

ANNOTATION

dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
under the specialty «6D021400 – Literary Studies»

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«The model of the city and the national mentality in modern Kazakh prose»

The dissertation work deals with the principles of building an artistic model of the city in modern Kazakh prose, the psychology of urban characters and the problems of urban mentality. The development, the study of urban prose in world literature and the theoretical foundations of modeling a work of art are determined within the framework of the theme. The works written on the theme of the city in Kazakh literature are identified and the analysis of individual works of writers is carried out within the framework of the research.

The relevance of the research lies in the fact that within the framework of the topic the definition of the historical, theoretical, comparative and practical foundations of the subject of research is given.

In the conditions of the new global development of Kazakhstan, identifying the trends in the development of culture and literature, art of the country, the study of urban mentality and everyday life in national and world literature becomes important as a factor contributing to the modernization of consciousness.

The main purpose of the research is to analyze and interpret the peculiarities of the image in works of art in the conditions of interaction of national mentality and urban mentality, as well as factors that affect it, the transition from rural to urban lifestyle, adaptation to urban life, the emergence of new typical models of the city, the formation of the metropolitan mentality through psychoanalytic research of the lifestyle of an urban person in the fiction. The President of the country K. Tokayev in the article «Abai and Kazakhstan in the XXI century» paid close attention to the increase of cities [1]. Also, in his Message to the people of Kazakhstan dated September 1, 2020, the President highlighted the issue of giving a new impact to the development of monotowns [2]. Therefore, in order to be in the ranks of civilized countries as a spiritually mature nation it is important not only to preserve national values but also to modernize them in a new quality, and namely this is the basis for the special importance of researching works written on the topic of the city.

The first works which depict the city appeared in the world literature already in the ancient centuries. «During the Renaissance people dreamed of an «ideal city», and their utopian ideas were reflected in the works of that period. Eventually, the image of the city begins to get a negative character. Two ways of depicting the city are formed – humanistic and alien to humanity. If in the first method the artist describes the world in bright images, warm colors, then in the second – the world is cold, and the personality is lonely and anxious. Over the

course of time, the image of the city begins to acquire a negative character. Two ways of depicting the city are formed – humanistic and alien to humanity. If in the first method the artist describes the world in bright images, warm colors, then in the second-the world is cold, and the personality is lonely and anxious. Optimistic writers used the first method. The second approach was formed in the late XIX-early XX centuries. In 1895 the Belgian poet E. Verhaeren published a collection of poems «Octopus Cities». In the collection the poet says that European cities can easily throw people into the downfall. Around the same time the Russian writer A. Bely performed the first edition of the novel «Petersburg» that presents a negative image of Northern Venice, one of the most beautiful cities in the world» [3].

In the past centuries E. Zola, V. Hugo, E. Hemingway, A. Camus, F. Dostoevsky, L. Tolstoy, A. Pushkin, A. Chekhov, M. Bulgakov and other world-famous writers applied the topic of the city. Kazakh writers in Kazakh literature invariably turn to this topic from the beginning of the XX century to the present day. Literary figures did not ignore the capital and major cities of the country, thus creating artistic models of cities which became centers of education and science, art and production and presented these cities to the whole world. Wonderful works have been created in Kazakh literature in which models of such historical and cultural cities as Almaty, Nur-Sultan, Kyzylorda, Semey are reconstructed. The analysis of these works and the identification of artistic models of cities reflects the specifics of our research work.

In world literary studies «the study of the urban environment comes from Aristotle and Plato. Later, T. More and T. Campanella also wrote about the city» [3, p. 277]. Interest in urban literature in Russian literary studies appeared in the nineteenth century. Russian literary critic V. Sharavin in his doctoral dissertation on «Urban prose of the 70-80-ies of the XX century» showed that the essay «The city and the village» by F. Glinka and the articles by V. Belinsky, A. Grigoriev became the first works that studied the urban theme [4].

