

THE THEME OF A DIFFICULT CHILDHOOD IN GAFUR GULYAM'S WORKS

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Abstract: *This article analyzes the works of the Uzbek national poet Gafur Gulyam. The author uses the example of such works as "Netay", "The Mischief-Maker", "You are not an orphan", "Two Childhoods" to reveal the lives of children who experienced the difficulties of that time. Attention is drawn to the depiction of people's lives, especially children against the background of historical events. Gafur Gulyam masterfully depicts the inner feelings of children of this period in his works and the difficulties they overcame and thereby shows the resilience of our people.*

Keywords: *childhood, Netay, The Mischief-Maker, pre-revolutionary period, Great Patriotic War, orphan, hard fate.*

The works of the national poet reveal a wide panorama of people's life. But, if we carefully read into the work of the most talented master of words, we will see that for all their thematic breadth, there are motives that stirred the artist's heart with special force, to which he returned again and again in different periods of his creative work.

One of these motives, one of these themes is the theme of a difficult childhood in pre-revolutionary Russia, the theme of the hardships and sorrows of a young man, an orphan child deprived of warmth and affection, forced to earn his daily bread on his own.

Shall recall the story of Gafur Gulyam "Netay". Its hero is a ten-year-old Uzbek girl who lost her parents and learned all the inhumanity of the old world on her fate. The Netay story is a great work full of broad social generalizations. The plot is based on a real story. The last Bukhara Emir stops in Tashkent on the way to St. Petersburg. The local nobility is in the hope of making the Emir satisfied and cheerful. A girl named Netay is brought to her for her entertainment. The work depicts ordinary Russian workers - Semyon and his wife, who, with deep sympathy, gave shelter to an orphaned, spiritually rich ten-year-old beggar Netay.

Shall recall Gafur Gulyam's poem "Two Childhood". With what sympathy the troubles of a baby are shown in it, dreaming together with his kite to fly away from poverty and unbearable worries that have fallen on weak shoulders!

Shall recall the story "The Mischief-Maker" - one of the most remarkable works of Gafur Gulyam. Many pages of it cause a smile, but this smile is through tears; the reader feels almost physical pain for the hero of the story – a beggar, homeless Uzbek boy, who only innate ingenuity and resourcefulness help to survive in the hopeless darkness surrounding him.

Let us recall, finally, another famous work of the National Poet of Uzbekistan – the poem "You are not an orphan". Written during the harsh years of the Great Patriotic War, it was addressed to children whose parents died or were lost in the abyss of national disasters.

The hero of the poem tells his young interlocutors about the difficult years of his own childhood:

What is orphanhood – ask me.

As a seven - year - old kid in the tenth year

I warmed my hands at someone else's fire,

Half-naked, dragged the need on the roads.

Oh, how bitter is the dry bread of alms!

Oh, how hard are the steps of someone else's porch!

I, who was looking for shelter, went blind from grief,

And no one stroked my face...

I have experienced what it means to grow up an orphan...

The hero of the poem, in whose name it was written, is the poet himself.

"I, Gafur Gulyam Gulyamovich, was born in 1903, on May 10 in the city of Tashkent, in the family of a poor peasant. Orphaned early..."

So begins the autobiography that the poet wrote at the time. Stingy, restrained lines. But can you tell in a short autobiography about everything that an Uzbek boy had to see, experience and feel, in whose childhood there was not a single happy day.

Meanwhile, the memory of childhood has always lived in the heart of Gafur Gulyam. The vivid details that this memory kept were included in the fabric of the works created by the artist. Describing the wanderings of the boy – hero of the story "The Mischief-Maker", the grave troubles of the girl Netay, the dreams of the young hero of the poem "Two Childhood", Gafur Gulyam returned to his own early years.

He would not need to invent reliable details - they, these details lived in him, disturbed his memory, splashed out on the page with all the harsh truthfulness and dramatic force...

In the story "The Mischief-Maker", telling about the wanderings of his young hero, Gafur Gulyam will tell the reader about himself, about the years of his own childhood, about how he wandered along dusty roads under the

hot sun, how he spent the night in the open air, how he greedily grabbed at any business that could somehow feed him¹¹.

In 1914, the First World War broke out. It led to an even greater strengthening of colonial and national oppression. Taxes and local fees have increased. The life of Uzbek workers became more and more unbearable every day. The export of raw materials, products, livestock from Central Asia has increased, and the import of bread and industrial goods has sharply decreased. The prices of cotton, which was the most important raw material, fell, which led to the ruin of thousands of cotton farmers' farms. Class contradictions have escalated.

Eleven-year-old Gafur did not understand, and could not understand the social meaning of the events taking place, however, conversations with people he met on the roads, the sight of war-ravaged farms, mass poverty gave birth to spontaneous protest in the young heart, hatred for those who profited from national disasters. In the story "The Mischief-Maker" Gafur Ghulam leads a conversation between the young hero and the old man Hadji Baba, who explains to the boy in his own way the meaning of what is happening in the country.

"... Yes, my son," says the old man, "it's been more than a year since the war began, you know, I suppose? Since then, prices have gone up for everything, and for shoes too, so that's it, son. Kings, you see, cannot live in peace, they don't have fever. If only our white tsar, what he needs, would live peacefully for himself, governing the country, eating ice cream, hanging villains on the gallows, and having fun with women! But no! War!... Fighting, exterminating people, destroying cities, apparently, I want to become a shah in a wasteland..."

Of course, such an explanation of events is far from a serious class assessment of them, but such conversations affected the boy, opened his eyes to what was happening around him, forced him to think intensely about life. After all, by that time he himself had already passed through a cruel school of need and grief.

Summarizing the above, we can conclude in his wonderful works, Gafur Gulyam, against the background of historical events, tells the life of ordinary workers, depicts in detail the life of children, on whose shoulders poverty and grief have fallen.

¹¹ Akbarov A. Gafur Gulyam. About the life and work of the national poet of Uzbekistan. T., "Esh Guardia", 1974.P.23

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