

## **PERIODIZATION OF THE HISTORY OF LITERATURE FROM ANCIENT TIMES**

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**Abstract:** This article offers different options for periodization of the history of literature from ancient times to the present day. It examines the social and internal life of man, accessible only to the art of words.

**Key words:** creation, humanity, language, literature, poetry, era, arts, writer, creativity

Literature is one of the greatest creations of mankind, reflecting its culture, thoughts, feelings and experiences. From ancient times to the present day, literature has served as a bridge between different eras and generations, allowing us to look into the souls of people who lived before us and understand the deeper aspects of human nature.

Different authors of different dictionaries offer different versions of the periodization of the history of literature. The Brockhaus and Efron Encyclopedic Dictionary, published at the end of the 19th century, identified three periods in the history of Russian literature: from the first monuments to the Mongol-Tatar yoke, from the Mongol-Tatar yoke to the end of the 17th century, and from the 18th century to the time of the dictionary's publication (that is, to the end of the 19th century). D.P. Svyatopolk-Mirsky, who published a two-volume work on the history of Russian literature in London in 1927, identified the following periods in it: Old Russian (11th-17th centuries), transitional, the period of classicism, the golden age of poetry, the era of Gogol, the period of realism and the period contemporary to it from 1881 (after the death of F. M. Dostoevsky). Published around the same time, the Literary Encyclopedia divided the periods of Russian literature into the following stages: Old Russian literature, 18th century literature, 19th century literature, 20th century literature before the October Revolution, and 20th century literature after the October Revolution.

Literature in general is one of the ways to know the world, humanity, and oneself. Literature conveys the author's thoughts, views, and attitude to life and reality in the best possible way. And each writer creates his own artistic world, which this or that reader will agree with and accept. A painter also paints pictures of life and images. In their own way, people's lives and characters are reflected in music, sculpture and literature. The writer's weapon is the word. Fiction is the art of words. Contact with the world of art gives us joy and selfless pleasure. Therefore, many see the works of writers, composers and artists as a means of pleasant pastime.

Literature encompasses a variety of forms of spoken art, including poetry, prose, drama, and essays. The word literature comes from the Latin *litteratura*, meaning "the study of letters" or "knowledge of letters." However, literature is more than just a collection of letters and words. It is an art that can convey emotions, ideas, and experiences, evoking various feelings and thoughts in the reader. Of course, we often go to the cinema, sit down in front of the TV or computer to relax, or even have fun. And the artists, composers, programmers, writers themselves, knowing

the laws of art, build their works in such a way as to excite, support and develop the interest and even curiosity of viewers and listeners.

But the significance of art in human life is incomparably more serious and richer. No art can depict a person so clearly, "volumetrically" as painting and sculpture. But both the painter and the sculptor "capture" only one moment of life, and, looking at a painting or sculpture, we only guess what preceded this moment, what will follow it. Neither a painter nor a sculptor has the means to show their heroes in motion, in change, in development. This can be done by the art of cinema, which wonderfully fuses the features of the art of words, theatrical art, painting, music, artistic photography and computer graphics. But let us not forget that artistic films are created on the basis of literary scripts. It is impossible to translate lyrical works into the "language" of cinema. With all the immense power of cinema art, there are areas of human social and inner life that are accessible only to the art of words. A writer can depict one moment, and the history of human life. And one event, and a chain of the most complex events. Changes associated with the progress of science and technology lead to a change in the current generation's previous ideals and assessments, and a search for new criteria.

We are talking about the material and the spiritual, but it is not so easy to separate one from the other. Every powerful rise of literary thought that has influenced the upbringing of the younger generation always carries an element of spirituality. Higher technical and creative capabilities affect the way of thinking and life of young people. But this does not mean at all that young people should reject the highest spiritual and cultural values, and they should not be made dependent on material wealth. There is such a concept as the culture of the people, which is deeply rooted in the national soil and history. At all times, creators of verbal art in their works truthfully and fully reflect the complexity and diversity of human life and society, vividly and clearly express their thoughts about the meaning of life, their innermost feelings. The author's moral position unobtrusively influences the reader, who, enjoying the word, getting to know amazing characters, learns about the world and develops high civic feelings in himself.

The concept of "formation" in pedagogy covers a range of external (social, economic, educational, etc.) and internal (independent activity of the individual, self-education, etc.) factors that are inextricably linked and ensure the formation and development of the individual. Based on this position that the successful formation of moral values is ensured by a combination of external and internal conditions that contribute to their formation. It follows that along with the educational activity of the teacher, self-educational activity of students is necessary to master the moral values of future philology specialists.

Based on the provisions of the personality-oriented approach, the students' self-education activities ensure that they are placed in the position of subjects of the process of forming moral values and contribute to the manifestation of maximum activity and independence in their acquisition of moral values. The artistic works of A. S. Pushkin, M. Yu. Lermontov, N. V. Gogol, L. N. Tolstoy, F. M. Dostoevsky, A. P. Chekhov, M. Sholokhov allow the younger generation not only to learn about the past, but also to experience it together with their heroes, to form views, feelings, character, awaken a love for beauty, and cultivate a readiness to fight for the

triumph of goodness and truth.

Literature cultivates a sense of beauty and enriches the spiritual world of man. The subject of literature is most often people of a specific historical era, their thoughts, feelings, relationships with each other, their ideals of life - in a word, the inner and spiritual world of man. Fiction, like science, has enormous cognitive power. It helps spread education and culture among the younger generation. Whatever writers and poets talk about in their works, they think about the reader, about man. That is why M. Gorky very accurately noted that literature is the study of man.

The power of fiction lies, first of all, in its aesthetic impact. It is the art that activates human spiritual powers: the mind, intuition, feelings, aesthetic concepts. Aesthetic education is the education in people of the ability and need to see, understand and appreciate beauty in all its manifestations and to bring it into life, the ability to understand the sublime, the tragic, the comic. The complex and subtle task of aesthetic education of the younger generation is solved by the joint efforts of the family, school, and society. The youth is educated aesthetically on the vast historical experience of writers. The aesthetic emotions evoked by a work of art contribute to the perception of social ideas not only by the mind, but also by the heart, and awaken an active attitude towards the life pictures painted in the work.

Literature ensures the centuries-long continuity of culture, its growing universality. By creating generally significant ideas - images that grow into universal symbols, it expresses the meaning of all historical development. Hamlet, Don Quixote, Prince Myshkin, the Master and Margarita are no longer just artistic images - they are symbols of culturally significant universal human values. Reading works like "Crime and Punishment", "War and Peace", "Anna Karenina", "The Garnet Bracelet", young people change, their attitude to life changes, and they become better. The works touch them to the depths of their hearts and educate them. Fiction is accessible to everyone, but the depth of its understanding depends on whether the student can read it and what the student himself is like, his tastes and interests, moral and ideological attitudes.

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