

## Man and philanthropy in Leo Tolstoy's work "War and Peace"

By

**Belyakova Svetlana Olegovna**

Senior lecturer of the Department of Russian and Foreign Literature Samarkand State University named after Sh. Rashidov

Email: [Ortikovtulkin576@gmail.com](mailto:Ortikovtulkin576@gmail.com)

### Abstract

In this article is written about man and philanthropy in Leo Tolstoy's work "War and Peace". At the end of the last century, L. N. Tolstoy called for moral self-improvement as a necessary condition for the development of all mankind. In the novel "War and Peace" these thoughts of Tolstoy are embodied in the moral quest of his favorite heroes, their spiritual beauty, the beauty of human relations. Relations between Tolstoy's characters are imbued with moral spirituality. This is especially true in family life. At the same time, three families are described in the center of the novel: Bolkonsky, Rostov and Kuragin.

**Key words:** man, character, novel, Tolstoy, moral, thought, soul, spiritual beauty, attitude, hero.

### Introduction

In the introduction of the article, we want to touch briefly on the novel. War and Peace is a philosophical, historical and epic novel spanning time and space. In this novel, the writer sets out his social, political, philosophical, historical, aesthetic, ethical, religious and moral views. He analyzed historical reality, social dynamics and complex processes of human behavior. Ideals and the meaning of human existence were his main theme. This unique novel features over four hundred fictional and historical characters, and the storytelling and meticulous realism of this masterpiece is impressive [5].

### Literary review and methodology

According to our thought that Leo Tolstoy believed that man is capable of positive change and that man is trying to find meaning in order to carry out his spiritual quest. He revealed the dialectic of the human soul. Tolstoy reveals the psychologically reliable - multifaceted nature of man in times of war and peace.

In War and Peace, Tolstoy put forward a unique theory of life. His philosophy was complex. He found many conflicting battles in his life. He fought the ideas of Christianity with lust and hypocrisy. He was torn between ideals. His struggle with passions and spiritual conflicts led him to write the greatest book in the history of literature. "War and Peace" is a questionnaire that is given to the student. Tolstoy in "War and Peace" and other novels posed the question: how to live a perfect life in an imperfect world? In a sense, War and Peace represents Tolstoy's conscious and unconscious mental conflicts.

In the work, Leo Tolstoy deeply analyzed the human heart. He frequently used interior monologues to psychologically analyze his protagonists. Tolstoy writes separately about emperors, kings, queens and aristocrats, perfectly describing their luxurious lifestyle. It tells the story of their inner thoughts and their interaction with each other. He also writes about the

oppressed subjects of the Russian Imperial Society. He describes their uncomplicated but unhappy life. It reflects their thoughts and feelings [6].

The ideological crisis of the writer was visible in separate parts of this huge novel. Although Tolstoy opposes violence, in his novel he emphasizes the righteous cruelty that patriotic fervor can lead to. According to the novel, when the peasants (Russian peasants) see the retreating French soldiers, already hungry and tired, weakened by the winter, they attack them furiously. The men massacred the rest of Napoleon's retreating army. Tolstoy glorifies the actions of the peasants who attacked half-dead enemy soldiers in a vulnerable position in the Russian steppes.

The life of Leo Tolstoy was full of contradictions. He wanted to give up wealth, but could not make a clear decision until he was old. He preached that money was evil, but enjoyed luxury, saying that people should give up wealth and take care of the poor. However, in real life, he had to arrest and then prosecute three poor farmers who were illegally logging in his state. She was trapped in an unhappy marriage for a long time. One moment he was a humane husband without an ego, and the next moment he was jealous of his wife and suspiciously angry. Leo Tolstoy's changing emotions are well documented in his novels, and many of them are reflected in the main characters.

When Leo Tolstoy was a child, his mother Maria Nikolaevna Volkonskaya died. After her death, maternal failure syndrome took a toll on her. For several years Tolstoy mistakenly believed that his mother had died in childbirth. He describes the death of mothers and maternal deprivation in "War and Peace", describing the death of Lisa Meinen (wife of Prince Andrei Bolkonsky), and then recounting the depressing situation of his orphaned young son Nikolai. In the novel, Lisa dies while giving birth to her son. Without a husband, she endured suffering. When she needed a husband, Prince Andrei, she went to war, leaving a bitter father and a helpless sister. Lisa was seriously disappointed. Tolstoy vividly describes Liza's death in War and Peace [5]

## **Materials and research**

L. N. Tolstoy has a huge literary heritage and is one of the constantly developing phenomena: every time, every era perceives the writer in its own way. Our time is especially sensitive to the moral sermons of Tolstoy, to his call for moral perfection. Because our society is deeply aware that no social changes will lead to a qualitative difference in the spiritual world of people. It is impossible to create a "new man" in a year or decades until we force people to morally rebuild each of them. For more than a century, Leo Tolstoy has been one of the world's most famous and widely read authors. Those who conducted research on this work. Because the material of this work attracted many seekers. According to E. M. Forster, Leo Tolstoy's novel "War and Peace" is the greatest novel in history. French writer Romain Rolland called it the most influential novel of all time [9].

