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ABSTRACT

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Relevance and studying degree of the research issue. Although the problem of national character in fiction has been studied in Azerbaijani and Turkish literary criticism, this problem has so far been studied mainly as a novel and narrative event. It is to be noted that Akif Huseynov and Gasim Gasimzade in Azerbaijani literary criticism, and Semih Gumush and Najib Tosun in Turkish literary criticism conducted fundamental research on this problem.

It is difficult to create a character within the restricted limits and possibilities of the genre of story, for the reason that the formation of the character within the literary text and the ability to express itself fully is a complex and gradual process. Though, we can see the existence of national characters in the stories created in both Azerbaijani and Turkish literature, as well as the opposite process under the influence of globalization, that is, the characters are moving away from nationalism. For this reason, it is safe to say that the problem of national character in the genre of story is actually relevant for literary criticism. The study of this problem in the Azerbaijani and Turkish literature created by two peoples with the same roots, common culture, language, religion and traditions ensures the relevance of the dissertation. Especially when studying the problem, approaching it from different contexts reveals a number of general trends, as well as various peculiarities.

The reasons for the differences are the diversity of social, political and social processes that have taken place in the history of both countries and the specificity of the reaction to the process of globalization in society. The impact of new literary trends in this process on the created texts and their role in this process is undisputable. It is also noticeable that under the inspiration of these propensities, which are involved in the process of globalization and consider it important to create a model for “world man” and “postmodern man”, the national features in the characters appearing in modern literature are degraded.

As we know, in 1995-2015, important events took place in the socio-political, literary and cultural life of both Azerbaijan and
Turkey. In the stories of Azerbaijani and Turkish authors written during this period, globalization, analysis of modern society and modern man in the East-West context, creation of national character against the background of socio-political and social problems were clearly manifested. Evaluation, analysis and identification of general features of the national characters brought to the literary texts under the influence of the mentioned events not only ensure the scientific-theoretical relevance of our research, but also condition its novelty.

It should be noted that the impact of the “Military coup” in Turkey on September 12, 1980, as in all areas after the 1990s, was felt in the literature. The introduction, description and research of psychological problems such as alienation, unimportance and forgetfulness in the person founded by this event also manifested itself in the genre of story. Thus, the number of psychological stories in Turkish literature aimed at describing the inner world of man began to increase, and the existentialist, surrealist literary-philosophical approach to life and existence had a strong influence on the idea-content line of the genre of story. The novelties and radical ideological changes brought about by the process of globalization, which influenced the modern literary process, began to appear in Turkish stories written after the 2000s. The "global world man" model was created in the literary texts formed under the influence of these events, which was also far from nationalism, national self-awareness and self-expression, national characteristics. The impact of both the “Military coup” and globalism was reflected in the works of storytellers such as Aykut Ertogrul, Aysha Kulin, Jamal Shakar, Akif Kaya, Guray Sungu. The appearance of characters in the stories, moving away from national features, national characteristics and identity, was of great interest because it took place against the background of their social and psychological problems, as well as the reasons within the text.

The problem of national character, national identity, the decline of national identity in literary texts, the process of moving characters away from national characteristics were also observed in the Azerbaijani stories created in 1995-2015. The reasons for the
creation of such characters and their access to literary texts are the socio-political events in Azerbaijan after the 1990s, the defeat in the First Garabakh War, the loss of land, the influx of refugees to the capital, socio-economic problems and the resulting moral difficulties, including psychological shocks. Although the main idea of the post-war stories is to protect the morale, fighting spirit, invincibility, the psychological problems such as depression, self-loathing, indifference, alienation from the national identity, moral decline, manifested in the characters created and described, became more pronounced. Although originality, experimentation, diversity in form and structure, diversity was observed in the writing techniques of the stories, the genre of the story as the poetry of the period could not move away from the decadent mood in terms of subject matter. The main feature of the characters created at this historical stage was their pessimistic mood, their struggle in the midst of uncertainty, their pessimistic views on the future, their despair over victory. We can see the confirmation of all this in the stories of writers Elchin, Orkhan Fikretoglu, Shamil Sadig, Vafa Mursalgizi, Sharif Aghayar, Kamil Afsaroglu, Eyvaz Zeynalov and many others.

Certainly, the beginning of the process of globalization, its impact on world culture and literature, the “values” it defines for the “world man” model give new features to the literary texts and created characters in Azerbaijani literature, which in turn confronts Eastern and Western values in the works. At the same time, it distanced the characters from nationalism and national identity, giving them different artistic shades. For this reason, in modern stories, we are confronted with a model of indifference, which is more in a state of spiritual and psychological decline. We observe the problem of character thinning, the description of a number of psychological shocks, such as social isolation and alienation. After the 2000s, all these features were more pronounced in the stories of Yagub Aliyoglu, Azer Gismet, Firuz Mustafa, Mirmehdi Agaoglu, Afag Masud and others.

