

## THE ROLE OF SIR WALTER SCOTT IN ROMANTICISM

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**Annotation:** *The article highlights Sir Walter Scott's role during the Romanticism era and the significance of his works in literature, providing clear examples.*

**Key words:** *England, economic changes, historian, poet, Ivanhoe, King Richard*

**Annotatsiya:** *Maqolada Sir Valter Skottning Romantizm davridagi roli va uning bu davrda yaratgan asarlarini kitoblar uchun o'rni aniq misollar bilan ko'rsatilib berilgan.*

**Kalit so'zlar:** *Angliya, iqtisodiy o'zgarishlar, tarixchi, shoir, Ivanhoe, Qirol Richard*

Romanticism, which was the leading literary movement in England for half a century, was caused by great social and economic changes. The Industrial Revolution, which had begun in the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century didn't bring happiness to the people of Great Britain. During this period England changed from an agricultural to an industrial society and from home manufacturing to factory production. The peasants, deprived of their lands, had to go to work in factories. Mines and factories had changed the appearance of the country. In the cities a large new working class developed. But mechanization did not improve the life of the common people. The sufferings of the working people led to the first strikes, and workers took to destroying machines. This was a movement directed against industrial slavery. Workers, who called themselves Luddites after a certain Ned Ludd who in fit of fury broke two textile frames, naively believed that machines were the chief cause of their sufferings. These actions led to severe repression by the authorities. The Romantic Age brought a more daring, individual and imaginative approach to both literature and life. In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, many of the most important English writers turned away from the values and ideas characteristic of the Age of Reason. The individual, rather than society, was at the center of the Romantic vision. [3,229]

The Romantic writers believed in the possibility of progress and social and human reform. As champions of democratic ideals, they sharply attacked all forms of tyranny and the spreading evils of individualism, such as urban blight, a polluted environment, and the alienation of people from nature and one another. They all had a deep interest in nature, not as a centre of beautiful scenes but as an informing and spiritual influence on life. It was as if frightened by the coming of industrialism and the nightmare towns of industry, they were turning to nature for protection. Or as if, with the declining

strength of traditional religious belief, men were making a religion from the spirituality of their own experiences. Prose in the romantic age included essays, literary criticism, journals, and novels. The two greatest novelists of the romantic period were Jane Austen (1775-1817) and Sir Walter Scott (1771-1832). Their novels drastically different from each other. Sir Walter Scott wrote novels of adventure. He was immensely popular during his lifetime and is now considered the father of the historical novel. Reflecting the Romantic interest in the past, he set many of his novels in old England and Scotland. Scott is considered to be a true product of the Romantic Age . [3]

Sir Walter Scott, 1st Baronet FRSE FSA Scot (15 August 1771 – 21 September 1832), was a Scottish historian, novelist, poet, and playwright. Many of his works remain classics of European and Scottish literature, notably the novels *Ivanhoe* (1819), *Rob Roy* (1817), *Waverley* (1814), *Old Mortality* (1816), *The Heart of Mid-Lothian* (1818), and *The Bride of Lammermoor* (1819), along with the narrative poems *Marmion* (1808) and *The Lady of the Lake* (1810). He had a major impact on European and American literature. [2, 31] *Ivanhoe*. A romance by Walter Scott is a historical novel published in three volumes, in 1819, as one of the *Waverley* novels. Set in England in the Middle Ages, it marked a shift away from Scott's prior practice of setting stories in Scotland and in the more recent past. It became one of Scott's best-known and most influential novels. Set in 12th-century England, with colourful descriptions of a tournament, outlaws, a witch trial, and divisions between Jews and Christians, Normans and Saxons, the novel was credited by many, including Thomas Carlyle and John Ruskin, with inspiring increased interest in chivalric romance and medievalism. As John Henry Newman put it, Scott "had first turned men's minds in the direction of the Middle Ages". It was also credited with influencing contemporary popular perceptions of historical figures such as King Richard the Lionheart, Prince John, and Robin Hood. *Ivanhoe* is the story of one of the remaining Anglo-Saxon noble families at a time when the nobility in England was overwhelmingly Norman. It follows the Saxon protagonist, Sir Wilfred of *Ivanhoe*, who is out of favour with his father for Sir Wilfred's allegiance to the Norman king Richard the Lionheart. The story is set in 1194, after the failure of the Third Crusade, when many of the Crusaders were still returning to their homes in Europe. King Richard, who had been captured by Leopold of Austria on his return journey to England, was believed to still be in captivity [3,233]

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