

# Inimitable Intermingling of Fables, Facts, and Fiction in Paulo Coelho's "Manuscript in Accra" and "Like the Flowing River"

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## ABSTRACT

Paulo Coelho was always a novelist whose works are rife with oxymorons. On the one hand, it became a huge admirer of 'Alchemist,' yet 'Veronika Decides to Die' sent into a deep depression. 'Manuscript in Accra' used to be something that has been picked up with trepidation. This novel is a flawless blend of fantasy and psychology, with no repetitions. It has an impact on many aspects of life and has a significant impact on the mentality of the average person. Through the numerous lectures, the character addresses serious matters such as worry, difficulties, love, sex alone, patience, spiritual soul, achievement, and failure. The work has the potential to uplift everyone who is dissatisfied with important aspects of their lives. In this research, the central conflict will be evaluating the contribution of Paulo Coelho through Accra" and "like the flowing river". The importance of this manuscript on the people of this era will be evaluated in this research. The features of this book and its tremendous connections with human kind will be evaluated in this research. The literary significance of this book will also be analyzed thoroughly in this research. In the piece of literature, there is a segment of humanity, that lies in the love presented in this book. It is considered a breath-taking connection of reflection where the author has depicted nature's extensive experience for amazing people are highlighted. Coelho's inimitable spirit and style are determined to enhance the thought of spirituality. In this perception, the development of ethics has been engaged Paulo's touch, where the nature of friendship is distracted with the help of art and the folly of anger. In this perspective, a wide range of subjective matters is discussed in the consideration of music and elegance. Apart from that, the dream-like reality comes to the truth after recognizing the path to happiness. This research study is based on the situation of humans in fear, hopelessness, anxiety, and frustration in reference with the novels "Manuscript found in the Accra" and "like the flowing river" by Paulo Coelho. In the "Manuscript found in the Accra", the author has tried to elaborate on the fact of being peaceful and staying motivated. Accra is the present capital of Ghana.

**Keywords:** frustration, loneliness, fear, harmony, unity, principles of life, fictional novel, trust

## I. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

This research study is based on the situation of humans in fear, hopelessness, anxiety, and frustration in reference with the novels "Manuscript found in the Accra" and "like the flowing river" by Paulo Coelho. In the "Manuscript found in the Accra", the author has tried to elaborate on the fact of being peaceful and staying motivated. Here an archaeologist found a manuscript written in mainly three languages: Hebrew, Latin and Arabic. This novel has defeated the peaceful imaginary of Jerusalem citizens. The author has depicted that Muslim, Jews and Christian lifted together peacefully and harmoniously during the time of 1099. However, they become frustrated and depressed with the fear of the armies of Crusades. It has been observed that, being frustrated or depressed with internal matters, human beings generally try to seek some advice or assurances (Goel et al., 2022). The author has described the nature of the human mind with the help of an imaginary fictional story in this novel. These novels are the most popular in the history of English literature. In this novel the author has also developed some short stories about love, betrayal, trust and mistrust. In the, like the flowing river, the author has included more than stories with moral and ethics. The main purpose of this novel is to highlight the principles of life. To demonstrate the principles two popular stories of the novel have been selected here. First, "the story of the pencil" is very popular and in the story the author in the form of the grandmother mentioned five golden rules of life with the example of a pencil. Here, the author has also defeated the situation of loneliness in reference to the story of "the dead man or the pajamas" (Clark et al., 2022). The author tries to express the feelings of loneliness with the help of the dead man who died 20 years ago before the

investigation started. As his wife divorced and he lost his job, he confined himself in a constructed room. Being frustrated and depressed gave him hope towards life.

## 1.2 Aim and Objectives

### Aim

The main aim of this study is to evaluate the human situations and life lessons in reference to two masterpiece novels "Manuscript found in the Accra" and "like the flowing river" by Paulo Coelho.

