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**“THE TRAGEDY OF JUSTICE IN THE LAST VICTIM OF WAR”.****Akhmedova Durdona Qahramon qizi***Master Student of Asia International University*

**Abstract.** *Utkir Hoshimov’s ‘The Last Victim of War’ presents justice not as a source of truth and protection, but as a tragic and fragile concept destroyed by war, fear, and social inequality. The story reveals how human morality collapses when survival becomes more important than fairness and compassion. The work demonstrates that war does not end on the battlefield; its deepest destruction appears in the loss of justice within society and within the human conscience. Through psychological conflict and emotional suffering, Hoshimov exposes how innocent individuals become victims of both violence and injustice. One of the central ideas of the story is that injustice during wartime is often silent and invisible. Rather than showing military heroism, the author focuses on ordinary people whose dignity, rights, and hopes are gradually destroyed by poverty, grief, and moral corruption. Hoshimov skillfully portrays justice as a tragic ideal that cannot survive in an environment shaped by fear and desperation. The characters are forced to make painful moral choices, illustrating how war changes not only political systems but also human ethics and social relationships. The relevance of the story remains significant in the modern world, where armed conflicts continue to create social injustice, psychological trauma, and moral crises. Therefore, the story serves as both a literary reflection of wartime suffering and a universal warning about the collapse of justice in times of conflict.*

**Keywords.** *Justice, injustice, war literature, moral conflict, psychological trauma, social inequality, human suffering, war consequences, human values.*

**Introduction.** War is usually described as a time of bravery, sacrifice, and victory. However, behind these ideas there is another side of war that is often ignored — the suffering of ordinary people and the loss of justice in society. Literature helps us see this hidden side more clearly by showing the human emotions and moral problems caused by war. <sup>40</sup>One of such powerful literary works is *The Last Victim of War* by Utkir Hoshimov. This story does not focus on battles or soldiers. Instead, it shows how war affects everyday people and how it can destroy fairness and moral values in society. In the story, justice is not strong or stable. It becomes weak under pressure of fear, poverty, and survival. People are often forced to make difficult decisions where right and wrong are not clear. Because of this, justice turns

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<sup>40</sup> Hobsbawm, Eric. *War and Society*. Cambridge University Press. 1996. P.84-88

into something tragic and fragile. This article explores how justice is shown in the story and why it becomes a source of tragedy. It also explains how war changes people’s behavior and damages moral values in society. Through this analysis, we can better understand the deep and long-lasting impact of war on human life.<sup>41</sup>

**Main part.** One of the most powerful ideas in *The Last Victim of War* is that war does not only destroy physical life, but also changes how people understand justice. In normal conditions, justice is based on truth, law, and compassion. But in the story, these values slowly lose their meaning because people are living under fear, hunger, and emotional stress. Instead of relying on truth and moral responsibility, he tries to solve problems through his own personal judgment. Shoikrom’s decision shows how war conditions can influence human thinking. Living in a time of fear and uncertainty, he begins to believe that he has the right to decide what is right and wrong on his own. This personal sense of “justice” is not based on law or compassion, but on suspicion and emotional reaction.<sup>42</sup> The tragedy reaches its peak when Shoikrom’s actions indirectly lead to his mother’s death. This moment is very important in the story because it clearly shows the consequences of distorted justice. This event is the emotional center of the story. It shows that Shoikrom did not intend to harm his mother, but his distorted understanding of justice made him blind to reality. What Shoikrom considers “fair” action turns into a deep moral mistake that destroys his own family. This is the strongest example of how personal justice, when separated from humanity and truth, can lead to irreversible tragedy. Through this event, Hoshimov emphasizes that justice cannot be created through anger or revenge. True justice requires understanding, patience, and empathy. When these values disappear, even a family relationship can be broken, and innocent people can suffer. The story also shows that Shoikrom is not simply a “bad” character. He is an ordinary person placed in extreme conditions, where fear and survival change his decisions. This makes the tragedy even deeper, because it shows how war can push normal people into making irreversible mistakes. In conclusion of this part, Shoikrom’s actions demonstrate the main idea of the story: when justice becomes personal and emotional, it loses its meaning and turns into tragedy. True justice requires patience, understanding, and humanity. When these values disappear, even the strongest moral boundaries can break, and innocent people can suffer the consequences.<sup>43</sup>

**Discussion.** The analysis of *The Last Victim of War* shows that the concept of justice in the story is deeply connected with human emotions, social pressure, and the harsh conditions created by war. Unlike legal or moral systems based on fairness, justice in the story

<sup>41</sup> ‘The Last Victim of War’ by Utkir Hoshimov.- Hilol Press, 2014. P.12-13

<sup>42</sup> “Urushning so’nggi qurboni”. O’tkir Hoshimov. Toshkent. Nurlu dunyo nashr-2024. 76-80 b.

