



# The Concept of Nava Rasa Theory through English Literature

## Abstract:

Aesthetic sense helps the people to admire the beauty of human beings when they have expressions of feelings and certain emotions on their face or body that has been given the term called **Navarasam** or **Anubhavas**. This particular research tries to attempt to bring out all the 9-types of Rasa's with the proper evidence from **Literature**. To make people understand the theory of 9-Rasa, first people should admire the aesthetic sense. One cannot learn or teach 'Navarasam', it comes over experience. So the aesthetic sense helps people to understand and appreciate the level of beauty and also it creates good relationship among people. Navarasam has the composition of 9 different emotions that people can usually find on their faces. Everyday people intentionally or unintentionally come across the 9 expressions in one way or the other.

**Key Words:** Aesthetic Sense, Navarasam, Anubhavas, Emotions and Feelings.

## Introduction:

Rasa is about human state of mind and what the mind feels and the expression of the feeling thereafter. **9-Rasa** theory speaks about the nine different emotions that a person intentionally or unintentionally uses on a daily basis. The word 9-rasa actually comes from the Tamil word **Navarasam**. Rasa is the emotional response elicited by the art. Across the traditional forms of art and nature, Navarasam is one of the common core elements.

## Methodology:

Applying literary examples on Navarasa Theory. Literary characters highly influence people's heart, because people see those characters as part of their lives. So the research uses the methodology of applying literary characters to make sure the readers to get more knowledge about Navarasam.

### 1. Laugh: Hasya

#### As You Like It- Touchstone:

Touchstone starts off Duke Frederick's **court fool** and ends up being Rosalind and Celia's partner-in-crime for their runaway adventure. As a "**licensed fool**," he literally has a license to say whatever he wants. Touchstone is

brilliant—he's insightful about human nature and has a quick wit. He's most notable for his **incredible ability with words**; he loves to twist any argument and nitpick over any little thing.

## 2. Fear: Bhayanaka

### Dr. Faustus- Last scene:

In the last scene of the play Dr. Faustus, Faustus is **horrified** at the prospect of suffering endlessly in hell. Faustus wants to stop the time in order to escape from hell. There he clearly delivers the feeling of fear.

## 3. Wonder / Surprise: Adbhuta

### Paradise Lost- Conversation between Serpent and Eve:

Eve was preparing for lunch in the Garden of Eden meanwhile Lucifer was penetrating inside Eden Garden. It was looking for an apt form to change into. By seeing serpent's shape **Lucifer was amazed** and quickly disguised himself as a serpent. Serpent tried so many ways to get noticed by Eve. Suddenly it started to articulate and it was praising Eve. This made Eve wonder.

## 4. Anger: Raudra

### Aeneid – Juno:

Virgil describes the **anger of Juno**, queen of goddesses, over “the judgment of Paris-a beauty contest” Paris was asked to choose the fairest of three goddesses, and he chose **Venus**, the goddess of love, because she promised him the most beautiful woman in the world for a wife if he were to select Venus. **Juno**, one of the two goddesses not chosen, was so **infuriated** by this decision that she became determined to do all that she could **harm the handsome Trojan's descendants**.

## 5. Kind / Compassion: Karuna

The characters from Oliver Twist:

**Ms. Rose Maylie- helps Oliver** from the cruel pickpocket. **Mr. Brownlow-adopts** Oliver and discovers his identity. When Oliver Twist get hurt by pickpockets Ms. Rose Maylie and Mr. Brownlow where there to help him. They showed **good care and kindness** towards him.

## 6. Love: Shringar

### Romeo Juliet:

**Romeo**, a Montague, and **Juliet**, a Capulet, met at a masquerade party in Juliet's home. Romeo and his friends sneaked into the party, uninvited, and when Romeo sees Juliet, he is **instantly smitten**. After the party, Romeo ditches his friends, jumps over the Capulets' garden wall, and searches for Juliet. Romeo hides in the garden and soon observes Juliet walking onto the balcony outside her room. Romeo says, '**But, soft! What light through yonder window breaks? It is the east, and Juliet is the sun.**' When Romeo sees Juliet, he feels hope; it is as if the sun is rising. This is important to note, as Romeo has just spent several weeks pining over an **unrequited love**, Rosaline.

## 7. Courage: Veera

### Macbeth:

He is a great warrior. Single-handedly he **repulses the treacherous Thane of Cawdor** and his ally, the Norwegian king. He is befittingly praised as 'Bellona's Bridegroom' and Valor's minion'. In recognition of his merits as an **exemplary fighter** and loyalist.

## 8. Disgust: Bibhatsa

### Othello:

Iago manipulates **Othello** into believing his wife **Desdemona** is unfaithful, stirring **Othello's** jealousy. The **disgusting thought** of his wife allows him to **murder Desdemona**, and then **kills** himself.

## 9. Peace: Shanta

### King Lear - Cordelia:

**Cordelia** is the youngest of Lear's daughters and clearly his favorite; she embodies all that is missing from his kingdom and his soul. Her refusal to color or exaggerate her feelings for him indicates not a lack of love or respect, but honesty. **Devoted**, honest and virtuous, Cordelia stands in sharp contrast to her cruel, dishonest and greedy sisters, **Goneril** and **Regan**. Throughout the play, other characters describe Cordelia in nearly **religious and saintly terms**.

### **Conclusion:**

The 9-Rasa is based on Tamil culture. The above examples gives us a perfect understanding of **9-Rasa Theory**.

### **Significance/Areas of applications:**

Navarasam takes major part in every human's life. This research helps the people to know more about Navarasam. The researcher used proper examples from Literature which helps the readers to know things very quickly without barriers.

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