



HISTORICAL AND REGIONAL FEATURES OF LANGUAGE IN THE NOVELS OF PRIMQUL QODIROV

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ABSTRACT

In the novel Yulduzli tunlar by Pirimqul Qodirov, the historical and regional features of language are presented as important artistic devices. In order to reflect the spirit of the historical period, archaic words, old Turkic elements, and period-specific terms are widely used. At the same time, dialectal elements are effectively employed to reveal the origin and social background of the characters. This enriches the national color of the work and enhances the credibility of the events. These linguistic features not only strengthen the artistic value of the novel but also allow the reader to vividly imagine the linguistic atmosphere of the historical period.

Uzbek literature accords a distinctive and significant place to the historical novel, a genre that not only artistically reconstructs past events but also encapsulates the linguistic, cultural, and socio-psychological milieu characteristic of a given epoch. In this regard, Pirimqul Qodirov's "Yulduzli tunlar" ("Starry Nights") occupies a position, offering a nuanced portrayal of the socio-political environment of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The novel vividly renders the lived experiences, collective mentality, and linguistic culture of the people of that period, with particular emphasis on the use of dialectal elements. Dialectal expressions constitute an essential manifestation of the народный (folk) layer of language within literary discourse. Their incorporation into literary texts enhances narrative authenticity, imbuing the depiction with a sense of immediacy, naturalness, and ethnolinguistic specificity. This is especially pertinent in historical fiction, where dialect serves not merely as a stylistic device but as a semiotic marker of social stratification, regional identity, and cultural differentiation among characters. In "Yulduzli tunlar," the author demonstrates a high degree of linguistic craftsmanship by skillfully integrating dialectal features characteristic of the Tashkent oasis and the Fergana Valley. This stylistic strategy significantly contributes to the verisimilitude of the narrative. The following section examines selected dialectal units found in the novel and analyzes their respective artistic functions. Dialect as a linguistic tool is an important means of creating literary images. The author uses dialectal words not merely for decoration, but to make the characters more vivid and lifelike. Through the language of the characters, their social origin, cultural level, and personalities shaped by their environment are revealed. For example:

- Representatives of old Tashkent, including the residents of the old city, tend to speak in a more folk-like dialect with soft pronunciation.

- In contrast, representatives of the Karakhanid court or intellectuals speak in a literary language or in a Persian-Turkic mixed style. Through this, the author reflects historical layers and social stratification by means of language.

Dialectal expressions and the tone of folk speech also play an important role. The novel contains many folk expressions, proverbs, similes, and emphatic forms. These reflect the thinking and richness of the Uzbek people's language. Examples:

- "Ko'z tegmasin" — a folk expression used as a blessing (to ward off the evil eye).
- "Yer yutgudek bo'ldim" — a phrase that strongly expresses embarrassment.
- "O'lib qolay, desam ham..." — a folk exaggeration expressing a difficult or desperate situation.

Such expressions make the characters' emotions more impactful and enhance the artistic quality of the language. Pirimqul Qodirov does not use dialectal words randomly. Every folk word, expression, and pronunciation is used appropriately and in its proper place. As a result:

- The naturalness of events increases,
- Characters come alive as if they were real people,
- The depiction of the historical period becomes more convincing.

These qualities make the novel "Starry Nights" not just a historical work, but also a valuable artistic representation of the people's spiritual world. Language is one of the fundamental elements of national literature. Dialectal words strengthen this sense of national identity. Pirimqul Qodirov deeply understands this aspect and turns to the most subtle layers of the people's language. Through this, he:

- Instills national identity into the work,
- Reminds the reader of their roots and self-awareness,
- Awakens a sense of historical pride.

The dialectal words used in the novel "Starry Nights" clearly demonstrate Pirimqul Qodirov's artistic mastery, richness of language, and deep understanding of the people's spirit. Through these words, the work becomes vivid, lifelike, expressive, and distinctive. This layer of language—the incorporation of dialects into literature—contributes to the development of national literature. Dialectal elements serve not only as linguistic units but also as powerful tools for expressing the history, traditions, emotions, and worldview of a people. Pirimqul Qodirov's novel "Starry Nights" centers on the depiction of Central Asia in the 15th–16th centuries, particularly the period of decline of the Timurid dynasty and the formative years of Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur. The analysis shows that the work serves as a unique bridge between historical reality and artistic interpretation, vividly portraying the socio-political upheavals of the time, the inner world of the main character, and broader cultural processes. Our research emphasizes that "Starry Nights" not only enriches Uzbek literary heritage but also makes a worthy contribution to the global development of the historical novel genre through the integration of historiography and linguistics. It serves as an important medium for understanding national identity, historical memory, and cultural continuity. Among modern Uzbek writers, Pirimqul Qodirov stands out as a creator who skillfully combines

historical research with artistic expression. Historical novels reflect society's relationship with its past and play an important role in preserving and developing cultural heritage. In the novel, the author widely uses folk speech, dialectal words, and dialectal vocabulary. This linguistic style allows historical events to be perceived in a vivid and authentic way. Through dialectal elements (for example, those specific to the Tashkent region):

- The historical environment is depicted more naturally,
- The linguistic culture and everyday speech of the people of that era are felt,
- This gives the novel a strong national spirit.

This style serves as a linguopoetic means of expressing "national values" through language. From a linguistic perspective, special attention is given to unique words and culturally specific lexical units in the Uzbek language. Such words often cannot be directly translated into other languages because they are closely tied to character traits, historical realities, and folk traditions. These types of lexical units:

- Transform the text into a linguocultural text,
- Help the reader perceive history through the national language of the work.

Thus, such language elements enrich the novel not only in a historical sense but also in a cultural-linguistic context, allowing the reader to experience national values through language. In the novel, the depiction of historical events through language is based on the author's linguopoetic concept. Its main aspects include the use of historical terms and expressive linguistic means: Babur's personal life, as well as military and political events, are enriched through artistic language. Through artistic language, historical thinking is conveyed: historical events are not simplified but are delivered to the reader both emotionally and intellectually through language and style. From a linguistic perspective, this approach presents historical scenes with linguistic objectivity combined with artistic expression, allowing the work to fully reveal the potential of the national language. The national spirit and historical experience are expressed through language—through archaic speech, dialects, and vernacular forms, the people perceive historical reality. Historical figures are analyzed through language—Babur's views are revealed through his words, speech, and culturally specific vocabulary.

Translation challenges also arise: certain lexical units remain untranslated in Uzbek, which strengthens the national concept of the work. Language is not only a means of communication but also a medium that expresses national values, historical consciousness, and culture. Historicity in the work is reflected in the vivid and realistic depiction of historical events through artistic language. Through linguistic means, the author enables the reader to feel the life of that period and stimulates historical thinking. The conclusion shows that national values are conveyed to the reader through national vocabulary and dialectal elements, reflecting the culture, speech, and traditions of the Uzbek people. This enriches the text with a strong national spirit. From a linguistic analytical perspective, the novel "*Starry Nights*" is not only a depiction of historical events but also a work that fully раскрывает (reveals) the artistic and cultural potential of the Uzbek language. The dialectal elements, linguistic uniqueness, and national vocabulary in the work further deepen the transmission of historicity and national values to the reader.

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