

**RECONSIDERING "THE CHERNOBYL" NARRATION WITHIN THE CONTEMPORARY TENDENCIES
OF ECOCRITICAL WRITING**

The "Chernobyl narration", represented by the post-Chernobyl accident literature, is under study in the thesis within the formation of new Ukrainian ecological consciousness. The diversity of narrative form in writings about the Chernobyl gives critics the opportunity to study their common generic features and define the "Chernobyl genre" which stresses various aspects of the social context of the Chernobyl accident and its aftermath. The stylistic tensions of the "Chernobyl genre" lie in the fact that on the one hand Chernobyl is regarded as a historical event, which many people experienced, but on the other hand this catastrophe is an event which had a much more specific and individualized impact on each author's life. Represented mainly by memoirs and journalistic documentaries, "the Chernobyl genre" deals with the ambiguity at the synchronous level. The research stresses the fact that while speaking about global relations between humanity and science, about morality within the technological progress, the authors of "the Chernobyl genre" try to describe the duality – macrocosmos and microcosmos – of the Universe. The contemporary tendencies of ecological criticism give a specific view on studying the "Chernobyl genre" within the ecocritical narration by stressing the social role of literature in the particular post-Chernobyl situation as well as in the contemporary transitional society which unveils a paradoxical situation – being a tool of explicit political propaganda in the society of that time, while responding to an implicit obligation to cover the real information and true facts about the Chernobyl accident.