

**INTERPRETATION OF TIME AND SPACE IN SHORTS (CHRONOTOPE)**

(On the example of the stories of the writer Shukhrat Matkarim “Yilon”, “Maqar”,  
Kholiyor Safarov “Honor and Life”, “Wingless Birds”, “The Saddest Joy”)

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**Abstract.** *The article shows the time in the story - living conditions, people's worldview and traditions. Although the work is close to modern events, it speaks about the fact that it depicts ancient customs, people's views on life. This is especially reflected in the relationships of the characters, village customs and parental decisions.*

**Keywords:** *story, life, fiction, space, time, reader, method.*

**ИНТЕРПРЕТАЦИЯ ВРЕМЕНИ И ПРОСТРАНСТВА В КОРОТКИХ РАССКАЗАХ  
(ХРОНОТОП)**

(На примере рассказов писателя Шухрата Маткарима «Йилон», «Макар», Холиёра  
Сафарова «Честь и жизнь», «Бескрылые птицы», «Самая грустная радость»)

**Аннотация.** *В статье показано время в рассказе — условия жизни, мировоззрение и традиции людей. Хотя произведение и приближено к современным событиям, в нем говорится о том, что в нем изображены древние обычаи, взгляды людей на жизнь. Это особенно отражается во взаимоотношениях персонажей, деревенских обычаях и родительских решениях.*

**Ключевые слова:** *рассказ, жизнь, художественная литература, пространство, время, читатель, метод.*

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In the story "Honor and Life" by Khaliyor Safarov, images of time and space play an important role in illuminating the inner experiences of the characters, their life path, and social differences in society. The ideological and artistic structure of the work is also explained precisely through the harmony of time and space.

The story shows time through living conditions, people's worldviews, and traditions. Although the work is close to modern events, it depicts ancient customs and people's views on life. This is especially evident in the relationships of the characters, village customs, and the decisions of their parents.

The details of the space in the story are captured by the fact that the main events take place in the village. The remote villages of the Kashkadarya oasis are described, reflecting the lives of people engaged in simple and hard labor there.

At the same time, it is shown that the city also has a different way of life compared to the countryside, and the difference between rural and urban culture is clearly felt. The fate of the heroes is determined precisely by this space - those who remain in the countryside adhere to traditions, while those who go to the city seek a new life.

In this story, space and time are closely connected with the fate and inner experiences of the heroes, and their life path, hopes and sorrows are illuminated precisely through these concepts.

#### 1. Interpretation of space

In the story "Honor and Life" by Kholiyor Safarov, events take place in different spaces, each of which has its own meaning.

For example:

##### a) In the center is the village - the embodiment of traditional values;

The story begins in one of the remote villages of the Kashkadarya oasis. This space is associated with a traditional way of life, customs and values. The simple life of the shepherd boy Eshpolat, his innocent love, is depicted against the backdrop of rural landscapes. The villagers mainly live with traditional thinking. Their views are that shepherding is a lowly and unsightly profession, while butchering is a noble profession. For this reason, Murad the butcher wants to give his daughter to the son of a rich farmer, not to a shepherd.

Houses, farms, and farms are realistic images of rural life and have different meanings for the characters. For example, for Ogiloy, his father's house is like a prison because he cannot freely choose his future.

##### b) Hills and pastures are a place of retreat and sorrow;

Eshpolat feels the pain, anguish, and sorrow of love in the hills, in the bosom of nature.

The writer's description of the night on the hilltop, where he is sitting in the forest, is a testament to his ability to express love and loyalty, as well as his dissatisfaction with his fate.

The pastures are shown as a symbol of his freedom and loneliness.

##### c) The city is represented as a center of material interests;

In the story, the city, unlike the village, is depicted as a place to live for the sake of interests, wealth, materiality and prestige. That is why the hero of the story, Ogiloy, wanted to study in the city, but he sacrifices himself to his father's will and his own unstable fate. In the work, the rich son of a farmer studied in the city, he was given to money and material benefits.

