

**ARTISTIC INTERPRETATION AND SOCIO-PHILOSOPHICAL  
CONTENT OF Muso Toshmuhammad o'g'li Oybek'S STORY "THE  
LAMPLIGHTER FATHER"**

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***Abstract.** This article analyzes the artistic interpretation and socio-philosophical content of Oybek's short story "The Lamplighter Father." Through the image of an ordinary working man, the work highlights universal human values such as honesty, diligence, and humanity. The character of the lamplighter father is interpreted as a symbol of a humble yet devoted individual in society, and through his life, it is revealed that a person's true worth is determined not by position, but by moral qualities. The article scientifically examines the ideological direction of the story, its symbolic meaning (the lamp as a symbol of light), artistic devices, and the writer's style. It also presents conclusions about the educational significance of the work and its relevance for modern society.*

***Keywords:** Oybek, "The Lamplighter Father," short story, artistic interpretation, socio-philosophical content, diligence, honesty, humanism, symbolic image, spirituality, literary analysis.*

**Introduction.** In Uzbek literature, the ideas of humanism, honesty, and devotion to labor occupy an important place. Oybek's творчество stands out for its deep artistic expression of these values. The story "The Lamplighter Father" is one of the writer's works that glorifies human virtues and draws profound moral conclusions through the life of an ordinary person.

Theme and Ideological Direction of the Work. The main theme of the story is the life of an ordinary working man and his spiritual world. Through the life of the

lamplighter (a man who lights street lamps), universal values such as honesty, diligence, and devotion to duty are revealed.

The central idea of the work is that a person's value in society is determined not by their position, but by their honesty and dedication.

Analysis of the Image of the Lamplighter Father. The lamplighter father is one of the brightest positive characters created by Oybek. He is distinguished by the following qualities:

Diligence. He approaches his work with full dedication. Although his job is simple, he performs it with great responsibility. Through this, the writer shows that: any kind of labor is honorable; society relies on the work of every individual.

Honesty and purity. The lamplighter father: lives conscientiously, fulfills his duty sincerely, prioritizes spiritual values over material gain. These qualities elevate him to the level of a moral ideal.

Modesty. The character does not boast about his work. He lives a simple life, yet possesses a rich and pure inner world.

Symbolic Meaning and Artistic Interpretation. The image of the "lamp" in the story carries important symbolic meaning:

light symbolizes goodness and enlightenment;  
darkness represents ignorance and indifference.

The lamplighter father is interpreted as:

a figure who brings "light" to society,  
a spiritual force illuminating people's lives.

In this sense, he is not merely a worker, but a symbolic bearer of moral enlightenment.

Artistic Devices and Style. In the story, Oybek effectively uses the following artistic means:

realistic depiction – events are presented vividly and convincingly;  
psychological analysis – the inner world of the character is revealed;  
symbolism – the lamp expresses deep philosophical meaning.

The writer's simple, fluent, and expressive style ensures a strong emotional impact on the reader.

Excerpt from the Story. Only the trembling light of a single lamp, mounted above Tursunqul aka's decayed gate, illuminated the sorrowful evening of the narrow, crooked street. Every evening, a short, wrinkled old man would come and light it. We called him "the lamplighter father." He was very quiet and gentle, quickly placing his small ladder, climbing up skillfully, taking a worn cloth from under his arm, and carefully wiping the lamp's glass. After lighting it, he would descend, place the ladder on his bent shoulders, and disappear in an instant.

Although at first the whole neighborhood welcomed the lamp with affection, this feeling did not last long. Soon, people became indifferent. Especially the children developed a strange hostility toward the lamp. At first, we threw our caps at it, then stones and clods of earth. The fragile glass would easily shatter, forcing the lamplighter to replace it several times a week. Yet he never complained.

One evening, after we broke the lamp again, the old man quietly addressed us: "Foolish children, why do you do this? If you don't touch the lamp, will anything happen? You play below, it shines above... You are young; your eyes are sharp. But for old people like us, light is very necessary."

He then told how, one rainy night, thanks to the lamp, he saved an old man who had fallen into a ditch. This story deeply affected the children. From that day on, no one harmed the lamp again.

Social and Educational Significance of the Work. The story "The Lamplighter Father": educates young people in the spirit of honesty and diligence; teaches respect for the labor of ordinary people; emphasizes the importance of moral values in society. Even today, the work remains: a means of moral education, an example of ethical ideal.

**Conclusion.** "The Lamplighter Father" is a work in which Oybek expresses the ideas of humanism and moral purity at a high artistic level. Through the image of an ordinary person, it conveys a profound philosophical message: what elevates a human being is honest labor and a pure heart.

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