

LITERATURE

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GABRIEL GARCIA MARQUEZ: THE TRUTH CHANGED LITERARY WORLD

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Abstract

In the article “Gabriel Garcia Marquez: “The truth about what happened with me” we get informed about Marquez’s novels. The article starts with short interview of Garcia Marquez. From his own words, we find out that his incredible novels and short stories are result of his journalistic work. Indeed, his journalistic articles are base for his further career. Moreover, his novels would not be without his journalistic career. In article, special reference deserves his work “The story of a shipwrecked sailor”. This story caused unprecedented scandal in Colombia. Story tells us about warships that have to patrol and protect borders. Instead, they smuggle. It became huge scandal because story based on true occasion. Probity of Gabriel Garcia Marquez was trouble for many high-ranking officials. However, from his own words, “I wrote my articles to tell truth not to pleasure someone”. As a result, he owned so many foes in government. In conclusion, publication of his “The story of shipwrecked sailor” had political consequences and forced government to review their policy.

Keywords: realism and magical realism, solitude, symbiosis of East and West, Oral folk art of Azerbaijan, rigorous censorship, book of idioms

Until today from the Soviet Union for 70-80 years Spanish literature of Middle Ages and romances particularly were presented to Soviet and post-Soviet readers in face of the most remarkable and brilliant masterpieces such as “Don Quixote of La Mancha” that was created by Miguel de Cervantes, works of Lope de Vega, Pedro Calderon de la Barca and Garcia Lorca .Moreover, great works of Gabriel Marquez, Julio Cortazar, Carlos Fuentes, Jorge Luis

Borges, Miguel Angel Asturias, Miguel Hernandez, and Pablo Neruda were translated on Azerbaijani from Russian interpretation. These works have never been translated on Azerbaijani directly from Spanish originals. There were some reasons among them we can point out: centralization in determination of choosing of literature, censorship of imported literature and control of the content of translation. [1] Translated from Spanish on Russian works of modern writers were redacted in Moscow and subjected rigorous censorship. As a result, Hispanic romances, poems and novels reached to readers with reduction and improper artistic qualities. However, it is necessary to note huge role and merit of professional Russian translators, pay attention to their writings, and take them with respect. It should be noted that masterpiece of Gabriel Garcia Marquez "One hundred years of solitude" were translated on Russian in two versions. The first one was published during Soviet times and subjected significant redaction and reductions. Certainly, it affected artistic value of book that was translated on Russian. Moreover, obviously further translations on other languages of USSR in specific way misrepresented artistic content of book and changed the meaning of the book in some way. Therefore, I assume that masterpieces of famous Spanish writers that were subjected strict censorship should be translated on Azerbaijani again from original language-Spanish. [2] Moreover, it would be great contribution to the development of the relations between Azerbaijani and Spanish literatures. This is the one of most important problems of modern translation from Spanish to Azerbaijani. On other side, there was another problem of translating Spanish authors on Azerbaijani. This peculiarity should be taken into account when translating classic Spanish and modern Spanish authors. As you know, Spain was under the influence of Arabian Caliphate for several centuries. [4] Therefore, rich Eastern and Islamic culture of Arabian Caliphate had enormous influence on Spanish literature, architecture, spoken language, poetry, folklore and folk arts. As a result, Spain became fabulous symbiosis of East and West. Oral folk art of Azerbaijan, our epics, legends, and fairytales contained motives that have place both in classic literature of Middle Ages of Spain and in classic literature of Azerbaijan. Identity of motives in Azerbaijani and Spanish literatures is dictated by the fact that classic Azerbaijani literature in certain period prospered under the strong influence of Islamic culture and as a result, Azerbaijani literature acquired new masterpieces. Indeed, there is unifying link between of Spanish and Azerbaijani literatures shown by idioms, proverbs and metaphors that magnificently reflect the richness of languages. Quite possible that these similar idioms, metaphors and proverbs what have unifying role between Azerbaijani and Spanish literatures are lack in other languages. [6] It would be quite remarkable to make joint book of idioms, proverbs and words that are used both in classic Spanish literature and in Azerbaijani folklore. I suppose that interrelation between Azerbaijani and Spanish literature should be studied

much intently. Moreover, the first explicit step to improve the interrelation in literature and make it easier for readers of both countries could be making the list of Spanish authors who would be translated and published on Azerbaijani directly from original also list of works of Azerbaijani classic literature masters who are essential to translate and publish in Spain.

In works of Marquez epoch was reflected in journalistic works earlier than in novels. In 1954, he moved on to capital of Columbia-Bogota and in the same year started to work for local paper "El Espectador". He wrote editorial and film reviews..."if I was not a journalist, afterwards it could be difficult to write my novels. They simply would not be. When I was a journalist, I observed life; by becoming writer, I described my observations. I saw closely the problems of town, villages and tried to inform about them in my articles and studies. Probably, my these efforts were not liked by someone. But in that time I was not writing for being liked by someone, or contrariwise offend someone; I just felt that everything I had ever experienced in town, in village- exactly I had to describe. I had a feeling that especially for it, I had come to journalism and no one could replace me in this point... I resembled to ant what stored food in the summer and in the winter spent time for favorite pastime-literature. In cornerstone of my all novels laid exactly this early journalistic practice..."

