A Morphological Study of Salman Rushdie's Novel *The Golden House*

Dr. Vijay Devidas Matkar

Head & Assistant Professor, Dept of English

Shivaji Arts, Commerce & Science College Kannad

Dist. Chh. Sambhajinagar 431112 (M.S.)

Miss.Bansode Geeta Gorakh

Research Student

 Dr. BAMU Chh. Sambhajinagar

Abstract:

The aim of this research paper is to study Salman Rushdie's novel *The Golden House* from the perspective of morphological stylistic analysis. The research paper covers the characteristics of morphological patterns. The tone of the novel is special and it is relevant to every person. The novel is very simple but theme of novel is universal. This morphological study is very helpful to explore the writing style of Salman Rushdie's and understand the fundamental term of stylistics devices. The novelist conveyed Message, themes by using stylistics devices.

Keywords:- Simple Word, Compounding word, Complex word, Borrowing, Derivation, Prefix, Suffix, Acronym, Clipping or Shortening, Reduplication

Introduction:-

The present study provides a basic but accurate overview of style and its significance in literature and linguistics. Style is indeed a fundamental aspect of writing, encompassing the unique method in which each writer expresses themselves. This is often what sets one author apart from another and can be crucial element in analyzing and appreciating literary works.

Stylistics is a part of linguistics that looks at how people use language to make things sound a certain way. It studies things like word choice, sentence structure, and overall language patterns to understand how the meaning and style of text.

In essence, style is a multifaceted concept that plays a very important role in shaping the meaning and impact of literary piece, and stylistics provides a framework for analysing understanding these stylistics choices.

According to Jonathan Swift, "Proper words in proper places, make the true definition of a style."

Zhukovska remarks that, **"**Style denotes the collective characteristics of writing, diction or any artistic expression and the way of presenting things, depending upon the general outlook of a person, a literary school, a trend, a period or a genre."

Revd Samuel Wesley state that "Style is the dress of thought; a modest dress, Neat, but not gaudy, will true critics please."

Style as manner or mode and its specific literary meaning. In literature, style refers to how an author's thoughts are expressed through words encompassing elements such as language use, sentence structure, and rhetorical devices. It's true that the term "style" is often used without a clear understanding of its nuanced literary meaning, which can lead to confusion or over simplification of its significance in literary analysis.

Understanding style in literature involves recognizing the unique way in which each author crafts their writing, reflecting their individual voice, personality, and artistic choices. By paying attention to style, readers and scholars can understand more about the novelist's intentions, themes and the overall impact of work.

Stylistics:-

It is the study of how meaning is created through language in different contexts and situations, including literature. While stylistics is often associated with a focus on analysing of literary texts, it is used to non-literary texts to explore how language choices contribute to meaning and style. This interdisciplinary approach helps us understand how language functions in different contexts and how it shapes our interpretation of texts.

Stylistics examines how language is applied in literature and other forms of writing to create specific effects or styles. It emphasises on the choices that writers make in concepts of vocabulary, grammar, and structure to convey meaning and evoke certain responses from readers. Stylistic analysis involves looking closely at these choices to understand how they contribute to the complete sense and impact of a text.

Paul Simpson, defines, "To do stylistics is to explore language, and, more specifically, to explore creativity in language use."

According to Wikipedia, "Stylistics, a branch of applied linguistics, is the study and interpretation of texts of all types, but particularly literary texts, and/or spoken language in regard to their linguistic and tonal style, where style is the particular variety of language used by different individuals and/or in different situations or settings."

Studying stylistics enriches our understanding of language and how it is used in literature. Exploring language in this way helps us better understand literary texts.

Salman Rushdie's stylistics approach in *The Golden House* particularly focusing on his use of morphological devices to convey deeper meaning and create ambiguity. The novelist is known for his intricate and layered narratives, often blending fantasy with reality and exploring complex themes. By employing

morphological devices, such as word formation and structure, Salman Rushdie may create a narrative where the surface meaning differs from the inner meaning. This technique can add depth to the novel, inviting the reader, research scholar to explore multiple layers of interpretation and contributing to the *The Golden House*'s mysterious and enigmatic atmosphere.

Levels of stylistics analysis:-

In stylistics, there are different levels to study the literary text such as the way words sound (phonetic), how words are pronounced (phonological), how words look on the page (graphological), meaning of the words (lexical) how they are structured in sentences (grammatical), and how words are formed (morphological).

Methodology:-

The stylistic exploration of *The Golden House* emphases on the novel's morphological level, delving deep into the foundational aspect of the literary text.

Introduction of the novelist:

Salman Rushdie is a very famous and important novelist. His novels often reflect the social and contemporary events of the time they were written. Salman Rushdie was born in Bombay in June 1947 and is of Indian-British descent.

