ЛІТЕРАТУРА ЗАРУБІЖНИХ КРАЇН

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THE ARTISTIC EMBODIMENT OF HISTORICAL MEMORY AND NATIONAL IDENTITY IN TURKISH HISTORICAL NOVELS

The historical novel genre, being one of the important directions of fiction, reflects the artistic embodiment of past events, historical figures and stages of socio-cultural development of society. This genre began to take shape in Turkish literature from the second half of the 19th century, developed under the influence of various socio-political and cultural processes, and acquired new content and form features in the modern era. The article examines the concept of the historical novel, its main features, the process of formation and stages of development in Turkish literature. At the same time, the role played by the historical novel in the formation of national historical consciousness, the preservation of cultural memory and the artistic interpretation of historical events is analyzed. As a result of the research, it was determined that the historical novel genre in Turkish literature is not limited only to the description of the past, but also performs an important function in the transmission of national identity, historical thinking and cultural values to future generations. It has been established that the historical novel genre in Turkish literature has continually evolved in response to socio-political conditions, expanding both in terms of subject matter and structure. It has been demonstrated that the genre's place in contemporary literature and new research opportunities necessitate a detailed study of this topic. It has been noted that the emergence of the historical novel in Turkish literature is closely linked to national awakening, a heightened interest in history, and the adoption of Western novelistic traditions. Although the genre's earliest examples focused primarily on the history of statehood, heroic themes, and the activities of historical figures, in later stages the subject matter of the historical novel expanded, and social relations, everyday life, cultural processes, and the destinies of individuals also became integral parts of the genre. It has been established that the historical novel developed in Turkish literature not as a literary genre describing the past, but as an important literary event reflecting the process of national self-awareness.

Keywords: *historical novel, Turkish literature, genre, Tanzimat period, historical event, artistic imagination, national identity.*

Introduction. History and literature are two main fields that form the cultural memory of society and play an important role in studying the past and transmitting it to future generations. While history examines past events based on scientific facts, documents and objective information, fiction presents those events through the prism of aesthetic and artistic thought. Therefore, the historical novel genre is considered one of the important literary genres that creates a connection between history and artistic creativity, reflecting real historical events and personalities in unity with artistic imagination [3].

The main feature of the historical novel is not only the description of events that occurred in the past in chronological order, but also the artistic revival of the socio-political, economic and cultural environment of that period. The writer, while remaining faithful to historical facts, creates images, dialogues and plot elements that enrich the artistic description of events. The historical novel reflects the synthesis of historical truth with the author's aesthetic worldview

The formation of the historical novel genre in Turkish literature accelerated from the second half of the 19th century. Especially during the Tanzimat period,

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the increase in interest in national history, the adoption of the European novel tradition and the search for national identity created a favorable environment for the emergence of this genre. In subsequent periods, the historical novel became an important literary tool not only as a means of describing past events, but also in terms of forming national consciousness, promoting patriotic ideas and preserving historical heritage. As the Turkish historical novel developed, it also became richer in terms of subject matter and issues raised. While in the previous periods the main focus was on political and military events, in the later stages the social life of society, culture, daily life and human psychology also became important research objects of historical novels. As a result, the genre gained wider opportunities from an artistic-aesthetic and scientific-cognitive point of view.

Analysis of Recent Research and Publications. Analysis of the recent research and publication. A historical novel is a genre of fiction in which historical events, socio-political processes, and historical figures that occurred in past periods are revived through artistic imagination. The main feature of this genre is the preservation of a balance between historical truth and artistic creativity. A historical novel requires the author not only to know historical facts, but also to artistically present the social relations, everyday life, culture, linguistic features, and the psychological world of people of that period [6].

The emergence of the historical novel occurred as a result of the interaction of historical science and artistic thought. Historical science studies past events on the basis of documents and facts, while fiction interprets those facts through aesthetic thinking. Therefore, a historical novel can be considered neither a history book nor a purely artistic product of imagination [8]. It acts as an artistic interpretation of historical reality and, instead of presenting the past as dry information to the reader, creates an opportunity to understand it through living images and events. In the genre of historical novels, the author must respect historical facts, but also use the possibilities of artistic creativity. Although the creation of dialogues, the inner world of characters, and some plot lines that are not reflected in historical sources is the result of the author's imagination, these should not distort historical reality. Therefore, this feature is one of the main features that distinguish the historical novel from other types of novels.

