and bitterly condemns his son. Prince Henry for proving he loves only the privileges of the crown and has no regard either for his father or for the grave responsibilities of leadership. Upon hearing his sons confession of love and vow to lead the country properly, the king convinced of the princes sincerity, pours out a confession of misdeeds and political manipulations performed to acquire the throne and retain it. He believes that his unending trouble was God’s punishment for his murder of Richard II the anointed King.
In the 2nd part of King Henry IV, the king remains behind the curtain for a greater part of the play, while his son, John of Lancaster and the Earl of Westmoreland deal with the remaining rebels. He appears only in 3 scenes (Act III scenes 1, Act IV, Scenes 4 and act IV scenes 5) constant worry for years together, has totally undermined his health.

The dying king recalls the “by paths and direct crooked ways” by which he possessed his crown, and how unhappy its possession made him his subjects questioned his right to the throne. But he hopes that his son’s reign will be more peaceful than his own. For, the crown he possessed illegally will be legally inherited by his son and will thus come to him” with better quite, better opinion, better confirmation “still, advises him to invade France and thereby keep his barons engaged in foreign quarrels, so that” _______ action, hence borne out, may waste the memory of the former days (IV/V/215-216)

The dying king Henry is reconciled with his refractory son the prince removes the crown from his pillow under the impression that father is dead the king, however, ascribes this act to his sons impatience for his death but he is satisfied at last with the prince’s explanation of his conduct and dies in peace. Thus, ends the unhappy reign of King Henry IV and a new era of peace and power dawns with the accession of Prince Henry to the throne.

3.8.4. Conclusion

Both the parts of Henry IV constitutes one play in ten acts Shakespeare has used Holinshed; Chronicles and the famous victories of Henry V. Both the parts of Henry fourth, have the same theme viz. The revolt of the barons against King Henry IV. Henry’s reign was troubled with a prolonged evil war and due to disturbed mind, lastly king dies. The play ends with Henry V, on the new king of England.

The play, Henry IV part II is unique historical play. Life in Shakespeare’s plays is not a mystery, but a known fact and forces beyond man’s control. Almost all essentials, of historical plays are found in King Henry IV play. Humour in this part, like that of part I of Henry IV, is the endless source of laughter, Shakespeare has made delightful humour in the play. Variety of humour is found through comic characters like Falstaff, Chief Justice and some others. Farcical characters are found in this play. Satire, a type of humour is found in this play is pistol’s silly bombast scene. When the Elizabethan audience was liking the humour of Shakespeare very
much. The humor was being used to relieve the tension of the seriousness of the play. The characters of king Henry IV, in this part is portrayed of his late year. King was troubled by civil wars and rebellious aggression, due to tension, at last king dies and a new era of peace and power dawns with the accession of Prince Henry to the throne. In sum, both the parts of Henry IV play are the real historical plays written by William Shakespeare.

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3.9 Henry V

3.9.0 Introduction:


King Henry Vth of England, claimed Kingship of France as per succession. In return, denying his demand, French Ambassador presented Henry with Tennis balls. Henry replied with dignity and spirit that he will turn these tennis balls into ammunitions for guns. He declares war against France and begins preparation. Soldiers and common people with full patriotism, advances towards France and the Battle of Agincourt starts. Although the French have superior equipments and larger Armies, inadequate leadership accounts for their sever defeat at the hands of Henrys well-commanded Army In the treaty between France and England., All Henry's demands are accepted and peace is concluded. King Henry woos princes Katherine, whom according to terms of peace treaty he is to marry. The French queen Isabel pronounces a blessing upon the Royal Union. The whole play is focussed around King Henry's heroism.
Followings are the main outcomes of this .......... drama

1) Poetic Historical play
2) Henry as Hero
3) Legal claims of England over France territory : Salic Law Vs Succession.
4) Characters of France King Nobles and Soldiers.
5) Patriotism of English people - Loyalty to King and Nation.
6) Battle of Agincourt

3.9.1. Henry Vth-A Poetic Historical play

"One great object of his (Shakespeare's) historical plays was to make his countrymen more patriotic, to make Englishmen proud of being Englishmen"- Coleridge.

