



EXPRESSION OF LOVE AND SEPARATION MOTIFS IN NODIRA AFOQ'S POETRY

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ABSTRACT

This article discusses the theme of love and separation, which has inspired the creation of the finest and most beautiful literary works in our literature for centuries. The article analyzes the poems by Nodira Afoq included in the collection "Our Era," which are centered around the motifs of love and separation.

KEYWORDS: Lyrical hero, creator's psyche, poetic mastery, emotion, experiences, love, union, separation, meeting.

INTRODUCTION

The theme of love and separation, one of the essential motifs in world and classical literature, has always been a matter of life and death for humanity and, to some extent, a measure of happiness and unhappiness. This theme can be seen as the lifeblood of literature. These feelings have been a driving force behind the creation of great works in the literary world for centuries. In the words of the poet, "Love begets love, and avoid the loveless, Huvaydo."

The famous verses of Nodirabegim also contain delicate lines about love:

"Burn with love, Nodira, reveal the language of love to the world."

Nodira Afoq, who made her literary debut with the poetry collection "The Beginning of Spring" (1997), expressed in one of her poems, "The existence of love is a divine blessing." Her poetic collections, such as "The Language of the Heart," "Black Melody," "The Veranda of Words," "Our Era," and "The Companion of the Lonely," have been published to date. Her poems in these collections pay special attention to the theme of love and separation, particularly separation.

The poems included in the collection "Our Era," published in 2019, were written during times of separation:

"You left. Once again, loneliness struck my window as an old friend.

It is difficult to get used to the absence,

Why did you leave, my only one, why did you leave?!"

Right from the first lines, the poetess directly addresses her beloved, expressing the pain of separation and loneliness left by him. Nodira Afoq creates an original simile by saying, "Loneliness struck my window like an old friend," comparing loneliness to a long-time friend who frequently checks on her. From the word "again" at the beginning of the second line, it can be understood that this monotonous separation has been with the lyrical hero for a long time, perhaps even years.

The lyrical hero asks her beloved why he left her alone: "Why did you leave, my only one, why did you leave?!" Hidden in this questioning are the torments, sighs, longings, and bitter tears of

dark nights. In the next stanza, she describes her days without her distant beloved. The following stanzas continue to pour questions onto her lover:

“Does the raw truth sometimes press your chest,
Wound-like, that desire, longing, and waiting
Keep us away from our longed-for meeting?
One by one, the butterflies in the calendar disappear behind me.
Do not ask me about them,
Their names are all ‘Separation.’”

This cycle of seven poems begins with the following lines:

“Even the dreadful dawn of separation rose,
The world was wrapped in pale yellow rays.
Not the moon, but the sun of hope has set.
My heart-child cried out, ‘Do not go.’”

The poetic excerpts in Nodira Afoq's collection "Our Era" read like an epic about the days of separation between two lovers. The poems dedicated to love and separation complement each other, creating the impression that they are sequels. Looking closely at the sequence of poems, one can sense the increasing pain of the lyrical hero. Additionally, the motif of love and separation appears in almost all of the poems in this collection.

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