

B.A. Major English / MDC /
Mindar

Literature from the middle ages.

Throughout the middle ages the church dominated the European literature, although there are some notable examples of secular texts, like:

- (1) Beowulf (1000 CE) by Anonymous
- (2) 'The Divine Comedy' 1320
by Dante (1265 - 1321)
- (3) 'The Canterbury Tales' (1392)
by Dante Alighieri (Italy
1265 - 1321)
- (4) Everyman (1510) by Anonymous.

The Renaissance

Following years of starvation and unrest and a stage of Renaissance emerges in the 14th century. This was an age of challenging old order. The world was seeing new light and new ways. The people rose to wave of new challenges.

During the Renaissance, especially in Elizabethan England, where William

Shakespeare (1564 - 1616) was working day and night to establish himself as one of the finest English writer, dramatist of all time. His plays like *Romeo and Juliet* (1597) and *Hamlet* (1599-1601) are continued to widely read and performed today.

When Shakespeare appeared on the scene of English literature he may be compared with the Kalidas of Hindi literature of India. The symbols pattern regarding the human nature, the relationship between father and son, father and daughter and the sad experience of father as well as astounding love of daughter puts the humanity at the witness box.

To be continued ~
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