

**THE ANALYSIS OF COMPARISON OF WESTERN AND EASTERN  
LITERATURE OF THE MIDDLE AGES AND THE RENAISSANCE**

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**Abstract.** *The literature of the Middle Ages (V-XV centuries) and the Renaissance (XIV-XVII centuries) played an important role in the development of Western and Eastern cultures. There are many distinctive features, themes and styles in the literature of these periods, which when compared with each other produce interesting results. This article analyzes the main features, themes and styles in Western and Eastern literature of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.*

**Key words:** *literature, moral values, feudal society, poets, Renaissance, works.*

Medieval literature mainly includes works related to religious themes, moral values and the social structure of feudal society. Religious epics, masnavis, and hagiographies were common in Western literature during this period. For example, Dante Alighieri's "Rebirth" depicts man's spiritual journey and relationship with God. In Eastern literature, the Middle Ages are characterized by works of poets and thinkers. Alisher Navoi, Fuzuli and other poets highlighted human emotions, love, nature and moral values in their works. In the work "Khamsa" Navoi demonstrated his poetic skills and raised the social problems of his time. Renaissance literature is associated with the renewal of humanity, the development of science and art. The freedom, individualism and outlook of a person found its expression in Western literature during this period.

For example, William Shakespeare explores themes such as the complexity of human nature, love, revenge, and social injustice. Other important representatives of the Renaissance, such as Miguel de Cervantes, covered social issues and the inner struggles of man in his works. In Eastern literature, the Renaissance period is mainly

associated with innovations in the fields of science and philosophy. In this period, for example, poets such as Saadi, Jami and Navoi raised human values, moral issues and social justice in their works. During the renaissance, Eastern literature also appeared in works aimed at understanding the freedom and individuality of a person. There are many differences between the West and the East in medieval literature. In Western literature, religious themes and moral values are the priority, while in Eastern literature, human feelings and attitude to nature are more important. During the Renaissance period, the ideas of individualism and freedom are strengthened in Western literature, which is also reflected in Eastern literature, but their expression and style are different. Western literature during the Renaissance focuses more on realism and individualism, while Eastern literature retains more romantic and mystical elements. In the West, literature tends to raise social and political issues, while in the East, more moral and philosophical issues are prioritized.

In medieval literature, religious ideas and moral values were the priority. Many works contain religious stories, issues and hagiographies. Christianity, Islam and other religions played an important role in literature. Epic works, masnavis and ballads are common in medieval literature. These works often deal with heroism, adventure, and social issues. The social structure of the feudal society and its values are reflected in the literature.

Heroes are often associated with feudal lords, knights and their adventures. Allegorical and symbolic styles were widely used in medieval literature. Works often use symbols and symbols to express spiritual and moral meanings. Traditional forms, such as the sonnet, masnavi, and ballad, were common in medieval literature. These forms often have strict rules and structures. In medieval literature, heroes were often idealized, that is, they were described as morally perfect, brave and loyal. Folk literature, such as legends, narratives, and folk songs, played an important role in the literature of the Middle Ages. These works reflect the culture and values of the people. Many works in medieval literature explore philosophical and moral issues. Topics such as human purpose, life and death, and moral values are widely discussed. These features help to understand the uniqueness of medieval literature

and its historical context.

### **Conclusion**

A comparison between Western and Eastern literature of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance shows the specific characteristics and directions of development of both cultures. In Western literature, religious and social issues were the priority, and in Eastern literature, human emotions and moral values were the priority. During the Renaissance, ideas of renewal and freedom were expressed in both cultures. The literature of these times occupies an important place in the history of mankind and does not lose its importance even today.

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