

# 'DESTINY' THE ULTIMATE QUEST

Makwana Pradeep H.

Saint Mary's Institute of Civil Services , Rajkot.



Destiny is a concept believed ubiquitously and revealed in culture, history and literature. It has become a persistent theme in the literary classics of both West and the East. This research on Paulo Coelho is an attempt to concretize the abstract concept of destiny present in his epoch making novels: *The Alchemist, The Pilgrimage* and *Aleph*. His first major work *The pilgrimage* describes Coelho on contemporary quest for ancient wisdom that is to understand the nature of truth through the simplicity of life guided by destiny. *The Alchemist* reveals the writer's quest for wisdom of by following his dreams, listening to his heart, living in the present and risking what he has to pursue the destiny.' The *Aleph* reveals how a grave crisis of faith caused to go in search of a path of spiritual renewal and growth. In order to get close to God again, he decided to start over: to travel, to experiment, to reconnect with people and the world, the protagonist, letting himself be guided by signs, he travelled to various continents - Europe, Africa and Asia – on a journey through time and space, through past and present, in search of himself.

Makwana Pradeep. H (M.A., M. Phil.)



#### 'DESTINY' THE ULTIMATE QUEST

"Life really is generous to those who pursue their destiny."

(Paulo Coelho, The Alchemist, 160)

Humanity is marked as born quester. There are many types of quests but the ultimate quest is the quest for self. When one journeys to find answer to the reappearing questions regarding self, he has to go through mysterious aspects and profound faith. Shakespeare, in his tragedy *Julius Caesar* has precisely observed "It is not in the stars to hold our destiny, but in ourselves." A person's keen desire to know is a yearning for truth, to which the human being is naturally inclined through his intellect. Pope John Paul in his encyclical letter titled '*Fides et Ratio*' writes: "It is the nature of human beings to search for truth". The desired for knowledge is something natural for man and its happiness is closely linked to wisdom which we call 'destiny'. He looks for answers to questions that occur to him and the answers he gets ultimately give rise to other questions. Philosophy is a search for ultimate truth. The most important truth is the ultimate search for man's origin, nature, meaning of life and destiny.

Today, the Modern world has lost belief in something mysterious and universal power that guides each one's life. No one believes in destiny or fate because there is only one life and it's we who decide about what we want to be. Person when thinks of self is faced with questions that have no answers in the world. 'What is my life destiny?' is a question asked by many people as they ponder the reasons for their existence. Many find that life has a purpose and it is the expression of the reason for being. It represents the intelligence that is within all things. For example, it is the power within a seed, an inherent potentiality, when planted, grows step by step to the fulfillment of its reason for being. Thus it is destined to become a tree in itself. Everything has a purpose and destiny of its existence, be it animate or inanimate object. The question 'What is my life destiny?' is answered by finding the real self and its inner purpose. When the child takes first breath of life, becomes a living being and the destiny too plays a role in its growth. The time of birth determines the quality of the power within and reveals the purpose of life in life destiny. The life destiny consists of qualities to be developed through one's thinking, the ideals to be accomplished, and the quest for the dream, the love to be achieved, and success to be made.

Regarding destiny, humanity has been facing age long questions, like, 'What is destiny? Why do you exist? Is there a reason, a purpose, for human life?' These questions have perplexed the greatest writers, thinkers



