



ARTISTIC INTERPRETATION OF THE IMAGE OF A HISTORICAL PERSON

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ABSTRACT

The issue of using historical figures as images in fiction is analyzed in this article. Scientifically based opinions of famous English scientists J. Thorndike, C. Fazzi, S. Rowley, and Russian scientists T. Serdyuk, O. Zolotukhina, who conducted their research in this direction, are presented. The specific beneficial and harmful aspects of creating the image of historical figures in novels are mentioned and explained by the author's personal theories. The artistic image of Babur as a poet, prose writer, great commander, statesman, and national leader has been studied comparatively based on the principles of the biographical method.

KEY WORDS: *Historical Novel, Biography, Historical Person, Artistic Interpretation, I.Noori, C.Fazzi, S.Rowley, J.Thorndike.*

INTRODUCTION

Writing biographies dedicated to the life path of historical figures is a unique direction in world literature. In this regard, the study of such works has been relevant in literary studies at all times. Professor Ismail Noori discusses this in his research. In his opinion, events that occurred in the past serve as a reminder for the future, and there is a need to carefully analyze them. Many unpleasant events that occur in our society today can be solved by evaluating history and using it for the benefit of humanity (I.Noori, 2018). Thus, covering a historical topic opens the way to studying historical experiences and, through their results, helps to find solutions to some of the problems we face today.

MAIN PART

If we pay attention to the thoughts of the English researcher Steven Rowley about why the creation of novels that cover the biographies of historical figures is widespread in literary criticism and how important it is for readers, since the emergence of the story itself, authors have used real and real-life characters in their works of fiction. Many writers use historical or even modern figures to draw readers into an event that they might otherwise ignore. Using real characters allows novelists to simultaneously engage the reader's imagination, express their opinion about their impact on society or the impact of society on them, and explore the mysterious world around them or things that are not known to others (S.Rowley, 2019).

Also, the English writer, author of several historical-biographical novels, Cindy Fazzi, writes about the advantages and disadvantages of using historical figures as characters. According to the author, writing novels about historical figures is both a difficult and interesting process. C. Fazzi herself wrote the novel "My MacArthur" about one of the leading fighters during the World War II and came to the following conclusions about it: "The image of historical figures can attract more readers if they are re-incarnated in literature. Because they may have heard or seen films about the heroic deeds or exemplary deeds of this person at some point. Secondly, the popularity of a historical figure brings great benefits in book sales, and this attracts more readers. Another advantage is that the abundance of information about a historical figure helps to conduct research more easily" (C. Fazzi, 2019). Indeed, writing a work about a historical figure is both difficult and enjoyable at the same time. Because by looking at archival documents and visiting the graves of famous people, the unopened pages of history become brighter.

The writer also reflects on the inherent difficulties of writing historical-biographical novels. Therefore, the artistic embodiment of the images of historical figures places a great responsibility on the writer. At the same time, the abundance and diversity of information and facts also distracts the creator. The most important thing in this is to use reliable sources. Otherwise, this novel may be criticized by our scientists who are well aware of historical facts. The writer notes the following about this: "The popularity of a historical figure puts you between a double-edged sword. This helps to sell the novel better. At the same time, it allows the information in it to be analyzed under a microscope. Given the closeness of historians and history buffs to the subject matter, it is necessary for every writer to approach the artistic landscape in this way and ensure its believability. In conclusion, I can say that writing about the MacArthur-Cooper case was a great school of experience for me, and I am sure that readers will also think that the fictional character is worth the time and effort I spent on writing this work" (C. Fazzi, 2019). Another English writer, John Thorndike, also shares his thoughts on writing works about historical figures with readers. He notes: "Some characters are more famous than others. For this reason, they require special treatment. If Abraham Lincoln or Marilyn Monroe are in your novel, you will spend all your energy and effort on this work, because many works have already been created and presented to the public" (J. Thorndike, 2018). It is clear that J. Thorndike's thoughts are common to C. Fazzi's views. The writer's thoughts are also very



important for us. In his opinion, writing about the actions and words of minor historical characters gives us more freedom, but if we keep everything in history, it is easier to write a work. We can add to the past, but we cannot completely change it. In his historical novel, the writer also mentions things that Camilo Cienfuegos never did, but nevertheless presents the facts related to his life in chronological order (J. Thorndike, 2018). J. Thorndike's thoughts are consistent with the thoughts of the Russian researcher T. Serdyuk that "a writer cannot change history, but literature cannot be free from "imaginary" things." It is obvious that if a biographical novel presents only chronological events, it will not seem interesting to the reader and will be no different from a historical encyclopedia. For this reason, writers should also use the literary texture effectively. This will help readers gain a broader understanding of historical processes and better imagine them.