The dissertation examines the changes in the characters created under the influence of socio-political factors, new features
that appear under the influence of national-moral and social problems and their expression from a scientific and theoretical point of view. The role of socio-political factors in the creation of national characters and their manifestation is studied on the basis of modern Azerbaijani and Turkish stories.

In the dissertation, the national character in the context of social problems, together with national values and traditions, as a phenomenon of national-spiritual self-consciousness, has become the object of research as a carrier and representative of the ethno-psychological characteristics of the people. In this regard, the causes of social problems, the impact of these problems on the formation of character, lifestyle, inner world, its traces in the spiritual world and how all these problems are analyzed in the stories have been extensively studied in the dissertation.

Scientific articles, monographs and papers devoted to the study of the problem of character in both Azerbaijani and Turkish prose were analyzed in the dissertation. “Psychological analysis in the story of modern Azerbaijan: (1970-80s)” by Sarvinaz Hasanova, “Artistic reflection of national self-expression in the dissertation works of Ismayil Shikhli (based on the problem of writer and folklore)” by Dilber Zeynalova, “Poetics of Azerbaijani prose of the 50-60s (based on the works of Isa Huseynov)” by Leyla Hasanzade, “National ideology in Turkish literature in the late 19th and early 20th centuries” by Jasarat Valehov, and the articles, such as “Diversity and national character in modern

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literature” by Saida Nagiyeva⁵, “Character and language” by Vahid Khalaflov⁶ and other articles were involved in the research. It is to be noted that to study this problem we have referred to many scientific resources, lots of articles, such as, “Artist does not grow old” by Mammad Arit⁷, “Criticism and problems of our literature” by Elchin Afandiyev⁸, “Nationalism and internationalism in literature” by Gasim Gasimzade⁹, “Concept of modernization and development stages of Azerbaijani literature” by Isa Habibbeyli¹⁰, “New storytelling in Turkish literature (second half of XIX-XX centuries)”¹¹ by Saadat Gasimli “Azerbaijani literature in the years of independence” by Tehran Alishanoglu¹², “Literary Theory” by Mammad Aliyev¹³, “Unity of Diversity” by Akif Huseynov¹⁴, “Azerbaijani literature of the twentieth century: stages, directions and problems” by Badirkhan Ahmadov¹⁵, “New generation literature” first volume of the trilogy by Nargiz Jabbarli¹⁶, “Contemporary literary paradigm: Reviews, Articles, Thoughts” by

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⁵ Nağıyeva, S. “Müasir ədəbiyyatda mövzu müxtəlifliyi və milli xarakter” // - Baki: Dil və ədəbiyyat. Beynəlxalq elmi-nəzarət jurnal, - 2013. №3 (87), - s. 188-190.
Leyla Hasanova\textsuperscript{17} and so on. The scientific-theoretical conclusions expressed in these scientific texts have been carefully analyzed.

The analysis also includes the scientific papers of Turkish researchers and scholars, such as Ziya Goyalp’s “Fundamentals of Turkism”\textsuperscript{18}, Yusif Akchura’s “History of Turkism”\textsuperscript{19}, Najib Tosun’s “Modern Story Theory”\textsuperscript{20}, Semih Gümüş’s “Cat’s Eye of the Story”\textsuperscript{21}. We have also to note the dissertation works written in this direction such as, Bulud Sumayya’s “Structure and theme in Jamal Shakar’s stories”\textsuperscript{22}, Kayaoglu Idil’s “Jamal Shakar’s stories and narrative in the sequence of individual and social relations”\textsuperscript{23}, Esra Polad’s “The function of gossip in the stories of the War of Independence” and “the story of someone else”\textsuperscript{24}. All this determines the importance and urgency of a dissertation on "The problem of national character in the modern Azerbaijani and Turkish stories (1995-2015)" for both Turkish and Azerbaijani literary and theoretical thought. After the independence of our country, the importance of such scientific research has increased,

