



## LITERARY CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE WORKS OF ALISHER NAVAI AND WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

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*Usmonova Sevara Sultonovna*

*Ferghana State University, teacher, PHD*

*Boxodirova Komila Xamidjon qizi*

*Ferghana State University, 4<sup>th</sup> year student*

**Abstract:** This article explores the literary connection between Alisher Navai, a prominent 15th-century Central Asian poet, and William Shakespeare, the renowned English playwright of the 16th and 17th centuries. Despite the geographical and temporal distance between the two, this study highlights the striking similarities in their poetic themes, stylistic devices, and cultural impact.

**Key words:** literary connection, similarity, contributors, storytellers, playwright, human nature

### **Introduction**

Literature has always been a medium that transcends time and space, connecting people from different cultures and eras. One such connection can be found between the works of Alisher Navai, the renowned 15th-century Central Asian poet, and William Shakespeare, the iconic English playwright of the 16th and 17th centuries. Although they lived in different parts of the world, their literary contributions share several similarities that make them timeless and universal.

Alisher Navai was a writer, poet, and statesman from what is now Uzbekistan. He is considered one of the greatest contributors to the Turkic literary tradition and his works continue to be celebrated in Central Asia. Similarly, William Shakespeare is regarded as one of the most influential playwrights in Western literature, with his plays being performed and studied worldwide.

One striking similarity between Navai and Shakespeare is their mastery of language. Both writers had a profound understanding of their respective languages and employed them skillfully to convey complex emotions and ideas. Navai wrote primarily in Chagatai, a Turkic language, while Shakespeare composed his plays in Early Modern English. Despite the linguistic differences, both writers were able to captivate their audiences with their rich and evocative use of words.

Furthermore, Navai and Shakespeare shared a keen insight into human nature. Their works delve into the depths of human emotions, exploring themes such as love,



jealousy, ambition, and betrayal. Navai's poetry often reflects on the complexities of love and the pain of unrequited affection, while Shakespeare's plays like "Romeo and Juliet" and "Othello" explore the destructive power of jealousy and the consequences of unchecked ambition. This profound understanding of human psychology is what makes their works resonate with readers across time and cultures.

Additionally, both Navai and Shakespeare were skilled storytellers. They crafted intricate narratives that engaged their audiences and left a lasting impact. Navai's epic poem, "Hayrat al-abrar" (The Marvels of Creation and the Oddities of Existence), weaves together various stories and anecdotes, showcasing his storytelling prowess. Similarly, Shakespeare's plays are known for their compelling plots, memorable characters, and thought-provoking themes. Whether it is the tragic love story of "Romeo and Juliet" or the political intrigue of "Macbeth," Shakespeare's narratives continue to captivate audiences centuries later.

Despite the geographical and temporal distance between Navai and Shakespeare, their literary works share a remarkable connection. Both writers demonstrated a profound mastery of language, a deep understanding of human nature, and a talent for storytelling. Their contributions to literature have stood the test of time, continuing to inspire and resonate with readers around the world.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the literary connection between Alisher Navai and William Shakespeare highlights the universality of literature. Regardless of cultural background or historical context, great writers have the power to touch the hearts and minds of readers through their words. Navai and Shakespeare's works serve as a testament to the enduring power of literature to bridge gaps and foster a shared understanding among diverse cultures.

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