

COMMUNICATIVE INTENTION IN EPIC TEXTS AND ITS EXPRESSION

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Abstract: This article focuses on the communicative nature of epic texts and analyzes the communicative intention expressed through the author's and characters' speech. In epic discourse, the narration of events is not limited to the transmission of information but also serves to convey ideas, evaluations, and emotional attitudes to the reader. The concept of communicative intention is interpreted within a pragmatic framework, and its main forms of expression in epic texts are examined.

Key words: epic text, communicative intention, pragmatics, speech acts, authorial stance, discourse.

In modern linguistics, a text is interpreted not only as a grammatical structure but also as a complex communicative phenomenon. A literary text, especially an epic one, embodies a multi-layered discourse that reflects not only events but also the author's worldview, evaluations, and communicative intentions.

Communicative intention refers to the speaker's purpose to influence the listener or reader by means of language: to persuade, evoke emotions, shape attitudes, or guide interpretation. In epic texts, this intention is realized through the author's narration, characters' dialogues, inner monologues, descriptive devices, and plot construction.

The aim of this article is to reveal the essence of communicative intention in epic texts and to analyze its main forms of expression from pragmatic and discourse-oriented perspectives.

Pragmatics studies how linguistic units function in real communicative situations. According to J. L. Austin and J. Searle's theory of speech acts, every utterance not only conveys information but also performs an action (requesting, ordering, promising, warning, etc.).

Communicative intention is manifested precisely at this level: when an author or speaker chooses specific linguistic forms, they do so with a certain effect on the reader in mind. In epic texts, communicative intention appears on two levels:

1. **Authorial intention** – the author's aim to express views on society, history, morality, or human nature.

2. **Character intention** – the goals and emotions of characters expressed through dialogue and monologue.

Thus, the epic text becomes a field where different communicative intentions interact and complement each other. Communicative intention in epic discourse is expressed through several key devices:

The author rarely narrates events neutrally. Through epithets, metaphors, and evaluative expressions, the author signals approval or disapproval of characters and actions, guiding the reader's interpretation. Dialogues between characters are the most dynamic means of expressing communicative intention. Commands, requests, threats, consolation, and persuasion reveal characters' motives and emotional states, while also moving the plot forward and engaging the reader.

Through inner speech, the reader gains access to the psychological world of the character. Doubts, decisions, and emotional struggles are presented, creating empathy and reinforcing the author's ideological message. The selection and arrangement of events also serve communicative purposes. By emphasizing certain episodes and minimizing others, the author directs the reader's attention to key ideas and values.

An epic text is not a one-way transmission of information but a form of dialogue between the author and the reader. The reader interprets the author's intention through personal experience, cultural background, and knowledge. Therefore, communicative intention is not always perceived identically by every reader.

The power of epic discourse lies in its ability to engage the reader emotionally and cognitively. The reader evaluates, sympathizes, and draws conclusions, becoming an active participant in the communicative process.

In conclusion, the epic text is a complex communicative structure in which various intentions are realized through authorial narration and character speech. These intentions are implemented through pragmatic means such as speech acts, evaluative language, dialogue, and inner monologue.

Analyzing communicative intention in epic texts allows us to understand more deeply the ideological orientation of the work, the author's stance, and the mechanisms of influence on the reader. Therefore, this approach constitutes an important methodological basis for modern linguistic and literary studies.

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