and philosophers down through the ages. We ponder the meaning of life to understand life as a journey on this planet. The questions often faced are like, 'Where did I come from? Is this physical life all there is? Does my life have a purpose?" Such questions when remain unanswered, it requires a quest, the quest to find out the meaning of existence or destiny of life. One, who finds answer to all these questions, attains all to be known and has the highest knowledge, the knowledge of self. The destiny follows life like the shadow that follows body in day or night. (Philosophy and literature has extensively dealt on these issues of existence. The special branch of philosophy "Anthropology" tries to study the question of existence and its meaning. Immanuel Kant (1724-1804) {He is a prominent German philosopher. His main works are *Critique of Pure* Reason, Critique of Practical Reason (1790), and Critique of Judgment (1790). He called his works as 'Critical Philosophy' or 'Transcendental Idealism' In Critique for Pure Reason he used the term anthropology as a systematic ordered doctrine of the knowledge of man. Etymologically the word anthropology is derived from the Greek stem "arthropods" (man) and the noun "logos" (science). {formerly anthropology was treated under the title of psychology. At the beginning of the twentieth-century, when psychology started to concentrate more on man, the philosophical aspect of man began to be discussed under the title of rational psychology. Traditional approach to human person was to view him as rational being, as he was studied from the point of view of his 'quiddity' (whatness). Now the title philosophical anthropology or philosophy of human person is used for that branch of philosophy which explains philosophically, the phenomenon of human person as such. Thus, the philosophical anthropology is a reflection on man in his totality as he is: his origin, nature, meaning of life, and destiny. Similarly, Indian philosophical tradition too deals with the concept of destiny in all its scriptures. The Atman is a part of Brahman and destined to return there.

Literature is the other side that studies man from the aspect of his life and life phenomenon. From the beginning of the literature, man was the centre of the discussion where man lived, loved, and left the world. Literature portrays man in his own life stages, his aspiration, his quest and ultimate destiny. Greek tragedy, as it is in *Oedipus Rex* and in the Duque de Rivas' play that Verdi transformed into *La Forza del Destino* ("The Force of Destiny") or Thornton Wilder's *The Bridge of San Luis Rey*, or in Shakespeare' *Macbeth's* uncannily-derived knowledge of his own destiny, which in spite of all his actions does not preclude a horrible fate. These are all prominent examples of destiny dealt with in literature.

Other notable examples include Thomas Hardy's *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*, in which Tess is destined to the miserable death that she is confronted with at the end of the novel; Samuel Beckett's *Endgame*; the popular short story "*The Monkey's Paw"* by W.W. Jacobs. Destiny is a recurring theme in the literature of Hermann



Hesse (1877–1962), including *Siddharta* (1922) and his magnum opus, *Das Glasperlenspiel*, also published as *The Glass Bead Game* (1943). The common theme of these works involves a protagonist who cannot escape a destiny if their fate has been sealed, however hard they try. Destiny is also an important plot point in the popular TV shows *Lost*, *Heroes* and *Supernatural*, as well a common theme in the *Roswell* TV series.

Destiny affects the life. In order to realize what one's destiny is, he first must know the definition of 'destine' (root word of destiny). 'The law of destiny determines what forces influence our lives to ensure we encounter the life experiences that we require for our continued development. Destiny is essentially a chain of opportunities that enable us to acquire new abilities, learn lessons, develop our consciousness and help others.' It is understood as to assign for a specific end, use or purpose. Destiny as having many similar words, fate, fortune, God's will, etc. fate is a predetermined course of events. It may be conceived as a predetermined future, whether in general or of an individual. It is a concept based on the belief that there is a fixed natural order to the cosmos.

Paulo in his life was destined to be a writer and wanted to peruse for it. His family didn't support his destiny because a writer does not earn enough. His will to follow his destiny. He was called a psychotic and sent to psychiatrist from where he escaped and joined the magical groups and became a hippie. His destiny did not yet leave him. Paulo still kept on the pursuit of his destiny and ultimately after his pilgrimage to Santiago, he found his destiny, realized his true vocation of a writer. Paulo has portrayed this very concept of destiny in his novels. Most of his novels become interesting by the touch of destiny that mystifies the story. In his famous novel 'Manual of the Warrior of Light' he invites each one of us to live our dream, to embrace the uncertainty of life and to rise to meet our own unique destiny. In his inimitable style, Paulo Coelho helps us to discover the warrior of light within each of us.' (Manual of the Warrior of Light', 280) In The Pilgrimage, he realizes his self through a long, strenuous journey to Santiago de Compostela. He describes the role of destiny in his life on the journey through the guidance of Petrus. It's destiny that leads him to Santiago de Compostela where on the way he meets Mme Lourdes, a monk Fr. Jordi, Legion- his personal devil and many other that help him to get his sword. In fact it is destiny that leads him to them.

