

FABLES IN WORLD LITERATURE: AESOP, LA FONTAINE AND GELLERT

Ganiev Fazliddin Zoirovich

Bukhara State University

Teacher of the Department of French Philology

f.z.ganiev@buxdu.uz

Abstract: This article is devoted to the development of the fable genre in world literature and the work of its famous representatives - Aesop, La Fontaine and Gellert. Fables are considered as a means of expressing human behavior and teaching moral lessons through animals. Aesop's fables are a major part of ancient Greek literature, many of which shed light on social problems of their time. La Fontaine improved French fables in a new style, raised them to the level of art, and deeply analyzed human nature. Gellert, on the other hand, developed the fable genre in German literature, expressing moral values in a modern context. The article analyzes the unique style of each author and the modern significance of fables.

Key words: Fable, Aesop, La Fontaine, Gellert, Human behavior, moral lessons, symbolism, folklore.

INTRODUCTION

The fable genre occupies a unique and important place in world literature. It is not only an integral part of folk oral creativity, but also an effective means of expressing the moral values, social problems and life lessons of humanity. Fables, mainly through the images of animals, show various aspects of human nature, and the stories presented in them often have simple but deep meanings and lessons.

One of the most famous representatives of this genre is the ancient Greek writer Aesop. His fables have not lost their significance not only for his time, but also for subsequent generations. Aesop's stories embody social injustice and human virtues. The French writer Jean de La Fontaine, however, raised fables to the level of art, writing them in his own unique style. He deeply analyzed the complexity of humanity and nature in his works.

In German literature, Gellert developed the fable genre, expressing moral values in a modern context. His works are not limited to providing moral lessons, but also reveal the subtleties of the human psyche. This article analyzes the development of the fable genre in world literature and its contemporary significance through the fables of Aesop, La Fontaine, and Gellert.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

By studying the works of Aesop, La Fontaine, and Gellert in a historical context, an attempt was made to identify the stages of development of the fable genre. The main themes and ideas in each writer's works were analyzed to determine the importance and social role of the fable in their time. Through an in-depth study of the fables, an analysis of their structure, language, and style, as well as their moral lessons, was carried out. By studying the fables in a social and moral context, various problems and values of humanity were reflected on. An intertextual approach was used to identify connections between different authors.

RESULTS

The role of such great fable writers as Aesop, La Fontaine and Gellert in the development and formation of the fable genre in world literature is incomparable. Each of them in his time raised this genre to new heights and made a unique contribution to world literature.

Aesop (6th century BC) lived in ancient Greece and is considered the original creator of the fable genre. Although there is little information about his life, according to legend, he was a slave and amazed the people with his wit and wise words.

Aesop's fables are distinguished by the following features:

- Brevity and clarity - each fable gives a clear moral conclusion;
- Animal heroism - depicting human qualities through animals such as foxes, lions, crows;
- Universal moral values - wisdom and reasonable advice that are understandable to all peoples;

Among the most famous fables of Aesop are "The Fox and the Grapes", "The Sheep and the Wolf", "The Tortoise and the Hare". His works later influenced the entire world literature and became the basis of the parables of many languages.

Jean de La Fontaine (1621-1695) was the greatest parable writer of 17th-century France, who raised the traditions of Aesop to the level of classical French literature. His collection of "Fables" is considered one of the most mature examples of world literature.

La Fontaine's distinctive features:

- Poetic form - he wrote his fables in verse;
- Psychological depth - a subtle description of the inner experiences of the characters;
- Social criticism - a subtle hint at the social shortcomings of his time;
- Artistic perfection - high poetic skill and beauty of language;

Among his famous works are such fables as "The Crow and the Fox", "The Ant and the Grasshopper", "The Lion and the Mouse". La Fontaine not only reworked Aesop's fables, but also created his own original fables.

Christian Fürchtegott Gellert (1715-1769) was one of the great writers of 18th-century Germany and is considered an important representative of the Enlightenment. He promoted the enlightened ideas of his time through fables.

