

## The Description of Nature in the Works of the Travel Genre: The Case of Karakalpak Writers

Mambetnazarova Rano Kuanishbaevna<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Karakalpak scientific-research Institute of Humanitarian Sciences of the Karakalpak branch of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Uzbekistan

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### Abstract

The subject of research in this work is the genre of travel in *Karakalpak Literature*. It analyzes the works of the travel genre of individual Karakalpak writers who have visited abroad in various years. The research material was the poetic collection of the national poet of Karakalpakstan, Hero of Uzbekistan Ibrayim Yusupov *Evenings of Distant Malaysia, Caucasus*, and travel notes of the Karakalpak writer and scientist Kamal Mambetov *Travel*, which includes several sections: *Travel to India, Hello, Sri Lanka, Shores of the Black Sea of the Caucasus, In the Native Nogai Region*, and *The ancestral homeland Turkestan*. The travel diaries of Karakalpak writers Gulaiша Esemuratova's *American Impressions* and Zubaida Ishmanova's *Travel through Europe* are also touched upon. Along with the above-mentioned works, the travel notes of the Karakalpak scientist Tazhen Izimbetov *Travel to Five Countries across the Ocean* and the Karakalpak poet Maten Seitniyazov *Travel to Seven Countries* are studied. In particular, the author notes that with the motive of the road in literary travels, a special place is occupied by the description of nature and terrain. In her work, the researcher emphasizes the author's position and subjectivity in travel works in transmitting unknown information to readers. At the same time, in literary travels, the motive of the road occupies a central place, since on the way a person learns about himself, better understands his country, his people and his spiritual roots. The relevance and scientific novelty of the work lie in the insufficient study of the genre of travel in the Karakalpak literature and the author's attempt to study the issue. The author considers the motive of the hero's journey in comparison with the motive of return.

*Keywords:* Architecture, author-narrator, diary, interior, landscape, Karakalpak literature, nature, Travel Genre

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\* **Author:** Mambetnazarova Rano Kuanishbaevna, **email:** [mirazizmambetnazarov@mail.ru](mailto:mirazizmambetnazarov@mail.ru)

## Introduction

Since ancient times, people have been attracted to wandering and traveling, everyone was interested in knowing about the life and culture of strange people, in an unknown country. At different periods, inquisitive people became dervishes, and wanderers, leading an ascetic lifestyle, and learned a lot of interesting and unusual things. The wanderers, over time, mastered the culture and way of life of the local people, thereby expanding the range of knowledge of travelers, with time they began to make profitable deals between foreign countries. Through such trips and wanderings, knowledgeable people established trade relations and brought fascinating books along with valuable goods. These books were copied onto animal skins and began to spread among the people. Thus, they had some impression of their neighbors in the territory and distant countries.

Travel is directly related to tourism and the flow of tourists to Uzbekistan increases from year to year to get acquainted with the rich history and original culture of our people. In particular, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M. Mirziyoyev pays special attention to the development of tourism and has adopted some resolutions and decrees to attract foreign tourists to our country (Mirziyoyev, 2023). For these purposes, work has been carried out on the development of pilgrimage, gastronomic, medical, and sports tourism. For travelers and tourists, our ancient cities of Khiva, Bukhara, and Samarkand, and the famous I. V. Savitsky Museum, known worldwide as the Louvre in the Desert, located in Nukus, are of particular interest.



Figure 1. Geography of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2023 (Britannica, 2023)

## Literature Review

Travel is a literary genre based on the description of the wanderings of the hero-traveler. This may be information about the countries and peoples seen by the traveler in the form of travel diaries, notes and essays. In travel essays, the narrative is conducted in the first person and begins with a description of the route, vehicles, time, and roads. They describe cities and

villages, and architectural structures, depict in detail the houses of the local population encountered during the trip, and their interiors. It is noteworthy that the author of the essay expresses his direct impression. The author's ethnographic observations are not limited to a simple description of the external aspects of what he saw but are amenable to analysis, comparison, and reflection. The author's personality is especially vividly and strongly manifested in travel essays. The author's position and reflections help the reader to imagine the paintings described by the author more vividly, it is also the only force driving the plot. The increased interest of researchers was aroused by the periods of the greatest spread of the travel essay genre – mainly in the late XVIII – early XIX centuries, when “travel” acquired a new artistic design, becoming sensitive, and sentimental, which opened the possibility of a free outpouring of the author's feelings.

