

**ROMENSKA, Nataliia**

<https://orcid.org/0009-0009-9123-6804>

*National University “Yuri Kondratyuk Poltava Polytechnic”, Ukraine*

### **FEATURES OF FEMALE CHARACTERS PORTRAYING IN THE STORY “MERDIVEN” BY SHAMIL ALYADIN**

The **purpose** of the study is to analyze the features of the female characters portraying in Shamil Alyadin’s story “Merdiven” through the prism of the socio-historical context and the author’s vision of the role of women in the Crimean Tatar culture of the first half of the 20th century. The task is to identify the artistic means through which the writer reveals the inner world of the heroines, their attitude to love, family, and life’s trials.

**Results.** The story “Merdiven” shows the period of the formation of a new social order in the 1920s-1940s in Crimea, conveying the atmosphere of change and internal tension. The central symbol of the work is the staircase, which denotes Abibulla’s spiritual and life path, his desire for harmony between ideals and reality. In this context, female characters act not only as a background for the protagonist, but also as full-fledged carriers of the ideas of the work.

The author creates a gallery of female types that embody various social, moral and emotional aspects of Crimean Tatar life. Saniye, Abibulla’s mother, is the keeper of family warmth, the personification of traditions and spiritual purity. Tenzile-kartana represents a generation of older women who carry the moral memory of the family.

The female theme is most deeply revealed in the images of Leilia and Usnie. Leilia is a poetic, lyrical image that embodies the romantic ideal of a woman. Her inner world is full of tenderness, anxiety, a desire for sincere feelings and at the same time – fear of loss. Nature, dreams, intuition, and premonition – all these elements become means of revealing her mental states. Through Leilia Alyadin expresses love for his native land, showing how the beauty of Crimea resonates with the heroine’s emotionality.

In contrast to her, Usnie appears as a realistic and deeply tragic image. She went through losses, loneliness and humiliation, but did not lose her human dignity. Her life story demonstrates inner independence, the ability to fight and survive. Usnie is a symbol of a woman who does not submit to circumstances and builds her own destiny. She also reflects the new social role of women in society. Through her image the author emphasizes the moral strength and resilience of the Crimean Tatar woman, who is able to become a support even in a destroyed world.

**Conclusions.** Shamil Alyadin creates a holistic system of female images that reflect the spiritual experience and mental characteristics of his people in his story “Merdiven”. Leilia embodies the fragility and romance of female nature, Usnie – strength, endurance and moral maturity. Their contrast emphasizes the multidimensionality of the female world and its role in preserving national and spiritual foundations. The author claims that it is women who are the bearers of memory, moral core and vital stability of the people, and women’s fates become a metaphor for the history of Crimea itself.