<sup>43</sup> O’tkir Hoshimovning “Urushning so’nggi qurboni” hikoyasida inson ruhiyati tasviri. Ustozlar uchun. 86, 1 (Dec. 2025), 46–52.

becomes unstable and easily influenced by fear, poverty, and misunderstanding. One of the key points that emerges from the story is that justice loses its true meaning when it becomes personal. Shoikrom’s tragic decision shows this clearly. He does not rely on objective truth or careful thinking. Instead, he acts based on suspicion and emotional reaction. This reflects a common human problem during difficult times: people begin to believe that their personal judgment is equal to justice itself. However, the story proves that such thinking can lead to irreversible consequences. Another important discussion point is the psychological pressure created by war conditions. Even though the story does not describe direct battle scenes, its background is shaped by the effects of war — fear, scarcity, and emotional instability. These conditions strongly affect Shoikrom’s behavior. His actions show that when people are under stress, their ability to distinguish between right and wrong becomes weaker. This is why his attempt to “do justice” results in tragedy instead of fairness. The most painful aspect of the story is that injustice does not appear in a simple or obvious form. It is not caused by an evil character or a clear crime. Instead, it grows slowly through misunderstanding, emotional pressure, and lack of communication. Shoikrom does not intend to destroy his family, yet his actions still lead to the death of his mother. This makes the tragedy more realistic and more emotionally powerful, because it reflects how real-life mistakes often happen. From a broader perspective, the story suggests that justice cannot exist without empathy. If a person ignores understanding, patience, and compassion, their idea of justice becomes dangerous. Shoikrom’s experience shows that even a small mistake in judgment can lead to irreversible loss when it is supported by strong emotions. The discussion also highlights an important moral question: can people trust their own sense of justice in extreme situations? Hoshimov does not give a direct answer, but through the story he warns that personal justice is fragile and unreliable when it is not guided by truth and humanity. In conclusion of this discussion, the story shows that justice is not only a legal concept, but also a moral responsibility. When this responsibility is replaced by emotion, the result is tragedy instead of fairness. Shoikrom’s story becomes a symbolic example of how easily justice can turn into injustice when human judgment is influenced by fear and suffering.<sup>44</sup>

**Results.** The analysis of *The Last Victim of War* reveals several important findings about the concept of justice and its transformation under difficult social and emotional conditions. First, the story clearly shows that justice is not a fixed or stable idea during times of crisis. Instead, it becomes fragile and easily influenced by fear, poverty, and emotional stress. Shoikrom’s actions demonstrate that when a person is under psychological pressure, their understanding of right and wrong can become distorted. This leads to decisions that are

<sup>44</sup> Khodjiyeva U., Toshtemirova M. *Description of Social Life in the Story “The Last Victim of the War” by Utkir Hoshimov*. 2025. – №1. – P. 191–193.

based more on emotion than on truth. Second, the results of the analysis show that “personal justice” is one of the main causes of tragedy in the story. Shoikrom believes that he is acting correctly, but his version of justice is subjective and uncontrolled. Because of this, his decision does not bring fairness, but instead causes irreversible loss. The most tragic outcome — the death of his mother — highlights how dangerous it can be when a person replaces collective moral values with personal judgment. Third, the story demonstrates that injustice in wartime conditions often appears indirectly. It is not always the result of clear wrongdoing or intentional harm. In many cases, it develops slowly through misunderstanding, fear, and lack of communication. Shoikrom does not intend to create injustice, yet his emotional state leads him to actions that produce tragic consequences. Another important result is that war affects not only physical life but also moral thinking. Even though the story does not describe direct battles, the influence of war is visible in the characters’ behavior, emotional instability, and decision-making. This confirms that war continues to “exist” in people’s minds even outside the battlefield. Finally, the analysis shows that empathy and understanding are essential for maintaining justice. When these values are missing, justice becomes vulnerable and can easily turn into injustice. Shoikrom’s experience serves as a warning that human judgment without compassion can lead to irreversible moral and emotional damage.<sup>45</sup>

**Conclusion.** The analysis of *The Last Victim of War* shows that justice is one of the most fragile moral values during times of war and crisis. The story clearly demonstrates that when people live under fear, poverty, and emotional pressure, their understanding of justice can easily change and become distorted. Instead of being based on truth, law, and compassion, justice turns into a personal and emotional judgment. One of the most important findings of this study is that Shoikrom’s tragedy is not caused by evil intentions, but by misunderstanding and emotional stress. He believes he is acting correctly and fairly, but his idea of “personal justice” leads to irreversible consequences. The death of his mother becomes the most painful result of this distorted thinking, showing how dangerous it is when human judgment replaces real moral responsibility. The story also proves that injustice in wartime conditions is often silent and indirect. It does not always appear as open violence or clear wrongdoing. Instead, it grows slowly through fear, lack of communication, and psychological pressure. This makes injustice even more dangerous, because it is harder to recognize and prevent. Another important conclusion is that war affects not only physical life but also human morality and thinking. Even without direct battle scenes, the story shows how deeply war influences emotions, decisions, and relationships. People begin to act differently, and even family bonds can be destroyed under pressure. Shoikrom’s experience is a strong example of how ordinary

<sup>45</sup> Usarova L., Norjigitova S. *Analysis of O‘tkir Hashimov’s Story “The Last Victim of War”* // Journal of Academic Research and Trends in Educational Sciences. – 2023. – Vol. 2, No. 3. – P. 278–281.

individuals can become victims of their own decisions in extreme conditions. At the same time, the story highlights the importance of empathy, patience, and understanding in maintaining justice. Without these values, justice becomes weak and unreliable. The story warns readers that emotional reactions and personal judgments cannot replace true moral principles.

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