



Article

Psychological-Artistic Interpretation of Interpersonal Relationships in Uzbekistan and English Stories

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Citation: Egamberdiyeva, G. Psychological-Artistic Interpretation of Interpersonal Relationships in Uzbekistan and English Stories. Central Asian Journal of Literature, Philosophy, and Culture 2026, 7(2), 518-522.

Received: 20th Feb 2026

Revised: 15th Mar 2026

Accepted: 05th Apr 2026

Published: 30th Apr 2026



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Abstract: This article examines the psychological and artistic representation of interpersonal relationships in Uzbek and English short fiction from a comparative-typological perspective. It focuses on the artistic representation of such factors as family environment, social conditions, moral values, national mentality, personal needs, and individual choice in shaping interpersonal relationships. The study demonstrates that in Uzbek short fiction, interpersonal relationships are closely associated with family, kinship, social environment, national values, and moral norms, whereas English short fiction more frequently emphasizes individual choice, emotional intimacy, alienation, and the inner world of the individual.

Keywords: Interpersonal Relationships, Psychological Interpretation, Artistic Representation, Uzbek Short Fiction, English Short Fiction, Family Relationships, Social Environment, Emotional Intimacy, Alienation, Conflict, National Mentality, Comparative-Typological Analysis

1. Introduction

The depiction of interpersonal relationships in fiction is one of the important means of revealing a character's personality and inner psychological world. A person's relationships with others are directly influenced by their worldview, moral values, emotional state, life experience, and socio-cultural environment [1]. Therefore, studying interpersonal relationships in literary works makes it possible not only to understand the development of events but also to comprehend the characters' inner experiences and psychological states [2].

The concept of interpersonal relationships encompasses an individual's interactions with family members, relatives, friends, spouses, colleagues, and other members of society. In fiction, such relationships are concretized through dialogue, internal monologue, behavior, silence, conflict, psychological details, and authorial description [3].

National mentality also plays an important role in the literary interpretation of interpersonal relationships. This is because an individual's attitude toward other people is closely connected with the values, customs, moral norms, and social expectations formed within the socio-cultural environment to which that person belongs [4].

In Uzbek short-story writing, interpersonal relationships are often depicted through family ties, kinship, affection, loyalty, respect for elders, family responsibility, and moral standards shaped by society. In such relationships, the balance between an individual's personal desires and their responsibilities toward family and society occupies an important place [5].

However, contemporary Uzbek short-story writing increasingly explores not only the external social aspects of interpersonal relationships but also the characters' inner experiences, psychological conflicts, need for understanding, and issues related to their individual sense of self [6].

In English short-story writing, greater attention is paid to an individual's personal experience, subjective perception, emotional needs, personal choices, and inner world in the psychological interpretation of interpersonal relationships. Particularly in modernist short fiction, the discrepancy between a person's external relationships and inner experiences has become one of the significant literary concerns [7].

From this perspective, a comparative study of the depiction of interpersonal relationships in Uzbek and English short stories makes it possible to identify how human psychology is artistically represented within different national literary traditions [8].

2. Materials and Method

The study employed comparative-typological, psychological, hermeneutic, historical-cultural, and poetic analysis methods. The combination of these methods made it possible to comparatively examine the formation and development of interpersonal relationships in Uzbek and English short stories, as well as their psychological dimensions. The comparative-typological method was used to identify the common and distinctive features of interpersonal relationships represented in the two national literatures, while psychological analysis focused on the characters' inner experiences, psychological conflicts, and emotional states. The hermeneutic method was applied to interpret the meaning and significance of the works, characters, and artistic details, whereas the historical-cultural method was used to identify the socio-cultural factors influencing the formation of interpersonal relationships. Poetic analysis, in turn, examined the artistic devices and representational techniques employed by the authors to portray interpersonal relationships.

The research materials were selected from Uzbek and English short fiction in which the psychological characteristics of interpersonal relationships are particularly prominent. Within Uzbek literature, the short stories of Nodira Ibrohimova were selected, while Katherine Mansfield's "Bliss" was analyzed within the framework of English literature. Based on these works, the study examined the literary representation of the characters' family and social relationships, emotional connections, internal conflicts, experiences of mutual understanding and misunderstanding, as well as their psychological states. The primary criterion for selecting the works was the extent to which interpersonal relationships, psychological states, and the characters' inner experiences are vividly and artistically represented.

3. Results and Discussion

Considering The findings of the study demonstrated that the psychological dimensions of interpersonal relationships are closely connected with the socio-cultural environment in which the characters live. An individual's attitude toward other people is shaped not only by personal experience but also by the influence of family, society, moral values, and social expectations [9].

In the short stories of Nodira Ibrohimova, one of the important factors shaping interpersonal relationships is the family and immediate social environment. The family is presented not merely as the external setting of relationships among the characters but also as a significant factor that determines their psychological states, decisions, sense of responsibility, and interactions with one another [10].

Alongside affection, loyalty, trust, and responsibility, such relationships also involve misunderstanding, inner dissatisfaction, silence, and psychological distance. The inability

of an individual to fully express their thoughts and needs emerges as a factor that intensifies the internal conflicts within relationships [11].