The historical novel does not only aim to describe past events. This genre serves to preserve the national memory of society, form historical consciousness, and transmit national and spiritual values to future generations. The presentation of historical events in an artistic form creates interest in the past in the reader, enriches ideas about national identity, and creates conditions for re-evaluating historical events from the perspective of the modern era [4].

The formation of the historical novel in world literature entered a special stage of development in the 19th century. From this period, writers began to present historical events not in chronological order, but together with their social, political, and moral consequences. In subsequent periods, the historical novel acquired different characteristics in the national literatures of different peoples and became one of the important genres that reflected the historical experience and cultural identity of each people. An examination of the theoretical foundations of the historical novel shows that this genre is one of the most successful examples of the interaction between history and literature [3]. The unity of historical facts with artistic thought allows the reader to understand the past more deeply and evaluate historical events from the perspective of the modern era. These works are not limited to an aesthetic function, but play a cognitive and educational role.

Task statement. The purpose of the article is to examine the formation process, development stages and main characteristics of the historical novel genre in Turkish literature, and to determine the position of the genre in Turkish literary thought. During the research, the theoretical foundations of the historical novel, the factors influencing its creation, various development stages and artistic characteristics of the genre were analyzed based on scientific sources.

Outline of the main material of the study. The formation of the historical novel genre in Turkish literature dates back to the second half of the 19th century, the period when the Tanzimat reforms were implemented in the Ottoman state. During this period, the changes that took place in the socio-political and cultural life of society had an impact on the literary process, and the expansion of relations with European literature accelerated the development of the novel genre. In particular, as a result of the influence of French literature, various types of novels, including historical novels, began to take shape in Turkish literature [1].

Writers of the Tanzimat period considered literature to be a creative field serving aesthetic goals and a means of educating society and developing national consciousness. The appeal to historical themes was widespread, and past events and historical figures became one of the main themes of literary works. The main goals of historical novels were to arouse inter-

est in the past of the people, to promote national and spiritual values, and to strengthen patriotism.

Namık Kemal's Cezmi novel is considered one of the first important examples of the historical novel genre in Turkish literature. This work is considered an important stage in the development of the genre in terms of its depiction of historical events and the artistic expression of national ideas and the idea of freedom. The writer brought the ideas of heroism, patriotism and national unity to the fore by linking historical events with artistic imagination. Cezmi was an important example for historical novels written in later periods.

Ahmet Mithat Efendi also played a special role in the formation of the historical novel. In his works, historical events are presented with the aim of educating the reader, and the social and cultural life of past periods is described in detail. Instead of listing facts, the author tried to present historical events through vivid images and an interesting plot. This feature had a significant impact on the development of the historical novel genre in later periods. Historical novels written during the Tanzimat period mainly focused on the political history of the Ottoman state, wars, statesmen and heroic themes. Social relations, moral values and development problems of society of the time were also reflected in those works. Historical events were used by writers as an artistic means to explain the problems of the modern era and to strengthen the national consciousness of the reader. The formation of the historical novel genre, along with the emergence of a new literary type, was an important stage in the development of Turkish national literary thought. This genre had a significant impact on the artistic revival of the past, the growth of interest in national history, and the formation of society's attitude to historical heritage. The works created during this period laid a solid foundation for the expansion of the subject range of the historical novel and the enrichment of genre characteristics in subsequent stages [12].

