



UNDERSTANDING OF UZBEK LITERARY GENRES

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Abstract. *This article discusses the classification of literary genres, specifically focusing on epic, lyric, and drama. In the context of the modern Uzbek language, "epos" corresponds to "prose," while "lyrics" refers to poetry. Initially, the term genre was applied to broad categories such as epic, lyrical, and dramatic forms. Over time, it evolved to encompass their specific manifestations during particular historical periods, including various forms like novels, short stories, comedies, tragedies, sonnets, and elegies. This evolution highlights the dynamic nature of literary classification across different eras and cultural contexts.*

Keywords: *literary genres, epic, lyric, drama, prose, type, terminology.*

Since the creation of Aristotle's work "Poetics", it has been a rule in science to divide literary works into three large groups. These groups are called "literary genre" by I. Sultan in contemporary literary studies. These three types are epic, lyric and drama. In the modern Uzbek language, epos is also expressed by the words "prose", and lyrics by "she'riyat" (poetry).

In his book Fundamentals of Literary Theory, Kuronov classified "genre" as follows: In literature, there is a tradition of using the term "genre" in two senses. This word comes from the French language means "type" and "kind". That's why before the term "genre" referred to epic, lyrical and dramatic types, later their forms of manifestation in a certain historical period (novel, short story, comedy, tragedy, sonnet, elegy, etc.) were used this term. As a result, the word "genre" means a literary type in some sources familiar to today's readers, and a specific one in others means one genre and the appearance of a genre in others. For example, V.G. Belinsky classifies literary works based on the series of "type (род) - type (вид) - genre", corresponding to which the concepts of "epos - novel - the historical novel" correspond.

Modern sources talk more about "types and genres", that is, two main concepts are classified. Sources in the Uzbek language are also from such a variety

not empty. For example, in the two-volume "Literary theory", the concept of literary type is defined as "genre", and the concept of genre is defined as "type".¹ The collective monograph "Literary types and genres" began with these sentences: "The



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main types (or gender) of literature are three - epic, lyric and drama. Each literary type includes various genres. Types and genres of the epic system constitute an epic" 2. If the first two sentences talk about "species (or genus) and genre", then the third sentence shows the triad of "(epic) system - type - genre".

A little later, the same triple classification of L. Timofeyev is presented, as a result of which the term differences arise. In the classification of I. Sultan, the terms "literary type (or gender)", "genre (or type)" are used in pairs. That is when the terms "type" and "genus", "genre" and "type" are recognized as synonyms, then mainly "species - Genre" pairs are used, and additionally, genre representations are called "genre branches". In the classification of T. Boboyev, a series of "literary type" - "forms of literary type" - "literary genre" - "genres" was formed, and his stories correspond to the concepts of "epos - a large form of the epic type - novel - historical novel".

In the chain of E. Khudoyberdiyev, there is one link less than this: "literary type" - "genre" - "genre manifestations". H. Umurov tends to limit himself to the duality of "type" - "genre" in his interpretation of the issue, but while he is against dividing the genre of the novel into types, when he moves to the epic, he talks about "epic genres and forms". Of course, if we take into account the importance of terminological uniformity in scientific treatment, it is already necessary to eliminate this situation of terminology. Accordingly, considering the level of popularization and the activity of retention in a certain sense, in our opinion, it seems appropriate to stop at the terms "type - genre - genre appearance."

According to the great German thinker Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, each species is related to its subject. The subject of an epic is an event. An epic work is a work with a plot. The subject of the lyrical type is the short-term mental state and experience of a person. The subject of the drama is action, that is, the active expression of people's striving for a certain goal.

Hegel emphasized that the "sense of time" also differs in these three literary types. The life described in an epic work (for example, a novel, short story, and story) gives an impression of the events that took place in the present tense. We understand the event described in an epic work written about today as if it happened yesterday. In the drama, even life scenes taken from the distant past appear in front of us as events happening now. And the lyrical work is something between epic and dramatic works in terms of "time sense", it describes the momentary feeling of a person with all its warmth, as if it had just happened.

In conclusion, understanding literary genres is essential for both readers and writers as it provides a framework for interpreting and creating literature. Genres



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serve as a guide, helping readers to set expectations and engage with texts on a deeper level, while also allowing writers to explore conventions and innovate within established forms. By recognizing the characteristics and themes associated with various genres—such as fiction, poetry, drama, and non-fiction—individuals can enhance their appreciation for literature's diversity and complexity. Furthermore, an awareness of genre conventions promotes critical thinking and analysis, enabling readers to draw connections between different works and cultural contexts. Ultimately, the study of literary genres enriches our literary experience, fostering a greater understanding of human expression across time and space.

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