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{17} Həsənova, L. Çağdaş ədəbi paradıqma: İcmallar, məqalələr, düşüncələr / L.Həsənova. - Baki: Avropa, - 2018. - 274 s.
\item \textsuperscript{19} Akçuraoğlu, Y. Türkçüləyün tarixi / Y.Akçuraoğlu, türkçədən uyğ. və ön sözün müəv., A.Kəngərli. - Baki: Qanun, - 2010, - 271 s.
\item \textsuperscript{20} Tosun, N. Modern öykü kuramı / N.Tosun. - Ankara: Hece yayınları, - 2018. - 359 s.
\item \textsuperscript{21} Gümüş, S. Öykünün kedi gözü / S.Gümüş. - İstanbul: Can sanat yayınları, - 2012. - 143 s
\item \textsuperscript{22} Sümeyye, B. Cemal Şakar’ın öykülerinde yapı ve tema: / Fatih Sultan Mehmet Vakıf Üniversitesi Lisansıstü Eğitim Enstitüsü Türk dili ve Edebiyatı Proqramı yüksek lisans tezi / - İstanbul, 2019. - 382 s
\item \textsuperscript{23} Kayaoğlu, İ. Birey ve Toplum İlişkisi Ekseninde Cemal Şakar’ın Hikayeleri ve Hikayeciliği: / Fırat Üniversitesi Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsü Türk Dili ve Edebiyatı Anabilim Dalı Yeni Türk Edebiyatı Bilim Dalında yapılan yüksek Lisans Tezi / - Elazığ, 2018. - 220 s.
\item \textsuperscript{24} Polat, M.E. Kurtuluş Savaşı Dönemi Öykülerinde “Dedikodu”nun İşlevi ve “Öteki”nin Anlatısı: / Karadeniz Teknik Üniversitesi Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsü Türk Dili ve Edebiyatı Anabilim Dalında yapılan yüksek Lisans Tezi / - Trabzon, 2014.- 134 s.
\end{itemize}

The object and subject of research. The main object of the research is the examples of Azerbaijani and Turkish stories written in 1995-2015. In total, more than 70 stories by more than 40 Azerbaijani and Turkish writers are involved in the research. Another important aspect of the research is the diversity of themes of these works, the analysis of the idea-content features and the study of the national character created in these texts. Along with Azerbaijani and Turkish stories written in 1995-2015, literary-theoretical and literary critical works written about them were also identified as the object of research in the dissertation.

The aim and objectives of the research: The main scientific purpose of the dissertation is to approach the problem of national character in the stories of Azerbaijani and Turkish authors written in 1995-2015 in the context of modern times, globalized world, East and West, changes in national character against the background of socio-political, socio-psychological problems. It is important to analyze the level of the decline process and the differences that are forming. To achieve this aim, the following scientific-theoretical tasks are planned to be solved.

- Analysis of the socio-political, literary and cultural landscape of the period studied in both countries and its impact on
national culture, literature, story and the creation of national character;

- To study how the concept of national character is approached from the point of view of all-Turkic ideology and thinking;

- To determine the level of relevance of the creation of national character in the literature of both peoples, to make generalizations about the created national characters, to reveal similar and different features observed in this process;

- Defining national identity in the process of creating national character in stories and determining the means of expression of national character;

- To determine the impact of globalization, new ideas and thoughts on the national character in the stories of both peoples;

- Involvement in the analysis of the lost features of the national character against the background of social, political, social, moral problems, the form and method of describing the causes and consequences of the problem of national-moral degradation in stories;

- Assessment of the manifestation in the stories of such concepts as national characteristics, national-spiritual, religious-moral values and “national identity”.

**Research methods.** The research is based on a historical-comparative method. The achievements of modern literary-theoretical thought have played a key scientific role in the study of the problem. The methodological and theoretical basis of the research is the systematic study of national and universal values in the field of philology, literary and artistic material. The dissertation refers to the scientific and theoretical views and opinions of Azerbaijani and Turkish researchers, and analyzes the stories written or published by both countries in 1995-2015. Research was conducted on the original texts of the stories involved in the analysis, and, where appropriate, attention was paid to the materials translated into Azerbaijani.

**The main provisions set for defense:** These are the main provisions to be defended in order to study the problem of national
character in modern Azerbaijani and Turkish stories and to fully cover the topic;

- 1995-2015 should be considered as an important stage in the historical development of Azerbaijani and Turkish stories;

- Qualitative changes in the national character described in the stories by Azerbaijani and Turkish authors in 1995-2015, the decline of the national character, the convergence of the created characters to the model of “postmodern man”, “man of the globalized world”;

- It is already a literary fact that in the stories of both peoples there are two types of characters, along with national characters, there are also characters who have become a model of the new world man;

- Along with the socio-political events of the period, it was determined that the process of globalization also affects the description and characteristics of national characters created in the stories, and the existence of the opposite process;

**Scientific novelty of research work.** Since the concept of national character finds its artistic expression in the novel genre, it has always been defined and researched as a novel fact. Due to the limited literary potential of the story genre, the concept of national character has not yet been identified and developed as a subject of research within this genre. This is the first time that this topic has been systematically studied in a dissertation. And the comparative analysis of this problem in the context of Azerbaijani and Turkish stories is one of the aspects that ensure the scientific novelty of the work.

