

**THE ARTISTIC INTERPRETATION OF THE THEME OF WAR IN THE WORKS OF
QO‘CHQOR NORQOBIL**

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Annotation. This scholarly article provides a comprehensive analysis of the artistic interpretation of the theme of war in the works of Qo‘chqor Norqobil, one of the prominent representatives of contemporary Uzbek literature. The study reveals the social, moral, psychological, and philosophical dimensions of the phenomenon of war as depicted in the writer’s works, highlighting through his artistic vision the profound impact of war on the human psyche and the life of society. In the course of the research, the main focus is placed not on direct battle scenes in the author’s short stories and novellas, but on the consequences of war—human tragedies, moral degradation, and psychological trauma. The article interprets the theme of war in close connection with individual destinies, historical memory, and national consciousness, and elucidates the distinctive artistic and aesthetic features of Qo‘chqor Norqobil’s creative work.

Keywords: Qo‘chqor Norqobil, theme of war, artistic interpretation, modern Uzbek literature, human tragedy, psychological trauma, historical memory, moral issues, literary realism, psychologism.

INTRODUCTION

The theme of war is regarded as one of the most complex, multi-layered, and philosophically profound subjects in world literature. Throughout nearly all stages of human history, war has manifested itself in close connection with social development, political processes, and cultural consciousness. Therefore, in literature, war is interpreted not only as a historical event but also as a powerful artistic means of revealing the inner world of the human being, moral choices, and spiritual trials. In Uzbek literature as well, the theme of war has been artistically interpreted in different ways across various periods; particularly in the twentieth century and the early twenty-first century, this theme was enriched with new meanings and aesthetic forms. In modern Uzbek prose, war is no longer limited to front-line events or heroic depictions, but is expressed through spiritual suffering, loss, painful memories, and moral decline within the human psyche. One of the writers who creates within this artistic direction is Qo‘chqor Norqobil.

In the works of Qo‘chqor Norqobil, the theme of war is not centered on historical battles or military actions themselves, but rather on the long-term effects of war on human destiny, family relationships, social morality, and national consciousness. The writer interprets war not merely as a reality of events, but as a spiritual tragedy of humanity, a moral crisis, and a psychological trial. In this respect, the theme of war in his works acquires deep psychological, philosophical, and social significance. The main purpose of this article is to determine how the theme of war is artistically interpreted in the works of Qo‘chqor Norqobil and to reveal the author’s aesthetic and moral attitude toward war.

MAIN PART

In the works of Qo‘chqor Norqobil, the theme of war is most often revealed not through direct depictions of battle scenes, but through postwar life, shattered destinies, and the suffering human psyche. For the writer, war is прежде всего a phenomenon that puts a person to the test and exposes their moral and spiritual essence. His characters are usually not direct participants in

combat, but ordinary people who have experienced the heavy consequences of war in their personal lives. This approach allows war to be perceived not as a global historical event, but as a personal tragedy. In Norqobil's works, war is portrayed as a force that destroys human relationships and disrupts moral values¹.

Images of broken families, orphaned children, and psychologically traumatized individuals frequently appear in the writer's works. Through these characters, the author reveals not only the physical, but also the spiritual devastation caused by war. The inner experiences of characters returning from war—their silence, their lives shaped by memories—are subjected to deep psychological analysis by the author. In this respect, the creative work of Qo'chqor Norqobil is close to the traditions of psychological realism. The writer pays greater attention to the inner suffering of his characters than to their external actions. Here, war appears as a traumatic memory that leaves an indelible mark on the human psyche.

In Norqobil's works, the theme of war is often closely connected with the problem of moral choice. Under wartime conditions, an individual comes face to face with their conscience, beliefs, and ethical principles. The author's characters find themselves before the dilemma of preserving humanity or abandoning it in complex situations created by war. This state is expressed by the writer with intense dramatism. Acts of betrayal, indifference, or, conversely, devotion and humanism that occur in wartime reveal the author's moral conception.

The theme of war in Norqobil's creative work is also inseparably linked with historical memory. The writer interprets war as an event that cannot be forgotten and that lives on in the memory of generations. In his works, the memory of war is often conveyed through elderly people, witnesses of war, or representatives of the postwar generation. This demonstrates that war is not merely an event of a single period, but a factor that affects the consciousness of society as a whole. Through the artistic representation of historical memory, the author advances the idea that war must never be repeated.

Symbolic details and metaphors occupy an important place in the artistic style of Qo'chqor Norqobil. War is often expressed symbolically through images such as ruined houses, villages immersed in silence, and sorrowful gazes. These symbols allow the reader to feel the invisible yet profound impact of war. In the writer's depictions, war is reflected not through noise and chaos, but through silence and emptiness. This further intensifies the sense of loss and void that war leaves in the human soul².

In the writer's creative work, the theme of war is often juxtaposed with the idea of peace. Through the depiction of the terrible consequences of war, the value and dignity of peace are exalted. The author adopts a humanistic, anti-war position. This stance is expressed not in the form of open propaganda, but through artistic events, images, and psychological states. The reader experiences the tragedies of war through the destinies of the characters and naturally embraces the idea of peace.

