



FREEDOM THROUGH ART AND LOVE (BASED ON THE NOVELS OF ABDULLA QODIRIY AND SOMERSET MAUGHAM)

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Abstract

This article investigates the notion of attaining spiritual and emotional freedom through art and love as reflected in the “O`tkan kunlar” (Bygone days) by Abdulla Qodiriy and Somerset Maugham’s “The Moon and Sixpence”. Literary – comparative, sociological, and philosophical – analytical tactics were utilized in the analysis. The study reveals that art and love represent as powerful forces conducting humans toward freedom and focus on both the diverse and similar aspects in the literary approaches of the two writers. This research can bolster contemporary literary studies and philosophical discourse.

Keywords: Love, art, Eastern and Western literature, Otabek, Strickland, freedom, personal aspiration, moral duty.

Introduction

Freedom has always been imperative aspiration of humanity, embracing both moral autonomy and intellectual liberation. Across cultures and historical periods, literature has acted as a central medium through which individuals investigate and express the nuances of human freedom. Among the infinite avenues through which freedom is experienced, art and love are revealed as two of the most profound and comprehensive sophistication. Art enables individuals to surpass social constraints and enter the interior depth of creativity, while love allows moral bravery, empathy, and emotional authenticity. In combination, these forces enable a holistic grasp of freedom that merges personal development, ethical obligation and aesthetic sensibility.

This study explores the role of art and love in evolving human freedom through a comparative analysis of Abdulla Qodiriy’s “O`tkan kunlar” (Bygone days) and Somerset Maugham’s “The Moon and Sixpence”. Albeit originating from distinct



cultural, temporal, and social contexts, both writers depict freedom as an internal, self – actualized state rather than a mere absence of external command. Qodiriy`'s novel situates freedom within the social and moral structures of early twentieth-century Uzbekistan, foregrounding the tension between individual ambitions and collective anticipation. Love in “O`tkan kunlar” (Bygone days) is portrayed merely as a romantic or emotional experience, but as a transformative exertion capable of struggling conventional authority and enriching moral courage.

Conversely, Maugham`s “The Moon and Sixpence” demonstrates freedom primarily through artistic attempt. The protagonist, Charles Strickland, deserts traditional social standards and familial responsibility to pursue his passion for painting. In this context, art becomes the medium through which Strickland accomplishes self-realization, showing freedom as a profoundly personal and existential pursuit. Maugham`s approach of freedom emphasizes the individualistic and aesthetic dimensions of liberation, comparing to Qodiriy`s socially grounded elucidation.

Literature review

The themes of art, love and freedom have occupied a prime field in literary and philosophical consultation across centuries. Within Uzbek and English literature, these concepts have been revealed using distinct yet coinciding lenses. In this analysis, decisive attention is given to Abdulla Qodiriy`s “O`tkan kunlar” (Bygone days) and Somerset Maugham`s “The Moon and Sixpence” (1919), which, by originating from variety cultural and historical contexts, share a deep interest in the individual`s search for inner and societal liberation.

Abdulla Qodiriy`s notion on love and freedom

In Uzbek literature, Qodiriy is considered as a pioneer of modern realism. His novel “O`tkan kunlar” (Bygone days) not only recreates the socio – political atmosphere of 19th-century Turkestan but also act as demonstration on ethical consciousness and emotional probity. According to literary critic Ozod Shrafiddinov perspective, Qodiriy revealed the freedom of the human heart through love. In “O`tkan kunlar” (Bygone days), love is portrayed as a force that awakens the human spirit. Undoubtedly, love serves as a moral power that challenges rigid conventions and patriarchal norms in Qodiriy`s narrative. This is because Otabek`s affection for Kumush defies traditional marriage customs. Through this act, Qodiriy makes love



a trope for inner freedom. As a result of it, author can reveal that personal choice became a sign of social renewal, which means the broader awakening of Uzbek society during Jadid reformist era. In that writing, love is depicted as a symbol that breaks societal chains and liberates the human spirit. To clarify, the novel illustrates the human heart's freedom against social duty and traditional restrictions. Qodiriy's freedom is grounded in love and moral harmony.

Somerset Maugham's artistic freedom and existential feeling

Somerset Maugham is regarded as one of writers of 20th century English literature with philosophical spirit. In his works, the main idea is demonstrated as the human pursuit of spiritual growth, self-realization, and the striving toward freedom. Somerset Maugham's "The Moon and Sixpence" portrays the life of Charles Strickland, a man who deserts his family and social responsibilities an account of his ardor for art. Professor John Carey (Oxford University) defines: "Maugham's protagonist abandons conventional life, including romantic attachments, in the pursuit of artistic truth, illustrating how love and passion can be both a source of liberation and personal transformation" (Carey, J., A Short History of English Literature, Oxford University Press, 2011, p.422). Maugham's portrayal of Charles Strickland is neither entirely heroic nor devastating – it is existential. Art for Maugham, becomes a path of self-exile, where the individual sacrifices consolation and conformity to accomplish authentic mode of being. Maugham's freedom is rooted in alienation and creative obsession.

