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## **Literature Movements in Modern Azerbaijani Literature: After Socialist Realism**

Social realism entered literary studies as a trend distinguished by its spatial limitation and political-authoritarian origin among the literary trends of the 20th century. The political authoritarian origin has led to the trend becoming one of the main attributes of the ideology of a certain, closed political regime and being associated with that regime. However, since the movement of social realism originated from a political source, not a literary one, it was created on the basis of a plan, in the form of a project, and the end of the regime resulted in the sudden deletion of the movement from the literary agenda before it completely passed the extinction phase.

***Key words:*** Azerbaijani literature, social realism, movement, political regime, periodization

Social realism entered literary studies as a trend distinguished by its spatial limitation and political-authoritarian origin among the literary trends of the 20th century. The space limitation was caused by the fact that this trend was only popular in the former USSR and countries where the idea of socialism was supported. The political-authoritarian origin has led to the trend becoming one of the main attributes of the ideology of a certain, closed political regime and being associated with that regime. As history has shown, the spatial limitation and political-authoritarian origin led to the development of this trend in a limited time frame and to its sudden end. Each movement goes through initial, climax and fading phases according to literary laws. Yes, the extinguishing phase of the current can be long-term, and certain elements can mix with the next current and maintain their existence for a certain period of time. But in any case, this extinction is absolute and, most importantly, occurs according to the nature of literary laws. However, since the movement of social realism originated from a political source, not a literary one, it was created on the basis of a plan, in the form of a project, and the end of the regime resulted in the sudden deletion of the movement from the literary agenda before it completely passed the extinction phase. Realism, modernism, magical realism, and postmodernism are the main trends observed in modern Azerbaijani literature, which has escaped the stage of socialist realism. In our literary studies, special attention is paid to the currently listed currents, research and studies are conducted in this field. However, the period of Azerbaijani literature and literary studies for nearly 70 years, related to the USSR, is a part of the literary area dominated by the trend of social realism. One of the main directions of academician Isa Habibbeyli's multifaceted scientific creativity is the actual problems of literary theory. The scientist paid special attention to the issue of literary trends in his research on literary theory, and during his many years of scientific activity, he signed a number of important studies related to this field of literary theory. Academician Isa Habibbayli also paid attention to the issue of literary trends in the book "Literary Theory: (Classification, Definition and Explanations)" (1985), which he wrote at the initial stage of his scientific creativity. In this book, which

consists of five sections, the main sections of the theory of literature, the basic concepts are presented in a laconic and visual way, and a completely new type of textbook example was created for the period. It should be noted that during the period of Soviet rule, socialist realism was considered the main literary trend in literature. At best, studies of romanticism and other phases of realism were highlighted, while other trends were neglected. Academician Isa Habibbeyli compiled in 1985, in section V of the manual, in addition to romanticism and realism, brief information is given about literary trends such as classicism, sentimentalism, futurism, naturalism, decadentism, and symbolism. The fact that this information was reflected in a book published at that time required courage from a young scientist. This laconic, but fundamental information given in that book was of great importance in terms of expanding the research horizons of young literary scholars. It should be noted that the definition given by academician Isa Habibbeyli as a young literary critic in that book to the concept of literary trend is still relevant today: "The creative community of artists who stand in the same position according to ideological direction, outlook, literary-aesthetic criteria and artistic method in specific historical conditions is called a literary trend" (Habibbayli, 1985).

Academician Isa Habibbeyli's "Azerbaijani literature: concept of periodization and stages of development" presents a new version of the periodization of Azerbaijani literature to the scientific community. It should be noted that in the academic monograph, the history of Azerbaijani literature is classified into 10 periods based on literary trends, and socialist realism is also studied as a stage of our literature. Ancient Azerbaijani literature.

- From ethnos to epic (from the earliest times to the 7th century)
- Common beginning period of Azerbaijani written literature (VII-X centuries)
- Renaissance Azerbaijani literature (XI-XII centuries)
- Medieval Azerbaijani literature (XIII-XVI centuries)
- The period of early realism in Azerbaijani literature (XVII-XVIII centuries)
- The era of enlightened realism in Azerbaijani literature (XIX century)
- The era of critical realism and romanticism in Azerbaijani literature (from the nineties of the XIX century to the Soviet rule in Azerbaijan)
  - The era of socialist realism in Azerbaijani literature (1920s-1960s)
  - The stage of national – moral self-awareness and independence literature. Modernism (1960s-1980s)
- Multi-method Azerbaijani literature of the period of independence (since 1991) (Habibbayli, 2019).

One of the notable points of this classification is the mention of literary trends as periods of historical development of literature. In our opinion, social formations in the science of history occupy an important place in the structure of the science of history, and literary trends are one of the foundations of the theory of literature. Historical formations are the main pillars of humanity, and literary trends are the main pillars of human thought. Historical formations include the beginning of new stages and directions in the development of history, and literary trends. Although historical formations are universal, they are distinguished by their uniqueness in the history of each nation. Although literary trends are a matter of general literature, in national literatures, those trends gain new qualities and attract attention with their unique elements.