The artistic interpretation of the theme of war in the works of Qo'chqor Norqobil represents a qualitatively new stage in the perception of the war phenomenon in modern Uzbek prose. In his creative work, war appears not merely as a historical reality or the product of political processes, but as a complex phenomenon that constitutes a severe trial for human spirituality. The discussion reveals that Norqobil interprets war primarily through its consequences, the wounds it leaves on the human psyche, and the moral voids it creates in social life. This approach takes the writer beyond the framework of traditional realism, which tends to

¹ Karimov N. *Zamonaviy o'zbek nasrida urush va inson ruhiyati*. – Toshkent: Akademnashr, 2018

² Norqobil Qo'chqor. *So'ngsiz iztirob* (hikoyalar va qissalar). – Toshkent: G'afur G'ulom nomidagi nashriyot, 2016

depict war through external events, and places him within the realm of deep psychological and philosophical inquiry.

At the center of the theme of war in Norqobil's works stands the fate of the ordinary individual. The writer portrays war not as a grand historical stage, but as a force that disrupts the life of a single person. This aspect confirms the dominance of an anthropocentric approach in the author's artistic thinking. The characters' inner monologues, their lives shaped by memories, and their psychological suffering expressed through silence and stillness suggest that war is an unending process within human consciousness. In Norqobil's depiction, war is not confined to time; it becomes a continuing psychological state within the human soul. For this reason, the portrayal of the postwar period in his works often appears even more painful and tragic than the war itself.

Another important aspect highlighted in the discussion is the writer's interpretation of war as a moral and normative problem. For Norqobil, wartime conditions constitute a testing ground that reveals a person's true nature. In difficult circumstances, the characters confront concepts such as conscience, responsibility, and humanity. Indifference, betrayal, and cruelty, or conversely, devotion and compassion manifested in wartime situations clearly demonstrate the writer's moral position³. The author does not justify war or embellish it with heroism; rather, he exposes its essence as a force that destroys human values.

The aesthetic interpretation of the theme of war in Qo'chqor Norqobil's creative work is also an important subject of discussion. The writer often refrains from directly depicting the horrors of war and avoids explicit scenes of violence. In his artistic style, silence, emptiness, and symbolic details predominate. Ruined houses, abandoned courtyards, and silent characters convey the invisible yet profound impact of war. This aesthetic approach strongly influences the reader's emotional perception and encourages deeper reflection on the nature of war. In Norqobil's portrayal, war is not a noisy tragedy, but a silent yet painful memory.

During the discussion, particular attention is paid to the connection between the theme of war and historical memory in the writer's works. The author presents war memory as a phenomenon that lives in both individual and collective consciousness. Memories conveyed through elderly people, war witnesses, or representatives of the postwar generation indicate that war does not end with a single generation; its moral consequences continue to influence social consciousness for a long time. In this regard, Norqobil's creative work fulfills the function of preserving historical memory and reconstructing it within artistic consciousness. Here, the memory of war acquires a warning and educational significance.

Furthermore, in the works of Qo'chqor Norqobil, the theme of war is directly contrasted with the idea of peace. Through the depiction of human and moral tragedies caused by war, the value of peaceful life is revealed. The writer calls the reader to peace not through open exhortation, but through artistic destinies. This approach frees his works from a didactic tone and enhances their aesthetic impact⁴. In Norqobil's creative work, the anti-war position is expressed in harmony with the ideas of humanism and moral responsibility.

Comparing Norqobil's works with those of other contemporary Uzbek writers also leads to important scholarly conclusions. While some authors employ the theme of war as historical realism or a social background, Norqobil elevates this theme to a deep psychological and philosophical level. This distinguishes his works from the general corpus of war literature and places them among notable examples of modern literary thought. Such an approach makes a

³ Norqobil Qo'chqor. *So'ngsiz iztirob* (hikoyalar to'plami). – Toshkent: G'afur G'ulom nomidagi nashriyot, 2016.

⁴ Karimov N. *Zamonaviy o'zbek adabiyotida tinchlik va insonparvarlik g'oyasi*. – Toshkent: Akademnashr, 2019.

significant contribution to the reinterpretation of the theme of war in contemporary Uzbek literature.

In general, the results of the discussion show that the theme of war in the works of Qo‘chqor Norqobil possesses a multi-layered, complex, and profound artistic-philosophical content. Interpreting war as a tragedy for humanity, the writer illuminates its psychological, moral, and social consequences through individual destinies. This allows Norqobil’s creative work to be evaluated as a significant and distinctive phenomenon in the portrayal of the theme of war in modern Uzbek literature.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the theme of war in the works of Qo‘chqor Norqobil is interpreted with profound artistic and philosophical depth. The writer presents war not merely as a historical event or a military occurrence, but as a spiritual tragedy of humanity. In his works, the negative impact of war on the human psyche, moral values, and social life is revealed through individual destinies. The author’s artistic mastery lies in expressing the horrors of war not through loud and explicit depictions, but through silence, memory, and psychological suffering, which invites the reader to deep reflection. In Qo‘chqor Norqobil’s creative work, the theme of war is harmoniously intertwined with the ideas of peace, humanism, and moral responsibility, thereby acquiring significant aesthetic and ethical importance in modern Uzbek literature.

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