A poetic presentation is displayed in this drama in prologue and chorus. The prologue is a short piece in verse recited before dramatic performance begins or between the acts of a drama with the object of explaining the action of the play. The word chorus signifies a dance. In Henry V, chorus gives account of connecting events, describes changes of scene and makes general or descriptive remarks upon persons, scenes or events.

The poetic presentation in Henry V is found in prologues of Act II, III and V.

In Act II, prologue Chorus (line 1 to 4) paints with imaginative description of England, that little common people with strong body and hearts preparing for war. The Chorus also describes the eagerness of England's preparation for war and the dedication of all Englishmen to king. The vivid poetry conveys a colourful picture of England preparing for the service of the hero king.

The Third chorus (Act III prologue - Chorus lines 3 to 17 is a masterpiece of descriptive poetry full of imagination of splendid and happy words, about king. The chorus again asks the spectator to imagine the English fleet, bearing the choicest sons of England to the war, we are to imagine Harfleur surrounded and besieged. The chorus in prologue of Act V contains quite essence of London (Act V) (prologue chorus lines 22 to 24). Thus the beautiful rhetoric in poetry and the thoughtful poetry of Shakespeare is well represented in this drama.
The Henry V is the historical play. Henry Vth is the 4th in Shakespeare's series of eight history plays from spring 1414 to spring 1420, it deals with the adult life of Henry V, the ideal Christian King. Henry V has viewed by the Elezabethens as a source of power and order in the stormy history of England.

In nutsell, it can be stated that Henry Vth is the poetic Historical play of Shakespeare.

3.9.2 Henry as Hero:

In dramatising the history of King Henry Vth, Shakespeare's intention has to present to his audience his own idea of King. In the words of Dr. Dowden, "The noblest glories of England are pretended in this play, so it presents Shakespeare's ideal of active, practical, heroic manhood. Henry exhibit the utmost greatness which the active nature can attain."

Henry's youth is properly described in Act II scene IV, when King of France, Charles VI issues orders for defence of French against Henry's invasion. The Dauphin, the son of France King, Characterizes Henry V as "a vain, giddy, Shallow, humorous youth -

"A Vain, giddy, Shallow, humorous youth

(Act II scene IV line 28)

The constable of France, having heard the Ambassador's report cautions, the Dauphin against underrating and misjudging the Henry V. The constable replies, that he has mistaken about King. His complexion was bright, his eyes clear and brilliant and the expression of his face such as to inspire the greatest confidence and when roused, the greatest enthusiasm in his followers. His eyes - "as the fatal balls of murdering basiliska.

He possessed a frame lark and muscular in strength and nimbleness of body from his youth few to him comparable. Henry V is essentially a man of action, scholar, statesman, politician and philosopher and above all he is a leader of man and a soldier. Henry is ambitious and brave. The chorus is Act IV prologue (lines 35 and 36) state his braveness as "upon his royal face, there is no note, How dread an army hath enrounded him". Henry V was quick in action, if he satisfies himself as to the correctness of his cause, he takes quick decision. He constantly surprises his enemy by the rapidity of his advance. Even though Henry V was a King, he was
loving simplicity, while mixing with his soldiers, at the camp; he was addressing them as "brothers, friends and countrymen.

The Henry was a true Christian King. The mirror of all Christian Kings (Act II Prologue, Chorus, line 6) and a true lover of Holy Church. Without the permission of Church and ArchBishop of Canterbury, he has not announce his was against France. He puts his all trust on God on the eve of the battle of Agincourt, When soldiers were sick and unprepared for war, he replied to Gloucester - "We are in God's hand not in theirs (faith on God) (Act III scene VI line 190) (The English Camp in Picardi)

Shakespeare has portrayed his own favourite King, through Henry V, and the favourite of the English nation, a practical man combining strength of character, justice with bravery, dignity with simplicity, piety with material enthusiasm in a word an Ideal King in whom all the good national qualities are seen in their highest perfection.