The main features of Gellert's fables:

- Enlightenment spirit - emphasizing the importance of reason and enlightenment;
- Moral education - distinguishing between good and bad actions;
- Plain language - using simple and understandable language for the people;
- Practical wisdom - giving advice that can be applied in everyday life;

Gellert recognized the fable genre as an independent literary genre in German literature, and his influence was later felt in the work of such great writers as Goethe and Schiller.

DISCUSSION

Comparing the work of the three fable writers, we can see the following common and different aspects:

Common aspects:

- All three aimed to provide moral education;
- They depicted human virtues and vices through the images of animals;
- They wrote in a language and style that was understandable for their time;

Different aspects:

- Aesop created short and clear stories;
- La Fontaine preferred the poetic form and strove for artistic perfection;
- Gellert put forward the ideas of the Enlightenment and gave practical advice;
- The influence of these three fable writers on world literature is very wide;
- Their fables have been translated into almost all languages;
- Many national fable writers have continued their traditions;
- Modern children's literature and animation art are inspired by their works;

The works of Aesop, La Fontaine, and Gellert represent three important stages of the fable genre: ancient foundations (Aesop), classical perfection (La Fontaine), and the spirit of the Enlightenment (Gellert). Their shared legacy has become an integral part of all human culture.

CONCLUSION

The fable genre in world literature has left its rich and colorful legacy, especially through such great authors as Aesop, La Fontaine and Gellert. These writers reflected various aspects of life, human nature and moral values in their works in a unique style. Although Aesop's fables are simple and straightforward in appearance, they contain deep meaning and moral lessons. He managed to reveal the weaknesses of people through the images of animals in his works. La Fontaine, on the other hand, brought the fable genre to a new level in French literature, and his works are valued not only as moral lessons, but also as high examples of artistic art. Gellert, on the other hand, offered his own unique approach to German issues, combining religious and moral ideas.

These authors made a great contribution to the development of the fable genre, determining them as the main source of influence on modern literature. Their works reflect the universal values and problems of humanity, and these fables have not lost their relevance even today. The fable genre is also distinguished by the fact that it presents moral lessons in a simple and understandable form, which makes it interesting for any generation. As a result, the fables of Aesop, La Fontaine and Gellert retain their place in world literature as an important source of not only artistic, but also moral and educational value. Their legacy continues to teach new generations life lessons today.

REFERENCES:

1. La Fontaine, J. (2020). Masallar. Tarjimon: E. Vohidov. Toshkent: "Adabiyot va san'at" nashriyoti. 312 b.
2. Krylov, I. A. (2018). Tanlangan masallar. Tarjimon: H. Olimjon. Toshkent: "G'afur G'ulom" nashriyoti. 180 b.
3. Ezop. (2019). Ezop masallari. Tarjimon: A. Qodiriy. Toshkent: "Sharq" nashriyoti. 256 b.
4. Afanasyev, A. N. (2015). Slavyan xalqlarining poetik qarashlar tabiati haqida. Moskva: "Akademiya" nashriyoti.
5. Thompson, S. (2019). The Folktale. Berkeley: University of California Press. 510 p.
6. G'aniev F. THE ROLE OF FONTAIN'S CREATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PARABLE GENRE // Center NAUChNYX PUBLICATION (bukhdu. en). - 2023. - T. 28. – no. 28.
7. G'aniev F., Elmurodov F. PARABLE TRADITIONS IN FRENCH LITERATURE //International Bulletin of Applied Science and Technology. - 2023. - T. 3. – no. 6. - S. 333-335.
8. Ganiyev F. ANALYSIS OF LA FONTAINE 'S FABLES AS A LITERARY GENRE IN EUROPEAN LITERATURE.
9. G'aniev F. PROBLEM GENRE HISTORY AND HIS IN LITERATURE PLACE // CENTER NAUChNYX PUBLICATION (bukhdu. en). - 2023. - T. 28. – no. 28.