BG Pulse Journal USA
ISSN:1947-2536 http://www.bgpulseusa.com/index.php/bg

# INTERPRETATION OF SPACE AND TIME IN GUSTAV FLOBERTS IN NOVEL "SALAMBO"

**Gulrukh Qilicheva**
Samarkand State Institute of Foreign Languages
https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.20485873

**ANNOTATION:** This study explores the representation of space and time in Gustave Flaubert's novel *Salammbô*, focusing on their aesthetic and structural functions. The research applies a historical-poetic and narratological approach to examine how spatial and temporal dimensions contribute to the realism and symbolic depth of the novel. The findings indicate that space is constructed as a hybrid of historical reconstruction and imaginative elaboration, while time operates on both linear and psychological levels. The interaction between space and time reinforces the narrative tension and enhances the reader's immersion in the ancient Carthaginian world.

**Keywords:** Salammbô, space, time, historical novel, literary analysis, chronotope,narratology, psychological levels, structural functions.

The 19th-century French writer Gustave Flobert is widely recognized as one of the leading figures of literary realism. His novel "Salammbô" represents a unique attempt to reconstruct the ancient world of Carthage a through a combination of historical accuracy and artistic imagination.

2.The concept of space and time in literature has been extensively studied by scholars.Mikhail Bakhtin introduced the concept of the chronotope emphasizing the intrinsic connection between temporal and spatial relationships in narrative texts.

Similarly, George Lukacs highlighted the importance of historical time and space in shaping the structure of the historical novel.

Although Flaubert's works have been widely analyzed, most studies focus on his stylistic precision and realism. The chronotopic structure of "Salammbô" remains an area that requires deeper exploration.

**3.Methodology**

This study employs the following methods:

1.Narratologicial analysisis

2.Historical – comparative approach

3.Structural analysis

4.Chronotope – based interpretation

Selected passages from the novel are analyzed to identify the functions of spatial and temporal elements.

**4.Spatial representation**

BG Pulse Journal USA
ISSN:1947-2536 http://www.bgpulseusa.com/index.php/bg
BG PULSE JOURNAL



**Figure1.*Representation of space in "Salammbô"***



**Figure2.Spatial configuration in *"Salammbô"***



**Figure 3. *Representation of space in "Salammbô" by Gustave Flobert***

Space in "Salammbô" is a multilayered construct:

**4.1 Historical Space**

The depiction of Carthage is grounded in historical research. Flaubert relied on archaeological and historical sources to reconstruct the ancient city.

**4.2 Exotic Space**

The novel presents an exotic and sensual atmosphere through vivid descriptions of rituals, landscapes, and architecture.

**4.3 Symbolic Space**

Temples symbolize spirituality and divine power

Palaces represent political authority

Battlefields and deserts signify chaos and destruction

Thus, space functions not merely as a setting but as an active narrative force.

**5. Temporal Representation**



**Figure 4.**

**Historical time**

Time in the novel operates on multiple levels:

5.1The events are set during the Mercenary War in ancient Carthage.

5.2 The storyline follows a generally linear progression but includes moments of temporal expansion.

5.3 Psychological Time

Characters' inner experiences create a subjective perception of time.

This combination results in a dynamic and complex temporal structure.

**6. Chronotope and Narrative Unity**

According to Mikhail Bakhtin the chronotope represents the fusion of time and space in literature.

In "Salammbô":

1. Space provides the physical framework of the narrative.
2. Time drives the development of events.

Their unity creates a powerful aesthetic effect and ensures narrative coherence.

**7.Dicuission**

The analysis shows that Gustave Flobert masterfully integrates spatial and temporal elements to:

- Enhance realism
- Create immersive historiacal athmosphere
- Intensify immersial and dramatic impact

The interaction of space and time plays a crucial role in shaping the reader's perception.

In conclusion, Salambo presents a sophisticated interplay of space and time. Space is both historical and symbolic, while time is multilayered and dynamic. Their integration forms the foundation of the novel's artistic structure and contributes to its lasting literary significance.

**Bibliography**

1. Flaubert G."Salambô" 1862.
2. Bakhtin, M.The Dialogik Imagination.1981.
3. Lukács, G. The Historical Novel.1962.
4. Genette, G.Narrative Discourse.1980.
5. Auerbach, E.Mimesis.1953.
6.BARTHES,Roland.1982.«L'effetderéel».Littératureetréalité,Paris:Seuil,p.81-90

7.BOTTINEAU,Lionel.1984.«Lareprésentationdel'espacedans Salammbô».Larevuedeslettres modernes:histoiredesidéesetdeslittératures,no703-706,Paris:Lettresmodernes,p.79-104.3.CONSTABLE,E.L.1996.«CriticalDepartures:Salammbô'sOrientalism».ModernLanguagesNotes,vol.111,no4,p.625-646.4.LECLERC,Yvan.1997.«NotessurSalammbô».Équinoxe(numérospécialsurGustaveFlaubert),no14(printemps),p.61-70.5.LOWE,Lisa.1986.«TheOrientasWomaninFlaubert'sSalammbôandVoyageenOrient».ComparativeLiteratureStudies,vol.23,no1,p.44-58.6.MASSON,Bernard.1981.«Salammbôoulabarbarieàvisagehumain».Revued'histoirelittérairedeFrance,vol.81,no4-5,p.585-596.7.MOURA,Jean-Marc.1992.Lirel'exotisme,Paris:Dunod,p.5-15,189-196