Novelist has written so many novels, such as *Grimus* (1975), *Midnight Children* (1981), *Shame* (1983), *The Satanic verses* (1981), *The Moor's Last Sigh* (1995), *The Ground Beneath Her Feet* (1999), *Fury* (2001), *Shalimar the Clown* (2005), *The Enchantress of Florence* (2008), *Two Years Eight Months and Twenty- Eight Nights* (2015), *The Golden House* (2017), *Quichotte* (2019), and *Victory City* (2023).

Salman Rushdie often uses a writing style called magic realism in his novels, where magical elements are mixed with realistic settings and events.

Morphological level:-

Morphology is a branch of linguistics that focuses on studying words. It looks at each meaningful part of a word. The word "morphology" comes from the Greek words "morph" meaning shape or form, and "logos" meaning study. Originally, the morphology was used in biology to study the form, and "logos" meaning study. First, this concept was applied in biology to study the form and structure of plants and animals.

In linguistics, morphology is about studying morphemes, which are the smallest meaningful units of language. It explores how morphemes combine to form words in a language. This includes understanding how words change to show different meanings, how words are created (derivation), and how words are combined to form larger units (composition).

David Crystal defines morphology as, "The branch of grammar which studies the structure or forms of words, primarily through the use of the morpheme construct. It is traditionally distinguished from syntax, which deals with the rules governing the combination of words in sentences."

According to Wikipedia, the free encyclopaedia, "In linguistics, morphology is the study of words, including the principles by which they are formed, and how they relate to one another within a language. Most approaches to morphology investigate the structure of words in terms of *morphemes*, which are the smallest units in a language with some independent meaning. Morphemes include roots that can exist as words by themselves, but also categories such as affixes that can only appear as part of a larger word."

The Framework of Analysis:

The framework for analyzing this study includes the morphological devices as simple word, compounding word, complex word, borrowing, derivation, prefix, suffix, acronym, clipping or shortening, reduplication

Simple Words:-

In linguistics and language study, "simple words" generally refer to words that are easy to understand, typically consisting of one or two syllables and having straightforward meanings. Few instances form the novel.

Kind (3), wife (5), like (7), house (9), young (13), city (15), door (17), Real (23), Group (34), write (40), Warm (47), talk (32), dream (58), Make (79), Great (101), Stand (104), Speak (136), Look (148), Save (158), Play (168), right (178), Push (248), courage (266), Put (288), Little (304).

Above mentioned simple words are employed alongside Salman Rushdie's characteristic rich and complex language, creating a contrast that adds depth to the narrative. By using a mix of simple and complex language, novelist creates a textured narrative that can be appreciated on multiple levels, making *The Golden House* a compelling and thought-provoking work.

Compounding word:

A compounding word is a new word that is created by combining two or more existing words. These combinations can occur in various ways, such as joining two nouns.

Mother-goddess (1), neighbourhood (2), worldly-wise (6), Super Rich (9), Sweet Natured (9), Downtown (10), Phonebooks (12), Photograph (23), Big city (24), Spider man (25), Bedroom (40), Farmhouse (60), Wolf mother (64), Fruit basket (78), Goodbye (91),Table cloth (119), Godfather (137), Purple rose (177), Gunshot(211), blowtorch (212), floodgate (224), jump back (232), Nightspot (246).

These compound words serve various purposes in the novel, such as characterizing individuals, describing settings, establishing themes, or creating

vivid imagery. They contribute to the richness of the narrative and help create a vivid and immersive reading experience for the audience.

Complex word:-

In linguistics, a complex word is formed from two or more morphemes. A morpheme is the smallest unit of language that carries meaning.

Showing (140), working (155), telling (161), inspiration (170), during (186), continuing (189), apparently (195), punishment (217), necessarily (227), accepting (267), loudly (283), shocked (326), characteristically (344), unconfirmed (367).

These complex words add depth and nuance to the narrative, helping to convey specific meanings or ideas that might not be easily expressed with simpler language. They contribute to the overall complexity and literary quality of the novel.

Borrowings:

In the perspective of linguistics, Borrowing or loan word, denotes to the process by which a word from one language is adopted into another language with little or no modification. While languages construct the contact with vocation, conquest, or cultural exchange, they often loan words from one another to fill gaps in their vocabulary or to express new concepts:

 Isis (1), Shivaji (19), Tajmahal (19), Adhaar (21), Aung san suu kyi (26), Bacchus (63), Cigarette (95), Hijra (102), Aradha (102), Nari (102), Ishvara (102), Shiva (103), Ammai- Appar (103), Satarupa (103), Benami (114), Ghandi (136), hullabaloo (205), Taj Bibi (228), Chowpatty (230), Chor Bazzar (230), Chocolate (283), Khursi (318), Dhobi (322), Sahibji, Janab (322), Dimaags (332), Gharney (341), Tar shehnai (345).

