

**Environmental Factors on Forming the Creative Personality:
Existence in spite of the challenges**
(Based on the novel “The Other Visage of Yearning” by Mammad Aliyev)

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Abstract. This research delves into the novel “The Other Visage of Yearning” by Mammad Aliyev, focusing on the role of environmental factors and life's adversities in shaping the creative personality of the protagonist, Murad. Through qualitative analysis, the study explores how cultural context, familial dynamics, and personal experiences influence Murad's artistic development amidst the socio-political turbulence of mid-20th century Azerbaijan. By examining Murad's journey, the research highlights the transformative potential of adversity and the profound impact of environmental challenges on fostering creativity. This study offers insights into the complex interplay between personal struggles and external influences in shaping the creative identities portrayed in literature. In essence, “The Other Visage of Yearning” is more than just a novel – it is a timeless exploration of human resilience, hope, and the enduring pursuit of dreams in the face of adversity. As readers immerse themselves in Murad's world, they are invited to reflect on their own journeys and the environmental influences that shape their creative identities.

Keywords: Azerbaijani literature, environmental factors, creative personality, cultural context, artistic development

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**Yaradıcı şəxsiyyətin formalaşmasında mühit amili:
Çətinliklərə rəğmən var olmaq**
(Məmməd Əliyevin “Həsərin o üzü” romanı əsasında)

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Annotasiya. Məqalədə Məmməd Əliyevin “Həsərin o üzü” romanı dərinlən araşdırılır və əsas diqqət baş qəhrəman Muradın yaradıcı şəxsiyyət kimi formalaşmasında həyatda yaşadığı çətinliklərin və mühit amilinin roluna yönəldilir. Aparılan təhlillər vasitəsilə mədəni kontekst, ailə dinamikası və şəxsi təcrübələrin XX əsrin ortalarında Azərbaycanın ictimai-siyasi təlatümləri şəraitində Muradın yaradıcı ruhunun inkişafına necə təsir etdiyi araşdırılır. Muradın keçdiyi həyat yolunu tədqiq etməklə, tədqiqat şəxsi həyatdakı çətinliklərin transformasiya potensialını və ekoloji problemlərin yaradıcılığın inkişafına dərin təsirini önə çəkir. Bu araşdırmaya əsasən ədəbiyyatda təsvir olunan yaradıcı şəxsiyyətlərin formalaşmasında şəxsi mübarizə və xarici təsirlər arasında mürəkkəb qarşılıqlı əlaqə haqqında iddialar irəli sürülür. Əslində, “Həsərin o üzü” sadəcə bir roman yox, həm də insanın dözümlülüyünün, ümidinin və çətinliklə üzləşsə də, davamlı olaraq arzularının arxasınca getməsinin bariz manifestidir. Əsər Muradın həyatı ilə tanış olan oxucunu öz həyat yoluna nəzər salmağa və onun yaradıcı şəxsiyyətini formalaşdıran amillər haqqında düşünməyə səsləyir.

Açar sözlər: Azərbaycan ədəbiyyatı, ətraf mühit amilləri, yaradıcı şəxsiyyət, mədəni kontekst, bədii inkişaf

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Introduction / Giriş

“The Other Visage of Yearning” by Mammad Aliyev is a profound autobiographical novel that delves into the social and political landscape of Azerbaijan during the 1950s and 1960s. Through its rich narrative and poignant character development, the novel encapsulates the trials and tribulations of a family grappling with the harsh realities of their time and was published with the epigraph, “I dedicate it to the dear memory of my mother Zuleikha”, setting a deeply personal and emotional tone. The first part of the novel comprises eight chapters: “The Guilt is on Treachery”, “Behind Six Suns”, “In the Bosom of the Mountains”, “In the Small City of Oil”, “A Summer Night”, “One Daytime in Every Night”, “Sweet Years of Life”, and “Neither an Exam nor a Test” and each chapter provides a

vivid portrayal of the family's struggles and resilience.

The story of the novel reflects the crisis-ridden lifestyle of a family amidst the tumultuous social and political processes in mid-20th century Azerbaijan. It chronicles the life of a mother and her two young children after the family loses their father to an act of treason. Forced to relocate to a remote village, the mother endures numerous hardships, determined to raise her children into honorable citizens despite the constant obstacles she faces. The father's death leaves a profound sense of longing on the faces of the two children and their mother, encapsulating a relentless and harsh reality. This narrative, in essence, serves as a modern epic.