Russian researcher E.V. Kosintseva in the article «Reception of the European city in the prose of E.D. Aipin (on the question of the urban code of Khanty literature)» begins theoretical research of urban texts with the works of N.P. Antsiferov: «The first attempts of theoretical understanding of texts that reflect the specifics of the locus go back to the works of N.P. Antsiferov about St. Petersburg» [5]. In the scientific work «Urban text» of V. Nabokov's Russian novels of the 1920s-1930s» [6] T.S. Krivolutskaya also said that the study of the city as a separate organism with its vital activity at the junction of various sciences was first suggested by N. Antsiferov.

Researcher N.P. Antsiferov in the course of analyzing the literary and critical heritage of A.I. Herzen comes to the conclusion that «A.I. Herzen who is so little theoretically familiar with the problems of the philosophy of history, approached this task with his instinct and gave us a passing sketch that covers this problem. In his article «Venezia la bella» he tries to present the city as a living organism» [7]. N.P. Antsiferov, continuing his thoughts about the city, considers the city as a historical and cultural organism: «The city is the most specific cultural and historical organism for studying. Its soul can easily open up to us. Thus, the

Toscana city of Siena promises not only to those who study it, but even to everyone who enters it, to open not only the gates, but also the heart» [7, p. 29]. In the opinion of the same scientist «the city is the most concrete, steady, complex social organism» [8]. The researcher comes to the conclusion that through studying in particular the fate of people in the city we thereby learn the culture of the country as a whole. At the beginning of the XX century the representative of the Tartu-Moscow semiotic school Yu. Lotman put forward a similar opinion [9].

In Kazakh literature, many works have been created which illustrate the psychology of urban heroes, the peculiarities of national thinking. For example, it is known that Soviet scientists studied the awakening of consciousness and the development of intelligence in young people were studied [10]. However, this theme has not yet lost its significance and requires a deep study of the psychology of not only the younger but also the older generation. Firstly, social inequality and the economic crisis in society give rise to a spiritual crisis. Homelessness in a strange city and the lack of family finances have a significant impact on a person's psychology. Secondly, the development of computer technologies and the Internet isolates people from society, inspires them with a sense of loneliness and cruelty and contributes to the lack of spirituality, lack of culture of the generation of people. Therefore, the analysis of works that describe the behavior of urban characters from the point of view of such sciences as psychology, pedagogy, aesthetics and literary studies gives great importance to research work.

Theoretical and methodological foundations of research work. The research work was made based on the works «Aesthetics of verbal creativity» by M. Bakhtin, «About the theory of artistic speech» by V. Vinogradov, «The structure of a literary text» by Yu. Lotman, «Adebiet tanytkysh» («Literary studies») by A. Baitursynov, «Soz oneri» («The Art of the word») by Z. Kabdolov, «Avtor zhane shygarmashylyk process» («The author and the creative process») by M. Orazbek and other scientists who studied a work of art in world and domestic literature in poetic, aesthetic, psychological, functional and stylistic aspects.

The purpose and tasks of the research work. Urban space plays an important role in human life. The image of a city person, a house, the capital of the country is a common feature peculiar to foreign and Kazakh writers. The purpose of our research work is to identify the ideological, spiritual search of Kazakh writers in the description of the psychological climate and the features of the image of the city model in artistic creativity, thereby determining the contribution of a sovereign country to the universal literary and cultural process.

In order to achieve the set purpose of the research work it was planned to solve the following **tasks**:

- to determine the scientific and theoretical aspects of the concept of «artistic model» in literary studies and the basic principles of modeling in a work of art;

- to comprehend and distinguish the concepts of «urban mentality», «national mentality» and «urban psychology» through analyzing the content of a work of art following the scientific works of psychologists, philosophers, literary critics and linguists;

– to make a comparative analysis of various types of city models, ways of their formation and development in the domestic and world literature;

– to prove, using the scientific works of researchers, that the term «urban text» appeared in world literature at the beginning of the XX century in relation to the works of writers O. Balzac, C. Dickens, T. Mann, A. Camus, F. Dostoevsky, A. Chekhov, M. Gorky, M. Bulgakov, etc., the theme of the city in Kazakh literature was formed at the end of the XX century;

– comparing the works of foreign writers about such capitals of the world as London, Paris, Moscow with the works of Kazakh writers that depict the cities of Almaty and Nur-Sultan to determine that the capital is the basis for strengthening and prosperity of the state and its recognition in the world.

