

THE ROLE OF CUSTOMS AND RITUALS IN LITERARY WORKS OF JANE AUSTEN AND ABDULLA KADIRIY

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Abstract: Literature plays a crucial role in shaping cultural identity by preserving collective memory, conveying shared beliefs and values, and both reflecting and shaping societal norms. Through forms like storytelling, poetry, and drama, cultures pass on their histories, traditions, and ideologies across generations, strengthening a sense of identity and community. The role of national customs and rituals are highly important in creating literary works. This article examines the customs and rituals depicted in the works of Uzbek writer Abdulla Kadiriyy and English novelist Jane Austen. The analysis focuses on key works that illustrate the traditions, cultural norms, and social ceremonies of their respective eras. A comparative study of their literature reveals the unique ways in which social and family rituals are portrayed in Eastern and Western literature.

Key words: literature, social norms, rituals, customs, traditions.

Аннотация: Литература играет важную роль в формировании культурной идентичности, сохраняя коллективную память, передавая общие убеждения и ценности, а также отражая и формируя общественные нормы. Посредством таких жанров, как повествование, поэзия и драма, культуры передают свою историю, традиции и идеологии из поколения в поколение, укрепляя чувство идентичности и общности. Национальные обычаи и ритуалы имеют большое значение в создании литературных произведений. В данной статье рассматриваются обычаи и ритуалы, изображенные в произведениях узбекского писателя Абдуллы Кадыри и английской писательницы Джейн Остин. Анализ сосредоточен на ключевых произведениях, иллюстрирующих традиции, культурные нормы и социальные церемонии их эпох. Сравнительное исследование их литературы выявляет уникальные способы изображения социальных и семейных ритуалов в восточной и западной литературе.

Ключевые слова: литература, социальные нормы, ритуалы, обычаи, традиции.

Annotatsiya: Adabiyot madaniy o'zlikni shakllantirishda muhim rol o'ynaydi, chunki adabiyot orqali millatning urf-odatlarini, umumiy e'tiqod va qadriyatlarini yetkazish hamda ijtimoiy me'yorlarni aks ettirish va shakllantirish vositasi hisoblanadi. Hikoyachilik, she'riyat va drama kabi adabiy janrlar orqali madaniyatlar o'z tarixini, an'analarini va mafkuralarini avloddan-avlodga yetkazib, o'ziga xoslik va jamoaviylik hissini mustahkamlaydi. Milliy urf-odatlar va marosimlar adabiy asarlarning yaratilishida muhim ahamiyat kasb etadi. Ushbu maqolada o'zbek yozuvchisi Abdulla Qodiriyy va ingliz yozuvchisi Jeyn Ostinning asarlarida tasvirlangan urf-odatlar va marosimlar tahlil qilinadi. Tadqiqot ularning davriga xos bo'lgan an'analar, madaniy me'yorlar va ijtimoiy marosimlarni aks ettiruvchi muhim asarlarga asoslanadi. Ularning adabiyotini qiyosiy o'rganish sharq va g'arb adabiyotida ijtimoiy hamda oilaviy marosimlarning o'ziga xos ifodalanish usullarini aniqlash imkonini beradi.

Kalit so'zlar: adabiyot, ijtimoiy me'yorlar, marosimlar, urf-odatlar, an'analar.

Introduction: Literary works serve as valuable sources for studying national customs and rituals, as they not only illustrate cultural norms but also reflect the values of society. In the works of Abdulla Kadiriyy (1894–1938) and Jane Austen (1775–1817), detailed depictions of traditional ceremonies related to family life, marriage, hospitality, and social interactions are evident. Abdulla Kadiriyy, known for his historical novels such as *By Gone Days* (1926), presents Uzbek traditions of the 19th century, including wedding customs, social etiquette, and moral values of that time (Ibragimov, 2017). Jane Austen, in works such as *Pride and Prejudice* (1813), portrays British traditions of the late 18th and early 19th centuries, with a strong focus on courtship rules, family expectations, and social rituals (Johnson, 2019).

Customs and Rituals in the Works of Abdulla Kadiri

Kadiri's novel *By Gone Days* is a classic of Uzbek literature that vividly illustrates the customs of 19th-century society. One of the most significant traditions depicted in the novel is **marriage arrangements** (*fatihah-tuyi*), which involved negotiations between families, discussions of the bride price (*mahr*), and an official engagement ceremony (Karimov, 2020). Beyond wedding customs, the novel also reflects hospitality norms, where the host is expected to respectfully welcome guests, serve them tea and traditional dishes, and uphold the values of generosity and respect (Khairullaev, 2018). Additionally, religious rituals played an essential role in important life events, including funerals and childbirth celebrations. Kadiri also highlights the strict social norms governing women's behavior. Female characters in the novel face significant restrictions in choosing their husbands and their involvement in public life are heavily controlled (Narzullaev, 2021).

Customs and Rituals in the Works of Jane Austen

Jane Austen's novels provide detailed depictions of English society's traditions in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Courtship and marriage rituals play a crucial role in her works. In *Pride and Prejudice*, for example, romantic relationships between men and women are highly regulated, and young women cannot meet potential suitors without proper supervision. Social events such as balls serve as the primary means for courtship and matchmaking (Brown, 2020). Another important aspect of English aristocratic life was social visits and etiquette. Austen describes the strict rules governing dinner parties, tea gatherings, and ballroom etiquette. For instance, the host was expected to initiate conversation, and guests had to follow precise protocols of behavior and speech (Williams, 2018). A recurring theme in Austen's novels is inheritance and financial considerations in marriage. Many of her characters must marry for economic security rather than love. In *Sense and Sensibility* (1811), one of the protagonists is forced to consider marriage not based on affection but on financial stability (Collins, 2017).

Comparative Analysis

A comparison of Kadiri's and Austen's works reveals several key similarities and differences. Both authors depict marriage as a social institution, where personal choice is often limited by tradition and economic concerns. However, in 19th-century Uzbek culture, as described by Kadiri, marriage rituals were deeply religious and family-oriented, while in England, as portrayed by Austen, marriage was heavily influenced by social etiquette and inheritance laws. Hospitality plays an important role in both cultures but takes different forms. In Uzbek tradition, hospitality is closely tied to religious and family values, while in 18th-century England, social visits and gatherings served more of a formal and strategic function. Another notable difference is the role of women in society. In Uzbek culture, as depicted by Kadiri, women had significantly fewer freedoms in choosing a spouse and were largely confined to domestic roles. In contrast, while Austen's heroines were still constrained by societal expectations, they had comparatively more agency in navigating social relationships and securing advantageous marriages.

Conclusion

The customs and rituals depicted in the works of Abdulla Kadiri and Jane Austen provide valuable historical and cultural insights into their respective societies. A comparative analysis of their literature helps illuminate the differences and similarities between Uzbek and English traditions in the 19th century. Despite the geographical and cultural distinctions, both authors demonstrate how social norms and customs shape individuals' lives, particularly in the context of marriage and family. Both authors use customs and rituals as narrative devices to shape character development, advance plots, and critique societal norms. Austen's exploration of rigid social structures through marriage customs reveals the limitations placed on women, while Kadiri's portrayal of Uzbek traditions exposes the conflicts between individual desires and communal expectations. Despite differences in historical and cultural contexts, both writers emphasize the role of tradition in shaping human interactions and personal choices.

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