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ATMOSPHERIC STORIES BY DAN. NYAMA

This article is devoted to such a phenomenon as the atmosphere of the text. The material used is stories by modern Mongolian writer Danzangiin Nyama "Arkan" and "The Sky Above the Yurt" (Ulaanbaatar, 2022). Two stories by Dan. Nyama are filled with the atmosphere of nomadic life of modern cattle breeder, which is created due to all the constituent elements of the atmosphere. The atmosphere of these stories consists of such elements as setting, nature and weather, main characters, relationships between the characters. Artistic descriptions of smell, colors, sounds allow the reader to immerse themselves in the psychological climate of each story and invisibly live the plots together with the characters. The atmospheric stories by Dan. Nyama "Arkan" and "The Sky Above the Yurt" are not only literary works, but also deep psychological studies of human nature in the context of Mongolian culture. Using a variety of literary devices, the author creates rich emotional worlds that evoke strong feelings in the reader. His stories make one think about eternal themes such as love, connection with nature, life, death, and the frailty of human existence. Dan. Nyama is one of those writers whose atmosphere helps to understand and feel the uniqueness of Mongolian literature, its richness and diversity.

Key words: atmosphere, atmospheric text, nomadic life, psychological climate, Mongolian culture.

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In modern research, the phenomenon of the atmosphere acquires an independent conceptual status. "Initially, the concept of "atmosphere" (from the Neolat. atmosphaera [atmos — steam, sphaera — ball]) meant a gas shell surrounding the Earth. It was introduced into scientific circulation in the 17th c. and was used within the framework of the natural sciences (in physics, chemistry; then in the 18th c. in astronomy, optics, hydrography). Gradually, the concept of "atmosphere" acquired new cultural connotations and began to be used by art historians and symbolist poets to describe relationships of various kinds (social, psychological, sentimental and ethical) not only between two or more people, but also between a person and his physical environment" [Mazaeva 2022].

The concepts of "atmosphere", "atmosphericity", "atmospheric text", appeared in literary criticism recently — at the end of the 20th — beginning of the 21st cc. "Atmosphericity" is a positive characteristic of the text, implying the presence of a pronounced atmosphere in it. The atmospheric

nature of the text implies immersion in this text, that is, a certain strong emotional effect that creates the illusion of the reader's presence in the text" [Smolnyakov 2020]. Modern Mongolian writer Danzangiin Nyama came to literature in the late 1980s as a poet. He wrote such poetry collections as "Melody of Distant Time" ("Алс цагийн аяс", 1986), "Offer of Love" ("Амрагийн өргөл", 1998), "World of Songs" ("Дуутай орчлон", 2006) and many others. In the 90s, Dan. Nyama turned to prose and published several collections of short stories and novels: "The Palm of the Sun" ("Нарны алга", 1993), "The Years Flow" ("Он жил урсана", 2000), "The Grenade-Eyed Swallow" ("Анар нүдэн хараацай", 2008), and others. In 2022, his novellas "Arkan" ("Бугуйл") and "The Sky Above the Yurt" ("Тоононы цамхраанд тэнгэр гэрэлтэнэ") were published [Nyamaa Dan 2022]. The author himself gives them a subtitle — "stories about nomads". In the texts of these two stories, Dan. Nyama, reflecting the realities of Mongolian life, creates a rich emotional environment, which contributes to deep interaction between the text and the reader. The author manages to present a unique world in which nature, human relationships and social problems are intertwined, forming a complex emotional background.

The atmosphere of Dan. Nyama's stories consists of such elements as the setting, nature and weather, the main characters, and the relationships between the characters. Artistic descriptions of this or that smell, color, sound allow the reader to immerse themselves in the psychological climate of each story and invisibly experience the plots together with the characters.

Dan. Nyama's stories "Arkan" and "The Sky Above the Yurt" are filled with the atmosphere of nomadic life of a modern cattle breeder, which is created by all the constituent elements of the atmosphere.