### Objectives

- To identify the human situation during 1099
- To identify the life lessons provided by author
- To analyze the relevance of them
- To evaluate the cause of loneliness in reference to "*The dead man wore the Pyjamas*"

## 1.3 Research Significance

With the help of this research, readers will be able to become aware of the human situation during the era of 1099. Muslim, Christians, and Jews lived together in a more harmonious way. Each story of these two novels consists of lots of life lessons and life guidelines. The relevance of them will be clear with the help of this research paper. In addition, the reader will be aware about the cause of loneliness with one of the stories of this novel "*like the flowing river*"

## 1.4 Research Questions

1. What was the human situation during 1099?
2. What are the life lessons provided by the Author?
3. What is the relevance of life principles?
4. What is the cause of loneliness in reference to "*The dead man wore the Pyjamas*"?

## 1.5 Research Gap

The researcher has elaborated the stories in both novels; however, the researcher did not align them one with another. As a result, it will be difficult for the readers to understand the essence of the novels.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

It has been observed that the "*Manuscript found in the Accra*" is considered a series of questions as well as answers about love, loss, courage, loyalty, fear, anxiety, miracles, success, beauty, solitude and all related emotional difficulties confessed by people. The main idea of this novel is about a manuscript discovered by an English archeologist from Accra in 1974. Accra is the present capital of Ghana. As per the carbon dating it has been assumed that it originated in 1307 and written in Latin, Arabic, and Hebrew respectively. As opined by de Gois *et al.*, (2022), it is completely a historical fiction story related to the past events as well as fiction also. This document sheds light on the meeting in 1099 between the people of Jerusalem and a strange sage regarded as Copt. it has been described at the time Muslim, Jews, and Christians lived together with unity and harmony. This city is preparing for the attack by the Crusades' armies. Here, "*Paulo Coelho*" has brought the life of the people of Jerusalem into this manuscript. In addition, this novelist has also shown "the anguish of a city on the brink of annihilation". Here, the fearful and wretched citizens of this city were seeking reassurance and advice from the Sage and this sage tells the principles of life to the people of Jerusalem. As stated by Chen *et al.*, (2022), this novel also unveils a series of parables that explores the value of loyalty, success, sex, friendship, love, faith, beauty, bravery, community, and also unveils the sources of human anxiety and fear. On page 16 of this novel the author stated that "In the cycle of nature there is no such thing as victory or defeat; there is only movement". The author tried to convey the sense of the process of nature as Summer thinks it is good for the earth and for this reason it wants to last long, however with the arrival of Autumn it is to accept. On page 47, this author has stated that "We are afraid of change because we think that, after so much effort and sacrifice, we know our present world". Human beings do consider the world to be changeable rather than thinking it is eternal.

### The Features of Human Kinds

The grandmother replies "yes" however here the most important element is this pencil. After that the grandmother describes the five qualities of the pencil. *The first quality* "you are capable of great things, but you must never forget that there is a hand guiding your steps. We call that hand God, and He always guides us according to His will". Therefore, one is completely capable of doing anything, however, the assistance of God is also there. *The second quality*, the grandmother says that she intended to stop writing and use a sharpener to sharpen the pencil by proving a pain. In life, certain pain and suffering will appear and one should not be depressed because it will help make us smarter. *The third quality* is that a pencil needs an

eraser to erase the mistakes, therefore, in human life, many mistakes usually take place and the concerned person should proceed to correct them in order to keep oneself on track. **The fourth quality** of the pencil is as per the grandmother “what really matters in a pencil is not its wooden exterior, but the graphite inside. So always pay attention to what is happening inside you”. According to Beal *et al.*, (2022), it is a very important lesson of life that people are always busy watching outside of themselves, however, they are not interested in looking inside what is happening. It is very important for someone to keep their insides alert. **The fifth quality** of a pencil is “it always leaves a mark. in just the same way, you should know that everything you do in life will leave a mark, so try to be conscious of that in your every action”. Therefore, it is important for a person to keep vigilance of one's own activities because people always remember the deeds of a person. Therefore, a person should always concentrate on the activities of the people.

