

AESTHETIC VISIONS OF THE FEMININE IN ABDULLA ORIPOV'S POETIC WORLD

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ANNOTATION: This article presents a literary analysis of the feminine image in the poetry of Abdulla Oripov. It explores how the image of feminine is portrayed in various forms within his works and how these representations reflect national values as well as moral and spiritual concepts. Special attention is given to the poet's aesthetic taste, poetic mastery, and his attitude toward society in the creation of the female image. The article also analyzes how the poet's perspective on women evolved across different periods of his work, and how concepts such as motherhood, love, devotion, and selflessness are intertwined with his poetic expressions.

KEYWORDS: Woman, poetic interpretation, national spirit, image of mother, mythological views.

INTRODUCTION. Life without women is unimaginable, as literature without the image of a woman. There are scarcely works of literature that do not feature female characters. This is because literature, by its very nature, is devoted to women—it is an art that seeks to understand their inner world, to grasp their emotions, and to uncover the true essence of this sacred creation known as woman. As the writer Abdulla Qahhor once remarked, “Among birds, it is the male that sings,” implying that creativity is primarily a male endeavor. This, in turn, suggests that the main source of inspiration for male creators is often the woman. For this reason, the image of the woman is among the most frequently encountered and central themes in literature. Indeed, in most literary works, the female figure occupies a central position. After all, life itself is built upon the relationship between man and woman. Every reality or idea manifests within the framework of their interaction. Literature, as a delicate art that delves into the human soul and inner experiences, inevitably connects all its themes—be it love, devotion, or patriotism—to the image of a woman. Even philosophical works aimed at understanding life, upon deeper analysis, reveal an underlying desire to understand womanhood.

Literature encompasses many other themes such as devotion to parents, the beauty of nature, humanity, honesty, love for children, and hatred for evil. These have been richly explored in the literary heritage of various nations for thousands of years. However, most of these themes are either directly or indirectly linked to the image of a woman.

By the 15th and 16th centuries, the image of the woman in literature had risen to the status of the central character. During this period, female characters became more refined and began to play an essential role in expressing the artistic ideas of the author. This is evident in the works and historical writings of Alisher Navoi, particularly in his *Khamsa* (Quintet) of epic poems. In the first poem of the *Khamsa*, *Hayrat ul-abror* (“The Wondrous Deeds of the Righteous”), many of the twenty stories feature female characters. In the subsequent poems, these female figures rise to the level of protagonists. Within the grand tradition of *Khamsa*-writing that became a hallmark of classical Eastern literature, the image of the woman is firmly established among the main characters.

METHODOLOGY. In modern Uzbek literature, the poetic expression of the theme of women finds some of its most vivid examples in the works of Abdulla Oripov, People's Poet of Uzbekistan. In depicting the female image, the poet draws upon both national spirit and universal

human values as his primary guiding principles. He avoids excessive exaggeration or lavish praise in his portrayals. Instead, he employs symbols and metaphors to craft beautiful and diverse representations of women. In his works, he depicts women with distinct traits and characteristics as follows:

- hardworking and enduring (the pale-faced sister in Yuzma-yuz, Saodat),
- intellectually gifted (the mother in Alisher's Mother),
- kind and caring (the cleaning lady in The Heavenly Guest, The Seven Sages and the Cleaning Lady, the mother in Mother Dear),
- socially active and professionally dedicated (in poems such as Miss Secretary, To the Athlete Girls of Guvalak, The Nurse),
- a loving daughter to her parents (My Daughters),
- a grieving mother (The Uzbek Mother),
- a symbol of loyalty and resilience (Woman),
- and an ungrateful wife (The Tale of Adi-Badi, The Legend).

The concept of the woman as a revered figure—the cult of womanhood—in Abdulla Oripov's poetry is manifested through these various images.

a) Ona timsoli. "Onajon", "Onamga", "Ona", "Ona degan nom", "Onamni sog'inib", "Maktub", "Onamga xat", "Onamni eslab" she'rlari;

b) Xotin-qizlar obrazi- "Ayol", "Qizlarim", "Kamilla", "O'zbek ayoli", "Singil", "Kelinoyi", "Habash qiz";

c) Momo va kampir obrazlari- "Ranjkom", "Hangoma", "Momo", "Oila kundaligi", "Oila".

