

INSTEAD OF A CONCLUSION

This monograph entitled *The Ethical and Axiological Aspects in the Literature and the Culture of the 20th and 21st Centuries* is a result of the interdisciplinary and intermedial research undertaken by scholars from the Macedonian and Slovak scientific and cultural milieus. This book is a rich tapestry of these authors' theoretical and empirical research emphasizing a wide variety of aspects of the indicated ethical manifestations within the context of literary theory and cultural practice. In its composition, the monograph unites partial topics elaborating the ethical and axiological aspects relating to multi-layered questions applied to examples of the literature and the culture of the 20th and 21st centuries.

The project designed in this manner is quite relevant today in terms of the interest it arises within the European context of the 21st century, taking into account the global changes in political, social and cultural life. The interpretation of ethics and axiology in literature and culture reveals the intricacy of multiple dimensions, which are interrelated and indicated in the shared circumstances and conditions of both Macedonian and Slovak societies. It raises the questions of the intertwining of ethical and aesthetic paths in literature and culture, the aesthetic valorisation of the literary and cultural production, the world's biggest environmental problems, the individual and collective construct of ethics today, and so on.

The wide-ranging question of ethics and aesthetics in literature and culture branches into specific aspects and imagological systems of the Otherness, including the issue of individual and collective responsibility in contemporary society. It gives an insight into the ethics-literature relationship, such as the new attitude towards emotions, the changing role of literature and culture concerning public space, and a broader understanding of morality at the same

time. According to A. Giovannelli, narratives can be ethically assessed for the way the artworks are created, for the consequences they have over their audiences or for a particular point of view (worldview) they represent. Therefore, the ethical criticism of art and the canons of ethical values have received increasing attention worldwide in pursuit of the reasons that contribute to the acceleration and reconstruction shaped by the change of cultural values.

The articles presented in this monograph reveal a broader articulation of topics depending on the specific socio-cultural contexts and individual affinities in the authors' research processes. We believe that the findings presented in this book will contribute immensely and stimulate an even more intense and recognizable communication between various cultures, in our case between the Macedonian and the Slovak.

Furthermore, the two culturally profiled teams from Macedonia and Slovakia (from the Institute of Macedonian Literature at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje and the University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava) hope that their contributions, which offer different yet original viewpoints in conveying the central theme, will encourage the readers to share broader perspectives and carry out further research on ethics and axiology in literature and culture in times of globalization.

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