

**OPEN ACCESS**

SUBMITTED 28 February 2025

ACCEPTED 29 March 2025

PUBLISHED 30 April 2025

VOLUME Vol.05 Issue 04 2025

COPYRIGHT

© 2025 Original content from this work may be used under the terms of the creative commons attributes 4.0 License.

The Philosophy of Life in Samandar Vohidov's Quatrains: Labor, Honesty, And Purity

Saodat Narziyeva

Independent Researcher, Samarkand State University, Uzbekistan

Abstract: The article discusses the significance of poems written in the aruz meter in studying the components of classical poetics. It explores the artistic mastery and thematic range of poet Samandar Vohidov's quatrains through illustrative examples. Unique features of the poet's quatrains composed in the aruz meter are supported with specific instances. The article also provides a literary analysis of his ghazals, which were inspired by earlier classical poets and created in full adherence to traditional norms. Additionally, it examines minor lyrical genres and the artistic imagery used within them.

Keywords: Classical poetics, aruz prosody, rhyme, lyric, quatrain, fard, musallas, rubai, tuyugh, quatrain, qit'a, artistic imagery.

Introduction: Lyric poetry is not just the expression of one's life experiences or emotions through words, but also the depiction of reality, capturing the expression of feelings or emotional experiences within it. In poetry, there are various genres and styles. In classical poetics, there are small miniature genres, including fard, musallas, rubai, tuyuk, to'rtlik (quatrain), and qita, which belong to this category. Quatrains, through short yet meaningful phrases, enrich the reader's world and serve to express emotions, feelings, and life experiences. Small lyrical genres can take the form of a single line, a short poem, an aphorism, or an epigram. Unlike other genres, they are characterized by the expression of internal feelings and psychological states. Among the small lyrical genres, quatrains hold a special place. When describing quatrains, any four-line poem that does not meet the requirements of rubai and tuyuk is referred to as a quatrain or a "mixed" genre. The topics of quatrains are broad, covering all aspects of life.

Poet Jamol Kamol, when discussing the four essential features of quatrains, mentions that these four elements distinguish them from other genres. These are: a) the free expression of the lyric in a spontaneous manner; b) the clear reflection of the subtlest emotions in feelings; c) the harmony between speech-monologue and imagery; d) absolute freedom in meter. Indeed, the rhyme schemes in quatrains are so universal that we encounter patterns like a-a-b-b, a-a-b-a, or a-b-a-b. In Uzbek literature, quatrains have found a significant place in the works of poets such as Hamid Olimjon, Abdulla Oripov, and Erkin Vohidov

METHOD

In recent years, composing in the aruz meter has been regarded as a somewhat rare phenomenon. Quatrains continue to hold their place in literature, even among the new generation of authors. The poet from Bukhara, Samandar Vohidov, who does not limit himself to a specific meter and demonstrates the ability to create freely in various poetic forms, has captured the hearts of readers with his aruz-based poems. His works, created over many years, showcase a diversity of meters and genres. In his collection "Gullayotgan kunlar" ("Blossoming Days"), we can see the elegant brilliance of quatrains that have come to light over the years.

Bir umr mehrimni qalamga tutdim,
Ko'ngil buyurganini baytlarda bitdim.
Umrin adog'ida anglaganim shu,
Nechun she'r yozganim bilolmay o'tdim.

The quatrain genre is a poetic form generally consisting of four lines, characterized by a specific rhythm and melody. This genre holds a unique place in Uzbek literature due to its brevity and rich content structure. Quatrains are often distinguished by their musical tone and the beauty of poetic expression. Typically, they present a concise and clear thought. In quatrains, musical rhythm and melody play a significant role. They usually follow a specific poetic rhythm, which contributes to the smooth flow of the poem. Each quatrain stands out with its light and impactful meaning.

Usually, these poems express themes such as love, nature, and philosophical aspects of life. The quatrain is one of the ancient traditions of Uzbek literature, and many classical Uzbek poets have written in this genre. The quatrain genre first emerged in the poetry of Turkic peoples. In Uzbek literature as well, this genre has been used by many famous poets. For example, Alisher Navoi and other classical poets widely employed quatrains in their works. Their poems are short yet meaningful and profound. The quatrain genre

is distinguished by its traditional style, musicality, and richness of content.

This genre has been enriched and developed into new forms by Uzbek poets over time. Let us now analyze the following quatrain in depth, exploring the meaning of each line and the poetic devices used:

Bir umr mehrimni qalamga tutdim,
Ko'ngil buyurganini baytlarda bitdim.
Umrin adog'ida anglaganim shu,
Nechun she'r yozganim bilolmay o'tdim.

