

THE PORTRAYAL OF INNER EXPERIENCES IN SAID AHMAD'S NOVEL
"SILENCE" AND THEIR ROLE IN CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

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Abstract: *This article analyzes the portrayal of characters' inner experiences in Silence, a work by Said Ahmad, a prominent figure in Uzbek literature. The writer's artistic mastery, his unique style of revealing the psychological world of his characters, and the significance of these portrayals in contemporary Uzbek literature are explored. The article also delves into the influence and application of Said Ahmad's psychological analysis methods in modern literary processes.*

Keywords: *Said Ahmad, Silence, inner experiences, psychologism, modern Uzbek literature, artistic depiction, literary tradition*

Аннотация: *В статье анализируется изображение внутренних переживаний героев в произведении "Тишина" яркого представителя узбекской литературы Саида Ахмада. В статье исследуется художественное мастерство писателя, его уникальный стиль раскрытия психологии персонажей и место этих изображений в современной узбекской литературе. Подробно освещается влияние методов психологического анализа в произведениях Саида Ахмада на современную литературу и их применение в современных литературных процессах.*

Ключевые слова: *Саид Ахмад, "Тишина", внутренние переживания, психологизм, современная узбекская литература, художественное изображение, литературная традиция.*

Said Ahmad is considered one of the most prominent figures in Uzbek literature of the second half of the 20th century and the early 21st century. His work *Silence* holds significant importance not only in Uzbek literature but also in the literature of Turkic peoples. This article investigates the depiction of characters' inner experiences in the novel, evaluates their artistic value, and assesses their relevance in contemporary literature. Said Ahmad's work vividly captures the inner world of humans, their emotional struggles, and moral-ethical dilemmas. His narratives deeply explore the relationship between society and the individual, the journey of self-discovery, and spiritual growth, expressed with philosophical depth and artistic skill.

As the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, emphasized: "Literature is the heart of a nation, a mirror reflecting the people's spirituality. In today's complex world, literature is unparalleled in finding a path to the hearts of people and inspiring them toward noble goals [5]." In *Silence*, Said Ahmad uses unique stylistic tools to portray his characters' inner turmoil. Silence in the story symbolizes not only an external state

but also reflects the internal world and emotional conditions of the characters. He skillfully uses literary devices such as monologue, dialogue, landscape descriptions, and dream sequences to depict psychological depth.

The characters' inner world plays a more central role in the novel than external events. The protagonist leaves a strong impression on the reader through his life experiences, aspirations, joys, and sorrows. Ahmad portrays human emotions with naturalness and sincerity, avoiding artificial embellishments. The novel's power lies in its deep analysis of inner experiences rather than its external narrative. The protagonist communicates his emotional turmoil and life trials to the reader through eloquent but profound silence. For instance: "Words never spoken, dreams and regrets once held within had frozen in his heart. No one had heard them, and he, too, wanted to forget them..." [8, p. 46] This excerpt vividly reflects the pain hidden behind the character's silence.

Writer Abdulla Qahhor once noted: "Said Ahmad penetrates the hearts of his characters and portrays their most delicate feelings—those they themselves may not even realize—with such finesse that the reader feels as if they are in the character's place [6]."

Psychologism plays a vital role in Ahmad's work. In *Silence*, the author deeply analyzes the emotional states of the characters. He portrays their inner changes, contradictions, and complexities so skillfully that the reader thinks, feels, and suffers alongside them. The stylistic harmony in both Uzbek and Russian versions of the work is notable. Ahmad effectively uses literary devices such as metaphor, metonymy, synecdoche, simile, symbol, and irony to bring the characters' emotions vividly to life. For example: "Every morning, Tolibjon came out to observe the same scenes. The air was clear, dust-free, and transparent—indescribably beautiful. It brought peace and comfort to his strained nerves." [8, p. 53]

The method of psychological parallelism is widely used in the novel. Descriptions of nature often reflect the emotional states of the characters. Ahmad uses natural imagery to fully express inner feelings. As literary scholar Ozod Sharafiddinov observed: "Said Ahmad reveals his characters' inner world as a sensitive psychologist. He captures and conveys even the subtlest emotions buried deep in the soul [7]."

The depiction of inner experiences in *Silence* has had a profound impact on modern Uzbek literature. The novel serves as a unique school of thought for future generations of writers in portraying the inner world of humans. In contemporary Uzbek literature, psychological analysis and the depiction of internal experiences are becoming increasingly important. Said Ahmad's *Silence* stands as one of the best examples of this trend. President Mirziyoyev has also stressed the role of literature in human development: "True literature always reflects the life of the people, the complex inner world of the individual, their dreams and experiences. In this sense, literature is the mirror of the human soul [4]." The depiction of inner experiences has a long tradition in Uzbek literature. Great writers such as Alisher Navoi, Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur, Abdulla Qodiriy, Cho'lpon, and Abdulla Qahhor masterfully portrayed the inner worlds of their characters. Said Ahmad has continued and developed this literary tradition. As literary scholar Naim Karimov states:

"Said Ahmad's work harmonizes tradition and innovation. He continues the best traditions of Uzbek literature while addressing contemporary issues and using modern techniques to reveal his characters' inner worlds. [2]" In *Silence*, the portrayal of inner

experiences demonstrates Said Ahmad's literary mastery and profound understanding of human psychology. This depiction holds a significant place in modern Uzbek literature and serves as a model for new generations of writers.

Through this novel, Ahmad explores the complex emotional world, internal contradictions, and spiritual pursuits of the individual. This has contributed to the advancement of Uzbek literature on a global level. As President Mirziyoyev affirms: "Literature is the treasure of spirituality, the light of national enlightenment. Through it, we reach the hearts of people, shape their worldview, and instill ethical and spiritual values. [3]" Said Ahmad's *Silence* has earned a lasting place in the history of Uzbek literature as an important part of this spiritual treasure.

Said Ahmad's *Silence* stands as a profound literary achievement that reveals the richness of human psychology through a deeply introspective narrative. His masterful depiction of inner experiences elevates the novel beyond a mere story, transforming it into a philosophical and emotional exploration of the human condition. By focusing on the subtle layers of personal reflection, emotional struggle, and spiritual longing, Ahmad creates characters that resonate with authenticity and universality.

The novel's emphasis on internal silence as a metaphor for unspoken thoughts, unresolved emotions, and spiritual tension highlights the significance of introspection in literature. Ahmad's use of stylistic tools—such as monologues, dream sequences, and symbolic landscapes—enables readers to enter the inner worlds of his characters, experiencing their conflicts and revelations firsthand.

This psychological depth not only strengthens the artistic value of *Silence* but also marks an important contribution to the evolution of contemporary Uzbek literature. It paves the way for modern writers to embrace more nuanced portrayals of emotional and existential themes, rooted in national traditions yet aligned with global literary movements.

In a time when literature plays an essential role in shaping moral consciousness and personal identity, *Silence* remains a vital reference point. Said Ahmad's work continues to inspire writers and readers alike, encouraging a deeper understanding of the self and society through the lens of inner experience. Ultimately, *Silence* is not just a literary text, but a mirror reflecting the soul of a people and the timeless journey of the human spirit.

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