



Article

## "Zarbulmasal" and the Indian Epic

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**Abstract:** The relationship between humans and the environment has been a central theme in social life, deeply embedded in folklore, including fairy tales, proverbs, anecdotes, and narratives. These cultural expressions reflect folk wisdom and highlight the role of individuals in portraying ingenuity and societal values. However, limited research explores how these folklore elements serve as a medium to understand environmental relationships and human behavior. This study aims to analyze the representation of human-environment relationships in folklore and its implications for cultural knowledge. Using a qualitative content analysis method, folklore texts were examined to identify recurring themes and symbolic representations. The findings reveal that folklore serves as a repository of ecological knowledge, emphasizing harmony, resourcefulness, and moral lessons regarding the environment. These insights underscore the importance of folklore as a tool for environmental education and cultural preservation, offering implications for modern sustainable practices and interdisciplinary studies.

**Keywords:** Personality, Nature, Society, Public life, Home life, Bird image, Idea, Philosophy, Environment, Thinking, Artistic creation, Nationalism, Indigenous color, Universal

### 1. Introduction

Each period is an integral part of human history. At the same time, life is constantly changing, and the development of society is determined by various changes. The destiny of man, who is an integral part of this society, his character, spiritual and mental world, and in social life changes. People have a certain influence on the changes of time and environment, just as they are subject to the changes of time. The fierce struggle between good and evil, nobility and meanness, generosity and self-interest, which has become a tradition since ancient times, the victory of good, which is a factor of development, leads mankind to a new happiness.

Uzbek literature, which is an integral part of world culture and art, consistently expresses the gradual development of society and the changes taking place in people's consciousness and awareness in an artistic way. In the 21st century, along with global problems and new relations, views on human spirituality and inner spiritual world are consistently expressed through the art of word. In particular, social relations, new views on the economic environment and the fate of man, who is a direct participant in it, occupy a firm place in the sphere of artistic analysis. In this regard, the study and analysis of classic samples of world and Uzbek literature, impartial transmission of them to the younger generation is one of the components of spiritual and educational upbringing.

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## LITERARY DETAILS

It analyzes the depiction of the relationship between man and the environment in fiction and the spirituality of the literary hero on the example of the Indian epic "Kalila and Dimna" and the work of Alisher Navoi "Lison-ut-Tair", created on the basis of a relatively new in later times theme and "Zarbulmasala" Gulkhani, which is an allegorical expression of social and domestic problems. Although these works, based on the interpretation of the bird symbol, are based on the same theme - that is, the expression of human-environment relationships through bird imagery - they differ in genre, artistic analysis, and problem solving.

As "Kalila and Dimna" tells with high artistry the true story of life through the medium of birds, it teaches us that we must avoid one-sidedness in thinking about man, to look at all sides of the question with equal attention. Another quality of "Kalila and Dimna" is the extreme acuity of the narrator's thought. He always tries with inimitable thoroughness to get to the heart of the matter and, as a result, reveals aspects to which the reader has paid little attention, further interests and leads him.

"Zarbulmasal" is in many ways similar to 'Kalila and Dimna'. It also reveals changes in the psyche of the individual, but the fate of the individual is artistically analyzed against the background of a particular system, environment and ideology. In the process of the relationship between the individual and the environment, the fate and past of people like him are embodied. Doubts, awakening of inner discontent, hopes turning into mirages, and the basis of faith turning out to be empty and broken, unfold against the background of social processes. The characters of Kalila and Dimna, in the form of a bird, describe their spiritual evolution and spiritual experiences based on their personal lives, lifestyles and the characteristics of their environment. In his search for the truth of life, he seeks a solution in the religious beliefs, the science of his time and the opinions of his contemporaries.

The author of "Zarbulmasala" analyzes the events related to the destiny of an individual based on the changes taking place in the society. Unlike "Kalila and Dimna", it is not a search for ways to fill the empty and imperfect places in a marriage, but explains the factors that led to a complete turn away from one's aspirations. Gulkhani's work "Zarbulmasal" is one of the works that occupy a special place in the history of Uzbek literature. Even before the creation of this work, the writer offered to the reader's attention several works on the theme of personality and environment. In this work, the author approaches the topic in a more extensive and comprehensive way. Along with a realistic description of the time and environment, the writer also brought out images that are a product of a certain period.

