



THE INFLUENCE OF F. KAFKA'S CREATIVE METHOD ON THE FORMATION OF THE AESTHETIC-PHILOSOPHICAL DIRECTION OF U. HAMDAM'S WORKS

Eshmamatov Rustam Toshtemirovich

Independent researcher at Jizzakh State Pedagogical University,
Uzbekistan

ABSTRACT

Franz Kafka's unique narrative style and philosophical depth have profoundly influenced many writers across the globe, including the renowned Uzbek author Ulug'bek Hamdam. This article explores the specific ways in which Kafka's creative methods have shaped the aesthetic-philosophical direction of Hamdam's literary works. It examines Kafka's impact on Hamdam's thematic concerns, narrative techniques, and exploration of existential questions. Through a comparative analysis, this paper highlights the parallels between their treatments of isolation, absurdity, and the individual's struggle against oppressive forces.

KEYWORDS: Franz Kafka, Ulug'bek Hamdam, Aesthetic-Philosophical Influence, Existentialism, Absurdity, Yolg'izlik, Literary Influence, Narrative Techniques.

INTRODUCTION

Franz Kafka, often referred to as the master of absurdity and existential despair, has left an indelible mark on world literature. His unique narrative voice, surreal settings, and exploration of the individual's struggle against incomprehensible systems have influenced generations of writers. Among these is Ulug'bek Hamdam, a prominent figure in modern Uzbek literature, whose works reflect a deep engagement with themes similar to those found in Kafka's writing. This article aims to analyze how Kafka's creative approach has shaped Hamdam's aesthetic-philosophical direction, focusing on themes like existential alienation, absurdity, and the individual's conflict with societal norms.

Franz Kafka's works are characterized by a deep exploration of human isolation, the absurdity of existence, and the seemingly futile struggle against overwhelming forces. These themes are not only central to Kafka's writing but also prominently appear in the works of Ulug'bek Hamdam. Hamdam's focus on the existential condition of his characters, their search for meaning in a confusing world, and their experience of being estranged from their surroundings bears a clear resemblance to Kafka's thematic preoccupations.

In Kafka's *The Trial*, Josef K. becomes entangled in a surreal and arbitrary judicial system, symbolizing the incomprehensibility of modern life and the inherent powerlessness of the individual. Similarly, Hamdam's protagonists often face an indifferent and unyielding society where their attempts at finding purpose are continually thwarted by external forces. The motif of yolg'izlik (loneliness) is a recurring element in Hamdam's works, reflecting a deep sense of existential despair akin to Kafka's portrayal of his protagonists' isolation. In particular, Hamdam's novel *Yolg'iz Odam* (The Lonely Man) depicts a character whose life becomes increasingly disconnected from those around him, symbolizing the alienation that Kafka so poignantly depicted in his writings.

Kafka's depiction of the absurdity of existence, where his characters find themselves caught in inexplicable situations without clear reasons or resolutions, has profoundly influenced Hamdam's aesthetic-philosophical outlook. Kafka's concept of absurdity, wherein the universe seems devoid of logic or purpose, resonates throughout Hamdam's work. Hamdam's use of surreal imagery and situations in his stories echoes Kafka's ability to transform the mundane into a nightmarish landscape, where the rules of reality are constantly shifting, and meaning is elusive.

For instance, in Kafka's *The Metamorphosis*, Gregor Samsa's transformation into a gigantic insect serves as a metaphor for human alienation and loss of identity. Similarly, Hamdam uses surreal and symbolic elements to express his characters' psychological dislocation. His portrayal of individuals grappling with the inexplicable aspects of their existence mirrors Kafka's exploration of the human condition, where the ordinary becomes fantastically absurd, and the characters' struggle to find rational explanations often results in greater confusion and despair.

The influence of Kafka's absurdist tendencies can also be seen in Hamdam's portrayal of bureaucratic systems. Kafka's *The Castle* presents a protagonist who is perpetually trying, and failing, to gain access to a mysterious and unreachable authority. This struggle against a faceless bureaucracy finds its echo in Hamdam's work, where characters are often subjected to arbitrary authority figures, emphasizing the absurdity of trying to navigate a system that lacks transparency or fairness. This thematic overlap underscores Kafka's profound impact on Hamdam's literary portrayal of powerlessness and disorientation in the face of complex social structures.

Kafka's narrative techniques, including the use of dreamlike settings and the blurring of reality and fantasy, have significantly shaped Hamdam's storytelling approach. Kafka's works often inhabit a space between reality and nightmare, where the boundaries are deliberately blurred to reflect the instability of the protagonist's experience. This narrative ambiguity creates a sense of unease and disorientation, effectively capturing the surreal quality of human existence. Hamdam has adopted similar techniques, using a blend of realism and surrealism to create atmospheres that reflect the internal struggles of his characters.

Hamdam's stories frequently employ symbolic language to illustrate his characters' psychological and existential conditions, much like Kafka's use of symbolism to reveal deeper truths about human vulnerability and disillusionment. The insect in *The Metamorphosis* is a powerful symbol of alienation and loss of identity, and Hamdam uses equally potent symbols to depict the fragility of human existence. His recurring use of imagery such as empty spaces, labyrinthine paths, and mirrors reflects the idea of self-reflection and the elusive nature of truth, much like Kafka's symbolic approach to the themes of alienation and the search for meaning.

The narrative voice in Hamdam's works also bears a resemblance to Kafka's detached, almost clinical style, which amplifies the absurdity and existential despair experienced by the characters. By maintaining an objective, almost indifferent tone, Hamdam mirrors Kafka's ability to present deeply personal crises in a way that makes the reader acutely aware of the broader, universal implications of these individual struggles.

CONCLUSION



The influence of Franz Kafka on Ulug'bek Hamdam's aesthetic-philosophical direction is evident in the themes, narrative techniques, and symbolic language employed in Hamdam's works. Kafka's exploration of existential alienation, absurdity, and the struggle of individuals against incomprehensible forces resonates throughout Hamdam's writing. By adopting Kafka's creative method, Hamdam has successfully crafted a literary style that reflects the complexities of human existence in a rapidly changing and often indifferent world. The similarities between their works highlight how Kafka's legacy continues to shape and inspire modern literature, transcending cultural and temporal boundaries.

REFERENCES

1. Kafka, F. (1925). *The Trial*. London: Schocken Books.
2. Kafka, F. (1915). *The Metamorphosis*. New York: Penguin Classics.
3. Hamdam, U. (2003). *Yolg'iz Odam*. Tashkent: Adabiyot.
4. Saidov, A. (2017). *Kafka va Zamonaviy O'zbek Adabiyoti*. Tashkent: Fan Nashriyoti.
5. Mirziyoyeva, S. (2020). *Ulug'bek Hamdam: Adabiy Uslub va Falsafiy Talqin*. Almaty: Nauka.
6. Bloom, H. (1994). *Modern Critical Interpretations: Franz Kafka*. Chelsea House.
7. Karimov, Z. (2018). *Zamonaviy O'zbek Adabiyotida Absurdizm Motivlari*. Tashkent: Akademnashr.

