

LITERARY WORKS ABOUT "MOTHER" AND "WOMEN" IN WORLD LITERATURE

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Abstract:

This article discusses the artistic depiction of the mother figure in world literature, emphasizing the significance of mothers in human life. It also explores various works by European writers that portray the image of women. Throughout the reading, different conflicts related to women are revealed, including their mistreatment, as well as challenges they face from the outside world in other literary works.

Key words: World literature, mother figure, works of European writers, artistic image, unity, war.

Mother! This word symbolizes greatness for every nation and serves as a bond that connects people. A mother is the one who sacrifices her life for the happiness of her child and the peace of her family. The words "Mother" and "Woman" hold such a beautiful meaning that they send shivers down one's spine upon hearing them. Regardless of the literary genre—be it world literature, a novella, or a novel—works that glorify mothers always hold high positions and achieve widespread recognition due to their profound depth of thought.

A mother's heart is always filled with warmth and love, and her eyes serve as a source of motivation for every person. She gradually imparts all her emotions to her children. Throughout history, many scholars and scientists have emerged, all of whom were brought into the world by mothers. For instance, Abu Ali ibn Sina, Al-Khwarizmi, At-Tirmidhi, and many others were raised by remarkable women. These women can rightfully be regarded as the "Mothers Who Created Scholars," serving as role models for women worldwide.

Writers have portrayed the mother figure in various ways, often depicting her heart as an entity capable of sensing the emotions of the entire universe. Through artistic imagery, each detail is meticulously depicted, allowing the writer to express all the questions that trouble them in a poetic manner. A prominent representative of world literature, Svetlana Alexievich, crafted her novel "The Unwomanly Face of War" with striking realism, portraying the symbolic image of women amidst significant historical events. This masterpiece, for which she was awarded the Nobel Prize, is recognized for its deep emotional impact. Readers of this novel may feel as if they are transported back in time, caught in the whirlwind of World War II.

Works that glorify mothers are not only created by renowned figures of world literature but also by writers from every nation, touching the hearts of readers from age seven to seventy. The role of European literature in depicting maternal figures is also invaluable, and each writer has earned a dedicated readership through their works. In modern world literature, many writers have portrayed the image of mothers, but only a select few stand out as truly remarkable.

One such work is Svetlana Alexievich's "The Unwomanly Face of War," which powerfully illustrates the bravery of women during the war. Another notable figure is Russian writer Nikolai Karamzin, as well as Colombian author and journalist Gabriel García Márquez, whose "Big Mama's Funeral" is considered an endless treasure of contemporary literature.

The true essence of "The Unwomanly Face of War" lies in the author's ability to vividly depict the reality of that era while simultaneously conveying her own deep emotions. The novel portrays the tragic fate of women, revealing the suffering they endured due to the war. Many mothers lost their children, while others, driven by hunger, were forced to make heart-wrenching sacrifices. The author skillfully conveys these experiences through powerful literary techniques, making the novel an accurate reflection of society at the time.

"In July of 1943, during the Kursk Battle, our regiment was awarded a banner. Our 129th independent regiment, part of the 65th Army, consisted of 80% women. Can you imagine that? I want to share our experiences so that you understand... I want to tell you what we felt. The people of that time may never exist

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again—never! We were incredibly sincere and full of boundless faith. When our commander, holding the banner, ordered, 'Regiment, under the banner! Kneel!' we all felt immense pride. We had earned their trust; we were now a real regiment, just like the others—tankers, riflemen. Tears streamed down our faces. You may think my words are excessive, but I assure you, that moment filled me with such overwhelming emotion that it even cured my illness. (I had gone blind due to starvation and nervous exhaustion.) Believe it or not, the next day, I woke up completely healthy. The intensity of that moment healed me." — Mariya Semyonovna Kaliberda, Senior Sergeant, Communications Officer

Another poignant testimony in the book comes from Tamara Ulyanova, a woman who experienced the hardships of war. She recounts how her mother was strict and emotionally distant, never showing affection towards her children. However, when she was drafted into the war, for the first and last time, her mother embraced her tightly, sensing that they might never see each other again. For the author, this moment was one of the most emotionally powerful scenes in the novel. She painfully emphasizes that a mother's love should never be reserved for times of war, but should always be expressed openly.

For instance, in Uzbek culture, a child is considered the "light of the mother's eyes", "apples of the mother's eyes" and the "heart and soul of a mother". The novel portrays mothers as strong and family-oriented, while also depicting moments of both compassion and severity. Some women were even stronger than the soldiers who shed blood on the battlefield.

This literary masterpiece presents a realistic and vivid portrayal of the mother figure, making each character feel deeply human. The level of artistry in this novel demonstrates the writer's exceptional skill. The emotions conveyed through each character resonate profoundly with readers, allowing them to visualize the depicted events as if they were happening before their eyes. This ability to evoke strong imagery and deep emotions is the hallmark of true literary artistry.

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