



THE POETICS OF IMAGES IN WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S
TRAGEDY "OTHELLO"

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Abstract: *The article analyzes the poetic features of William Shakespeare's tragedy "Othello", the peculiarities of the characters of the characters of the work from the point of view of the poetics of images.*

Keywords: *tragedy, tragicism, poetics of images, character psychology, dramatism, remark, literary influence, literary commonality.*

William Shakespeare is a great playwright who has taken a special place in the history of world literature with his incomparable dramatic works. His works such as "Hamlet", "King Lear", "Othello" skillfully reflect the most delicate and complex feelings of the human heart. The tragedy "Othello" is a high example of Shakespeare's work, in which human experiences such as love, jealousy, betrayal and distrust are deeply expressed. The work shows the uncontrollable power of human feelings and their disastrous consequences through the tragic fate of Othello.[1] At the center of the work is the brave and courageous commander Othello. He is a respected general of Venice, who falls in love with the young and beautiful Desdemona and marries her. Othello's strong but gullible character is the main reason for his tragic fate. Although Othello's love is very deep and sincere, he begins to doubt Desdemona's loyalty, deceived by Iago's cunning intrigues. Jealousy poisons Othello's soul and dulls his ability to think logically. As a result, he kills his beloved woman with his own hands, and then kills himself. In the play, the image of Iago is the embodiment of evil and deceit. He does not turn away from any evil for the sake of his own benefit. Iago's intrigues determine the tragic fate of not only



Othello and Desdemona, but also many other characters. Through Iago's manipulation, Shakespeare skillfully depicts the dark sides of the human soul, the power of envy and hatred.[2] Desdemona - the embodiment of innocence and loyalty. The image of Desdemona is presented as a model of purity and selflessness. She is sincerely loyal to Othello, but even her honesty and love cannot save her from a tragic death. Desdemona's innocence and sacrifice further enhance the dramatic power of the tragedy. Jealousy and betrayal - the main cause of the tragedy. In the tragedy of "Othello", jealousy is shown as the strongest of human feelings. This jealousy, combined with Iago's cunning, plunges Othello into a whirlpool of suspicion and anger. In the play, betrayal is committed not only against Desdemona, but also against Othello's own ideal and love. The tragedy of "Othello" is still one of the main works performed on professional theater stages today, serving as a source for many operas, films and literary works. Unlike Shakespeare's other plays, this tragedy does not deal with medieval times and different people or spirits, but rather with events from the sixteenth century. For this reason, among Shakespeare's works, Othello is the closest to its time.

Was Othello's murder of his wife Desdemona, who fell for Iago's trick, simply a small mistake, but with great consequences, the result of excessive jealousy and lack of judgment? In my opinion, no. Desdemona's death was not simply a loss of trust in one person, but a loss of trust in humanity. Having lost the trust that was the main value of his life, Othello saw no other way out than to rebel in the form of murder.[3] Although on the surface it seems like a simple murder committed out of jealousy, at the heart of this tragic act lies the rebellion of a hero who has lost control of his life, who has faced a loss of balance in his relationships, against such chaos. Othello rebelled. He rebelled against the trampling of pure love. Considering that not only human relationships, but also the entire existence of the universe, are based on order and laws, one can understand that love also has its own laws. Of course, for Othello, loyalty is the first rule. A person, like Othello, can, if necessary, equate his entire life with such rules and values. When such sacred rules that determine the meaning of life are violated, a person finds himself in a helpless situation.[4] After



all, if your entire life is based on a certain system of values, and you are faced with their trampling, how can you continue to live normally? It seems impossible. Othello also saw no other option than murder. But was he really right? As we all know, no, Othello was mistaken, Iago, taking advantage of his naivety, deceived him for his own interests. Shakespeare, revealing the subtleties of the human psyche, not only shows that trust and loyalty are the most important qualities, but also that the noble qualities of a person (for example, naivety) can be used against him to his complete destruction. Tragedy covers not only loyalty and fidelity, but also issues of credulity, deceit and revenge. The problem here can be traced and analyzed in several stages. At the stage of the human psyche - the flaws of a person's character; at the stage of relationships - the struggle between interests; and at an even larger stage - when you observe that society is a dangerous place for pure love and relationships, the work seems to point not only to the destruction of Desdemona or Othello, but also to the destruction of faith in love and life.[5]