- Jamal Shakar, Aysha Kulin, Behzet Celik, Sevin Sezgin and other Turkish writers were involved in research for the first time in Azerbaijani literary criticism.

- For the first time in Azerbaijani and Turkish stories, the concept of national character is analyzed in parallel;

- The ideas and considerations expressed in the dissertation can be considered a novelty for the modern literary process of both peoples;
- For the first time in the stories of Azerbaijan and Turkey, the concept of national character is studied against the background of all-Turkic ideology, philosophy and thought, all-Turkic culture;

- In the study, the problem of national character within the story genre of both peoples was considered within the framework of new achievements and innovations of modern times and literary criticism;

- For the first time, the national character was involved in research within the genre of storytelling on the basis of a comparative method in the context of social, public, political problems of the globalizing world.

**Theoretical and practical significance of the research.** The dissertation is of scientific importance for specialists conducting research on the place and development of the modern story genre in the literature of both nations. The research covers all-Turkic ideology, national character, the problem of historical and national identity, the expression of national and spiritual values in the literary text, etc. It can be used as an additional tool for specialists studying Azerbaijani-Turkish literary relations, teachers and students teaching modern Azerbaijani and Turkish literature, as it is studied in the context of issues.

**Approbation and application of research.** The subject of the dissertation was determined in the department of Turkish literature of the Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi of ANAS. The main provisions and results of the study were published in scientific journals recommended by the Supreme Attestation Commission under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, as well as in authoritative journals and journals of foreign countries, including in the periodical scientific publications, in the materials of the local and international conferences included to the International Summary and Indexing System (Research Gate, OAJI.net, Copernicus, ESJI, Google Scholar, etc.).

**Name of the organization where the dissertation work is performed.** The dissertation work was carried out in the department of Turkish literature of the Institute of Literature named after
Nizami Ganjavi of ANAS, it was completed in accordance with the research direction of the department.

**The structure of the dissertation.** The dissertation consists of an introduction (16 242), second chapters (first chapter three paragraphs – 104 871, second chapter three paragraphs – 145 484) a conclusion (6 481) and bibliography.

The total volume of the dissertation is 273 078 characters.
The "Introduction" of the dissertation discusses the relevance and degree of development of the topic, defines the goals and objectives, methods of research, indicates the main provisions for defense, substantiates the scientific novelty, theoretical and practical significance of the dissertation.

The first chapter of the dissertation entitled “A look at the Azerbaijani and Turkish modern stories in the context of the national character” consists of three paragraphs. The first paragraph is devoted to “The concept of national character in the Azerbaijani and Turkish stories”.

The storytelling is a genre that has a special place in literature, being constantly evolving, experimenting and changing. There are several features that distinguish this genre, which has a significant weight in world literature, and give it a national color and quality, one of which is the national character. The element of nationality of a national character is “a manifestation of national existence in artistic thought as an aesthetic category. The path to humanity has passed through nationalism in all historical times.”

Therefore, the national character (as well as a number of other national qualities) is valued in the world literature as the main aesthetic quality observed in the most readable, most valuable stories. At present, it is safe to say that the problem of national character in the genre of story has always been relevant not only in Azerbaijan and Turkey, but also around the world. Ernest Hemingway, Mikhail Sholokhov, Guy de Mopassan, Chingiz Aitmatov and many other writers not only described the fate, history, ethnography, national spirit, national characteristics, psychology of their people in their stories, but also described and analyzed national values in parallel with human problems. In this connection, Dmitry Likhachev wrote: “National features are a reliable fact. There are no special qualities that belong to any

people, any nation, any country. The whole issue is in some of them and in the unique arrangement of these national features”\textsuperscript{26}.

In Azerbaijani and Turkish literature, the national character was chosen as the subject of research because it is relevant to modern literature as an indicator of universality. Within the society, among the masses, people of national character have emerged only as people who have seen and understood their distinctive features and peculiarities in comparison with other people, whose genetic-national memory is awake, and who are able to form national self-consciousness. This character is a part of them, it carries all the beliefs, language, culture, thinking, traditions and memory of the society it represents. It not only carries, but also lives and passes on to future generations.