The genre of travel is a relatively little-studied type of literature. As you know, it is based on a description of the real or imaginary movement in a reliable or fictional space of a traveling hero, an eyewitness describing little-known or unknown domestic or foreign realities and phenomena, his thoughts, feelings and impressions that arose during the journey, as well as a narrative about events that occurred at the time of the trip (Guminsky, 1987). The author's approach and artistic thinking are based on the unusual perception and reflection of the facts of real reality, which, together with the information and cognitive plan and the movement of the hero in space, serves as the basis for the plot of works of this genre. As noted in the sources, travel is an attractive genre of literature, which includes a description not only of nature but also of architecture, the interior of houses, ethnography, culture and the life of certain people. The characteristic features of literary travel are the journey itself as the basis of the plot, autobiography, description of nature, the central image of the author-narrator, diaries and letters, oral histories, and characters.

## Discussion

The main specific features of this genre are the continuity and sequence of transmission of information in chronological order, and the main motive is the path, the exploration of space. In particular, a researcher from Kyrgyzstan, J. O. Sultanova, notes: “Describing the world around us, the writer draws our attention to the fact that our road is, in fact, ourselves ..., we are aware of our strengths and weaknesses, or we stand by our opinion. Of course, any path is new meetings and acquaintances” (Sultanova, 2023, p. 92).

According to the Russian researcher Shachkova, “Descriptions of wanderings in world literature have been known since ancient times. Already in antiquity, there was a division of descriptions of travel by sea and by land. The text of the journey consists of events and situations that form around two main spaces: the road (the trip, the process of moving, sailing by sea) and the city (any point where the hero stops)” (Shachkova, 2008, p. 280). In literary travels, according to theorists, the central figure is a person; he/she wanders, gets into unfamiliar states and localities, comprehends their history, geography and ethnography, sees foreign cultures, and the life of the people, and studies languages. Along with that, spiritually develops and enriches, at the same time, a person comprehends himself on the way, better understands his character, interests, spiritual roots and traditions, his country and his people, and learns everything in comparison.

## Methods and Materials

In Karakalpak Literature, the emergence of this genre is associated with trips of the creative intelligentsia and scientists to different countries of the world as part of various delegations, starting in the 70s of the twentieth century. At first, they appear in poetic form in local magazines and newspapers, and then they take on a prosaic form. Karakalpak poet Maten

Seitniyazov has visited many parts of the world – Italy, Turkey, Germany, India, Pakistan, and African countries like Sierra Leone and Senegal and dedicates the book “Travel to Seven Countries”. In 1978, scientist Tazhen Izimbetov visited a number of countries of the world on a ship, such as Japan, the Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, and Vietnam, and wrote his observations in the book “Travel to Five Countries Across the Ocean”. The writer Kamal Mambetov visited India and Sri Lanka in 1988, as well as the Caucasus, and describes what he saw in the book *Travel*. After gaining independence in 1992, the Karakalpak writer Gulaisha.

Esemuratova visited the United States of America by invitation and wrote a diary “American Impressions” about it. The honored worker of culture of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, Zubaida Ishmanova, visited Italy, France and Spain on a cruise in 2016 and dedicated the book *Travel through Europe* to this trip.

An important role in the works of the travel genre is given to facts and statistics that take place in literary travel. Honored worker of culture of the Republic of Karakalpakstan Zubaida Ishmanova in her travel diary “Travel through Europe” tells about her trip to Europe on the route *Nukus-Tashkent-Rome- Civitavecchia-La Spezia-Savona-Marseille-Barcelona-Palma de Mallorca-Paris*, made in 2016. According to the author, the journey begins with a sea cruise on the *Costa Diadema* – a huge ship with a height of 13 floors, with a capacity of 6.5 thousand passengers, which strongly resembles the Titanic itself and the Italian government has been sending 15 such ships for a sea cruise since 2014. Zubaida Ishmanova traveled to Italy, France and Spain in 2016 and dedicated the book “Travel through Europe” to this trip. According to the author, they arrive in Rome by plane, and then the luxury ship *Costa Diadema* continues its route towards the port city of La Spezia, which is known for beautiful alleys, long squares, completely decorated with palm trees and wonderful flowers. Tangerine and orange trees with ripe fruits grew around the houses, and rural landscapes inspired such world-renowned poets as Byron, George Sand, and Shelley at one time, the author notes (Ishmanova, 2019).



Figure 2. Z.Ishmanova’s book *Travel through Europe*

She is particularly fascinated by Paris, the capital of France, and in the section *Voyage to Paris* she begins her story about how Leonardo da Vinci flew by plane from Rome International Airport to a wonderful country – the homeland of fragrant perfumes and elegant clothes in France. The author's first impression of what she saw is how the flight attendants of the plane were courteous to passengers upon arrival at Paris Charles Gaulle Airport and that it has everything they need – a TV, newspapers, magazines and headphones. According to the author, Charles Gaulle International Airport is one of the largest airports in the world and is located 24 km from Paris.

