

THE PHILOSOPHICAL CONCEPTS IN SAUL BELLOW'S CREATIONS

Rakhmanova Viktoriya*Senior teacher, Uzbekistan state university of world languages.*

Abstract. *The article reveals the philosophic concepts described in Saul Bellow's creations, investigates each notion emphasized and highlights the individual attitude and characters' reaction to each of the concepts.*

Keywords: *Search of Life, Reflection, Character, Existential conflict, Plot, Freedom, Values, Crisis, Self change, Man and Society.*

Annotatsiya. *Maqolada Saul Bellowning asarlarida tasvirlangan falsafiy tushunchalar ochib beriladi, ta'kidlangan har bir tushuncha o'rganiladi va personajlarning har bir tushunchaga individual munosabati va munosabati ta'kidlanadi.*

Kalit so'zlar: *Hayotni izlash, Mulohaza, Xarakter, Ekzistensial ziddiyat, Syujet, Erkinlik, Qadriyatlar, Inqiroz, O'zini o'zgartirish, Inson va Jamiyat.*

Saul Bellow is one of the most important American writers of the 20th century, whose prose combines artistic realism, intellectual essays, and philosophical reflection. His novels are often read as a form of "novel of ideas": the plot is closely linked to the characters' reflections on human existence, freedom, values, and the meaning of life. Here we would like to emphasize the main philosophical concepts that recur in various Bellow works. The first concept is the search for the meaning of Life as Bellow's characters are people who constantly ask themselves: "Why am I living?", "How can I be honest with myself?", "What is the true value of life?". This search reveals an existential conflict: a person strives to understand themselves, but the world proves chaotic, noisy, and oppressive. Examples of his works are "The Duke," "Humboldt's Gift."

The second concept is Man in Crisis: an inner turning point characters typically experience is a spiritual or moral crisis. Bellow's crisis isn't a dead end, but a moment when a person is capable of self-change. It becomes the impetus for self-knowledge. Characteristics of crisis are career disappointment, loss of loved ones, confrontation with one's own mistakes, spiritual weariness with society. The third concept is Loneliness and Alienation. One of the key themes is the loneliness of the intellectual in the modern world. Bellow's characters are: intelligent, sensitive, thinking a lot, but they fit poorly into the everyday, pragmatic world. They feel "superfluous," but it is precisely in solitude that they come to philosophical discoveries. The fourth concept is the Intellectual as a Philosophical Figure Bellow has many heroes—professors, writers, scientists, thinkers. Through them, the author explores: the conflict between

ideas and reality, the "overload" of consciousness, responsibility for knowledge and education.

This is a genre of intellectual novel, where philosophy is revealed through the hero's character. The fifth concept is man and society: Bellow reflects on how modern culture: distracts people from serious questions, destroys spirituality, values success above morality. His characters feel the pressure of a "consumer" world and try to maintain inner freedom. Bellow explores how modern (especially American) culture influences individuals. Bellow's critical ideas are that society is focused on success, money, and speed; spirituality and culture are relegated to the background; mass culture "drowns out" individuality; information overload destroys deep thinking.

As for characters' reactions they feel the pressure of society and try to preserve their individuality, which creates internal conflict. Bellow doesn't advocate turning away from the world, but rather suggests seeking an inner compass independent of external standards. As for the sixth concept it is Comedy as a Philosophical Way of Understanding Life. Bellow often combines serious ideas with humor and self-irony. Humor serves several functions: it helps the characters survive, relieves pathos, shows the relativity of human misfortunes. This is not just a device, but a way of philosophical thinking—to understand the tragic through the humorous. 7. Identity and Heritage Bellow writes extensively about: Jewish roots, cultural memory, attempts to find a balance between tradition and modern life. The hero often feels a "double identity"—between past and present, between individuality and origin. 8. The Philosophy of Time and Aging In Bellow's later novels, characters reflect on: the lives they've lived, aging, the attempt to understand what was a mistake and what is valuable. For Bellow, time is a stern but wise teacher.

The general philosophical core of Bellow's work Three main ideas that permeate his books can be identified:

1. Life is a constant search for meaning. Meaning cannot be obtained from outside; it must be developed within.
2. A person must remain spiritually alive. Even in a world of noise, vanity, and pragmatism, a person must maintain inner freedom and the ability to think.
3. A person's value lies in their inner development. Bellow believes in the human capacity for growth, renewal, and moral choice.

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