



The Image of Woman in Uzbek and English Literature

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Abstract: The portrayal of women in Uzbek and English literature is a fascinating topic that explores cultural perspectives and societal norms. In Uzbek literature, women are often depicted as strong, resilient, and integral to family and society. Writers like Hamza Hakimzade Niyazi and Abdulla Qahhor highlighted the roles and struggles of women, emphasizing their contributions to Uzbek society amid cultural changes.

Key words: perception, exploration, subservient, dominate, navigate

INTRODUCTION: The depiction of women in literature is a reflection of societal norms, cultural values, and the evolving roles of women within different contexts. Uzbek and English literature offer diverse perspectives on the portrayal of women, highlighting their strengths, challenges, and contributions to their respective societies. Exploring these representations provides insight into the cultural fabric and perceptions surrounding women across these distinct literary traditions

MAIN BODY: In Uzbek literature, women are often portrayed as pillars of strength within familial and societal structures. Writers like Hamza Hakimzade Niyazi and Abdulla Qahhor shed light on the multifaceted roles women play in Uzbek society. Their works emphasize the resilience, determination, and sacrifices made by women while navigating cultural changes. These narratives often celebrate the traditional roles of women in maintaining family cohesion and stability, showcasing their influence within the fabric of Uzbek communities.

Without women, there would be no literature. Literature is created primarily for women, for women, to please them, to know what they want, to understand what a woman is. As Abdullah Qahhor said, the male of the bird also sings. The art of speech is primarily the work of the man, so the main issue of interest to the man will be the main problem of literature. Men, of course, are primarily interested in women. Therefore, the main protagonist of the literature, the main theme is a woman.

Contrastingly, English literature presents a broader spectrum of women's experiences across different historical periods. From Shakespeare's intricate and dynamic female characters challenging societal expectations to the Victorian era's exploration of women's roles in novels by Jane Austen and the Brontë sisters, English literature reflects evolving perceptions of femininity and societal constraints. Modern English literature continues this exploration, addressing contemporary issues faced by women, such as gender equality, empowerment, and identity.

RESEARCH: Throughout the Medieval period, women were viewed as second class citizens, and their needs always were an afterthought. They were either held to be completely deceitful, sexual, innocent, or incompetent. Therefore, women were mostly withheld from positions of power or speaking their voice; males made decisions for them, and their lives were dictated by the men that ran the society. Despite their lack of validation and suppression, however, women in Medieval literature were certainly present in many works and in various forms. Some tropes feed into the idea that women are subservient



and inferior to men such as the Virgin, which portrays females as passive and weak, or the mother whose very life circles around making a better life for her family and especially for her husband, or even the whore who has no power in her sexuality and must give it away for the well being of her family or the men in society. However, there are some archetypes that break this cycle like the Trickster or Witch who break the social norms and stand out, displaying qualities of cunning intelligence, intimidation, and power. The sections below will dive deeper into the disparity between how women were viewed in Medieval society and how they were portrayed in the literature of the time.

ANALYSIS: The image of Barchin in the epic "Alpomish", one of the most worthy gems of the Uzbek people to the cultural heritage of the peoples of the world, embodies the highest qualities such as fidelity, devotion, courage and bravery. It is worth mentioning that the "Arafah" part of Dante's "Divine Comedy" is directly dedicated to the courage of Tomaris, the Queen of Turan, as we know her. Shakespeare portrayed Tomaris as a role model for European women. In French literature, Tomaris is praised as the French national heroine Jeanne d'Arc. Silver and Rano in Abdullah Qadiri's novels "Last Days" and "Scorpion from the Altar", Jahonbika in Muhammad Ali's novel "Sarbadorlar", "Black Amma" in Utkir Hoshimov's novel "Between Two Doors", Robiya.

DISCUSSION: Literature and woman's images have a strong relationship, particularly in poetry. Some poets use the women as the main object of their works. This study explored the woman's images in some Wordsworth's poems; She was a Phantom of Delight, The Solitary Reaper and To a Highland Girl. Those poems could be represented of his works because woman's figure is so strong and observable in there. New Criticism is the approach which is used in analyzing those poems. Hence, the outcome of this study is the interpretation of woman's illustration purely in the Wordsworth's poems. Consequently, this research will utilize the descriptive qualitative research methodology the exploration of the data finding is supported by the interpretation as one of the main points in this scrutiny. Therefore, the all data were substituted into 5 woman's images categories. They are Mystery, Beauty, Independent, Great and Grace, and Loneliness which are mostly dominated by metaphor and visual imagery, where each of them from figurative language and imagery. This research is constructively developing the study of literature, particularly in poem matter. Moreover, further recommendation for collecting wider explanation is offered in the study.

The portrayal of women in Uzbek and English literature offers a rich tapestry of perspectives, reflecting the cultural, social, and historical contexts in which these works were created. While Uzbek literature often focuses on the traditional roles and resilience of women within familial and societal structures, English literature encompasses a wider range of female experiences, showcasing the evolution of women's roles and societal perceptions. Both literary traditions provide valuable insights into the complexities of women's lives, contributing to a deeper understanding of cultural attitudes and societal changes surrounding gender and identity.

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CONCLUSION: The portrayal of women has evolved across different periods. From Shakespeare's multifaceted female characters challenging societal norms to the Victorian era's exploration of women's roles in works like Jane Austen's novels or the Brontë sisters' writings, there's a rich tapestry of representations. Modern English literature continues this exploration, addressing contemporary issues faced by women globally.

Comparatively, while Uzbek literature often emphasizes traditional roles and familial connections, English literature tends to delve into a wider spectrum of experiences and challenges faced by women.



Both literary traditions, however, showcase the complexities and richness of women's lives, offering insights into cultural attitudes and societal changes over time.

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