

## **PRISON AS A METAPHOR OF PAIN AND MORAL AND INTELLECTUAL RESISTANCE TO DICTATORSHIP**

**Aristidh Çipa**

Faculty of Human Sciences, University “Ismail Qemali”, Vlorë, Albania  
Email: aristidhcipa@hotmail.com

### **Abstract**

The name of Visar Zhiti double echoes in the perception of the Albanian audience for being either one of the most vital poets of contemporary poetry, or a symbol of pain and moral and intellectual resistance to dictatorship. His literary work, in addition to that of other arrested, convicted or dissident authors expands our vision for the Albanian literature. This work is aimed at presenting the creative personality of the poet, with particular regard to his relation with the prison. Prison, skull, handcuff are some of the symbols designed and developed like foundation pillars to support all the heavy load of the Dantesque poetry of Visar Zhiti. This poetry appeals with artistic power and dignity in the name of social freedom and peace against any dictatorship. In his collections “Throwing a Skull at Your Feet”, “Memory of the Air”, “Treasures of Fear”, by shifting from poetry to short novel, the poet takes the topic of “prison” to a new semantic, structural and textual level. Is prison a slave of the poet, or is the poet himself a slave in this prison? This dilemma makes the creative connection between two poles of the poetic argument, which push and pull, destroy and construct, meet and separate by giving numerous shapes to each-other. Sometimes, the poet goes beyond himself, beyond prison, beyond hate and drives on the open road to convey the striking message of social understanding and peace. Approach to poetic text: a) Genesis of the literary work, b) Semantic-Esthetic aspect, c) Materialization of the text.

**Keywords:** *vision, dissidence, realistic esthetics, conventional icon, suggestion.*