In the process of reading the work, we witness various events together with the author and try to draw conclusions from them. Based on the ideological goal of the author of the work, we can say "yes" to the question of whether faith and spirituality will survive in the new conditions, in a situation where economic issues and problems persist. For this, such virtues as honesty, piety, integrity, which are one of the most important means of enriching our spiritual life, must live, national and universal values must continue. Man should not get entangled only in material and economic problems, but also preserve and rely on spiritual and cultural heritage. Only then will human society be able to bravely overcome temporary economic crises and difficulties of life.

The fact that we can be impartial in assessing reality, the art of the word, which is also a mirror of social life, in that we apply the positive characteristics of each person to our way of life - literature becomes our close analog, a means of education, a factor of influence. Therefore, in recent years, the question of society and the fate of man has become one of the most acute and important problems of literature. In this regard, the Indian epic Panchatantra, Nawai's Lisonut Tair, Gulhani's Zarbulmasal have a special place and significance. In the works of the above artists the images of birds are worked out deeply, from different points of view, on the basis of different approaches. The understanding of

man himself, the process of personality formation, which has its artistic expression through the embodiment of birds, improvement of material status, enrichment of his spiritual world, artistic solution of such problems as the attitude to reality, the study of various phenomena in the psyche of people have become the ideological and philosophical goal of the above works.

## 2. Materials and Methods

This article adopts methodology in which a comparative literary analysis is used to explore the image of birdhood as a metaphor to represent human environment relations in selected works of Uzbek and Indian literature. In particular, it studies Alisher Navoi's *Lison-ut-Tair*, Gulkhani's *Zarbulmasal*, and the Indian epic *Kalila and Dimna*. They scrutinize these texts for the symbolic use they make of birds to discourse on spiritual, psychological, and sociological themes. The methodology takes the form of an interpretive framework joining literary criticism with cultural and philosophical insights in an effort to begin to unearth the ideological nuances and their reflection in the depiction of characters as well as their interactions with their environments.

This aims to highlight the usefulness of narrative devices in these texts for the presentation of moral and ethical issues. Much of the study examines how each text deals with the complexities of human destiny and social change, reconciling the demands of the spirit with the pressure of the material. In addition, thematic analysis is applied to analyze universal values of honesty, integrity and/or piety expressed using allegorical storytelling in the study. The research engages with a variety of historical and cultural settings so that the enduring significance of these literary works may be evidenced in their resilience to contemporary issues of human spirituality and social resilience. This underpins the centrality of literary studies today to promoting conceptualization of the broader cultural heritage in ideological terms for scholarly discourse and contemporary philosophy and pedagogy.

## 3. Results and Discussion

Both works highlight the problems of the environment and the fate of man through the images of birds. The storytellers' positions in this respect are also unique; they go their own way in defining the hero's spirituality, in the ideological and aesthetic solution of problems. According to their artistic interpretations, it is natural that environmental processes have an impact on human destiny. This is related to spiritual, economic relations, family situations, from livelihood problems to complications in human destiny. This situation can even change the character of the hero. What then can save a person from spiritual degradation? According to their artistic interpretations, it is natural that environmental processes have an impact on human destiny. This is related to spiritual, economic relations, family situations, from livelihood problems to complications in human destiny. This situation can even change the character of the hero. What then can save a person from spiritual degradation?

Every writer is a child of his time. He, above all, breathes with the environment in which he lives, is under the influence of life events, expresses his attitude, standing in the position of his worldview as he describes them. Therefore, we will have to approach from this point of view the analysis of aesthetic ideals, ideological-philosophical conclusions, the artistic skill of the writer.

Every era is an integral part of human history. At the same time, life is constantly changing towards renewal, and various changes determine the progress of society. Changes are taking place in the fate of the individual, an integral part of this society, in his character, in his spiritual and psychological world, just as in social marriage. Humans have a certain influence on changing times and environments, as do those who obey Zamona's

Zamona. The bitter struggle between good and evil, nobility and the abyss, delight and selfishness that has been a tradition since ancient times, the triumph of good, the factor of progress, leads mankind to new happiness.

#### 4. Conclusion

The ideological conclusion that follows from the system of events written in both works is that man can strengthen and preserve his spirituality in any time and conditions, in any environment due to his personal qualities: will, strength of spirit, spiritual invincibility. According to press reports, Japanese scientists have recently been able to find out what they are trying to say with devices that put birds on their necks. So, first of all, mankind's interest in the world of birds and the desire to communicate with them have not ceased to this day. Secondly, it was also, to some extent, a scientific justification that our ancestors expressed their philosophical observations, ideological allegories through the image of birds. Many feather owners artistically express their thoughts and views on the social environment and spirituality of the characters in the form of birds. Careful study of these works and impartial evaluation is one of the important tasks of our literary studies.

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