



UTKIR HOSHIMOV — THE ARTIST OF LIFE AND TRUTH

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Abstract

This article discusses the place of the Uzbek writer O'tkir Hoshimov in our literature and his creative views. It analyzes the extent to which human psychology, realism, and spiritual values are reflected in the writer's works. Furthermore, the significance of his literary creativity for contemporary literary processes and spiritual life is highlighted.

Keywords: Utkir Hoshimov, Uzbek literature, human values, psychological analysis, spirituality.

Introduction

Utkir Hoshimov was an Uzbek writer and playwright active in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, distinguished by a unique voice in national literature. His creative work primarily portrays social life during the period of the Second World War, the subtle emotional experiences within the human heart, spiritual suffering, and, at the same time, concepts of morality and spirituality. The writer is recognized as a figure who made an invaluable contribution to the formation of national outlook and national pride in Uzbek literature.

Utkir Hoshimov won the hearts of readers with works that led many into the world of Uzbek literature, instilled in them a love of reading, and shaped them as devoted readers. His style is simple and seemingly accessible to everyone; yet his works embody the bitter truths of social life, the hardships of self-discovery, and



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profound notions of spirituality. The writer's oeuvre encompasses various genres—short stories, novellas, and novels—all of which provide deep insight into the inner world of the characters. Through literary devices, he depicts the emotional struggles associated with complex human decisions such as love, loyalty, and friendship. Each character is approached with profound psychological sensitivity, which is especially evident in their inner monologues and processes of self-reflection. Although his style is clear and straightforward, it is rich in moral nourishment. The writer conveys complex philosophical ideas in a manner that is open and understandable for readers. To substantiate this, one can turn to several vivid and realistic scenes from his works and witness firsthand his artistic mastery as a true “painter” of life.

Ikki eshik orasi is the novel through which many readers took their first steps into the world of reading. Every reader of this work seems to live within the book, side by side with the characters, experiencing all emotions together with them. The novel depicts village life and the lives of ordinary people during the Second World War so vividly that reading it feels like watching a film unfold before one's eyes. For instance, *Ilhom the samovar-keeper's* teahouse is portrayed as a lively gathering place where village men find brief respite from life's burdens, engage in heartfelt conversations, and share both joy and sorrow over a cup of tea.

A similar contrast is drawn in the description of *Rashid Abzi's* home: while it lacks the imposing appearance of *Umar the lawman's* house—with its red metal roof and wide gate—*Abzi's* modest dwelling, covered with black tar paper and guarded by no fierce dog, is open to everyone. Even *Abzi's* goat, *Masha*, is described as gentler than her owner. Through such depictions, the author emphasizes that true joy and dignity are found not in wealth or material possessions, but in simplicity and sincerity.

Hoshimov treats each character individually and crafts them in such a way that readers develop affection or genuine interest toward them. One such character is *Orif oqsoqol*, a figure embodying humanity, justice, generosity, and moral integrity—illustrating what true authority should look like. Throughout the novel, readers witness his numerous noble deeds and the good he does for the village of *Nog'ayqo'rg'on*. *Orif oqsoqol* treats all villagers equally; when someone faces hardship, he is the first to show compassion and then encourages others to help



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one another. This is evident when he refrains from punishing Zuhra, the wife of his son Zokir who died in the war, after she elopes with another man, saying, “She is still young and has no children.” It is also seen when Shomurod quarrels with Ra’no and struggles to find milk for Muzaffar—Orif oqsoqol takes the child to Bashorat aunt and firmly says, “You will take care of him until he grows up.” The villagers deeply respect Orif oqsoqol and never disregard his words.

Another episode involving Orif oqsoqol is equally moving: when Robiya’s mother dies and her father brings her from Samarkand to Tashkent, Orif oqsoqol welcomes them. When little Robiya cries for bread, he sells the gold watch he keeps in his pocket to buy her food. Such scenes inevitably touch the reader’s heart and vividly demonstrate Utkir Hoshimov’s mastery in portraying life with compassion, realism, and profound humanity.

Likewise, as the writer himself noted, in this novel he created many tragic destinies; yet it is precisely these tragedies that help us understand the truth of life more deeply. If we speak of Kimsan and Robiya—the characters whose story brought tears to so many eyes—we see that true love does not always coincide with fate. Although they genuinely loved one another, unexpected blows of life prevented them from attaining happiness. Social pressures and family obligations at times overpower human dreams and hopes. Robiya, in particular, was forced to renounce her own happiness for the sake of her nephew’s destiny and well-being—she sacrificed herself for another. Kimsan, on the other hand, was initially slandered as a traitor to the homeland; yet the later erection of his monument in the memorial square signifies that truth ultimately prevails, sooner or later.

The novel also allows us to witness the painful separation of Munavvar and Muzaffar, as well as Ochil’s unfulfilled longing for Robiya. Sometimes love finds a person, fate puts it to the test, and separation is born not from the weakness of love, but from the harsh trials of life. Through these destinies, Utkir Hoshimov conveys the idea that true love does not always mean being together; rather, it means living on eternally in the heart. The bitter truth of a fate that brings not happiness through union, but regret and remorse, is vividly illustrated through the example of Umar the lawman and Ra’no. By means of these characters, the writer proves that there is no fortress more sacred than the family. Indeed, how many sufferings did Ra’no endure because of betrayal within the family? How deep



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was Umar the lawman's regret? These were the inevitable consequences of their sins. Was it not this very mistake that prevented Robiya from becoming the wife of the man she called "father"? Did not Muzaffar and Munavvara suffer because of it?

By portraying honest and dishonest, faithful and unfaithful people, the writer vividly depicts what life was like during the war years, demonstrating that even when war rages thousands of kilometers away, its impact on people's lives is inevitable.

The works of Utkir Hoshimov quickly find a place in readers' hearts. This is because he personally lived through much of what he wrote about, and many of his characters were created on the basis of stories told by real people themselves. For this reason, his prose possesses exceptional vividness and realism. In the preface to the book, the author himself writes: "I have seen many of the people in this book with my own eyes. I have spoken with many of them—with some in person, with others through their spirit. I wrote down exactly what some of them said. For others, I was compelled to write not what they said, but what they thought. (After all, not everyone always tells the truth. Yet even a person who lies still thinks the truth within.)" Reading these lines, one clearly perceives how deeply the writer penetrates the human psyche, as well as the power of his influence and the professionalism of his psychological mastery.

Utkir Hoshimov's creative legacy takes deep root in readers' hearts through its vivid, life-like depictions and distinctly Uzbek character. It is no coincidence that school textbooks draw on his works to instill enlightenment, a national spirit, and a sense of pride in young people. His writings call every reader toward humanity, love and compassion, sincerity, justice, truth, and self-awareness. For this reason, the writer's oeuvre remains not only a legacy of his own time, but also a relevant, instructive, and profoundly human artistic school for the present day. We believe that even as centuries pass, Utkir Hoshimov will remain one of readers' most beloved writers, and his works will continue to be among the most treasured books in their libraries.



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