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HISTORICAL, CULTURAL AND MORAL CONDITION OF UZBEKISTAN IN “BYGONE DAYS” BY ABDULLA QODIRIY

Abstract: "Bygone Days" written by Abdulla Qodiriy who was one of the most famous Uzbek earliest literature writer was devoted to demonstrate information about our traditions, policy and culture in the late nineteenth century by describing characters and main events. The events of the work take place in a very complex historical situation in the nineteenth century in which the environment was very turbulent and dangerous. At the beginning of reading this book it seems this is a romantic novel. However, after further reading one realizes the theme of society, illiteracy behind it. This novel shows moral and cultural shortages in society and government in the period of the late 19th century by the love of Otabek and Kumush.

Key words: Love and loyalty, moral shortages, illiteracy, political inconstancy

Introduction

The novel skillfully depicts colorful characters, which are inextricably linked with real life, their distinctive features, the psychological state of the protagonists, their tragedies, their joys. On reading the book, one meets the lifestyle of Uzbek ancestors: how their home was decorated, what kind of meals they had during the special occasions, national traditions during the wedding party. As mentioned above, the events were especially based on historical situations and most characters are not fictional.

When it comes to the setting of the novel, main events occur in Margilan and Tashkent. Because Otabek is from Tashkent and Kumush lives in Margilan. There are so many flaws in the work that the writer is right to point out that the reader is also annoyed when he reads the novel. Unbelievable ideas that the whip should bleed when reconciling with women, the condition of Mirzakarim Kutidor and Oftob mother not to send Kumush to Tashkent, to give their daughter in marriage despite her daughter's protests, the Uzbek mother's dream Forcing Otabek to remarry, and many similar vices, have been narrated anonymously.

Altogether, current research assists to gain significant data about history through investigating "Bygone Days".

Materials and methodology

Abdulla Qodiriy gave a demonstration of artistic image, style and poetic language in his works. When the issue of the language of Abdulla Qodiriy's novels is raised, Oybek (one of the known writers of Uzbek literature) said: In the novel "Bygone Days" the writer shows great skill in language. The language of the novel is truly rich, colorful, simple, expressive, and understandable to the masses. The role of this work in the formation of the Uzbek literary language is undoubtedly great"; "Bygone Days will play a major role in the development of the new Uzbek literary language," he wrote.

In addition to Uzbek literary critics, foreign scholars, such as the American researcher Christopher Michael Murphy, discussed the conflict in "Bygone Days", names chosen for the characters and their interpretations, the historical events, characters in the novel, and the plot of The Scorpion from the Altar and paid attention to their heroes. He said that "the history of the birth of both royal works in world literature shows the period, the requirements of the social situation, as well as the biography, family and creative environment, life experience, the level of knowledge, the way of thinking, scale,

spirituality, profession, beliefs, aspirations, and most importantly, the product of social ideals”.

Another American specialist Mark Reese heads up a project that helps to translate this novel into English. He says: « I think *Bygone days* is well known primarily among the intelligentsia. Everyone knows the novel – just as, maybe, most American children know Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn*. It is taught in schools throughout Uzbekistan, but it really takes a specialist to capture the aspects of the novel that go deeper than the romantic love between Otabek and Kumush».

Results

“*Bygone Days*” has a very wide range of meanings. It covers a variety of destinies, socio-political, spiritual, moral, family and romantic issues. Besides, this novel gives much more information about the history of the dirtiest days that reflects poorness of government and its structure. For instance, authorities were so apathetic towards population, they were so keen on wealth and esteem that is the reason why they did not realized the risk of attack by Russian Empire. Furthermore, government implemented too many taxes resulting in great refusal among people towards government. All this is evidence of the ignorance of the time. One of the main goals of the writer was to show ignorance and its negative consequences.

On another hand, readers can gather more information about Uzbek's traditional wearing style, their clothes, tradition while reading. Also, that every region is specialized for one or more handcraft. For example, Margilan is famous for weaving, especially preparing fabric such as atlas and adras.