**Main text.** Social realism entered literary studies as a trend distinguished by its spatial limitation and political-authoritarian origin among the literary trends of the 20th century. The space limitation was caused by the fact that this trend was only popular in the former USSR and countries where the idea of socialism was supported. The political-authoritarian origin has led to the trend becoming one of the main attributes of the ideology of a certain, closed political regime and being associated with that regime. As history has shown, the spatial limitation and political-authoritarian origin led to the development of this literary movement within a limited time frame and to its sudden end. Based on our research on the nature and genesis of literary movements, we can say that the movement is a wave-like process. In our opinion, it is possible to

express the development spectrum of the literary movement symbolically with the elements of the plot. Each movement goes through initial, climax and fading phases according to literary laws. Yes, the extinguishing phase of the movement can be long-term, and certain elements can mix with the next current and maintain their existence for a certain period of time. But in any case, this extinction is absolute and, most importantly, occurs according to the nature of literary laws. However, since the movement of social realism originated from a political rather than a literary source, it was created on the basis of a plan, in the form of a project, and the end of the regime resulted in the sudden deletion of the trend from the literary agenda before it completely passed the extinction phase.

Since socialist realism is a literature based on an ideological order, "partisanship of literature" was the demand of the time and in most cases the only way the work could be published. The literature of social realism reflected not what actually was, but what should be. For this reason, social realism was closer to social utopia than social realism. However, ideology demanded that this literary trend should not be in the form of a romantic social utopia, but in the form of a schematic social utopia. Sara Oguz presented the artistic solution of the schematicity, dryness, slogan line required by ideology in the most beautiful way in our literature. The hero of the story "Writings from Concrete House" written by Sara Oguz during the years of independence is an ironically depicted prototype of representatives of socialist realism. The hero of the work literally builds all his works according to the table of frames: first a frame is drawn, and then a lifeless, soulless "work of art" is created on its basis. When the "great and famous sculptor" accidentally approaches the table of frames carelessly, when he "gets out of line", the system does not accept his creations: "Thousands of horses came out of the palace in front of the palace. Here it became known that the gate of the horse palace opened to the "Steel Melter". In general, there is no door in the country where this monument can fit. Look at the loneliness of misery. By the way, when I created the frame table, I resized it and enlarged it. That's why this misfortune happened to me. Oh, my poor head! See why I am indifferent to the size? I decided to take a creative approach to the framework ]table, the cornerstone of our livelihood. Oh, my poor head!" (Oguz, 2014, p. 45). It is no coincidence that the "table of frames" that the character took as an example was taught to him by an officer who became his commander while serving in the military unit. In her work, Sara Oguz, who called the concept of mass culture through the image of a supposedly laconic but ironically "dull culture", managed to emphasize the main qualities of social realism with this element. Qualities such as accuracy, obedience to orders, brevity, rigor, and acting within the framework were the features that the regime wanted to apply to literature and expected from it. For nearly 70 years, the period of Azerbaijani literature and literary studies related to the USSR is a part of the literary area dominated by the trend of social realism. Although the period is called the "period of Soviet literature", not all writers who worked during that period represented the social realism literary trend. Yes, in accordance with the requirements of the era and the regime, the elements corresponding to the Soviet ideology were necessarily reflected in the literary texts. However, the representatives of the purely socialist realism literary trend formed a private play. Suleyman Rahimov is one of the bright literary signatures of that era. His novels "Shamo", "Sachly", "Mahtaban", "Mehman", "İncessant whining", stories of various styles are well-known examples of Azerbaijani social realism. As stated in the monograph "What Social Realism Gave Us" by Elchin (professor in philology and national writer Elchin Efendiev), "...we should not underestimate the damage caused by social realism to the development of 20th century Azerbaijani literature, we should determine what we lost as a result of that literary damage and try to fill these gaps. At the same time, the development of Azerbaijani literature in the period of social realism constitutes a very important and fundamental stage in the history of this literature, and we must see it, study it, give its scientific-theoretical classification, and be able to appreciate the achieved artistic and aesthetic values" (Elchin, 2010, p. 57).

The work of Suleyman Rahimov, one of the main figures of the 20th century Azerbaijani literature, is of great importance not only in terms of the study of the literary trends of the mentioned period, but also of the history of Azerbaijani literature in general. Looking at this context, we can emphasize Suleyman

Rahimov's creativity and his place in Azerbaijani literature with the following short theses: Süleyman Rəhimov yaradıcılığı sosialist realizminin – sosrealizmin ədəbi kanonlarının bədii təzahürünün bariz, diqqətəlayiq nümunələridir. Onun yaradıcılığı sosrealizmin bir ədəbi cərəyan kimi tədqiqi üçün yetərli, spesifik bədii mənbədir.

1. With his work "Shamo", Suleyman Rahimov created an outstanding example of the novel-epic genre in Azerbaijani literature.

2. Suleyman Rahimov's works "Shamo", "Sachlı", "Mehman" are not limited to describing the demands of social realism in a general, schematic way. As can be seen from the name of the works, the main point that the writer focuses on and wants to emphasize is the HUMAN who passed through history. Süleyman Rəhimovun mövzu dairəsi yalnız sosrealizmin tərənnümü ilə bağlı deyil.

3. His works "Legend of Guzgugol", "Legend of Arpachay", "Laughing Fish", "Ovgan and the Snake", "İncessant whining" written by him based on folkloric plots and motifs have an important role in the writer's creativity. In these works, the writer's writing manner, artistic language, and creativity in general are revealed from a different aspect and exceed the framework of social realism.

4. The manifestation of national-ethnographic points in Suleyman Rahimov's works does not allow us to accept his work as a pure praise of social realism. The writer manages to emphasize national-ethnic points with the expressions, phrases, idioms, ethnographic plates he describes, and the work is perceived as a living life plate.

5. Thus, although Suleyman Rahimov's works represent a trend based on project nature and political ideology, they are important for the study of a certain period of our literary history and the Azerbaijani model of social realism.

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