First of all, it should be noted that the concept of character is defined not as a set of all individual and psychological features of a person, but as a set of important and enduring individual features. Since these features are also related to a person's worldview and beliefs, character as a concept has always been chosen as an object of research by many fields (sociology, psychology, literature). However, since the object of research in the dissertation is not the character, but the concept of national character, in this scientific work, the problem is approached from the context of ethnic, historical and national values. It should also be noted that the nationality that gives the text (to the character-!) the originality, distinction, and its selection in the abundance of characters is sometimes due to the aspects that writers characterize, sometimes knowingly and sometimes unknowingly. National character, first of all, appears as an indicator of a person's national self-consciousness, self-esteem, commitment to national and spiritual values, commitment to national traditions. It contains these features. We also approached the national character from this aspect and found it important to involve in research at the level of the story and within the story.

\textsuperscript{26} Лихачев, Д. С. О национальном характере русских // - Москва: Вопросы философии. - 1990. № 4, - с. 3-6.
It should be noted that the national character in the literary works created by the peoples of Azerbaijan and Turkey, which have similar characteristics and features, stems from a single all-Turkic ideology, psychology, philosophy and combines its characteristics. This feature of the character has been involved in scientific research by both researchers and theorists. The author of the article “On the psychology of the Turkish nation” was able to list the most important features of the all-Turkic national character, noting that his views should be considered not as a serious research material, but as subjective considerations: “1. Courage, chivalry 2. Cosmopolitanism, 3. Respect for women”\textsuperscript{27}. Although these qualities, listed and defined as national features, do not lose their essence in the all-Turkic subconscious, they are always noted by researchers as an indicator of the all-Turkic national identity. The “basic features” that combine these qualities are an unchanging commitment and loyalty to the family, religion, ancestry, national moral values and traditions. Unlike other variables, basic identities are analyzed as “very slow and seem to have never changed since they lasted for hundreds of years,” and Turkish identity is defined as “basic identity”\textsuperscript{28}. All these qualities that characterize the national character, as a whole, realize the national self-expression of each nation.

As can be seen, this process is almost chain-like. Moral values, beliefs and traditions create a national culture, and national culture plays a significant role in the formation of national identity. An individual who understands his national identity can be raised to the level of national character in the context of struggles, quarrels, beliefs, brought to the literary text.

The second paragraph of the first Chapter is entitled “The role of national character in the formation of the theme and

\textsuperscript{27} Məmmədov, C. Türk millətinin psixologiyası barədə. [Elektron versiya] /-Bakı, - 12 mart, 2014. URL: http://kaspi.az/az/turk-milletinin-psixologiyasi-barede

idea of stories.” Although the story genre is small in size and laconic in form, it has many opportunities to shed light on the realities of modern life, the development or decline of human beings in the social and political environment, the contradictions they experience in this environment, and psychological changes. This idea was reaffirmed when classifying Azerbaijani and Turkish stories written in 1995-2015 in terms of themes and ideas. At the same time, it was determined that the richness of the studied period with socio-political events did not remain unaffected by the idea and content of the stories. The impact of these dynamic changes on the human spirit, thinking, social status and attitudes has inevitably left its mark on the events described in the stories, the features and characteristics of the characters created.

In the stories of the period in question, certain characteristic features were also observed in the aesthetic plan. Thus, the development of interaction with world literature and the emerging new opportunities for communication, the influence of the processes taking place in world literature and the application of theoretical and aesthetic innovations to the emerging texts were reflected in the stories written during this period. The new characters created from these innovations, the expression of different social thinking, the introduction of non-standard ways of thinking in the text, the influence of various ideological and aesthetic tendencies were reflected in the stories of both Azerbaijani and Turkish authors.

The Azerbaijani storytelling of 1990–2000; 2000–2015. The themes and ideas of Azerbaijani stories written at this historical stage can be grouped as follows:

a) Stories dedicated to the description of political and social events in Azerbaijan (Kamil Afsaroglu “Evening”, Kamran Nazirli “The man who can't laugh”, etc.);

b) Stories dedicated to the description of the First Karabakh War (Shamil Sadig “Gazi's foot”, Elchin “Shikasta of Garabakh”, Sharif Aghayar “Picture”, etc.);

c) Stories dedicated to the socio-political events of the time and the description of the spiritual world, psychological experiences
of the heroes oppressed in the face of defeat in the war (Kamil Afsaroglu “Nirkh”, Vafa Mursalgizi “Good name”, etc.);

d) Stories dedicated to the superficial description of the difficulties of modern man drowned in the grip of family, household and social problems (Gulshan Latifkhan “Pispisa”, Firuz Mustafa “Heavy burden”, Eyvaz Zeynalov “Cherry tree”, etc.);

e) Stories written under the influence of new literary trends with a confused, self-seeking modern human image (Afag Masud “Accident”, Azer Gismet “American Dream”, etc.).

