

## Character of Oedipus

Oedipus, the protagonist of Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex* is a complex character of the play who embodies greatness and flaw. Undoubtedly, he is known for intelligence, warrior and a distinct personality solving the problems of his own people. He is committed to end the plague that afflicts the city of Thebes but is succumbed to his own tragic destiny. His intellect and reason comes to the people of Thebes when he succeeds to solve riddle of the Sphinx. But his arrogance and self defiance takes him to the fall when he refuses to accept the prophecy of Tiresias for the reason he has ability to control his kingdom through his reason and intelligence and deters prophecy by understanding it as the part of conspiracy rather a fate.

Though he is a suit warrior but remains impulsive and short-tempered. When he is informed about his own tragic fate, his anger leads him to accuse the saint and shows his inability to control himself. He knows one thing that he is morally sincere to have his control over people and does not commit crime.

Ultimately, Oedipus's character is marked by a relentless pursuit of truth. Even when he begins to suspect that he himself may be the cause of Thebes' suffering, he refuses to abandon the investigation. This commitment to truth leads to his tragic recognition (*anagnorisis*) and downfall. His self-punishment—blinding himself and accepting exile—demonstrates his sense of responsibility and justice.

Thus, Oedipus stands as a powerful example of a tragic hero: noble in intention, flawed in judgment, and destroyed not by vice but by fate and self-knowledge.