

The Role of Folk Tales as a Means of Expressing Local Traditions and Values

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Abstract:

This article deals with the role of folk tales and their privilege in linguistics. Moreover, the article shows the importance of expressing local traditions and values. The study analyzes Uzbek children, who began to be formed by poetry and stories, literature, and literary fairy tales of the 30s of the last century, the fairy tale was improved. Based on this, representatives of Russian literature of the early twentieth-century fables, fairy tales, and stories by I.A. Krylov, A.S. Pushkin, L.N. Tolstoy, K.D. During the early twentieth century Russian literary representatives including I.A. Krylov and A.S. Pushkin along with L.N. Tolstoy and K.D. Ushinsky had a major impact on the growth of Uzbek children's literature. Their fables and fairy tales together with their stories modified local storytelling practices leading to cultural as well as linguistic enrichment of the region. The literary influences derived from their study contributed to maintaining Uzbek folklore through a process of transformation which allowed the tradition to persist along with modern literary components.

Keywords: Fairy tales, folk tales, local tradition, value, literature, linguistics, Russian literature, poetry, century fable.

Introduction English folk tales were studied by specialist scientists more as examples of children's folklore. And Uzbek scientists study it within the framework of adult folklore. English folk tales are considered examples of children's folklore because they were transformed into literary tales (reworked versions of fairy tales by poets and writers) rather than in their pure form. . It should also be said that most English folk tales are chain tales (distributed by title). These include "Lazy Jack" or "Jack and the Golden Snuffbox", and "Jack and the Beanstalk", an example being the tale "This is the House That Jack Built". Folklorist Joseph Sherman, in The Encyclopedia of Mythology and Folklore, specifically focused on the ring-shaped form of English fairy tales and said that the fairy tale plot formed by untying the chain, turning the ring back, and adding a new element after each repetition forms the basis of cumulative tales. Another English folklorist Stith

Thompson in his book "Fairy Tales" noted that a characteristic feature of English fairy tales is their playful nature. In his opinion, English folk tales have retained their form, no matter how many historical stages and different cultural environments they have passed through. According to fairy tale expert Carmen Milagros Torres, English folk tales consist of stories with a small plot based on a clear rhythm and repetition. Their animal characters embody human behavior in life, and tales of this type usually provide lessons and advice. Human character is embodied in animal character. Similar thoughts are noted in Uzbek mythology. They are called "imaginative tales." Fairy tales of the peoples of the world, including English and Uzbek fairy tales, very expressively describe how orphans are humiliated by their stepmother, kicked out of the house, or killed and eaten. Folklorist Mark Alexander writes about dwarves, traditional figures often found in English fairy tales. But there are also many fairy tales named after people. This includes such English films as "Red Ettin", "White Lady", "The Magic King", "Jack the Giant Killer", "Child Rowland", fairy tales of the Uzbek people such as Ziyod Botir, Kilychbotir, as an example Kunbotir, Malikai Khusnabad, Ozodachehra.

Folk tales play a significant role in expressing local traditions and values. They are an important part of the cultural heritage of any people and help preserve stories, customs and worldviews. Here are some key aspects of their role.