– to compare works with urban themes written during the Soviet period and works about the city created during the years of independence;

– to analyze and investigate the psychological and everyday state of the urban population due to the change of time and society;

– to analyze the models of the city that emerged in the Kazakh prose of the XX and XXI centuries, as well as the change in the mentality of the nation that occurred as a result of the actualization of existential problems in the urban tense rhythm of life (loneliness, success, place in life, etc.) using hermeneutic and historical-typological research methods.

The object of the study. Prosaic works on the theme of the city in modern Kazakh and world literature.

Scientific novelty of the research work.

– the correlation of the terms «model» and «modeling» in fiction is scientifically grounded according to the concepts of «technē» and «mimesis» in ancient aesthetic thinking;

– it is established that the term «urban text» appeared in world literature at the beginning of the XX century relating to the works of writers O. Balzac, C. Dickens, T. Mann, A. Camus, F. Dostoevsky, A. Chekhov, M. Gorky, M. Bulgakov, etc., and in Kazakh literature the theme of the city was formed at the end of the XX century;

– the behavior of citizens, the description of cities in the literary works of philosophers and poets who lived in the Middle Ages, namely J. Balasaguni («Kutadgu Bilig») and A. Yasavi («Diwani hikmet») were analyzed for the first time;

– it is scientifically grounded that for the purpose of a deeper knowledge of history, art, culture and intercultural relations, the insights which reconstruct the artistic model of the capital of this country are of particular importance; this assumption is formed based on the analysis of such novels as «London. Biography» (2000) by Peter Akroyd, «Just Together» (2004) by the French writer Anna Gavalda, «The Book without no Pictures» (2011) by the Russian writer Sergei Shargunov, «Alma-Ata is my City» (1941-1942) by Baubek Bulkyshev, «Guest» (2005) by Serik Asylbekovich, «Moonlight Darkness» by Turysbek Sauketaev (2011) and «Ak Orda» (2005) by Dukenbai Doszhan;

– the research of the peculiarities of the the city and village images, as well as the change in the mentality of the nation which happened as a result of the actualization of existential problems (loneliness, success, place in life, etc.) in the works of writers M. Auezov, O. Bokey, D. Ashimkhanovich, T. Akhmetzhan, R. Mukanova, etc., describing urban life in Kazakh prose of the XX-XXI centuries was carried out on the basis of the hermeneutic and historical-typological method.

Conclusions submitted for defence.

– the artistic model of the city is reflected in literary works through the author's consciousness. This fact is determined based on the works «Modeling as a cultural problem» by R.Yu. Porozov, «Homomorphisms and models. Logical-algebraic aspects of modeling» by Yu.A. Gastev, «The structure of a literary text» by Yu.M. Lotman;

– the artistic embodiment of the real living conditions of the city as a certain historical and national color emerged in literature in ancient times;

– it was established that in order to denote one of the directions of post – war Soviet literature, the term «urban prose» was introduced into scientific literature in Russian literary studies in the late 1970s – early 1980s;

– the research of urban prose in world literature is systematized based on the research works «The creative work of Francois Rabelais and the folk culture of the Middle Ages and Renaissance» by M. Bakhtin, «Urban prose of the 70 – 80s of the XX century» by A. Sharavin, «The city as a cultural phenomenon in Russian, American and Western European literature» by L. Nabilkina, «The artistic world of Yu.V. Trifonov in the context of urban prose of the second half of the XX century» by M. Selemeneva, etc.;

– the examples that were presented in the work «Babynama» by Zahir ad-Din Babyr, who lived in the XV-XVI centuries, show the characteristic peculiarities of the lifestyle of the population of the medieval cities of Andijan, Margilan, Ahsi, Osh, Isfara, Khojent which are now located on the territory of the modern states of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan;

– during the review of the works of Kazakh writers who worked at the beginning of the XX century, M. Auezov, B. Maylin, Zh. Aimautov, S. Yerubayev, B. Bulkyshhev, Z. Kabdолоv, T. Akhtanov, A. Nurshaikov, D. Isabekov, it was found that the artistic models of the city are reflected as follows: «city – a center of education and science», «city – a center of entertainment», «city – poverty», «city – an industrial center», «city – a beauty», «city – a place of love», «city – a grave»;

