STUDYING WORKS BY THEIR GENRE AND SYSTEM OF IMAGES

Karimova Arujan

Annotation. *The article explores the scientific and practical aspects of analyzing literary works through genre characteristics and the system of characters. Each literary genre has its own aesthetic principles, and the system of characters created within it reflects the writer's worldview, the spirit of the era, and national consciousness. Therefore, studying a work from the perspective of genre and characters not only helps to deeply understand the content of the text but also reveals the author's skill, artistic style, and creative universe. This article provides teachers, students, and literature enthusiasts with effective methods for literary analysis, encouraging readers to think, feel, and develop their artistic thinking.*

Keywords*: genre, system of characters, literary analysis, literary work, author's skill, artistic style, aesthetic thinking, literature.*

In the course "Introduction to Literary Studies," all the characteristics specific to literary education are studied in detail, while in the course "Foundations of Literary Analysis," knowledge related to the philological analysis of literary works is thoroughly mastered. In both areas of literary studies, the types and genres specific to literary works, their distinctive features, and systems of images are studied within their respective frameworks.

The term genre (derived from the French genre and the Latin genus, meaning "type" in Uzbek) refers to a historically formed internal classification in literature and art, as well as the concept that expresses this classification – denoting specific types of works that possess their own unity of form and content. The division of works of art into genre groups is carried out based on various criteria. Each form of art has its own genre classification system. For example, in literature, a work's genre characteristics are determined by the literary type it belongs to, its length, and the method of constructing images – such as symbolic, figurative, or documentary representation.

In literature, genres are grouped into three main types (see Table 1).

Genres	Genre Type
1. Epic type	Heroic epics, novel, short story, fairy tale
2. Lyric type	Qasida, elegy, poem, song
3. Dramatic type	Tragedy, drama, comedy

The genres within these types are further divided into smaller subcategories according to the theme of the work – for example, domestic or psychological novels; satirical or lyrical comedies; and vaudeville. The concept of "genre" is also characteristic of visual arts. Here, genres are determined primarily by the subject depicted and, in some cases, by the nature of the depiction.

Subdivisions within a genre are defined by cognitive aspects of artistic creation, ideological evaluation, and the blending of artistic images. Accordingly, a portrait painter's perspective is not limited to creating a general portrait; it may also take on satirical or sharply critical forms. In literary studies, genres have undergone various transformations throughout the development of the literary process – becoming more compact or expanding. In accordance with social and spiritual progress, some genres have gained prominence while others have gradually lost their leading position. This tendency toward compactness is still continuing, especially in

epic genres. It is clearly observed in the epic, poem, novel, and novella genres. Just as there is no purely literary form, there is no purely literary genre.

The characteristics of one genre may also appear in another, but without claiming dominance. Therefore, considering their similarities and differences, grouping genres by types and uncovering the stable laws governing inter-genre relationships is justified. For instance, all works based on the principle of narration form the epic type. Thus, genres such as the epic, doston, novella, poem, essay, feuilleton, essayistic prose, legend, myth, travelogue, romance story, khamsa, aphorism, hymn, and moral sayings belong to the epic type.

In the study of literary works, identifying the genre is a fundamental step toward understanding the artistic nature of the text. Fiction is a form of art that shapes human spirituality, attitudes toward life, and aesthetic taste. Through a literary work, the reader not only learns about a particular event but also feels universal human values such as humanity, patriotism, loyalty, and justice. A deep understanding of a work is closely tied to analyzing its genre nature and system of images. Each genre expresses the author's worldview, artistic form, and mode of expression in its own unique way.

The literary scholar Q. Khusanboyeva stated: "Genre is the soul of a work: it determines both its form and its content." (2018) Thus, correctly identifying the genre and analyzing the images in relation to one another help reveal the inner essence of the artistic text. At the center of every work stands the human image. Through the image, the author expresses life, society, and the spirit of the era. An image is not just a character; it is an artistic embodiment of the author's aesthetic worldview. The "system of images" refers to all the characters in the work, their relationships, and the artistic connections that contribute to the central idea of the text.

- To help students analyze an image, the following steps may be used:
- The character's external appearance
- Their inner world
- Their relationship with other characters
- The author's attitude
- Their function within the work

A literary image is an aesthetic category that characterizes reality in a way unique to art.

