

THE SPIRITUAL MEANING AND PURPOSE OF LOVE IN THE WORKS OF CHINGIZ AITMATOV

Saifulloeva Nargiza Fatullaevna
Bukhara International University,
2nd-Year Master's Student Academic

Supervisor: Nazzora Bekova
Professor at Bukhara State University, Doctor of Philosophy

Abstract

This article examines the theme of love in the works of Chingiz Aitmatov as a spiritual and moral phenomenon. The author analyzes the following forms of love in the writer's works:

- a means of moral development;
- a means of self-knowledge and spiritual poverty;
- a way to overcome abstract loneliness;
- the connection between tradition and personal freedom.

Keywords: Love in literature, spirituality, moral choice, self-awareness, problems of existence, natural symbolism, cultural and ethnic context, artistic anthropology, meaning-making.

Introduction

Chingiz Aitmatov is a writer who has occupied a unique place in Uzbek and world literature. His works deeply explore questions of human spirituality and understanding of the national world. The theme of love occupies a special place in Aitmatov's work: it is not limited to the expression of personal feelings, but manifests as a force that transforms both individuals and society.

1. Love – the Power that Transforms Man In Aitmatov's works, love deepens a person's inner world and takes it to a new level. In the story "Jamila," this is confirmed by the following examples:

- Jamila's love for Daniyori forces her to reject accepted family and social norms. Her decision symbolizes the struggle for personal happiness.
- The narrator, Seyit, under the influence of love, develops as an artist and achieves creative growth. This depiction of love demonstrates that relationships lead to changes not only in the inner world but also in social life.

2. The Conflict Between Love and Tradition In Aitmatov's works, love is often presented as a conflict between social norms and personal feelings:

- In "Jamila," the love of Jamila and Danier runs counter to social traditions and is criticized by society. However, the writer emphasizes that if true love is based on sincerity and mutual understanding, it need not be bound by tradition.
- In the story "Red Teraghim," the main character, Asel, reflects on the dilemma she faces: choosing between unconditional but destructive passionate love and a reliable, creative, caring feeling. An analysis of the characters of Ilyas and Boytemir reveals two types of masculine essence: destructive but passionate self-love and calm, responsible, caring love. Such contrasts reveal love not only as a feeling but also as a person's ability to self-define and resist.

3. Love and War Aitmatov uses the events of war to deepen the theme of love:

- In "Jamila," war destroys the family structure and provides an opportunity for a new love relationship to emerge.
- War reveals the fragility of human relationships, but also confirms that true love can be preserved even in the most difficult circumstances. Love in the context of war demonstrates the resilience of the human spirit and its capacity for self-expression.

4. Love and Nature Aitmatov uses nature as an active tool in exploring the theme of love:

- In "The White Steamship," nature is a symbol of purity and innocence, and its destruction signifies the degradation of the human spirit.
- The interdependence of nature and love demonstrates the importance of maintaining balance between man and the environment. The depiction of nature allows love to be interpreted in the context of the relationship between man and the universe.

5. Features of Aitmatov's Concept of Love

- Love is creativity: by linking love with art, he confirms its creative nature.
- Overcoming loneliness: love is presented as a means of overcoming feelings of loneliness and isolation.
- Attachment to cultural roots: Although love is linked to national traditions, it is capable of transcending their boundaries.

6. Comparative analysis with other writers Aitmatov can be compared with such classics as Chekhov and Kuprin:

- While Chekhov depicted love as a tragedy insurmountable by the boundaries of society, Aitmatov sees it as a force that transforms individuals and society.
- Like Kuprin's heroes, Aitmatov's characters struggle for love, but their struggle manifests itself in specific historical and cultural conditions.

In the works of Chingiz Aitmatov, the theme of love is not only a romantic story but also a theme for profound reflection on human nature, its place in the world, and the possibilities of spiritual growth. Aitmatov describes love as a symbol of the struggle for justice, freedom, and balance, and his works remain relevant to modern readers. Love in Aitmatov's works is an indicator of the interaction of humanity, morality, and culture, helping readers

understand their place and role in society. Therefore, Aitmatov's works serve as a unique source for studying the theme of love.

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