Historical novels in Turkish literature are very rich in terms of subject matter. By referring to various historical periods, writers have artistically reflected the history of statehood, wars, political events, the activities of historical figures and the national struggle of the people. The choice of historical themes has created an opportunity for authors to re-evaluate past events and show their importance for the modern era. One of the most frequently addressed topics in historical novels is the events related to the establishment and development of the state. The rise of the Ottoman Empire, the Seljuk period, various military campaigns, the activities of statesmen and important stages of the history of the national struggle occupy a wide place in the creativity of Turkish writers. In these works, historical events are presented in chronological order and their impact on the fate of society is artistically interpreted. One of the main ideological directions of historical novels is the formation of national identity and patriotic thought. By presenting examples of past heroism, writers have tried to strengthen the reader's feelings of national unity, respect for state traditions and attachment to historical heritage. The historical novel, as a work of art, plays an important ideological role in the protection of national and spiritual values [4]. Modern Turkish historical novels pay more attention to the social and psychological aspects of historical events. The presentation of historical figures with their internal contradictions, decision-making processes, and individual characteristics increases the artistic and aesthetic value of the novel and provides a more objective and multifaceted understanding of historical events [5]. The historical novel genre in Turkish literature has been formed in parallel with the political, social and cultural development of society since its inception. In different historical stages, the subject matter, ideological direction and artistic and aesthetic characteristics of the genre have changed, and have acquired new content in accordance with the social demands of each period. The development process of the historical novel can be generally characterized as the Tanzimat period, the Second Constitutional Era, the Republic Era and the modern stage [12].

The Tanzimat period is considered the formative stage of the Turkish historical novel. Due to the reforms carried out in Ottoman society during this period, interest in European culture and literature increased, and the novel genre began to develop rapidly. The emergence of the historical novel was also a result of this renewal process. The writers of the Tanzimat period were not satisfied with recalling the historical past, but evaluated it as a means of enlightening society and forming national consciousness. The works highlight the powerful periods of the Ottoman state, examples of heroism and ideas of national unity, and express attitudes to the social problems of the period through past events. At this stage, the historical novel acted mainly as a carrier of the ideas of enlightenment and patriotism.

With the proclamation of the Second Constitutional Monarchy at the beginning of the 20th century, the expansion of political and intellectual freedom in Ottoman society also affected the literary environment [10]. In historical novels, a more critical approach to events is observed compared to the previous period. Writers began to present historical events in terms of

heroic examples and the investigation of their cause-and-effect relationships. During this period, attention was increased to the psychology of historical figures and the socio-political essence of events. The subject matter of novels moved beyond the framework of war and palace life and began to encompass issues of state administration, social problems, and national freedom.

The establishment of the Republic of Turkey in 1923 marked the beginning of a new stage in the development of the historical novel. The appeal to history became even more relevant in the formation of the national ideology of the new state. Writers, revisiting different periods of Turkish history, paid special attention to the artistic embodiment of national identity, statehood traditions, and cultural heritage. At this stage, the historical novel began to be based on more scientific sources than in previous periods. The authors attached greater importance to the accuracy of historical facts and, through artistic imagination, extensively recreated the socio-cultural landscape of the period. Historical events were presented as a political process, as well as in terms of human destinies and the development of society. From the second half of the 20th century, the Turkish historical novel entered a new stage of development. During this period, authors began to evaluate historical events based on modern scientific approaches, and the inner world, psychological state and individual fate of historical figures were more extensively explored. Approaching historical events from different perspectives further expanded the artistic possibilities of the genre.

Historical novels describe the lives of rulers, statesmen and ordinary people, their daily lives, culture, customs and traditions, and the social structure of society in detail. The emphasis on the human factor against the backdrop of historical events attracts attention as a new feature of the genre.

The authors' use of historical events to approach the problems of society from a historical perspective rather than a description of the past makes the historical novel a moral and ideological bridge between the past and the present.

A comparison of the stages of development of the historical novel in Turkish literature shows that the genre has enriched itself over time in terms of subject matter and artistic and aesthetic content [12]. While in the early stages the main goal was to introduce national history and strengthen patriotic feelings, in later periods the multifaceted analysis of historical events, the emphasis on human destinies, and the evaluation of historical events from various aspects became one of the main directions. The historical novel genre in Turkish literature has undergone continuous development since its inception, playing a key role in the formation of national literary thought, the preservation of historical memory, and the promotion of national and spiritual values. This development shows that the genre has a strong place in Turkish literature and maintains its relevance.

The main feature that distinguishes the historical novel genre from other types of novels is the mutual unity of historical reality and aesthetic imagination in its artistic structure. The author recreates past events, as well as the spirit of that era, human relations, cultural environment and social atmosphere through artistic means. The development of historical novels in Turkish literature shows that time, space, image system and author's point of view act as the main structural elements of the genre. One of the most important features of the historical novel is the time factor. The events of the work take place in a historical stage before the author's time, and this sense of pastness is considered the main distinguishing feature of the genre. In Turkish historical novels, the attribution of events to pre-Islamic Turkish states, the Seljuks, the Ottoman Empire and other stages creates a clear idea of historical time in the reader [12].