For him, Ogiloy's body, not his soul, is more important. "They did not gaze at each other in awe at the meeting, they did not speak of love, they did not open their hearts and talk. "The young man first held the girl's hands, then he hugged her with lust, his fierce hands clasped her neck..."

The girl was dying of shame, she turned pale like a flower, but she could not run away and leave the meeting. She trembled all over. As for Akmaljon, he neither trembled nor hesitated." (p. 60)

The young man feels neither excitement nor fear for the girl. His attitude towards the girl is expressed by passion and a sense of ownership. Any subtle feelings of love disappear, and only physical desires come to the fore. This shows that the young man has neither respect nor reverence for the girl. In this case, the cruelty of the young man and the helplessness of the girl create a sharp contrast. The girl's "withering like a flower" expresses her helplessness, the brokenness of her will, while the young man's "lack of trembling or hesitation" indicates his rudeness and indifference. This passage reflects how love can change not voluntarily and sincerely, but under the influence of coercion, pressure, or unexpected circumstances. In addition, it is one of the important episodes in the story "Honor and Life" that reveals the social differences between Akmaljon's character and the characters.

Another example:

"Not behind the boy like Eshpolat, but in the yard, under a tree, waiting with both hands on his waist, Akmaljon, as soon as the girl approached, said, "Yes, my dear, have you come?" and forcibly kissed her on the lips." (p. 59)

This fragment has a unique spirit from the point of view of time and space.

Spirit of the times: The fragment shows the contradictions of village life between old traditions and a new way of life. On one side, there is Eshpolat, who is a symbol of goodness and love, and on the other, there are characters like Akmaljon, who come from a rich family and put profit above love. This episode highlights the problem of the violation of village etiquette, the triumph of money and position over sacred feelings.

Spirit of place: The place depicted - a yard, under a tree - this situation acquires a symbolic meaning. The tree symbolizes life, the continuation of the lineage. Eshpolat, on the other hand, used to hold meetings in a secret place, in accordance with village customs - behind the ogil. Akmaljon, on the other hand, acts in the open field, without any precautions, even without taking into account the consent of the girl. This reflects the changes in his behavior and worldview.

This passage shows the breakdown of social moral standards, the disappearance of human values. This reveals not only the differences between the characters, but also the class stratification in society.

## 2. Interpretation of time

The story depicts time as two poles:

- a) The image of the clash of old traditions and new times;

In this, according to the old tradition, attention is paid to the importance of parental consent, not love. The fate of Ogiloy is also decided by the father's decision. However, modern life encourages people to make decisions based on material interests.

Eshpolat is a hero who is loyal to values, because he considers honor and loyalty to be the main values of love.

Murad the butcher and the farming family are symbols of modern selfishness, who prefer wealth and career to love and loyalty.

b) A detail of the conflict between dreams and reality;

Eshpolat wanted to study and gain knowledge from his youth, but life made him a shepherd.

Ogiloy wants to choose his own destiny, but his father makes decisions on his behalf. All this shows that the dreams of the younger generation are fading in the conditions of the times.

c) A detail of the change in the times and human character;

Ogiloy used to love Eshpolat, but when he stepped into a new life, he puts ambition, wealth and power above love. Murad the butcher also seems like a good person at first, but he sells his conscience for the sake of money and wealth.

But Eshpulat does not change, he is still faithful to his love and expresses his feelings by playing the flute.

3. The image of the interdependence of space and time

The village is an expression of old values, the city is an expression of the principles of the new era.

Eshpulat and the hills are a symbol of freedom and dreams.

Ogiloy and his house are a symbol of obligation and imprisonment.

The sound of the flute is a cry of love, exile and pain.

Thus, in the story "Honor and Life", Khaliyor Safarov described time and space as interconnected, expressing that human destiny can change under any circumstances. Village and city, old and new world, love and benefit, freedom and obligation - all this was deeply interpreted in the story through time and space. The writer's goal is that with the change of times, people also change, but true human values should not disappear.

Khaliyor Safarov used an unusual style of interpreting time and space in the story "Wingless Birds". In the story, time is revealed mainly through the life path of the characters, the connection between their past and present. In the work, the characters try to remember their past memories and understand how they influenced their current lives. In particular, the contrast between Gulbahor and Dilmurod's childhood and present shows the importance of time. In terms of space, the story develops in different places.