Main Part / Əsas hissə

Methodology

The methodology used in this article is primarily qualitative literary analysis. The article examines the content and structure of “The Other Visage of Yearning” by Mammad Aliyev, focusing on themes, characters, and narrative techniques. It involves close reading and interpretation of the novel's text to uncover deeper meanings and insights. In addition, the article analyzes the central character, Murad, and his role within the novel. It explores Murad's emotions, relationships, and development throughout the story, drawing conclusions about his significance and impact on the narrative. A significant portion of the article focuses on the environmental influences shaping Murad's creative personality. It considers factors such as cultural milieu, family dynamics, and personal experiences, analyzing their impact on Murad's development as a character and as a creative individual. Overall, the methodology involves a comprehensive examination of the novel's content, characters, themes, and environmental influences, with a focus on interpretation and analysis rather than quantitative data or experimentation.

Character Analysis

Iraj, the father of Murad, one of the central figures in the novel, is modeled after the author's own father, Mammad Aliyev. Murad embodies the enlightened Azerbaijani youth of the 1950s. As the narrative unfolds, it becomes clear that Murad's experiences are a reflection of the author's own childhood dreams and unfulfilled aspirations. The character's emotions are intricately woven with a blend of joy and sorrow, capturing the innocence and sincerity of a child. As is known, *“unveiling the inner world by a writer has been a notable feature of social and cultural life throughout history which demands a specific writing finesse from the writer. This involves representing oneself as felt internally and defining oneself through thoughts and ideas”* [4]. This portrayal allows readers to deeply connect with Murad's longing and his vision of a romantic, idyllic world where his family is reunited and whole once again.

“The Other Visage of Yearning” is not just a family saga but also a documentary-publicistic novel. It explores themes of loss, resilience, and

the relentless pursuit of dreams amidst adversity. The author's narrative style is marked by its sensitivity and emotional depth, offering a vivid depiction of historical events and personal experiences. Literary critic Salida Sharifova believes that "*naming the protagonist Murad instead of the author's own name does not allow us to present the genre of the novel as autobiography*" [5]. She suggests that the novel be presented as a novel-confession.

"In the novel, the author looks back longingly from the mirror of his scientific and artistic thinking and observing the life left behind and describes the picture of what he sees through this mirror in a real and artistic form to his readers" [1]. Through Murad's story and his family's experiences, the novel offers a detailed account of the historical processes in Azerbaijan, particularly focusing on oil-rich Baku. The narrative sensitively portrays the socio-political dynamics of the time, providing readers with a nuanced understanding of the era's impact on individual lives and society.

Shaping Murad's Creative Persona: Cultural Context and Interpersonal Relations

In "The Other Visage of Yearning" by Mammad Aliyev, the environmental influences on shaping the creative personality of Murad are depicted in various ways, considering the context of the novel and its themes. As is known, "*cultural environment plays a significant role in the formation of creative personality*" [3]. In the novel, cultural milieu and the cultural background in which Murad is situated significantly influence his creative personality. The novel is set in a culturally rich and artistically vibrant environment, so Murad is inspired by the traditions, arts, and customs of his society, fostering his creative spirit. Conversely, if the cultural atmosphere was stifling or conservative, Murad might face challenges in expressing his creativity freely.

Family dynamics is also important for shaping the creative personality. Murad's family environment plays a crucial role. Supportive and nurturing family members encourage his artistic pursuits, providing him

with the confidence and resources to explore his creative talents. On the other hand, any familial conflicts or expectations could create obstacles to his artistic development, leading to inner turmoil and tension. The people with whom Murad interacts, including friends, mentors, and peers shape his creative personality. For example, with the help of Haji Ahmed, the librarian of the village where Murad lived, he was introduced Nizami's "The Treasury of Mysteries", Samad Vurgun's dramas, Jafar Jabbarli's stories, Mirza Fatali Akhundov's works. Positive relationships with people who appreciate his work bolsters his confidence and inspire him to push the boundaries of his creativity. Furthermore, Sugra Khanum, Murad's uncle Agamammad's wife was the librarian of Culture House. She knew that Murad was very fond of reading, so she used to bring him the newly published books to read. One day Sugra Khanum said:

"We have organized Fuzuli club at the initiative of Maryam Hasanzadeh in the House of Culture. All the literature lovers of the city, those who write poetry and short stories gather here, memorize M. Fuzuli's ghazals, and learn his vocabulary. I also enrolled you in this club" [2, p.203].

