



## RETROSPECTIVE PLOT FEATURES

**Rahimov Zokir Azimovich**

Associate Professor of Fergana State University,  
Candidate of Philological Sciences

**Gulomov Doniyorbek Dilshodjon ogli**

Master's degree from Fergana State University,  
Fergana city,  
Uzbekistan

### ANNOTATION

*The article analyzes the theoretical views of Russian and Uzbek literary critics on the terms “retrospective plot”, “functions of the retrospective plot”, their types, features, application in fiction.*

**KEYWORDS:** *plot, retrospective, episode insertion, type, chronological, concentric, return to the past (revival of the past), look into the past, retro, classification, hero, event, function, type, work of art.*

### DISCUSSION

In Uzbek literature, there are two main types of plot: chronological and concentric [1,171]. Such a classification can be found not only in Uzbek, but also in Russian literature. In particular, Russian literary critics V.Khalizev [2,88], G.Pospelova [3,120-122] note the existence of chronic and concentric types of plots. However, the literary critic A.Rahimov, taking a comprehensive approach to this issue, in addition to the above plot types, points out that there are two other types of plot: retrospective and associative forms in the example of the best novels [4,27-37].

In this sense, the object of research was the term and classification of retrospective. The term retrospective is defined in the literature as follows:

1. Retrospective examination, looking back. Acceptance of retrospective in fiction (narration of past events). Retrospective is an artistic method, referring to the past of the protagonist (heroes), observing previous events [5].

2. Kuznetsova's Explanatory Dictionary: Retrospective. [lat. look back and forth] look at the past, comment on past events.

3. Ojegov's Explanatory Dictionary: retrospective – look at the past, look at the past. Retrospective look.

4. Small academic dictionary: retrospective – dedicated to thinking about the past, looking at the past.

5. Dictionary of Russian synonyms: retrospective – returned to the previous state.

6. Dictionary of Gallitism in Russian: retrospective – lat. retro back, distinctive look. Looking back and reviewing past events.

7. A large dictionary of foreign words: retrospective – (Latin. Looking back and past). A transition from the present to the past, including a statement or comment about the past.

8. Annotated translation dictionary: retrospective – referring to the past, past events, looking back or to the past [6].

Apparently, the etymology of the retrospective concept refers to the Latin language and the term “retrospicēre”, which means “looking back”. Thus, retrospective is a method that takes into account past development or work done. In particular, the term can be said to be the sum of three components:

The “retro” prefix, which can be translated as “back”. The verb “spere” is synonymous with the word “see, look”. The suffix -tive is used to denote a passive or active relationship.

What is the use of retrospect in the composition of a work of art, that is, as a new form of plot construction? - requires finding answers to puzzling questions.

Contradictions in the theoretical views of Russian and Uzbek literary critics, in the existing textbooks, and the lack of unified views on this topic further increase the relevance of the topic. In particular, the Russian literary critic M.Petrova describes the construction of the plot in this way: “Retrospect is a unique way to form the artistic structure of the text” [7].

According to the Russian literary critic M.Ponomareva, “Retrospective means, first of all, the incompatibility of the retrospective scene during the plot and the fable. This always means a specific delay in the progressive development of the story” [8].



L.N.Fedorova calls retrospect – “reference to the previously presented solid and factual information”, and states that the main task of retrospect is informational, which is directly related to the content of the work of art [9].

According to N.V.Bruskova, who considered retrospective on the example of German fiction, retrospective is a “presentation of events that relate to the events that preceded the events described in the previous text in the next part of the text” [10,23].

A.Rahimov, a literary critic who has conducted research in this field, said: This often happens in the form of a return to the past of the character whose destiny is being portrayed – to the earlier stages of his biography. Balzac, for example, often puts his protagonists in complex situations and goes back to their previous destiny, artistically analyzing the circumstances that led the protagonist to fall into his current state. This, in turn, allows us to imagine the mood, character and future of the characters” [4,27-28].

According to researcher B.Turaeva, “Retrospective directs the story from the current state of the plot to the past. Sometimes the state of the plot is just a basis for memorizing and narrating.

Retrospective is a means of compositional substantiation, which provides an opportunity to expand the life of the protagonist, his previous history, to determine the state of affairs” [11,2-3].

It can be seen that by expressing the meaning of retrospection (lat. retro – to look back, back, spectare – to look; retrospective, lat. retrospectivere – to return to the past, to revive the past), the main events begin at the culmination, the event stops at a certain place, and the events leading up to the culmination, the activities of the protagonists come to life. Retrospect plays a major role in a work of art as a literary method. It is the connection between the past and the present. Thanks to retrospect, the reader can reconstruct previously obtained information, review it, and eventually understand the author’s intent. Information that at first seems incomprehensible, secondary, is determined by the repetition mentioned, and has a certain significance. It is characterized by an important part of the description of the events leading up to the main event, in some cases beginning at the end of the work. Salih Makhдум in A.Qodiri’s novel “Scorpion from the Altar”, Zaynab and Omon in H.Olimjon’s epic “Zaynab and Omon” Rahim Saidov’s first meeting with Munis, his frequent recollections of his days together, In the novel “It is difficult to be a man” Gafurjon aka remembers meeting Tursunali Kurbanov, helping him, remembering the first meeting of Abdulla and Gulchehra, In T. Malik’s story “Shaytanat”, the image of Asadbek’s childhood can be an example of looking back from time to time.

