

**ISSUES OF LITERARY CONTINUITY AND SPIRITUAL EDUCATION IN
CONTEMPORARY UZBEK LITERATURE****Baltaeva Ikbal Tadjibaevna,**Professor of the Department of Uzbek and Foreign Languages,
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Doctor of Philological Sciences (DSc).**Almatov Gulboy Turdiboevich,**Lecturer of the Department of Uzbek and Foreign Languages,
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This article provides a comprehensive analysis of literary heritage and moral education in contemporary Uzbek literature. The study examines the alignment of literary works with national culture and spiritual values, as well as their influence on modern readers and society. Through the analysis of themes, characters, and artistic techniques, elements of moral education are identified and their role in the spiritual and ethical development of the younger generation is highlighted. Additionally, the article explores pressing issues related to maintaining literary continuity in contemporary Uzbek literature and discusses potential solutions. The research is conducted using scientific methods, literary analysis, and historical-theoretical approaches.

Keywords

contemporary Uzbek literature, literary heritage, traditions, moral education, artistic image, national culture, younger generation, literary continuity.

Contemporary Uzbek literature has been taking shape in a new spiritual and cultural environment since the period of independence. During this time, issues of literary heritage and moral education have become particularly relevant, as each new work is expected to preserve Uzbek national values and contribute to the moral and spiritual development of the younger generation. Literature serves not only as a means of aesthetic enjoyment but also as a vehicle for shaping the ethical and spiritual values of society. From this perspective, the preservation of literary heritage, artistic traditions, and national values in contemporary Uzbek literature is considered an important scholarly concern.

Throughout the long course of humanity's socio-cultural development, successive generations have carried forward the everyday and creative experience and skills practiced by their ancestors. In doing so, they gradually adopted only those elements that corresponded to the intellectual and spiritual level of their contemporaries. In this process, certain traditions of earlier times were approached creatively in accordance with the demands of the era, resulting in a partial transformation of their utilitarian essence. This process, which emerged in ancient times and continues to the present day, is referred to in scholarship as continuity.

Continuity within literary traditions initially emerged in the form of religious and mythological modes of thought and, over time, underwent processes of artistic transformation within the genres of folk oral poetic creativity as well as written literature. Indeed, general traditions of continuity, including literary continuity, having been consistently applied across various spheres of social and cultural life over centuries, have today become an undeniable dialectical principle. All nations that have attained self-awareness in the world adhere to this principle in their approach to material and cultural heritage and in their efforts to preserve and enrich it. "From this very perspective, the international study and promotion of Uzbek classical and modern literature, the analysis of this multifaceted subject in close connection with the most significant processes currently taking place in the literary landscape of the world's nations, and

the drawing of necessary scholarly and practical conclusions, as well as the identification of our future objectives, are, in my view, of great importance¹.

Theoretical perspectives on the specific characteristics of the category of literary continuity have been examined in the articles and monographs of certain Uzbek literary scholars, as well as in defended dissertation research².

M. M. Girshman, one of the prominent researchers of modernist literature and theoretical poetics, writes the following: "A literary work does not merely depict a particular event; it also encompasses the artistic perception and evaluation of actions and emotions within the depicted events, revealing itself through the aesthetic reality of the artistic world (the world of the characters). The universe conceived by the author is presented as if it were an oppositional model of reality. The imperfect macrocosm of human society can find its perfect reflection in the artistic world woven by the creator"³

Literary succession refers to the process of preserving, developing, and continuing the artistic traditions, genres, and themes established by previous generations of writers. In contemporary Uzbek literature, literary heritage allows national values, customs, and historical experiences to be interpreted in a new form. For instance, the national values reflected in the works of Abdulla Qodiriy and Cho'lpon are continued in the post-independence literature of Uzbekistan through new characters and artistic techniques. This process ensures the continuous development of literature and the preservation of national culture.

Currently, the main trends in literary heritage can be identified as follows:

1. Preserving national values in the context of globalization.
2. Creating artistic characters adapted to the moral education of the new generation of readers.
3. Transforming historical events and folk traditions into new artistic forms.

Moral education is one of the most important functions of literature. In contemporary Uzbek literature, the moral and spiritual development of the younger generation is achieved through artistic characters.

For instance, to cultivate qualities such as patriotism, justice, loyalty, and compassion in readers, real-life examples from the lives of literary characters are presented. At the same time, contemporary issues, social injustices, and problems within families and society are conveyed to young readers through artistic analysis.

Educational impact through artistic characters:

Character of heroes: Brave and justice-oriented protagonists serve as positive role models for young readers.

Analysis of situations: Complex life situations depicted in literary works enhance the ability of young readers to make ethical decisions.

Themes: Topics such as family values, friendship, and respect for national traditions contribute to the moral education of readers.

In contemporary Uzbek literature, maintaining literary continuity faces several challenges:

¹ Congratulatory Message of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev to the Participants of the International Conference entitled "Current Issues in the International Study and Promotion of Uzbek Classical and Modern Literature." *Khalq So'zi*, August 8, 2018, No. 162 (7120).

² Quronov, D., Mamajonov, Z., & Sheralieva, M. (2013). *Dictionary of Literary Studies*. Tashkent: Akademnashr, p. 227.; Boboev, T. (2002). *Foundations of Literary Studies*. Tashkent: Uzbekistan, p. 72.; Nazarova, Sh. I. (2022). *Principles of Renewal in Early 20th-Century Uzbek Poetry (in the Context of New Uzbek Poetry)*. Tashkent: Akademnashr, pp. 125–126.; Qobilova, Z. B. (2021). *Issues of Influence and Creativity in Artistic Work: The Case of Amiri's Poetry* (Doctor of Science in Philology dissertation). Fergana, p. 44.; Davronova, Sh. G. (2019). *The Artistic Synthesis of Eastern and Western Traditions in Post-Independence Uzbek Novels* (Doctor of Science in Philology dissertation abstract). Samarkand, pp. 30–32.

³ Гиршман М.М. Произведение. Поэтика слов, актуальных терминов и понятий// Гл. науч.ред. Н.Д.Тамарченко. – М.: Издательство Кулагиной. – Intrada. 2008. –С.193.

1.The influence of globalization and foreign cultures – there is a growing interest among youth in foreign literature.

2.Changes in youth reading habits and language use – interest in short-format and digital texts is increasing.

3.Social and political transformations – the role of literature in preserving national values is adapting to new demands.

Therefore, it is necessary to harmonize traditional and modern elements in contemporary literature and to create works that are both engaging and morally enriching for young readers. Several significant works in contemporary Uzbek literature reflect moral education and literary inheritance:

Stories and novels of the post-independence period in Uzbekistan – these works combine national values with contemporary issues.

Youth literature – incorporating elements of ethical and spiritual education.

Poetry and journalism – fostering national pride and patriotism among readers.

Artistic analysis shows that these works clearly depict the inner world of the characters, their decision-making processes, and how moral values manifest in social contexts.

In contemporary Uzbek literature, literary inheritance and moral education are closely interconnected. Literary inheritance serves to preserve national values, while moral education contributes to the spiritual and ethical development of the younger generation. At the same time, ensuring literary continuity requires the integration of traditional and modern elements in contemporary literature. This, in turn, strengthens Uzbek culture and national identity.

Moreover, scholarly analysis indicates that the educational impact can be enhanced through artistic imagery and themes, transmitting national values to younger generations and ensuring the continuity of literature.

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