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MEDICAL THRILLER GENRE IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LITERATURE: A COMPARATIVE LINGUOPOETIC AND CONCEPTUAL STUDY

Guzal Babadjanova

JDPU. Faculty of Philology.

guzal6445@gmail.com

Abstract

The medical thriller has emerged as a distinct interdisciplinary literary genre combining medicine, suspense, ethics, and crime. This article provides an extended comparative analysis of the medical thriller genre in English and Uzbek literature. Special attention is given to linguopoetic devices, conceptual frameworks, and cultural specificity. The study applies comparative, conceptual, and linguopoetic methodologies and contributes to international genre studies.

Keywords

Medical thriller; comparative literature; linguopoetics; concept analysis; English literature; Uzbek literature; medical discourse.

Introduction

The rapid development of medical science and biotechnology has significantly influenced modern literature. The medical thriller is a modern hybrid literary genre that combines elements of medicine, suspense, crime, and ethical conflict. It focuses on medical professionals, scientific experiments, diseases, and healthcare institutions, presenting them within a tense and fast-paced narrative structure. This genre reflects society's fears and hopes related to medical progress, technology, and moral responsibility. Among hybrid genres, the medical thriller occupies a special place, reflecting societal fears, ethical dilemmas, and professional responsibility. In English literature, this genre has gained popularity since the late twentieth century, while in Uzbek literature it is still emerging. This study aims to provide an in-depth comparative analysis of both traditions. Previous research on thriller genres has focused mainly on political and psychological subgenres. Scholars such as Bakhtin and Todorov emphasized genre hybridity, while Galperin highlighted linguopoetic analysis. However, comparative studies of medical thrillers in English and Uzbek literature remain limited, which defines the novelty of this research.

Medical Thriller in English Literature

In English literature, the medical thriller developed as a distinct genre in the late twentieth century. Rapid advancements in medical science, biotechnology, and pharmaceuticals created fertile ground for stories exploring the dark side of scientific progress. Writers such as **Robin Cook** and **Michael Crichton** played a key role in popularizing the genre.

English medical thrillers often feature:

- doctors or scientists as protagonists,

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- hospital or laboratory settings,
- ethical dilemmas related to experiments, epidemics, or corporate corruption,
- realistic medical terminology and scientific detail.

These works emphasize technological anxiety, bioethical conflicts, and institutional criticism, portraying medicine as both a life-saving and potentially dangerous force.

Medical Thriller Elements in Uzbek Literature

In Uzbek literature, the medical thriller has not yet formed as a fully independent genre. However, its elements appear in modern prose, especially in works dealing with illness, medical responsibility, and moral choice. Uzbek writers tend to integrate medical themes with social realism and ethical didacticism.

Typical features in Uzbek literary texts include:

- doctors as morally responsible and socially respected figures,
- focus on human suffering and compassion,
- emphasis on moral values rather than technical medical detail,
- integration of suspense into realistic or psychological narratives.

Unlike English medical thrillers, Uzbek texts often highlight humanism, social duty, and personal ethics over technological fear.

Linguistic and Conceptual Characteristics

From a linguistic perspective, English medical thrillers rely heavily on professional medical terminology, Latin-based vocabulary, and precise clinical descriptions to create authenticity and tension. In contrast, Uzbek literature adapts medical vocabulary to national linguistic norms and combines it with expressive imagery and emotional language.

Conceptually, both traditions share common themes such as life, death, fear, and responsibility, but their interpretation differs according to cultural context. English literature often presents medicine as a global risk factor, while Uzbek literature views it as a moral and social mission.

Genre Characteristics of Medical Thriller

The medical thriller typically features a medical professional as the protagonist, realistic clinical settings, and ethical conflicts. In English literature, the genre often critiques institutional corruption and technological risks. In Uzbek literature, medical thriller elements are integrated with moral instruction and social realism. Linguopoetically, English medical thrillers rely on technical terminology, Latin-based vocabulary, and detailed clinical descriptions. In Uzbek texts, medical terminology is adapted linguistically and combined with expressive imagery and emotional evaluation.

Core concepts include life, death, fear, responsibility, and ethics. English texts often portray global medical threats, while Uzbek literature focuses on personal and social moral responsibility. Despite structural similarities, cultural context shapes narrative priorities. English medical

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thrillers emphasize suspense and scientific realism, whereas Uzbek narratives highlight humanism and ethical values.

Conclusion

The medical thriller is a significant interdisciplinary genre reflecting contemporary concerns. Its comparative analysis demonstrates both universality and cultural specificity. Further research may include corpus- based studies and interdisciplinary approaches.

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