



THE ROLE OF HUMOR AND SATIRE IN ANTON PAVLOVICH CHEKHOV'S STORIES

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Abstract:

This article provides detailed information on the artistic functions, typology, humor, and satire in Anton Pavlovich Chekhov's works, including his short stories and aphorisms.

Introduction

Anton Pavlovich Chekhov was born on January 17 (29), 1860, in Taganrog, a town in southern Russia, into a large merchant family. The head of the family, Pavel Egorovich Chekhov, sold food. Despite being a devout man, Pavel was known for his strictness, which forced his five sons and daughter to work from a young age. The children's daily routine began early in the morning with singing in the church choir and ended with guarding their father's store in the evening.

Anton Chekhov is one of the most famous writers in Russian literature, and his works stand out not only for their artistic quality and psychological depth but also for their distinctive humor and satire. Chekhov's stories encompass the complexities of life, urging readers to reflect on life and human nature from various perspectives. Through his humor and satire, Chekhov delicately and playfully depicts the moral, social, and psychological difficulties in society. In his stories, humor often appears through unexpected situations, unusual characters, and their actions. However, this humor is not superficial or adventurous. It becomes a tool to reflect people's inner struggles, weaknesses, and complex psychological states. What makes Chekhov's humor unique is that it is usually subtle and refined. The humorous scenes in his stories generate a sense of curiosity about people and create empathy for them. For example, in the story "The Country Doctor," the professional inadequacies of a rural doctor and the small, humorous situations are shown, yet this humor turns into a critique of the societal conditions and the inadequate healthcare system of the time.



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Chekhov's satire unveils the flaws of society, the social disparities, and the artificial behavior of individuals seeking personal gain. Rather than mocking or criticizing people from different social classes, he expresses their actions delicately. Through satire, he draws attention to the vices of society, such as the false behavior of people seeking personal interests.

In the story "The Princess" Chekhov reflects the differences between the rich and the poor in a unique way through simple humor. This story discusses the social gap, the difficulties people face in their everyday lives, and the attempts to hide these disparities. Through satire, Chekhov critiques issues like unemployment, the excessive self-confidence of the rich, and the forcing of the poor to live in poverty. Chekhov's satire and humor complement each other in a distinctive way. In his works, satire often emerges through humorous events, revealing human weaknesses and the problems within social order. Through his stories, Chekhov frequently depicts life in a humorous yet bittersweet way, using the unique expressions and viewpoints of people. Chekhov's satire is not only relevant to the society of his time but also touches on aspects of society that remain relevant today. His humor and satire allow readers to laugh while simultaneously thinking about the deep and sometimes bitter truths behind the laughter.

In conclusion, humor and satire in Chekhov's stories are not merely about laughter but are tools for critiquing the internal and external complexities of humanity, as well as the social ills in society. With his subtle and refined style, Chekhov uses humor and satire to reveal the true nature of life, the complexities of humanity, and the delicate aspects of human nature. His works remain a priceless heritage of world literature, continuing to hold significance for generations of readers today.

THE LITERATURES USED

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