

XII INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES OF LITERARY
CRITICISM THE IDEA OF STATE SOVEREIGNTY
AND XX CENTURY LITERATURE

ี่ ตวิธิกิบวิธิก • THESES



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კომპარატივისტული ლიტერატურის ქართული ასოციაცია (GCLA) Georgian Comparative Literature Association

XII საერთაშორისო სიმპოზიუმი ლიტერატურათმცოდნეობის თანამედროვე პრობლემები

სახელმწიფოებრივი სუვერენობის იდეა და XX საუკუნის მწერლობა

(ეძღვნება საქართველოს სახელმწიფოებრივი დამოუკიდებლობის გამოცხადებიდან 100 წლისთავს)

XII International Symposium

Contemporary Issues of Literary Criticism
The Idea of State Sovereignty and XX Century Literature

(Dedicated to the 100th Anniversary of the Declaration of Georgia's State Independence)

თეზისები • Theses

რედაქტორი ირმა რატიანი

სარედაქციო კოლეგია: მაკა ელბაქიძე ირინე მოდებაძე მირანდა ტყეშელაშვილი

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PETYA TSONEVA

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The "Passing Clouds" of Nationalism in Kapka Kassabova and Anthea Nicholson

Nationalism reemerges from contemporary cultural debates under a panoply of controversial perspectives. In some of them like, for instance, the contemporary fields of border studies and the study of migrant cultures and writing, itfairly often takes the shape of an effort to strengthen hierarchies, hold differences together intoideologically "sterile" supposedly homogeneous units and delimit overflowing identities. What binds a great many such contemporary reassessments the urge to retrace or excavate past experience of nationalism, especially in cases when its purportedly beneficial properties ofsheltering nations are brought to such ends as dictatorship, autocratic and authoritarian rule.

The present article focuses on two juxtaposed responses to an excessively violent form of nationalism which are worth considering because of their borderline status. Both Kapka Kassabova and Anthea Nicholson fall into the category of migrant writers. Of Bulgarian and Georgian descent, both writing in English, each one of them retraces a remembered and oppressive past in an effort that aims to reconstruct the contemporaneity of their countries of origin. Alongside specific contextual details, the investigation will meditate on the common features of their fictional responses to a shared past. A meaningful outcome of their retracings is the critical distance that forms between remembered experience and the contemporary state of their birth lands which illuminates in a creative way the problematic achievement and development of state sovereignty. Though the discussed works originate in the second decade of the twenty-first century theyrespond to events and processes taking place in the twentieth centuryfrom abroadly construed literary perspective.

ALYONA TYCHININA

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Us / Them within the Context of Bosnian Multicultural Environment

(Ivo Andrić «The Bridge on the Drina»)

The particularities of establishment of the Bosnian national sovereignty using the example of the novel «The Bridge on the Drina» (1945) by Ivo Andrić (1892-1975) are viewed. Above all, it is told about the multi confessional commonality of Bogomils, Catholics, Orthodox and Muslims, and the confrontation between us and them formed within it. Ethnic images, auto images, meta images are interpreted in the novel drawing on the imagological approaches of Mikhail Bakhtin, Martin Buber, Georgy Gachev, Jacques Derrida, Paul Ricoeur.

The bridge is regarded as a central image of the novel which is not only the crossing point of all denominational layers, but also «the only crossing <...>, that connected Bosnia with Serbia, and through Serbia – with the other provinces of the Turkish Empire».

The changes and collapses in the Bosnian national sovereignty (1516-1914) presented in the novel are analyzed in the diachronic aspect, which were stipulated not only by the combination of circumstances but also by the ethnographic geographical peculiarities. They are artistically backed with multiple insert stories.

Mental contradictions are considered using the example of opposite ways of interpretation of the symbology of the bridge, the role of historical characters and events. The completely opposite prayer pleas of Muslims and Orthodox who «met each other with depleted emotionless faces throwing to each other hundreds of words from the dictionary of provincial courtesy» become the mystic note. The special emphasis is placed on the images of us who became them.

The political question is taken into consideration, in particular the one activated at the turn of historical epochs (1900), that marked the end of the happy century using the example of the life of the bridgeside city which

«was a miniature but explicit example of new symptoms of the illness that became common for Europe». The distinctions of perception of the war by Serbs who «at night all pretend to be asleep but in fact do not close their eyes», and Muslims watching «the artillery fight of two Christian armies» are analyzed.

In conclusion the question of typology of collisions of identities as well as their preservation in the multicultural space is arisen.

АЛЁНА ТЫЧИНИНА

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Свои / чужие в контексте боснийской мультикультурной

(Иво Андрич «Мост на Дрине»)

Рассматриваются особенности толкований в аспекте боснийского национального суверенитета на примере романа Иво Андрича (1892-1975) «Мост на Дрине» (1945). Речь идёт о многоконфессиональном союзе богомилов, католиков, православных и мусульман, в пределах которого обозначилось противостояние своих и чужих. Исходя из имагологических концептов М. Бахтина, М. Бубера, Г. Гачева, Ж. Дерриды, Э. Левинаса, В. Орехова, П. Рикёра, Е. Саида, в романе югославского автора аналитически идентифицируются этнообразы, автообразы, метаобразы.

Представленные в романе перемены и сломы в боснийском национальном суверенитете 1516-1914 годов анализируются в диахроническом срезе, подкрепляясь многочисленными вставными легендарными историями. Выясняется, что таковые обусловлены не только стечением исторических обстоятельств, но и этнографически-географическими особенностями.

Во внимание также принимается политический вопрос, особо активизированный на рубеже исторических эпох (1900 г.), «ознаменовавшем конец счастливого столетия». Идея разворачивается на примере примостового города, который «являл собой миниатюрный

но выразительный пример первых симптомов заболевания, ставшего впоследствии общеевропейским, а затем и общемировым». Анализируются отличия восприятия войны сербами, которые «ночью все притворяются спящими, но на самом деле не смыкают глаз», и мусульманами, наблюдающими над «артиллерийским поединком двух христианских армий».

Ментальные противоречия выражаются через противоположные толкования символики моста, соответствующей роли исторических персонажей и событий. Мистической нотой окрашены кардинально противоположные ночные молитвенные просыбы мусульман и православных, «встречавших друг друга с потухшими, бесстрастными лицами, перебрасываясь сотней слов из словаря провинциальной учтивости».

Особый акцент делается не только на образах своих/чужих, но и на своих, ставших чужими. Таким образом, встаёт вопрос о типологии столкновения идентичностей, а также об их сохранении в мультикультурном пространстве.

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Soviet Trauma and the Discourse Analysis of the Narratives in Oral Histories

To the significant categories of the Oral Histories belong not only the main phases of the life (childhood, youth, adolescence, old age) but such separate developments and connected to them family cycles as ill health, religious and political conversions, wars, migration, its results and imprisonment. Discourse analysis of the Oral Histories confirms that in the context of the

Discourse analysis of the Oral Histories confirms that in the context of the political and the social life-story the Soviet period and connected to it the painful processes play important role. They act as life dividing line according to which the narratives are separated into three main and different periods: "It", "Before" and "After".