



## THE REPRESENTATION OF THE CITY IN 20TH CENTURY LITERATURE

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**Abstract:** The representation of the city in 20th-century literature is complex and multifaceted. The city has undergone changes as a result of processes such as urbanization, industrialization, and modernity. Cities have also been used as a vehicle for expressing socio-political and economic conflicts. This article provides information on how the city has been represented in 20th-century literature and how writers and poets have depicted it. Cities have also been used as a vehicle for expressing socio-political and economic conflicts.

**Keywords:** Urbanization, impact, human life, environment, T.S.Eliot, human life, important, socio-political, conflicts.

In 20th-century literature, the image of the city played a very important role, reflecting the complexity of human life, as well as social and psychological processes. The city has always been an important literary symbol because writers have powerful feelings about the environment in which they set their works.[4] During this period, the city experienced the processes of urbanization, industrialization, and modernism. These changes led to a more interesting and multifaceted image of the "city" in literature. Writers, for example, used the city to express possible separation and isolation. In T.S. Eliot's "Tupman", the city reflects a complex psychological state, showing the feeling of loneliness that occurs among people. In "Mrs. Dalloway", Virginia Woolf describes city life in modern spaces as a foundation for time and theology. In addition, the city often served as an expression of social conflicts. Writers, for example, provided readers with a wide range of directions by revealing the specific social strata, economic differences, and conflicts of their modern cities.[1]The image of the city is important in 20th-century literature, illuminating issues related to urbanization processes, social change, and the inner world of man. The city appears as a symbol of a new culture, despair, loneliness, and isolation. Through works, cities reflect the conflicts in human life, a sense of loss, and the complexity of modern life. T.S. Eliot, James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, and other writers, studying the psychological



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and social impact of the urban environment, show how cities are connected to the human psyche. The image of the city allows us to read works through deeper meaning and social criticism, which further enriches 20th-century literature. Thus, cities serve as an important context for studying national and global issues.

The city has also been seen as a source of hope and opportunity. In many literary works, characters seek to realize their dreams through the city, which introduces the city as a symbol of growth and development. In 20th-century literature, the image of the city has become important not only in describing a place, but also in reflecting the human psyche, social conflicts and the challenges of our time. Through literature, the complex nature and changes of city life are conveyed through the emotions and dreams of the people who live in them. These works also give us a deep and multifaceted understanding of the city.

In 20th-century literature, the city has been the subject of many important works by writers. Let's take a look at some of them:[3]

- 1. T.S. Eliot "The Waste Land": This work depicts city life and loneliness among people, raising issues of urbanization and the search for existence.
- 2. James Joyce "Ulysses": Through the image of Dublin, it reveals the inner experiences of a person in an urban environment.
- 3. Virginia Woolf "Mrs. Dalloway": The hypocrisy, relationships, and the influence of the urban environment in modern London are shown.
- 4. Franz Kafka "The Metamorphosis": The isolation from modern life in the city, as well as the feeling of losing one's identity, are described.
- 5. Herman Hesse "Steppenwolf": The process of searching for one's identity and internal conflicts in the urban environment are reflected.

These works illuminate the image of the city and its complexity in human life from different perspectives.

T.S. Eliot's "The Waste Land" is one of the greatest works of 20th-century literature that explores the urban image. The work explores urban life, its complexity, and the loneliness of its people. Eliot portrays the city as a symbol of spiritual poverty, isolation, and despair. The work depicts various urban landscapes, as well as the impact of urbanization on people's lives. Eliot's images reveal the contradictions between urban life, modern culture, and tradition. The hustle and bustle of the city, the search for meaning in people's inner experiences, are central themes in the work. [2]

Thus, "The Waste Land" explores the urban image not only in terms of its appearance, but also in terms of its spiritual and social impact. In addition, let us quote the work of Herman Hesse: Herman Hesse - "Steppenwolf": This work reflects the process of human identity search, difficult social relationships and internal conflicts in the urban environment. Steppenwolf, in the complexity of city life, explores his dual











nature - the wild and the cultural side. The city serves as a symbol for him of the process of alienation and self-realization. City life, influencing his experiences, deeply illuminates the author's inner struggles, feelings of isolation and search for freedom. This work, through the image of the city, explores the complex relationship between the human soul and social life.[2]

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