3.9.3 Legal Claims of England over France territory - Salic Law Vs Succession :

The claim of Edward III, The ten King of England, Over the France territory was reviewed by Henry V, the claim of Edward III to the crown of France was based on the right to succeed his mother Issabella of France who married Edward II.

The French Succession

Philip III

Philip IV

Isabella(Married Edward II of England)

Edward III

The France ruled that the Salic Law (An Ancient legal principle that denied women the privilege of royal succession) Edward III (The son of Isabella) argued that this law didnot deprive the mother (i.e. Isabella) of the right to pass on the claim to her male hair. Henry V was regarded by English as the lawful King of England. The recognised successor of Edward III and so was fully entitled to put forward his great grandfather's claim. Henry Vth claimed the France
King about his rule over the France, He was willing to get the advice of Archbishop of Canterbury. Henry requested Canterbury very solemnly to give him his carefully considered advice as to the rightness of his claim to the throne of France.

Canterbury supported Henry V and asked the King to proceed against the French. Canterbury told that the Salic law never applied to France war the throne of France, that it was a local provincial rule that applied to a small district "Salique land" which was never in France but it is in Germany district called Meisen. Even several kings of France never followed Salic law and they claim their succession through female. (Rights of their mothers).

This claim of an English King to the throne of France had become a national matter. The National feeling was that France belonged to England.

1) (Act I scene II line 224) - Henry V looks upon France as his rightful heritage - "France being ours = Since France is ours."

2) (Act I scene II line 275) - When I do rouse me on my throne of France.

The king received national support in money and men -and the church gave a large money grant.

Archbishop of Canterbury assured king to give money from the funds of the church. The whole nation is now well equipped with arms "Now all the youth of England are on fire” (Act II, Prologue, Chorus line 1)

The people of England got well equipped with the weapons even by selling their own estates. "They sell the pasture (i.e. estates, Bona Immobilia) now to buy the horse (Act II prologue, chorus line 5) Ultimately, when Henry's claims at ere denied he sailed from Southampton, August 9, 1415 with a well equipped army of 30,000 men and commenced the siege of Harfleur on the 17th of that month.

3.9.4 Characters of France King, Nobles and Soldiers

The treatment of the French in this drama is noteworthy. They are overconfident in talk, but the King Charles VI is shown as dignified ruler even though he was already insane. The character of Dauphin as representative of the French nation can be observed by sending foolish
gift of Tennis Balls to Henry fifth. The gift of Tennis balls is evidence of the vain and naughty spirit of the Dauphin. As well as his false conception of King Henry. French Nobles were over confident on the ground of Agincourt, over lust, proud of their numbers and secure in soul. The French Nobility may well be studied through following major characters:-

3.9.4.1 Charles VI - King of France

Charles VI, the King of France and the husband of Isabel, was a weak monarch, who during several period of his life, was insane. Being the victim of fits of insanity, he was not present either at Agincourt or at Troyes at the time of the betrothal of his daughter. He was timid as he showed very little opposition to the terms of treaty which Henry dictated to him.

3.9.4.2 Levis Dauphin

Lewis Dauphin, the son of France King Charles VI, was insolent, insubordinate and frivolous. His foolish preoccupation with his armor, his horse and his mistress mark him as scarcely a serious leader. He was a shallow nature, fond of gaity, wine and woman. His foolishness was observed in tennis ball gift he send to Henry, At the battle of Agincourt, he was not serious but foolish. He does not talk of dying while frightening but of committing suicide "Do not run away, Let’s stab ourselves. Hazlitt while remarking about Dauphin Said, "------- Shakespeare always accompanies a foolish prince with a satirical courtier, as we see in this instance (i.e.Dauphin)

3.9.4.3 The Constable of France

(Commander - in - Chief of the French Army and honorable patriot)

Charles D’ Albert (Charle Delabreth) The half brother of Charles VI was the official head i.e. commander - in - chief of the French army. In comparison to other nobels and Lords, he was more wise. Later, in the drama, his character was deteriorated. At later stage, he was not serious in his duties and much relied on the reports of his subordinates. He led the van at Agincourt but wounded seriously and died the next day.

