Shakespeare's Concept of Astronomy

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Abstract

This contribution scrutinizes Shakespeare knowledge and views about cosmological theories i.e. Ptolemaic, Copernicus, TychoBrahe and Galileo. It in addition claims that William Shakespeare had a profound interest and specialized knowledge in the domain of technical astronomy. Plays by Shakespeare are loaded with astronomical allusions. Because that is injected in Shakespeare's nature to discuss every aspect of his age like medicine, falconry and agriculture but his astronomy is quite interesting. Furthermore, this effort examines the Shakespeare's astronomical concept in allegorical form in his plays, especially in Hamlet, King Lear, Othello, Julius and Ceaser, Henry VI, The Tempest and Antony and Cleopatra.

Keywords: William Shakespeare , Renaissance astronomy, Ptolemaic, Copernicanism, Hamlet, King Lear, Othello, Julius