Historical time, reflecting the stage in which the events took place, the way of thinking, customs and traditions of the era and socio-cultural characteristics, becomes an important component that creates an artistic atmosphere in novels rather than a chronological indicator.

In historical novels, the place artistically recreates the physical environment in which the events take place, as well as the historical and cultural uniqueness of the period. Palaces, castles, cities, squares, madrasahs, caravanserais and other historical places are extensively described in Turkish historical novels. With these descriptions, the reader understands not only where the events took place, but also the lifestyle, architectural features and social structure of that period.

The description of the place occupies an important place, especially in novels reflecting the Ottoman period. The historical and cultural environment of cities such as Istanbul, Bursa, Edirne plays an important role in the formation of the ideological and aesthetic load of the works. One of the important features of the historical novel is the joint presentation of real historical figures and images created by the author's imagination [3]. Historical figures can be heads of state, commanders, scientists and other well-known figures. However, to ensure the artistic dynamics of the novel, the author often uses fictional heroes.

The interaction between these two types of images ensures the aesthetic integrity of the historical novel. Historical figures strengthen the historical basis of the work, while artistic images increase the emotional and psychological impact of events. In Turkish historical novels, the presentation of heroes with characteristics such as patriotism, courage, loyalty and national unity is one of the main factors determining the ideological direction of the genre.

In historical novels, the author's attitude to events is of particular importance. When selecting and presenting historical facts, the writer acts from a certain ideological, national and aesthetic position. In Turkish historical novels, authors in most cases approach events from the position of respect for national history, commitment to statehood traditions and patriotism [7].

In modern historical novels, a more multifaceted and critical view of events is observed. The description, together with the internal contradictions, hesitations and psychological characteristics of historical figures, expands the artistic possibilities of the novel and makes the work more realistic and convincing.

One of the important conditions is to reflect the spirit of the era in the language of the historical novel. In Turkish literature, authors of historical novels have tried to create a historical color of the work by using ancient words, historical terms, concepts related to state administration and military life. The language being understandable to the modern reader was also taken as an important condition.

The creation of a historical style should reflect the atmosphere of the era through the use of archaic words, the structure of dialogues, the nature of the images and the style of narration. Time, space, image system, author's point of view and language-style features constitute the main artistic characteristics of the historical novel genre in Turkish literature. The interaction creates conditions for the historical novel to reflect historical truth and have a high artistic and aesthetic impact. The long-term development of the genre has been associated with the enrichment and improvement of structural elements. The development of the historical novel genre in Turkish literature is closely related to the creativity of writers who worked in different periods. The socio-political conditions of each period influenced the approach of writers to historical events, as a result, the genre was enriched in terms of theme, idea and artistic form. From the formation of the historical novel to the modern era, a number of authors have played an important role in the development of this genre.

Namık Kemal, who worked during the Tanzimat period, is known as one of the writers who laid the foundation of the Turkish historical novel. His novel "Cezmi" was the beginning of a new stage in Turkish literature in terms of the presentation of historical events in an artistic form. The writer determined the ideological and aesthetic direction of the historical novel by linking historical facts with the ideas of national freedom, patriotism and heroism [12]. Ahmet Mithat Efendi also made important contributions to the formation of the historical novel genre. In his works, historical events were linked to the ideas of enlightenment, and one of the main goals was to increase the reader's knowledge about history. The writer's presentation of historical events in simple and understandable language led to the spread of the historical novel among a wide readership [12]. In the 20th century, the Turkish historical novel entered a new stage of development. During this period, Kemal Tahir, Tarık Buğra, Mustafa Necati Sepetçioğlu and other writers expanded the subject area of the historical novel and comprehensively covered historical events from political, social and psychological aspects. In their works, statehood, national identity, society and individual relations were involved in a deep artistic analysis against the background of historical events [12]. Authors active in the contemporary period have formed a new view of the historical novel genre. The inner world of historical figures, the evaluation of events from different prisms and alternative historical interpretations have further expanded the artistic possibilities of the genre. Over time, the historical novel has played an important literary role in the formation of national thought and cultural memory by reflecting historical facts in an artistic way.