The house of mercy, city trips, wedding ceremonies, an educational center, and other places are the main places where the story takes place. These places further enhance the inner experiences of the characters. For example, the house of mercy makes Gulbahor and Dilmurod feel the pain of being orphaned more deeply, while the wedding ceremony and the new house symbolize their transition to a new stage in life. So, in the story, time is interpreted through the connection between the past and the present, and space is interpreted through a deeper illumination of the psychological state of the characters. In the writer's story "Wingless Birds", time and space serve to deeply reveal the psychological state of the characters. Each time and place affects the experiences of the characters, helps to more vividly depict their feelings.

In the story "Wingless Birds" by Kholiyor Safarov, the spiritual image of time is enhanced. In the story, time is mainly reflected through the conflict between the past and the present life of the characters.

#### 1. Memories of the past and the influence of the present life

##### Dilmurod's childhood suffering

Excerpt from the text:

"At that time, he was in first grade. Before going to school, he was bedridden, his complexion pale, his eyelids drawn inward, his eyes fixed on the paper flowers hanging from the ceiling, as if his soul would be torn off if it fell, and he looked at his mother, who was staring at him as if she were helpless, as if her soul would also fall off, and she was looking at her withered lips, begging for salvation from her."

This episode describes Dilmurod's childhood memories. His mother's illness, his father's neglect, and the difficult family environment left a deep mark on his psyche. There were no happy moments in Dilmurod's life after his mother. This past still affects him in his present life, he does not feel like a needed person anywhere.

Gulbahor grew up in a nursing home, waiting for her parents since childhood, which formed a hope that was filled with pain and suffering in her.

Dilmurod's past is connected with maternal love and the subsequent suffering of orphanhood. When her mother died, her life changed dramatically, and her father's coldness affected her deeply.

Excerpt from the text:

"She cried and cried, telling her pains inside. She emptied her heart. She grieved over the lifeless picture, but could not come to a decision."

Here, Gulbahor's experiences are connected with her past. The fact that she has no memories of her parents, and is forced to only imagine them, torments her.

Gulbahor grew up in the orphanage, living with false hopes for her parents. Now she is afraid to make an important decision that lies ahead of her.

## 2. The uncertainty of the present and the psychological image of the place

When Gulbahor is suddenly asked to be a bride to a wealthy family, the loneliness of her past and the uncertainty of the future leave her torn between two paths.

Although Dilmurod loves Gulbahor, he suffers from not being able to find his place in his life. For him, the future seems hopeless and abstract.

## 3. The psychological image of the place

In the work, the place plays an important role in describing the inner state of the characters.

1. The orphanage is a place where loneliness and hope are mixed. The children living here are mentally crushed due to the absence of their parents. Gulbahor dreams of being in the arms of her parents, but these dreams are dashed. Within the walls of the orphanage, Dilmurod and Gulbahor spend their unhappy childhood, they dream of leaving this place, but they gradually realize that life outside may not bring them joy either.

The orphanage is a landscape of loneliness and despair

Excerpt from the text:

"She sat there, her delicate shoulders trembling, the sun had already set and darkness was covering the surroundings. Even then, she did not move. She sat staring at the distant horizon, which, like her hopes, was faintly visible through the leaves of the trees, at the setting sun."

This image helps us to feel more deeply that Gulbahor is an orphan girl who grew up in the orphanage. Although the orphanage provides her with shelter, this place cannot give her happiness.

The psyche of a girl who feels the need for love and parental care is conveyed through the landscape of the setting sun - just as her hopes are also fading.

## 2. The market and the city - a scene of alienation and oppression

The market is a picture of alienation and inability to adapt to another life.

Excerpt from the text:

"When she left the market and went to one of the beauty salons, the beautiful bride put on a dress and, looking in the mirror, cried, whether from joy or from longing."

Although Gulbahor is preparing for the wedding, this does not bring her happiness. She goes to the market with her mother-in-law and acquires luxurious clothes and sarongs, but even this cannot give her the parental love that she lacks. This place does not suit her psyche, because she is alien to this life.

