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THE TERM OF HISTORICAL PROSE AND ITS USE IN UZBEK LITERATURE

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Annotatsiya Maqolada jahon adabiyotida mavjud tarixiy mavzuda yozilgan turli janrdagi asarlarni birlashtirib turuvchi “tarixiy nasr” (historical prose, *историческая проза*) atamasining mazmuni, o‘zbek adabiyotida mazkur atamasining qo‘llanilish zaruriyati haqida fikr yuritiladi. O‘zbek adabiyotida mavjud “tarixiy janr” atamasining mazmuni va bugungi kundagi ahamiyati baholanadi. “Tarixiy janr” atamasi ifodalay olmaydigan tarixiy hikoya, tarixiy qissa, tarixiy roman kabi janrlarni umumiy nomlashda “tarixiy nasr” atamasidan foydalanish imkoniyatlari o‘rganilgan.

Kalit so‘zlar: tarixiy janr, tarixiy nasr, historical prose, *историческая проза*

Abstract The article examines the meaning of the term "historical prose," which unites various works in the genre of historical literature, written in different genres, and the necessity of applying this term in Uzbek literature. It evaluates the content of the term "historical genre" in Uzbek literature and its relevance today. The article explores the possibility of using the term "historical prose" to refer to genres such as historical short story, historical novella, and historical novel, which are not encompassed by the term "historical genre."

Keywords: historical genre, historical prose, historical prose.

INTRODUCTION. The term "historical prose" is used to refer to works in various genres written on historical themes in world literature. This term serves to collectively name works in the genres of story, play, novella, and novel that deal with the past. In literary studies, this term is primarily used to generalize works related to a specific author, people, or era (such as Walter Scott’s historical prose, Russian historical prose, 20th-century historical prose, etc.).

LITERARY ANALYSIS AND METHODOLOGY. Historical prose has been widely used in European and Russian literature, particularly gaining significant attention in the second half of the last century, when its study as a term in literary studies developed extensively. According to sources, historical prose is a distinctive genre of literature that not only conveys historical information but also aims to present it in an engaging manner. Unlike documentary history, historical prose allows freedom in selecting historical data and incorporates fictional characters to ensure the narrative remains interesting. Its main task is to depict a chain of real events using artistic means, that is, to separate plot, climax, and conflict in the sequence of events and unify them based on a particular historical event or concept. In Uzbek literary studies, the term "historical prose" has been mentioned

in the works of a few scholars, and this term is primarily found in scholarly research written in Russian. E. Samandarov [Samandarov I. E. Historicism in Uzbek Historical Novels, Abstract of the Dissertation for the Candidate of Philological Sciences. Tashkent, 1992, p. 22], Z. Nurmuhamedova [Nurmuhamedova Z. D. The Problem of Creating the Character of a Historical Figure (On the Issue of the Role of Fact and Imagination), Abstract of the Candidate Dissertation, Tashkent, 1974, 22 p.], A. Arkhangelskaya [Arkhangelskaya A. K. The Problem of the Concrete Historical Figure in Uzbek Soviet Prose, Abstract of the Candidate Dissertation, Tashkent, 1977, 28 p.], and A. Zayniddinova [Zayniddinova A. K. The Depiction of Character and Circumstances in Uzbek Historical Novels of the 1970s, Abstract of the Candidate Dissertation, Tashkent, 1981, 24 p.] all use this term in their research on Uzbek literature written in Russian. In Uzbek-language research, however, the term "historical genre" is often used instead.

RESULTS. An important element of historical prose is that it pays great attention to the linguistic characteristics, moral norms, social conditions, and other details of the period depicted in the work, which took place in the past. The author of a historical work deeply studies historical reality and notable historical figures, striving to portray them vividly, which allows readers to better understand how these figures interacted with their environment.

In Uzbek literary studies, all works on historical themes are generally grouped under the term "historical genre." Sources define the historical genre as one of the main genres or themes in literature and art, describing a collection of works written on historical topics related to the past [See: Uzbekistan National Encyclopedia, Volume 5, edited by M. Aminov, T. Daminov, T. Dolimov, et al., Tashkent: State Scientific Publishing House, 2003].

DISCUSSION. The genre that unites all works with a historical theme in artistic creation aims to depict and bring history to life, and it is not only widespread in literature but also in practical art forms such as music, painting, and sculpture. However, the term "historical genre" is not always appropriate in literary works. Examining the significance of this term in literature, A. Hayitmetov writes:

"The term "historical genre" is often applied to works on historical themes. This is scientifically incorrect. The definition "historical" does not indicate a specific type of genre, but rather emphasizes the characteristics of the material related to the subject or another genre. Each of the genres in Uzbek literature can be dedicated to various interesting themes, and no genre is exclusively "specialized" in historical themes. Therefore, the term "historical genre" is neither scientifically nor practically successful" [Hayitmetov A. On the Creative Methodology of Eastern Literature, Tashkent: "Fan," 1970, p. 85]. As A. Hayitmetov emphasizes, using the quality of historicity in relation to a genre is not entirely correct.

In modern literature today, there cannot be a separate genre solely dedicated to historical themes. When an author writes a historical work, they refine it based on contemporary issues. That is, historicity, as a theme, certainly demands a certain form — that is, a genre. Therefore, today historicity refers to a quality that can be relevant for all genres. In this sense, lyrical, dramatic, and prose genres can be classified as historical lyricism, historical drama, and historical prose when expressing historical themes.

CONCLUSION. The term “historical genre” should be appropriately applied to works of art in other fields, such as music, sculpture, and painting, that reflect historical qualities. However, from the perspective that literature is the art of words and that it artistically portrays life’s themes or issues, the term “historical genre” does not fully justify itself in this context. In literary works, historical elements can appear not as a separate genre but as a distinct feature of various existing genres (such as historical novels, historical dramas, historical short stories, historical ballads, etc.).

In addition to the above, it is also important to highlight another aspect of the use of the term “historical prose” in Uzbek literary studies. Aligning our national literary scholarship with the advanced scientific practices of the world’s developed nations is crucial for the progress of the field. By comparing existing theoretical concepts with internationally used terms and rules, it is possible to accelerate the integration of our scholarly work with global literary studies.

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