The author is inspired by the fact that she got to the very heart of Europe – Paris, which gave birth to great poets, writers, and philosophers such as Alexandre Dumas, Stendhal, Zola, Maupassant, George Sand, Honore de Balzac, Romain Rolland, Charles Perrault, France Anatole, Charles Baudelaire, Gustave Flaubert, Victor Hugo, Voltaire. Many famous poets, writers, artists, and cultural workers of our time came to Paris as a hearth of culture and literature. Among them are Marina Tsvetaeva, Alexander Kuprin, Konstantin Balmont, Ivan Bunin, Chopin, Marc Chagall, Duncan, Oscar Wilde, Sergei Yesenin, and others who created their creations in Paris.

The guide introduces the sights of Paris and tells tourists about the outstanding politician of the twentieth century, General Charles Gaulle, who was born in the French city of Lille in 1890. Since childhood, he has been interested in military affairs and entered the military academy in Saint-Cyr. During the Second World War, he fought with heroism, being a commander, his courage and bravery quickly rose through the career ladder to Deputy Minister of National Military Defense and reached the rank of general. In 1940, he spoke on the radio to the French people in London and created the *Fighting France* movement against Hitler's army. In 1943, he came to *Algeria* and took the post of Chairman of the National Committee of Free France. Then he returned to France and at the age of 68 became President of the republic, restoring the former level and status of the country and it flourished. In Paris, there is a monument to him on the Champs- Elysees and a square and an airport are named in his honor. There is also a monument to him in Moscow on the square near the “Cosmos” Hotel.

The author says that Paris is called the “green city” for a reason and there are a lot of green plants everywhere: firs, pines, fragrant flowers, and lawns. Paris is famous not only for its majestic buildings but also for elegant habitable buildings in the form of a white steamer (by the instruction of Napoleon III, it became a tradition to build such houses). The author admires the hotels and restaurants in Paris, where they stay – cleanliness and creative facilities for tourists, especially notes the restaurants, and rich French cuisine, where everything is available – milk, tea, coffee, orange juice, various salads, French dishes.

It is impossible to imagine Paris without the Eiffel Tower and 9-10 million tourists from all over the world visit the tower every year. The tower is 324 meters high and 45 meters wide. Every year, celebrities and movie stars come to France to celebrate their wedding or family celebration near the Eiffel Tower. The guide tells about the engineer Gustave Eiffel, whose mother wanted her son to be engaged in commercial affairs, but the son decides to become an engineer because he has always been interested in creating magnificent structures. He has been working in the railway industry since completing his studies, and his drawings have attracted the attention of the organizers of the World Industrial Exhibition, which was scheduled to be held in Paris. The construction of the tower continues for 2 years and 2 months, and 250 workers work on it. The Eiffel Tower consists of metal structures of different sizes and amazes tourists with its splendor. Famous artists, writers, movie stars and pop singers often come to the Eiffel Tower. In particular, Maupassant loved to have breakfast at the Eiffel's Jules Verne restaurant and admired the



views of Paris. And UNESCO has its headquarters in Paris.

According to the author, the largest and most beautiful street in Paris is the Champs-Elysees, its width is 71 meters and its length is 2 km. Shops, offices, and beauty salons are located on this street, there are 510 cinemas and the famous “Ledualen” restaurant, where portraits of famous personalities are hung. Various national celebrations and government events are held on the Champs-Elysees, where people have fun. The author quotes the words of the famous writer Ernest Hemingway: “Paris is a holiday that is always with you. Anyone who has been to Paris at least once in his life will never forget it”. Further, the author says that at the end of the Champs-Elysees is the Arc de Triomphe, designed by Jean Francois Chalgren. Its construction began in 1806 and lasted for a long time for 30 years, the length is 50 m and the width is 45 m. But Napoleon could not see it; the Arch was completed after his death.

The Seine River divides Paris into two parts, and the Sorbonne University is located on the left bank of the Seine. This place is also called the Latin Quarter, students, academic professors, writers, artists and musicians live in this area. Offices and organizations of government officials are located on the right bank, and the world-famous Louvre Museum is located nearby. In 1215, Robert de Sorbon, a theologian by profession, opened a college, where children of the poor were educated, who were taught religious knowledge. Already in the XIV century, the college flourished and became a university, now it is known all over the world, there are 16 faculties where young people from all over the world study. Tourists on a steamer travel merrily along the Seine River, where a bridge in honor of Alexander III is installed, to the French melody and songs. The length of the bridge is 160 meters, and the height is 6 meters, which has a peculiar shape and is very appreciated in Paris, it depicts angels and mythical characters. The authors are engineers J.Redal, and I.Albi, and architects Cassin Bernard and Cousin, the bridge was built by order of Nicholai I in 1891. The bridge was opened in 1900 at the World Exhibition of the Union of France and Russia. On the banks of the Seine, there is also the first Invalides House in Paris, which was built in 1670-1677 by order of Ludovic XIV. On the other side of the river, there is a 105-meter-high church of St. Ludovic XIV, whose golden domes are visible from afar.

