

PATRIOTISM IN THE LITERARY WORKS OF ABDULLA QODIRIY: EXPLORING ITS UNIQUE GENRE CHARACTERISTICS

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Abstract: This article explores the portrayal of patriotism, national concerns, and our cultural values in the literary works of Abdulla Qodiriy, with a specific focus on the novel genre. It highlights how Qodiriy's works vividly depict the aspirations and struggles of the people during the era of national revival in Uzbek literature. The significance of genres in conveying the essence of literature is also discussed, particularly in the context of the development of the novel genre in Uzbek literature. Through an analysis of early attempts in this genre and reflections on the successes and shortcomings of these works, this study provides insights into the evolving landscape of Uzbek literature.

Keywords: Abdulla Qodiriy, patriotism, "O'tgan Kunlar" novel, genre characteristics.

The period of national revival in Uzbek literature has been a fundamental factor in shaping our contemporary literary process. This era articulated our identity, national values, and spirituality, thus laying the foundation for future literary generations in a comprehensive manner. During the period of national revival, the characteristics and possibilities of genres and styles evolved and transitioned in response to the demands of the time. However, the development of literary genres during the national revival period is a particularly significant issue, as it reflects the experience and guidance that continually demonstrate both success and failure paths. The foundation of the development of the novel genre in Uzbek literature lies in Abdulla Qodiriy's work "O'tkan Kunlar." It is evident that the initial experiments in the novel genre in Uzbek literature were represented by works such as "Befarzand Ochildiboy" and "Yangi Saodat." The emergence of the novel genre in Uzbek literature is directly associated with Abdulla Qodiriy's "O'tkan Kunlar." Understanding the significance of Abdulla Qodiriy's work is imperative for anyone unfamiliar with his name or works, as his literary contributions have garnered widespread attention. Even today, the novel "O'tkan Kunlar" continues to be remembered and discussed by readers and scholars alike. Qodiriy's entrance into the literary arena began in the early 20th century with an article titled "Yangi Masjid va Maktab" in the "Sadoi Turkiston" newspaper. Abdulla Qodiriy wrote under various pseudonyms such as "Qodir," "Julqunboy," and "Qodiriy." During that period, a modernist movement was gaining momentum, and Qodiriy actively engaged in creating works that promoted enlightenment ideals [1].

Abdulla Qodiriy emerged as a prominent figure of his era, deeply concerned about the fate of the homeland and the nation. The tumultuous events of the time stirred the author's heart. Through his novel "O'tkan Kunlar," he aimed to awaken the national spirit of the people, leading them towards the pinnacle of our history's brightest and darkest days, the ultimate test of the homeland's integrity. Qodiriy then continued to shed light on subsequent generations, the "new times," by articulating this profound truth, intending to impart a lesson to the people. The thematic scope of the novel is vast, encompassing various

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human destinies, socio-political, moral, ethical, and familial-romantic issues. However, among them, the issue of the country's destiny and independence stands out as a separate entity. The main characters of the novel, Otabek and Yusufbek Hoji, are revered as devoted individuals who sacrificed their lives and souls for the warmth, prosperity, and dignity of their homeland's independence [2].

The novel "O'tkan Kunlar" is a monumental and vivid portrayal wherein the specific historical conditions, circumstances, traditions, customs, spiritual and moral world, landscapes, and atmosphere of the Uzbek nation are depicted in great detail and clarity.

In the novel "O'tkan Kunlar," the pure love and romantic experiences of Otabek and Kumush are portrayed with exceptional skill. The narrative delves deeply into the intricacies of this "precious gem" of love and affection, captivating the reader with vivid details. The poignant scenes where Otabek and Kumush are deprived of their blissful moments together evoke profound emotions in the reader. The author skillfully intertwines the romantic experiences of the lovers with a specific historical era - the tumultuous period in Turkistan under Russian rule, symbolized by its darkest days. Moreover, the novel expertly conveys the underlying causes of the characters' entrapment, attributing it to ignorance, prejudice, and internal conflicts, underscoring these themes with great finesse.

