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16. SUMMARY

The aim of this research is to give a literary accountable description of the development of the short story in Sepedi. In order to achieve this, the descriptive as well as the expository and comparative method are used, while the short story is seen as a unit consisting of a content layer, a structural layer and a stylistic layer. With these three layers as focus points in the research, the researcher is not to include the socio-cultural circumstance in which the work has its origin, as final criterium in his research.

Firstly, the modus operandi of English and American researchers in their descriptions of the history and development of their literatures is reviewed (or traced). The division here into development periods, is based to a large extent on pragmatic grounds, although literary merit was considered too. In the case of the literature in Sepedi, Mokgokong, Serudu and Groenewald separately gave an overview of the history of this literature and divided it into development periods (or periods of development). They, however, do not indicate the grounds (basics) on which these periods are based. The historical and socio-cultural circumstances of the Bapedi are taken into consideration, but how they lead to a literary accountable division, is not indicated.

A short overview of the history of the short story in Sepedi is given as introduction to this study. Thereafter the development of the short story in Sepedi is divided into three phases, namely:

- (a) The moralizing or didactical phase.
- (b) The experimental phase.
- (c) The phase of growth.

In the first period the works of Ramaila, who is a skilled writer, dominate. He was a teacher and a man of the church, and was moved by the fate of his people when the Western lifestyle in the process of urbanization left them without anchors in life. The stories from this period therefore have a strong moralising and didactical flavour (tendency) which detracts from the merit of the work.

Works from the second period place less emphasis on the clash between the traditional and Western philosophies of life. The stories are mostly constructed untidily, the characterization is one-sided and unconvincing, while the conclusions are not motivated satisfactorily.

The short stories from the third period portray a reconciliation between the traditional and Western lifestyles. This phase includes short stories which are structurally and stylistically rounded. The detective stories, for example, have highly complex structures which lead to surprising solutions to the story problems, while an ironic situation in life is described with the greatest ease and skills especially in the stories of (N.S) Nkademeng and Mpepele. The chief merit of these works lie in the characterization and building of atmosphere.

In the final or summarising chapter there is reflection on the importance of Ramaila as short story writer, while the possibilities of the short story in Sepedi in the future are touched upon.

KEY CONCEPTS

1. Short Story
2. Techniques
3. Influence
4. Didactic
5. Moral
6. Plot
7. Features of style
8. History / Social / Politics
9. Christianity
10. Culture
11. Narratology

17. OPSOMMING

Die doel van hierdie ondersoek is om 'n literêr-verantwoordelike beskrywing van die ontwikkeling van die kortverhaal in Sepedi te gee. Om in hierdie voorneme te slaag, word daar van sowel die beskrywende, as die verklarende en vergelykende metodes gebruik gemaak, terwyl die kortverhaal as 'n eenheid beskou word wat uit 'n inhoudslaag, 'n struktuurlaag en 'n stilistiese laag bestaan. Met dié drie lae as fokuspunkte in die ondersoek trag die navorsing om die sosiaal-kulturele omstandighede waarin die werk ontstaan, nie as 'n finale kriterium- in sy ondersoek in te sluit nie.

Vereens word nagegaan hoe die ondersoekers in die Engelse en die Amerikaanse letterkundes te werk gegaan het om die geskiedenis en die ontwikkeling van daarde letterkundes te beskryf. Hier is die indeling in ontwikkelingsperiodes in 'n groot mate op pragmatiese gronde gebaseer, hoewel literêr verdienste nie buite rekening gelaat is nie. In die geval van die letterkunde in Sepedi het Mokgokong, Serudu en Groenewald afsonderlik 'n oorsig oor die geskiedenis van dié letterkunde geskryf en in ontwikkelingsperiodes verdeel. Hulle bly ewenwel in gebreke om die grondslae aan te dui waarop dié period-eindeling berus. Die historiese en sosiaal-kulturele omstandighede van die Bapedi word in aanmerking geneem, maar hoe dit tot 'n literêr-verantwoordelike indeling lei, word nie aangedui nie.

'n kort oorsig van die geskiedenis van die kortverhaal in Sepedi word as inleiding tot hierdie ondersoek gegee. Daarna is die ontwikkeling van die kortverhaal in Sepedi in drie fases verdeel, te wete:

- (a) Die moraliserings- of didaktiege fase.
- (b) Die eksperimentele fase.

(c) Die fase van wasdom.

In die eerste periode oorheers die werke van Ramaila wat 'n vaardige skrywer is. Hy was onderwyser en kerkman, en het hom die lot van sy mense aangetrek toe die westerse lewenswyse hulle in die verstedelikingsproses ankerloos in die lewe gelaat het.

Die verhale uit dié periode het derhalwe 'n sterk moraliserende en didaktiese inslag wat aan die verdienste van die werke afbreuk doen.

Werke uit die tweede periode lê minder klem op die botsing tussen die tradisionele en die westerse lewensbeskouings. Die verhale is meesal slordig saamgestel, die karaktertekening is eensydig en onoortuigend, terwyl die verhaalslot nie bevredigend gemotiveer word nie.

Die kortverhale uit die derde periode verbeeld 'n versoening tussen die tradisionele en westerse lewenswyses. Dié fase sluit kortverhale in wat struktureel én stilisties afgeronde literêre werke is. Die speurverhale het byvoorbeeld 'n hoogs ingewikkelde samestelling wat tot 'n verrassende oplossing van die verhaal probleem lei, terwyl ironiese lewensituasie inveral die verhale van (N.S) Nkadimeng en Mpepele met die grootste gemak en vaardigheid beskryf word. Die vernaamste verdienste van hierdie werke lê in die karaktertekening en atmosfeerskepping.

In die slot-of samevattende hoofstuk word daar ook oor die belangrikheid van Ramaila as kortverhaalskrywer besin, terwyl die moontlikhede aangeroer word wat die toekoms vir die kortverhaal in Sepedi inhoud.



SLEUTEL TERME

1. Kortverhaal
2. Tegnike
3. Invloed
4. Didakties
5. Moraal
6. Intrige
7. Stylkenmerke
8. Geskiedenis / Sosiale /Politiek
9. Christendom
10. Kultuur
11. Narratologie