3.9.4.4 Queen Isabel :
Queen Isabel, the daughter of Stephen II married King Charles VI of France in 1385. She was taking an active interest in the welfare of France. She finally pronounced a very sweet and dignified blessing on the betrothed lovers (Henry and Catherine) hoping for a real union of the two Kingdoms (that English may be French, French, Englishmen) Queen Isabel’s blessings can be well read in Act V Scene 3.9.4.5 Katherine

(Daughter of the French King and queen, Beautiful, charming and spirited.)

Princess Catherine, the daughter of king Charles VI born at Paris (27-10-1401) married Henry V and became mother of Henry VI. After the death of her husband, she married Owen Tudor, a welsh soldier by whom she became the ancestress of the Tudor line of King. She lived in obscurity at Bermandseay Abbey and died in 1487. Historically, she was young beautiful, charming and spirited lady of great fascination.

3.9.5 Patriotism of English People - Loyalty to King and Nation :

The drama is full of patriotism of English people and soldiers to their motherland and King. Shakespeare has portrayed the love towards England as mother and their home. In the words of Shakespeare, "Our love of her honour in the past, our faith in her as the refuge of our children and of liberty in the future."

The English peoples’ duty is to keep England's National tradition free for noble development, her indwellers free from oppression and her coasts free from the invador. The English peoples’ patriotism is reflected as defence of England against the foreigners. Shakespeare his saluted the England through this drama, his sense of patriotism.

Patriotism of English soldiers, through the words of Shakespeare, was quiet natural. It was founded on admiration and affection towards their motherland. At Agincourt, the French army was five times more numerous than the English. French soldiers were well fed, their army was in good trim. The English army was half starved, ill clad and in retreat. But they had great steadfastness, unfaltering courage, belief and faith in their leaders, unquestioning obedience, discipline and the modesty of brave men. With this patriotism, they won the battle.
To praise and be proud of such a victory, to remember it forever as a national encouragement, to scorn dealt rather than to false to its spirit - that is true patriotism and of its praise from generation to generation. These are the qualities which exit in English people.

The drama "Henry V" is the patriotic poem of Shakespeare. He has found the spirit of patriotism in the Dukes, Nobles, Officers and even in soldiers. Duke of York, Exeter, Sir Thomas Erpingham are the nobles, the officers like Fluellen and in the common soldiers like John Bates, Alexander court and Michael Williams Each represent the typical elements of patriotism in English way.

The King, the nobles, the officers, the soldiers and every common man of England were full of patriotism. Loyalty to the king, loyalty to motherland nation Patriotism and Nationalism are the qualities found in this drama. Through Henry’s soldiers were few in numbers at Agincourt, they won the battle, because, It is not the quantity but quality which always gives success and victory.

3.9.6. Battle of Agincourt:

King Henry V, the captain of the English Army marched from Southampton (England) on August, 9, 1415 with the army of 30,000 men and reached Harfleur (of France) on 17-8-1415 by crossing the English Channel of 120 nautical miles. Henry got a base at Harfleur. On Oct, 18, the English army crossed the somme and turned northward for Calais. Meanwhile, the French army, under the constable had massed to intercept the English and posted themselves at Agincourt.

On Oct.24, 1415 both the Armies encamped within sight of one another English spent the might in prayer and preparation.In the night time, in English camp, Henry, as the ideal leader, walking through the camp spurring on his men and putting the victory in the hands of God.

On the contrary, the French in overweening self confidence, did the low rated English play at dice - ("The confident and over- lusty French, Do the -low-rated English play at dice- Act IV, prologue, chorus lines 19-20). The business like preparation and quite confidence of the English in contrast with the boastful spirit of the French on the morn of the battle is well described by the Shakespeare in Act IV scene II and III. The English Army was only 10,000
while French were variously estimated from 30,000 to 60,000 still Henry got victory. It is not the quantity but the quality which always gives success and victory."