Discussion

Qodiriy used different colorful characters and described them in detail:

Otabek- twenty four aged, handsome, main protagonist in the novel, Yusufbek haji's son, only son for his parents, studied in the madrasa called Beklarbegi, during the novel works as a salesman, always worries about his country and poor people, wants his country to be modern and developed, always respects others, has wide outlook, perfect moral.

Kumush- eighteen years old, beautiful girl that can attract everyone, Mirzakarim's daughter, she is also only child in her family, killed by her rival at the end of the novel. Knowledgeable and has very beautiful character.

Yusufbek haji- protagonist, works in authority, always worries about blessing of people and always tries to bring benefits for others, very fair person, because of this, people every time respect him, lives in one of the richest family in the society.

Homid- antagonist, over thirty five, loves Kumush, despite of the fact that he has two wives, he wants to marry Kumush. Main conflicts are between him and Otabek. Selfish and fibber. Wants to steal Kumush, at that time wounded by Otabek.

Zaynab- seventeen years old, charming and attractive, dynamic character, second wife for Otabek. Becomes very jealous at the end of the novel and poisons Kumush. At the end of the novel, she becomes crazy.

Mirzakarim- Kumush's father. Also protagonist. Works as a salesman. Yusufbek haji's friend. Simple-hearted person. Approximately forty five-fifty years old.

O'zbek oyim- dynamic character, roughly fifty five years old. Otabek's mother. Open and frankly woman. Very authoritative and respected people. In the beginning she does not like Kumush, however, after meeting her she likes Kumush more than Zaynab. Usully worries about their family's esteem

Oftob oyim- thirty five years old, protagonist. Kumush's mother. Good-hearted. Always worries about her daughter's future and does not want her to live in Tashkent.

Hasanali- protagonist, slave of Otabek's family. Does not have a child. That is way, he cares Otabek as his son. Otabek also sees him as his father. Always fellow for Otabek. Very kind- hearted and honest person. Approximately sixty years old.

During the novel distinctive interesting conversations about character's personality grab

readers' attention. For example, in the beginning there is a conversation about marriage between Otabek and Homid.

Otabek says that: "While your wife is suitable for you, you also should be suitable for her". But Homid does not agree with him and says that: "It is true that, your wife should be suitable for you, but it is not necessary to be suitable for your wife. And if you do not like your wife you can marry again and if you do not want her too, you can again marry".

Here huge difference between their worldview can be noticed. Otabek's attitude and respect towards woman is worthwhile to praise. Moreover, how brides respect their husband, their father-in-law and mother-in-law by the manners of Kumush, real loyalty and great love can be seen in this novel. Abdulla Qodiriy describes the quiet family life of the Uzbeks, as well as the conflicts between brides and their solutions, very convincingly and with great skill. "Bygone Days" is a huge and clear mirror, which clearly reflects the specific historical conditions, life, customs, spiritual world and image of the Uzbek nation.

As mentioned above, the issue of independence and unity of the people is the main theme of the novel. The protagonists of the work, Otabek and Yusufbek Haji, are depicted as selfless people who sacrificed their lives for the independence, prosperity and peace of this country. Clear-minded people like Yusufbek Haji are in favor of uniting people and ending conflicts. Re-reading reveals new aspects of the work. Images and episodes that are overlooked in one reading will attract attention the next. This, of course, refers to the writer's ability to create an image, a deep understanding of human heart, the way of describing events. After all, works like this novel are very important for art; images, scenes, and emotions are described through words with delicacy. Abdulla Qodiriy's attention to words, to literary language, to Uzbek literary language, of course, deserves special mention.

Conclusion

Abdulla Qodiriy wrote his novels at a time when the Uzbek literary language was taking shape in a modern form. The writer's contribution to the rise of the literary language remains significant. Abdulla Qodiriy who was well acquainted with the life, history, language and traditions of the Uzbeks, showed the beauty of Uzbek language by "Bygone Days" and used them very effectively and appropriately in his works. He said "Uzbek language is not poor". Language is a value that has the power to unite a nation. Qodiriy made an important warning to young generation by his novel. This warning is always thinking benefits of our motherland and our relatives. Also he showed us how to love, how to be loyal and reliable, how to respect parents and helped people to enhance their morals. In short, this novel is invaluable treasure.

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