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PECULIARITIES OF PLANTS DESCRIPTION IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK RIDDLES

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ABOUT ARTICLE

Key words: Riddle, folklore, metaphorical riddles, cultural aspects, pun, contemporary riddles, old riddles.

Received: 02.01.2024 **Accepted:** 07.01.2024 **Published:** 12.01.2024 Abstract: As being, one of the most important types of folklore riddle is considered to be an international genre. Riddles encourage people to see things in different way. They define natural phenomena, personified animals and plants, household objects and give much information about our country to the whole world and at the same time inform us with the culture of the TL. While knowing foreign languages is so urgent, comparing foreign language folklore with the native one. finding out similarities divergences is also an important task.

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This article portrays specific features of English and Uzbek riddles. The article can be helpful to get enough information about riddles for students and researchers in education. By comparing English and Uzbek we can reveal the main linguocultural differences of riddles.

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INTRODUCTION

A person expands his scope of knowledge and thinking and enriches his intellectual potential on the basis of various sources and information. Folklore of any nation is a part of the world heritage that full of cultural sources. Riddles are related to small genres of folklore, and thus are included in the world heritage. It is known that the essence of a riddle is a question hidden between subjects, the answer to which is to tell the name of the puzzled object or natural phenomenon or reality through images. Riddle is one of the ancient and popular genres of folklore. It shows the people's dreams, thoughts and world of view. Its distinctive feature from other folklore genres is that it demands an answer to a question that makes a person think. They are strongly associated with human employment and attract the attention

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of people by their wealth, democratic essence of put into them ideas, suddenness of situations more than one century. English riddles have a lot in common with proverbs and sayings in content and artistic form. English riddles have some literary origin, but this fact may be called into the question because of the modern look of riddles. English riddles appeared in verse in Old English poetry or in Old English literature. Manuscript in Old English (The Exeter Book) kept about 60 riddles in verse, which are related to Old English literature. Old English literature riddles had two goals. Firstly, to interest and intrigue the audience. Secondly, provide information, which in future will be useful for the successful usage or understanding of poetic language[10].

In contrast to English riddles, Uzbek riddles are similar in size and shape to proverbs. In riddles, information is given about the shape, size, color, function and similar characteristics of the object to be found, but these symbols are connected to something else using the art of metaphor.

Zubayda Husainova, who thoroughly studied Uzbek folk riddles, divides them into two large groups: "Traditional riddles" and "Modern riddles" [4]. In the first group totally 21 topics are collected such as Heaven, earth, water; natural phenomena, season and season; a person, his organs and characteristics. The modern riddles include electrical engineering, radio engineering, school and educational tools – a total of 9 topics.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Scientists have put forward different views about its appearance, ancient function and initial form. Being one of the readable folklore genre riddles are studied and collected by many scholars. Vinkin de Vorde, T.A.Salovyeva collected English riddles, Oxunjon Safarov, Toʻra Mirzayev, Darmon Oʻrayeva learned Uzbek riddles[1].

E.B.Teylor, Frederik Tupper made analyses on old and contemporary English riddles[8]. According to Taylor, English famous scientist, the riddle appeared together with the proverb in the history of culture, and the most successful period corresponds to the lower and middle stages of civilization. As they say, a riddle is not a modern word game in the form of a traditional question-and-answer, which usually leads to humor, but it is an ancient task that requires a serious answer.

Pitre gives following definition to the riddle: "The riddle is an arrangement of words by which is understood or suggested something that is not expressed or else it is an ingenious and witty description of this unexpressed thing by means of qualities and general traits that can be attributed quite as well to other things having no likeness or analogy to the subject. This description is always vague, so vague indeed that he whose task is to find the riddle solution ponders over one or the other significance. Often the interpretation is hidden under the veil of a very remote allegory or under graceful and happy images" [4].

Frederik Tupper says that this definition has a scientific content and is a perfect definition[2]. The professor studies the work of Aristotle after getting acquainted with the history of riddles. According to him, the close connection between riddle and metaphor was shown by Aristotle for the first time. While researching riddles, he gives clear rules for studying riddles under five headings. These are the following:

"The Comparative Study of Riddles";

"Originals and Analogues of the Exeter Book Riddles";

"The Holme Riddles";

"Riddles of the Bede Tradition";

"Solutions of the Exeter Book Riddles".