According to Shakespeare, losses on each side was as follows :-

1) From French Side - 10,000 French were slain, including 126 princes and Nobles, 8400 knights, squires and gallant gentleman and 1600 mercenaries. Hence Agincourt has been styled the French "Flodden"

2) Loss of English army - Duke of York, Duke of Suffolk, Sir Richard Ketley, Devi Gran were killed alongwith 25 soldiers.

The Henry himself fought on foot like a common soldier. He saved the life of his youngest brother, Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester. His helmet dented with sword strokes was taken to London and still hanged in westminster abbey. After the battle, Henry marched in direction of Calais; before his departure from the village, he attended thanks giving mass (prayer) in the village Church.

3.9.7Conclusion :

Out of the Historical plays of Shakespeare, Henry V is a poitic History of battle between France and England. If is one of the best historical plays written by Shakespeare.

A poetic presentation is displayed in prologue and chorus. Prologue is a short piece in verse recited before audience. The Chorus signifies a dance and describes the eagerness of England's preparation for war. The vivid poetry conveys a colourful picture of England Preparing for the service of Hero King.

Henry V is the Ideal hero of the drama with courage and ambitiousness. As described by Shakespeare, he is studborn outside and with an aspect of iron. He is man of action, scholar, statesman, political and philosopher and above all, he is a leader of man and a soldier. At the same time Henry was loving simplicity while mixing with soldiers of English Army.

The claim of England over France by Henry V was derived by Charles VI. On the basis of Salic law, Henry claimed succession. Henry's claim was supported by Archbishop and Church and by general public of England and Henry made a march towards France.
France King Charles VI, Lewis Dauphin, Isabella and Katherine are the major characters of French who are overconfident, timid and of foolish nature. Nobody was serious for the war and lastly because of these disqualities, they were defeated and surrendered before Henry V.

Patriotism of English people towards King and their country is well portrayed by the author. Love and affection and loyalty towards their motherland is the outcome of glorious victory of England in the battle of Agincourt of France. It is not the quantity but the quality which always gives success and victory is the important message given by the Shakespeare through this drama.

In sum, Shakespeare's Henry V, drama is the masterpiece in the Historical plays of England ever given by this English poet, Historian and Dramatist.

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3.10 Henry VIII

3.10.0 Introduction:

Henry VIII is Shakespeare's last History plays (It is really written by Shakespeare?) of the English History which starts from King John (1199) and ends with Henry VIII (1613) and rises up to recent times for Queen Elizabeth. It appears here as an infant, play comes up to new generation. The drama is a peace of pageantry (Passing old order and birth of a new i.e. (Elizabeth) more than a drama. Pageantry is a brilliant historical show never without dramatic scenes. The Henry VIII is a middle course between tragedy and comedy in true and temper. It stress a middle path between the light heartedness - the bawdiness - of comedy and the gloom of tragedy.

The drama though written in joint authorship of Mr. John Fletcher and William Shakespeare was the product of 1613 and its first show was arranged in Globe Theatre. In 29th June 1613, the day on which while the play was on stage, the whole Globe Theatre by burned due to the cannon fire. The drama is distributed in 5 acts and 17 scenes. (Act I - 4 scenes, Act II 4 scene, Act III scene 2, Act IV scene II and Act V, V scenes) This is the famous history of life and death of Henry VIII.