In this quatrain by Samandar Vohidov, great meaning is conveyed through brevity. Each line complements and clarifies the others. The poet expresses his life journey, his love for literature, and the inner emotional process of writing poetry. The poem portrays the poet's devotion to literature, his confidence in his creative voice, and the ongoing search for meaning through his artistic path.

First line: "Bir umr mehrimni qalamga tutdim" — This line expresses the poet's lifelong devotion to literature and poetry. The phrase "mehrimni qalamga tutdim" (I held my love in the pen) metaphorically presents poetry as the primary medium through which the poet has expressed his innermost feelings.

Second line: "Ko'ngil buyurganini baytlarda bitdim" — This highlights the poet's transformation of inner thoughts and feelings into verse. It suggests a deep sincerity and authenticity in his poetry, where the heart dictates what is written.

Third line: "Umrin adog'ida anglaganim shu" — Here, the poet, nearing the end of his life, acknowledges a single profound realization: that his life has been wholly dedicated to poetry and its unrelenting pull.

Fourth line: "Nechun she'r yozganim bilolmay o'tdim" — In this final line, the poet admits that although he has written poetry all his life, the exact reason or purpose behind it has eluded him. It reflects a moment of introspective uncertainty and deep humility.

Despite its brevity, this quatrain is rich in meaning. Let's examine the key poetic devices used:

Metaphor: "Mehrimni qalamga tutdim" — This metaphor emphasizes how the poet channels his love and emotions through the act of writing. The "pen" becomes a symbol of inner expression.

Simile/Reflection (Conceptual comparison): In "Nechun she'r yozganim bilolmay o'tdim," the poet compares his life's journey with a quest for understanding, only to realize he never fully understood the true reason for writing.

Parallelism: The lines "Bir umr mehrimni qalamga

tutdim” and “Ko’ngil buyurganini baytlarda bitdim” show structural and thematic parallelism, both reflecting the poet's intimate relationship with poetry and his internal world.

This quatrain showcases the poet's devotion to literature and how central poetry is to his identity. The final line introduces a subtle shift—despite years of writing, the poet still questions the purpose of his creative drive. This delayed realization adds emotional depth, implying that meaning sometimes emerges only in retrospect.

The rhythm of the quatrain is calm and steady, supporting the introspective tone. The smooth, flowing nature of the lines aligns well with the poem's reflective message. The soft application of the aruz meter enhances the meditative atmosphere.

In summary, this quatrain expresses the poet's enduring love for poetry, his bond with the written word, and the poignant realization that the purpose of his writing remained unclear for much of his life. The poetic devices—metaphor, reflection, and parallelism—enrich its meaning and leave a lasting emotional impression on the reader.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In the quatrain, the poet reflects on life and moral values, labor, and patience.

"If you want to live in this world, be honest and pure,

Do not grieve, even if your heart is torn to shreds.

If not struck by the hoe's blade,

The soil would not be a rose garden but a thorn field."

In the quatrain, the poet speaks about living an honest, pure, and hardworking life. He calls on every person to be sincere and truthful in pursuing the desires of their heart. The poet connects nature with labor, trying to highlight human strength and the role of individuals in society.

First line: "If you want to live in this world, be honest and pure" — emphasizes the importance of choosing the right path in life and maintaining honesty and purity. It implies living cleanly and refraining from lies and wrongdoing. The words "honest" and "pure" reflect national moral values.

Second line: "Do not grieve, even if your heart is torn to shreds" — this speaks of the nobility of one's inner aspirations and emotions. "Do not grieve" encourages striving sincerely for one's heartfelt desires. "Torn to shreds" expresses direct and deep feelings, suggesting the need to be genuine and open-hearted.

Third line: "If not struck by the hoe's blade" — here the poet emphasizes the hardship of labor and how results depend on hard work. The "hoe" is a necessary tool for

cultivating the land, and the poet shows that labor is a process requiring determination and patience.

Fourth line: "The soil would not be a rose garden but a thorn field" — this line shows that without effort, the soil cannot yield anything fruitful. If one neglects the land, it remains barren—represented by thorns, not roses. The poet stresses that any transformation in life can only be achieved through persistent effort.

Poetic Devices:

Metaphor: "The soil would not be a rose garden but a thorn field" — this metaphor suggests that without labor, growth and development are impossible. "Rose garden" symbolizes productivity and progress, while "thorn field" represents negligence and unproductiveness.

Simile (comparison): "If not struck by the hoe's blade" — the poet compares the difficulty of labor and the futility of efforts without action. He emphasizes that change is impossible without effort.

Imagery: The word "soil" represents not only a physical space but also the potential for transformation through human labor. It is portrayed as a place that can be changed through work and care.

The rhythm of the poem is simple and clear; each line flows well with the others. This rhythmic structure helps the poet clearly and vividly convey his message. The tone is firm, enhancing the emotional impact of the poem.