The main heroes of the story "Arkan" are the prisoner Bayarzhargal and a woman from the neighboring camp Sumya. They meet at the gates of the colony, where Sumya brings fresh milk from their summer camp every morning in accordance with the agreement. "On the day when she arrived at the colony, the prisoner who accepted milk changed, and instead of him there was a tall, skinny guy. On his chest he had a patch with the name "Bayarzhargal". Ah, with what bright red threads his name was embroidered! " [Nyamaa Dan, 2022. P. 6]. In the color symbolism of the Mongolian-speaking peoples, red has a special meaning. It is associated with fire, the hearth, prosperity and family's well-being. Both the color of the patch and the heroe's name Bayarzhargal (Mong. Bayar 'holiday', zhargal 'happiness'), and the time of the action — golden autumn symbolize the beginning of a new love, a new life as well as a new family and new happiness. In addition, these are the names of Sumya's two sons: Bayar and Zhargal.

Color plays an important role both in the relationships between the characters and in descriptions of nature. "Now in our area there is a wonderful golden autumn. The Dagan del ridge, yellow as a haystack, stretches into the distance, sheep scattered like white pearls across the brown hills, dust swirls across the steppe under the hooves of horses..." [Nyamaa Dan 2022. P. 6].

"On that autumn evening, the stars winked high in the sky, the moonlight poured like milk to the very roots of the steppe grasses. A light breeze blew over every pebble, the endless sky was reflected in the drops of pre-dawn dew. The sun rose from behind the mountains as if on wings. A new morning was born in the Mongolian steppe" [Nyamaa Dan 2022. P. 19].

It should be noticed, that the scenes of nature in Dan. Nyama's stories are not a background separated from the narrative. The landscape reflects the hero's perception of nature, as well as his psychological state. In "The Sky Above the Yurt", the main characters Giyma and Badamdoo meet in summer in steppe. "The sun shone high in the sky, and the blue sky in the distance merged with the blue flowers, the water in the Khuzhryn Gol River bubbled at the rocky rapids. ... Each of the lovers had a desire to go around the entire globe together. They could not express this desire out loudly, but silently they offered prayers to the surrounding mountains and waters. And their prayer was heard by the guardian spirits of the area, or perhaps this was their predestined destiny..." [Nyamaa Dan 2022. P. 1-61]. So, nature in Dan. Nyama outlines subsequent events, motivating them with the plot. In nomadic life conditions, where man and nature are not simply connected, but merged into one, this is completely natural. And the author of stories about nomads presents landscape, nature and its phenomena as an element for the artistic transmission of this special atmosphere of his works.

Another element of the atmosphere in Dan. Nyama's stories is the national traditions and ethnic characteristics of Mongolian nomads. Creating an atmosphere of nomadic life, the author resorts to a detailed description of the daily activities of cattle breeders, the appearance and interior decoration.

For example, here is a description of Sumya's native yurt, to which she returns after several years because her husband left the family forever.

"The yurt was the same. Two chests with shining lions on the front wall. The chests are ancient, but they hold their shape, and the lions almost roar on them. However, time takes its toll — and their corners are worn. The "Rodina-52" radio receiver is on top, and next to it is a small modern radio...

On another chest is a statue of Buddha, next to it is a framed picture and a mirror.

On the left side of the yurt, her son is sitting on a wooden bed, his legs dangling. Further on there is a small chest of drawers, then a cupboard with small bowls, on the middle shelf of which there is a saucepan with boiled milk. On the right side there is a neatly made bed, at the head of which there is a bag of bed linen, on which she herself once embroidered a pair of swans and five types of cattle. A blue silk curtain is hanged above the bed. Sumya slept on this bed. Under the bed there are sacks with winter and summer clothes, further — with flour and rice, saddles and bridles, leather belts, ropes made of horse sinews..." [Nyamaa Dan 2022. P. 74–75].

The plot of the story "The Sky Above the Yurt" begins on the day before the White Month holiday or the New Year according to the Lunar calendar. On this day, according to tradition, it is customary to clean the yurt and the yard, finish sewing new clothes for all family members, and prepare a festive treat. In the yurt of the main character Giyma there is also pre-holiday bustle.