### Literary Significance

Manuscript found in Accra is considered one of the masterpieces of the literary work of Paulo. In this masterpiece walk the author has tried to describe the principle of human life. It has been observed that people are afraid or frustrated, not able to understand what is the right way, who is the right person and what should be done to overcome the present crisis. Here in this literary work, the author has depicted the situation during 1099 of the people of Jerusalem. As he depicted that during that time the people from different religions used to live with harmony and unity.

### The Style of Depiction

The writing style of this novelist is lyrical; therefore, it will be easy for the reader to remember the lines of each story properly. In addition, it will help them to stay motivated and peaceful in difficult situations.

## III. METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Research Philosophy

For research philosophy there are positivism, post positivism, interpretivism and pragmatism.all these are usually used for conducting different sorts of research projects. The main concept of positivism research philosophy is to observe natural phenomena with the help of calculative ways and natural scenes. The believers of interpretivism philosophy believe that the natural phenomena are not observed in calculative ways but rather qualitative ways. As a result, it will be easy for the researcher to conduct the research very easily. The believer of the post-positivism research philosophy believes there is an existence of nature, however, they cannot be realized in a perfect way (Yang *et al.*, 2022). The believer of the pragmatism philosophy believes the proportion will be true in case the concerned proportion will work properly. For conducting this research, the researcher has taken the assistance of the positivist research philosophy. With the help of the positivist research philosophy, the researcher has identified the main motive of *Paulo Coelho* in his two novels “*Manuscript found in the Accra*” and “*Like the Flowing River*”.

### 3.2 Research Approach

Three main research approaches such as inductive, deductive and abductive research approaches are used in acquiring data in the concerned way. A researcher uses an inductive research approach in order to start the research from bottom to the top. In the deductive research approach, a researcher starts from the Top to bottom. In addition, with help of the abductive research approach, researchers start with an unfinished set of observations to reach the complete hypothesis conclusion. Here the researcher has used an inductive research approach for starting the analysis of the accumulated data from clue to the explanation. The researcher has taken two masterpiece works of this author and elaborate them as per the research criteria.

### 3.3 Research Design

There are primarily four types of research designs such as “Descriptive, Correlational, Causal-Comparative, and Experimental Research”. For making the research study in a descriptive manner, the researcher uses descriptive research design. For comparing the relationships between two variances, the researcher usually uses Causal-Comparative. For investigating the relationships between two or more than two variables researcher usually uses

Correlational design. For displaying the result of some investigation, the researcher usually uses experimental research (Vit *et al.*, 2022). Here the researcher has used descriptive research design for displaying the idea of Paulo Coelho’s novel “Manuscript found in the Accra ” and “Like the Flowing River”.

### 3.4 Data Collection Method

Primary and secondary data collection methods are two main data collection methods used for conducting a research study. Primary data are usually gathered from the surveys, face-to-face questions, and observations. On the other side, secondary data are gathered from the journals, articles, documents, and google scholars. Secondary data are considered

qualitative data and primary data are considered quantitative data. Here the researcher has used secondary data for conducting this research (Wallerstedt *et al.*, 2022). With the help of this qualitative data, the researcher has identified the golden principles of human lives and how to stay motivated and calm in their lives.

### 3.5 Ethical Consideration

The principles of ethical consideration are followed while collecting the concerned data associated with the research topic (HR and Aithal, 2022). The principles of **Data Protection Act 2018** have been followed here for collecting the data and information by the researcher. The researcher has taken the concerned data for academic purposes.

### 3.6 Sampling Size

**Random sampling method** has been chosen by the researcher for selecting random journals and articles from the google scholar (Butler *et al.*, 2022). It has helped the researcher to accumulate the journals and articles from the google scholar.

