

DISTINCTIVE FEATURES OF WORLD AND UZBEK LITERATURE

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Annotation: This article aims to provide a deeper exploration of the history of both world literature and Uzbek literature, while also highlighting the distinctive features of each.

Keywords: World literature, Uzbek literature, Modern world literature, Modern Uzbek literature, Differences between world and Uzbek literature.

Literature is the property of the people. It holds a special significance in human life. As long as humans exist, literature will continue to exist as well. There are two powerful factors that ensure the immortality of literature. One is its great educational and enlightening importance, while the other is its ability to give people joy and pleasure. After all, no matter what era or circumstances humans face, they cannot live without literature: they are always in need of education, enlightenment, and artistic enjoyment. Therefore, mature works with educational and aesthetic value will never fade away. In contrast, works written in the spirit of dry modernism, born of the desire of the ruling ideology and politics, with poor artistry, have a short lifespan. Such works will not withstand the test of time and will be quickly forgotten. Unfortunately, among the works created in the 20th century, there are many such "products."

To begin with the history of Uzbek literature, this period can be described as the years of the emergence of the Jadid movement in Turkistan, the overthrow of the Tsarist regime, the restoration of autonomy, and the struggle to build a Soviet society. Despite the immense suffering endured by our people under colonial oppression and social injustice, they never fell into despair. The "Basmachi" movement of the 1920s is a clear proof of this. According to an article published in the press, during the 130 years of colonial rule, there were 4,500 major and minor uprisings, revolts, and protests in the Turkistan region. Many intellectuals and creative figures of the time, such as Mahmudkhoja Behbudi, Hamza, Munavvar Qori, Abdulla Avloni, Fitrat, Siddiqi-Ajzi, Abdulqodir Shakuriy, Hoji Muin Shukrulla, were deeply moved by the plight of the nation and began to search for solutions. These Jadids, along with others, contributed significantly to the development of our literature. They can be called the heroes of our time, as they displayed exceptional commitment to the development of Uzbek literature. Additionally, the Jadids made effective use of newspapers, schools, and literature and art to implement the ideas of the national awakening period, namely to educate the working masses and encourage them to fight ignorance.

Now, turning to the history of world literature, the first phase of its development is known as the Renaissance. Italy is considered the birthplace of the European Renaissance movement. Dante Alighieri, a representative of Italian literature during the Renaissance, is often called the herald of this movement. Dante started his creative work by writing poems and was influenced by the teachings of the Arab philosopher Ibn Rushd. In the 15th century, Italian lyricism was influenced not only by Latin literature but also by Arabic poetry, which can be seen in Dante's works, especially in his "New Life" collection. Later, Dante worked on philosophical and scientific themes. Another Italian humanist, Giovanni Boccaccio, made a significant contribution to the development of the novella genre and laid the foundation for realistic storytelling. In short, the early stages of world literature's development began in Italy.

Subsequently, French literature began to flourish, and the contribution of François Rabelais during this period is undeniable. In his work "Gargantua and Pantagruel," realism and allegory

are harmonized, and underlying meanings take on significant importance. English humanistic literature is divided into three phases. The first phase, covering the late 15th century to the 60s-70s of the 16th century, saw the emergence of figures like Thomas More, F. Bacon, Christopher Marlowe, Shakespeare, and Robert Greene. Thomas More's "Utopia" reflects humanistic ideas, while Bacon's "Essays" covers philosophical, moral, political, and domestic issues. Shakespeare revolutionized medieval drama with humanistic themes. The third phase of English literature, from the early 17th century to the 40s of the same century, witnessed the decline of Renaissance ideals and the closing of theaters. The representatives of English humanistic literature during this time include Thomas More, F. Bacon, Christopher Marlowe, Shakespeare, and Robert Greene.

In Spain and Portugal, as in England, the flourishing of literature coincides with the final phase of the Renaissance period. The first work of the Spanish Renaissance was Fernando de Rojas's "Celestina," and the novel "Don Quixote" by Cervantes marks the conclusion of the Renaissance period in Europe. Both Shakespeare and Cervantes made great contributions to world literature by shaping drama and realistic fiction.

Now, turning to modern Uzbek literature, much of the literature produced in the 20th century has more strengths than weaknesses. Preserving and critically analyzing the achievements in this period, as well as popularizing these works, remains an important task today. When evaluating the works of a writer or a specific piece of literature, it is necessary to judge it based on its artistic level, rather than solely on the historical context or any shortcomings tied to the era.

Unfortunately, during the Soviet era, literature was narrowly defined and one-sided in its interpretations, which led to a decline in artistic quality. The great literary works decreased, and mediocre works became more common. With the advent of independence, Uzbek literature freed itself from various constraints, including communist ideology and socialist realism, and began to flourish. This allowed for greater creative freedom and paved the way for new artistic horizons.

In today's globalized world, trends in world literature reveal shared themes and ideas across different nations. The differences between national literatures are gradually disappearing, and the artistic achievements of various cultures are becoming part of a common global literary heritage.

A notable feature of contemporary literature is the rise of both mass-market and elite literature. The growing demand for adventure-detective novels and domestic fiction is evident in the increasing circulation of such books. At the same time, literature intended for sophisticated, discerning readers continues to grow. For example, in modern American literature, the diversity of style, form, and themes can be observed. American literature scholar Katherine VanSpencer writes that William Kennedy's works, such as "Ironweed" and "Judas," portray the lives of residents of New York's streets and salons, capturing the realities of life in a once-backward, colonized state now undergoing significant political, economic, and cultural transformation.

In conclusion, Uzbek literature, like world literature, has its unique characteristics, and both continue to evolve and develop day by day.

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