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# LINGUISTIC FORMS OF EXPRESSION OF TIME AND SPACE CATEGORIES IN ABAI'S POEMS

The article reveals the meaning of the chronotope in the poems of the poet Abai Kunanbayev. The ways of their manifestation through linguistic elements and features of their reflection from a cognitive point of view are described. At the same time, the main functions of the chronotope are differentiated in the transmit of the image of the author, his idiostyle and national knowledge from the point of view of cognitive science. The connection between the category of time-space and the process of cognition in the works of the poet is determined by modern scientific research. The problem, which makes it possible to trace the aesthetic searches of the writer, to study the problem of the chronotope, the originality of the world work, the concept of reader, is analyzed. The attitude of the writer to the reality, the author's position were also considered. The last one is analyzed in detail on the example of language units that reflect the spatio-temporal meanings, which are the characteristic features of the poetry. The factors influencing on the national cognition of the reader are determined. The poems of the writer, such as "To Gabidulla", "We grew old, we grieve, and the dream is gone", "Olsem ornym kara zher syz bolmay ma ?!" ("When I die, will the black damp earth become my place?!"), "Berkutchi (the hunter, who uses a golden eagle for hunting) goes hunting in the early snows" were first analyzed from the point of view of the chronotope problem in a linguo-poetic context. The author gives specific examples of linguistic means expressing the categories of time and space, which constitute the artistic and stylistic features of Abai Kunanbayev's poetry. Various types of tropes and stylistic figures are analyzed from the point of view of the chronotope. Theoretical conclusions are based on the work of foreign and domestic scientists. For analysis, the authors of the article present an interlinear translation of these poems in English.

Key words: chronotope, idiostyle, space, time, artistic reality

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### Абай өлеңдеріндегі уақыт пен кеңістік категорияларын білдірудің тілдік формалары

Мақалада ақын Абай Құнанбаевтың өлеңдеріндегі хронотоптың мән-мағынасы ашылады. Олардың тілдік бөлшектер арқылы көріну жолдары мен бейнелену ерекшеліктері когнитивтік тұрғыдан сипатталған. Бұл ретте хронотоптың шығармадағы автор бейнесін, оның идиостилі мен ұлттық танымын берудегі негізгі қызметтері когнитивистика тұрғысынан сараланады. Ақын шығармаларындағы уақыт-кеңістік категориясының таным үдерісімен байланысы қазіргі ғылыми зерттеулерге сүйене отырып айқындалады. Жазушының эстетикалық ізденістерін бағдарлауға, хронотоп мәселесін, шығарманың өзіндік әлемін, оқырман концепциясын зерттеуге мүмкіндік беретін мәселелер талданады. Сондай-ақ, жазушының шындыққа көзқарасы, авторлық ұстанымы да қарастырылды. Ақын лирикасына тән кеңістік-уақыттық мағыналарды көрсететін тілдік бірліктер мысалында жан-жақты талданады. Оқырманның ұлттық танымына әсер ететін факторлар айқындалады. Ақынның «Ғабидоллаға», «Қартайдық, қайғы ойладық, ұйқы сергек», «Өлсем, орным қара жер сыз болмай ма?!», «Қансонарда бүркітші шығады аңға» шығармаларындағы хронотоп мәселесі алғаш рет лингвопоэтикалық контексте талданған. Автор уақыт пен кеңістік категорияларын білдіретін, Абай Құнанбаев поэзиясының көркемдік-стильдік ерекшелігін құрайтын тілдік құралдарға нақты мысалдар келтіреді. Құбылту түрлері мен стильдік фигуралар хронотоп турғысынан талданады. Теориялық тужырымдар шетелдік және отандық ғалымдардың еңбектеріне негізделген. Талдау үшін мақала авторлары осы өлеңдердің ағылшын тіліндегі жолма-жол аудармасын ұсынады.

Түйін сөздер: хронотоп, идиостиль, кеңістік, уақыт, көркем шындық.