Most of the characters created against the background of the above-mentioned socio-political events and the problems created by the real situation are characters who have moved away from national lines. The psychological shocks they face, as a result of the moral crisis they experience, are the most pressing issues raised in many of the stories mentioned above, as they move away from the values, relatives, and society they believe in, and even betray themselves and their beliefs.

**The Turkish storytelling of 1980 - 2000; 2000 - 2015.** If we look at the dynamics of the development of Turkish stories in these historical stages, we can identify the following grouping on the topic and idea.

a) Stories dedicated to the description of the psychological, inner world of the character formed or changed under the influence of socio-political events, especially the military coup of September 12, 1980 (Muzeyen Celik “Bride”, Zayyad Salimoglu “Feet on a stone scaffolding and ...”, Guray Sungu “There is no place to run” and so on). It was after this incident that the descriptions of economic, political, social and psychological problems in the stories became more active. The description of the fact of the military coup, in turn, brought to the genre of the story such socially and psychologically problematic characters as loneliness, insecurity, self-doubt.

b) Description of character changes created under the influence of globalization and new literary trends (Jamal Shakar “One type”, “Whisper”, Mustafa Akgun “Turkish love”, etc.) in the stories of 2000-2015. Characters who fell victim to political events
and quarrels, whose lives turned into chaos with these events, who changed their attitude to the world and society, and who distanced themselves from society and themselves, also fell into the psychological atmosphere created between ethnic and national values and global interests. They were at the center of this conflict, they were shaken by the confusion they experienced, they lost themselves. The traces of global events and processes were expressed by the writers in their works under the influence of a number of literary currents, with the help of the opportunities provided by those tendencies. As a result, the integration of the processes taking place in world literature marked the beginning of acquaintance with literary trends in Turkish literature. Under the influence of this process, traces of literary trends such as modernism, existentialism, and surrealism began to appear in storytelling. The dynamic development of experiments and searches in this regard in the stories coincided with this period. Although this process began after the 1980s, it became more active in the 1990s. In the 2000s, it reached its peak.

The third paragraph, entitled “Means of expression of the national character in stories” shows that the formation of the national character, the discovery of its true nature manifests itself not only in the diversity of ideas and national values, but also in the historical conditions, family and environment. In addition, the means of expression of the national character are also embodied in the external details, style of dress, rules of conduct, certain attributes and symbols that complement its inner world. The Azerbaijani writers Sharif Aghayar’s story “Picture”, Varis's “Oppressors, Grandfather and Fig Tree”, Alasgar Davutoglu's “Tutle-dove”, Firuz Mustafa's “Horse Day”, Turkish writers Behcet Celik's “Where We Stay”, Rasim Ozdenore's “First House”, attributes and symbols, means of artistic expression in the stories of Salvigul Sahin “My uncle's house” were analyzed in terms of defining national character, national values, national self-consciousness. It should be noted that the means of expression of the analyzed national character (symbols, attributes, national-moral values) can be considered as a characteristic feature of many
people. But the main issue here is in which nation these signs are more prominent, and whether they have a significant place in both written and oral culture. These means have been observed since ancient times in the art of both peoples whose stories are being studied, and will most likely be observed in the future. Because they are more about genetic memory and national thinking, national beliefs.

The main scientific results obtained in this chapter of the research are reflected in the following articles.

The second chapter of the scientific work “The spiritual world and character of images in the stories of Azerbaijani and

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Turkish authors” consists of three paragraphs. The first paragraph, entitled “The role of war and socio-political factors in the formation of national character” shows that the main issue in the description of socio-political processes in the stories is an objective approach to the situation, the impact of socio-political processes on human life, personality and character in pictures - is the depiction of an objective and subjective background. Looking at the work of recent writers, it can be seen that in the wartime and post-war period, writers either deliberately try to maintain high spirits, promote belief in victory and heroism (this idea is more common in Turkish literature), or they cannot put aside the post-war grief, resentment and revenge in the creation of characters, thus trying to study the impact of the war factor on the human spirit and morality by reviving an image that has changed its psychology (this idea is typical of Azerbaijani literature). This inevitably leads to the presentation to the reader of national characters, either victorious or defeated, created in the stories of Azerbaijan and Turkey in the period we are studying.

