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## Rasa in Aesthetics: An Application of Rasa Theory to Modern Western Literature

By Priyadarshi Patnaik

D.K. Printworld (P) Ltd., New Delhi, India, 2013. Softcover. Book Condition: New. First Edition. The Indian tradition of criticism is over two millennia old. And its rasa theory has, from the beginning, essentially influenced authors, connoisseurs and art critics alike. First expounded sometime between the 1st century bc and the fourth century AD in the eminent aesthetician, Bharatas Natya Shastra, rasa theory deals with the emotive content of a work of art -- how it is depicted, inferred and transmitted. Dr. Patnaik's book is a unique effort that demonstrates, with diverse examples, the universality of this ancient theory and its applicability to modern Western classics. Elucidating afresh the concept of rasa and all its nine primary kinds largely on the basis of Natya Shastra of Bharata and the commentaries of the tenth-century aesthetician, Abhinavagupta, the book investigates the validity of rasa theory as an aesthetic, more specifically, a literary theory, and how its canons are applicable to modern Western literature as well as Chinese love lyrics and Japanese haiku poems. Dr. Patnaik's transcultural exploration, thus, covers all major genres of literature -- poetry, drama and fiction; and also major writers -- Lawrence, Mayakovsky, Kafka, Camus, Conrad, Hemingway, Faulkner, Marquez, Eliot,...



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