Though Gabriel Garcia Marquez did not read any of Ernest Hemingway's novels and publications, his journalistic and later literary style from the beginning was similar to world famous Ernest Hemingway style. As Ernest Hemingway, Marquez went through the mill of journalism before started to write novels. As famous Russian literary critic, Yassen Zassoursky, said:" Hemingway was incredibly supervisory journalist and writer. He knew clearly the edge between journalism and literature. He considered that he should show his attitude to his characters exactly unobtrusive and unostentatiously but masterfully. Marquez also has such precise edge between his journalistic and literary works. His main purpose was to wake up civic consciousness and tell the truth. At the same time, he tries to achieve the darkest edges of human's soul and solve its secrets. So does Hemingway. In one of his brilliant reportages, he told about Godforsaken village. Whole year here are incessant rains, people have to marry their close relatives, and day after day village is becoming awful place. Poor people are miserable, and rich men are brazen. During the holidays, here are breathtaking feasts and rich people spend fabulous money. The reportage finishes by these words: "Once this is destroyed by hurricane of fate". On other hand, Marquez was witness of dual life a small town. Employees of American company are in easy circumstances, they do not need anything, but local people-cheap labor-live in miserable conditions. Indeed, local people cannot bear to such insults and abuses; as a result, there are so many fights. It is obviously that Marquez tried to convey to readers about truth what he saw in villages and towns. In that contradictory period of his life,

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he tried to tell about “La violencia”-one of difficult phase of Columbia’s history. ”La violencia” is police brutality, indeed civil what covered entire Latin America in short time. In 1955, Marquez published his reportage about orphans who became victims of “La violencia”. Another reportage was about village in Columbia where adults were killed by government’s punitive power and all children were given to Columbian orphanages. However, the country was helpless against the problem- thousands children were left without parents. Author of reportage anticipated about what would happen with children and country in the future and he was not afraid to say it.

In 1955, Gabriel Marquez published series of stories under the title “The truth about what happened with me». Subsequently these series would be published under the different title -“The story of shipwrecked sailor”. Gabriel Marquez was in the “black list” of many high ranks officials of Columbia, because of his objective reporting of prevailing mode in the country and his fearless critics of government. The last published stories in a newspaper was the straw that broke the camel’s back. Sailor who survived after shipwrecked of warship told the story. By this time, Marquez was on the eve of the transition from journalist to writer and as a result, he focused on description of images. However, regime was not particularly interested in professional skill of young talented journalist who became master of the pen in really short time and won the respect of readers. Instead, the story of sailor attracted the government. According to sailor’s words, we know that the shipwrecked ship was not regular ship- it was warship. In the story, which was written by young famous writer Gabriel Garcia Marquez, appears terrible view. It becomes clear that warships which sailed in the state waters and were planned to protect the state borders actually smuggled.

The publication of the story made him famous but at the same time put him in danger. This story of Marquez revealed such facts that became unpleasant surprise in official circles and caused the unprecedented scandal. The newspaper “El Espectador” was subjected to persecution. Every issue of newspaper was read with special attention. Every word considered as judgment against government of Columbia, it was validated many times by unknown people who came to editorial office every day. ”In editorial office, I felt that some people observed me. They watched what I was doing, what I was writing, where I took materials that I wrote. It repeated every single day. They always were different people but they were similar suspicious. Moreover, their eyes were similar: cold and contemptuous. I felt them everywhere; I knew that every inch of my apartment was carefully searched when I was not at home in order to blame me of smuggling. They easily could start a fight in café or restaurant and then made me a victim of random bullet...They could framed me so I understood that I had to leave Columbia.”

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...In 1955, Gabriel Marquez became correspondent of "El Espectador" in Europe and left Columbia. Thus, the epoch that Marquez described indeed experienced him...In Europe Marquez was one of many foreign correspondents who was accredited and lived in capital of Italy. In Rome, Marquez was interested in Italian cinematography that created beautiful works of neorealism and was learning history and modern cinema. In addition, he took filmmaker courses. After a while he moved on Paris..." In Paris, I could not live in expensive and famous hotels, they said, cut your coat to fit your cloth. The window overlooked to Latin district so I felt myself as I was still in Bogota. The noise, fuss and even air were from my childhood. Even most of hotel guests were Latinos. We were so different; some of us tried fortune in foreign country, some argued with their parents and escaped, old soldiers and journalists who were working for small change. Among us were so many who dreamt to become famous because of our writings. We dreamt to wake up famous in one morning and wish everyone would be honored to say "Good morning senior N!", "Nice to see you senior N!" etc. Nevertheless, Paris have seen so many people like us. Even after "One hundred years of solitude" that made me famous, cleaners often named me as "journalist from flat seven". However, his works have achieved significant critical acclaim and widespread success. He popularized magic realism that uses magical elements and events in otherwise ordinary and realistic situations. Marquez was not an ordinary writer. His main principle was to say bitter truth. Maybe he suffered when he acted this way; he continued doing it because truth was everything for Gabriel Marquez. Moreover, the best way to show truth to entire world was the magic realism. Because all people love fairytales but no one wants to believe them. In case of Marquez, he made everyone to believe his novels.

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