

**"THE ALCHEMIST" AND BEN JOHNSON WORKS**

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**Abstract:** *This article vividly reflects the life and work of English writer Ben Johnson and his works. It is wonderful to talk about the work "The Alchemist". This play is a unique performance that adheres to the unity of time, place and action in the neoclassical genre. The play shows more clearly the unity of action in Jonson's plays and also represents the unity of time and space.*

**Key words:** *Renaissance, formal excellence, plot, Alchemist, craft, drama, etc.*

**Аннотация:** *Данная статья ярко отражает жизнь и творчество английского писателя Бена Джонсона и его произведения. Замечательно говорить о произведении «Алхимик». Этот спектакль представляет собой уникальный спектакль, придерживающийся единства времени, места и действия в неоклассическом жанре. В пьесе ярче показано единство действия пьес Джонсона, а также представлено единство времени и пространства.*

**Ключевые слова:** *Ренессанс, формальное совершенство, сюжет, Алхимик, ремесло, драма и т. д.*

**Annotatsiya:** *Ushbu maqolada ingliz yozuvchisi Ben Jonson hayoti va ijodi, uning asarlari yorqin aks ettirilgan. "Alkimyogar" asari haqida gapirish ajoyib. Bu spektakl neoklassik janrda zamon, makon va harakat birligiga amal qilgan o'ziga xos spektakldir. Asar Jonson pyesalaridagi harakat birligini yanada yaqqol ko'rsatib, vaqt va makon birligini ham ifodalaydi.*

*Kalit so'zlar: Uyg'onish davri, rasmiy mukammallik, syujet, Alkimyogar, hunarmandchilik, drama va boshqalar.*

Benjamin Jonson was an English playwright and poet. Jonson's artistry exerted a lasting influence on English poetry and stage comedy. He popularised the comedy of humours, he is best known for the satirical plays such as “Every Man in His Humour”, “Volpone, or The Fox”, “The Alchemist”, “Bartholomew Fair” and for his lyric and epigrammatic poetry. He is regarded as "the second most important English dramatist, after William Shakespeare[1]. Jonson was a classically educated, well-read and cultured man of the English Renaissance with an appetite for controversy whose cultural influence was of unparalleled breadth upon the playwrights and the poets of the Jacobean era and of the Caroline era.

As for the most famous work of the writer, it is definitely the work "The Alchemist". Ben Jonson's satirical comedy The Alchemist is a unique masterpiece that teaches the themes of deceit, greed and sensuality. The plot centers on a face who takes advantage of his master's absence to engage in fraudulent schemes alongside alchemist Subtle and Dol Common[2][3]. Together they trick a number of characters including Sir Epicurus Mammon, Ananias, Tribulation Wholesome, Abel Drugger, Dapper, Castril and Pliant. the context surrounding the performance of "The Alchemist" by Ben Jonson is indeed fascinating. During Jonson's time, Blackfriars was a significant location for theatrical performances, serving as an indoor theater compared to the outdoor Globe Theatre where Shakespeare's plays were often staged. The transition to using Blackfriars as a winter venue by the Globe company in 1609 provided a more controlled environment for performances during colder months.

"The Alchemist" is a satirical comedy play written by Ben Jonson in the early 17th century. Set in London, the play follows the exploits of three con artists: Face, Subtle, and Dol Common. Face, a servant, takes advantage of his master's absence to transform his master's house into a fraudulent operation center. Subtle,

an alchemist, and Dol Common, a prostitute, assist Face in deceiving various characters[6].

The main plot revolves around the trio's schemes to swindle money and goods from a cast of eccentric characters, including Sir Epicure Mammon, a wealthy but gullible nobleman who seeks the philosopher's stone to transform base metals into gold[7]. Other characters ensnared in the con include Ananias and Tribulation Wholesome, Puritan zealots; Abel Drugger, a tobacconist; Dapper, a young law clerk; Kastril, a fiery young man; and Pliant, a widow.

Throughout the play, the characters engage in a series of humorous and absurd situations as they pursue their desires and fall victim to the deception orchestrated by Face, Subtle, and Dol Common. However, their schemes eventually unravel, leading to chaos and comedic resolution.

**Conclusion:** "The Alchemist" by Ben Jonson is a satirical masterpiece that delves into the themes of greed, deception, and human folly. Through the clever manipulation of characters and situations, Jonson creates a sharp critique of society's vices and exposes the absurdity of human desires. The play's intricate plot, witty dialogue, and colorful characters come together to offer a thought-provoking commentary on the nature of ambition and the consequences of chasing after wealth and power. With its timeless themes and sharp humor, "The Alchemist" continues to captivate audiences and serve as a reminder of the enduring relevance of Jonson's work in exploring the darker aspects of human nature.

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