## IV. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

### 4.1 Findings

In the story of the pencil it has been observed that the author in the form of the grandmother opines her grandson about the effectiveness of the pencil. Here with the help of a single pencil the author has elaborated the principles of life. Sometimes, people get frustrated or depressed with the outside scenario. As per the secondary data, Pencil is sharpened with the help of a sharpener. At this time the concerned pencil is providing some kind of pain and suffering. Similarly, in their lives people get pain and sufferings due to adversity. Here the author has also described a story that is the "dead man wore the pajamas". Here the author hairstyle to assure the reader that loneliness can kill or destroy a man slowly (Crouch and Rafatijo, 2022). The idea of the story has been brought up by the news of the incident in Tokyo, Japan. The man had an ex-wife who never tried to meet with the man and the man died 20 years ago before the investigation. In addition, this man lost his job and confined himself in the unfinished building. As per the secondary data, it has been observed that in the novel "Like the Flowing River" written by "Paulo Coelho" here this author has added more than 200 stories. In addition, each chapter of this book consists of different lessons. As per the secondary data, it has been observed that with the help of these stories, Paulo has tried to uphold the lives of the human beings. "The story of the pencil" is one of the stories of this Novel. Two major characters are their grandmother and her grandson. The grandmother is visible writing a letter with the help of a pencil. At the same time the grandson asks the grandmother whether she is writing about himself or not.

### 4.2 Discussion

This study is about the novel fictions of Paulo Coelho and in this study the reader has depicted the human situation during the 1099 and the cause of fear and loneliness with the help of "*like the flowing river*" (Beecher *et al.*, 2022). The human situation was considered peaceful and harmonious; however, the people of *Jerusalem* became afraid due to the armies of Crusades as mentioned in "*Manuscript found in the Accra*". Another story in this novel is *the dead man who wore Pyjamas*. The story is based on the incidents of Tokyo, Japan. Here the author read a newspaper and noticed about the news that a man died with Pyjamas. After investigation the author has come to know that the person died 20 years ago and nobody noticed him. He has an ex-wife and she never met him after the divorce. The man was an employee of the building construction department. The author has tried to depict the scenario of loneliness and solitude through this story. It is very difficult to gather the desire to live alone. In case the man got the affection and love of his wife he must live. Here the author tries to depict a picture of solitude with the mix of fiction and imagination. It means, in case, people from different religions live together without any jealousy, they will be happy and a strain of harmony will be preserved among them. In case this starts to measure the quality of each religion it will develop a sense of animosity or hostility. Here the author has included a character as a sage. As opined by Miño *et al.*, (2022), with the fear of attack by the armies of Crusades. For this reason, they are afraid and frustrated and need some assurance and advice. The author has tried to provide the principle related to life in the form of a sage. Here in this novel, the author has written some stories of love, sex, hat rates as well as betrayal and the anxiety of the citizens of Jerusalem. Here with the help of an imaginary sage the author has provided some golden principles of life and with the help of them a person can stay motivated in life. In the "like the flowing river" novel this author has developed more than 200 stories that help us to provide effective life lessons. Here stories are chosen for elaborating the idea and concepts of this author that has been described throughout this novel.

### Importance of this manuscript

In the "*Manuscript found in the Accra*" the author has tried to depict the frustration, fear, and anxiety towards life by the people of Jerusalem. As per this research, it has been defined that they are afraid of the attack on the armies of the Crusades. As opined by Kortei *et al.*, (2022), here the author has characterized a character in the camouflage of Sage Port. The

sage has described the principles of life towards the people of Jerusalem. The main idea of this document is to assure the people that nature is ever-changing and is not eternal. On the other hand, the author has depicted some life lessons with the help of 200 plus stories in *“The like the flowing river”*. Among them two popular stories have been chosen: The *story of the pencil* and *the dead man wore Pyjamas*. With the help of these stories, the author tried to convince the reader of ways to stay peaceful and calm in life.

## V. CONCLUSION

As per the above discussion, it can be concluded that this study is about the deep analysis of two novels *“Manuscript found in the Accra”* and *“Like the Flowing River”*. Through this assignment the researcher has tried to explain human nature in specific situations. For this reason, this researcher has used two masterpiece novel works *“Manuscript found in the Accra”* and *“like the flowing river”*. For conducting this research, the researcher has used positivism research philosophy as well as detective research method. Here, the researcher has used a secondary data collection method and descriptive Research design for making this research paper more attractive and appropriate.

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