

## **A Study on the Form of the Narrative of Femininity in the Novels of the Constitutional Revolution Period**

With the arrival of modernity in Iran in the studied period, intellectuals found literature - which itself had to be transformed - the most important tool and medium for criticizing previous practices .

Among the most important issues in this period were the issues of gender, family, love, and marriage. With the rule of the new discursive order in the field of gender in Iran of that period, the four-gender map turned into a double map. The issue of women and women's bodies became problematic, and issues such as women's presence in society, women's clothing, and the discovery of hijab were raised. This was the beginning of the statement about the status of women, the creation of women, the divine aspects of women's existence, etc .

Following the special status of women in society, the issue of the religious, national, and social upbringing of the child in the lap of the mother was raised, which could lead to the progress of the country, and the absence of such a platform was considered equal to the backwardness of the nation and the society's lack of progress .

In the imagination of the intellectuals, the modern family consisted of a patriotic man and a sympathetic wife who gave children to society for the development of the country .

One of the issues that the society's intellectuals were looking for was the rejection of boyloving and the hetero-normalization of love. In the hetero-normalization of love, the beloved is a woman. Since Iran itself is the beloved of the countrymen, it takes on a feminine identity. In this way, the defense of honor takes on a national aspect. This love for country strengthens heterosexual love and romantic love for women, and love for women strengthens love for country .

The beginning of this change of gender order is in the middle of the Qajar period, in which the figure of a woman is being individualized .

The issue of the individuality of the female figure and romantic love also exists in Persian classical literature, But its difference from tragic romantic love in the modern era is that the narrative presented in this era serves political and cultural criticism and invites the audience to political-cultural action against the ruling tyranny .

The literary works of the Constitutional period contain the first literary formations of the modern gender discourse, which are important for the accurate understanding of the new forms of the narrative of femininity .

But the importance of examining the form of the narrative of femininity is that the issue of women, women's clothing, women's bodies, women's position, etc., is still

controversial and problematic, and to properly understand the present moment, we have to refer to the beginning of the rapture, which is the Qajar period .

But why do we turn to novels? As mentioned, literature is one of the most important media of this period, and new ways of speaking about femininity have been established with the help of literature. Examining novels as a manifestation of the ideas of the new era, from this point of view, is very important .

The main purpose of this research is to study the proportion of the form of the narrative of femininity in early Persian novels and Power relations in the Constitutional to gain a critical understanding of the origins of the formation of the concept of femininity in contemporary Iran.

The sub-goal of this research is to study concepts related to the concept of femininity, such as masculinity, motherhood, wife, etc., in the novel of the Constitutional era. The questions of this research are as follows:

- How is femininity narrated in the novel of the Constitutional period?
- How is femininity narrated in pre-modern literary works?
- What is the relationship between the new form of the narrative of femininity and the new power relations in the Constitutional period?