Hence, the main task of the retrospective plot is to report on the characters’ past, evaluate,

understand the image, interpret the events, explain, and enhance the drama.

Analyses show that the type of retrospective plot, which appeared in the novels as a method of “returning to the biographical past of the protagonist” [12,203], acquires a more complex, analytical character in modern novels. Through it, the author not only goes back to the protagonist’s past - his biography, but also deeply analyzes the protagonist’s inner world, experiences and aspirations. In other words, “the retrospective method of plot construction has become a means of examining the inner world of the protagonist” [13,69].

Studies show that the starting point of the art of retrospective (memory, recollection) is Marcel Proust’s novel “In Search of Lost Time”.

In addition, retrospection is mainly used in two main senses:

- a) an event from the past (episode);
- b) narrative device (medium).

One of the first appearances of a retrospective plot is the oldest form of presentation of the story material – it is a series of episodes (separate episodes, stories of comrades, etc.). As a result of such intertwined events, the artistic time of the work expands and takes on an entirely different scale. The meeting of the protagonist of A.Kadyri’s novel “Last Days” Otabek with Master Alim, the story of Master Alim and the fact that this story coincided with the time of Otabek’s expulsion and humiliation, Otabek’s own destiny as Master Alim’s destiny, the retrospective episode the driver can also be seen as a force that moves the protagonist, motivating him to act in a braked state, logically connecting the parts of the work.

It can be seen that the retrospective, which contributed to the unification of the components of the work, is, at the same time, a source of further development of the plot. Therefore, L.N.Fedorova believes that the following functions can be distinguished in it: 1) a function that contributes to the development of the plot; 2) a function that slows down the development of the plot.

The retrospective part at the beginning of the work serves a plot-developing function. In this case, the retrospective part of the work contains information that predetermines the plot or shows a certain deviation in the narrative process. The retrospective segment of the story included at the beginning of the text contributes to the creation of an artistic space, describing the protagonists of the work [9,116].

The retrospective function of retarding the development of the plot does not affect the development of the plot, on the contrary, due to the expansion of the movement time, at first glance the plot development may seem slowed down, in fact the plot development shifts to internal dynamics and



continues to develop. As we can see, retrospective is primarily concerned with movement time, not space.

As a result of the retrospective method of plot construction and the growing desire to use its elements, the retrospective plot method is becoming more and more deeply ingrained in the epic narrative in various forms.

Literary critic A.Rahimov notes that "the retrospective method of plot construction is manifested in various forms and manifestations, such as the author's story, memories, reactions to events around him, associations" [4,30].

In some sources, retrospective plot appearances in a work of art are conditionally classified as follows:

**I.** According to who performs the retrospective narration:

- 1) retrospective of the narrator-author;
- 2) narrator-character retrospective;
- 3) retrospective of the chronicler-narrator.

**II.** According to the form of retrospective narration:

- 1) events through the eyes of a certain "person";
- 2) events related to the past of the "person" through his imagination;
- 3) events that took place in the past of the "person" or created through the fantasy of that "person" through his dream;
- 4) daily (in writing) by the "person".

**III.** According to the retrospective narration, at the time of the events:

- 1) current processes through the silent gaze of the character;
- 2) with the help of the imagination of the recent past;
- 3) the distant past is given through memories [13,69-70].

M.Merkulova, a Russian literary critic, states that "retrospective composition is used in a work of art: the author's position (approach, attitude), as a means of depicting the protagonist and visual image" [14].

B.Turaeva divides retrospection into the following four types: mini retrospectives, retrospectives within retrospectives, retrospectives within internal retrospectives, retrospectives and prospective mixed retrospectives [15,22].

Let's analyze the above theoretical views with examples: the author's position (approach, attitude) - allows the reader to pay attention to the actions of the protagonist, not the event, to understand his personality, and this is the basis of the event. A clear example of this can be seen in the memoirs of Soat Ganiev's childhood, one of the characters in O. Hashimov's novel "Lives in the Dream":

"... One day Saat asked his father, who was anointing Browning:

"Why is Eshan's wall taller than ours?"

His father laughed.

"Eshan surrounded his fortress with a high wall to hide his evil deeds, my son!" Soon we will bring them all together, we will not believe, we will be rich...

... The clock didn't understand anything, didn't want to understand: interestingly, after those events, his mother... suddenly became a worshiper. While blessing his face on the bed, Baralla begs:

... Eshon ota! I know you have no sin. May your life be blessed wherever you are!