Othello is therefore not only a tragedy of love and jealousy, but also a profound reflection on the philosophical weakness of the human mind. Another dialectical law in philosophy is the law of negation of negation, which states that any process of development occurs as a result of contradictions, contradictions and their mutual struggle. According to this law, development is the process of negating the old state, and then moving to a new, higher stage through the negation of that negation. The tragedy of "Othello" can be considered an artistic expression of this law. The work illuminates the stages of dialectical development of the human mind through the spiritual experiences of the main character Othello - love, trust, jealousy, suspicion and remorse.[6] Othello considers Desdemona the meaning of his life, the light of his soul. This is the initial stage, that is, a positive state. But in this case, there is a hidden contradiction: Othello's fear, shame about his origin and his lack of consideration for Desdemona. It is this internal contradiction that later causes the next stage of development.[7] Through Iago's conspiracy, Othello's confidence is denied. Iago, with the help of words and false evidence, changes Othello's perception, sets him on the path of jealousy and suspicion. Thus, love is replaced by doubt, and



trust is replaced by instability. This is the first stage of denial. From a dialectical point of view, this situation is the violation of the old positive state under the influence of internal contradictions, that is, its denial. At the end of the play, Othello learns about Iago's conspiracy and realizes his mistake. He understands Desdemona's innocence and cannot forgive himself. In this way, he denies his jealousy, suspicion - that is, the first denial. This is the second denial, that is, the stage of denial of denial. Now Othello realizes the truth, albeit late, and comes to the essence of his mistakes. He seeks spiritual purification through self-punishment. In a dialectical sense, this is a new qualitative stage, that is, a state of self-awareness of a person. Thus, Othello's spiritual path is expressed in the following sequence: 1. Love and trust - the initial positive state. 2. Jealousy and suspicion - the first denial, that is, the negation of the positive. 3. Realization of truth and remorse - the second denial, that is, a new stage, a state of spiritual maturity.[8] In this way, Shakespeare achieved the artistic expression of philosophical law through changes in the human psyche. The contradictions in "Othello" are depicted not as simple emotional conflicts, but as a process of dialectical development of human perception and spirit. The tragedy of "Othello" artistically demonstrates the law of denial of denial through complex changes in the human psyche. Othello's life and experiences go through contradictory stages: love is denied by jealousy, and jealousy is again denied by the realization of the truth. Thus, in the image of Othello, the process of human self-realization, spiritual and moral development takes place in a dialectical way.

This is fully consistent with the law of negation of the negation of philosophy. Thus, the work "Othello" is a profound work that reveals the evolution of the human psyche not only in literary but also philosophical terms. Brabantio is a Venetian senator, Desdemona's father. He lives with respectable, proud, but not out-of-the-ordinary values and social views. Epistemology is a philosophical direction that studies the process of human cognition, how does one perceive reality, what is the source of knowledge, and how is the reliability of knowledge determined. Through Brabantio, Shakespeare reveals the problems of epistemology, such as the error of cognition, subjective belief, and misinterpretation of reality based on stereotypes.



Brabantio considers “experience” as the source of knowledge to be absolute truth. Brabantio himself, as a father, says that he “knows Desdemona well.”[9]

Epistemological crisis When Desdemona herself tells the truth, on the stage of the senate meeting, when she says that Desdemona herself chose Othello voluntarily, that there was no coercion, Brabantio experiences an internal epistemological crisis. At first, his knowledge is distorted, the truth based on experience collapses. His model of knowledge does not correspond to reality. This is called the clash of subjective knowledge with objective truth in epistemology. Shakespeare shows it as a symbol of the weakness of knowledge and the imprisonment of the human mind in its own confidence.

In Desdemona’s death, the existence of goodness is tested by evil. This ontologically puts forward the idea of the unity of opposites in existence. Desdemona is the embodiment of purity, beauty, love and forgiveness. She does not defend herself, even before death, she forgives Othello. In this work, it can be shown that the most important value of goodness is forgiveness. Desdemona dies, but her spiritual purity is preserved as an eternal value. Truth exists, but understanding it depends on the ability of a person to know. Desdemona is innocent, pure, and does not hide the truth. But Othello does not understand it, which means that even if the truth is right in front of a person, it is not always easy to see it.

Iago does evil neither for material gain nor for necessity. He feels his existence through the destruction of others. Iago represents the dark side of human existence. Moral decisions should be based on truth and patience, not doubt and anger. After Othello kills his wife, he learns the truth, suffers from remorse and commits suicide. This - the punishment of conscience - shows that in this work a person cannot escape moral responsibility, no matter what. Desdemona asks Othello: “Do you believe in my purity?”, thereby believing that he will keep his love even in difficult times. However, Othello is faced with his own doubts and anger. He feels himself in trouble and says, “I will not kill you with sin until your soul is ready for death,” showing the conflict between his inner struggle and his views on love.



Suicide is the final symbol of the tragedy. Othello takes back the injustice he did to Desdemona, which is what it means philosophically.

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