Therefore, a writer who sets himself the goal of creating a work on a historical topic does not give much space to his personal views and inner emotional impulses. He can only describe the reality that took place in history and inform the reader about the truth. Although he feels that something is missing in the historical process and that it is necessary to provide some more information in order to fully reveal the qualities of the historical and artistic image, as a true researcher, he cannot deviate from only proven historical facts. History may not be devoid of invented, artistic images, but in this case, the writer, based on his purpose and mental state, can also distort historical reality in an artistic way through his artistic imagination.

In this case, the difference between creating a historical and artistic image is that when recreating a historical image in the mind of the reader, the historian has the right to make reasonable assumptions based on the source, while the writer has the right to hypothesize and fantasize. This arises in connection with the harmony of historical truth and artistic texture in fiction. T.G. Serdyuk notes that the most important factor in creating a historical image is the possibility of typifying aspects and features that do not actually exist in fiction (T. Serdyuk, 2016). A typical artistic image replaces reality, therefore, the emphasis is on typological aesthetic value. The writer may ignore the seemingly secondary features of an event or character. Therefore, when creating an artistic image, the writer may also instill in his heroes character traits that do not actually exist. He may also not cover in the work the qualities inherent in the main character, but not of great importance in the plot of the work.

Studies have also been carried out in Uzbek literary criticism related to the interpretation of historical figures, especially the image of Babur. For example, in her article "Description of Heroic Images in Pirimkul Kadirov's novel "Starry Nights" U. Sultanova praises the immortal novel about the king and the poet as a rare work that is not only dedicated to the life of Babur, but also fully reflects the history and past of the common people. As proof of her opinion, she cites the example of the dangerous life of Tahir and his lover Robiya, who were representatives of the common people in the work, but who, due to their loyalty, became one of Zakhiriddin's loyal servants. In addition, the description of the situation of ordinary citizens suffering from hunger during the siege of Samarkand or the events that occurred while wandering in the mountains and rocks also attracts attention. Continuing her thoughts, the researcher also expresses her views on the kingdom in India founded by Babur. Although Babur was unable to reunite the state of his grandfather Sahibkiran, he managed to establish a peaceful and prosperous kingdom in India. According to Rumer Goden, one of the scholars who expressed his opinion on this, although the state he created did not spread to vast regions like that of his grandfather Amir Temur, he was able to rise to the level of the king of his new kingdom, a great emperor. He firmly established a new system of governance in his possessions and skillfully managed it. He founded a new and great dynasty that skillfully ruled India for 332 years (U.Sultonova, 2022). It is known that Babur Mirza's lifelong dream was to capture Samarkand, the capital of the state founded by his great grandfather, and reunite all the lands he had conquered. Although his dream did not come true, he was able to save India from the turbulent rule of the Afghans and laid the foundation for a new empire.

G.Zoirova conducted her research on the scientific heritage left by foreign historians and writers who were interested in the personality of Babur. She mentions the names of Indian writers Jawaharlal Nehru and Sanam Ali Khan, who wrote works dedicated to the history of Babur and the great state founded by Babur, and English historians and writers Edward Holden, William Erskine, and Stephen Meredith Edwardes. The author reflects on their invaluable contributions to the cultural changes, horticulture, and architecture carried out by Babur and his descendants in India. The researcher focuses on the place of Babur in the history of India, emphasizing that Babur, as the founder of Indian civilization throughout the world, made a huge contribution to the development of the country, although the Babur's dynasty caused heated debates in India itself (G.Zoirova, 2022).