As it is known, the events of 1988-1994, which were a difficult and unforgettable period for the people of Azerbaijan, the pain of the First Garabakh War, the socio-political and socio-spiritual events of the following years affected the theme and idea of the stories. The psychological shocks of the people who lived through these events and the resulting problems of national self-consciousness and morality have become the main theme of modern stories. It was the First Garabakh War and its events that brought to the national psychology and character of the people the features of self-loathing, insecurity, mistrust arising from political and military uncertainty, and created a personality problem. Therefore, this period can be assessed as a weakening of the national character, a qualitative change in the character due to the increase of political and social problems. For this reason, it is known that a person whose moral strength has been weakened, whose rights have been stolen, and who, along with the horrors of war, has lost his personality, psychological trauma and characterlessness due to political and social problems, has sooner or later suffered moral
degradation. It was at this time that the types of people who had lost their national roots, moral values, and struggled with the worries of life, the demands of life, and the social problems of life began to become the target of literature. Sharif Aghayar's story “Picture”, Vafa Mursalgizi's “Good name”, Shamil Sadig's “Gazi's foot” and others stories have been analyzed in this aspect.

In addition to the war scenes, the main focus of Turkish literature on war stories is to convey a subtext (Turkism, heroism, the cult representation of the Turkish son, especially Turkish heroism).

Referring to the stories written in 1995-2015, we can conclude that despite the small number of socio-political, war-themed stories in Turkish literature, which developed under the influence of recent global trends and literary processes, these texts also refer to national ideology. The national beliefs of the serving nationalist and patriotic figures are at a high level. This is due to the fact that the Turkish state, which has historically created the image of a “strong state” and a “warring people” in the memory of the people, is remembered for its rare defeats, land losses and absence of national conflicts. All these points are reflected in the stories of recent times. For example, Sevin Sezgin's story “Golden Dawns”, Zahra Yamak's “Love of the Motherland” and others stories can be shown.

The second paragraph of the second chapter is entitled “Stories of national psychology and the process of globalization.” Towards the end of the twentieth century, intensified global processes not only changed the quality of civilization in the world, but also had an impact on culture and literature, as in all areas. As in many areas, globalization has manifested itself in culture in the form of synthesis, transmission, and dependence. Rabiyat Aslanova's approach to this issue is also interesting: “In the world of globalization since the late twentieth century, the generalization of research on the fate of both local and global culture allows us to distinguish between three directions or scenarios. These are 1) confrontation, 2) dialogue and 3) the
merging of local cultures into the global dominant culture”30. The countries at the crossroads of both civilizations - Azerbaijan and Turkey - still carry this “burden” on their shoulders. But in globalization, the attempt to insinuate the Western model as a new process for humanity as an exemplary model leads to the discovery of hidden moments in this process. The consequences of globalization can be even more dangerous if it is carried out not on the basis of synthesis, but on the principles of domination: “It is very difficult to distance oneself from the culture to which one belongs. It's almost like uprooting a tree or putting it on another tree”31. As a result, the beginning of the development of a mechanism that serves to create a person called a “citizen of the world.”

It should be noted that, unlike Azerbaijan, Turkey has experienced the problem of national identity faster by joining the process of globalization earlier. However, despite all the shortcomings of globalization, the tendency to modern literary trends continues to be more relevant in the Turkish literary process. Therefore, modern images in the stories for example, of Aysha Kuli's “Gulizar”, Jamal Shakar's “One type”, “Whisper”, Afag Masud's “Accident”, Azer Gismet's “American Dream”, which quickly embraced globalization, or rather, “world man” ”Are images that accept being in essence and as a thought with a more correct approach. Thus, the tendency of global images to globalization and the influence of this idea in Azerbaijani stories, unlike in Turkish stories, are described in a more primitive way, at the level of family problems. But the national and moral values of both sides, which they have lost in terms of national identity, must be defined as their common feature.

The research conducted in the third paragraph of the dissertation “National character in the context of social problems” shows that in the process of development of any society,

the serious consequences of the impact of social problems on human psychology and character have always been in the spotlight. Taking into account the writer’s personality and talent, in the stories that are the main object of research, the issue of attachment to national values and national character in parallel with national-moral self-consciousness against the background of social problems has been studied for these reasons. Despite the innovations brought to literature by the era of globalization, descriptions of social problems and realities of life are the main themes of modern Azerbaijani and Turkish stories. When analyzing the stories of both countries in terms of social problems, it is possible to see two different trends in the writers' approach to the problem: a) A simple and primitive description of social problems (although most social events in the Azerbaijani story are described at the level of ordinary family life, very few authors pay attention to psychological aspects.) (Varis’s story “The oppressors, the grandfather and the fig tree”, Firuz Mustafa - “Heavy load”, Kamil Afsaroglu - “Nirkh”)

b) Psychological description of social problems (in Turkish stories, events are more of an impression, memory, psychological research and analysis aimed at exploring the inner world of a person. Describing, animating, and narrating an event using the possibilities of storytelling has not been a characteristic feature of Turkish stories lately. It should be noted that the form and content of these stories included avant-garde, modernist, existentialist, surrealist literary and philosophical approaches. We can include Najati Gungor's “She is my aunt”, Aykut Ertogrul's “Silence”, Jale Sancag's “Love and Alishan” and other stories.