Tolstoy put forward the idea that a person is born pure, and society corrupts him. He argued that civilization corrupts the natural man. He was against organized religion. He saw corruption, lies and spiritual decay in religious institutions. He sharply criticized the Russian Orthodox Church. He was a spiritual anarchist as well as a spiritual revolutionary. The church was offended by the critical articles, speeches and views of Leo Tolstoy, he was subsequently condemned and excommunicated from the church. However, Tolstoy became a moral and spiritual example of the people. Mahatma Gandhi, who admired Leo Tolstoy, wrote: Tolstoy is one of the clearest thinkers in the Western world [4].

When danger approaches, two voices are always heard in the human heart, speaking with equal force: one tells a very intelligent person to think about the nature of the danger and the means to avoid it; and another says that the thought of danger is very painful and disturbing, because it is not in the power of a person to foresee everything and avoid the general course of events; Therefore, it is better to avoid painful topics and think about pleasant ones. In solitude, a person usually listens to the first voice; to another in society. - Leo Tolstoy ("War and Peace")

## Discussion and results

Character analysis is of particular importance in this great novel. There are several central characters that keep the story alive and original. Pierre Bezukhov and Prince Andrey Bolkonsky. The two fictional characters that appear throughout the novel are distinguished by their static nature. They were often seen as a reflection of Tolstoy himself.

In *War and Peace*, Leo Tolstoy describes a peasant soldier named Tikhon who is known for his bravery and bravery. Another character is Lavrushka, the cunning servant of Captain Denisov. Lavrushka is known for his cunning, and he moves behind enemy lines. The reader gets acquainted with another character named Alpatych, a faithful servant of Prince Nikolai Bolkonsky. Although Alpatych is modest and very respectful in front of the old prince Bolkonsky, he behaves like a daring gentleman in front of other servants. Pelageyushka is another minor character depicted in the novel. She is a pious old woman who traveled around Russia. Pelageyushka often visits Princess Maria Bolkonskaya, who gives her money and food. In addition, Tolstoy writes wonderfully about the innermost thoughts of a small child - a peasant girl. He unexpectedly meets General Mikhail Illarionovich Golenishchev-Kutuzov, commander of the Imperial Russian Army, and at the height of the war they become curious friends. Little Malasha calls the great Russian commander Kutuzov Dedushka (grandfather). He watches with interest the difficult relationship and disputes between General Kutuzov and General Bennigsen.

"*War and Peace*" is the embodiment of pre-revolutionary imperial Russia, which never had its own Renaissance. In *War and Peace*, Napoleon's invasion of Russia and the aftermath of the war brought significant changes. Tolstoy shows the depth, uncertainty and greatness of the human character in times of war and peace. Tolstoy remains a great writer of genius, deeply analyzing various characters. His psychological concepts as well as his style make the reader feel close to the characters [7].

In the novel, the writer describes the Rostov family in detail and expresses great sympathy for them. According to the poet, the atmosphere of kindness, benevolence, sincere generosity, love and care in the Rostov family was created by the joint efforts of the old count Ilya Andreevich, the countess and their children. As the writer admits, Natasha is undoubtedly the soul of this family. The best heroes of Tolstoy cannot be imagined without deep family ties. But that's not all. Natasha and Nikolai, Pierre and Princess Marya, Kutuzov and Platon Karataev treat all people without exception and expect good intentions from everyone. Petya Rostov, who once visited a partisan detachment, shows enthusiastic sympathy not only for the long-time acquaintance Denisov, but also for everyone around him, and even takes care of the captured French boy. L. N. Tolstoy believed that the ability to understand another person, forgiveness, reliability and goodwill are the best qualities of a Russian person. These qualities are characteristic of many heroes of "*War and Peace*". Addressing the soldiers on the day of the Krasnensky battle, Kutuzov addresses the captured French: "When they were strong, we did not spare ourselves, but now they can be pitied. They are people too," and sympathy for

his words was read on the faces of Russian soldiers. Everyone The ability to “love to live” in unity with is manifested in the image of Platon Karataev. felt something “pleasant, soothing and round”. The man's face expressed such kindness and simplicity that Pierre was moved and almost cried. The living connection of a person with others is the norm of behavior of the favorite characters of the great writer. Often communication between the characters of the novel is carried out with the help of glances, intonations, gestures, smiles.