In the beginning of the 60s, this way of thinking, arising from great interest in literature and poetry, spread to everyone. Poetry and literary history were of great interest to many, becoming poets and artists was the dream of many. There was great interest and love for the works of Samad Vurgun, Mikayil Mushfig, Jafar Jabbarli, Bakhtiyar Vahabzadeh, Ali Karim, and Khalil Rza, who were not lost on the lips of a wide readership.

Murad's personal experiences, including his triumphs, failures, loves, and losses profoundly impact his creative output. For instance, while Mammadsalim Tahirli, the son of our genius poet Mirza Alakbar Sabir, lecturing on "Ancient Literature", Murad could not hide his admiration. His inner thoughts were indication of his bright future as a writer:

"I was in awe of this person, I was paying attention to his every move and every word. I thought that M.A.Sabir himself was in front of us...The voice of the whole East with his satire,

“awakening the sleeping”... Sabir!... Sabir was a miracle of the 20th century. We were blessed to see his native son...” [2, pp.344-345].

The lessons he received from our talented literary critic Nadir Jabbarov, the academician Abdulazal Demirchizadeh, who was a student of the well-known scientist Bekir Chobanzadeh, Mirza Javad, a researcher of Gazi Burhaneddin, Nasimi, Fuzuli period, and other geniuses, also his relationships with various creative personalities were the main

factors that influenced the formation of Murad as a creative person. Drawing from his own life experiences, he infuses his creative spirit with authenticity and emotional depth, resonating with readers on a profound level.

By examining these environmental influences within the narrative of “The Other Visage of Yearning,” readers can gain insight into how Murad's creative personality is shaped and how he navigates the complexities of his artistic journey within the context of the novel.

Conclusion / Nəticə

“The Other Visage of Yearning” by Mammad Aliyev stands as a poignant testament to the resilience of the human spirit amidst adversity. Through its rich narrative and deeply personal tone, the novel offers a profound exploration of the social and political landscape of Azerbaijan during the mid-20th century. Published with the heartfelt dedication to the author's mother, Zuleikha, the novel encapsulates the trials and tribulations of a family grappling with the harsh realities of their time.

Methodologically, this article employs qualitative literary analysis to dissect the novel's content, characters, and environmental influences. Through close examination of Murad's character, readers are invited to delve into the intricate emotions and aspirations that shape his creative journey. Murad's experiences are not merely fictional constructs but reflections of the author's own childhood dreams and unfulfilled aspirations, imbuing the

narrative with a sense of authenticity and emotional depth.

The environmental influences on Murad's creative personality are depicted with nuance and sensitivity, considering the cultural milieu, family dynamics, and personal experiences that shape his artistic development. From the vibrant cultural atmosphere of his surroundings to the nurturing relationships with mentors and peers, Murad's journey serves as a microcosm of the broader socio-political dynamics of Azerbaijan during that era. Through Murad's story, readers gain insight into the enduring power of hope and resilience in the face of adversity. As Murad navigates the complexities of his artistic journey, readers are reminded of the transformative potential of creativity and the profound impact of environmental influences on shaping one's identity and aspirations.

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**Факторы окружающей среды в формировании творческой личности
(Жить наперекор трудностям)
(По роману Мамеда Алиева «Другой облик тоски»)**

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Резюме. Данное исследование посвящено роману Мамеда Алиева «Другой облик тоски», где уделено особое внимание роли факторов окружающей среды и жизненных невзгод в формировании творческой личности главного героя Мурада. Посредством качественного анализа исследуется, как культурный контекст, семейная динамика и личный опыт влияют на художественное развитие Мурада в условиях социально-политической нестабильности Азербайджана середины 20-го века. Изучая путь Мурада, исследование подчеркивает преобразующий потенциал невзгод и глубокое влияние экологических проблем на развитие творчества. Это исследование предлагает понимание сложного взаимодействия между личными трудностями и внешними влияниями в формировании творческой идентичности, изображенной в литературе. По сути, «Другой облик тоски» – это больше, чем просто роман – это вечное исследование человеческой устойчивости, надежды и непрестанного стремления к мечте перед лицом невзгод. По мере того, как читатели погружаются в мир Мурада, им предлагается поразмышлять о своих собственных путях и о влиянии окружающей среды, которое формирует их творческую личность.

Ключевые слова: азербайджанская литература, факторы среды, творческая личность, культурный контекст, художественное развитие