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# Языковые формы выражения категории времени и пространства в стихотворениях Абая

В статье раскрывается значение хронотопа в стихотворениях поэта Абая Кунанбаева. Описываются способы их проявления через языковые элементы и особенности их отражения с когнитивной точки зрения. При этом дифференцируются основные функции хронотопа в передаче образа автора, его идиостиля и национального познания с точки зрения когнитивистики. Связь категории времени-пространства с процессом познания в произведениях поэта определяется современными научными исканиями. Анализируется проблема, позволяющая проследить эстетические поиски писателя, изучить проблему хронотопа, своеобразие мира произведения, концепцию человека читателя. Также были рассмотрены отношение писателя к действительности, авторская позиция. Подробно анализируется на примере языковых единиц, отражающих пространственно-временные значения, характерные для лирики природы поэта. Определяются факторы, влияющие на национальное познание читателя. Стихотворения поэта, такие как «К Габидулле», «Состарились, горюем, и сон пропал», «Өлсем орным қара жер сыз болмай ма?!» («Когда умру, не станет ли моим местом черная сырая земля?!»), «Беркутчи выходит на охоту в ранних снегах» впервые были проанализированы с точки зрения проблемы хронотопа в лингвопоэтическом контексте. Автор приводит конкретные примеры языковых средств, выражающих категории времени и пространства, которые составляют художественно-стилистические особенности поэзии Абая Кунанбаева. Анализируются разные виды тропов и стилистических фигур с точки зрения хронотопа. Теоретические заключения основываются на работах зарубежных и отечественных ученых. Для анализа авторы статьи представляет подстрочный перевод данных стихотворений на английском языке.

Ключевые слова: хронотоп, идиостиль, пространство, время, художественная реальность.

# Introduction

Time and space form the basis of a work of art. They complement each other; reveal the content and meaning of the work. Artistic time and space in fiction is a kind of picture, a moment, a phenomenon that has firmly entered the worldview and aesthetic position of the writer, not buried in the dust of time, but subjected to a slight delay. That is, to deliver aesthetic pleasure to the reader. The problem that allows a comprehensive analysis of the writer's artistic search, artistic time and space that fits into the artistic world of a work is the concept of a person in a work. It also shows the attitude of the writer to it, the author's position. For example, in the work of Abai Kunanbaev, we conduct a comprehensive study of their close connection, organic unity with an emphasis on real time and abstract time, historical time and mythical time, as well as on real space and abstract space.

In fiction, the time has various peculiarities that are connected to literary texts and the author's goal. Time in the context of the book may have well-distinguished or extremely ambiguous boundaries (for example, events may occur across decades, a year, or a few days), which may be represented in the work, vice versa, it does not correspond to historical or modern time, which is set by the author tentatively.

Time in a work of art can be multidimensional. The character of a literary work, in which there is an author and a reader, and the boundaries: the beginning and the conclusion are both tied to this property of artistic time. As a result, the text contains two time axes. Therefore, when time and space work together, finding harmony, the specific goal of the author is determined. We will analyze it using examples from Abai's poems. The magic of Abai's words is strong. This is mainly due to the tenderness of the poet's soul, his ability to express the truth, albeit bitterly, without compromising the sympathy of other subjects for the anxieties and tragedies of life.

Time and space play a big role in shaping the style of the poet, depending on the worldview and point of view of the author, thereby determining the specifics of creating an individual author's picture of the world, the internal laws of a work of art, being the compositional support of the work, the internal organizer of the disclosure of artistic images, forming an artistic picture of the world.

This is evidenced by Kazhim Zhumaliev's assessment of Abai's works: "And in this imitation, the young talent, who thought that fate only smiled at him, proved that his science and strength are superior to his contemporaries. Abai surpassed in his time all the imitators of the East and argued with the poets themselves, who claimed the title of the pinnacle

of the East. However, when Abai came of age and matured, he did not remain completely under the influence of oriental literature, but critically returned to the ancient Kazakh literature. Of course, before Abai, the Kazakh literary language had a basis and was strong in its own way. The richest Kazakh oral literature, great figures in the history of literature, such as Bukhar, Dulat, Makhambet, will become the pinnacle of literature both in the national context and in the literary language. As Kunanbai, the father of the great poet Abai, said: "what is the superiority of a person is also his disadvantage", the preservation of the national identity of our pre-Abai literature was both an advantage and a disadvantage. It shows the power of our language. The fact that Kazakh proverbs, sayings, parables or poems of Makhambet are not translated into another language was due to the strong preservation of the root position of the language as a national personality" (Abaitanu, 2020: 81].