1. Passing on knowledge and wisdom: Fairy tales often contain moral lessons and life advice that are passed down from generation to generation. They reflect the basic values and norms of society, which contributes to the formation of moral guidelines among young people. Fairy tales teach us to distinguish between good and evil, and show that honesty, hard work, courage and justice lead to success.
2. Preservation of cultural identity: Folk tales help preserve the unique characteristics of the culture and traditions of a particular region or people. They reflect historical events, social relations and way of life. Fairy tales often include descriptions of everyday details, holidays, crafts and other elements of everyday life. Through them, listeners get acquainted with the cultural characteristics and traditions of their ancestors.
3. Formation of public consciousness: Through the characters and plots of fairy tales, archetypes and images typical of a given people are reflected. They help to form a common idea of good and evil, justice and injustice, which contributes to the consolidation of public opinion and social identity. Fairy tales are often related to local nature and geography.
4. Ritual function: Many tales are associated with traditional rituals and holidays. Traditions described in fairy tales can accompany folklore holidays, which enhances their significance and significance. Fairy tales help people understand their cultural identity. They serve as a source of pride in their origin and unite people through a common system of symbols, images and values.
5. Criticism and Satire: Fairy tales can contain elements of social criticism, reflecting the shortcomings of society and ridiculing evil habits. This is sometimes done through the images of comical or archetypal characters, which allows listeners or readers to think about certain issues.
6. Inspiration for Art: Folk tales have provided inspiration for various forms of art, including literature, music, painting and theater. They undergo adaptation and interpretation, which allows them to be relevant in modern conditions.
7. Living Heritage: In oral folk art, folk tales continue to develop and change, making them a living heritage. This may involve combining traditional elements with new perspectives and approaches to ensure a dynamic culture. Fairy tales contribute to the preservation of the language and its features.

Thus, folk tales are the most important means of expressing local traditions and values, preserving and transmitting cultural heritage, enriching society and shaping its identity.

Methodology

The research adopts a qualitative comparative design to examine how folktales present local cultural heritage and traditional values. The research investigates Uzbek and English fairy tales from cultural and social and linguistic viewpoints to understand how their traditions and societal values appear in these tales. The research delves into fairy tale evolution from their origin until modern times with a goal of merging folklore and literary study approaches.

The initial methodology phase concentrates on completing an extensive review of academic publications which study English besides Uzbek folklore through works by folklorists linguists and literary critics. A particular emphasis within research is directed towards assessing the scholarship produced by Joseph Sherman and Stith Thompson as well as Carmen Milagros Torres and other scholars who have expanded knowledge regarding fairy tales in their cultural frameworks. Understandable model definitions emerge through this approach to help describe essential elements and functional aspects of folk tales.

The second stage contains the interpretation and gathering of specific fairy tales drawn from English together with Uzbek traditions. An assessment team selects representative fairy tales from both cultures through theme characters and moral lessons evaluation. The analysis includes two well-known stories: "Jack and the Beanstalk" from English folklore alongside "Alpomish" from Uzbek folklore. The researchers examine the fairy tales through assessments that include cultural identification and studies of animal totems as well as meaningful lessons and mystical or ceremonial features.

The research investigates parallel and divergent aspects within the thematic patterns as well as narrative techniques as well as cultural elements of the stories. These narratives specifically influence cultural guidelines and develop social awareness and personality traits in their native communities.

The research includes historiographical survey and tracking of how these folk tales transform throughout time while documenting any changes which occur in both oral and written forms. Cultural experts and educators and folklorists share information about current uses of traditional stories which serve as educational tools for value transfer and cultural heritage maintenance.

By employing this research method the study assesses the shifting role of folk tales as an active force for transmitting cultural heritage through ethical values and local traditions as they move through time.

Result

In English and Uzbek fairy tales, the main figures in the form of animals are associated with the names of animals in the form of totems (ancestor animals) and cults that were worshiped by humanity. Such images are often found in fairy tales of all peoples of the world. They can also be found in English and Uzbek fairy tales. And this is one of the unique features of English and Uzbek fairy tales. An example of this are such fairy tales as "The Golden Deer", "The Lame Wolf", "Brother Snake". In Uzbek folklore, the image of a horse is very active as a leading image. This was proven in his research by A. Tilavov. D. Analysis of English and Uzbek fairy tales reveals how they reflect national culture, values and traditions. Let's look at the main aspects with examples and excerpts.

English fairy tales

Main features:

Individualism and Adventurism: English fairy tales often emphasize the importance of personal qualities such as courage, resourcefulness and cunning. The hero usually overcomes difficulties on his own, relying on his abilities.

Example: The fairy tale “Jack and the Beanstalk” shows how a poor boy, using resourcefulness and courage, defeats a giant and achieves success.