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We can easily distinguish two main types of riddles in both English and Uzbek languages. There are two types of riddles according to the object's existence period, i.e. riddles dated back to the period when this or that object was in use.

- 1. Ancient-traditional-riddles:
- 2. New riddles.

Besides, English riddles include metaphorical riddles, game riddles, puzzles, old English riddles and contemporary English riddles. While Uzbek riddles consist of interrogative riddles, single-component and multi-component riddles, numerical riddles, prose riddles, poetic riddles.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS. Riddles are based on people's ancient beliefs, imagination, and desire to know the world. The riddles of each nation are the product of that nation's thinking and provide information about things and events. Riddles reflect the lifestyle, traditions and customs of that people. The history of the puzzle is directly related to the history of human society. Based on this, farming, animal husbandry, weapons, natural phenomena, plants, animals, insects are expressed in a unique poetic way in riddles. Uzbek riddles are also diverse in terms of their content and compositional construction. Riddles depicting the world of plants also have their own characteristics in terms of content and form. For example, riddles can have one or more components depending on the amount of the component.

Oʻzi shirin, tukligina

Mazasi bor totligina (peach) [4]

This puzzle has one component, that is, there is only one answer to be found. The focus is on the shape and taste of the object.

The composition of multi-component riddles include of two or more components. In this case, a separate definition is given for each item requested to be found.

Bir onadan yuz bola,

Yuzovi ham bo'z bola (vine, grape) [4]

Here the branches of the vine are compared to the mother, and the grape itself is compared to the child that arose from vine.

Most of English riddles which describe plants, fruits or vegetables consist of one component:

Little, old, uncle, dressed in brown

Take off his coat...

How the tears run down (onion) [11];

A skin have I, more eyes than one

I can be very nice, when I'm done (potato) [12].

Most of the English riddles use puns. This will make the puzzle more lively, interesting and attention-grabbing. It is also very effective in sharpening a person's mind.

What flowers does a person always carry? (lola, tulips (two lips) [6]

Occasionally, there are similarities within the depiction of plants in both languages, their puzzles are similar or exactly the same.

The outside is a shell,
The inside is a meat,
It grows in a tree,
And is good to eat (nut) [6].

Kichkina tandircha, Ichi toʻla kulcha. U yoni togʻ, bu yoni togʻ Oʻrtasida sarigʻ yogʻ (nut) [3]

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There are also such riddles that the definition given in one language corresponds to another subject in another language. For example, the riddle of cabbage in English corresponds to the riddle of onion in Uzbek. The definition is the same but the solution is different.

Hundred shirts, and all without buttons. What is it? (a cabbage) [12]

Qirq koʻylagi bor, tugmasi yoʻq.(onion) [4]

In contrast to thematic theme of Uzbek and English riddles there are some plants which are peculiar for each language. It depends on the geographical location, climate of the countries. As the solution of such riddles unfamiliar for reader, so it could be found unknown depiction of phenomena as well.

Yerdan koʻkarib chiqar,

Bag'ridan oltin oqar (cotton) [4].

Ko'm-ko'k tusi,

Xushbo'y isi (rayhon, basil) [5]

Cotton has been considered the national wealth of the Uzbek people since time immemorial. In the world of Uzbek riddles, the topic of crops and plants cannot be imagined without cotton. It is also grown in other hot countries. There is also a riddle about cotton in English. However, it was translated into English from Spanish.

What is the plant?

To which one must say something

So that it later gives you a gift[11].

Due to the climate and geographical location of the English people, some of the plants can become unique only for this nation. Unlike Uzbekistan, England has a tropical climate. Different types of tropical fruits grow there, so there are riddles with such fruits. In the world of Uzbek riddles, we do not find riddles about tropical fruits given below.

I am a tropical fruit that is soft and bright orange on the inside. I taste very sweet. My name rhymes with "Maya" (papaya).

I am fruit that is very spiky on the outside and yellow, soft and juicy on the inside. I have "Apple" in my name, but I am not an apple! (pine apple) [13].

CONCLUSION

Riddles in Uzbek and English languages are differentiated according to their form and by nature of their content. In both languages the process is described in a mysterious and sometimes playful way. The differences are seen in defining objects using the word-stock of languages. As well as there are some plants which are peculiar for each language. All, in all, riddles play a big role in Uzbek and English folklore genre inspite of divergences in their form and content. Riddles help to train children's mind, to improve their intellectual skill and always attract their attention.

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