# Materials and methods

Space is the environment, state, life of the poet in childhood. This is due to the fact that space depends on the moment of existence of motion. The basis of this space is any event, action and place in which events took place, which are reflected in the flow of time. Because the poet cannot return to the past. The scientist A.A. Zhanabekova noted that "Measuring time, when the past never returns, is something alien to historical time, because history itself is measured by the past. If so, then the nonreturn of time is a measure of physical time. Historical time is time in the mind, everything good is left in the past therefore, people must weigh every deed, thoughts on the scales of the past, comprehend it and try to connect with it" (Zhanabekova, 2012: 81). The scientist also clarifies the measurements of time and space. The one-dimensionality of time is manifested in the following: all events occur only in one direction - from the past to the present, from the present to the future. And this happens outside of human consciousness, objectively. In the space of the body, you can move from right to left, from left to right, from top to bottom, from bottom to top, but time cannot be moved later, earlier, from the future to the past. Time does not return. This is its important difference from space. As we can see, time and space differ from each other, and thanks to these differences, they turn objective reality into artistic reality without losing their significance. And the poet very skillfully combined real events and abstract thoughts, taking in parallel two spaces and two times. We have interpreted all these features in poets' poems using methods of descriptive and contextual analysis.

### **Literature Review**

One of the outstanding literary critics M.M. Bakhtin introduced in his studies the term 'chronotope' (time-space) in the 30s of the 20th century. This term used to relate to natural science. Reconsidering this notion in the context of artistic creativity, he introduces the chronotope as a traditionally relevant notion of literature, significant interrelation of artistically attracted space-time relations (Bakhtin, 1975: 81). The concern literary critics in the artistic chronotope was prompted by the wish to grasp what is the world into which a work of art involves us, what is its time, space, social and material environment, what are the rules of psychology and the fluctuation of ideas in it, what are the overall essentials that make individual constituents a single artistic whole. Space and time take a huge place in the formation of a work of art, since the chronotope defines the genre, supplies a compositional structure, and is inevitably connected with the plot, the system of images and motives (Nesterik, 2015: 235). The vital role of this literary notion takes root from the reality that 'artistic space and time serve as forms of existence of the artistic world' (Temirbolatova, 2001: 61).

Linguists have recently started to search chronotope since space and time belong to fundamental notions of philosophy (Askin 1966; Zeman 1971; Aguessy 1977), natural sciences, art (Ivanov 1974). Social and psychological issues of time and space have been considered by Fraisse (1963: 23), humanitarian aspects of these notions have been widely investigated in Meyerhoff (1968: 95) and Stuart-Smith (2003: 8) and Blankson studied them from the angle of exact sciences (Blankson, 2006: 9). In 1960s a new branch which is known as text linguistic arose in linguistic research. At first, it was involved only in the search for means in formal cohesion in the text not engaging the content aspect of the text (Karasik, 2001: 113). In the late 1970s and 1980s, one of the main goals of linguistic was detection and characterization of special text categories. The research of text categories would allow to get full picture about the exact object of discipline, because it's most basic and significant features, since it includes recognizing peculiarities of the text structure, the structure of language units, same and the connections that are fixed between them (Stachel, 2005: 16). The artistic chronotope took a part in the text types discovered by researchers as well. This is the category continuum which is defined as "a certain sequence of facts, events unfolding in time and space". Chronotope is one of the important directions that make "the connection between the text and objective reality, reflected and refracted in the text". As text categories, artistic space and time are used to develop the text's content, form a compositional scheme, express "the flow of artistic reality in time and space," and add concreteness and realism to the portrayal (Bloh, 2001: 13). Let's jump right into artistic time. Let's take a look at this occurrence from the standpoints of literary criticism and linguistics. However, while discussing time in literature, it's important to distinguish between creative time and time as a subject. The time which the writer himself generates in his work is not the writer's concept about time, but rather the time which the writer himself makes in his work. The action of the work takes place in artistic time: its people live and act, and the events represented in it occur. To put it another way, artistic time is a state of being in the artistic universe. It does not accurately reflect realtime events. This is merely a representation, a model of reality that combines the real and the fictional. The interweaving of the properties of several times: real, perceptual, and individual, is referred to as artistic time. The writer creates several types of artistic time based on these times: real artistic time, such as the time of a person's life (physiological time) and cyclic time, psychological time which is the time of the human mental world, and surreal artistic time, such as astral, infernal, magical, mythological, fabulous, fantastic, and the Looking Glass time. A poetic text has a somewhat different typology: special artistic time which is a time associated with the life of a lyrical hero, generalized artistic time which is correlated with the life of any individual, abstraction time which is an empty time of a topic of being, and time-transformation time where an unreal image is a substitute for time.

