

## THE ROLE OF FOLKLORE IN THE FORMATION OF UZBEK LITERATURE

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**Annotation.** This paper attempts to comprehensively analyse the role of folklore in the formation of Uzbek literature. Using the methods of comparative-historical and cultural analysis, the author explores the relationship between folklore motifs and literary works of different epochs. On the basis of the study, conclusions are drawn on how folklore continues to influence modern Uzbek literature.

**Keywords:** Uzbek literature, folklore, oral folk art, influence of folklore, literary language, genres, themes, classics of Uzbek literature, modern Uzbek literature.

### INTRODUCTION

Uzbek literature, rich in its traditions and deep roots, is inextricably linked with folk art. Folklore, as an inexhaustible source of inspiration, has had a great influence on the formation and development of Uzbek literature. Many plots of classic works of Uzbek literature are derived from folk tales, legends and epics. The images of bogatyrs, sages and cunning villains taken from folklore have become archetypes that have been used and developed by subsequent generations of writers.

Vivid, figurative expressions, proverbs and sayings characteristic of folklore have enriched the literary language. Folklore has given Uzbek literature its unique colour, melody and expressiveness. Love, friendship, honour, courage and justice are eternal themes that permeate both folklore and classical Uzbek literature. Folklore defined the range of problems that worried the people and set the tone for subsequent generations of writers.

Mythological notions embedded in folklore have had a profound influence on the worldview of Uzbek writers and have been reflected in their works. Images of spirits, mythical creatures and symbols of nature have become an integral part of the literary heritage.

Folklore is not just a treasury of folk wisdom; it is a living organism that is constantly developing and enriching itself. Thanks to its close connection with folklore, Uzbek literature retains its originality and relevance, continuing to inspire new generations of readers.

### MAIN PART

The connection between Uzbek literature and folklore is a rich and multifaceted

topic that requires careful study. Let us look at a few specific examples of works and analyse how folklore traditions are reflected in them:

1. The epic "Kör-ogly" is one of the brightest examples of synthesis of folklore motifs and literary techniques. The plot is based on motifs typical of folklore: the confrontation of good and evil, the hero's trials, the search for love. Folklore images are widely used in the epic: a bogatyr, magic animals, a wise old man. Symbolism of nature, mythological elements - all this gives the work a special depth and expressiveness. The epic "Kör-ogly" combines elements of fairy tale, bylina and legend. This is characteristic of many folklore works, which often overlap in terms of genre.

2. Tales of Nasreddin Afandi are a treasure trove of folk wisdom and humour. They reflect social problems and everyday situations that were topical for the people. Many situations in which Nasreddin finds himself are typical of folklore tales: he finds himself in a difficult situation, but thanks to his ingenuity and wit he comes out of it victorious. Afandi's tales of Nasreddin carry a deep educational meaning. They teach us to be clever, resourceful and fair.

3. Navoi's lyrics make extensive use of motifs of love, separation, and the beauty of nature, which are traditional for oriental poetry. These motifs have deep roots in folk poetry. In his philosophical works, Navoi addresses the eternal questions of existence and the meaning of life, which is also characteristic of folklore philosophy. Navoi actively uses folklore images, symbols and metaphors in his poetry, which gives his works a special expressiveness and depth.

4. Modern Uzbek writers often refer to folklore plots, reinterpreting them in the context of modern reality. Folklore motifs are used to create new images, situations and conflicts. Modern works often combine traditional folklore elements with modern literary techniques.

The process of transformation of folklore motifs in works of literature is a fascinating journey that allows us to trace how folk tales, legends and myths acquire new meanings and forms in the hands of writers. Let us look at this process in more detail. Each writer brings his unique perspective, his emotions and experiences to a folklore story. This leads to the fact that the same motifs can be interpreted in different ways. The era in which a writer lives has a significant impact on his work. Social changes, political events, cultural trends - all this is reflected in his works and inevitably affects the interpretation of folklore motifs. Different literary genres imply different ways of using folklore material. For example, in a fairy tale the emphasis may be on magical transformations and fantastic events, and in a novel - on psychological elaboration of characters. A writer always targets a specific audience, and this affects how he or she will adapt folklore material.

Folklore plots and images are reinterpreted in accordance with modern realities. For example, fairy tale creatures may acquire new features and functions. Folklore motifs are used to express deeper ideas and philosophical concepts. Folklore stories may be ironically reworked, allowing the author to ridicule social ills or create a comic effect. Folklore images can take on symbolic meaning, reflecting broader cultural and historical contexts.

Folklore, as an inexhaustible source of inspiration, has had a profound influence on the development of all genres of Uzbek literature. Let us take a closer look at how this influence was manifested in various genres:

1. Epic. It is in the epic that the connection with folklore is most clearly expressed. Epics, such as "Kör-ogly" and "Alpamysh", are essentially literary processing of folk tales. Over time, the epics transformed folklore motifs. For example, the images of heroes became more complex and psychologically deep. The epics fulfilled an important social function, reflecting historical events and conveying the values and ideals of the people.

2. Fairy Tale. Folk tales served as a basis for the creation of many literary fairy tales. Writers developed and supplemented folk stories, creating new images and situations. As in folklore, literary fairy tales carried an educational function, forming moral values in readers. The literary fairy tale was enriched with new genre varieties, such as philosophical fairy tale, satirical fairy tale and others.

3. lyrics. Folklore motifs of love, nature and separation are widely reflected in the lyrics of Uzbek poets. Poets used folklore imagery, proverbs and sayings, which gave their poems a special expressiveness. The lyrics reflected social problems raised in folklore, such as injustice, poverty and love for the homeland.

4. Novel. Folklore stories were often used as the basis for novels. For example, historical novels relied on folk legends and tales. Writers created vivid, memorable characters using folklore archetypes. The novels reflected the social problems raised in folklore, such as the struggle for justice, defence of the native land.

5. Dramaturgy. Dramaturgy often used folklore characters such as Nasreddin Afandi who became the heroes of plays. Playwrights used folklore plots to create poignant works. Playwrights used folklore techniques to satirise social phenomena.

## CONCLUSION

Folklore plots were adapted to new historical conditions and readers' needs. Folklore images acquired symbolic meaning, expressing deeper ideas. Folklore motifs were used to create comic effect or to satirise vices.

Folklore has had a great influence on the development of all genres of Uzbek literature. It has served as a source of inspiration, plots, images and language. Thanks to folklore, Uzbek literature has retained its originality and national flavour.

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