#### Destiny leads to reach the goal

The Pilgrimage, an autobiographical novel touched by fictitious characters and organized plot is a spiritual journey designed by destiny. The destiny leads Paulo to make the pilgrimage in order to find his sword, the divine knowledge. Destiny urges the protagonist to realize his aim of existence. The protagonist is destined



to meet his mentor, Petrus who guides him to reach his destination and moreover realize his own destiny. Destiny arranges each step of journey and makes it difficult to reach the destination easily, thus one does not find the thing he yearns for so easily but has to go through trials and tests. Many trials on the way to fulfill the goal that strengthen the joy of achieving it are forced by one's destiny. Paulo says, "Often people have to accept the changes that destiny forces upon them". (*The Pilgrimage*. 191)

On the pilgrimage, the protagonist learns various exercises to strengthen and understand his true destiny. He learns to decipher his destiny by listening to the nature around him. It's obvious when he says, "I stood there amid the noise of brakes screeching on steel, trying to decipher the mysterious Milky Way over my head, those stars that had guided me here and that had silently watched over the loneliness and destiny of all human beings...." (PIL, 234) also philosophically he ponders over destiny as 'With time and tradition, you came to be just a distant divinity, and we returned to our destiny as human being". (PIL, 268) This has reference to Indian concept of the theory of reincarnation and transmigration where a soul is destined to return to its maker. The body is just an outer frame but the soul takes a new form one after the other. Paulo meeting Petrus, his guide days that 'the ship is safest when it's in port' but that is not what ship is made for' (PIL, 21)

Destiny often appears to help the quester to reach destination but it requires a lot of personal effort to find out. In *The Pilgrimage* it appears as a boy at the bank of river playing with the ball, as a personal demon in the disguise of Dog, as the guide, omen and sign. It can appear in the form of bird, animal or non-living object that point towards the way to achieve ones destiny. Thus Paulo opines about achieving our destiny when he says:

"We need the help of everything around us in order to take the necessary steps toward our goal. Everything has to be a personal manifestation of our will to win the good fight."

(PIL, 63)

Further Paulo observes the causes of 'why one does not follow his destiny?' and find a few reasons. One does not follow his destiny because he is afraid to dream or takes dream as dream and forgets, lack of time to quest for the dream, and gives dream away for peace. The best way envisaged by the writer to understand the destiny is through love. Paulo has rightly explained it in his words, "The language of your heart is what is going to determine the best way to find and use your sword. If you can't bring the two together, the exercises and the RAM practices will become simply a part of the useless wisdom of the Tradition." (PIL, 82)

www.vidhyayanaejournal.org

### An International Multidisciplinary Research e-Journal

When Petrus, his guide, puts Paulo into tests, it's his destiny to get sword energized him and lead him to keep perusing for it. The test is to lift a heavy cross and raise it into a new place. The work is very hard in such hard soil but destiny prepares a ground. Paulo knows that the fear of failure kills destiny so one has to work hard and he felt that his destiny helped him. He expressed it in words, "At that moment I recognized once again that fate had been directing the work I had done." (PIL, 184) Destiny as a whole plays the role that of a main character that runs the story. The protagonist destined to achieve his dream is often helped by destiny till the end. He receives his sword from his master.

#### **Dreams - Language of Destiny**

The Alchemist is a fable of dream of a shepherd boy. The main character of the plot is 'destiny'. The often dreamt treasure is hidden by destiny in the pyramids of Egypt. When Santiago pursues his dream, he is pursuing his destiny. Coelho distinguishes between those who do not follow their destiny, and those who do. Santiago to follow his destiny goes to any level possible on the other hand we have many characters that know their destiny but fail to follow, such as the crystal merchant. The crystal merchant had dreamt of going to Mecca, but never had to courage to follow his destiny. The ultimate destiny is to know the heart. Paulo many times expresses' "