The author speaks with admiration about the world-famous Louvre Museum, which in the XII century was a fortress for Parisians. Every year, the Louvre is visited by about 15 million tourists from all over the world, and ranks 3rd worldwide. The museum houses famous creations and paintings by great artists – Francisco Goya, Rafal, Delacroix, Rubens, Rembrandt, Leonardo da Vinci, and Michelangelo. The author also tells about the history of the museum: in 1190, at the initiative of King Philip August in the XIII century, Charles V carried out repairs, opened an art gallery, departments of fine arts, sculpture, jewellery and watch repair, and since 1640 books have been published here. In the XVII century, King Ludovic XIV carried out reconstruction work here in accordance with modern requirements and made it his royal collection. In 1678, King Ludovic XIV laid the foundation for the construction of the modern Louvre and the Palace of Versailles.

When Peter I was in France, he was greatly impressed by the beauty of Versailles and, returning to his homeland, built the Petrovsky Palace. There is a “Mirror Gallery” in Versailles, 73 meters long and 10.5 meters wide. There are celebrations, birthdays, and family celebrations of kings, an audience of foreign guests, where there are 17 large windows decorated with gilding and in the light of the sun they emit a golden fairy-tale light. In addition, there is a billiard room, a greenhouse and a large garden, which full of various flowers and ornamental trees covered entirely with vegetation. Paris also has 200 art galleries, 100 theaters, 650 cinemas, and 10000 restaurants and it is impossible to explore Paris in 3-4 days.

The authors' special patriotic position and love for the Motherland can also be traced in their literary travels. As noted above, many famous personalities, writers and scientists lived in European countries and created their works and teachings. Among them, the Great Russian scientist D.I. Mendeleev was asked to stay in Germany, with an offer to provide him with all the conditions of residence and activity. The scientist responds to this with pride: "I love Germany, but Russia is the only one for me". Another Russian writer, I.S. Turgenev, also loved France very much but always remained faithful to his Homeland. His endless love and pain for Russia are reflected in all his works.

The famous Karakalpak poet, Hero of Uzbekistan Ibrayim Yusupov visited Malaysia in December 1989 as a member of the creative intelligentsia and dedicated a poem "Evenings of distant Malaysia" to this trip, where he describes the great contrast between our countries, subjectively conveying their achievements and our omissions. At that time, Malaysia was classified as a third country in terms of development, but, to the author's surprise, it surpassed many in terms of living standards. At the reception on the occasion of the arrival of the guests, the Minister of Export of Malaysia performs a national song, and the author writes with admiration how the Malays carefully preserve their traditions and customs, despite their high position (Yusupov, 1989).

The famous Karakalpak scientist, Professor Tazhen Izimbetov, in his book "Travel to Five Countries across the Ocean", narrates his journey, which he made in 1978 on the ship "Maria Ulyanova" across the Pacific Ocean to Southeast Asia, in particular to developing countries such as Japan, the Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, and Vietnam. The author of his travel book begins with the words "The one who has seen a lot knows a lot, not the one who has lived a lot". As part of the delegation in 1978 on the ship Maria Ulyanova, T. Izimbetov traveled along the route *Vladivostok – Tokyo – Manila – Kuching – Singapore – Ho Chi Minh City – Nagasaki – Vladivostok* for a month. A delegation organized by the trade union of Uzbekistan on a cruise (from English – "sea voyage") floated the Pacific Ocean, crossed the Equator and visited some countries around the world – Japan, the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam. The author notes that on October 30, 1978, they took off from Tashkent by plane on the route *Novosibirsk – Khabarovsk – Vladivostok*. On October 31, they will be in the city of Khabarovsk and it is noted that the city is located along the Amur River, and the territory of China is visible beyond the mountains. The author cites a historical fact: the city of Khabarovsk arose in 1858 as a military port, and in 1880 it received the status of a city. The city is named after the Russian digger-researcher of the XVII century Yerofey Pavlovich Khabarov and is a large industrial, cultural, and scientific center. And on November 1, they fly by plane to Vladivostok.

