

THE ARTISTIC SKILL OF SALVA BAKR

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ABSTRACT

This article is devoted to the artistic skill of Salva Bakr, a modern Egyptian writer. The article is devoted to the work of Salva Bakr and reveals the features of her novel "Wheels of Time".

The article also describes the genre of the "Short Novel" and its features, and also argues that modern literary trends, artistic means of expression have served as a key factor in expressing the idea of the novel.

KEYWORDS

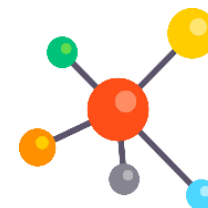
"Short novel", realism, modernism, symbolism, moving plots, documentary, artistic means.

INTRODUCTION

Literature is not defined by the topic. It is determined by talent, skill, artistry.¹ **Nazar Eshonkul**

A novelist who occupies a special place in modern Egyptian literature is not only a writer, but also a brilliant critic, talented journalist, highly gifted Salva Bakr. Born in 1949, in Cairo. The writer studied business

¹ Nazar Eshonkul. Mendan “Men”gacha. Akademnashr; T-2014; B-176



administration and graduated from the Faculty of Commerce in 1972, and from the Faculty of Theater Criticism of the Higher Theater Institute in 1976. She has worked as a catering inspector and journalist in Beirut, Cyprus and Tunisia. Salva Bakr has published 6 collections of short stories, several novels and dramas. In 1993, she received the prestigious German Prize. The writer's works have been translated into English, German, French, Swedish, Italian, Serbian and Bulgarian.

“The variety of creative techniques, trends, styles of creators in the literary process indicates that artistic thinking is a continuously developing, updating, improving system in its essence. In particular, the literature of each nation strives to develop, creatively benefiting from the advanced principles existing in the world literature. These creative techniques, various literary currents and directions of artistic thinking are vividly manifested in the work of each writer in fiction.”²

The wide spread of the principles of artistic thinking and artistic mastery, which arose under the influence of these principles, in the work of Salva Bakr, can be traced through the novel "Wheels of Time", published in 2003. The main hero of the novel is a middle-aged man, an Egyptian named Hasan, the owner of a simple watch workshop. The novel is narrated in the language of the main character. This work is quite compact in volume, and we can attribute it to the number of small novels. Because it consists of only 126 pages. In the XXI century, technology has reached such a development that now all industries are striving for speed and compactness. The information transfer rate has also reached very high levels.

If we look at the history of the Egyptian novel, then the principles of its development are partly related to the realities of the past and mainly to the present, then by the twentieth century these are primarily Western novels, and then Russian novels, on the one hand, and the traditions of national heritage, on the other.

Historical, political, socio-cultural phenomena in Egypt, of course, did not go unnoticed by writers, and novels began to be created using new mastered techniques and new techniques. These novels embodied the social and ideological views of the Egyptian people as a mirror, vividly reflecting the image of that time.

In the first half of the XX century, Egyptian literature experienced such literary trends as the "New novel", "New wave". The technique of writing and the manner of writing have changed. At the same time, the volume of the novel also decreased. At that moment the rapid technological progress, the speed of information transmission has accelerated several times, even if we are talking about the perception of information by people. The Internet has brought the entire development of mankind to a new level. Now people are switching to an operational way of working in any field consistently, holistically, armed with all technical means. This is certainly reflected in the literature, as well as in other fields. The main feature of the novel genre, that is, its volume, is becoming more and more compact.

All this was also reflected in Egyptian literature. In this regard, the following opinion of our famous and beloved writer Tahir Malik about the genre features of a prose work deserves attention. "Size doesn't matter when defining genres. We are making a crazy mistake by setting the "Novel" style. Up to 20 pages- a short

² Dilafuz Muhiddinova. Badiiy tafakkur takomili. G`.G`ulom nomidagi nashriyot-matbaa uyi, T.; 2015; B-4



story, up to 150 pages - a story, more than this a novel. The size of the work does not matter to determining genres. It all comes from the load of the work. There are other factors that differ a "Novel" from a "Narration". The main one is the lexical meaning "Romana" is a romantic narration in French literature there are also 30-pages' novels. They describe a love conflict indeed, when delivering the load of the work in full is the greatest importance than the volume of the novel. Because, in the formation of the artistic and ideological content of the Novel, the artistic views put forward by the writer are closely intertwined with their skillful interweaving into the content of the work. Despite its small size, the novel "Wheels of Time" is a work of high level in its artistic and ideological content.

A short novel (English Novelette) or a long story is a novel in which the number of words ranges from 10,000 to 20,000, and sometimes more, depending on the number of words or the number of pages, if it is a type of short novel, the style of the novel surpasses it. And if it is a type of long stories, the technique of writing stories will be its main criterion. The best examples of a short novel are the works written by Thomas Mann "Death in Venice" (1912) and "The Old Man and the Sea" (1952), written by the American writer Ernst Hemingway.