Listen to your heart. It knows all things, because it came from the Soul of the World, and it will one day return there. Wherever your heart is, that is where you'll find your treasure. Your heart is alive. Keep listening to what it has to say. (*The Alchemist*, 124)

In *The Alchemist*, everything that had happened to Santiago happened for a reason, i.e. to guide him towards his destiny. It was his destiny to become a shepherd, to meet the old man who interpreted his dream, to have his money stolen, it was his destiny to meet Fatima, it was his destiny to find out that his treasure was actually back where the story began, all the way back where he lived as a shepherd. Such destiny has been used throughout modern history. The boy's destiny is to travel far into the deserts and find his true treasure. This destiny is embedded in the soul of the world and to realize this destiny is the sole aim of man's life. Paulo describes this when he writes:

"The Soul of the World is nourished by people's happiness, And also by unhappiness, envy, and jealousy. To realize one's destiny is a person's only real obligation. All things are one.

"And, when you want something, the entire universe conspires in helping you to achieve

www.vidhyayanaejournal.org

# An International Multidisciplinary Research e-Journal

it."... (ALC, 21)

The boy to understand his dream visits a gypsy, who can interpret his dream and destiny. This is same as Indian concept of astrologist who interprets the future of people observing certain sighs. Meeting with the old man, Melchizedek who introduced himself as a king of Salem is a part played by destiny. He is destiny in disguise that strengthens his quest by revealing the dream and teaching him to follow the omens. The old man interprets his appearance:

"Sometimes I appear in the form of a solution, or a good idea. At other times, at a crucial moment, I make it easier for things to happen. There are other things I do, too, but most of the time people don't realize I've done them." (ALC, 22)

The king finally gives him lesson to follow his destiny because life wants him to. His dream is not any dream but his destiny awaking him from the slumber of normal routine life to adventurous life of a quest to attain what his destiny wishes, i.e. the treasure, love, adventure and self-realization through transformation. He calls it as:"... the principle of favorability, beginner's luck. Because life wants you to achieve your destiny," the old king had said. (ALC, 27). Thus, the dream is one of the language through which destiny unfolds itself.

#### **Destiny Manifests Itself through Nature**

Paulo creates mysterious aspect in the Nature often unseen by normal eyes. He sees what we fail to see. The Nature is the handiwork or marvelous creation of God and is endowed with the magical touch that has the power to reveal our destinies. Santiago becomes shepherd to travel and be one with nature so that he can learn the universal language, understand the omens and follow his destiny. Therefore the kind had revealed it to him when he proclaimed, "When you want something, all the universe conspires in helping you to achieve it." (ALC, 21) This is the core proclamation on which whole text is structure. The nature is the presence of god which guides those who quest for destiny. He realized: If I can learn to understand this language without words, I can learn to understand the world.

The concept of "*Maktub*," is very well presented in the text. The author believes in destiny, that everything is written. '*Maktub*' he says. *Maktub* is an Arabic word which has a similar meaning to what in English is 'everything is written'. But where it is written nobody knows. He emphasizes a lot on this issue, as if to convince the reader not to be scared of the unknown because the unknown is already known somewhere else, it's *Maktub*. It's like the Indian concept of Brahma, and western concept of pantheism.

www.vidhyayanaejournal.org

### An International Multidisciplinary Research e-Journal

Maktub is explained when asked by Santiago, "What does that mean?".... be something like 'It is written.' Everything is written down from the beginning for all and everything happens as it is written. Maktub works in all people. When Santiago meets crystal merchant, it is already written in his destiny that he will be a good omen for the crystal shop and go on journey to meet the alchemist who will guide him to find his treasure as well as to learn to listen to his heart and transform himself. Destiny provides Santiago his love, Fatima who loves him in the true sense. Love does not come on the way to realize one's destiny. She too is a part of his destiny. Maktub is the soul of the world manifested in the Nature. Santiago learned to listen to the soul of the world and understands the omens left by it to realize the destiny. Paulo presents the heart of the boy when he says that the boy was beginning to understand that intuition is really a sudden immersion of the soul into the universal current of life, where the histories of all people are connected, and we are able to know everything, because it's all written there. "Everything is written in the Soul of the World, and there it will stay forever." (ALC, 118) Everything has its own destiny. The nature hold answer to the entire question one aspires for. One has to also cooperate and quest unceasingly to know destiny despite the difficulties come on the way. Paulo, understanding the Nature and its role in making destiny of all writes:

"It's true that everything has its destiny, but one day that destiny will be realized. So each thing has to transform itself into something better, and to acquire a new destiny, until, someday, the Soul of the World becomes one thing only." (ALC, 143)

#### **Destiny Unrealized**

Paulo is the great story teller. He, in order to strengthen Santiago's will to follow his destiny, gives examples of those who could not follow their destiny due to lack of confidence, fear of failure, tension of worldly concerns, economic crisis, etc,... Paulo presents answer to all these in the character of Santiago who becomes a shepherd. The Old Man, Melchizedek points out to the baker who couldn't realize his destiny in his life. Pointing towards the bakers shop, the old man says: "When he was a child, that man wanted to travel, too. But he decided first to buy his bakery and put some money aside. When he's an old man, he's going to spend a month in Africa. He never realized that people are capable, at any time in their lives, of doing what they dream of." (ALC,21) The old man adds that people give more important the other example is given by the crystal merchant who knowing about the dream of the boy tells him that he too had been dreaming to go to Mecca but there is no enough money and a person to look after the shop. Hence, he kept on delaying his dream. He says to the boy that Mecca is a lot farther away than the Pyramids. When he was young, all he wanted to do was put together enough money to start this shop. He thought that someday he



would be rich, and could go to Mecca. He began to make some money, but could never bring himself to leave someone in charge of the shop; the crystals are delicate things. At the same time, people were passing my shop all the time, heading for Mecca. Some of them were rich pilgrims, traveling in caravans with servants and camels, but most of the people making the pilgrimage were poorer than him. (ALC.52). The story ends by a person who really knew where the treasure was and reveals it to the boy, the real owner of the treasure because that's his real destiny. The robber mocks the boy who tells that he is searching for his treasure. he says:

> Two years ago, right here on this spot, I had a recurrent dream, too. I dreamed that I should travel to the fields of Spain and look for a ruined church where shepherds and their sheep slept. In my dream, there was a sycamore growing out of the ruins of the sacristy, and I was told that, if I dug at the roots of the sycamore, I would find a hidden treasure. But I'm not so stupid as to cross an entire desert just because of a recurrent dream." (ALC, 155)

He couldn't follow his dream and did not peruse for the destiny prepared for him hence ended up becoming a robber. But he told the boy where his real treasure is. These are the examples of those who didn't realize their destiny prepared for them were still struggling with life. The book makes alive the concept of Destiny and encloses various words of wisdom from the past. The interesting thing is that it embraces Arabic and Indian philosophies with a Christian flavor to it. We can see the Arabic philosophy in *Maktub* and the Indian philosophy in *The Soul of the World*, the *One; the Brahman*. The Christian flavor is felt along the entire book's journey: in the way of describing the ambience and in the importance of *Love*. The book is very pleasurable and captivating for the heart because it presents its aromas, its panoramas, its mysteries and mysticism, and all those questions which struck directly to our souls.

The concept of destiny runs on in all his novels. His latest work, *Aleph*, an autobiographical fiction is also a fictitiously real story of destiny. It personifies destiny as love that lives beyond ages, time, and place and not bound by any birth or physical forms.