Conclusion. The historical novel is one of the important epic genres of Turkish literature and has played a major role in the formation of national historical consciousness and the preservation of cultural memory. The conducted analyses show that the formation of this genre began in the second half of the 19th century against the background of socio-political and cultural changes of the Tanzimat period, and in subsequent periods it has developed continuously, acquiring new content and artistic features. As a result of the research, it was determined that the development of the historical novel in Turkish literature was closely related to the socio-political life of society. During the Tanzimat period, the historical novel mainly acted as a means of expressing the ideas of enlightenment and national self-awareness, during the Second Constitutional Monarchy, a more analytical

approach to historical events was formed, and during the Republic, the artistic expression of the ideas of national statehood and historical identity came to the fore. At the modern stage, the historical novel genre has become even richer in terms of subject matter and problematics, and has been selected for its extensive development of social, cultural and psychological aspects of historical events.

The research shows that one of the main advantages of the Turkish historical novel is the preservation of a balance between historical facts and artistic imagination. The authors, together with historical sources, have increased the emotional impact of events by using artistic means of description. Thus, the historical novel has gained an important role in the promotion of historical knowledge and the formation of aesthetic taste. The study also shows that the historical novel is not limited to the description of past events. Along with the preservation of national identity, cultural heritage and historical memory, the assessment of social problems from a historical perspective determines the contemporary relevance of the historical novel in Turkish literature and the prospects for scientific research.

As a result, since its inception, the historical novel genre in Turkish literature has undergone a continuous development path, enriched in terms of its subject matter, artistic and aesthetic features and ideological direction, becoming one of the leading genres of national literature. Future research into the genre can make a significant contribution to a deeper study of the development patterns of Turkish literature, national historical thinking and historical and artistic creative traditions.

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Алієва Т. ХУДОЖНЄ ВТІЛЕННЯ ІСТОРИЧНОЇ ПАМ'ЯТІ ТА НАЦІОНАЛЬНОЇ ІДЕНТИЧНОСТІ В ТУРЕЦЬКИХ ІСТОРИЧНИХ РОМАНАХ

Жанр історичного роману, будучи одним із важливих напрямків художньої літератури, відображає художнє втілення минулих подій, історичних постатей та етапів соціально-культурного розвитку суспільства. Цей жанр почав формуватися в турецькій літературі з другої половини XIX століття, розвивався під впливом різних соціально-політичних та культурних процесів, а в сучасну епоху набув нових змістовних та формальних рис. У статті розглядається поняття історичного роману, його основні риси, процес становлення та етапи розвитку в турецькій літературі. Водночас аналізується роль, яку відіграє історичний роман у формуванні національної історичної свідомості, збереженні культурної пам'яті та художньому осмисленні історичних подій. В результаті дослідження було визначено, що жанр історичного роману в турецькій літературі не обмежується лише описом минулого, а й виконує важливу функцію в передачі національної ідентичності, історичного мислення та культурних цінностей майбутнім поколінням. Встановлено, що жанр історичного роману в турецькій літературі постійно розвивався у відповідь на соціально-політичні умови, розширюючись як за тематикою, так і за структурою. Було продемонстровано, що місце жанру в сучасній літературі та нові дослідницькі можливості вимагають детального вивчення цієї теми. Зазначено, що поява історичного роману

в турецькій літературі тісно пов'язана з національним пробудженням, підвищеним інтересом до історії та прийняттям західних романістичних традицій. Хоча найдавніші зразки жанру були зосереджені переважно на історії державності, героїчних темах та діяльності історичних діячів, на пізніших етапах тематика історичного роману розширилася, а соціальні відносини, повсякденне життя, культурні процеси та долі окремих людей також стали невід'ємними частинами жанру. Встановлено, що історичний роман розвивався в турецькій літературі не як літературний жанр, що описує минуле, а як важлива літературна подія, що відображає процес національного самоусвідомлення.

Ключові слова: *історичний роман, турецька література, жанр, період Танзимату, історична подія, художня уява, національна ідентичність.*

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