A lot of theoretical resources are analyzed during studying theme. Articles and writings about freedom through love and art in both novels are paid prime attention by research.

In Abdulla Qodiriy's "O'tkan kunlar" (Bygone Days) East culture and emotional freedom through love are depicted with certain characters.

Somerset Maugham's "The Moon and Sixpence" shows reaching personal freedom by artistic pursuit.

A. Khan "Comparative Literature: East and West" confirms diverse and similar feature of West and East about attaining freedom using different way.

John, Carey "Short History of English Literature" can investigate personal freedom and inner spiritual advance by Somerset Maugham's "The Moon and Sixpence".

Ozod Sharafiddinov's "Adabiy etyudlar" (Literary Studies) could reveal national identity, love, freedom through "O'tkan kunlar" (Bygone days) by Abdulla Qodiriy.



Research Methodology

The study utilizes a qualitative, comparative literary methodology to demonstrate how freedom through art and love is represented in Abdulla Qodiriy's "O'tkan kunlar" (Bygone days) and Somerset Maugham's "The Moon and Sixpence".

Research Design

The research is based on a relative literary analysis framework. It can create chance to spotlight novel's central themes, character development, narrative structure, philosophical messages, and cultural contexts.

Textual Analysis

Detailed examination of dialogues, plot developments, and character interactions is scrutinized using this method.

Comparative Literary This method reveals systematic comparison of thematic treatment, moral dilemmas, emotional freedom through art and love.

Philosophical Hermeneutics

As a result of this method, underlying moral philosophy is analyzed through interpreting existential and ethical layer in both texts.

Reliability and Ethical reflection

Credibility was secure an account of academic triangulation and consistent quotation of verified scholarly sources. Code of behavior was observed by accurately attributing all reference and avoiding interpretive unfairness.

Restrictions

The research is confined to two novel and does not take into account the full compass of either author's oeuvre. The study concentrates on love through art and love, eliminating linguistic and stylistic dimensions.

Analysis and results

The comparative analysis of Abdulla Qodiriy's "O'tkan kunlar" and Somerset Maugham's "The Moon and Sixpence" focus on diverse approaches to freedom



through art and love. Both novels investigate how protagonists negotiate personal ambitions, moral obligations, and social constraints.

Freedom with love in Qodoriy's writing

In “O`tkan kunlar”, love is depicted as ethical and inner force that both constrains and liberates. The characters' emotional affairs – particularly between Kumush and Otabek – show that personal freedom is indivisible from moral responsibility. Love serves as a leading principle, shaping characters' decisions while concomitantly binding them to societal standards.

Freedom with art in Maugham's novel

Conversely, “The Moon and Sixpence” protagonist, Charles Strickland, attains personal freedom predominantly through artistic self-expression, frequently at the expense of social and familial bonds. Strickland's compulsive pursuit of painting reflects the radical assertion of individual autonomy, in which freedom is interpreted as liberation from social expectancies and moral compact.

Comparative observation

While two protagonists get down to freedom through various angles – love and moral responsibility against art and personal ambitions – they cross in their pursuit of self-realization. Both texts portray the strain between individual aspirations and societal expectation.

Cultural differences

Albeit their cultural disparities, both novels express a philosophical concept: correct freedom through art or love demands a conscious engagement with personal ambitions, obligation, and moral discernment. The Uzbek tradition emphasis on collective ethics and relational morality contrasts with the Western modernist ideal of individualism and existential liberty.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The analytical study reveals that both authors analyze freedom as a central human desire, acquired through love in the former and artistic creation in the latter. In Qodiriyy's novel, freedom is tied to moral obligation, social norms, and emotional



connections. In contrast, “The Moon and Sixpence” represents freedom as radical, self-centered, and survival, reaching through the uncompromising pursuit of art. In spite of cultural and historical distinction, Abdulla Qodiriy and Somerset Maugham strive to demonstrate true freedom with different ways in their novels.

Recommendations

- 1.Future researches could investigate similar comparative analysis between Eastern and Western literature, particularly concentrating on how cultural contexts evolve the concepts of freedom.
- 2.These novels can be embraced in academic programs to elucidate diverse philosophical approaches.
- 3.Interdisciplinary research integrating literature, sociology, and philosophy can deepen insight into moral dimensions of artistic individuality.

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