– in the prosaic works written at the beginning of the XX century, the artistic model «city – a center of education and science» is clearly formed in the description of the city, in the 50s of the XX century, the model «city – an industrial center» predominates and since the 1970s and 1980s the range of models has significantly expanded in the works: «city – an entertainment center», «city – a student life», «city – a place of love»;

– a number of significant social and political changes have taken place in the Republic of Kazakhstan since the beginning of the 1990s: the dynamic development of trade, the emergence of private property relations, the transformation of various organizations of education, science, property, healthcare,

mass media, etc. These changes caused various transformations in the character and consciousness of a person, as well as the emergence of contradictions in his actions. These tendencies are analyzed based on the works of Talaptan Akhmetzhan, Rosa Mukanova, Didakhmet Ashimkhanovich;

– at the end of the XX century it became obvious that the chase of excessive material goods and complete immersion in everyday problems leads to inattention to the spiritual state, as a result of which there was a rejection by people of art of the support of consumer society and mutually, society underestimated the contribution of people of art to the development of culture. This situation is reflected in the works of the writer Rosa Mukanova («You yourself», «The Composer»);

– the problem of homelessness, which is considered the most significant social problem, is also reflected in modern Kazakh prose and was analyzed by us based on the stories «Paper City» by Kanagat Abulhair and «Apartment» by Koishybek Mubarak;

– new approaches of writers to the description of life in the city were analyzed on the example of the novel «Kaladagi Kutpandar» («City dogs») by the writer Askar Altai and the story «Tort Kanden» («Four dogs») by Talaptan Akhmetzhan;

– in the story «Kaladagy Kutpandar» («City dogs») by the writer Askar Altai in the form of references to specific historical facts that took place in Kazakh society at the end of the XX century strengthen the artistry of the work, create historical and social prerequisites for the narrative while the author does not express his own opinion about these events;

– considerable attention is paid to the study of the image of the capital in a work of fiction in domestic and foreign literary studies because the study of works written about the main city of a particular country on the one hand, gives an idea of urban life, the mentality and psychology of people, their living conditions and on the other hand, it is a unique opportunity to learn the history of the city of a certain period in the understanding of the writer under research;

– images of different types of capitals have been revealed in the works of authors who have written about the capitals of the world: for example, in the novel of an English author, the capital is a construct, which consists of historical materials and cultural researches; in the novel of a French writer, the problem of loneliness of heroes in a megalopolis, which is characteristic of Western literature is highlighted in detail; in the novel of a Russian writer, it is told about the hero's leaving the capital and return to the village which is reflected in many works of Russian literature of the second half of the XX century; in the work of the Kazakh writer, we see sincere admiration for the image of the head of the country, this work emphasizes the importance of creating a new capital in a young sovereign state;

– we developed the artistic concept of personality based on the following works of modern Kazakh prose: the novel «Ak Orda» by Dukenbai Doszhan, the trilogy «Oh, the Brilliant World» by Mir Shayyr, the epic novel «The Twentieth Century» (the fourth book) by Sabit Dosanov. In the above – mentioned works the

prose writers accurately recreated the biographical and psychological portrait of the first President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Elbasy Nursultan Abishevich Nazarbayev.

Research methods. The research work is based on general scientific methods: analysis, differentiation, induction, typological comparison and comparative, cultural and historical analysis, biographical, reception analysis of literary works.

The structure of the dissertation work. The dissertation work consists of an introduction, three main chapters (each chapter consists of three sections), a conclusion and a list of references.

SUMMARY OF THE DISSERTATION WORK

The significance, theoretical and methodological foundations, the purpose and tasks of the study, the object of research, scientific novelty, conclusions submitted for defense, research methods are reflected in the introduction of the dissertation.

The first chapter of the work: «**Urban Prose: Genesis and Research**» consists of three internal sections. It analyzes the development, the study of urban prose in world literature, the theoretical foundations of modeling a work of art and makes appropriate theoretical conclusions.

