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Rasim Özdenören in Turkish Storytelling

Türk Öykü Hikâyeciliğinde Rasim Özdenören

Rasim Özdenören, who is remembered as "The Man Who Grows Roses", is one of the significant names of the new Turkish literature that developed in the Republican era. His stories, long stories and essays are remarkable. Saliha Tunç, in her book named Rasim Özdenören in Turkish Storytelling, gives a detailed analysis of the stories of the writer who has a prominent place in our literature. This study, which was published by Çizgi Bookstore in 2022, consists of five chapters following the Preface and Introduction, and the Conclusion and Bibliography.

In the introduction, the researcher traces the origin of the narrative and writes down the historical development of storytelling in detail by referring to myths, tales, epics, folk tales and masnavi. The introductory part, which includes many sub-titles, ends by referring to Turkish storytelling after 1980 when the story peaked in its development. This part serves as a guide for the following chapters of the work. By presenting the historical development of the story, it prepares the reader for Özdenören's story and its place in the story genre.

The first part of the study is titled "Rasim Özdenören in Turkish Storytelling". In this section consisting of different sub-titles, the researcher mentioned that the authors gathered in the axis of magazines such as Edebiyat ve Maverâ and Diriliş, including Rasim Özdenören, wrote their works with a modern art understanding under the name of "Islamic Civilization". While writing Rasim Özdenören's works, he included the literary understanding he was influenced by (p.35). Under the title of "Rasim Özdenören's Intellectual and Artistic Position in Turkish Storytelling", important personalities, especially Nuri Pakdil, who influenced his intellectual direction and guided him in creating his intellectual systematic, were emphasized. In this section, the researcher explained the influence of Rasim Özdenören's intellectual and artistic position in detail. The researcher said, "(...) The starting point in literature is the imagination of resurrection or transcendence, which provides reaching from matter to spirit, from existence to eternity, which is the source of man, existence and work.

This idea derives its source from the rooted civilization of Islam. Sezai Karakoç reflects this civilization in his poems and Özdenören reflects in his stories." (p.46-47) emphasizes the point of

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movement of his works. The researcher emphasizes the parallelism between *Mavera* magazine's life in Özdenören's life and the parallel between the magazine and Özdenören's intellectual system. Under the title of "Rasim Özdenören's storytelling and his thoughts about the story", Özdenören's thoughts about the story. By dividing this section into various subtitles, he refers to what subjects he benefits when writing the stories of Özdenören. In this section, the researcher evaluated Özdenören's stories in terms of language and style and examined his stories under different headings in terms of using human imagination, images and modern narrative techniques. Thus, the reader is more or less perceived by the fictional structure of the stories he will encounter in the following chapters. The second part of the study is titled "Structure and Fiction in Rasim Özdenören's Stories". This chapter which consists of three sub-titles analyses the narrator and narrative techniques, place, time and plot in Özdenören's remarkable short, minimal and long stories.

The third part of the work is titled "Characters in Rasim Özdenören's Stories". "In Özdenören's stories, characters are categorised into two classes according to the social structure to which they belong. These classes represent the Anatolian people shaped by the cultural codes of the traditional life style based on faith, and the modern individuals who are shaken by the destruction of the traditional structure, lost their support, and are in conflict with institutions and concepts because they have been decontextualized. (p.199). Under the title of "Men in the Rural Area", the researcher mentions fathers who are the basis of material and spiritual life, sons who provide economic continuity and are considered the continuation of the lineage, and grandfathers who are seen as the transmitter of tradition and cultural values. In the title of "Women in the Rural Areas", Özdenören reveals the cast of characters in detail by dealing with obedient women, young girls who create conflict for the overthrow of authority, and women writhing in solitude. In the sections titled "Men in City and City Life" / "Women in City and City Life", the researcher emphasizes individuals who tend towards spiritual phenomena. He analyzes men and women from many different angles, such as men who are alienated from themselves, devotees who turn to Sufism, women who are symbols of impossible love, women who turn to Sufism.

The fourth chapter is titled "Themes and Authorities in Rasim Özdenören's stories". When Özdenören's stories are closely examined, it is understood that he reflects on the issues he dealt with in his essays, his perspective on life and his worldview in his works. It is not different from what he tries to explain his thoughts in his works. In this section, which is divided into seven subtitles, the researcher focuses on the dreams, love, death, alienation, mysticism and travel, conflict and family issues that Özdenören has included in his works.

In the fifth and last chapter titled "Intertextual Relations in Rasim Özdenören's Stories", the researcher first mentions the definition of the concept of intertextuality and its origin and then included the intertextual elements in Özdenören's works. It includes two parts "Religious and Sufi Texts" and "Literary Texts". By giving various examples from the stories, the direct and indirect quotations and allusion have been revealed.

The study ends with the "Conclusion" part. In this part, Tunç gathered what he tried to explain throughout the work and reached a general conclusion. In conclusion part, she highlights Özdenören's place and importance in our literature.

It is a very comprehensive study of Rasim Özdenören's storytelling. Due to the extensive bibliography, Tunç has produced remarkable work. It is a very intensive study in terms of understanding Özdenören's world of thought, philosophy of life and the thoughts that dominate his works. It is a resource that will benefit researchers who are curious about the storytelling aspect of Rasim Özdenören.