Psychological conflict in interpersonal relationships primarily arises within the inner world of the characters. A conversation or everyday situation that appears ordinary from the outside may become an intense psychological experience for a character. Therefore, the psychological interpretation of relationships in literary works is revealed not only through dialogue but also through the character's silence, internal monologue, behavior, and emotional reactions [12].

The influence of national and moral values is particularly evident in the representation of interpersonal relationships in Nodira Ibrohimova's short stories. Values such as family, loyalty, affection, patience, and responsibility function as important factors determining the characters' attitudes toward others. On the one hand, these values strengthen interpersonal bonds; on the other hand, in certain situations, they may come into conflict with an individual's personal needs [13].

From this perspective, the psychological representation of interpersonal relationships in Uzbek short stories is often constructed around the relationship between **the individual – family – society – moral values**.

In English short fiction, by contrast, the psychological interpretation of interpersonal relationships places greater emphasis on the individual and their subjective perception [14].

Katherine Mansfield's "Bliss" provides a clear example of this approach through the character of Bertha Young. The protagonist's relationships with her husband, guests, and people around her are closely connected with her inner world and emotional state [15].

Bertha's perception of other people is largely shaped by her own psychological condition. She perceives the events and people around her not simply as objective reality but through the lens of her emotional experience. As a result, relationships that appear harmonious on the surface are revealed to be internally complex and conflicted.

The psychological complexity of interpersonal relationships in the short story "Bliss" is particularly evident in the protagonist's process of understanding those whom she considers close to her. The discrepancy between Bertha's inner world and external reality intensifies her psychological experiences.

The comparative analysis revealed that one of the common psychological issues related to interpersonal relationships in the short stories of Nodira Ibrohimova and Katherine Mansfield is **the individual's need to be understood by others**.

In Uzbek short stories, this need is primarily manifested in relation to family, close people, and the social environment, whereas in Katherine Mansfield's fiction, it is more closely associated with the individual's personal emotional experience and inner "self."

Thus, although the psychological essence of interpersonal relationships is generally similar in the two literary traditions, the ways in which it is artistically represented differ according to the respective national and cultural contexts.

The results of the comparative analysis demonstrated that the psychological representation of interpersonal relationships in Uzbek and English short stories possesses both common characteristics and distinctive features shaped by national and cultural contexts.

In Uzbek short stories, interpersonal relationships are often constructed around the interaction of **family – society – moral values – individual**. In English short stories, by contrast, the relationship between the **individual – other person – social environment – personal desire** tends to be more prominently represented.

Table 1. Comparative Characteristics of Interpersonal Relationships in Uzbek and English Short Fiction

Criterion	Uzbek Short Fiction	English Short Fiction
Primary context of interpersonal relationships	Family and immediate social environment	Individual and social environment
Dominant values	Family, affection, loyalty, and responsibility	Individuality, personal choice, and emotional intimacy
Source of psychological conflict	Conflict between family and social expectations and personal needs	Conflict between personal emotions and the external social environment
Artistic function of communication	Revealing mutual respect, responsibility, and social relationships	Revealing individual emotions and internal conflicts
Representation of alienation	Weakening of family or social ties	Individual psychological isolation and inner alienation
Psychological closeness	Associated with affection, loyalty, and mutual responsibility	Associated with emotional harmony and individual perception
Main form of conflict	Conflict between the individual and familial-social expectations	Conflict between the individual's inner needs and external relationships
Key aspect of psychological interpretation	National and moral foundations of interpersonal relationships	Individual psychological experience and subjective perception

As demonstrated by the table, the fundamental difference between interpersonal relationships in Uzbek and English short fiction does not lie in the presence or absence of such relationships, but rather in the socio-cultural factors that influence their formation.

For example, affection and loyalty occupy an important place in both literary traditions. However, in Uzbek short fiction, loyalty is often associated with family responsibility, moral duty, and social values, whereas in English short fiction, it may be more closely connected with personal emotional experience and individual relationships.

Thus, the national and cultural environment plays an important role in the psychological interpretation of interpersonal relationships. Nevertheless, underlying these differences are universal psychological needs, including the need to be understood, loved, trusted, and emotionally connected with others.

4. Conclusion

The comparative study of the psychological and artistic representation of interpersonal relationships in Uzbek and English short fiction led to the following conclusions. First, interpersonal relationships constitute an important literary means of revealing the characters' personalities and inner worlds. An individual's attitude toward others is shaped not only by personal experience but also by the influence of the socio-cultural environment. Second, in Uzbek short fiction, family, kinship, affection, loyalty, patience, responsibility, and moral values play a significant role in shaping interpersonal relationships. Individual needs are often portrayed in interaction with the individual's responsibilities toward family and society. Third, in English short fiction, the psychological interpretation of interpersonal relationships places particular emphasis on the individual, their inner world, emotional experience, personal choices, and subjective perception. Fourth, in both literary traditions, the central psychological issues underlying interpersonal relationships are expressed through such experiences as affection, trust, loyalty, understanding, misunderstanding, loneliness, and alienation. Fifth, conflict in interpersonal relationships often arises from a discrepancy between the character's external relationships and their inner needs. The representation of interpersonal relationships in Uzbek and English short fiction is shaped by the interaction of national

and universal human characteristics. While national mentality gives distinctive features to the content and forms of interpersonal relationships, universal psychological experiences such as affection, trust, emotional closeness, loneliness, and the need to be understood emerge as common literary phenomena that unite the two literary traditions.

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