



A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF SIMILAR AND DISTINCTIVE ASPECTS IN THE STORIES OF ABDULLA QAHHOR AND JACK LONDON

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Annotation: In the current process of globalization, like all other fields, science is also rapidly developing. In particular, changes in the field of literature have significantly increased. The development in the literature of one nation is particularly noticeable when compared to the literature of another nation. Analyzing rare works in Uzbek literature, studying the life and creativity of their authors is urgent, and at the same time, comparing these works with the literature of another nation on the other side of the world is an indispensable task. Therefore, in order to contribute to research in this field, we decided to compare certain aspects of Uzbek and American literature. In this article, the works of two great writers, the master of Uzbek short stories, Abdullah Qahhor, and the representative of American literature, Jack London, are analyzed based on various literary criteria. The similarities and differences in their works, as well as their unique features, are studied. When the creativity of representatives of two different national literatures is compared, studying the religious, social origin, lifestyle, and living conditions of these peoples is also one of the important aspects of this scientific work. This article not only examines the peculiarities, similarities, and differences in the works of these two storytellers but also delves into the analysis of some of their short stories.

Keywords: humanism, social issues, hero, image, theme, realism, social inequality, physical struggle, spiritual struggle, class conflict.

INTRODUCTION

In the field of comparative literary studies, a significant amount of work is being done, and as a result, numerous academic articles and monographs are being published. In particular, the works of Abdulla Qahhor and Jack London have been studied extensively from a comparative perspective, and research continues to this day. To contribute to this academic exploration, we analyzed the distinctive features, similarities, and differences found in the short stories of



both authors, as well as certain important elements from a literary criteria perspective.

MAIN BODY

When it comes to the short story genre in Uzbek and American literature, the writers who undoubtedly come to mind are Abdulla Qahhor and Jack London. Although they lived in somewhat similar periods, it is rare to consider them contemporaries. Their different social environments, religious beliefs, and moral values played a key role in shaping the distinctive features, similarities, and differences in their works. These unique characteristics are reflected in their literary directions, themes, character creation, and the ideas promoted in their works.

As two of the leading writers of their time, Abdulla Qahhor and Jack London focused on studying humanity and addressing social and psychological issues in their works. While Qahhor's stories depict the rural life of Uzbekistan and its inner struggles, Jack London's stories highlight people's battles with nature and their survival instincts. To understand the primary differences and similarities between these two writers, it is essential to analyze the unique elements in their works.

Although these two authors represent different literary traditions, come from different societies, and follow different religions, a comparative study of their works reveals numerous similarities and differences. Below, we will analyze some of the unique features in the stories of Abdulla Qahhor, an Uzbek writer, and Jack London, a representative of American literature:

1. **Literary Directions:** Abdulla Qahhor's stories are based on realism and socialism, while Jack London uses naturalism and socialism in his works.
2. **Main Themes:** Qahhor addresses the social issues, pressures, and national values of the Uzbek people, while Jack London focuses on themes like nature and the human struggle for survival in difficult circumstances.
3. **Characters:** In Qahhor's stories, the characters are often ordinary people—workers, peasants, and simple Uzbek women—who have grown up in the environment in which the author himself lived. In contrast, Jack London's characters include adventurers like gold miners, hunters, and often animals.
4. **Social Issues:** In his "Fairy Tales from the Past," Abdulla Qahhor writes about social injustices, harsh working conditions, and human rights violations as the central issues in his stories. In Jack London's works, issues like class differences, poverty, and the problems between humans and nature are prominent.



Further exploration of these unique features could continue, but within the scope of this research, let's now focus on the similarities and differences in the works of these authors.

Below, we highlight some of the shared features in their stories:

1. **Inner World Depiction:** Both writers skillfully portray their characters' inner worlds, internal struggles, emotional states, and psychological torment.
2. **Humanism:** The idea of humanism is central in both authors' works, with a focus on the improvement of the individual, moral growth, and social betterment.
3. **Human and Society:** Both Qahhor and London emphasize social issues, with their characters striving to find their place within society.
4. **Realism:** Both authors depict reality and characters in a realistic style, presenting them as they are without embellishment.
5. **Social Inequality:** Both writers address social inequality, with their characters consistently fighting against injustices in life.

In addition to the similarities mentioned above, social injustice, characters' external struggles, self-realization, philosophical questions, and character torment are also observed in both authors' works.

When comparing and analyzing the unique features of two different literary traditions, significant differences emerge between their works. Following the previous analysis, let's now examine the differences in their stories:

1. **Cruelty of Life:** In Jack London's works, such as *Love of Life*, *The Call of the Wild*, and *White Fang*, the cruelty of nature and external conditions in human life is more prominently featured, whereas Abdulla Qahhor focuses more on societal and internal human issues.
2. **Role of Nature:** In Jack London's stories, nature often serves as an external force testing the characters, while Qahhor's works focus on relationships between people within society.
3. **Approach to Humanism:** Abdulla Qahhor portrays humanism through spirituality, moral values, and the fight against injustices within society, while Jack London highlights humanism in the context of survival and willpower against nature.
4. **Physical vs. Spiritual Struggle:** In Jack London's stories, characters often fight physical battles to survive, while Abdulla Qahhor's characters are more engaged in spiritual and emotional struggles.

5. **Class Struggle:** Jack London depicts class struggles and inequality more prominently, whereas Abdulla Qahhor focuses on the moral and spiritual aspects of society.

6. **Struggle Against Nature:** In Jack London's stories, nature's victory is often portrayed, with characters battling natural forces. Abdulla Qahhor, on the other hand, focuses on human relationships.

These analyses show that when comparing the works of two different literary traditions, special attention must be paid to the unique features, shared characteristics, and differences in literary elements.

Lastly, let's focus on some key aspects of Abdulla Qahhor's works. In his story *Maston*, the image of an Uzbek woman striving for freedom and new life, breaking free from the "ancient chains" of oppression, is vividly depicted. This story showcases real events and social relations of the time, illustrating the struggles of women in the context of social change. Despite the story's brief timeframe, it reflects deep societal reactions and changes, alongside individual struggles, offering a window into the aspirations and hardships of women fighting for equality.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the similarities and differences identified in the stories of these two authors reveal that their divergent societal contexts, religious beliefs, and moral values have played a significant role in shaping their works. For example, concepts like loyalty, friendship, and family views in the characters of Qahhor's stories differ significantly from those of London's characters.

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