In Kazakhstani context the notion of chronotope and its reflection in Abai's poetry have been studied by Professor Alua Temirbolat. In her earlier work as "Chronotope problems in modern prose" (2003) she defined the role and function of chronotope in modern literature and analyzed reflection this notion in the works of A. Kim, Paulo Coelho "The Alchemist" and modern Kazakh writers. Later in the monograph "Poetic World of Abai" (2015) A. Temirbolat considered the category of chronotope in Abai' poetry claiming that many of his poetic works are permeated by images with space and time content (Temirbolat, 2015: 108).

### Results and discussion

Analyzing time and space in the poet's verses, setting the task of interpretation, we chose the poem "Ğabidollağa" ("To Gabidulla"). It is one of the Abai's poems that have not become the object of analysis so much. Abai wrote this song as a dedication to a young man named Gabidulla Gabitkhanuly from his village:

Table 1. The poem "To Gabidulla" by Abai and its interlinear translation into English

Original	Transcript in Latin	Interlinear translation in English
		(by authors)
Жазғытұрым қылтиған бір жауқазын,	Jazğytūrym qyltiğan bır jauqazyn,	Breaking snowdrop in springtime,
Қайдан білсін өмірдің көбін азын.	Qaidan bılsın ömırdıñ köbın azyn.	How does it know that life is a lot or a little?
Бәйтеректі күндейді жетемін деп,	Bäiterektı kündeidı jetemın dep,	Envying the poplar, it says I'll get to you.
Жылы күнге мас болып, көрсе жазын.	Jyly künge mas bolyp, körse jazyn.	Drunk on a summer day, if it sees summer,
Күз келген соң тамырын үсік шалып,	Küz kelgen soñ tamyryn üsık şalyp,	Freeze the roots with the onset of autumn
Бетегеге жете алмай болар жазым.	Betegege jete almai bolar jazym.	It won't get to the fescue, it'll die.
(Abai, 2016: 23)		

In this verse, the poet gives time objectively, while space is hidden from the abstract character. And his reader can determine this by time. The main purpose of the work as a whole is to be understandable. And in order to quickly and easily grasp the works of the poet, it is necessary to have knowledge from the life, condition, environment, even from the lexical fund of the Kazakhs. In this

poem, we first get acquainted with the language units expressing time and space. They are: spring, penetrating, life, many, few, poplar, warm day, summer, autumn, my summer.

It is true that death is real. It itself is embodied in the lives of different nationalities through various rites. Let us analyze how the poet conveys this to his reader in terms of time and space.

**Table 2.** The poem "Qartaidyq, qaiğy oiladyq, ūiqy sergek" ("Gone old, we grieve and can't sleep") by Abai and its interlinear translation into English

Original	Transcript in Latin	Interlinear translation in English
		(by authors)
– Жас қартаймақ, жоқ – тумақ, туған	– Jas qartaimaq, joq – tumaq, tuğan –	The young grow old, no is born, the born
– өлмек,	ölmek,	die,
Тағдыр жоқ өткен өмір қайта келмек.	Tağdyr joq ötken ömir qaita kelmek.	There is no fate in which life returns again.
Басқан із, көрген қызық артта қалмақ,	Basqan iz, körgen qyzyq artta qalmaq,	Traces and fun will be left behind
Бір құдайдан басқаның бәрі өзгермек.	Bir qūdaidan basqanyñ bäri özgermek	Everything will change except for one god.
(Abai, 2016: 72)		

In this poem by Abai, a dispute between the concept of number and quality is traced; philosophical conclusions demonstrate the traditions and customs associated with death in Kazakh life, from the point of view of time and space. The poet clearly gives the golden mean of his entire philosophy with the following poetic lines:

**Table 3.** The poem "Ölsem, ornym qara jer syz bolmai ma?" ("If I die, won't my place become black cold earth?") by Abai and its interlinear translation into English