In the first section of this chapter: «**1.1 Modeling of a work of art: theoretical and historical aspects**» it is analyzed that due to its universality, the concept of «model» is closely connected with the concept of «technē» rooted in ancient aesthetic thinking, the three main meanings of which in the Greek language indicated craft, science and art, and the concept of «modeling» was associated with the ancient concept of «mimesis». Moreover, the fact that the artistic model of the city is reflected in literary works through the author's consciousness is formulated based on the works «Homeomorphisms and models. Logical-algebraic aspects of modeling» [11] Yu.A. Gastev, «The structure of a literary text» [12] Yu.M. Lotman. It also determines the theoretical foundations of modeling a literary text in literary studies.

Further, in the section «**1.2 The development of urban prose in world literature**» it is said that the artistic embodiment of the real living conditions of the city as a certain historical and national color arose in literature in ancient times and consequently, urban prose also emerged in the literature of ancient times and is associated with Egyptian, Babylonian – Assyrian, Greek and Roman myths. Besides, the works written in the world literature in the Middle Ages and Renaissance are analyzed. The formation and development of the «Petersburg text», the «Moscow text» which has developed in Russian literature is supported by concrete examples. It is established that in order to denote one of the directions of post – war Soviet literature the term «urban prose» was introduced into scientific literature in Russian literary studies in the late 1970s – early 1980s.

In the section «**1.3 Research of urban prose in world literary studies**», the study of urban prose in world literature is systematized based on the research works «The work of Francois Rabelais and the folk culture of the Middle Ages and

Renaissance» by M. Bakhtin, «Urban prose of the 70-80-ies of the XX century» by A. Sharavin, «The city as a cultural phenomenon in Russian, American and Western European literature» by L. Nabilkina, «The artistic world of Yu.V. Trifonov in the context of urban prose of the second half of the XX century» by M. Selemeneva and others;

The image of the city in Kazakh prose including the city models in ancient Turkic and medieval literature, literature of the XX century, the psychology of urban characters in Kazakh prose are analyzed in the second chapter «**Urban image and urban mentality in Kazakh literature**».

In the section «**2.1 Models of cities in ancient Turkic and medieval literature**» it is established that in the works of such thinkers as Al-Farabi, Zh.Balasagun, A. Yasavi who lived on the Kazakh land in the IX-XII centuries, as well as in the work of Zahir ad-Din Babyr «Babyrnama» who lived in the XV-XVI centuries, cities and the character of urban people are described in detail.

In the next section «**2.2 The model of the city and national knowledge in Kazakh literature**», examples from works of fiction confirm the fact that in the prose written at the beginning of the XX century the city is described as a center of education and science, by the 50s of the XX century the city begins to be described as a center of production, and since the 1970s and 1980s the range of urban themes has expanded in works.

In the last section «**2.3 Psychology of urban characters and urban mentality in Kazakh prose**», it is determined that in the works of Kazakh writers there is a special reflection of the fear that people would lose the national mentality accumulated for centuries with moving from the village to the city. Political changes in the life of the country that have appeared since independence, dynamically developing trade, the emergence of private property relations, the transformation of various educational and scientific organizations, healthcare, the media, etc. caused various changes in the character and consciousness of a person, and also the emergence of contradictions in his actions and in his character. These changes were analyzed based on the works of Talaptan Akhmetzhan, Rosa Mukanova, Didakhmet Ashimkhanovich. The problem of homelessness which is the most significant social problem, is also analyzed in modern Kazakh prose based on the stories «The Paper City» by Kanagat Abulkhair and «Apartment» by Koishybek Mubarak.

The third chapter «**Models of cities in the prose of the XXI century**» deals with the artistic model of cities in modern Kazakh prose, the model of world capitals in modern foreign and Kazakh prose, the identity of the urban person in modern Kazakh prose.

