

15- Elif Şeyma TUNÇBİLEK

Elif Şafak

For some, the Middle Ages tell the centuries that the Church overwhelmed the man. The claim that woman was powerless was frequently emphasized in medieval life. This was more pronounced for a woman writer.

Elif Şafak, one of today's writers, would have suffered from a lower level of women than men and women's education was not welcomed if she had lived in medieval period. As a writer who always reads and researches, she would be disturbed by the misrepresentation of women's mistakes in the books only. In addition, the fact that the books at that time could not be read and understood by the local people was also a big problem. Apart from these, it would not be easy to be a woman living in the medieval England, to ask for equality, the right to education, the right to write as freely as men. Hunger, cold, deaths, the necessity to do business in harsh wild conditions and the worries that filled her heart were the hardest things for a woman. Writing, for Elif Şafak, would have been a charmed talent that made life bearable in the harsh conditions of the Middle Ages. Everything that a woman did related to how it would better men's lives. It would be a very difficult situation for a woman who wants to be a writer who has no authority, power and respectability in the face of men in social life and not even being able to speak to a man. Assuming the effect of religion in the Middle Ages, Elif Şafak would be a religious woman writer and we would see the effect of this when she wrote. When we consider the role of women excluding her writing, she would be a loyal wife to her husband and home.

Despite her lack of validation and suppression, however, she in Medieval literature was certainly present in many works and in various forms.