

THE ALLEGORY USED IN GULHANIY'S WORK "ZARBULMASAL"

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Abstract. The allegory is a prominent literary device used to convey complex moral and social meanings through symbolic figures and narratives. In the work "Zarbulmasal" by the Uyghur poet Gulhaniy, allegory plays a crucial role in expressing ethical values and social criticism in an accessible manner. This article examines the function of allegory in "Zarbulmasal," analyzing its themes, narrative techniques, and cultural significance. Through allegorical imagery, Gulhaniy delivers messages about justice, honesty, wisdom, and human values that remain relevant across time.

Keywords: Gulhaniy, Zarbulmasal, allegory, ethics, literature, culture, social critique, moral lessons

Introduction. Gulhaniy's "Zarbulmasal" is a significant work in Uzbek literature that employs allegory as a central literary device. The term "zarbulmasal" itself means "proverb" or "idiom," indicating the use of metaphorical and symbolic language to convey deeper moral and philosophical meanings. Allegory is a widely employed artistic method in literature that uses symbolic characters and events to represent abstract ideas and principles. "Zarbulmasal," a significant work by the Uyghur poet Gulhaniy, stands out for its rich allegorical structure. The text uses animals, natural phenomena, and symbolic figures to explore themes of morality, social justice, and human nature. This paper aims to analyze how allegory functions within "Zarbulmasal," reflecting on its thematic concerns and its role in educating readers and preserving cultural values.

The work uses allegorical storytelling to critique social norms and human behavior. Characters and events in "Zarbulmasal" represent broader ideas and values, allowing Gulhaniy to openly discuss complex societal issues under the guise of simple proverbs and folk tales. This indirect method enables readers to uncover layered interpretations, encouraging reflection and self-improvement.

What is Allegory in Literature?

Allegory is a narrative technique where characters, events, or settings symbolize broader abstract ideas or principles. It is a form of extended metaphor that allows

authors to pass moral or social commentary through storytelling. In "Zarbulmasal," allegory is the backbone that transforms simple tales and riddles into profound lessons and reflections on human nature and society.

Allegory in "Zarbulmasal" – Its Form and Structure

Gulhanyiy's "Zarbulmasal" is structured through short stories, proverbs, and metaphoric sayings. Each piece uses allegorical characters, such as animals or natural elements, that symbolize human traits. These symbols make complex ideas about morality, justice, wisdom, or social conduct easily understandable and memorable. By embedding these lessons in allegorical form, Gulhanyiy ensures the teachings are transmitted orally and culturally with both clarity and depth.

For instance, animals often represent specific virtues or vices—such as the clever fox symbolizing wisdom and cunning, or the stubborn donkey symbolizing ignorance and obstinacy. This system of symbolism helps the readers or listeners to quickly grasp the moral implications embedded in the stories.

Themes Conveyed Through Allegory

Several core themes emerge in "Zarbulmasal" using allegory:

1. Justice and Fairness

Many allegories describe the consequences of unjust behavior and emphasize the value of fairness. The stories often critique corrupt officials or selfish individuals, urging listeners to uphold justice in their communities.

2. Honesty and Integrity

Through symbolic narratives, Gulhanyiy reinforces the importance of honesty as a foundation for social harmony. Characters facing moral dilemmas plead for truthfulness, showing through allegory how deceit leads to downfall.

3. Wisdom and Knowledge

The allegorical format allows the author to promote wisdom, showing it as a path to success and happiness. It warns against folly and ignorance using symbols that resonate culturally and socially.

4. Human Nature and Social Critique

Allegory enables Gulhanyiy to subtly criticize social issues such as hypocrisy, greed, and injustice without direct confrontation, making the messages more acceptable and thought-provoking for his audience.

Cultural and Educational Importance of Allegory in "Zarbulmasal"

Gulhanyiy's use of allegory in "Zarbulmasal" is not only literary but also deeply cultural and educational. The work preserves oral tradition and acts as a tool for moral education. In Central Asian culture, proverbs and allegorical tales are key to passing down collective wisdom through generations.

The allegorical nature makes the work adaptable to various social settings, providing lessons relevant to children and adults alike. Its memorability ensures that

ethical values and cultural norms are retained and respected over time. Through allegory, "Zarbulmasal" becomes a mirror reflecting societal ideals and challenges, thereby contributing to social cohesion and individual moral growth.

Impact on Readers and Modern Relevance

The allegorical style in "Zarbulmasal" invites active engagement by readers, who must: interpret the symbolic meanings behind each tale. This encourages critical thinking and deeper understanding. Additionally, despite the work's historical roots, its messages remain relevant today, as the moral dilemmas and social issues portrayed through allegory continue to resonate in modern society.

By connecting timeless human values with accessible storytelling, Gulhanyiy's use of allegory secures "Zarbulmasal" as a classic work that educates and inspires continuously.

Conclusion. Gulhanyiy's "Zarbulmasal" masterfully uses allegory to communicate complex moral and social messages subtly and effectively. This approach enriches the work's literary value and cultural relevance, proving allegory to be a powerful tool in bridging storytelling with ethical education. Gulhanyiy's "Zarbulmasal" exemplifies the effective use of allegory to communicate complex ethical and social themes through simple, memorable narratives. Allegory enriches the text by adding symbolic layers of meaning that transcend time and culture. Through animals, natural symbols, and metaphorical stories, Gulhanyiy crafts a literary work that is simultaneously entertaining, educational, and reflective. This makes "Zarbulmasal" an enduring source of wisdom, bridging personal morality with collective cultural values

Gulhanyiy's allegories reveal the struggles between virtue and vice, wisdom and ignorance, highlighting lessons about justice, patience, and humility. The use of familiar cultural symbols makes the allegory accessible and relatable, reinforcing the moral messages within a traditional Uzbek context. The proverbs serve as ethical guidelines, making the text both educational and engaging. Allegory is a widely employed artistic method in literature that uses symbolic characters and events to represent abstract ideas and principles. "Zarbulmasal," a significant work by the Uyghur poet Gulhanyiy, stands out for its rich allegorical structure. The text uses animals, natural phenomena, and symbolic figures to explore themes of morality, social justice, and human nature. This paper aims to analyze how allegory functions within "Zarbulmasal," reflecting on its thematic concerns and its role in educating readers and preserving cultural values.

The allegorical form in "Zarbulmasal" functions as a powerful tool for social commentary, allowing Gulhanyiy to address sensitive topics subtly. By embedding life lessons in symbolic narratives, the work appeals to a wide audience and preserves oral

storytelling traditions. This approach enhances the literary value and cultural significance of the work, contributing to the moral education of readers.

In "Zarbulmasal," Gulhaniy masterfully uses allegory to express profound moral truths through relatable metaphors and proverbs. This technique enriches Uzbek literary heritage, providing timeless lessons that resonate with readers across generations.

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