"Since it was New Year's Eve, everyone was preparing a festive treat in the morning, frying khoshurs, boiling lamb rump, cutting snacks, in a word, they worked tirelessly..." [Nyamaa Dan 2022. P. 111].

On the eve of the most important calendar White Month holiday Giymaa is left alone in the yurt, since her pregnant daughter-in-law begins to have contractions and her grandson takes his wife to the somon maternity hospital. The main character first prays in front of the home altar, and then begins to remember her entire long life.

"Lamps were burning on the chest on the khoimor. A tanka with an image of Green Gift Ekhe was dimly visible. It was quiet in the yurt. Old woman Giymaa poured water into the cauldron, added tea and sat down at the table to lay out the festive food. Recently she went out to put pieces of ice from Lake Khokburd at the door. Let the goddess Lhamo water her horse. She stuck a bunch of dry caragana into the left joint of the lattice wall and the door of the yurt and began to pray: that troubles and misfortunes would bypass her children and grandchildren, that happiness and

good fortune would accompany them, that their affairs would go well. The candle flames swayed, the aroma of juniper spread throughout the yurt" [Nyamaa Dan 2022. P. 115]. The characters in Dan. Nyama's stories constantly cook and drink tea with milk, fat and salt, cook khar shul — lamb soup in a cauldron, make boozy — steamed dumplings, fry khoshurs and pancakes. "When he, having tied the horse, entered the yurt, Odmaa served him a cup of hot tea with milk and fat. A pancake was already being fried in melted butter. A pancake on melted butter with milky tea and fat is the best food in the world. When he had been coming to his grandmother for his summer holidays, she always fried pancakes and greased them with cream on top. They are also called seven-layer. Then Narsar learned to fry seven-layer pancakes himself" [Nyamaa Dan 2022. P. 171]. As we can see, national food becomes one of the elements of the atmosphere of the text.

It is impossible to imagine nomadic life without songs, proverbs and sayings. Thus, the hero of the story "Arkan" Bayarzhargal, heading to the yurt of his beloved, whistles the melody of well known folk song about love "Sunjidmaa", the plot of which largely determines the plot of the story. In the story "The Sky Above the Yurt" folk songs are constantly heard on the radio. As a wedding gift for the young Narsar and Odmaa, their mothers order the song "Fate of a Cattleman". Giymaa's older brother goes to military service and, together with other recruits, sings the famous historical song "Red Banner". Giymaa also recalls the recent incident when a song saved her life. On a seemingly cloudless winter day, she went out to drive the sheep, when suddenly a blizzard began. "Blizzard threw snow right in her face. And it was unclear where exactly it was blowing from. Giymaa, listening to the surrounding sounds, walked forward. She could hear the bleating of sheep, the faint barking of an old shepherd's dog... Suddenly her ear caught the faint sound of some melody. When she stopped and listened, it turned out that the sound was coming from the direction she was going. She quickened her pace as much as she could. And when she stopped again, she realized that it was a drawn-out song. The sound grew louder, and in the meantime, Giymaa had already reached the edge

of her camp... As she approached her yurt, she heard the song "The Sun of the Gentle Universe" performed by singer Norovbanzad more and more clearly. Giymaa thought with gratitude: "This song led me home, the radio saved my life" [Nyamaa Dan 2022. P. 172–173].

Proverbs and sayings are constantly heard in the speech of Nyama's heroes. "Try yourself, if you try yourself, then fate will try too", Giymaa teaches her children [Nyamaa Dan 2022. P. 160]. "While it's new, he looks at it with interest, but when he gets tired of it, he looks at it pickily", Giymaa thinks about her grandson, who decided to live in the steppe with his young wife [Nyamaa Dan 2022. P. 164]. Characters utter yuroly (good wishes) and magtaly (praises). "Two years after she married Badamdoo, her older brother Khaltar arrived, demobilized from the Army and already employed as a driver. Upon arrival, he kissed her on the forehead and said: "Let the Order of the Mother Heroine shine on my little sister's chest". And then, throwing his sons, born one after the other, in his arms, he said: "You two, like the horns of a male dzeren, I wish you to multiply as the horns of a forest deer branch out" [Nyamaa Dan 2022. P. 162]. With the help of folklore elements, the author manages to bring a unique national flavor to the atmosphere of his works.