Original	Transcript in Latin	Interlinear translation in English
		(by authors)
Өлсем, орным қара жер сыз болмай ма?	Ölsem, ornym qara jer syz bolmai ma?	If I die, won't my place become black cold
Өткір тіл бір ұялшақ қыз болмай ма?	Ötkır tıl bır ūialşaq qyz bolmai ma?	earth?
Махаббат, ғадауатпен майдандасқан	Mahabbat, ğadauatpen maidandasqan	Will not sharp tongue become a shy girl?
Қайран менің жүрегім мұз болмай ма?	Qairan menıñ jüregım mūz bolmai ma?	Fighting love and betrayal
(Abai, 2016: 82)		Alas, will my heart turn to ice?

There is conscious and clear cognition. At the same time, entering the times of all life, nation, country, destiny, human existence, it reflects the national values and knowledge of the Kazakh people.

The following poem is rich in artistic and aesthetic coloring of definitions and substitutions. The playful nature of this approach is illustrated by the dramatic dynamism of the tragic atmosphere in the work. The referents of coldness, silence, darkness reveal the content of psychology in its uncompromising condensation of images between the two poles of time and space perceived by human consciousness. Emotions

of fear, anxiety, hopelessness, risk are rooted in the philosophy inherent in modernist aesthetics about the impermanence of existence (Dudley, 1996: 200). The indicated persons in the Kazakh language changed to *tūry*, *tūrym* and, having retained their meaning, united with the word *jaz* (summer). Then the meaning of *jazğytūry*, according to the modern understanding, means *before summer*, *beginning of summer*. Consequently, we know the concept of the season preceding the summer season, as a herald of summer. We can say that this word, which characterizes the spring period, is not currently used.

Table 4. The poem "Jaz" ("Summer") by Abai and its interlinear translation into English

Original	Transcript in Latin	Interlinear translation in English
		(by authors)
Жаздыгүні шілде болғанда,	Jazdygünı şılde bolğanda,	When summer was in July
Көкорай шалғын, бәйшешек,	Kökorai şalğyn, bäişeşek,	Green meadow, lily of the valley,
Ұзарып өсіп толғанда,	Ūzaryp ösıp tolğanda,	When they blossomed to their full height,
Күркіреп жатқан өзенге,	Kürkırep jatqan özenge,	To the rushing river
Көшіп ауыл қонғанда;	Köşıp auyl qonğanda;	When the village moved;
Шұрқырап жатқан жылқының	Şūrqyrap jatqan jylqynyñ	galloping horse neighing
Шалғыннан жоны қылтылдап,	Şalğynnan jony qyltyldap,	From the meadow, barely visible back
Ат, айғырлар, биелер	At, aiğyrlar, bieler	Horses, stallions, mares
Бүйірі шығып, ыңқылдап,	Büirı şyğyp, yñqyldap,	Satisfied, breathless,
Суда тұрып шыбындап,	Suda tūryp şybyndap,	Standing in the water, brushing off the flies
Құйрығымен шылпылдап	Qūiryğymen şylpyldap	Tail wagging
(Abai, 2016: 96)		

Abai's poem "Qansonarda¹ bürkıtşı² şyğady añğa" ("Berkutchi goes hunting in Kansonar") is written about the hut.

Table 4. The poem "Qansonarda bürkıtşı şyğady añğa" ("Berkutchi goes hunting in Kansonar") by Abai and its interlinear translation into English

Original	Transcript in Latin	Interlinear translation in English
Қансонарда бүркітші шығады аңға,	Qansonarda bürkıtşı şyğady añğa,	Early in the morning, just before dawn, ber-
Тастан түлкі табылар аңдығанға.	Tastan tülkı tabylar añdyğanğa. Jaqsy at	kutchi goes hunting,
Жақсы ат пен тату жолдас – бір ғанибет,	pen tatu joldas – bır ğanibet,	The fox will be found behind the stone for
Ыңғайлы ықшам киім аңшы адамға.	Yñğaily yqşam kiım añşy adamğa.	the hunter
Салаң етіп жолықса қайтқан ізі,	Salañ etip jolyqsa qaitqan izi, Sağadan	A faithful friend and a reliable horse – what
Сағадан сымпың қағып із шалғанда.	sympyñ qağyp ız şalğanda.	else do you need on a campaign,
Бүркітші тау басында, қағушы ойда,	Bürkıtşı tau basynda, qağuşy oida,	And the clothes are comfortable, gathered.
Іздің бетін түзетіп аңдағанда	Izdıñ betın tüzetıp añdağanda	
(Abai, 2016: 110)		He bravely makes his way through animal
		paths,
		Hearing sensitively catches the sounds that
		come from the valley.
		Down there, already a friend - a beater,
		climbing up the hollow,
		Kicked out the redhead, already drives up
		the thorn bushes.