Natasha Rostova suffers from the fact that she cannot convey even a thousandth of what she feels, and she is used to expressing it with her voice, smile and look in her letters to Prince Andrei. Heroes of Tolstoy sometimes involuntarily influence others, not realizing their influence. The meeting of Prince Andrei with Natasha changed his whole life, resurrected him spiritually. He liked Natasha's "spiritual openness, naturalness." One of the main characteristics of people close to Tolstoy is the need to open up to others. Communication between the heroes of "War and Peace" is primarily characterized by bright, joyful emotions, which are often accompanied by a kind cheerful laugh. In the novel, cheerful laughter sounds not only in episodes of peaceful life, but also in episodes dedicated to military operations. This kind laughter brings people together.

Characters mentally close to Tolstoy are able to sincerely repent and admit their mistakes. After the death of her father, Princess Marya is depicted in a shocking way, when, remembering her sinful thoughts about her father's whims, she did not dare to pray to God. Deep repentance of Natasha, who was taken away by Anatole for the evil she did to Prince Andrei. Pierre's spiritual greatness is revealed after his duel with Dolokhov, when he trembles at the thought that he almost killed a man. The attractiveness of human relations described in the novel "War and Peace" cannot but touch the heart of the modern reader. In our "cruel" age, we have a lot to learn from the heroes of this work. Kindness and conscientiousness, the spiritual attitude of people to each other, the spiritual unity of people - these ideals of the writer, aimed at every person, make you think about your life and your relationships with other people.

As a result we can say that the main aspect of Tolstoy's worldview is that meaning cannot be found in this world - in a world where a person must die. In his opinion, the fact that man himself, all his efforts and achievements are inevitably doomed to extinction, makes them completely meaningless and futile. It was this belief that drove Tolstoy into the deepest despair and to the brink of suicide[4]. Later in life, Tolstoy formed a stereotype of his philosophy. Despite criticism from the clergy and even excommunication from the Russian Orthodox Church, Tolstoy believed that philosophical principles could only be understood in their concrete expression in history.

Tolstoy reflects his thoughts and dreams in "War and Peace" - everything is predetermined. Tolstoy believed that history is determined by a series of facts and that no one can change history. He writes that no one controls the events, not even Napoleon, the commander-in-chief of the Russian army, General Kutuzov, and Tsar Alexander I.

## Summary

In War and Peace, Tolstoy identified a number of human and philanthropic factors, including:

- in life Tolstoy formed the stereotype of his philosophy.
- showed that the man himself, all his efforts and achievements are inevitably destroyed by his own lack of will.

- that no one controls events, neither Napoleon, nor General Kutuzov, the commander-in-chief of the Russian army, nor Tsar Alexander I. He stressed that life would go on as usual.
- Tolstoy expresses his thoughts and dreams in "War and Peace" - as if everything was predetermined.

## References

1. Albin, R.L.(1990). Arch Neurol. 47(2):225-6.The death of Nicholas Bolkonski. Neurology in Tolstoy's War and Peace.
2. Anargyros-Klinger, A.(2002). The thread of depression throughout the life and works of Leo Tolstoy.Int J Psychoanal. 83(Pt 2):407-18.
3. Bergner, R.(1998). Therapeutic approaches to problems of meaninglessness. American Journal of Psychotherapy, 52, pp. 1-16.
4. Bergner, R. (2010). The Tolstoy dilemma: A Paradigm Case Formulation and some therapeutic interventions.
5. Professor Raymond M. Bergner-Department of Psychology, Illinois State University
6. Professor Guy Proulx – Clinical Psychologist and Professor of Psychology -Glendon Campus York University Canada
7. Simmons, E.J. (1968).War And Peace From Introduction To Tolstoy's Writings by Ernest J Simmons. Retrieved from /smartboard/shop/smmnsej/tolstoy/chap5.htm
8. Yegorov, S.F. (1994). PROSPECTS: the quarterly review of comparative education (Paris, UNESCO: International Bureau of Education), vol. XXIV p. 647–60.).