The main character of the short novel is a system of events focused on the main character himself, and all other characters will be tied to the center. On the basis of one central event, a plot is built based on one central reality, including all its components. It reveals a special view of reality. Short novels transform simple representations of reality into clear visual actions.

The novel "Wheels of time" is also considered one of the brightest manifestations of the novel. This novel is a realistic work in which psychologism is strongly depicted. We can see this when Salva Bakr is able to convey the struggle of the inner world of the hero very beautifully. Throughout the work, Hassan is accompanied by two partners: the first Hasan is conscience, the second Hassan is lust, the third is the hero himself. Throughout the work, the hero constantly argues with these two characters, sometimes argues with lust, sometimes listens to what conscience says, but the final decision is made by the hero's himself. According to the witty representative of Uzbek literature Utkir Hashimov: "If the heart listened to intelligence, everything would fall into place!"³

But that's not possible. This struggle takes place in the inner world of every person, no one can escape this struggle. Throughout life, human behavior arises from disputes between passion, conscience, mind and heart in the inner world of a person. Sometimes he makes the right decisions, sometimes he makes the wrong decisions.

And the main idea of the work is time, life, the priceless good of life. In the novel, his vanity and senselessness are very beautifully revealed, he should not be overlooked, wandering around trifles and indulging in dreams. The reason why the title of the work is also symbolically called the "Wheels of Time" is that time does not stop in one breath, it is always moving, it is necessary to use it usefully, not to waste your life. The author reveals the idea of the work only through one episode in which Hasan regretted that he had wasted

³ Hoshimov O`. Daftar hoshiyasidagi bitiklar.-T.: "Sharq," 2015,- B.56.



his life, and eventually found himself in a state of regret and bewilderment:

"- And now, here, he left me alone in this station. Maybe he'll come, maybe he never comes. And I thought about what he said-I've missed trains several times in my life. The train of my life..... " ⁴

Here the author expressed through symbols that the train is a symbol of life. He likens missed opportunities to trains that have left, that is, the fact that in his youth he did not even graduate from school, did not go to university, his wife died prematurely, he had no children, did not appreciate Sokhba's love and she left him, opened a dealership together with the leaders of international criminal gangs, was captured by criminals and eventually stayed with nothing.

In this novel we also see the inner experiences of the writer Salva Bakr and the various problems she faced in the life of society -she was able to convey to the reader with great enthusiasm through the pen. On every page of the Novel, the true essence that the writer wanted to tell about is hidden. The highest purpose of the sage is to reveal not only life phenomena, but also mystical secrets in which we observe elements of powerful psychologism. It is read that the purpose of a person's life in this world is not only to eat, drink, get drunk from the pleasures of the world or skip his life, succumbing to his whims, but also to live with dignity, appreciating every second, keeping a good name for himself, maintaining sincere relationships and being content with the life spent. The novel outlines the thoughts that a person's life is very short, that he needs to live this short life with benefit and fertility. Salva Bakr is known for the fact that in her novel "Wheels of Time" she raised political, economic and social problems that led to the most painful and

sad consequences in Egypt. Through the image of the main character of the novel, it was possible to fully show illiteracy, naivety, indifference of the common people to changes in the life of society, misappropriation of Egyptian rarities, theft and various vices that hinder the prosperity of the state.

Salva Bakr also included a love motive in the novel. The hero, named Sokhba, a less beautiful and slender village woman in the work contributed to a more expressive development of the plot of the novel, the disclosure of the emotional experiences of the hero, as well as greater clarity of the novel's intent. This woman entertains Hasan, despite the fact that she has her own husband, she fell in love with Hasan, an egoist who does not think about anyone else, who grew up a slave of the soul, chasing only wealth. She takes care of his sheep without any payment, takes Hasan close to her heart, gives him what she has. In return, she does not demand anything, loves him with her sincere pure love, but Hasan, who measures everything with money, gives her money in exchange for the selfless work she does. Greatly offended by this, she leaves him, realizing that his love was only the satisfaction of his ambitions, that his love is not worth it. One of the pressing problems of our days faced by Salva Bakr is that feeling of love, sincerity, love between people penetrate into the reality of work.

The novel is based on the retrospective plot. The work begins with Hasan reluctantly buying three sheep from the villagers. He passes these three sheep to the shepherd woman of his close acquaintance, that is the Sokhba, with whom he met in this way. At the starting point of the novel, a dark night begins, from which we can notice a hint that the dark days of the life of the main character of the work, of Hasan, will begin. Symbolism is strong in the novel. We can clearly trace

⁴سلوى بكر. سواقي الوقت. دار الهلال. ٢٠٠٣، ص-126



this symbolism in the author's attention to detail in the novel - to the speech, appearance, and inner world of his characters.