According to Frank Kermode, there is great controversy amongst the leading critics about its sole Authorship (of Shakespeare) or its joint Authorship (of Mr. John Fletcher and William Shekespeare) There is a scholarly dispute as to who write it, or who wrote which parts of it (Frank Kermode : What is Shakespeare's Henry VIII about? The Shakespeare) It is generally accepted that out of 17 scenes - 6 scenes were written by Shakespeare and remaining 11 scenes are of flechers authorship. The distribution is as follows : 1) Shakespeare's contribution - Act I - scene 1 and 2 Act II scene 3 and 4, Act III scene 2 and Act V scene 1 (total 6) ii) Fletchers authorship - Act I - scene 3 and 4, Act II scene land 2 Act III scene 2, 3, 4 and 5 (total 11) in terms of percentage of contribution. Shakespeare's work accounts to only 36% while Fletchers work is 64% and that too core part with important events like Cranmers prophecy about Child Elizabeth (Act V scene 5) in the work of Fletcher How this drama then become a work of Shakespeare? But major critics of 19th Century Swinburne alone thought it to be entirely by Shakespeare (A study of Shakespeare London 1880 P 81-100) but in recent times Wilson Knight and Peter Alexander have put forward convincing pleas in favour of Shakespeare's sole
Wilson Knight has shown in the course of very detailed analysis that the Shakespearian echoes are much stronger than the fletcherian and Peter Alexandra points out that stylistic characteristics claimed as peculiar to fletcher are also found in Shakespeare (Alexander P.106) The argument on both sides have been summarised by R.A. Foakes, (Introduction to Henry VIII. New Arden Shakespeare, London, 1957 ppxv-xxvi) who also supports the theory of Shakespeare's undivided authorship but not all would accept this new - Middleton Murry and Tillyard exclude Henry VIII from their studies and A.C. Partridge has made out a new case for fletchers part authorship (the problem of Henry VIII Reopened - AC. Partridge- Bowes and Bowes, Cambridge 1949) The case of duel authorship has been vigorously argued by J.C. Maxwell in the introduction to Henry VIII, the new Cambridge, Shakespeare 1962.

No doubt the famous history of life and death of Henry VIII has many source of Holinshed's chronicle of England. Shakespeare possibly collaborated in the composition of the two noble Kinsmen (Nov. 1613) he touched the political and religious issue of the then England. Henry VIII is the straight history play with the novelty of its political and social atmosphere. In the play dealing with the middle age, the King, even when powerful depended much on his noblemen but in Henry VIII there is modern touch. Here King is supreme, the noblemen have placed on the background and new generation of ministers and advisors have come on the forefront. Not only does the butcher's son, Cardinal Wolsey make the chief peer and the realm less his big look but the Kings council with a majority of pears is powerless against Thomas Cranmar, a priest and Archbishop of Canterbury, very much unlike the overbearing Wolsey but equally with Wolsey, a man of undistinguished social. Duke of Burnigham desires some consolation that he was given a trial before being condemned a wretched father was

Wolsey is crafty and arrogant while Cranmer is humble pious and chaste Katharine might be a sweet bed fellow but she is old and her husband is friend of her - nates is Katherine, Own word. Whereas Anne.................. is young and fascinating and the King is desperately in love with her and King and Anne's results into the out come a girl, Elizabeth the virgin unspotted lily.

There is a tragedy of a Good woman Katherine, fall of Wolsey and rise a birth of Elizabeth, the unspotted Lily.

The following three incidences are being discussed from the research point of view.
1) Fall of Wolsey
2) Tragedy of Good Woman Katherine
3) Cranmer’s prophecy - Birth of Elizabeth, the virgin unspotted lily

3.10.1 Fall of Wolsey:

Cardinal Wolsey (Butcher's son) is the archbishop of York. Wolsey is crafty, ambitious and arrogant. Accidentally, King Henry has found of an inventory of Wolsey's tremendous wealth corruptness as he wrote the letter to the Pope. Wolsey: ".......... I must read this paper; I fear, the story of his anger. 'Tis so, This paper has undone me. It is the account of all that .................. of wealth I have drawn together. For mine own ends; indeed to gain the popendom. And Free my friends in Rome. O Negligence - (Act III, scene ii, Lines 208-213). Now Wolseys .................. quizes on his splendid rise to power and his subsequent fall from greatness His high blow pride has broken under him and left him "weary and old with service to the mercy of forces that will hide him for ever. Wolsey was arrested and his goods, lands tenements, chattels etc. all was forfeited (III/ii/342-344). Wolsey is jealous on Anne and Cranmer. Wolsey was willing that King Henry should get marry with the Duchess of Alencon, the sister of French King

Wolsey: It shall be to the Duchess of Alencon, the French king's sister; he shall marry her. Anne Bullen? No; I........... no Anne Bullens for him (III/ii/86-90)

He will not tolerate the kings marriage ton Anne as she is spleeny Lutheran "Bensides, the hactic cranmer" Hath Crawle'd into the favour of the King

Wolsey (III/ii/99-105) "Yet I know here for A spleeny Lutheran, and not wholesome to our cause that she should he; 'th ibosom of our hard ruled King. Again, there is sprung up An heretic, an arch one, Cranmer, one Hath crawled into former of the King, and in his oracle.