During the first snowfall, the right time to hunt the huts is called "Qansonar". This is due to the fact that the tracks of the beast are clearly visible on the freshly fallen snow. In this poem, Abai describes interesting moments of the hut with views of nature. Through the hut, he conveys information about the winter of the area inhabited by the Kazakh people and about the secrets of hunting. In the poem, in Qansonar, the hunters took their eagles and, going out to hunt, met a fox and let the eagle go. The fight between the fox and the eagle, the actions of both are depicted convincingly. A. Temirbolat analyzed linguistic means that express chronotope in this poem in detail: "When describing birds, the verbs of the present and future tense are used in the work. This creates a sense of the reader's involvement in the events taking place. The action seems to be unfolding at the moment. The author gives the reader the opportunity to observe the behavior of people and birds." (Temirbolat, 2015: 135).

The elements that define the chronotope in this poem are: Qansonar, on top of a mountain, blue (sky), earth, sky, tomorrow. With these words, the reader can determine the season and time of the hut. The chronotope, expressed through the main language units denoting time, not only reveals the

content of the poem, but also affects the national knowledge and understanding of the reader. That is why the poem takes a deep breath and has a special meaning for the readers.

It is known that the essence of the author's thought lies in the ideals of either a single or a common era and society. "... The text itself does not exist, it necessarily comes out of any context (historical real or conditional)" (Whitrow, 1981: 197). That is why the essence of any work of art is truth. And the world that objectively embroiders it is chronotopic language units. Therefore, through a broad analysis of chronotopic units, it is possible to determine the ideological decision of the author, the image of the author and historical reality.

### Conclusion

Artistic reality, in which the support of the poet's poems underlies, defining artistic time and space. These are linguistic units that weigh this artistic reality with knowledge and decorate it with words. The linguistic forms of expression of the categories of time and space identified in the analysis of Abay Kunanbayev's poems are closely related to the life of the author, his environment

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Qansonar (Kansonar) is a good time for hunting in Kazakh culture, when the tracks of the beast are visible on the first snow (powder). During the qansonar, hunters took with them birds of prey (golden eagle, eagle and others) and greyhounds. Many Kazakh proverbs and sayings are dedicated to Qansonar; there are also customs associated with it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> bürkıtşı (berkutchi) is a name of a person in Kazakh culture who trains golden eagles. The golden eagle is a huge eagle with a wingspan of up to 2 meters. For three thousand years, people in the steppes and mountains have been taming golden eagles for hunting. Only a few hundred people around the world are engaged in training such birds, they call themselves berkutchi.

and lifestyle, worldview of that period. The results of the study showed that the linguistic forms of the chronotope in the poet's poems are found in the faces of nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs that express seasons, addresses, moods. The poet's use of archaic words characteristic of the time in which he lived indicates an abundance of vocabulary. At the same time, the selected poems in determining the functions and artistic features of language forms in the poet's works fully revealed the purpose of the study. In the poem "Ğabidollağa" ("To Gabidulla") we see how masterly poet describes the concept of time, eternity and mortality in human life in comparison with time change, circle and seasons in nature. The concern of aging, inevitability of getting old has been reflected in "Qartaidyq, qaiğy oiladyq, ūiqy sergek" ("Gone old, we grieve and

can't sleep"). The same connection of mankind and nature's time and space, their interconnection is seen in "Qansonarda bürkıtşı şyğady añğa" ("Berkutchi goes hunting in Kansonar"), "Jaz" ("Summer"). Overall, time and space not only reflect the worldview, artistic world of the poet in poetry, but also reflect the image of the era in which the poet lived, reflect the significance of events and historical moments of that period. Through the chronotop, all the facts and secrets of the era in which the poet lived are inherited.

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