

Interpretation Of Secondary Characters In A Literary Work

Odilova Sadoqat Abduqodir qizi

Shahrisabz State Pedagogical Institute, Doctoral Student
Sadoqatodilova24@gmail.com | +998944212297

Abstract

This article analyzes the concept of a character in a literary work, specifically focusing on the artistic-functional roles of secondary characters. The main goal of the research is to identify and scientifically present the roles of secondary characters in plot dynamics, revealing the nature of the main protagonist and depicting the social environment in examples from Uzbek literature. The research employs literary theory, the concept of character, and methods of artistic text analysis. Practical analysis is carried out using Khurshid Dustmuhammad's stories 'Iffat' and 'The Trick of Investigator Yoqub', revealing the functional roles of secondary characters in plot and idea development. The results show that secondary characters play an important role in plot structure, psychological disclosure of the protagonist's character, and artistic expression of the social environment. It concludes that studying such characters scientifically helps fully understand the ideological-artistic system of a literary work.

Keywords: literary work, literary theory, character, protagonist, secondary character, social environment, literary concept, plot dynamics, image, character traits

Main Content

Literature plays a significant role in revealing human psychology and social life. At its center always stands the human and their destiny. The structure of any literary work is built on the development of events and characters. The term 'character' in literature encompasses any image in a work, but not every character rises to the level of a protagonist. Writers use characters to portray human nature and values. Since the mid-20th century, character analysis has gained attention in literary theory and criticism.

Secondary characters, alongside main protagonists, are vital in shaping the plot and ideological-artistic system. They drive the storyline, help reveal the main character's personality, and express certain ideas or societal environments. In literary theory, a character is defined as a participant in the event, a subject of feelings and speech, synonymous with 'hero' or 'participant'. However, not all characters can be interchangeably called heroes due to their roles, ideological loads, and narrative functions.

Secondary characters operate around the main protagonist, affecting the plot either directly or indirectly. They help uncover the protagonist's traits and reflect the surrounding environment. In Uzbek literature, writers like G'afur G'ulom, Odil Yoqubov, and Abdulla Qodiriy give significant roles to secondary characters.

For example, in Khurshid Dustmuhammad's 'The Trick of Investigator Yoqub', the secondary characters such as Yoqub's distant relative and Shokarim and his wife, help unveil the protagonist's character and develop the story. These characters represent societal realities, such as dependency, gender roles, and personal weaknesses or authority within the family.

Conclusion

Secondary characters do not merely play supporting roles; they contribute significantly to the artistic structure and plot dynamics of the literary work. They should be regarded as independently valuable artistic images. Studying them analytically helps to deeply understand the overall content and structure of the work.

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