What is 'our cause? What grounds he has so far for thinking that the King is hard to rule and may pass under the influence of an attractive Lutheran? The comments made in the above speech are derived from the chronicle account which Shakespeare merely puts into vigorous verse.

Now Wolsey is totally rained and he falled down like a wanton boy swimming a bladders.

So Farewell.......... His greatness is ripening.......... his............... and then he falls, as I do. I have ventured like little wanton boys that swims on bladders.......... and when he falls like Lucifer, never to hope again (III/ii/350-372) Wolsey with total depression lastly collapsed and
said Wolsey: (III/ii/455-457) Had I but served my God with half the zeal. I served my King he would not in mine age. Have left me naked to mine enemies.

Wolsey claims that he has a devoted servant of the King and if he had served God with half the zeal with which he served his King. God would not in his age have left him naked to his enemies.

3.10.2 Tragedy of a Good Woman - Katherine:

Queen Katherine is the wife of King Henry afterwards divorced and lastly died requesting husband to make her crimatian by him (As you wish Christian peace to souls departed, stand these poor people's friend and urge the King to do me this last right (IV/ii/155-157)

In this play in the beginning, Katharine is presented happy and virtuous, confident of the Kings attention, free spoken and very much alive, but lastly she falls, being a daughter of spain King, she demands pope's order for her choice from King Henry she defences herself as - Katharine (II/iv/116-120):

My Lord, I am a simple woman, much too weak I oppose your cunning....... you sign........ but your heart is crammed with arrogancy, spleen and pride............. where powers are your retainers and your words, domestics to you........... I must tell you tender more your persons honour thou your high profession spiritual, that again - I do refuse you for my judge and here before you all appear unto the pope to bring my whole cause fore his holiness and to be Judged by him.

There is every sympathy towards Katharine. She clearly doesn't deserve to you; Henry himself confesses her virtue ......... A better wife ......... If they rare qualities, sweet greatness, they meekness saint ------ wee, life like government, obeying in commanding........... the queen of earth by queens. She's noble born, and like her true nobility she has carried herself towards me (II/iv/134-143).

Lastly the sick Katharine died at kimboltan and was burried at peterborow.

3.10.3. Cranmmers prophecy - Birth of Elizabeth, The virgin - unspotted lily:

The entire credit goes to Mr.John Fletcher for writing the Act V scene V entitled "Cranmmers prophecy, Anne's coronation and birth and Baptism of newly born child" The whole scene (V/V) is in the poetic form and one cannot ignore its dramatic literature which every literature lover must read throughout the world. Wilson knight calls the whole scene as
spiritualised music R.A. Foakers called it is the splendid procession in the play, on the occasion of Anne Boleyn's Wedding and the Christ of her infant daughter, Elizabeth. The R.A. Foake's in Henry VIII introduction (pxxxii) quotes - "In particular the climax to which the play leads, The birth of the princess who was to become Queen Elizabeth I and the use of Elizabeth - symbolize of the princess. He emphasises that princess Elizabeth was seen as a phoenix, a rebirth of the great Queen and remarks that the phoenix passage in carnmers speech would remind the audience of Princess Elizabeth as the new phoenix. Cranmer fore tells Elizabeth's long reign as a "virgin" and most unspotted lity."