Another Pakistani scholar, Zahid Anwar, who has worked on the issue of Babur's significant contribution to the development of Central and South Asian states, writes that Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur founded a new state with the help of the sword, but he also managed to create a magnificent nature in this country that attracted many artists and scientists. He not only developed military technology, but also introduced changes in the mechanisms of agricultural production. The Mughal Empire also had a great impact on horticulture in India. Changes also occurred in the economic sphere, in particular, trade between the two countries flourished (Z.Anwar, 2014). The scholar works on the basis of the idea that Babur, which until recently dominated science, was the founder of the Mughal Empire. This is now referred to as the Babur dynasty. He highly appreciates and acknowledges the changes made in India by Babur and his descendants. The researcher also highly appreciates Babur's skills as a writer, his autobiographical work "Baburnama", and writes that Babur was a prolific writer and an inquisitive researcher, on the one hand, he actively participated in



the development of the political world of that time, and on the other hand, he recorded historical events during his expeditions. He drew attention to the unique depiction of that time and that country in his world-famous “Baburnama”, the fact that “Baburnama” helps to understand the relations between Central and South Asia in the XV century and can provide excellent information for researchers interested in studying the relations between the two countries (Z.Anwar, 2014). These views indicate that he understood the essence of “Baburnama” and interpreted the realities in the work in harmony with the life of Babur. Regardless of which country Babur visited, he wrote down the events he experienced, the climate, flora and fauna of those countries, and their history in the form of diaries.

In D.M. Khoshimova’s dissertation, the scientific terms used in the autobiographical work “Baburnama” and the Islamic terms used in the work were identified through excerpts containing comparative images. According to her, we witness that Babur was able to come to conclusions on every issue, including the comparative units of Movarunnahr, the time units of India, the terms used in mathematical numbers and lengths of time, and every other issue (D. Khoshimova, 2015). The researcher also highlighted the characteristics of the image of Babur by studying the language of “Baburnama”. It is in this respect that it is close to our work.

One of the researchers who comparatively studied the works about Babur is Ikhtiyor Kamolov. His dissertation on the topic “A biographical approach to the interpretation of the image of Babur in historical and artistic sources” attracts special attention in this regard. In it, the works of the famous American writer Harold Lamb’s “Babur - the Tiger”, F. Würtle’s “Prince of Andijan”, Mirzo Muhammad Haydar’s “Tarikh-i Rashidi”, Gulbadanbegim’s “Humayunnama”, P. Kadirov’s “Starry Nights”, and Kh. Sultanov’s “Coast of Happiness” were chosen as the objects of research. In the dissertation, scientific, historical and artistic sources covering the life and work of Babur are classified by period, and historical works of historians such as Gulbadanbegim, Muhammad Haydar Mirzo, Hafiz Kohakiy, Khandamir, Hasanbek Rumlu, Khudoyorkhonzoda and research conducted in modern Uzbek Babur studies are analyzed based on a biographical approach, and in the works of historians such as J. Leiden, W. Erskine, A. Beveridge and Western writers such as H. Lamb, F. Würtle, the artistic image of Babur as a poet, prose writer, great commander, statesman, and leader of the nation who put the interests of the people above his own interests, as well as his personality, are studied in a comparative aspect based on the principles of the biographical method (I. Kamolov, 2022). In this regard, the scientist’s ideas that Babur studies were formed earlier in the West, especially in English-speaking oriental studies, are important, and this is associated with the conquest of India by England. It is also known from the research conducted by the researcher that the topic of Babur in Russian literary studies was formed in the XVIII century. Scientific research began to be conducted from the beginning of the XIX century. Babur studies in the West initially focused on the analysis and translation of the “Baburnama” and the study of Babur’s biography (I.Kamolov, 2022).

CONCLUSION

The issue of the artistic embodiment of the image of historical figures has found expression in the studies of such foreign scholars as I.Noori, S.Rowley, S.Fazzi, J.Thorndick, N.Mambrol, T.G.Serdyuk, G.Shpeyer, O.B.Zolotukhina, I.S.Boldonova, T.E.Sanjiyeva, A.S.Novolodsky, I.O.Volkov. According to the conclusions of these studies, the coverage of the historical topic opens the way to the study of historical experiences, and through their results it is possible to find solutions to the problems we face today. At the same time, history is defined in these works as a “powerful weapon”. Because history directly embodies the ethnic, cultural and social norms of a nation.

If we look at the pages of world literature, it is known that in English literature alone about a dozen novels and stories have been created dedicated to the life of the poet-king Babur. In this regard, it is worth noting that the scope of scientific research in Uzbek literary studies in the direction of introducing these works into scientific circulation and studying them is wide. This justifies the fact that Zahiriddin Babur, with his great personality, high human qualities, and military talent, has come to the attention of the peoples of the world.

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