"O'tkan Kunlar" honors the hardworking people with deep respect and reverence. Characters such as Hasanali, the loyal servant of Yusufbek Hoji, are portrayed with admiration, depicting them as diligent, resourceful, loyal, wise, compassionate, and conscientious individuals, embodying the best virtues of ordinary people. The female characters in the novel also hold significant roles. Characters like Kumushbibi, Zaynab, O'zbek oyim, Oftob oyim, Saodat, Oybodoq, To'ybeka, Xushro'ybibi, and Jannat kampir are carefully crafted with distinct personalities. Additionally, the author creates complex characters such as Hamid, Xushro'ybibi, Jannat kampir, Musulmonqul, Azizbek, and Sodiq with remarkable skill.

In the novel, Kumushbibi symbolizes loyalty, beauty, and sincerity, while Xushro'ybibi embodies deception, deceit, cowardice, and evil, representing a stark contrast. Each character in "O'tkan Kunlar" possesses a unique worldview, and they never duplicate one another, contributing to the richness and depth of the narrative [3].

Abdulla Qodiriy's unparalleled talent and mastery in creating vivid literary portraits, depicted with such finesse and skill that you can almost envision each character as if they were painted on the canvas of your mind, instills a sense of awe and admiration. Scholars and experts, such as E. Olvort, A. Beningsen, E. Wimbush, Robert J. Barrett, D. Montgomery, G. Morris, and H. Battersbining, who have dedicated their research to understanding the complexities of Central Asia, particularly Uzbek literature, have also examined Qodiriy's contributions to the patriotic movement and his role in the development of national literature. In their studies, they have delved into the factors influencing the emergence and evolution of Uzbek national romanticism, often referring to Qodiriy's novel "O'tkan Kunlar" and analyzing the various elements that shaped its creation [4].

In the 1990s, a new stage of Qodiriy studies emerged in America, leading to the creation of fundamental research on the life and literary legacy of the author. Scholars such as Eden Nabi, Christopher Murphy, Roberta Maria, Ahmed Ogir, Leon Shone, and Jackson Kellogg, among others, delved into the various aspects of Qodiriy's literary output, resulting in theoretical, literary, philosophical, and sociological investigations into his novel "O'tkan Kunlar." Particularly, in E. Nabi's research on "Central Asian Literature of the Transition Period," the genre characteristics of Abdulla Qodiriy's works, their thematic content regarding patriotism and nationalism, narrative and compositional similarities, historical layers of Uzbek romanticism, and distinctive features of his writing style and literary craftsmanship were studied.



Research on American Qodiriy studies offers various perspectives and insights, with scholars often presenting differing views on the author's works. For instance, in the analysis of the author's introductory remarks in "O'tkan Kunlar," opinions that contradict each other exist, especially between X. Murphy and R. Maria. Essentially, Qodiriy emphasized the main aspect of the problem in the "From the Author" section, focusing primarily on literary creation. This is because he was among the first to recognize the historical necessity of changes in national storytelling, folklore, and romanticism. Additionally, Qodiriy delved deeper into the ethical, social, and political aspects of the issues raised in his novels, especially concerning the relationship between parents and children.

American Qodiriy scholars, in their studies of the new generation's representatives, have gained a deep understanding of Qodiriy's works by integrating them into the theoretical perspectives of renowned Western scholars. Particularly, their comparative research on the author's novels with folklore and classical literary examples, classification, narrative style, expressive means, and linguistic analysis have provided profound insights into Uzbek literary romances.

During a conversation with one of the translators who translated "O'tkan Kunlar" into English, he emphasized: "O'tkan Kunlar" is a novel that can serve as an example for today's readers, elevating Uzbek pride and speaking about the entire human race," highlighting the lofty praise bestowed upon Qodiriy's works by foreign experts. Such high praise from foreign specialists in Qodiriy's studies fills every Uzbek heart with pride and a sense of honor [5].

In conclusion, Abdulla Qodiriy's literary works reflect two significant dimensions of patriotism. Firstly, his novels, especially "O'tkan Kunlar," deeply delve into themes rooted in the history, culture, and mentality of Uzbekistan and its people, showcasing a profound sense of national identity. Secondly, his works are imbued with Islamic knowledge and modernist education, further enhancing the patriotic sentiment. It is imperative for young researchers to recognize their role in studying and promoting Qodiriy's works globally, given the extensive research and translations available in prestigious libraries worldwide. Engaging in active research to strengthen Qodiriy's position in world literature and promoting his literary legacy is not only a scholarly duty but also a patriotic commitment.

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