The quatrain emphasizes that to achieve success in life, one must be honest, pure-hearted, and hardworking. The poet shows that labor is essential, and without it, nothing in life will change. To realize one's dreams, one must walk the honest path, and on this path, hard work plays a vital role.

In this quatrain, the poet reveals a life truth: only by living honestly and purely, and by working hard, can one achieve their dreams. The artistic devices used in the poem—such as metaphors and similes—convey deep meaning to the reader. The poet's core message is that success in life comes through labor and integrity.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Samandar Vohidov, through his quatrains, uniquely portrays the essential values of life, the inner world of human beings, moral issues, and social concerns. His quatrains especially focus on core values such as labor, honesty, and purity, and the relationship between a person and their inner self.

Each line in Vohidov's quatrains carries deep meaning and significance. With brief yet powerful expressions, the poet reveals the spiritual state of humanity, their way of life, and their goals. The main idea in his poetry

is to convey that achieving success in life requires hard work, honesty, listening to one's heart, and being open to natural changes.

In his poetry, Samandar Vohidov presents honesty and purity as fundamental values. In the line, "If you want to live in this world, be honest and pure," the poet calls upon individuals to live truthfully and straightforwardly. He advises people to maintain honesty and purity in life, and to stay away from evil, lies, and empty words. This line serves not only as a guide for personal morality but also as an important ethical compass for society as a whole.

The poet's thought continues in phrases often found in his poetry, such as "Even if your heart is torn to shreds." Here, he calls on people to listen to the voice of their heart and express their inner emotions openly. Listening to the heart means living sincerely and performing every action wholeheartedly.

The significance of labor holds a special place in Samandar Vohidov's quatrains. In lines such as "If not struck by the hoe's blade" and "The soil would not be a rose garden but a thorn field," the role of labor in life is clearly and vividly emphasized. The poet stresses that one must work hard and be persistent and patient. Without results from labor, no change can occur, and one cannot reach their dreams. He highlights the delicacy of labor, the necessity of determination to gain from the land, and the need for one's efforts to be stable and productive. According to the poet, only achievements gained through hard work are true and meaningful. Therefore, every person must understand the importance of labor in life.

Change and Action in Life:

Another important aspect in Samandar Vohidov's quatrains is the idea of being open to change in life. The poet emphasizes the importance of personal transformation, understanding one's inner world, and being able to endure new challenges. In the line "The soil would not be a rose garden but a thorn field," the poet uses nature and the power of the earth as an example. He shows that the soil can only be transformed through labor and that productivity comes from effort. Through this line, the poet explains that life itself can only be changed through continuous movement and transformation.

Although Samandar Vohidov's quatrains are short, they contain deep reflections on the most fundamental issues of humanity. Honesty, purity, labor, and change are the core ideas in his poetry. By embedding these values into his verses, the poet encourages readers to be honest, sincere, and hardworking. Each line contains profound thoughts about the inner world of a person, their goals, and their role in life, providing the

reader with new insights about existence.

Vohidov's quatrains are not only artistic expressions of literature but also serve as valuable moral guides that influence the human spirit.

REFERENCES

- Hojiahmedov, A. (1998). *Uzbek Aruz Dictionary*. Tashkent: Sharq. (p. 3)
- A'zam, A. *Aruz: Lessons from Alisher Navoi and Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur*. – Tashkent: Publishing House of the National Library of Uzbekistan named after Alisher Navoi, 2006. – p. 7.
- Sources of Classical Eastern Poetics in the Interpretation of Hamidulla Boltaboev. Vol. 1. – Tashkent: Uzbekistan National Encyclopedia, 2006. – pp. 33–34.
- Introduction to Literary Studies. Authors' Collective. – Tashkent: O'qituvchi Publishing House, 1979. – p. 191.
- Fitrat, A. *Selected Works: Textbooks, Teaching Aids, Scientific Articles and Studies*. – Tashkent: Ma'naviyat, 2009. – pp. 53–54.
- Vohidov, S. *Longing for the Vastness*. – Samarkand: Zarafshon, 1991. – p. 98.
- Vohidov, S. *Longing for the Vastness*. – Samarkand: Zarafshon, 1991. – p. 135.
- Vohidov, S. *You Are in My Thoughts (Poems, Ghazals, Mukhammases, Epic Poems)*. – Bukhara: Bukhara, 1997. – pp. 149–150.
- Vohidov, S. *You Are in My Thoughts (Poems, Ghazals, Mukhammases, Epic Poems)*. – Bukhara: Bukhara, 1997. – p. 150.
- Hojiahmedov, A. (2018). *Foundations of Aruz Theory*. Tashkent: Akademnashr. (p. 5)