

**SYMBOLIC IMAGE AND MODERN PERSONALITY CRISIS IN SHUHRAT
MATKARIM'S STORY "A MAN WITHOUT A THOUGHT"****Sevinchoy Nurimatova**

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Abstract: This article analyzes Shukhrat Matkarim's short story "The Thoughtless Man" from the perspective of symbolic imagery. The image of the "faceless man" is interpreted as an artistic symbol of the crisis of modern personality. The loss of independent thinking, spiritual emptiness, conformism, and social manipulation are revealed through symbolism, satire, and artistic details.

Keywords: symbolic image, modern personality, crisis, conformism, spiritual emptiness, satire, artistic detail, thinking.

The spiritual and spiritual crisis of the human personality is one of the current topics in modern literature. As a result of globalization and increased flow of information, the independent thinking of a person is weakening [2, p. 27]. A symbolic image serves as a means of summarizing and deepening artistic thinking [3, p. 56].

In this regard, Shuhrat Matkarim's story "Thoughtless Man" deserves special attention. The image of the "faceless man" depicted in the story is a generalized type of modern man who has lost his independence of thought. In the work, the loss of personality is symbolically expressed through images such as: "This man has no face. So, he has no eyes, no eyebrows, no head..." [1]. The face is a symbol of individuality. The absence of a face means that a person has dissolved in society.

The eye is a tool of perception. The absence of eyes means slow thinking [2, p. 41]. The head is the center of thought. The absence of a head indicates that a person has lost his independence of thought.

The detail in the story "a hole like a window" symbolizes the placement of external thoughts in the human mind [1]. These lead to the phenomenon of conformism. Conformism is the process of a person adapting to the pressure of society and abandoning his opinion [4, p. 73].

As Erich Fromm pointed out, a person often avoids the responsibility of freedom and tends to rely on external forces [4, p. 89]. The hero in the story is an artistic representation of such a psychological state. The work criticizes the crisis of thinking in modern society by means of satire and irony. "Faceless man" is not an individual, but a social type [3, p. 62]. The conflict of the story has an internal character and develops in a psychological-philosophical direction [2, p. 52]. In the story, the term "mindless" does not directly mean mental weakness, but a type of person who is deprived of independent thinking and lives under the influence of the social environment. Through the hero, the author artistically reveals the conformist model of consciousness that is widespread in modern society.

The fact that the hero does not have his own opinion and adapts to the situation - this is the loss of personal position. He does not make decisions, but goes with the flow. With this aspect, the image is raised to the level of a social type rather than an individual one.

In literature, such images are evaluated as "typical character". That is, the author shows the mentality of an entire era through In the story, thoughtlessness is interpreted as a product of the environment, rather than an innate characteristic of a person. People around the hero don't think

actively either, they live with stereotyped views. Here the author criticizes modern mass psychology. Public opinion is often based on superficial conclusions rather than in-depth analysis. As a result, a person who expresses an independent opinion is seen as abnormal, and a person without an opinion is considered "normal".

Thus, a paradox emerges in the work: although not thinking is actually a tragedy, society makes it normal. Although the story is written in a satirical tone, its essence is tragic. The author reveals the moral weakness of society through sarcasm and internal irony. The image of "thoughtless person" symbolically embodies concepts such as: loss of critical thinking, spiritual indifference, irresponsibility, social passivity. There is little external story in the work, but the internal content is deep. This brings the story closer to the psychological-philosophical direction. The main conflict point of the story is the inner emptiness of the person and the indifference of the society to it. The hero does not seek to understand his identity, and the society does not demand his opinion. As a result, a two-pronged crisis occurs: lack of personal thought, decrease of the demand of the society - this is the root of the modern tragedy shown by the author.

In short, the story "Thoughtless Man" is a topical work that reveals the spiritual and spiritual crisis of modern man through a symbolic image. In the work, thoughtlessness is interpreted not as mental weakness, but as the loss of independent thinking.

The author criticizes such vices as living without a personal position, blindly following the social trend, stereotyped thinking. A character in a story is not an individual, but a type of an era. Through it, the author shows the general moral condition of the society. The main idea of the play is that thoughtlessness is not a simple condition, but a tragedy. Because in a society where thinking is lost, stagnation reigns, not progress. Independent thought is the basis of individual freedom. Where it is absent, both man and society face a crisis.

The story "Thoughtless Man" is a work that illuminates the spiritual crisis of modern man in an artistic and philosophical context. Through a symbolic image, the problem of loss of personality, weakening of independent thinking and spiritual emptiness was raised. The absence of details of the face, eyes and head symbolically shows the decay of the person's thinking and perception system. The work summarizes the conformist model of consciousness that is being formed in modern society.

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