At last the Clock could not bear it. He leaned on his mother's head, who was sitting on the couch.

"Turn it off!" Let the elements kill my father, but bless them ?! "

In another episode:

"The enemy! They are all enemies! The child of a snake is a snake, the child of a scorpion is a scorpion! ... " The clock suddenly came to his mind, and at the same time he felt relief.

In another episode:

"Listen!" Said Saat in a mixture of pain and anger. - I will be the Commissar! Of course I will! I shoot everyone! I will shoot one by one!" [16,34-39].

Reviving the events and memories of his childhood Understanding Saat Ganiev as a person, his behavior and how he was so ugly, looking for dirt in the nails, looking at others with suspicion, never made any friends in his life, in short: the real Soviet system, the Soviet It develops and forms as a person under the influence of ideology, and at the same time serves to interpret, inspect, reveal its character, and allows the reader to understand these aspects.

A similar situation helps to reveal the behavior and character of Muniskhan, the protagonist of O.Umarbekov's story "Summer Rain" in his youth [17]. As a result, in both of the above examples, the reader gradually understands how events, which were incomprehensible at the beginning of the work, came into being.

One of the manifestations of retrospective plot construction is that in the retrospective of the image of the protagonist, his dreams, desires, memories are manifested through a series of dreams and dialogues. Such cases can be seen in the example of Rahim Saidov, the protagonist of U.Umarbekov's story "Summer Rain" and Rustam's series of dreams in U.Hoshimov's novel "Lives in a Dream".

Retrospect is observed in different forms in a work of art, from the speech aspects of the work (according to who performed the narration), the events in it (in what form the narration is given), in what situation these events are applied (at the time of narration), the status of the protagonist The inclusion of an episode of Master Alim in the novel "Last Days" stems from the need to explain Otabel's mental state at the time) and his behavior.

Now, retrospective story has become a means of analyzing the inner world of the protagonist,



conveying the thoughts, sufferings and experiences of the characters, analyzing their actions in their own language, helps the reader to better understand the protagonist, the situation in the work, the content of the work.

In addition, if the retrospective lines in the plot were not related to the main plot lines, the story within a separate story, a scene from the protagonist's past, was observed in the form of episodes, but now connects different parts of the plot provides a deeper understanding of the protagonists, the idea of the work, the purpose of the writer.

The retrospective method of plot construction in a work of art (especially in novels), in part, describes the events leading up to the main event, thereby understanding and analyzing the inner world of the protagonists, the reasons for changes in character, expanding the possibilities of "artistic time" in the work. in the function of a bridge, it is widely used as a convenient tool for looking at the past, the history of development of the protagonist. Retrospectives in the work of art – the method of narration, the form in which it takes place, the time of events, the image of the author, the image of the protagonist, retrospective - memory, retrospective - story, retrospective - narration, retrospective - epigraph, braking and developing relative to the main plot, is reflected in the views.

## REFERENCES

1. Quronov D. *Fundamentals of literary theory*. – T.: Akadennashr, 2018.
2. Khalizev V. *Drama as a phenomenon of art*. – M.: Art, 1979.
3. Pospelova G. *Introduction to literary criticism*. – M.: Higher. school, 1983
4. Rahimov A. *Poetics of the Uzbek novel: Philol. Ph.D. diss... Fergana, 1993.*
5. <http://www.philol.msu.ru/~tezauros/docs/3/dictionary.php?label=%D0&wod=%D0%E5%F2%F0%EE%F1%EF%E5%EA%F6%E8%FF>
6. <https://gufo.me/dict/kuznetsov/%D1%80%D0%B5%D1%82%D1%80%D0%BE%D1%81%D0%BF%D0%B5%D0%BA%D1%82%D0%B8%D0%B2%D0%BD%D1%8B%D0%B9>
7. <https://cyberleninka.ru/article/n/retrospektivnyy-kak-sposob-postroeniya-liricheskogo-syuzheta-v-poezii-s-a-esenina-motiv-vospominaniy/viewer>
8. <http://elar.ufrj.br/bitstream/10995/20425/1/dc2-2011-48.pdf>
9. Fedorova L.N. *Category of retrospection in literary text (based on the material of English): Diss. ... Cand. philol. sciences*. – M., 1982.
10. Bruskova N.V. *Categories of retrospection and prospectus in literary text (on material in German): Dis. ... Cand. philol. sciences*. – M., 1983.
11. Koroban V. *Modern Moldavian novel*. – M.: Sov. writer, 1979.
12. Rahimov Z. *Poetics of the novel "Old World"*. – Fergana, 2005.
13. <http://www.world-shake.ru/ru/Encyclopaedia/3770.html>
14. To'raeva B. *The problem of artistic time in historical novels: PhD diss ... – T., 2018.*
15. Hoshimov O. *Lives in the Dream, – T.: New Century Generation, 2018.*
16. Umarbekov O'. *Summer Rain, – T.: Sparks of Literature, 2018.*