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ARTISTIC PSYCHOLOGISM AND THE CONCEPT OF SYMBOLISM IN FERUZA SALKHODJAYEVA'S STORY "KO‘K TERAGIM"

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Abstract: This article analyzes the artistic and aesthetic function of nature landscape descriptions in the stories of Feruza Salkhodjayeva, one of the representatives of modern Uzbek literature. The study highlights the role of natural scenery in revealing the psychological state of characters, creating an emotional background for the development of events, and expressing the national spirit and philosophy of life.

Keywords: short story genre, landscape, artistic depiction, poetic mastery, psychological experience, realism, lyricism, image, artistic-aesthetic thinking, Uzbek prose.

Introduction. In modern Uzbek prose, the issue of depicting the human psyche, inner experiences and psychological layers of artistic thinking is gaining special aesthetic importance. Especially in the literature of the period of independence, attention has increased to the artistic interpretation of the inner world of a person, spiritual suffering, experiences related to memory and spiritual values. In this process, artistic psychologism and symbolism are manifested as one of the important structural elements of modern prose poetics. Because in a work of art, psychological images and symbolic images perform an important aesthetic function in deeply revealing the psyche of the hero and the author's idea.

In literary criticism, the concept of psychologism is interpreted as a method of artistic expression of the inner world, mental state, emotional experiences and stream of consciousness of the hero. Russian literary critic L. Ginzburg interprets psychologism as “the artistic study of the human soul” [1]. Also, in the scientific views of such scientists as M. Bakhtin, B. Sarimsakov, U. Normatov, it is emphasized that psychological imagery is one of the main factors determining the aesthetic impact of a literary text. Through psychologism, the writer seeks to describe the inner experiences of the hero rather than his external actions [2]. As a result, the reader gets closer to the spiritual world of the hero of the work and experiences the events more emotionally.

Symbolism is a means of expressing a broader philosophical and aesthetic meaning in a literary text through a specific object, image, or element of nature. In literary theory, a symbol is considered a poetic element that reveals the hidden meanings of reality. In particular, symbols such as a tree, road, water, and sky often become an artistic expression of human destiny, memory, life, or mental state [3]. From this perspective, symbolic images also serve as an important poetic tool in revealing the human psyche in Feruza Salkhodjaeva's stories.

Feruza Salkhodjayeva's story "Ko'k teragim" is one of the works in modern Uzbek prose that combines spiritual imagery and symbolic meaning. In the story, the image of the blue poplar tree

[1]Ginzburg L. Psychological prose. - Leningrad: Khudozhestvennaya literatura, 1977.
[2]Normatov U. The Magic of Creativity. – Tashkent: Sharq, 2007.
[3]Kuronov D. Fundamentals of Literary Theory. – Tashkent: Akademnashr, 2018.

does not remain an ordinary element of nature, but becomes a symbolic expression of the hero's childhood memories, spiritual attachment, spiritual roots and human values. In the work, the hero's inner suffering, feelings of longing, and attitude to the past are illuminated through subtle artistic details using psychological imagery. In particular, the author's mastery of using natural landscapes harmonizes with the hero's psyche and increases the emotional and aesthetic impact of the story.

In today's literary criticism, the study of the issues of artistic psychologism and symbolism is of great scientific importance in understanding the poetics of modern prose. Because psychological imagery and the symbolic layer are one of the main criteria for expressing the individual style and artistic thinking of the writer. Therefore, the scientific analysis of psychological imagery and symbolic images in the story "Blue Teragim" serves as an important theoretical basis for revealing the poetic features of the work.

Literature analysis and theoretical foundations. The issue of artistic psychologism and symbolism is being studied as one of the most important poetic categories in world and Uzbek literary criticism. Especially in the literature of the 20th century, the increased attention to the depiction of the human psyche, internal experiences and processes of consciousness opened a wide path for the development of psychological prose. As a result, the artistic study of the inner world of a person rather than the external depiction of reality in a work of art became a priority. In this regard, the issues of psychologism and symbolism have also been formed as a separate aesthetic phenomenon in modern Uzbek prose. In literary criticism, the concept of psychologism is interpreted as a method of artistic depiction of the human soul through the psyche of the hero, internal monologue, stream of consciousness, emotional experiences, and psychological details. Russian literary critic Lydia Ginzburg indicates that the main feature of psychological prose is “depiction of the inner movement of human spiritual life”. According to the scientist, psychologism is one of the important poetic means that determine the emotional and aesthetic impact of a work of art. Also, the works of M. Bakhtin theoretically illuminate the issues of depicting the human psyche on the basis of dialogical thinking [4].

