

**РАЗДЕЛ 6.**  
**ЯЗЫК, КОММУНИКАЦИЯ И ЛИНГВИСТИКА В ЦИФРОВУЮ ЭПОХУ**

*Зарубежная филология*

**A. Ahmed, Samara University**

**IMPLICIT TRACES OF EXISTENTIALISM IN THE NOVEL «ELEVEN MINUTES» BY PAULO COELHO: A CRITICAL STUDY**

In this report the philosophy of existentialism is traced through the character of Maria, who is the protagonist of the novel, *Eleven Minutes*. The circumstances which she witnesses, and the problems which she encounters, highlights the philosophy of existentialism. Maria's personal life is delved in the report to ferret out skulking existentialism.

Keywords: existentialism, literary discourse, "LOVE" concept.

**А. Ахмед, Самарский университет**

**АНАЛИЗ ИМПЛИЦИТНЫХ ЧЕРТ ЭКЗИСТЕНЦИАЛИЗМА В РОМАНЕ  
ПАУЛО КОЭЛЬО «ОДИННАДЦАТЬ МИНУТ»**

В настоящей работе философия экзистенциализма прослеживается через образ Марии, главной героини романа «Одиннадцать минут». События, свидетелем которых она становится, и проблемы, с которыми она сталкивается, раскрывают философию экзистенциализма. Автор анализирует изображение личной жизни Марии с целью выявления скрытого экзистенциализма.

Ключевые слова: экзистенциализм, художественный дискурс, концепт «ЛЮБОВЬ».

Eleven Minutes novel is one of the magnum opus of the 21st century written by Paulo Coelho, in 2007. It delineates the life of a woman having multiple layers of life. This novel portrays different aspects of life like sex, prostitution, mental agony and myths. And the present study is primarily concerned with an individual and her choices of life. This aspect of study is culled bearing in view the theory of existentialism. Exis-

tentialism theory is introduced by an illustrious philosopher, Soren Kierkegaard. According to him, the development of a character is based on her own actions and choices in order to exist and survive and that is called existentialism.

A family of philosophical perspectives and investigations known as existentialism examines how difficult it is for each human being to live an authentic life in spite of the seeming absurdity or incomprehensibility of life [1]. Existentialist thought frequently incorporates ideas like existential crises, anguish, courage, and freedom in its examination of meaning, purpose, and worth. Traditional academic or systematic philosophies were viewed by many existentialists as being excessively abstract and detached from the tangible experiences of people [2]. Authenticity is a key attribute in existentialist philosophy [3]. We have explored Maria's character, the protagonist, bearing in view the above succinctly discussed existentialist theory.

There were three main concerns of Maria: adventure, money, and husband. All of three relates with the life actions, and these pursuits either causes suffering or satisfaction unless one has contentment. Hence the present study will conclude the discussion in tandem with existentialism and the objectives in the life of protagonist of the novel, *Eleven Minutes*.

It is the philosophical statement that emphasize an individual to be free from the chain of traditions and not to be dependent on society. Moreover, it states the worth of life, its uniqueness particularly regarding human experiences and society. Further it discusses the human traits, feelings, economy and issues of human existence. And explore the meaning, purpose, and value of human life to survive.

According to Kavitha Ganesan, in the entire novel, Maria, a harlot, plays pivotal role, she seeks spiritual recognition through an exciting profession of prostitution but paradoxically she ends in the sexual sacred *Eleven Minutes* [4]. On the other hand, Arul Jothi explores character of Maria in the novel, *Eleven Minutes*, in which the age of Maria was briefly explained who has only dreams of fame and fortune like every teenage girl dreams of. Similarly, Maria also wanted her prince charming, but unfortunately her experiences about love and life were negative.

Discussion is the core part of the research study for it is mostly concerned with the gist of the present study as the chapter intends to illustrate the objectives of the research study. It provides the opinions to researcher to collect the data for resolving research problems and research objectives through textual analysis. Hence, this chapter is also the foundation of existentialism in the particular study of *Eleven Minutes* throughout the protagonist, Maria, that how Paulo Coelho leaves the existentialist aspects in a woman to survive better. The present work depicts how the researcher figures out crises and economic sufferings of woman, and existentialist aspect of woman to survive in

any condition. So here the motif of the researcher is to find out whether or not the present study is concerned with existentialist perspective.

Paulo Coelho's *Eleven Minutes* is considered to be existential throughout the portrayal of the protagonist. For it contains the themes of existentialism theory during the suffering days of Maria. She develops her life with a lot of problems and difficulties having existentialist aspects: importance of individual, responsible for own actions, free to choose anything for self. Career, will, responsibilities were thread fiber of existentialism theory and all of these were mainly concerned with Maria's life. These three aspects are interrelated with each other, as existentialist theory creates the foundation with them. Career is important aspect of theory, for it leads an individual to be the better person and to exist in the world, it is important to choose the career wisely. Will is another considerable aspect to exist since it plays role of thoughts and personal choices which can either lead to success or destruction.

Moreover, responsibilities are part of life which make an individual strong and capable of knowing one's own self. Responsibilities make people mature and serious about life issues. According to Chand and Navir, existentialism theory plays a significant role in Maria's life as she was always seeking for true essence of life and due to which she faced a lot of critical and obnoxious places [5]. Maria was the woman who wanted to live life on her own but life does not often favor her.

Maria was a Brazilian girl, born in Rio, was not interested in going school at her early age, but the interests were not the same all the time. She studied geography and mathematics. It is likely to be said that she was not good at her studies. Different things were coming on her way during the school time as all of us experience: school friends, grade marking and boyfriends etc. It is natural phenomenon that females are often proposed, involved, and trapped in love affairs, because they are supposed to have more beauty than male. Similarly, Beautiful Maria was also involved in love affair with the school boy. And for little time she thought that the sense of love is so beautiful that whole universe is on our side but the things often did not favor Maria and they did not take enough time to change all of sudden. And she dealt with the first bad experience of life, because she found her boyfriend disloyal and she was deceived by him. Being a female she was suffering from this deception alone and she was not able to share her feelings with anyone else.

Existentialism encompasses the whole life of Maria, she was free to choose her path which she intends to tread in doing so she commits mistakes. Maria is considered one of those women who are victimized and marginalized in the male chauvinistic society where women are often considered as inferior. She adopted the habits which were not good for her health but she was getting the temporary pleasure by doing all this

alone. It was not really satisfying for a woman to do all this, however she was doing to make herself satisfied with the feeling of love. Further, it was very complicated challenge for her to be the prostitute later. But she even did not deny to be the professional prostitute for the sake of money only. Doing this job, she oscillated between the sexual fantasy and true love.

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