

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION

In Aru's journey, there are tons of mythological references present: the Pandavas, celestial beings such as Hanuman, Urvashi, Vahanas, and gods; by including these elements, Chokshi enriches the narrative and establishes the foundations of Aru's heroic journey. For instance, Aru's identity as one of the Pandava brothers connects her to a rich cultural heritage, allowing us as readers to explore themes of legacy and duty. This also helps her as she learns about her powers and responsibilities, illustrating her struggles with self-acceptance and her growth into a hero, which will be a hard quest if Aru does not have any source to learn; the story of the OG Pandava brothers serve as her inspiration for her character development.

However, the significance of these mythological references extends beyond cultural connection. They actively shape the character and the narrative itself. *Aru Shah and the End of Time* aligned with mythological archetypes, as outlined by Joseph Campbell's Hero's Journey; Aru embodies "The Hero" as she navigates through the unknown realm to fix problems that exist in her ordinary world and change from insecure and lied a lot girl into a brave leader who confronts her fear and embrace her role. Other characters like Boo, a grumpy yet wise old pigeon guide, and Mini, the loyal companion, fulfill the roles of "Mentor" and "the Ally," respectively, helping Aru on his journey. The antagonist, the Sleeper, reflects the archetype of "the Shadow," representing total

chaos and enemies of the good in Aru's world. These archetypes organize the narrative, giving it a universal and appealing story and, at the same time, ensuring the character growth feels natural and purposeful. For example, each stage of Aru's journey, from accepting her role to confronting the Sleeper, is influenced by these archetypes that are present.

This use of archetypes not only drives the plot but also gives room for reinterpretation to resonate with modern audiences. Chokshi's reinterpretation of Hindu mythology in *Aru Shah and the End of Time* is crucial in making these ancient stories and figures accessible and relatable to modern audiences. By placing a young, flawed, and diverse protagonist at the center of the story, Chokshi bridges the gap between ancient tales and modern sensibilities. Aru's struggles with identity, acceptance, and self-worth resonate with modern audiences, specifically younger readers, who face similar challenges in today's world.

In conclusion, Hindu mythology on *Aru Shah and the End of Time* is highly significant; it enriches the stories with diverse characters and settings, and it is intertwined with modern literature, which makes Chokshi able to address contemporary themes such as self-identity and Feminism. It also gives mythology, especially Hindu mythology, recognition in the modern world, which hopefully makes Hindu mythology thrive and last for another millennium. This novel is solid proof that myth can still be a source of inspiration for writers alike and readers who read it. This also raised several questions in the writer's mind: Does this phase of human civilization demand a new myth? Is this trend of combining

old myths with contemporary literature a sign of Mythopoeia? Hopefully, this thesis will be a stepping stone for future studies on mythology.