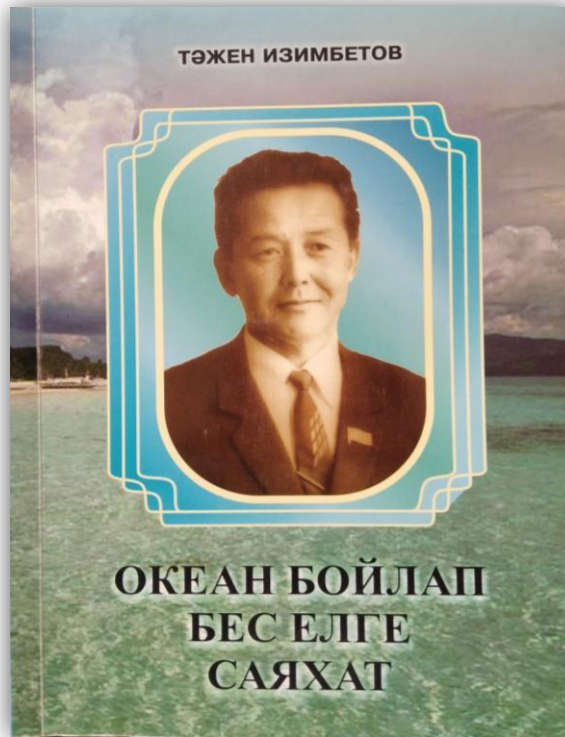


Figure 3. T. Izimbetov's book *Travel to Five Countries Across the Ocean*

According to the author, Vladivostok is the central city of Primorsky Krai, it is located on the Golden Horn Bay of the Sea of Japan in the south of the Muravyov–Amursky peninsula. The surroundings of Vladivostok were explored by Russian navigators in the 50s of the XIX century, and on June 20, 1864, Vladivostok was founded as a city. On the “Maria Ulyanova” motor ship with a height of 3-4 stories, the author, together with representatives of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kabardino-Balkaria, Primorsky Krai, Magadan, Novosibirsk and Irkutsk, enters the Sea of Japan. Through Sangar Bay, which separates the Japanese islands of Hokkaido and Honshu sail the Pacific Ocean. In two days they will stop in Tokyo – in the “land of the rising sun”. The author notes that a group of Japanese girls and boys in national costumes with bouquets greeted the guests at the ship. And from this moment, the travelers' excursion to the city of Tokyo begins. The author notes that during the tour the guide tells in Russian about the life, people, customs and traditions, architecture, and history of Japan. According to the guide, it became clear that Japan is the most developed country in East Asia, located on the large four islands of the Pacific Ocean – Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku, and Kyushu. Tokyo was founded in the XV century, in 1869; Kyoto was transferred from the former capital to Edo and received the name Tokyo (which means “capital of the East”). It turns out that in Tokyo aren't named streets, there is only one street and it is called Ginza (which means “silver coin”). According to the guide, the length of the Tokyo metro is 180 km and consists of 9 lines. The author notes that in the city, next to 2-3-storey buildings, there are 25- 30-storey buildings, and they are completely different from each other, built of aluminium and glass in a modern style, and firms and offices of syndicates, large monopolies, and banks of financial kings are located there.

The author says that tourists are allowed into the Imperial Park of Japan twice a year: the first is on New Year; the second is on April 29, the emperor's birthday. According to the program of the trip, the guests also visited the central Tokyo TV tower. The author notes that



the height of the former Tokyo tower was 333 meters, and the height of the Ostankino TV tower in Moscow was 585 meters. In 1969, the Japanese built a new TV tower with a height of 550 meters. While walking around the city, the author draws attention to an important detail: clean, washed bedding was hung on the balconies of almost all houses. He turns to the guide with a question: maybe we got to a day when some kind of national celebration is celebrated. To which the guide replies that the Japanese are very clean people, they pay great attention to body cleanliness, wash every day and wash bedding, pillowcases and sheets before each use.

As a scientist, Izimbetov pays great attention to the issues of upbringing, science and education in the “land of the rising sun” as Japan. First of all, he notes that in Japanese families they do not raise their hand against children and do not punish them, children from childhood are taught by parents to have good morals and the basics of morality in society through persuasion and personal example. From the very birth of children, parents accumulate savings for their children's education at universities in the country, since in Japan education is conducted on a fee-based basis, and very expensive. The author wonders how in such a developed country, studying and obtaining higher education costs the Japanese very much. The author attaches great importance to the hard work of the Japanese, their irrepressible energy and everyday life wisdom; they simply do not waste precious time and are surprised to note that everyone is in a hurry somewhere in the cramped but large streets of the city. The author not only shares his impressions with readers but also compares, observes and studies foreign people and mentality, foreign culture and way of life (Izimbetov, 2011, p. 64).

In 1992, the Karakalpak writer Gulaisha Esemuratova visited the United States of America. She wrote the diary “American Impressions” about her trip. During her stay in the USA, she gave a lecture to American students about the history and culture of the Karakalpak people [8]. Since gaining independence, our country has been developing day-by-day cultural ties and friendly meetings between intellectuals and creative people from near and far abroad. One of these trips took place in 1992 to the United States of America by the famous Karakalpak writer and editor of the magazine “Aral Kizlari” Gulaisha Esemuratova. At the invitation of the Director of the Institute of Russian-American Relations, Mrs. Elise Close, she took off from “Sheremetyevo” Airport from Moscow to Washington on October 4, 1992. After a 13-hour flight at Dallas airport, she is met by an employee of ISAR magazine, David Becker, who studied in St. Petersburg and knows Russian perfectly. The first thing that surprises her upon arrival in America is the American roads – smooth, wide and eight-lane, and the endless stream of cars on these roads. And she involuntarily remembers our roads and bridges, compares and thinks. At the same time, she gives an interesting detail: she writes that in every corner of America, there is a large book with car numbers, the names of car owners and their home and mobile phone numbers so that they can call each other and resolve any issues on the spot. When they passed the long bridge in San Francisco (it ranks second in length in the world), the car was slightly delayed in the middle of the bridge near a small booth, in the blink of an eye the car owner paid the tax and in a matter of seconds gets a receipt. When performing this operation, the author admires the Americans' knowledge of their business and at the same time notes the time savings (Esemuratova, 1995, p. 35)