In Uzbek literary criticism, the issue of artistic psychologism has been studied by a number of scholars. In particular, in the scientific works of literary critics such as U. Normatov, B. Karimov, N. Karimov, I. Gafurov, extensive attention is paid to the issues of modern prose poetics, psychological imagery, and individual style. U. Normatov evaluates psychological imagery as an “artistic discovery of the human soul” and emphasizes that the writer's skill is manifested in the ability to depict the most delicate experiences in the hero's psyche. These theoretical views serve as an important methodological basis for studying the methods of psychological imagery in Feruza Salkhodjaeva's stories.

The theory of symbolism is also one of the important directions of literary criticism. A symbol is interpreted as a poetic device that expresses a broader meaning and philosophical content through a specific image or detail in a literary text. In literary theory, images of nature, colors, objects and images of space often carry symbolic meaning. In particular, the image of a tree is used in many literary works as a symbol of life, memory, continuity, spiritual roots and human destiny [5]. From this point of view, the image of a poplar in the story “Ko'k teragim” is not a simple landscape element, but a poetic expression of the hero’s spiritual world and spiritual connection. In modern Uzbek prose, the harmony of symbolic imagery and psychological analysis is considered one of the important criteria determining the individual style of the writer. Especially in the storytelling of the

[4]Karimov B. Issues of literary theory. – Tashkent, 2016.
[5]Karimov N. History of Uzbek literature of the 20th century. – Tashkent, 2019.

period of independence, the artistic interpretation of the relationship between man and nature, the motif of memory, spiritual loneliness and spiritual values increased. This expanded the functional possibilities of psychological imagery and symbolic imagery in the narrative genre. Feruza Salkhodjaeva's stories also show a tendency to reveal the human psyche in harmony with the image of nature. Adiba often expresses the heroine's experiences through landscape details, symbolic objects, and internal monologue. In the story "Blue Poplar", the image of a blue poplar appears as a central symbol expressing the heroine's childhood memories, longing for a past life, and a sense of spiritual connection. The images of nature in the story create a psychological background and serve as an aesthetic expression of the heroine's inner experiences.

The theoretical basis of this study is the theory of psychological analysis, hermeneutic approach, structural-semantic analysis and methods of artistic interpretation . While the hermeneutic approach serves to reveal the hidden layers of meaning in a literary text, structural-semantic analysis allows us to determine the functional properties of symbolic images [6]. Psychological analysis is used as the main methodological tool in studying the psyche of the hero and internal conflicts. Thus, the analysis of scientific and literary sources shows that artistic psychologism and symbolism are one of the leading elements of modern prose poetics, which serve to deeply and effectively express the human psyche. Therefore, studying the story “Ko'k teragim” on the basis of these theoretical approaches allows us to understand the poetic and aesthetic properties of the work more deeply.

Research methodology and methods. The methodological basis of this study is the theory of psychological analysis in modern literary criticism, the principles of artistic interpretation, the hermeneutic approach, and the methods of structural-semantic analysis. The study was based on scientific views on the study of a work of art as a product of the human psyche and aesthetic thinking. In particular, artistic psychologism was interpreted as a means of describing the inner world of the hero, emotional experiences, mental conflicts, and mental processes. Symbolism was studied as a poetic tool that reveals the hidden layers of meaning of images and details in a literary text. The story "Ko'k teragim" by Feruza Salkhodjayeva was chosen as the object of research. The subject of the research was the artistic psychologism, symbolic images, landscape images and their functional-aesthetic properties in revealing the psyche of the hero in the story. During the research, the plot-compositional structure of the story, psychological means of imagery and symbolic details were systematically analyzed.

Several scientific methods were used in the research process in a comprehensive manner. In particular, **the analytical method** was used to study the internal monologue, psychological details, author's speech, and mental imagery in the story. This method made it possible to determine the function of the poetic means used to reveal the inner experiences of the hero.

the structural-semantic method, the layers of meaning of symbolic images in the story were analyzed. In particular, the image of the "blue poplar" was interpreted as a central poetic symbol representing the hero's childhood memories, spiritual roots, longing, and philosophy of time. At the same time, the psychological function of landscape details and images of nature was also interpreted semantically.

The hermeneutic method also played an important role in the research . With the help of this method, the hidden philosophical-aesthetic meanings, symbolic references, and the author's concept in the story were interpreted. The hermeneutic approach made it possible to reveal the inner layers of the literary text and understand the poetic essence of the system of images.

[6]Lotman Yu. The structure of a literary text. – Moscow, 1998.