Overall, Rushdie's use of these terms enriches the narrative by adding cultural, historical, and thematic depth, while also creating a vivid and authentic portrayal of the *The Golden House'*s setting and characters.

Derivation:-

This process is achieved by using many small parts of the English language that are not typically listed in separate dictionaries.

Fearful (9), Grateful (9), Unfolded (10), Princess (14), Disappointment (31), Uncommon (43), carefully (49), boldness (51), awful (53), faceless, nameless (65), Happiness (108), limitless (139), syndersis (148), weakness (179), unnatural (199), Discomfort (358).

Whole, the use of derivation in *The Golden House* helps to enrich the narrative, making it more vivid and engaging for the reader.

Acronym:-

Acronym formation is just one method of abbreviation or shortening process that are increasingly common in American society as a means of word formation:

ID (12), P.M (16), LSD (17), TV (17), VT (19), FYI (27), UN (31), IFC (56),   IRA (57), FTM (73), MTF (73), TG (111), TS (111), TV (111), CD (111), CID (233), IFSPFP (240), TERF (252), OK (285), TED (293), DHQ (334), IFC (357), NYPD (365).

Including everything or everyone, the usage of acronyms in *The Golden House* adds realism, efficiency, and depth to the narrative, contributing to the novel's complexity and richness.

Clipping or Shortening:-

Clipping, also known as shortening, is a word formation process in which a word is shortened by removing one or more syllables.

Dr. (4), Mrs. (5), gym (41), fan (46), phone (50), photos (141), Mr (293), Lab (218), bus (349), tech (258).

Clipping or shortening words, as seen in *The Golden House* serves several purposes:

1) The use of clipped words can help characterize individuals or settings. For example, the use of "Mr." and "Mrs." can indicate social status or formality.

2) Clipped words can also reflect the cultural context of the novel. For example, "Lab" is a shortened form of "laboratory," a term commonly used in scientific or research settings

Overall, the usage of clipped or shortened lexis in *The Golden House* adds realism, efficiency, and informality to the narrative, enhancing the reader's immersion in the story.

Reduplication:-

Reduplication is a word formation process where just some of a word is repeated, either to make up a word that isn't already in the language or to emphasize or to extend the sense of the new word.

Wishy-washy (46), Mumbo jumbo (50), blah, blah blah (136), Humdrum (170), Yada Yada Yada (259), pow pow pow (275), Jbberjabber (278).

Overall, the use of reduplication in the novel adds linguistic richness and depth to the narrative, enhancing the reader's experience and understanding of the characters and themes in the novel.

Cultural and Contextual Significance: Some reduplicated phrases, like "mumbo jumbo" and "yada yada yada," have specific cultural or contextual meanings that add depth to the narrative and reflect the characters' perspectives and experiences.

Prefix:-

A prefix is like a small word part that is added to the beginning of a word to change its meaning**.**

Unexpected (13), Individual (20), disliked (30), impossible (35), discussed (35), dispatched (39), discovered (57), unspeakable (58), unmanned (62), Unbroken (69), unfiltered (70), untouched (106), unknown (107) discreetly (109), uninvited (118), display (254), Unpopular (257), deliberate (303), disconsolately (36),unspecified (370).

In conclusion, Salman Rushdie's use of prefixes in *The Golden House,* is a deliberate stylistic choice that serves multiple purposes, adding layers of meaning and complexity to the novel's language and themes.

Suffix:-

A suffix is like a small word part that is added to the end of a word to change its meaning or to form a new word.

Acceptable (12), Comfortably (23), longest (31), enduringly (39), Youngest (64), relationship (64), certainly (109), gradually (110), accidentally (127), Partisanship (130), beautiful (140), friendship (142), necessity (151), boastful (151), yourself (161), eventually (181),

differently (182), comfortable (183), powerful (185), fluidity (247), honesty (302), Precisely (304), slowly (368), deeply (369).

Overall, Salman Rushdie's use of suffixes in *The Golden House* likely contributes to the novel's rich and intricate tapestry of language, helping to create a vivid and immersive reading experience for the audience.

Conclusion:-

Salman Rushdie's use of morphological devices in *The Golden House,* Such as transforming Indian words into English, is a key aspect of his unique style. Analysing the morphology of the novel will helps to better understand Salman Rushdie's stylistics approach.

Not various critics have discussed about the exact words Salman Rushdie uses in *The Golden House*. Therefore the researcher has study the words he uses in novel to see how they help create his unique style. Salman Rushdie sometimes changes Indian words into English, and it help to morphological study.

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