On the 21st day of her stay in the United States, she is invited to give a lecture to American students at the University of Washington at the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Archaeology of Eurasia. First, she introduced the students to the history of Karakalpakstan, our people and living conditions. Her lecture was translated by the Doctor of Ethnographic Sciences, editor of the Journal of Eurasian Anthropology and Archaeology, and Head of the Department of Sociology Marjorie Mandelstam Balzer. As a result, her one-hour lecture is extended by two and a half hours due to the lively and genuine interest of American students in the culture, literature of our people and, of course, the problem of the Aral Sea. According to the author, they were interested in literally everything, what the Karakalpak

people look like, how they differ from other Asian peoples, and what crafts they do. Surprisingly, the students wanted to get answers thoroughly to everything and asked to be explained to them with facts, asked questions one by one and did not let the lecturer go until they received a complete and satisfactory answer. The author writes that these are not all the impressions received from a trip to America; many things can be applied at home, for example, regarding education. In the USA, children are taught according to their level of capacity for science.

According to the author, everything in life is considered in comparison, some questions apply to us and there are not so many. Along with the achievements of Americans, she notes the problems of incurable immunodeficiency diseases and drug addiction that the American people are fighting. She concludes that travel or a trip expands not only the horizons of each person but also enriches his spiritual world because everything is studied in comparison.

In 1970, the Karakalpak poet Maten Seitniyazov visited many parts of the world as part of a creative delegation: Italy, Turkey, Germany, India, Pakistan, African countries such as Sierra Leone and Senegal, and dedicated the book *Travel to Seven Countries* to his trip. The author describes his visit to these countries in a very fascinating way, describing everything he saw as a subtle observer, captivating readers (Seitniyazov, 1990).



Figure 4. M.Seitniyazov's travel diary *Travel to Seven Countries*

The scientist and writer Kamal Mambetov, as part of the Karakalpak intelligentsia, visited India and Sri Lanka in 1988, as well as the Caucasus, and describes what he saw in the book "Travel". K. Mambetov, as part of various delegations, visited many countries of the world in different years. In 1989, when the whole world learned about the environmental disaster of the Aral Sea, the author joined an impressive delegation from the Soviet Union to familiarize himself with the field of education and ethnography of different peoples of the world. His trip to Sri Lanka is of particular interest to the reader, as the author describes the sights and amazing nature of the island of Ceylon. Also, this trip is mainly related to the activities of higher education institutions in this country. According to the author, in the bitter December frosts, the delegation flies from Moscow to the United Arab Emirates, and from there, it gets to Sri Lanka via India (Mambetov, 1993).

The writer Kamal Mambetov, as part of a creative delegation, traveled almost the entire former Soviet Union, according to the author “from the Tien Shan to the Arctic Ocean, from the Far East to the Carpathians” and notes that “then many people saw, except Moscow and Leningrad, the Caucasus, the Baltic States, Siberia, Ukraine and Belarus”. The author begins his travel diary with a description of the majestic mountains of the Caucasus and notes that he had no idea about mountains before the Caucasus, except that he saw the local hills Karatau, Kuskhanatau and Porlitau. The author interestingly describes the picturesque nature of the Caucasus and compares it with the nature of India and Sri Lanka. He writes that in childhood he read with special interest the works *The Caucasian Captive* by L. N. Tolstoy and *Hero of our Time* by M. Y. Lermontov. At the same time, he had an impression of the beautiful nature of the Caucasus. He notes that all talented writers have been to the Caucasus and have written works about it. The author first flies to Baku and takes a train to Sochi to see the nature and views of the Caucasus with his own eyes. Two beautiful mountain rivers Terek and Aragva delight tourists, the author notes that during their stay on the train, it was possible to observe and see the landscape of the cities of Tbilisi and Poti from the carriage window. From this point his journey begins, and the author-traveler admires the orchards with ripe fruits, the beautiful sea and the incomparable picturesque landscape. The unique pictures of nature, in particular dense forests and tall palm trees, delight the author. In the author's travels, a special role is given to the description of nature. He compares his impressions on the antithesis of “my” and “someone else's”. The author is most surprised by the majestic mountains of the Caucasus, in which whole villages live. According to the author, all trees and flower beds are aesthetically planted here, and due to the subtropical climate of the Caucasus, all plants and especially various rare flowers get along here, mostly oranges, tangerines, and tea. He compares what he saw with the nature of Indian Kashmir.

