

ABSTRACT

The diploma thesis deals with the revision of Renaissance values in the works of Orlando Furioso and The Ingenious don Quixote de la Mancha. The first part is focused on the identification of contemporary Renaissance values. The main part of the thesis is devoted to the analysis of the two works mentioned above. The last part refers to the comparison of these works in the context of the laid out Renaissance values.

The analysis and subsequent comparison of the two works shows that the chivalric theme, with which both authors work, changed already in the second half of the 15th century, and works that parody this genre appeared. Both authors portray realities different from the idealized world of Breton novels. The ideals are unattainable and unrealistic in both works, the characters move in a world that does not belong to them, they only live in it with a feeling of loss and alienation. At the same time, they are no longer idealized representatives of certain groups, and therefore they can make mistakes, they can behave contrary to moral principles and chivalric virtues, they also act on the basis of their inner motivations, wishes, weakness or fear.

The stories of ordinary people and soldiers who solve their problems and desires also come to the foreground. We get to the essential questions of human life not only with the help of these "minor" characters.

In particular, love, friendship, freedom and death are the essential motives and values in both of these literary works. It is obvious that the works are influenced by Christianity, which was the dominant religion at the time of their creation. Nevertheless, we find polemical comments about this particular religion in them.

Both works are formally and thematically detailed and can be described as the pinnacle of Renaissance literature.

KEYWORDS

Renaissance, Orlando Furioso, The Ingenious don Quixote de la Mancha, Values, Parody of Chivalric romance