STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT OF UZBEK CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

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Abstract - This article examines the stages of formation and development of Uzbek children's literature, its historical evolution, specific features of different periods, and the contribution of writers who played an important role in this field. It also highlights current issues and prospects of modern children's literature.

Keywords - Children's Literature, Development Stages, Folklore, Education, Spirituality, Modern Literature.

I. INTRODUCTION

Children's literature is an important part of the spiritual and cultural heritage of every nation. It plays a significant role in shaping children's worldview, moral values, aesthetic taste, and intellectual development. Uzbek children's literature has deep historical roots connected with oral folklore traditions and later developed through written literary works.

The history of Uzbek children's literature reflects the social, cultural, and educational transformations of society. It has passed through several important stages of development.

Main Part1. The Early Formation Stage
The roots of Uzbek children's literature can be found in oral folk creativity. Fairy tales, riddles, proverbs, songs, and lullabies were the earliest means of educating children.

Traditional works such as epic tales introduced children to values like bravery, honesty, respect for elders, and patriotism. Oral literature served as the foundation for the later development of written children's literature.

2. The Jadid Enlightenment Period. At the beginning of the 20th century, the Jadid movement played a major role in the development of children's literature. Jadid intellectuals considered education the key to national progress.

Writers such as Abdullah Avloni created educational and moral works for children. His famous book TurkiyGulistonyoxudAxloq became one of the first systematic works aimed at the moral education of young readers.

This period introduced a new approach to literature: combining artistic creativity with educational purpose.

3. The Soviet Period. The Soviet era marked a new stage in the growth of Uzbek children's literature. During this time, children's poetry, stories, novels, and drama developed significantly.

Prominent writers such as Gafur Ghulam, PulatMumin, and QuddusMuhammadi made important contributions. Their works focused on themes such as friendship, labor, knowledge, discipline, and social responsibility.

Although ideological influence was strong, this period enriched children's literature with new genres and literary forms.

4. The Independence Period. Uzbekistan gained independence, children's literature entered a new phase of development. National identity, historical memory, and spiritual values became central themes.

Modern writers began creating works that emphasized patriotism, cultural heritage, family values, and independent thinking. Literature became more diverse in content and style.

The publication of colorful books, fairy tale collections, and educational stories has increased children's interest in reading.

5. Modern Challenges and Prospects. Today, Uzbek children's literature faces both opportunities and challenges. The development of digital technologies and social media has changed children's reading habits.To keep children's literature relevant, writers and educators must:

Create engaging and modern content;
Combine traditional values with contemporary themes;
Promote reading culture among children.

The future of Uzbek children's literature depends on innovation, creativity, and adaptation to modern educational needs.

CONCLUSION

Uzbek children's literature has gone through several important stages of development: folklore origins, Jadid enlightenment, Soviet growth, independence renewal, and modern transformation.

Each stage has contributed to its richness and educational value. Today, Uzbek children's literature continues to develop as a powerful tool for educating morally strong, intellectually developed, and culturally aware young generations.

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