

**THE INDISPENSABLE STATE OF KNOWLEDGE
BEYOND THE CONSERVATISM IN UMBERTO
ECO'S THE NAME OF THE ROSE**

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ABSTRACT

The theme of books that generate other books and the chain of epistemological analyses across the world of textuality is always in its momentum. In this context, the current paper explains how the validity of the interpretations in Umberto Eco's The Name of the Rose is undertaken for the discovery of various other levels of comprehensions in the world of semantics. Since, the exchange of linguistic and semantic understanding of reader with the concerned author varies but the interpretations along with their readers' attitudes cannot be negatively thrust on to other interpretations. Eco's literary tendency in the novel is very objective and open ended. He wants to focus on the attitude of the character of Malachi, the librarian, in the novel who always want to control the scholastic exercises of others. But he cannot make others to think as per his own perceptions and conservative attitude towards the world of books and knowledge kept under the lock and key. Malachi acts as a barrier to the objective study of books and the inclination of knowledge that is enticed by the scholars. Further, the nature of parody towards the religious conservatism is heavily loaded with the tendency of extending the possibilities of interpretation beyond the orthodox way of approaching the text. This is also shown how Malachi gives divine justification to the heinous murders that he himself planned. The hypocrisy is sharply exposed in Malachi as a representative of religious conservatism. Eco preaches in the conclusion of the novel that a researcher, scholar or head of any institution must be objective to comprehend that world exists beyond one's personal and blindfolded comprehensions. The positive and objective stand in this arena may surely lead us to the further humanistic developments across the numerous fields of knowledge and various walks of life.

KEYWORDS: Religion, Power, Perception, Language, Literary texts, knowledge and Reality