In a fictional work, any creatively reinterpreted event is also expressed as an image. The unique features of an artistic image are revealed in its relationship to real events and the process of thought.

As an artistic reflection of reality, an image possesses sensory clarity, exists within a specific time and place, and has complete, integral characteristics. An image has a complex structure, encompassing the transition between the external world and the inner world. Through artistic imagery, the connections between the subjective and the objective, the individual and the universal, the ideal and the real, are creatively developed.

– Is the fate of Enlik and Kebek the defeat of personal love, or the triumph of spiritual freedom?

– How does the author depict the relationship between power and justice in Kazakh society through the images of elders and biys?

– What differences exist between the idea of love in the play and the modern understanding of love?

– Is the fate of Enlik and Kebek the defeat of personal love, or the triumph of spiritual freedom?

–What should society do to prevent the tragedy depicted in Enlik and Kebek from recurring?

–How does the author portray the relationship between authority and justice in Kazakh society through the images of elders and biys?

Mukhtar Auezov is recognized as the founder of the dramaturgy genre in twentieth-century Kazakh literature. In 1917, at the age of only twenty, he wrote the dramatic work "Enlik – Kebek," which laid the foundation for Kazakh drama. That same year, the play was staged in Abai's wife Aigerim's yurt, with the author himself serving as the prompter. In 1926, when the Kazakhstan State Drama Theatre was opened for the first time in the city of Kyzylorda, it likewise began its work with this play. The author later revised and improved the work several times. As a result, the tragedy has remained on the stages of Kazakh theatres to this day. Mukhtar Auezov's tragedy "Enlik – Kebek" is based on a widely known folk legend. The work tells the story of two lovers – Enlik and Kebek who fall victim to the cruel judgment of tribal elders after choosing to break old clan-feudal customs and follow the desire of their hearts. Their dreams remain unfulfilled, and their fate ends in tragedy. "Enlik – Kebek" is a tragedy consisting of four acts and five scenes.

After providing brief information about Auezov's contributions to dramaturgy, a set of introductory questions is posed to reveal the distinctive features of dramatic works:

- Between which characters do the events of the play unfold?
- Around which figure are the main events centered?
- What circumstances give rise to inter-clan conflicts?
- What role do traditional customs and the decisions of the biys play in shaping the fate of Enlik and Kebek?

In the next stage, the characters are described using examples from the text of the drama. Let us begin by analyzing the image of Kebek.

Е н л і к: Аз сөзіме көңіл бөл. Көрінгенге көз сүзген әлдеқандай деме, Кебек. Шынымды айтсам түсінер деп келем.

К е б е к. Әлі күнге менің көңіліме жаман ой кіргізетін сөз сөйлеген жоқсың, Еңлікжан!

Е н л і к. Олай болса менің арызымның, мұңымның ең үлкені өз басым. (Тасты айналып кетіседі. Тым-тырыс. Жапал әндетеді. Еңлік пен Кебек тағы айналып шығады.)

К е б е к. Шын ба, Еңлікжан? Есенмен күш сынасып бір кездесіп едім. Енді бақ сынасып тағы кездесем екен. Ол менімен таласқанда мен онымен таласпай ма екем? Сені барлап сөйлеп ем бағанадан... Көрген жерде ауған көңілім ай, күнін таптым деген жоқ па еді? Жаным, Еңлікжан, жолыңда шықсын шыбын жан.

In this passage, the spiritual purity of Enlik and Kebek's love, their mutual trust, and their readiness for self-sacrifice are vividly revealed. For them, love is not merely an emotion – it is spiritual freedom, personal choice, and purity of heart. Through this scene, Mukhtar Auezov poetically and delicately expresses the struggle between love and tradition.

In conclusion, studying literary works through their genres and systems of images is one of the most important stages of literary analysis. The artistic value, ideological direction, and aesthetic influence of any literary work are revealed through its genre characteristics and system of images. While genre determines the structure, composition, and mode of expression of the work, the system of images illuminates the author's worldview and ideas. Therefore, when

teaching students to analyze a text, it is crucial to identify its genre, explain the relationships between characters, and uncover their traits as well as their developmental dynamics.

This process develops students' literary thinking, shapes their aesthetic taste, and helps them deeply understand the work.

Thus, studying a literary text based on its genre and system of images has not only analytical but also educational significance.

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