"From the power of the impact of the artistic word, the heart trembles, enchants, is filled with delight. From the loss of a genuine work of art, a special warmth and light arises in the soul. Controversial dialogues begin, disputes with the author of the work, his characters or the essence of the depicted reality. A good book becomes a lifelong heir and companion of a person."⁵ Even in this work, watered by the power of the artistic word, we can clearly trace the writer's skill in carefully examining every detail-speech, appearance, the inner world of the characters. The author draws portrait lines as follows:

همهم الرجلان احترام مستنكرين ما قاله، و لم يكونوا قد نطقا بأي شيء قبل ذلك. كان تحميني أنهما ربما كانا ولديه أو بعضا من أقربائه، فملا محهما شبيهة بملامحه. أنف ضخمة على نحو واضح، و ذقن رفيع مدبب، نقلت بصري إلى الخراف بسرعة، كان واحد منها يقرون طويلة ضخمة، والثاني بدأ أقل حجما و لرفعة داكنة على ظهره، الثالث كان هزيلا و ببطن منتفخ بعض الشيء⁶

The two men were respectful and disapproving of what he said, and had never spoken anything before. He was protecting me that maybe they were his sons or some of his relatives, their features are similar to his. A distinctly huge nose and a thin pointed chin, I quickly transferred my sight to the sheep, one of which was with huge long horns, the second began slimmer and with a dark bump on his back, the third was lean and with a slightly bulging belly.

عبد الغفار الحفير بعين مفقوعة و وجه مطبق ممصوص و رأسه مغلف بعمامة كبيرة فهتمت من متولي صاحب الكشك أن الحاج شريف

الهوري جاء به خصيصا من بلدته الصعيدية البعيدة ليحرس عمارته التي لم ينته بناؤها بعد⁷

"Abdul Ghaffar Al-Hafir with a missing eye and a face applied sucked and his head wrapped in a large turban I understood from Meetvali , the owner of the booth that Haj Sharif Al-Hawari came with him specially from his distant town of Saidiyya to guard his building, which is not finished yet"

In the novel "Wheels of time", the speech of the characters, especially the dialogues, is a key element that reveals the idea of the work. Even at the climax of the work, the writer tried to describe the situation through dialogues :

" One morning, not having had remove one side of the beard, the phone rang:

- Have you seen today's newspaper?
- Peace?
- Your partner accuses Khalik of the crime of kidnapping valuable antiques. His accomplices were caught. He was handed over to Interpol. This is reported on page 1 of the newspaper " Al-Ahram".
- Nadir, oh so bad news!
- Hasan, be careful, you will also be interrogated. Dealers also check branches. Secure the papers by pinning them everywhere. Also look through company documents, documents for hot water, cold water, electricity, gas. Behave yourself as if you are not connected with him. If you need a lawyer, I have an experienced lawyer, a master of his craft.⁸

⁵ Bahodir Karim. Ruhiyat alifbosi G`.G`ulom nomidagi nashriyot-matbaa uyi;T-2018;B-320-321.

⁶ سلوى بكر. سواقي الوقت. دار الهلال. ٢٠٠٣، ص-16

⁷ سلوى بكر. سواقي الوقت. دار الهلال. ٢٠٠٣، ص-25

⁸ سلوى بكر. سواقي الوقت. دار الهلال. ٢٠٠٣، ص-121-122



Documents were effectively used in the Novel. By providing materials for the press, that is, a newspaper article, the author provides information about the socio-political situation in Egypt. The paper contains the following article:

“The criminal gang was formed from Egyptians and citizens of different European countries, and thousands of rarities were prepared for export to Switzerland. The antiquities were of Pharaoh's time. They were officially registered as fictitious copies. According to the testimony of the arrested members, there were several warehouses in Cairo, Alexandria, Badrishin. As it turned out, the gang was headed by the chairman of the dealer company of famous branded watches “Hadoikul kubba”. (Full information on 14-page)”

Bad news. I repeated it to me on the way to the company. As soon as I got to the front door, Abdul Ghaffar Al-Khafir was standing.

- Good morning, Mr. Hasan. I answered him dismissively and hardly saw what was in front of me.
- Thank Allah, it's good that I met you. I came to your office late at night and asked you, you left earlier. In general, I wanted to say about the shepherd woman.
- Mr. Hasan wanted to see you. The sooner you get there, the better," I told her. I told the shepherd woman that she would speak to you. She said: "I won't be herding sheep anymore. Our score didn't match. Everyone goes their own way."