ANALYSIS AND RESULTS.

The Image of the Mother.

In literature, the image of the mother is interpreted as one of the most exalted and sacred symbols. While every mother is a woman, not every woman becomes a mother. The figure of the mother represents compassion, devotion, and sanctity. Therefore, in Abdulla Oripov's poetry, the image of the mother carries deep spiritual meaning and is glorified with the utmost reverence. In his poem Mother, part of the Haj Daftari (The Pilgrimage Notebook) series, the mother is elevated to a divine status. Through powerful poetic devices, the poem portrays the sanctity of a mother's prayer, the blessings that come from her, and the holiness of her hands—hands worthy of being circumambulated like sacred relics.

Similarly, in the poem The Uzbek Mother, the mother is compared to the holiest of places—such as the Kaaba and the al-Aqsa Mosque (Bayt al-Muqaddas). The poet's love for his homeland merges harmoniously with his sincere feelings for his mother, creating a poetic connection between the two symbols of mother and homeland. These images are so deeply intertwined that they become inseparable, forming one of the central themes of Abdulla Oripov's body of work. His poem Paradise is based on a hadith (prophetic saying) and embodies deep respect, heartfelt longing, and sacred love for the mother through artistic expression. The image of the mother holds a special role in Abdulla Oripov's poetry. He presents this symbol not only as a spiritual ideal but also as a representation of elevated aesthetic values.

The Image of Woman.

In portraying women, Abdulla Oripov does not limit himself to praise and admiration. In his work, he also presents the image of the wife or woman with a more critical lens, reflecting certain negative traits. The poem The Tale of Adi-Badi, built on the artistic device of antithesis, serves as a literary proof of this approach. In it, the tragic lives of a husband and wife who never respect each other's thoughts and only value their own opinions are depicted. In another poem, The Legend, the motif of the "goldfish" is revived, reflecting similar critical undertones.

Xullas, barcha orzusiga erishdi xotin,

El ichida "boyvuchcha" deb chiqardi otin. [Oripov.2021.194]

A woman who had lived in comfort for a long time becomes ungrateful and discontented when her husband can no longer fully provide:

"The husband stood helpless, his head bowed low,

The wife would say: "I've known no joy since I married you."

Such expressions of ingratitude and lack of contentment are portrayed in the poet's work as a product of critical reflection, which, in turn, enhances the artistic value of the poem.

DISCUSSION. Abdulla Oripov's poetry stands out for its philosophical depth, artistic richness, and imagery rooted in national identity. In his works, the image of woman—particularly that of the mother—is portrayed with profound spiritual and aesthetic significance. By harmonizing literary traditions with modern thought, the poet presents the image of woman not only as an emotional figure but also as a symbol of high moral values. He depicts women as the spiritual foundation of society, embodiments of compassion and self-sacrifice. This is especially evident in the portrayal of mothers—as symbols of the homeland, metaphors for the Kaaba, and sacred paths leading to paradise. Oripov's approach to the image of woman is not merely poetic but also philosophical and moral, demonstrating the elevated social and aesthetic role of women in literature. His works in this regard hold an important place in the history of Uzbek poetry and contribute significantly to modern literary understanding of the female figure.

CONCLUSION. In conclusion, it is worth emphasizing that each poetic work by Abdulla Oripov leaves a lasting impression on the reader due to its profound meaning, poetic mastery, and connection to real life. His poetry holds not only literary value but also educational and moral significance. Thus, every poem is worthy of study, as it nurtures values such as humanity, patriotism, and respect for maternal love in the hearts of today's youth. Through his poetry, Abdulla Oripov expressed the pains and joys, hopes and aspirations, values and beliefs of the Uzbek people. In particular, his approach to the artistic portrayal of women and mothers, and his elevation of their status, reveal that he established a unique school within literature. His creative legacy continues to serve as a great source of inspiration for today's literary process and emerging writers.

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