The author speaks warmly about the people who inhabit these areas and are engaged in agriculture. The author conveys such a picture when he watches from the height of the mountains how a little boy with a stick in his hands chasing a baby goat, some kind of car circling nearby, which seemed to him the size of a small beetle, and it all looked like episodes of a cartoon. The author's special admiration is caused by the Black Sea, which stretches far ahead, a beautiful Black Sea landscape. The author compares the city of Gagra with the theatrical scenery of a skilled artist who patiently and lovingly painted all the beauty of the city's nature. The streets of the city are planted with various flowers and seedlings, of which, according to the author, there are more than forty thousand species. The author sees countless nightingales, parrots, and peacocks in gardens and parks and considers Gagra a natural museum, to the city visited more than once by famous personalities, mainly writers and poets.

According to K. Mambetov's observations, after Gagra begins the beautiful resort city of Sochi in the Stavropol Krai (Region). Sochi is located on the seashore and is equally beautiful in winter and summer; the climate is very mild here, especially since the author admires New Athos and Ritsa. He also notes the beautiful view of the “Chaika” Hotel, the “Uzbekistan” sanatorium and the “Znanie” boarding house. According to the author, the shores of the Ritsa are a real holiday for tourists; the views of nature amaze everyone. If Lake Ritsa is located two thousand meters above sea level, then Athos is underground. Here the author recalls the poems of the Karakalpak poet I. Yusupov “Lake Ritsa” and “Beautiful Yupshara”, glorify the picturesque and beautiful view of mountains and lakes. Majestic mountains are located on the sides of the Ritsa. The author describes the amazing nature of Mount Yupshara, where there are many springs and fountains with interesting names: “Tears of Tamara”, “Mountain goat” and “Stallion”. After Sochi, the poet visited the densely populated resort town of Pitsunda, which is filled with vacationers and is not inferior in beauty to either Gagra or Sochi. The author compares the weather conditions of this city with

Tashkent and writes that all state sanatoriums are located in Pitsunda. Scientists, writers, artists, cinematographers and creative intelligentsia relax and improve their health there.

The author colorfully conveys the landscape, climate and flora of the Caucasus. He is fascinated by high mountains, transparent rivers and the shores of the Black Sea. The traveler's movement from one point to another takes place with a description of the coordinates of the area. According to the author's impressions, trees grow on the mountain peaks in Sukhumi, the mountains are completely covered with vegetation and stretch like the Arabian pyramids. According to K. Mambetov, some residents have managed to build palaces for themselves at a bird's-eye height, and it is clear that life is boiling everywhere, even in the mountains. The author attaches great importance to the national cuisine of the Caucasus, he is surprised by the similarity of cooking corn chowder with Karakalpak "Bilamik" (porridge). The author draws attention to the preparation of Caucasian shish kebab, which was smoked on fire in whole pieces and served also in whole large pieces with different side dishes. According to the author, tourists buy kebabs from elderly Abkhazian cooking on a high mountain on the hearth and drink delicious water from the "Blue Lake", which is famous for its clean and delicious water.

At the same time, the patriotic position of the author is observed in the works of the travel genre. In the following travel diary "In the native Nogai region", the author describes his trip to the sanatorium "Sernovodsk". The author involuntarily compares every crossing and every station with our Karakalpakstan. After the city of Grozny, the author goes to Kizlyar, which he compares with our Kungrad.

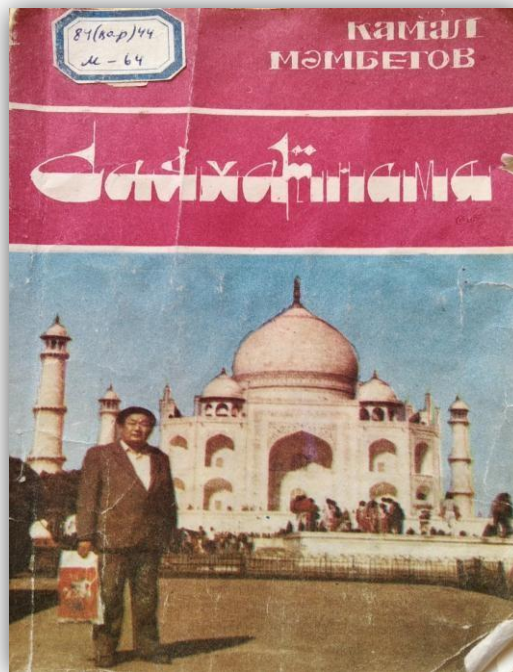


Figure 5. K. Mambetov's travel notes Travel

Then he stops in a small village and visits a museum with stone busts of

L.N. Tolstoy, A.S. Pushkin, and M.Y. Lermontov, a mosaic dedicated to Russian classics who lived here for several months. The museum displayed personal belongings related to these writers. The author likens the surroundings of this region to the nature of his native places – there is a lot of sand and plains, and wheat, corn, jugara and potatoes are grown here from agricultural products. On the way to Dagestan, the author sees houses built in the European