Let us study 'Fletchers poetic writing of Act V scene V in detail

Enter Trumpets, sounding, then 2 oldermen Lord, Mayer, Garler, Cranmmer, Duke of Norfolk with his marshal's staff, Duke of suffolk, 2 noblemen bearing great standing - bowls for the christening gifts, then 4 noblemen bearing a canopy under which the Duchess of Norfolk, godmother bearing the child richly habited in a mantle, train born by a lady, then follows the Marchioness Dorset, the other god mother and Ladies and scene begins :

In the roles of Maxwells Ja book (1962) p. 225 The description given in the chronicle is very touchy to the readers of the play - when the ceremonies and christening were ended, harter Cheefe King of Armes cried aloud, God of his infinite goodness send prosperous life and long to the high and mightie princess of England Elizabeth and then the trumpets blew. Then canterburie ............. to the princess a standing cup of gold, fretted with pearls, the marchionesse of Dorse gauge 3 gilt with a corner - procession goes to the Kings palace and here the cranmmer utters his prophecy : [Act V/Scene V/lines 15 to 62] cranmer ............ shall star-like rise as great in fame as she was, and so stand fixed peace. Plenty, love, truth, terror that were the servants to this chosen infant, shall them be his. ............. wherever the bright sun of heaven shall shine, His honour and the greatness of his name shall be and make new nations he. Shall flourish, and like a mountain cedar reach his branches. To all the plains about him; Our children's children shall see this and bless heaven...... she shall be, to the happiness of England. An aged Princess, many days shall see her, and yet no day without a deed to crown it would I had known no more/but she must die - she must, the saints must have her yet a virgin, A most unspotted lily shall she pass 'Toth' ground and all the world Shall mourn her."

It is true even todays that "Sun Never sets on English Empire" Queen Elizabeth, the phoenix, the virgin, unspotted lily having the virtues of peace, plenty, love, truth and terror -
"Wherever the bright sun of heaven shall shine, His (England) honour and the greatness of his name shall be. Mr. John Fletcher (and not Shakespeare) requires all heavenly blessings for blessing the Queen Elizabeth thereupon fantastic prophecy through the voice of Cranmer. The further explanation need not be required. The master piece of the play Henry VIII lies in this writing of Mr. John Fletcher.

3.10.4 Conclusion:

From the very little contribution of Shakespeare in Henry VIII no very definite conclusion can be drawn except that of the dramatist had returned in his old age to the composition of the historical plays, the language would have been close-packed and eliptical. Even though there is dual Authorship (of Fletchers and Shakespeare), Shakespeare himself praises Fletcher. He points out that Fletcher's verse is sweet and flowing with end stopped double ending lives, that he is diffuse both in his leading thoughts and in his illustrations. He excels in picturesque and romantic descriptions. The co-operation of both is also seen in The Two Noble Kinsmen.

In this drama Henry's character is worth praising here Henry is presumed in all seriousness as representing Kingship in its religious and reforming role - R.A. Foakes in Arden series quoted "If God alone is stable, he has a high priest on earth in the person of Henry VIII No doubt the famous history of life and death of Henry VIII has main source of Holinsheds Chronicle of England and Two Noble Kinsmen (1613)

The cardinal Wolsey as crafty, ambition and a might being faithful to the King, his fall was obvious. Wolsey is totally rained and again there is tragedy of a Good Women Katharine even though respecting her husband and willing her last rituals with the hands of her (divorced) husband. She dies alone at Kimbolton and buried at Peterborow.

The ever greatest poetic contribution of Mr. John Fletcher in this drama is the last scene of the play i.e. coronation of Anne and birth of little infant the budding Queen Elizabeth's baptism and Cranmer's prophecy. Every reader will salute Fletcher for writing such a marvelous wonderful prophecy through poetic form. The phoenix Elizabeth, the virgin, unspotted lily will be the queen of England, the region on which the sun will never set........ whenever the bright sun of heaven shall shine........ The prophecy became true and same daughter became the queen Elizabeth in whose Kingship England became sovereign over the land and Sea of the world : The art, literature, poetry, wealth flourish in her regine and England, totally prosper during Queen
Elizabeth's time and true that all world mourn for her when she died, In sum, Henry VIII is the masterpiece in Shakespeare's series of drama even though we have with gratitude must accept Fletchers contribution.

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