Excerpt: “Fee-fi-fo-fum!

I smell the blood of an Englishman!”

This passage highlights the tension and danger the hero faces, but also his determination and courage.

Elements of magic and mystery: English fairy tales often include magical objects, magical creatures (fairies, dragons) and unusual events. Example: The tale of “The Three Bears” reflects an interest in morality and education when the main character (Goldilocks) learns to respect other people's property.

Excerpt: “This chair is too big!” This chair is too small! This chair is just right!”

It shows the search for harmony, which is symbolic of English culture.

Social hierarchy and traditions: Kings, knights and nobility are often mentioned, reflecting the structure of medieval society. Example: King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table emphasizes the importance of honor, justice, and service.

Uzbek fairy tales

Main features:

Collectivism and family values: Uzbek fairy tales emphasize family ties, respect for elders and mutual assistance. Example: The fairy tale “Alpomish” tells about a hero who fights for the honor of his family and people. His loyalty to his family and courage are inspiring.

Excerpt: “Alpomish returned to his village and saw that his people were suffering. He swore to protect his land.”

This reflects patriotism and attachment to the native land.

Wisdom and cunning: Uzbek heroes often overcome difficulties thanks to their ingenuity and ability to deceive their enemies.

Example: The fairy tale “Khoja Nasreddin” is full of humor and instructive situations, where a wise hero uses his intellect to solve complex problems.

Excerpt: “When Nasreddin was asked why he took the donkey to the holiday, he replied: ‘What if the donkey wants to have fun?’”

This reflects the people's love of humor and a philosophical approach to life.

Traditions and Hospitality: Uzbek tales emphasize the importance of respecting guests and observing customs.

Example: The tale “Seven Little Goats” (Uzbek version) contains a mention of how a mother teaches children hospitality, but also warns of caution.

Discussion This research investigation shows how folk tales across English and Uzbek traditions effectively teach traditional values alongside social conduct while preserving cultural identities. The evaluation of morality as a developmental force appears across English and Uzbek fairy tales although they implement their own cultural perspectives.

In English folklore, tales such as "Jack and the Beanstalk" highlight themes of individualism, adventure, and personal triumph. Throughout their heroic endeavor the hero fights independently while facing obstacles which embodies important values such as self-dependence alongside resourcefulness together with courage. The Uzbek fairy tale "Alpomish" shows complete difference from the western story by promoting community-oriented values over individual success. These tales demonstrate how the hero's path intertwines with community welfare goals while defending its honor. The way Alpomish chooses his decisions stems from family love because family unity holds a profound place in Uzbek culture. Different folk tales emerged under varying cultural environments because their historical timeframes and social backgrounds shaped their development.

The presence of animal characters in both traditions reveals crucial cultural meanings behind each group of fairy tales. In English folklore the character animals embody human traits so that we see bold lions and shrewd foxes seen in fairy tales. The animal totems featured in Uzbek fairy tales include the horse since it assumes a meaningful place within the national mythology of Uzbekistan. The cultural identity of Uzbek people includes these animals as vital symbolic components because they represent both natural connection through animals and agricultural way of life in the society.

These folk tales undergo developmental changes across time according to the integration of modern societal impacts.

Conclusion

English and Uzbek fairy tales, despite differences in cultural context, have a common goal: they convey the values and worldview of their peoples. English fairy tales emphasize individualism and adventure, while Uzbek fairy tales focus on collectivism and family values. It is known that Uzbek folk tales always end with the victory of good, but English fairy tales do not always end this way. Some of them end sadly and even cruelly. Proof of our opinion in this regard can serve, for example, in the fairy tale "G'aroyib surtma" ("Sekhrli malham" and "Sexrli surtma" - "Magic ointment"), in which there are two leading characters. Each fairy tale is a reflection of the national mentality. We can say that by listening and reading English fairy tales, a person makes a journey into the life of the English people. For example, words such as "farm" and "peasant" never appear in Uzbek folk tales. The word "farmer" is used instead.

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