The first section «**3.1 Artistic model of cities in modern Kazakh prose**» formulates the fact that the theme of the city is widely disclosed and developed in modern Kazakh prose. This fact is confirmed during the analysis of the works of writers Dukenbai Doszhan, Askar Altai, Rosa Mukanova, Aigul Kemelbaeva. In the stories, novellas and novels of the above – mentioned prose writers the image of urban people and their worldview is clearly revealed through a reliable description of life in the city. The variety of ways in which writers show the life in

the city is demonstrated in the framework of the story «Kaladagi Kutpandar» («City dogs») by Askar Altai and the story «Tort Kanden» («Four Dogs») by Talaptan Akhmetzhan.

The next section «**3.2 Model of world capitals in modern foreign and Kazakh prose**» is dedicated to the image of the capital in the works of modern foreign and Kazakh writers. The object of the research is the novels of the English writer Peter Ackroyd «London. Biography» (2000), «Just together» (2004) by the French writer Anna Gavalda, the novel «The Book without no Pictures» (2011) by the Russian writer Sergei Shargunov, as well as such famous novels by Kazakh authors as «Alma-Ata is my City» (1941-1942) by Baubek Bulkyshiev, «The Guest» (2005) by Serik Asylbekovich, «Moonlight Darkness» (2011) by Turysbek Sauketayev and «Ak Orda» (2005) by Dukenbai Doszhan.

Within the framework of the research, it is proved that the images of the capital of various types are traced in the works of the authors that are taken as the object of research: images of different types of capitals have been revealed in the works of authors who have written about the capitals of the world: for example, in the novel of an English author, the capital is a construct which consists of historical materials and cultural researches; in the novel of a French writer, the problem of loneliness of heroes in a megalopolis which is characteristic of Western literature is highlighted in detail; in the novel of a Russian writer, it is told about the hero's leaving the capital and return to the village which is reflected in many works of Russian literature of the second half of the XX century; in the work of the Kazakh writer Dukenbai Doszhan we can see sincere admiration for the image of the head of the country, this work about Astana emphasizes the importance of creating a new capital in a young sovereign state.

In the third section: «**3.3 The identity of an urban person in modern Kazakh prose**» based on the works of researchers who deeply studied the problem of the author and the hero in a work of fiction it is formulated that the author's creative personality in the content of the work is known through the behavior, actions, being of all the heroes. In the author's work with a strong creative personality, the fact is determined that all the characters starting with the main character, consistently in an organized manner behave with an inherent identity which is not similar to each other and follow the author's idea.

This section of the research work deals with the image of the First President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Elbasy Nursultan Abishevich Nazarbayev in modern Kazakh prose, namely in the novel «Ak Orda» by Dukenbai Doszhan, the trilogy «Oh, the Brilliant World» by Mir Shayyr, the epic novel «The Twentieth Century» (the fourth book) by Sabit Dosanov. As the history of any city is connected with the name of a certain person. There are many cities in history named after people who have relation to the history of this city. For example, the city of Washington is named after the first US president George Washington and the city of St. Petersburg is connected with the name of Peter I. The current new capital of Kazakhstan also changed its name «Astana» to «Nur – Sultan» in honor of the First President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Elbasy N.A. Nazarbayev, because he initiated not only the transfer of the capital from Almaty to Astana but

also created a project of the city as a whole and many architectural structures in particular. For this reason, we cannot separate the artistic images of the city and the individual created in the above – mentioned works from each other.

In the **conclusion** of the dissertation work, the main conclusions that make up the core of our research work are given:

1) It is analyzed that due to its universality, the concept of «model» is closely connected with the concept of «technē» rooted in ancient aesthetic thinking, the three main meanings of which in the Greek language indicated craft, science and art, and the concept of «modeling» was associated with the ancient concept of «mimesis». And also the hypothesis that the artistic model of the city is reflected in literary works through the author's consciousness. This hypothesis is formulated based on the works «Homeomorphisms and models. Logical-algebraic aspects of modeling» Yu.A. Gastev, «The structure of a literary text» Yu.M. Lotman. It also determines the theoretical foundations of modeling a literary text in literary studies.

