

THE IMPACT, ESSENCE AND ARTISTIC SUPERIORITY OF THE WORK
“GOLD DOES NOT RUST” BY SHUHRAT

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Abstract: This article scientifically analyzes the ideological and artistic features of the work “*Gold Does Not Rust*.” The main idea of the work—the stability of human virtues and their ability to withstand the trials of time, as well as the importance of not losing one’s identity under any circumstances—is examined. Through the characters created by the author, the presence of morally “empty” people in society and the role of ethical values in human life are deeply revealed. During the research process, the content, artistic devices, and spiritual significance of the work are analyzed and general conclusions are presented.

Keywords: Literary work, character, spiritual values, morality, idea, analysis, literature.

INTRODUCTION

Literature is an important means of enriching human spirituality, guiding thought, and reflecting the life of society. Through literary works, authors illuminate the social, moral, and spiritual issues of their time in various ways. For instance, Muqumiy used satire, G'afur G'ulom employed humor, while Shuhrat mainly created works in prose. From this perspective, the work “*Gold Does Not Rust*” is also an important literary source that reveals the significance of human virtues. The title itself expresses the idea that the true value of a person does not disappear over time.

MAIN PART

In this work, the author focuses primarily on human virtues. The character of Sodiq serves as a clear example of this idea. As a person lives, it is natural that they encounter various types of people and face different situations. Sodiq, a simple villager, has been tempered by the harsh realities of life and has always looked at the destiny given by God with gratitude. He stands out with his humanity that never “rusts.”

Fate subjected him to numerous trials and led him through difficult paths. Despite his personal hardships, he served his homeland with loyalty and conscience. He faced slander and deception from people, yet he never betrayed his true self. In every situation, his humanity and conscience prevailed.

His wife Jannat, his lawful partner with whom he shared life, constantly turned to God with patience and prayer. For many years, Sodiq and Jannat were deprived of the sweetest blessing—children. The choice of names for the main characters—Sodiq and Jannat—is not accidental. It symbolizes the idea that those who remain faithful to their essence, wear patience like an ornament, and keep their conscience pure will ultimately reach paradise.



God created people in pairs to complement each other, and Sodiq and Jannat were an example of such harmony. However, this harmony changed when a morally empty person like Mirsalim entered Sodiq's life.

Readers can describe Mirsalim Mirzohidov as someone who is "bright on the outside but hollow within." Outwardly he appears gentle and pious, but within his family he reveals a completely different personality. Such people are unworthy of sacred titles such as friend or teacher. Concepts such as conscience, honor, generosity, and modesty are alien to him. Reflecting on this character, readers inevitably wonder how a human being can become so morally corrupted.

Through this character, the author conveys the idea that people like Mirsalim cannot tolerate the peace or success of others. They use every possible means to drag others into their own false and immoral world. The work suggests that the direction of one's life can be greatly influenced by the people around them.

Under Mirsalim's manipulation, Sodiq experiences unexpected hardships. At Mirsalim's insistence, he divorces his faithful wife Jannat and marries Musharraf, a morally weak and selfish woman. For a short period, Sodiq follows the path drawn by Mirsalim, though his conscience remains uneasy.

Through these events, the author emphasizes that not everyone in life wishes you well. Some people are hypocritical and dangerous, and one must protect oneself from such individuals.

The character of Musharraf represents individuals who pursue a superficial and immoral lifestyle without clear purpose in life. Ultimately, she faces divine punishment and meets a tragic end.

Amid these intense developments, the author introduces a beautiful love story between two young characters: Qodir, Sodiq's younger brother, and Aziza, Mirsalim's daughter. Their love is pure and sincere, symbolizing faithfulness and moral integrity.

Aziza, unlike her father, is intelligent and conscientious. She also demonstrates courage by helping wounded soldiers and providing medical assistance behind the front lines during wartime. This shows that not only soldiers but also those who work tirelessly in support roles deserve recognition as heroes.

Through Aziza's character, the author subtly suggests that children do not always repeat the mistakes of their parents. Some learn from them and choose a different path in life.

Another character encountered in the story is Dilovarxo'ja. He is portrayed as a person who is willing to sacrifice even his family and homeland for personal gain. His name itself suggests someone who charms hearts like a snake before destroying them, which perfectly matches his character.

Characters such as Mirsalim, Musharraf, and Dilovarxo'ja represent morally weak individuals who fail to value the blessings given by God and whose spiritual life is corrupted.



CONCLUSION

In conclusion, *“Gold Does Not Rust”* is one of the significant works in Uzbek literature dedicated to portraying human spirituality and moral maturity. The ideas presented in the work remain relevant even in today’s era of globalization, encouraging people to remain faithful to their conscience, honesty, and principles of justice.

The author symbolically compares human virtues to gold, emphasizing that true moral qualities remain stable even in the face of time and hardship. At the same time, the work criticizes moral decline, false relationships, and the growing dominance of material interests in society, demonstrating their consequences through the lives of the characters.

Overall, *“Gold Does Not Rust”* encourages readers to engage in deep reflection and guides them toward spiritual maturity. It serves as an important factor in shaping qualities such as patriotism, honesty, and purity in the minds of the younger generation.

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