
THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONTEMPORARY TURKISH LITERATURE IN MACEDONIA

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Abstract: The withdrawal of the Ottoman state from Macedonia had a negative effect on the Turkish literature and culture. Nevertheless, in the period between 1918 and 1941, the Turks managed to publish eleven newspapers, such as: „Rehber“, „Uhuvvet“, „Hak“, „Hak Yolu“, „Mücadele“, „Sosyalist Fecri“, „Yeni Vakit“, „Birlik“, „Seda-yı Millet“, „Işık“ и „Doğru Yol“. However, many newspapers were abolished by the regime, like the newspaper "Hak", which was abolished after a total of 956 issues printed up to 11 December 1924 and which strongly criticized the demolition of the Burmalı mosque in Skopje, can be cited as an example.

During the reign with Macedonia - which after the occupation by the Germans was handed over to the Bulgarians - the activity in the field of publishing and organizing the Turks, whose national identity was not recognized, comes to a complete standstill. After the Second World War, in the second Yugoslavia which was elevated based on new dynamics, based on the few cultural rights that were recognized to the minorities, in 1944 the education and publishing in Turkish language, was undergoing an expansion.

The founders of Turkish literature in the Republic of Macedonia, who are the founders of the children's short stories in Turkish language in the Republic of Macedonia, as well, are Hussein Suleiman, Mustafa Karahasan, Sukri Ramo, Necati Zekeriya, Fahri Kaya, Mahmut Kirtali, Sureya Yusuf and İlhami Emin. They were later joined by other storytellers, that is, the first postwar generation of Turkish writers in the Republic of Macedonia, among who, Rexhep Murat - Bugarcic, Esad Bajram and Nusret Diso Ulku.

On December 23, 1944, the publishing of the newspaper "Birlik" was initiated, which is the first Turkish newspaper in Macedonia, printed in Latin letters. However, the editor-in-chief of the newspaper was appointed by the state, its costs were also covered by the state and it was issued by the Joint Stock Company Nova Makedonija. Therefore, the newspaper "Birlik" can not be said to be a Turkish newspaper published by the Turks in Macedonia, but a newspaper that was published for the Turks. Despite this important detail, the newspaper still has great credit in strengthening the national consciousness and the ability to hear the voice of Turkish literary writers in Macedonia.

Keywords: Turkish literature, Macedonia, writers, magazines

РАЗВОЈОТ НА СОВРЕМЕНАТА ТУРСКА ЛИТЕРАТУРА ВО МАКЕДОНИЈА

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Вовед: Повлекувањето на Османската држава од Македонија негативно влијаело на турската книжевност и култура. И покрај тоа, во периодот од 1918 до 1941 година, Турците успеале да објават единаесет весници како што се: „Rehber“, „Uhuvvet“, „Hak“, „Hak Yolu“, „Mücadele“, „Sosyalist Fecri“, „Yeni Vakit“, „Birlik“, „Seda-yı Millet“, „Işık“ и „Doğru Yol“. Меѓутоа, голем дел од весниците се укинати од страна на режимот.

Како пример може да се наведе прекинувањето на весникот „Нак“ којшто е прекинат по вкупно 956 броја испечатени до 11 декември 1924 и во којшто остро е критикувано рушењето на Бурмали џамијата во Скопје. За време на владеењето со Македонија, кое по окупирањето од страна на Германците е предадено на Бугарите, дејноста од областа на издаваштвото и организирањето на Турците, чијашто национална припадност не била признаена, доаѓа до целосен застој. По Втората светска војна, во втората Југославија којашто била издигната врз нови динамики, врз основа на малкуте културни права коишто им биле признаени на малцинствата, во 1944 година наставата и издаваштвото на турски јазик доживува експанзија. Основоположниците на турската литература во Република Македонија кои се основоположници и на расказите за деца на турски јазик во Република Македонија, се Хусејин Сулејман, Мустафа Карахасан, Шукри Рамо, Нецати Зекерија, Фахри Каја, Махмут Киратли, Суреја Јусуф и Илхами Емин, а подоцна кон нив се приклучуваат и други раскажувачи, односно првата повоена генерација турски писатели во Република Македонија“ ги вклучивме и Реџеп Мурат – Бугарич, Есад Бајрам и Нусрет Дишо Улку. На 23 декември 1944 година во Скопје се започнува со издавањето на весникот „Birlik“, којшто е првиот весник на турски јазик во Македонија, печатен со латинично писмо. Меѓутоа, главниот уредник на весникот се именува од страна на државата, неговите трошоци ги покрива државата и тој се издава од страна на акционерското друштво Нова Македонија. Поради тоа, за весникот „Birlik“ не може да се рече дека е турски весник кој го издаваат Турците во Македонија, туку весник кој се издава за Турците. И покрај овој важен детал, весникот сепак има огромна заслуга во зајакнувањето на националната свест и во можноста да се чуе гласот на книжевниците Турци во Македонија.

