

WHAT IS PROGRESSIVE LITERATURE?

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ABSTRACT

This article tries to define progressive literature as it has often been defined merely associating it with leftist ideology. My study aims at justifying my point that progressiveness of a literary text is not to be measured on the basis of who has created it, but on the basis of the theme it has carried, and form of expression it has adopted. It would not be mistaken to argue that ideology of a person affects his/her literary creation. It is also true to say that progressive sentiment doesn't generate in the mind of a non-progressive person. At the same time, it would be equally mistaken to argue that everyone who is non-Marxist is non-progressive.

Talking about contribution in human life and society, modernist and postmodernist texts are mostly less progressive in nature. Modernist and postmodernist literary writings don't energize human beings to move for progress and to fight against troubles. Progressive writings need to uncover pains, troubles and misdeeds existing in human life and society, and should empower human beings to overcome them with struggle. A good literature speaks for change opposing numerous hindrances that are likely to appear on the way to progress. Making the people realizes their power and potentiality, and enabling them to utilize them is the responsibility of a good literature.

KEYWORDS: *Progressive, Aesthetics, Marxism, Ideology, Reality, Modernism, Postmodernism, Literature*