The problem of national character, which is the main object of research, was also studied during the analysis of stories developed in social, moral and psychological aspects. Because among the factors influencing the development of national character, social and moral processes are also mentioned. The moral and psychological problems caused by the global events in the world are characterized as the most painful in this process. Because the demands of the global world, which violate the psychological security of the individual, the well-being of a quiet, comfortable life, directly affect
a person's cultural, spiritual, moral behavior and lifestyle, the result is considered more dangerous. Problems such as family and material problems, sexual discrimination or the strengthening of feminist values, socialization, stratification can also be assessed as the causes of the emergence of national identity, the social and psychological shock of the national character. Emotions arising from these processes - distrust of society, insecurity, suicide attempts, impersonation, weakening of character, the abyss from material to spiritual, changes in values, appear in the texts and become expressive of realities, damaging human personality and national roots.

The scientific results obtained in this chapter of the research are reflected in the following articles32.

The results of the research are summarized in the “Conclusion” section of the dissertation as follows.

- The analysis of stories in the research leads us to the conclusion that, no matter how relative the concept of national character, political and social events affect its formation, emergence and change in the text. For this reason, the creation of a national character in the stories of Azerbaijani and Turkish authors was approached from different angles. Thus, the appearance of the concept of national character in Turkish literature, as well as its analysis from a scientific and theoretical point of view, is almost rare. This is due to the fact that Turkey, unlike Azerbaijan, at certain stages of history, there was no pressure on the national ideology, statehood and nationalist spirit, and under any political pressure, there was no need to express the concept of national character. Therefore, this concept has been felt in Turkish literature in the poetic spirit and model of the genre or hero. In Azerbaijani literature, the approach to this problem is completely different. There are a number of political reasons for this known from history. All these causes and consequences were highlighted during the research, and the characters created in the stories and narratives were analyzed.

- The study revealed that the socio-political events of the time, global events, problems, socio-psychological events in the world have led not only to the appearance of different, changing images in the stories, but also to the degradation of national characters. The dissertation examines the socio-political events that took place in both Azerbaijan and Turkey in 1995-2015, the globalizing world and its impact, and analyzes the manifestations of the qualitative change in the national character in the literary texts.

- The national shades in the character of the images of the modern period are less similar to the national shades in the character of the images of the previous years, there is less closeness, and there are many differences. The difference is reflected in the human model of the global world created by the already globalized world. Then the tendency towards Western thinking and way of life is obvious. The characteristics of the national character have also
changed in accordance with the requirements of modern times and the global world. Characters with “national features” are more noticeable than national ones. This expression has become more relevant.

- The study focused on the problem of national features and stressed its importance. The national character, its methods of expression, its relevance in time and space are reflected in the background of images and events.

- These analyzes and researches (for 1995-2015), along with creating a picture of modern Azerbaijani and Turkish history, were able to show its originality and importance in the context of both Azerbaijani and Turkish literature.
The main content of the study is reflected in the following articles and conference proceedings of the applicant:


2. Şefizadə, S.T. Türk qadınları yazarların gözü ilə (Firuz Mustafa və Mustafa Kutlunun hekayələri əsəsində) // Türksoylu xalqların musiqi mədəniyyətinin tədqiqi problemləri XV Beynəlxalq elmi-praktiki konfransın materialları, - Bakı: - 02 may, - 2016, - s. 216-219.


8. Şefizade, S.T. Milli karakterin sosyal sorunlar bağlamında değerlendirilmesi (Azerbaycan ve Türk hikaye örneklerine göre) //
IV Uluslararası Türklerin Dünyası Sosyal Bilimler Sempozyumu, - Ankara: - 17 Aralık, - 2020, - s. 497-505.


17. Şəfizadə, S.T. Fərdi-psixoloji problematikada milli xarakter dəyərləndirilməsi (Müzeyyen Çelik “Gelin” və Qılman Əlkinin “Gelin” hekayələri əsasında // Türk dillərinin və ədəbiyyatının


The defense of the dissertation will be held on 29 September 2022 at 13:30 at the meeting of ED 1.05 – Dissertation Council operating under the Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi of ANAS.

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The dissertation is available in the library of the Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi of ANAS.

Electronic versions of the dissertation and abstract are posted on the official website of the Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi of ANAS.

The abstract was sent to the necessary addresses on 08.07.2022.