Also, through **the comparative-typological method** , the methods of psychological depiction in the story "Ko'k teragim" were compared with works of other psychological directions in modern Uzbek storytelling. As a result, Feruza Salkhodjayeva's individual style, skill in creating mental images, and features of symbolic thinking were identified.

the method of poetic analysis aimed at a comprehensive study of the literary text . Through this method, the interrelationship of plot, composition, detail, landscape, portrait and symbols was studied, and their role in ensuring the aesthetic impact of the work was highlighted [7]. In particular, the parallelism between the images of nature and the psyche of the hero was analyzed from the point of view of the poetic structure of the story. Based on the generalization of the research results, it was scientifically substantiated that the harmonious use of artistic psychologism and symbolism in the story “Ko'k teragim” is an important poetic tool that enhances the emotional and aesthetic impact of the work.

Research results. During the research, it was found that in the artistic construction of the story "Ko'k teragim" mental imagery and symbolic thinking are manifested as leading poetic elements. In the work, more emphasis is placed on the inner world of a person, mental memories and emotional experiences than on the development of events, which determines the psychological direction of the story. The author seeks to reveal the changes in the character's psyche not through external dramatic situations, but through associative images associated with internal sensations, silence and memory. As a result of the analysis, it was observed that the functional significance of artistic detail in the story is high. In particular, some objects and elements of nature do not remain simple components of the plot, but act as semantic centers expressing the mental state of the hero.[2] In this regard, the image of the “blue poplar” was interpreted as a symbolic expression of the spiritual roots of man, childhood memories, and the transience of time. The repeated use of the image ensured the emotional integrity of the story and deepened the author's concept. The psychological function of landscape images in the story was also clarified during the research. Natural landscapes are built on the basis of poetic parallelism, expressing changes in the hero's mood. As a result, an internal harmony between nature and the human psyche is created . This enhances the lyrical-psychological tone of the story and has an emotional impact on the reader's aesthetic perception process. It was also observed that color images and sound details in the story also perform a symbolic-aesthetic function. In particular, the use of the color "blue" reveals layers of meaning related to tranquility, memory, and spiritual contemplation. Such poetic devices served to shape the overall spiritual atmosphere of the work.

Based on the analysis, it was determined that emotional expressiveness, lyricism and psychological depth occupy a priority place in Feruza Salkhodjaeva's individual style. Adiba managed to illuminate complex mental states through simple, but aesthetically impressive artistic expressions. There is no excessive detail and artificial dramatism in the story; on the contrary, inner calm and spiritual observation take precedence.

The results showed that the artistic psychologism and symbolism in the story are inextricably linked to each other, ensuring the poetic integrity of the work. Symbolic images became an aesthetic expression of the hero's psyche, while psychological imagery served to reveal the inner meaning of these symbols. Thus, it was scientifically substantiated that the story "Ko'k teragim" takes a worthy place among the artistic examples of the combination of psychological imagery and symbolic thinking in modern Uzbek storytelling.

[7]Rasulov A. *Poetics of the Artistic Text* . – Tashkent: Science, 2022.

Conclusions and suggestions. In the process of research, it was found that spiritual observation and symbolic thinking were formed as the leading artistic principles in the poetic structure of the story “Blue Poplar”. In the story, the author expressed the inner silence, spiritual emptiness and experiences related to memory in the human soul through images with simple but deep aesthetic content. This enhances the psychological impact of the work and brings the reader closer to the spiritual world of the hero. The analysis of the work showed that the author raised artistic details to the level of the semantic center. Some objects and landscape elements in the story, while serving the development of events, have become poetic symbols that carry philosophical and aesthetic meaning. In this regard, the image of the “blue poplar” appears as an artistic symbol expressing a person’s spiritual connection with the past and spiritual memory. During the research, the priority of lyricism was observed in the compositional structure of the story. The calm development of the plot, the predominance of internal experiences and the sequential presentation of spiritual details ensured the emotional integrity of the story. This indicates the individual style of Feruza Salkhodjaeva, combining psychological imagery with poetic observation. Also, the internal balance between nature and the human psyche was formed in the story as an important component of the artistic concept. The images of nature became not external landscapes, but poetic reflections of the mood and emotional state of the hero. As a result, an emotional-aesthetic atmosphere was created in the story, which increased the artistic impact of the work.

Thus, the story "Ko'k teragim" occupies a special place in modern Uzbek storytelling among the artistic examples that combine psychological imagery, lyricism, and symbolic poetics. The work interprets the subtle layers of the human psyche based on aesthetic thinking, which demonstrates the individual creative style of the writer.

Offers

1. It is necessary to expand scientific research devoted to the systematic study of the poetics of psychological prose in modern Uzbek storytelling.
2. It is appropriate to study Feruza Salkhodjayeva's work from the perspectives of gender poetics, narratology, and linguopoetics.
3. Analyzing the system of symbolic images in Uzbek storytelling on a comparative-typological basis serves to draw new scientific conclusions.
4. It is recommended to use the story "Blue Teragim" as an example of a modern psychological story in special courses in philology.
5. The widespread use of hermeneutic and interpretive methods in the study of artistic psychologism increases the effectiveness of research.

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