I didn't tell him anything. Today is the day I hear bad news.⁹

The work is full of symbolic expressive means. The beginning of the novel begins with a dark night, immersed in darkness, but the work ends at dawn. It's symbolic. We know that the main character of the work, Hasan, is symbolically blind, that is, at night he cannot see changes in life, cannot find himself, and the inability to see simple truth is that the eyes of the heart are not open. But at the end of the work, at dawn, the eyes of his heart light up, and he realizes that everything he has done wrong, his eyes open.

"One of the most important means of revealing the psyche of a character in a literary work, creating an image of a person as a whole, is the character's speech. Along with the increase in the weight of dialogue in modern prose, the role of the character's speech in creating an image has also increased. Through the individualization of the character's speech, you can convey a lot to the reader about his personality, worldview, psyche in a particular life situation. In the dialogues, the character's speech is accompanied by brief, concise comments by the author. These comments, informing about the facial expressions of the character, physiological changes in him, are great important. They enable the reader to hear the character's speech, see and understand his actions and, on this basis, feel his psyche at the moment."¹⁰

Indeed, the novel is immersed in artistic psychology from beginning to end. The writer effectively uses such psychological means of representation as “internal monologue“, “stream of consciousness“, “narration from the author's language” in revealing the

⁹سلوى بكر. سواقي الوقت. دار الهلال. ٢٠٠٣، ص-123-122

¹⁰ D.Quronov, Z.Mamajonov, M.Sheraliyeva.

Adabiyotshunoslik lug`ati, Akademnashr, T.:2013, B-49.



character's psyche. The writer managed to enrich and beautify the art of the work by using simple, sublime and necessary words in the right place, and not excessively quiet, harsh, overly grateful words. He pays special attention to the naturalistic representation of a place in the expression of space and time, that is, not a selective representation of the vital material, but its detailed representation.

It is known in world literature that moving plots migrate from people to people, from one nation to another. Salva Bakr also lists at the end of the work what motives served as the basis for the appearance of this work, which works it was inspired by.

The way the main hero of the "Tale of the city of Nukhos" in the five hundred sixty-third night of the arabic famous work "One thousand one nights" entered the city "Nukhos" and managed to open its closed doors, the fact that he managed to avoid the temptation of charming women who called him standing at the high city wall, and did not even turn to them and throw himself into their arms, as his predecessors did, his determination and she also considers that current heroes should be the same as the hero of the city of Nukhos, overcome all difficulties to achieve their goals without succumbing to the pleasures of the world, to win in life, without deviating from your path.¹¹

"The hero of the story, written by another famous Russian writer Anton Chekhov, also becomes a simple petty trader in occupation of bookselling, that is, for more profit."¹² In this story, the writer managed to reveal the sad situation of an entire nation by the example of the fate of one person. Members of society are more likely to buy consumer goods to satisfy their

desires than books in which science is the focus of enlightenment, which in itself leads to the fact that the hero of the work changes his goal, abandons his values in pursuit of greater profit, falls into decline.

These two aforementioned works openly talk about what prompted Salva Bakr to write this work, inspired by it, and urge people not to forget about their values and not to stray from the path and courageously overcome life's difficulties.

تكتشف رواية " سواقي الوقت " عن التحولات الانسانية في عالما. والتي باتت تسود كل مناحي الحياة ضمن زمن منفلت يصعب الامساك به، و عبر اليات هائلة معقدة من الزيف و الكذب و التدليس، و يتم ذلك كله دون مصداق مقاومة و مواجهة و اعية باللحظة الراهنة و انقلاباتها.¹³

"The novel "Wheels of Time" explores the human transformations in our world, which has come to prevail in all walks of life within a time of impetuous difficult to catch, and through the huge mechanisms complex of falsehood, lies and fraud, and all this is done without obstacles resistance and confrontation and aware of the current moment and its coups".

CONCLUSION

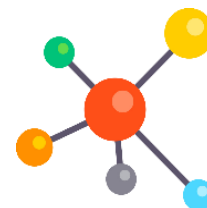
Salva Bakr is considered a writer who made a great contribution to the development of the modern Egyptian novel. We have seen that his artistic skill is at a high level thanks to the work of the "Wheel of time". The original and unique manner of writing makes the work convincing and touching. Through symbolic images, the writer encourages people to think about life throughout their lives.

The main aspect that distinguishes a person from other beings is his intelligence. To be the true bearers of this thinking, to remain true to our values in any difficult

¹¹سلوى بكر. سواقي الوقت. دار الهلال. ٢٠٠٣، ص-127

¹²سلوى بكر. سواقي الوقت. دار الهلال. ٢٠٠٣، ص-128

¹³سلوى بكر. سواقي الوقت. دار الهلال. ٢٠٠٣، ص-142



and extremely difficult situation, not to fly into the world's lies, charms, to preserve our identity is our highest goal.

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