



A Mythological Reading of Amish Tripathi's Fiction

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ABSTRACT:

In the world of literature, Indian writing in English has its own status. Indian novels covered a wide range of topics and continue to reflect traditional societal norms and even Indian history through live depictions. Mythological fiction has grown in popularity in India in recent years. Several Indian authors, like Amish Tripathi, Anuja Chandra Mouli, Kavita Kane, Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, Devdutt Pattanaik, and Anand Neelakandan, have proven to be the most exceptional authors who have brought a major alteration to the mythological platform. Tripathi's first novel, *The Immortals of Meluha*, was released in February 2010 and is the first in the Shiva Trilogy. *The Secret of the Nagas*, the second book in the series, was released in August 2011, and *The Oath of the Vayuputras*, the third and final instalment, was released in February 2013. In June of 2015, *The Scion of Ikshvaku* was released. The Ram Chandra series begins with this book. It is a prologue to the Shiva Trilogy and chronicles Ram's story. The Crossword Book's "Best Popular Award" went to *The Scion of Ikshvaku*. The sequel to *The Scion of Ikshvaku*, *Sita: Warrior of Mithila*, was released in May 2017. It was the best-selling book of the year. *Raavan* was released in 2019. *Raavan: Enemy of Aryavarta*, written by Amish Tripathi and published by Write India, was launched on July 1, 2019. It is the third book in the popular Ram Chandra series, which is a retelling of the epic Ramayana. It was originally titled *Raavan: The Orphan of Aryavarta*. As the title says, *Raavan: Enemy of Aryavarta* relates the account of the King of Lanka, Raavan, from his birth through the moment he kidnaps Sita. The story takes place around 3400 BCE in India, when the country is experiencing turmoil, poverty, and anarchy. While most people suffer in silence, Raavan, a teen pirate, has vowed to conquer the lands and claim the glory he believes he deserves. He is bestowed with God-given abilities, but he is also condemned by fate to be tried to the limit throughout time. The author leaves it up to the reader to judge whether Raavan was the greatest villain in history or simply a victim of circumstance in this novel. The book chronicles the story of Raavan, who is regarded to be one of the most powerful people on the planet. The book covers the story of Raavan, who is regarded as one of history's most complex, gifted, and violent individuals. This legendary fiction set in India is a must-read for 2019.

Keywords: warrior, Aryavarta, Trilogy, Nagas, brutality, anarchy.

Introduction:

A tumultuous, impoverished, and chaotic land. The majority of individuals endure in silence. A few people defy the system. Some people are fighting for a better world. Some will be kept for themselves. Some people are unconcerned. Raavan. One of the most prominent sages of the period fathered it. The Gods have bestowed upon him extraordinary abilities. Destined to be put to the limit by fate.

He's a fierce teenage pirate with equal parts bravery, ruthlessness, and fearsome resolve. A determination to be a giant among men, conquering, plundering, and seizing the greatness he believes in his birthright

A man of extremes, with a history of both savage brutality and scientific understanding. A man who will love without expecting anything in return and kill without guilt.

This thrilling third instalment of the Ram Chand series is a must-read for fans of the Ram Chand series. Author Amish Tripathi – or Amish, as he wants to be called – has risen to prominence in the last decade. Naturally, as an artist matures, his work becomes more refined, and this is the first thing that strikes you when you read his latest novel, *Raavan: Enemy of Aryavarta*. Amish is without a doubt India's most well-known contemporary fiction author, having sold over five million copies of his books, which have been translated into 19 languages. But it wasn't easy for him - writing his first novel, *Immortals of Meluha*, took him more than three years – and it looks that the character of Raavan has captured his problems in literary form. Raavan's anguish following the loss of the only lady he loved is palpable throughout the novel. It consumes him from the inside out, while he rises to become the world's richest man – strong, vicious, and ruthless.

Amish faced challenges while researching and writing this book, which he once called as the most horrific and painful period of his life. Raavan's problems mirror this grief and sorrow. This may be the most genuine and soulful novel Amish has ever written. *Raavan* is a human – imperfect, a genius, and a strong personality capable of tremendous devotion on the one hand and appalling cruelty on the other – rather than a one-dimensional monster as in the Ramayana. The book comes after *Sita: Warrior of Mithila* and *Ram: Scion of Ikshvaku*, which are all multilinear narratives that serve as the backdrop for the next two novels, in which the characters are brought together in a grand narrative. Amish mentions the personal rut he's been in for the past two years in the acknowledgements for his latest work; creating this book looks to have been both cathartic and damaging for the author.

It's evident that Amish did a lot of research before putting pen to paper because the book is a fascinating mix of ancient Indian history and mythology. His scholastic endeavours, like Raavan's, are evident from the Vedas to the Natyashastra. After all of this, the storey Amish created is not only enlightening but also thought-provoking, especially when it addresses issues like the caste system, racism, patriarchal abuses, poverty, addiction, and child abuse. Philosophical arguments, as well as sociopolitical events like the Sabarimala Temple conflict, are woven into the storey. Women of menstrual age (between the ages of 10 and 50) were barred from attending the Kerala temple, one of India's most important pilgrimage sites, in 1990. Last year, the country's Supreme Court overturned the restriction. All of this perfectly complements the book's commercial tone. Raavan: Aryavarta's Enemy is a love romance. Although the narrative isn't sophisticated or layered, and the emotional thread that runs through the book is basic, touching on clichés of love and loss, it's compelling in its simplicity and there are times that are incredibly grief-stricken. However, it is in this simplicity that readers will most likely find the most resonance. Amish makes no pretences about his work, and his novels are written for the masses of India, who may delve into his writing and gain a deeper understanding of themselves, Indian culture, and mythology. Raavan: The Enemy of Aryavarta is, above all, about the underdog and his storey. Raavan is a member of the Nagas, a reviled and cursed race (a group that has been in Amish's writings since the Meluha trilogy), and he rises to become the world's wealthiest and most powerful man against all odds. There are no moral judgments here - as they say, a man must do what he must - but viewed in the correct light, this book has the potential to inspire multitudes of people fighting to get their lives together. It's also about the decisions we make on a daily basis, the ones that weave the tangible and intangible webs of our lives, both practical and spiritual. Raavan is given with two options at every turn, and his choices define the man he becomes - ruthless and a pawn in the hands of the gods. Raavan: The Enemy of Aryavarta is a quick and mainly enjoyable read at 374 pages. Even if you haven't read the prior books in the series, there isn't much of a disadvantage because they are standalone novels.

Conclusion:

Ravan's personality is quite complex, so to be able to pull off something like that, where the author Amish has created his character with such contrasting personality traits to be able to persuade the reader of each and every aspect of his personality is no small feat, and the way author Amish has done so in this book is truly commendable. Modern Indian writers began to retell and reinterpret mythological stories from various angles. Amish Tripathi is a modern-day author. In Indian English Literature, his contribution to mythology earned him a prominent place. His writings are known for blending mythology and fiction while also building a new world. The third book in the Ram Chandra Series, Raavan: Enemy of Aryavarta, features cultural moorings such as a code of conduct, traditions, customs, and religious rituals, lifestyle, music, war ethics, festivals, and languages. Though India has regional cultural differences, linguistics is one of the most important aspects of the country. The third book in the Ram Chandra Series, Raavan: Enemy of Aryavarta, features cultural moorings such as code of conduct, traditions, customs, and religious practises, lifestyle, music, military ethics, festivals, and languages.

Though India's culture varies depending on geography and dialects, the country's primary culture is rooted in Hindu civilization. The ancientness and mythopoeic aspects of the work are explored in this paper.

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