
ORHAN PAMUK, AS A POLITICAL DISSIDENT WRITER IN ENGLISH

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Abstract: World Literature is an increasingly influential subject in literary studies, which has led to the re-framing of contemporary ideas of 'national literatures', language and translation. This era of globalization is fast becoming the preferred term for describing the current times. It comprises the political, economical, social, cultural and literature aspects too. Orhan Pamuk as a global writer in Turkish literature, is the first one ever to emerge from his country, known for his epic, multifaceted stories in which the protagonist is often caught between two worlds. Orhan Pamuk, is a different writer that means he may have already written a number of epic novels but every time he comes up with a new book, a debate resumes whether its best work of the winner of 2006 Nobel Prize for literature. Pamuk uses secularism as an analytical tool to understand the politics of Turkey through his novels which comprises of its historical, cultural, social and Turkish identity issues. Pamuk has also taken on taboo topics in Turkey, like the alleged Armenian genocide in the 1990s and the massacre of Kurdish separatists that led the government in 2005, to sue him under Article 301 of the constitution for defaming the Turkish state. The charges were soon dropped but the experience solidified his position as a controversial literary figure within the Turkish psyche. He's written about deep-rooted tensions between East and West and how Istanbul and Turkey have changed over the last few decades. So, Pamuk as an internationally acclaimed author fits in this context perfectly.

Keywords: Controversial, Defaming, Deep-rooted, Globalisation, Re-framing, Secular.

Introduction: World Literature is an increasingly influential subject in literary studies, which has led to the re-framing of contemporary ideas of 'national literatures', language and translation. In World literatures in English, this paper would like to talk about Middle-Eastern Literature which includes Turkish Literature with special emphasis on the writer Orhan Pamuk, Turkish Nobel Laureate in literature as a political dissident writer.

Pamuk interweaves elements from the west's pantheon of postmodern prose into his fiction while also blurring the lines between realism and fantasy that is a hallmark of the greatest work of Arabic literature. Pamuk is very patriotic Turk, who loves his country but more importantly is a good human being who prefers to look at the truth. The only reason is because he chose to speak the truth, he wanted to defend the freedom of speech which was Turkey's only hope for coming to terms with its history. This is a courageous decision to stand up for the freedom of speech and for the truth by a man whose contribution to Turkey and world literature is enormous. This paper aims at studying Orhan Pamuk, as a writer whose writing an introduction into the politics of world literatures through literary analysis and interpretation. World Literature today is increasingly seen in global context, have access to unprecedented range of works from around the world in excellent translations and since the mid-1990s a lively debate has grown up concerning both the aesthetic and political values and limitations of an emphasis on global processes over national identities. For a long time, world literature was synonymous with European literature but with the vigorous interrogation from a number of global celebrity

writers of non-western especially Nobel Laureates and other equally canonized by the western literary critical establishment In World literatures in English, one studies Australian, Canadian, South-Asian, Middle-East, American, African literatures specially literatures written in English as well as the translated literatures to make the canvas too wide to learn. So, in World Literatures in English, this paper would like to talk about Middle-Eastern Literature – this includes Arabic, Algerian, Hebrew, Moroccan, Syrian, Turkish, Israeli. This research proposal would focus on the Turkish literature with special emphasis on Orhan Pamuk. He has gained international recognition for his writing.

His innovative novels and his status as a dissident author. He and his work have become symbols of intense cultural and political change as Istanbul and Turkey emerge into and become legible in - the global arena. Pamuk's transformation from national to global author, takes a journey of cultural translation. He mediates between Ottoman past, the Turkish national tradition and an international canon represented by his works. Despite living in Istanbul for more than six decades, Pamuk still finds that the best way to nourish his memory and imagination is to explore the city. He said that the background research he conducts for his novels (generally) included interviewing people, especially enjoyable as he took great pleasure in combining these firsthand accounts with his own experiences. In the city of Istanbul, ultimately Pamuk observed that writing traverses the space between the author's memories and his imagination. Pamuk's writings are based on the social and historic context of Istanbul; also upon Turkish literature themes like identity, modernity,

collective memory as well. He uses secularism and blasphemy as analytical lens to the politics of the Turkish novels; including cultural translation, historiography, gender studies and Islam. Pamuk's literary technique as a mode of political engagement that confounds between secular state (Devlet) and politically enfranchised Islam (Din), regionalism and cosmopolitanism, Kemalism and Turkism. Passion and politics combine for Orhan Pamuk, the voice of Istanbul. He is neither afraid to confront the human condition in his novels nor his country's past and present political scenario. Pamuk uses secularism as an analytical tool to understand the politics of Turkey through his novels which comprises of its historical, cultural, social and Turkish identity issues. Pamuk has also taken on taboo topics in Turkey, like the alleged Armenian genocide in the 1990s and the massacre of Kurdish separatists that led the government in 2005, to sue him under Article 301 of the constitution for defaming the Turkish state. The charges were soon dropped but the experience solidified his position as a controversial literary figure within the Turkish psyche. He's written about deep-rooted tensions between East and West and how Istanbul and Turkey have changed over the last few decades. In tracing Pamuk's transformation from national to global author, as an exhilarating novelist who embodies world literature today in real sense.

To understand Orhan Pamuk's writings, it's essential to examine transformations in Turkish history, identity, society and culture through his works. Studying of Orhan Pamuk's writings on taboo topics and its political impact on Istanbul in particular, and Pamuk's novels actually should be read as an introduction into the politics of World literature. He writes about Turkey's difficult balance with roots in the orient but aspirations to join in the European Union.

Also, how these experiences solidified him as a controversial literary figure within Turkey. The relevance of doing research on Pamuk and the contribution to world literature as a research study to pursue Orhan Pamuk, is very intriguing. Earlier

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Conclusion: Pamuk used the freedom that his reputation as a writer gave him to remind his fellow citizens in Turkey to start the self-critical process of coming to terms with their past and addressing the issue of the Armenian genocide. While this earned him the fierce animosity of Turkish nationalists, it certainly didn't awe him. Pamuk proved when he accepted the Peace prize of the German Book Trade in Frankfurt, and said that he has no intention of dancing to the West's tune and no desire to run down Turkey, on this occasion. The critic of Turkey surprised many by speaking passionately about his homeland and it as an integral part of Europe and supporting the accession of Turkey to the European Union. This being the case, the decision turns out to be not only literarily sound, but also eminently political. Speaking out in favour of the accession of Turkey, against narrow-minded Turkish nationalism and supporting the forces of balance and reproachment on both sides. But the cultural symbolism is that Pamuk is well versed in the ways of the world and as fluently as he speaks in English, it is no coincidence that he writes in Turkish.

Pamuk considers himself to be part of the centuries-old tradition of Ottoman oriental literature and poetry. He plays with themes and forms that have been handed down in this tradition and cultivates them for the present day. It is this Ottoman heritage that makes Pamuk's writing so fascinating, not only for Turks, but equally so for the western readers. If Pamuk is a 'Political' writer, it is by virtue of that sympathy for what is old and faded, for what is no longer matters or what never did. Pamuk has often written about the ways in which works of art acquire political meaning and about the systems of thought people invent to make sense of their lives, as a political dissident writer.

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