The internal monologues of the characters play an important role in creating the stories atmosphere. Full of doubts and experiences, they allow the reader to create an atmosphere of empathy and involvement.

Here is how the author presents, for example, the thoughts of the main character of the story "Arkan", who migrated to the native land of her second husband: "Sumya silently prayed to the guardian spirits of the new area, entered the yurt and began to make tea. There are good pastures here. Son Zhargal runs back and forth. In general, he rejoices at every migration. And now he does not

hide his joy. Stirrups jingled at the hitching post. It must have been Bayarzhargal who arrived. Son Zhargal immediately ran out of the yurt and rushed to meet him. And he, spreading his arms, hugged him tightly. Father and son. Stepfather and adopted son. Cows moo. Are they really remembering their native land? Or are they talking to each other about new pastures?" [Nyamaa Dan 2022. P. 56]. "On the third day of the New Year, children from far and near will start arriving in droves. Grandchildren will hug and congratulate. This year of the mouse will be nothing less than successful. This year I will meet my great-granddaughter, — this is what Giymaa thought, and a smile appeared on her face" [Nyamaa Dan 2022. P. 165].

The atmosphere in Dan Nyama's stories is achieved through various stylistic devices:

- figurative language: the use of metaphors and symbols associated with nature and national culture;
- narrative dynamics: the interweaving of various time layers creates multi-layeredness, especially in the story "The Sky Above the Yurt", where Giymaa recalls her entire life on the eve of the New Year according to the Lunar calendar;
- internal monologues of the characters: they contain elements of meditation and cultural traditions, which emphasizes the atmosphere of ambiguity and depth.

Thus, Dan. Nyama's atmospheric stories "Arkan" and "The Sky Above the Yurt" are not only literary works, but also deep psychological studies of human nature in the context of Mongolian culture. Using a variety of literary devices, the author creates rich emotional worlds that evoke strong feelings in the reader. His stories make you think about eternal themes such as love, connection with nature, life, death, the frailty of human existence. Dan. Nyama is one of those writers whose atmosphere helps to understand and feel the uniqueness of Mongolian literature, its richness and diversity.

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АТМОСФЕРНЫЕ РАССКАЗЫ ДАН. НЯМЫ

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Статья посвящена такому явлению, как атмосфера текста. В качестве материала использованы рассказы современного монгольского писателя Данзангийна Нямы "Аркан" и "Небо над юртой" (Улан-Батор, 2022). Два рассказа Дан. Нямы наполнены атмосферой кочевой жизни современного скотовода, которая создается благодаря всем составляющим элементам атмосферы. Атмосфера этих историй складывается из таких элементов, как обстановка, природа и погода, главные герои, взаимоотношения между персонажами. Художественные описания запахов, цветов, звуков позволяют читателю погрузиться в психологический климат каждой истории и незаметно пережить сюжеты вместе с героями. Атмосферные рассказы Дан. Нямы "Аркан" и "Небо над юртой" – это не только литературные произведения, но и глубокие психологические исследования природы человека в контексте монгольской культуры. Используя разнообразные литературные приемы, автор создает богатые эмоциональные миры, которые вызывают у читателя сильные чувства. Его рассказы заставляют задуматься о вечных темах, таких как любовь, связь с природой, жизнь, смерть и бренность человеческого существования. Дан. Няма – один из тех писателей, который помогает понять и прочувствовать уникальность монгольской литературы, ее богатство и разнообразие.

Ключевые слова: атмосфера, атмосферный текст, кочевой образ жизни, психологический климат, монгольская культура.

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