#### **Love leads towards Destiny**

Love never comes on the way of realizing one's destiny. It always supports the journey of life and helps the protagonist who peruses for it ad infinitum. The latest work of Paulo 'Aleph' present a bright side of destiny that leads one to find love and on the other hand love leads to realize one's destiny. The novel as it is written is all about the maxim "Transform your life. Rewrite your destiny." Aleph is a voyage of love, the



quest of unending love. The feminist character Hilal, who loved Paulo before five hundred years, reappears as a musician and tries to get her love back into her life. Paulo sees his destiny in her eyes. It's destined already that the journey would bring them together. Aleph happens only when two people meet with true love searching for each other. Paulo reports, "Lovers who meet after a long, long time. The second Aleph also happens by chance when two people whom Destiny has chosen for a specific mission meet in the right place." (*Aleph*, 105)

Destiny plays a great role in organizing the journey, meeting different people, reconnecting with them, having conversations to learn different aspects of human lives. Paulo is in a dire need of going on a journey to relive the spiritual aspect. He feel to his faith has begun to dwindle and to strengthen his faith he has to travel, like Santiago in *The Alchemist*. It is his destiny to travel. This love and desire for a travel is reflected well when he says:

Whenever I refused to follow my fate, something very hard to bear would happen in my life. And that is great fear at the moment at the moment that some tragedy will occur. Tragedy always brings about radical change in our lives, a change that is associated with the same principle: lose. (AL, 14)

On the journey, there are many fans to meet him and get a copy signed. He does so because for him people are important and they help him to write his destiny. He describes, "I know that I am in all the people surrounding me, and that they are in me. Together we write the Book of Life, our every encounter determined by fate and our hands joined in the belief that we can make a difference in the world. ... (AL, 21) To write the book of life, he embarks on a journey where he finds his love, Hilal. This meeting her itself fills Paulo's heart with strange feelings as if they have been traveling together for many years. When Paulo looks into her eyes he burns with love and they both experience *Aleph*. The destiny has bought them together to enter the *aleph* and realize the aim of life. Destiny require likeminded together to help him get transform his life and realize the past, present and future. It is his love for her that leads him to keep going further on spiritual path. Both share the destiny and hence live the destiny to transform self. It is same like the idea expressed in *The Alchemist* and *The Pilgrimage*, "You must understand that love never keeps a man from pursuing his Personal Legend. If he abandons that pursuit it's because it wasn't true love... the love that speaks the Language of the World."



#### Destiny- A Voyage through Time and Place

In the beginning of the novel we find Paulo dejected with the routine life. He is successful but unhappy, trapped in routine and the vice of solitude, disconnected from inspiration and the Divine. He feels a vacuum in his heart for something. The time seems to be a routine that has no joy, happiness or mystery. He wants to go back to his kingdom. Hence he writes "Go and reconquer your kingdom, which has grown corrupted by routine."(AL, 14) Thus, from this starting point, Paulo takes a life-changing journey across the trans-Siberian railway and discovers a magic on the long voyage through time and place. The "Aleph" is a moment in which all time and space is condensed into singularity, what some would call presence, and everyone must learn to find this magical space.

The real journey- journey through time and place happens when he meets Hilal, whose eyes are the door way to enter the journey to past. It is love that is not bound by time and place burning in her eyes that takes Paulo beyond the physical world. Paulo recollects his past lives and loves. He reports that his meeting with Hilal opened a door, not the door he wanted to open, but another. He passed into another dimension of his life, into another carriage full of unresolved conflicts. People are waiting for him there, and he has to join them. (AL, 129) the voyage is not only to a place but to the past for Paulo. He sees his past and finds that there are eight women whom he loves of which Hilal is the fifth one. So Paulo feels, "What you did in the past that will affect the present. It's what you do in the present that will redeem the past and thereby change the future. (AL, 9) all these happen during journey not by itself or self planned wishes but it's a play of destiny in each one's life. It is destiny that takes us beyond this physical world to spiritual world within. What destiny leaves on the way are only signs and omens. Paulo states, "This was a sign, confirming that I was where I should be, in the right place, at the right time, even though I didn't understand what had brought me there." (AL, 36)

Destiny can be called the power of God that controls humanity and leads them to the way prepared. It is believed, "We are also puppets in God's hands, and there is a line we cannot cross, a line that was drawn for reasons we cannot know. We can approach and even dabble our toes in the river, but are forbidden to plunge in and let ourselves be carried along by the current." (AL, 131) Paulo at end finds his destiny, knows that all born ones are born with their destiny and must follow to know what life has hidden for him. Hilal was the love written in his destiny before five hundred years, he gets her now. He exclaims"