When Gulbahor goes to the market with her mother-in-law, she feels completely alien.

Wealth and gifts cannot make her happy, because she needs love and affection.

3. The night sky and stars are a symbol of despair, suffering, loneliness and hope

Dilmurod looks at the sky and stars and feels the meaninglessness of his life. Realizing that he cannot be with his beloved, he feels helpless and helpless.

Thus, the image of time and space, in harmony with the inner experiences of the heroes, vividly reflects their suffering, hopes and uncertain future. The contrast between the past and the present, the cold walls of the House of Mercy, the alienation of the bazaar and city life, the gloomy gaze of the night sky - all this further enhances the spiritual suffering of the heroes.

Excerpt from the text:

“Dilmurod looked at the sky and stars. Then, as if a light had broken out of the Milky Way and entered his soul, the joy of words began to flow into his tongue involuntarily...”

The night sky is a reflection of Dilmurod’s inner world

1. The image of the spirit of the time

A) An unstable and uncertain era

The spiritual state of the heroes in the story is connected with the complexity of the time.

Bahodir is not confident in his future, he is afraid of losing his place in society.

Yusufboy is a realistic person who understands the truth, but does not fight against it.

Shavkat is a neutral observer who believes that nothing will change.

In the story, in the spirit of the time, people do not trust themselves or their surroundings.

It seems that the system restricts people's movements, does not allow them to feel free.

Everyone is afraid of something, but cannot speak openly.

Example:

“Bahodir thought for a long time at night. Will everything change tomorrow? No. Nothing will change. Only time will pass.”

This image shows that Bahodir lives in an unstable era, his lack of confidence in the future.

B) Atmosphere of fear and hesitation

The snake is a symbol of hidden danger, unexpected intrigues, and the unknown in society.

The characters cannot escape the influence of the snake - this indicates their attachment to the era.

Example:

“Bahodir stared at the snake. It must be destroyed, but it lies quietly in a bag. Maybe it is waiting?”

This image shows fear and the unknown in society.

C) The spirit of the times is reflected in the actions of the characters

People understand the truth, but do not oppose it.

The characters struggle within themselves, but their external actions are empty and helpless.

Example:

"Yusufboy smiled and said: "Don't deceive yourself, my dear. Everything has already been decided."

These words express the passivity of the era, the belief that nothing will change.

2. The image of the spirit of the place

A) The image of nature and space is associated with the inner world of the heroes.

The silence of the night, dusty places are an expression of the inner oppression of the heroes.

The air is damp and heavy - this indicates mental pressure and internal pressure.

Example:

"The evening breeze dried the sweat on Bahodir's forehead. But he did not feel relieved. Clouds were floating in the sky - just as uncertain and strange as the future."

This image connects the hero's inner experiences with the environment.

B) The place where the snake is located - represents a symbolic meaning.

The snake is in a bag - the danger or problem is hidden for now, but it proves that it exists.

No matter where the snake is thrown, it does not lose its influence - that is, it cannot be escaped from the system.

Example:

"The snake was lying in the square. But no one dared to approach it. It's like everyone is suspicious of each other."

This image reflects how people live in society.

C) The contrast between the inner and outer space

Everything seems calm outside, but inside people are suffering.

The heroes do their ordinary work in real life, but there are always other thoughts in their minds.

Example:

"Shawkat looked at Bahadur. He seemed calm. But only an observer could notice that his fingers were trembling."

The calmness in space is false, in fact, internal struggles are ongoing.

3. How are the psyche of time and space connected?

Time affects the psyche of people - they do not feel free.

In space, this situation is given by darkness, dusty places, and the uncertainty of the sky.

4. Deepening the spirit of time and space through the dream motif

The dream motif in the story makes the spirit of time and space more impressive

Example:

"Bahodir saw a snake in a dream. He tried to run away, but his feet stuck to the ground.

The sky was black. The fog thickened. The snake gradually approached and wrapped itself around his hand..."

This scene reflects the instability of the time, the difficult environment in the place, and the hero's inner fears.

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