

LITERATURE: BRIDGING TRUTH AND VALUE FROM PLATO TO LU XUN

ABSTRACT

This article examines the role of literature in society and its relationship, contrasting Plato's critique in "The Republic" with the practical examples through the analysis of Lu Xun's work "Kong Yiji". The paper illustrates how literature can be a powerful tool for social critique and education.

INTRODUCTION

1. Introduction to the Role of Literature
 - Overview of the importance of literature in society.
 - Preview of contrasting views: Plato vs. Lu Xun.
2. Plato's View on Literature
 - Some types of Literature as misleading.
 - Literature's detrimental effect on moral education.
3. Lu Xun's Counter Perspective
 - Introduction to Lu Xun as a proponent of literature's societal benefits.
 - Examples of Lu Xun's works reflecting societal issues.

ANALYSIS

1. Analysis of Lu Xun's Work "Kong Yiji"
 - Abstract of "Kong Yiji."
 - Description of Kong Yiji, a poor scholar.
 - Tribulations faced by Kong Yiji: ridicule and disenfranchisement.
 - Critique of the era's educational and social systems.
 - Reflection on social injustice.
 - Commentary on moral degradation.
 - Discussion on the devaluation of intellectual pursuits.

DISCUSSION

1. Contrasting "Kong Yiji" with Plato's Views
 - Refutation of Plato's claim that literature estranges truth and moral education.
 - How "Kong Yiji" demonstrates literature as a medium for social critique and moral education.

RESULTS

1. Literature's Broader Impact
 - Literature as a tool for reflecting societal truths.
 - Role in stimulating critical thought.
 - Facilitation of social reform.
2. Empathy and Social Justice Through Literature
 - How literature fosters empathy and understanding.
 - Literature's role in illuminating societal truths.
 - Motivating individuals towards contemplation and action.

CONCLUSION

1. Advocating Literature's Indispensable Role
 - Combining Plato's theoretical concerns with Lu Xun's literary examples.
 - Literature as a catalyst for empathy, critical thinking, and social progress.
 - Final affirmation of literature's importance in education and social justice.