style, but small, village-type. According to K. Mambetov, Dagestan is similar to our Bozatau district, a turangil grove stretches along the road, according to the stories of old-timers, Chechens, Ingush, Avars, Kumyks and Nogais who live here. The people of Kizlyar, like the Karakalpaks, are engaged in animal husbandry and agriculture. According to the author, there is a desert everywhere along the way, and you can't distinguish Nogais from Karakalpaks by their face and conversation. One of the locals receives the author in his house and treats the guest to the national Nogai black tea with milk and fried goose meat, originally aged in salt water in a barrel. The author narrates the same impressions and similar moments in his other diary, *The Homeland of the Ancestors Turkestan*. The author describes in detail his participation in the international conference, where there were guests and members of the delegation from Tatarstan, Bashkiria, Yakutia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan.

Of particular interest is the author's description of the tea plantations of Ceylon in the author's diary "Hello Sri Lanka". Sri Lanka is a small island with the famous cities of Colombo and Kandy. It exports rice, coffee, tea, bananas, oranges, mangoes, and pineapples in large quantities to foreign countries. K. Mambetov talks about the fragrant Ceylon tea and also introduces readers to the plant "pompola", a tincture that splits kidney stones. According to the author, the island of Ceylon contains all the beauty of the world and means "island of beauty" in translation. The beauty of the island amazes every visitor, there is dense green vegetation all around, flowers everywhere – bright red and purple, beautiful waterfalls, and an ocean with huge waves nearby.

As a scientist, the author was also interested in the issues of education and upbringing in local universities. According to the author, at the University of Colombo, education is conducted in two directions: humanities and natural sciences. Each professor has his school of study. For example, languages, literature, history, ethnography and aesthetics are divided into several spheres. If a certain professor or mentor achieves the respect and recognition of students or followers, then this professor is paid two or three times more than other teachers.

## Results

In the *Literature of Travel*, the central figure, the measure of all things is a man, he wanders, gets into unknown states and localities, comprehends their history, geography and ethnography, social structure and laws, sees from the inside other people's living cultures, the life of the people, studies languages. Along with that, spiritually develops and enriches, at the same time, a person comprehends himself on the way, better understands his character, interests, spiritual roots and traditions, his country and his people, and learns everything in comparison. In general, reading the works of the travel genre, we can trace how the hero behaves in different situations throughout his journey; we can see changes in his character, and soul. The journey embodies the idea of spiritual search; the motive of the journey becomes one of the ways to reveal the character of the hero. The most valuable thing that the author-traveler gets from what he sees is a lot of pleasant and useful things; the authors convey to readers a special landscape and the unique nature of the countries they saw. Nature itself occupies a special place in literary travel, gives a magical effect and a beautiful landscape lifts the mood of readers. Therefore, the attractiveness of this genre for writers and its popularity among readers is understandable.

## Conclusion

Thus, the genre of travel is an independent genre of fiction with a certain range of essential features, the main of which is the principle of genre freedom, the central role of the author-narrator, the subjectivity of the author's approach to the depicted event, the synthetics of the genre, the presence in it of elements of other genres of fiction and journalism. This attractive genre will interest readers of all ages who are interested in traveling or voyaging to



various countries of the world to self-discover and compare their lifestyle with the “someone else” and traditions of other countries. A journey or a trip expands not only the horizons of each person but also enriches his spiritual world because in life everything is studied in comparison: “one's own” and “someone else's”. In general, reading the works of the travel genre, readers can trace how a literary hero behaves in various situations throughout his journey; they can see changes in his character and soul. In general, the journey embodies the idea of the spiritual search of the hero, and the motive of the journey becomes one of the ways to reveal his character.

In general, in the works of the travel genre, the motive of the hero's journey is considered in comparison with the motive of return. The author is a traveler who has thought a lot about what he saw, and involuntarily compares “his own” with “someone else's”, as a result, the “other” returns home – “having learned something else” and “having known something else”. Even in folklore, the hero returns to his homeland victorious over enemies or the king of a foreign country, who won an unequal battle in a competition with supernatural forces. In the works of the travel genre, the author is a hero; he compares, learns, and thinks.

### **About the Author**

**Mambetnazarova Rano Kuanishbaevna** graduated from the Faculty of Russian Philology at Nukus State Pedagogical Institute in 1994 with honours. At present I am engaged in scientific work on the theme: "Artistic features of the travel genre in Karakalpak Literature.

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