We are all souls wandering the cosmos and, at the same time, living our lives, with a sense that we are passing from one incarnation to another. If something touches the code of our soul, it is remembered for ever and affects whatever comes afterwards. "Is it possible to deviate from the path of God has made? Yes, but it's always a mistake. Is it possible to avoid pain? Yes, but you'll never learn anything. Is it possible to know something without ever having experienced it? Yes, but it will never truly be part of you. (AL, 270)

Aleph is the place where in an instant whole universe come together. It's truly a journey beyond time and place because there is no time or place required to enter into the *aleph*. It is the aspect of destiny depicted by Paulo to show that we are every time guided by a mysterious force to live our life. To is not only in this life but lives lived by and lives to come. Thus, destiny is the ultimate quest of a man on earth.

#### Conclusion

This research incorporates the aspect of destiny titled as "Destiny – The Ultimate Quest". Paulo was destined to be a writer and his destiny as we see today played a great role in his life. Same aspect he portrays in each of his novels. All his characters are guided by their destiny. So it's no wrong to say 'destiny' is the main character of his novels. In *The Pilgrimage* destiny is already set to reach Santiago and find the divine sword. He realizes the destiny by the help of Petrus, his guide who teaches him the tradition and spiritual exercises. Eventually, he is capable in himself to live the life without help and reach the destiny. *The Alchemist* is a story written by destiny. It is destiny that guides Santiago to his treasure. The plot of the story is so entangled that readers feel like not stopping. The boy is guided in each step by destiny that appears in the form of Old Man, Chrystal Merchant, English man, Fatima- his love, Thief Boy, and The Alchemist, at the end the robbers show that treasure he has come for is there from where he began the journey. Thus, it is the story of destiny lived through the quest. The other novel 'Aleph' is the love story realized through destiny. Destiny prepares he journey and brings Hilal in front of Paulo who find the aleph and travel to the past. The novel has a journey within journey. One is physical journey and the other is a spiritual journey that leads them to realize that love never dies but lives through time and place.



#### References

#### **PRIMARY SOURCES**

- Coelho, Paulo. *The Alchemist*, Trans. Alen. R. Clark. New Delhi: HarperCollins Publishers, 1988. Print.
- ---. Aleph, Trans. Margaret J Costa. New Delhi: HarperCollins Publishers, 2011. Print.
- ---. The Pilgrimage, Trans. Alen. R. Clark. New Delhi: HarperCollins Publishers, 1987. Print.

#### **SECONDERY SOURCES**

- Abrams, M.H, and Geoffrey G. H. A Handbook of Literary Terms. New Delhi: Cengage Learning, 2009. Print.
- Bhattacharya, Annupama. "An Interview with Brazilian Writer, Paulo Coelho: Sorcery Everybody is a Magus", *Life Positive*. July 2000.
- King, Mike. "Realizing the Value of Life." Ed. J. C. Choate. *The Voice of Truth.* 28. New Delhi: World Literature Publication, 1995. Print.
- Mignolo, A. "The Alchemist: Destiny and Fate" *Wordpress:* Dec 5. 201. Web. 22 Mar. 2013. Print. < <a href="http://thoughtofone.wordpress.com/the-alchemistdestiny/">http://thoughtofone.wordpress.com/the-alchemistdestiny/</a>>. Web.
- Muraleedharan, Manju. *The Triad of Man, Universe and God in Paulo Coelho's novel The Alchemist*. Chennai: Department of English, Madras Christian College. IRWLE. 7. 2003. Print.
- Percivil, Harold Waldwin. *Thinking and Destiny*. Rochester: the world foundation. Inc., 1946.

  Print.
- Pradhan, R.C. "What is it to be a Human." *Indian Philosophical Quarterly*. 26 .4. Oct. (1999) Poona: 457-473. Print.
- What is your Destiny? USA: Thomas Nelson, Inc. Publishers, 1988. Print.
- Williams, B. Problems of the Self, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 1973. Print.