2) Through the analysis of the research of foreign and domestic scientists, the fact is confirmed that the artistic embodiment of the real living conditions of the city as a certain historical and national color has emerged in literature since ancient times and is associated with Egyptian, Babylonian – Assyrian, Greek and Roman myths. It shows the judgments that in the Old Testament, among the first builders of cities, Cain and the descendants of Ham, cursed by Noah (Nimrod, Assur) were branded ungodly and sinful at the foundation of Babylon (for the ambition and desire of its inhabitants to build a tower to heaven, equaling the most high), Sodom and Gomorrah, and the books of the prophets Ezekiel, Jeremiah draw pictures of dying cities destroyed by the natural forces of nature directed by God – fire, earthquake, etc. a flood. It is also determined that the term «urban text» emerged in world literature at the beginning of the XX century in relation to the works of writers O. Balzac, C. Dickens, T. Mann, A. Camus, F. Dostoevsky, A. Chekhov, M. Gorky, M. Bulgakov, etc.

3) It was formulated that in the world literary studies, researchers consider in various aspects the contradiction between the «desired village» and the «terrible city» and their significance in European culture from ancient times to the present day. The concepts of «Petersburg text» and «Moscow text» in Russian literary criticism are analyzed in detail.

4) It is determined that in the works of such thinkers as Al-Farabi, Zh. Balasagun, A. Yasavi, who lived on the Kazakh land in the IX-XII centuries, cities and the character of urban people are described in detail. The examples presented in the work «Baburnama» by Zahir ad-Din Babur, who lived in the XV-XVI centuries, show the characteristic peculiarities of the lifestyle of the population of the medieval cities of Andijan, Margilan, Ahsi, Osh, Isfara, Khojent which are now located on the territory of the modern states of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan.

5) It is confirmed by examples from works of fiction that in prose works written at the beginning of the XX century, the city is described as a center of education and science, by the 50s of the XX century, the city begins to be depicted

as a center of production, and since the 1970s and 1980s, the range of urban themes has been expanding in works.

6) Based on the works of Talaptan Akhmetzhan, Rosa Mukanova, Didakhmet Ashimkhanovich it is disclosed that a number of significant social and political changes, such as the dynamic development of trade, the emergence of private property relations, the transformation of various organizations of education, science, property, healthcare, mass media, etc. that have been in the Republic of Kazakhstan since the early 1990s, have caused various changes in the character and consciousness of a person, as well as the emergence of contradictions in his actions. And also, at the end of the XX century it became obvious that the chase of excessive material goods and complete immersion in everyday problems leads to inattention to spiritual values, as a result of which there was an underestimation of art people by society, and art people were also removed from society. This situation is reflected in the works of the writer Rosa Mukanova («You yourself», «The Composer»).

7) Based on the stories «Paper City» by Kanagat Abulkhair and «Apartment» by Koishybek Mubarak it is determined that the problem of homelessness which is considered the most urgent social problem is reflected in modern Kazakh prose.

8) It is defined that the theme of the city is widely revealed and developed in modern Kazakh prose and this is clearly observed in the works of writers Dukenbai Doszhan, Askar Altai, Rosa Mukanova, Aigul Kemelbaeva who comprehensively reveal the image of urban people through their worldview. Variety of ways in which writers describe the life in the city is demonstrated in the framework of the story «Kaladagi Kutpandar» («City dogs») by Askar Altai and the story «Tort Kenden» («Four dogs») by Talaptan Akhmetzhan.

9) Within the framework of the research, it is proved that the images of the capital of various types are traced in the works of the authors taken as the object of research: for example, in the novel of an English author, the capital is a construct which consists of historical materials and cultural researches; in the novel of a French writer, the problem of loneliness of heroes in a megalopolis which is characteristic of Western literature; in the novel of a Russian writer, it is told about the hero's leaving the capital and return to the village which is reflected in many works of Russian literature of the second half of the XX century; in the work of the Kazakh writer Dukenbai Doszhan we see sincere admiration for the image of the head of the country, in the work about Astana emphasizes the importance of creating a new capital in a young sovereign state.

10) Based on the works of researchers who have deeply studied the problem of the author, the hero in a work of art, it is formulated that the creative personality of the author in the content of the work is known through the behavior, actions, being of all the characters. In the author's work with a strong creative personality, the fact is determined that all the characters, starting with the main character, consistently, in an organized manner behave with an inherent identity that is not similar to each other and follow the author's idea.

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