

PARALLELS BETWEEN KADARE'S BOOKS AND KONGOLI'S

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Abstract

Two of the leading figures of Albanian literature, who are generally evaluated by international readers and French publishing houses are Ismail Kadare and Fatos Kongoli. The publishing house "FAYARD" and its president Claude Dyran undertook the publication of the complete works of Kadare in English and in French, where currently have been translated in about thirty languages; Fatos Kongoli works have been published and evaluated by European journals with international praise, influencing his work take a worthy place in Western reception and judgment. Some evaluations are connected to the idea that their work is related to a certain reality and historical time, but there were also assessments about the extreme abstraction of reality through highly artistic elements. Both authors operate under inverted aesthetics. They don't refer to only a specific time, but multiple times in the same act. This multi-site and multi-time is reflected in various ways in their works. Kadare constructs a magnificent Albania, Kongoli an Albania that is seen through small, daily events but which create the horror of the past and the present. The paper is based on the observation in the thematic structure, language, characters, places and time for the purpose of the finding the similarities and differences between them. The aim of our study is to elucidate, without fear or favour, the work of two writers commonly associated with realism and modernism at the same time, but to examine the similarity and the differences as well. All manner of contrasts and comparisons might be made between them, but to make these would be to stress the divergence of their subject and then the elements which build the subjects. Kadare and Kongoli are read not only by Albanian readers, but by foreign readers too. What do foreign readers find interesting in them? Why do international critics compare them with Marquez, Beckett, Kafka, etc.? The term "kadarenian" and "kongolian" are not merely evidentiary of the distinctive values of these writers in Albanian literature, but the determinants of a certain aesthetic in their works.

Keywords: *albanian literature, Ismail Kadare, Fatos Kongoli, characters.*