Клучни зборови: Турската книжевност, Македонија, писатели, списанија

1. INTRODUCTION

The historical truth is that on December 23, 1944, when the Second World War was still in progress, the first issue of the newspaper "Birlik" was published, which meant a new hope for the future of the Turks in Macedonia. This newspaper appeared in an unexpected time and it meant that unlike the one from royal time during the Tito's regime, the attitude towards the Turks will be different in every area of social life. One cannot ignore the fact that at that time some rights of the Turks from Macedonia, that had not been previously recognized – were now recognized; the first step being the recognition of the rights of the Turks for education and the opening of the first primary schools in Turkish language. However, due to political goals, with the recognition of the right to education in their mother tongue of the Turks from Eastern and Western Macedonia, the Turks from western Macedonia were forced to study in Albanian language. The passing of the law on equality in education in some way meant extinguishing the hopes of the Turks, and this was a reason more for the suspicion that this law will allow all people to be granted equal rights in terms of education in their mother tongue. (Engüllü, 1988:8)

After the 1970s, although there was no movement in the short stories as it was with the songa, we are still witnessing the creation of short stories. In this, great merit without doubt goes to: Suat Engullu, Mustafa Yashar, Enver Ilyaz, Sabit Yusuf and Fahri Kaya who created short stories.

At the end of the 1960s, great attention was drawn to the small movement in the field of drama. Speaking about the creation of the theater works of contemporary Turkish literature in Macedonia, one can not but mention the merits of Serefettin Nebi, Lutfi Seyfulah and Sabit Yusuf (Zekeriya, 1961: 82). In 1950, in order to have a faster development, some important steps in contemporary Turkish literature in Macedonia were noted. The newspaper "Birlik" is starting to issue monthly children magazine "Pioner Dergisi", which will later be renamed "Sevinç" and will become a weekly magazine. A completely different event is the founding of the Union of Turkish Writers in Macedonia. The founding of this union is significant in two respects:

a. It was an opportunity to organize the Turkish writers and an opportunity for them to discuss and make decisions regarding the development of the contemporary Turkish literature in Macedonia.

b. This new situation greatly meant softening the regime and an opportunity for those who were not allowed to be part of the contemporary Turkish literature in Macedonia, to join.

President of the union was Mustafa Karahasan, and the members were as follows: Shukri Ramo, Necati Zekeriya, Fahri Kaya, Mahmut Kiratli, Sevki Vardar, İlhami Emin, Hussein Suleiman and others (Karahasan, 1950: 81).

We do not have specific information on the fact of how long the union was active, but probably it was active for a short time because it did not show any significant activity regarding the organization of Turkish writers, but managed to contribute at least to the emergence of the first generation of writers (from the 50s) in contemporary Turkish literature in Macedonia.

We consider that the 1970s meant the beginning of a period in which works with criticism and essays started to increasingly appear in the contemporary Turkish literature in Macedonia. In this period, more precisely since 1960, Mustafa Karahasan, Nexhati Zekeriya, Fahri Kaya and İlhami Emin started writing essays, and they were also joined by Suat Engüllü, Avni Engüllü and Avni Abdullah (Bellur, 1981: 44-9) The continuity of "domination" of poetry, for nearly half a century in the contemporary Turkish literature in Macedonia, was a factor for the greater development of this literary genre compared to the development of others.

In conclusion, the contemporary Turkish poetry in Macedonia (through the poetry works of Necati Zekeriya, İlhami Emin, Nusret Diso Ulku, Avni Engüllü, Fahri Ali, Suat Engüllü, İrfan Bellur and others) reached a certain level not only within the frameworks of the contemporary Turkish poetry, but also it became influential outside of it (Karahasan, 1983: 7). During this period, the standard Turkish language was used, and the songs were recited with metrics (Sesler, 1990:7).

Another very important feature of the contemporary Turkish literature in Macedonia is that it has developed children's literature within its frameworks. Without a doubt, this reflects the great importance attached to children in every segment of life in the newly formed social order. After 1950, the monthly children's magazine "Sevinç", and after 1957 the second monthly children's magazine "Tomurcuk", as well, played a very important role in encouraging children's literature (Ramo, 1983: 45-51) Therefore, there is not a single Turkish poet in Macedonia who has no some kind of merit in the children's literature. It is common knowledge that for a very long period, i.e. up to 1965, the poetry dominated among the Turkish writers from Macedonia and it was in the foreground. It can be also noted that in the children's literature a great importance is bestowed to the poetry, short stories and theatrical works. A great number of Turkish writers in Macedonia have created valuable works for children's literature (Zekeriya, 1979: 63)

2. CONCLUSION

We can conclude that, although maybe the themes and motives are similar in children's books of the Turkish literature in Macedonia, the general topics of the Turkish writers' works are the following: the world of the child from the "Turkish neighborhood", the people's struggle for liberation, the education, i.e. schools, the friendship, the games, the social status, the homeland, the village, the first love.

Finally, to this conclusion we can add: The thing that is characteristic of the Turkish children's literature is the fact that it lacks a greater interest among the poets and writers to write books that will be intended primarily for children, but books that would be gladly read by the adults, too.

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