

THE IMAGE OF MOTHER IN THE MIRROR OF LITERATURE*Muradova D.A.**Asian International University Uzbekistan, Bukhara*

Abstract: This article examines the image of mother as a universal and multifaceted symbol in the literature of different eras and cultures. Particular attention is paid to how the image of mother is formed in literary texts - from archaic archetypes to individual authorial interpretations. The key features, functions and transformations of this image in Russian, Uzbek and world literary traditions are analyzed. The emotional and value content of the image of mother, its symbolic and ethical load, reflecting not only family, but also cultural, national and philosophical aspects, are emphasized. The work demonstrates how the image of mother reveals ideas about good, self-sacrifice, ancestral memory, and how it is used to express the author's position and worldview.

Keywords: image of mother, fiction, archetype, national culture, symbolism, author's worldview, emotional and value load, ancestral memory, tradition and innovation, interpretation.

The image of mother in Russian literature occupies a special, sacred place in the system of moral and spiritual coordinates transmitted from generation to generation through artistic words. Mother in Russian literature is not just a biological parent, but a symbol of the source of life, spiritual kinship, unconditional love, forgiveness and selflessness. She personifies the home, the hearth, the warmth of mother's hands, the light in the window to which the soul, lost in the storms of the world, reaches out.

It is impossible not to notice that in most classical works, be it prose or poetry, the image of mother occupies an important, emotionally charged place. Even in cases where the plot is not focused directly on the mother figure, the text inevitably includes lines filled with gratitude, longing, light sadness or prayerful appeal to her. And how many bright and touching works are entirely dedicated to her - from poetic dedications to deep psychological novels! [2]

The presence of the image of the mother is especially noticeable in works about childhood, youth, and first discoveries in life. In these texts, the mother acts as a spiritual compass, as the beginning of all beginnings, as a silent but all-understanding participant in the formation of personality. She is the first defense and the first school of morality. Through maternal love, the hero learns to feel, believe, empathize, and distinguish between good and evil.

The figure of the mother in Russian literature is an archetype that concentrates not only personal but also national meanings: homeland, history, faith, language. The image of the mother unites individual and collective consciousness; it is deeply personal and at the same time universal. The theme of the mother resounded truly piercingly and deeply in the poetry of Nikolai Alekseevich Nekrasov, a poet whose lyrics were filled not only with civic pathos, but also with intimate, confessional motifs. Withdrawn, reserved, not inclined to outpourings of feelings, Nekrasov, nevertheless, when mentioning his mother, seemed to be freed from internal shackles, his verse became especially heartfelt and soulful. It seemed to him that no word could fully express the gratitude, the reverence that he felt for her.[3] This is not just filial affection - the poet's love for his mother was associated with the awareness of her spiritual power, her influence on the formation of his personality, views, and

worldview. He spoke of her with admiration both in his youth and in old age, again and again returning in his lines to her image - as a moral source, as a symbol of spiritual purity, selflessness and inner strength. This was especially clearly demonstrated in the poem "Mother", where Nekrasov openly admits that it was precisely thanks to her influence that he was able to keep his soul intact, not allowing it to perish under the weight of gloomy reality:

And if I easily shook off over the years

From my soul the pernicious traces

That trampled everything reasonable underfoot,

That was proud of the ignorance of the environment,

And if I filled my life with a struggle

For the ideal of goodness and beauty,

And the song that I compose bears,

The deep features of living love —

Oh, my mother, I am moved by you!

You saved the living soul in me!

These lines are not just a poetic confession. This is a spiritual testament, a confession of a mature person who realized that it was his mother's heart, her steadfastness and boundless love that became his moral shield, protection from spiritual destruction, a guiding thread in a world of contradictions and pain. [4]

The image of a mother in Nekrasov's work is not only a personal portrait of a specific woman, but also a sublime, universal symbol. It contains the poet's faith in the moral strength of a woman, in her ability to be a source of light, goodness and salvation. Through this image, he speaks of the sanctity of motherhood, its irreplaceable role in the fate of every person and, more broadly, in the spiritual history of the people.

The bright and deeply touching image of a mother occupies a special place in the lyrics of Sergei Alexandrovich Yesenin. Despite the outward bravado characteristic of his early years and the stormy vicissitudes of life, the maternal theme permeates the poet's work, being a kind of quiet haven to which he returns in spirit even in moments of life's turmoil and inner disunity.

The image of the mother is especially vividly and sensually embodied in one of Yesenin's most piercing and confessional works - in the poem "Letter to Mother" (1924). This is not just a poetic appeal to a loved one, but a deeply lyrical confession of a son who, despite his distance, restless fate and city bustle, tremulously keeps the love for his own woman in his heart.

The poem is written in simple, colloquial language, almost in the form of an everyday letter, which makes it even more sincere and soulful. Yesenin seems to renounce poetic “pathos” in order to be closer to the one who is waiting for him in the village, who believes, hopes, forgives:

Are you still alive, my old woman?

I am alive too. Greetings to you, greetings!

Let that unspeakable evening light flow over your hut.

The poems are permeated with deep filial warmth and tenderness. The poet not only consoles his mother, assuring her of his wholeness and liveliness, but also expresses remorse, asks for forgiveness for the involuntary pain caused by his absence and life choices. He emphasizes that, despite the external alienation and distance, in his soul he still remains her boy, whose heart keeps the house, the threshold, the mother’s silhouette.[5]The image of the “evening unspeakable light” is very important — as a symbol of goodness, hope and that spiritual connection that is not subject to time and distance. The light from the window is the warmth of a mother’s soul, warming even from afar.

In “Letter to Mother,” Yesenin reveals himself not only as a great poet, but also as a person — alive, vulnerable, sensitive, able to be a grateful and loving son. The image of his mother in his work is the embodiment of unconditional acceptance, kindness and memory of his roots, to which he reaches out even at the peak of life’s fatigue.

An appeal to his mother becomes for Yesenin not only a personal confession, but also a universal motive, close to everyone who has ever felt maternal warmth and understood its enduring value.

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