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THE SIMILAR FEATURES IN DEPICTION OF ORPHANS' LIFE IN CHILDREN'S ADVENTURE NOVELS

Abstract: American writer Mark Twain and Uzbek writer Gafur Gulom both are bright representatives of children's literature. They successfully depicted the problems of social life through the adventures of orphan children in their great masterpieces "The adventures of Tom Sawyer" and "Shum Bola" (literally translated as "the Naughty boy"). Both heroes of these novels struggle against the cruelty and injustice of society and try to show everyone that they can achieve more than people expect from them. But they come across with several difficulties, make a number of mistakes trying to solve their problems. Because, they think with their mind of a child, an inexperienced and ignorant child. In these works there can be noticed a great deal of similarities, as Gafur Gulom wrote his work, inspired by "The adventures of Tom Sawyer" and "The adventures of Huckleberry Finn".

Key words: social life, orphan, street children, children's literature, adventure novels, orphanhood.

Language: English

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Introduction

Generally speaking, through the life of the cunning and desolate orphan heroes the reader gets closely acquainted with the particular period's social environment. The hardships of life are brought under satire in the "cunning novels". The writer tries to convict the social system which based on injustice. It focuses, especially, on those who are vulnerable, such as children, women, the elderly, orphans, the poor and the downtrodden. Because, hunger and poverty can make a person hypocritical and even can lead to the loss of his humanity. In children, particularly, this can trigger more severe disasters. That's why the characters of the "villainous" novel usually succeed at the expense of losing their human qualities.

While talking about the novels of this type we remember about two famous works of Uzbek and

American children's literature; "Shum bola" (literally translated as "the Naughty boy") by Gafur Gulom and "The adventures of Tom Sawyer" by Mark Twain. Both of these novels contain the features described above. These novels have the elements of humour, satire and social criticism hidden behind the runaway adventures of the boys (Tom and Koravoy).

I. LITERATURE REVIEW

Novels depicting ordinary life stories of cunning street children developed by the end of the 16th century in the world literature. These type of novels greatly differed from those works that illustrated the life of the knights and pastorals which were common at that period. The experience of creating fictional novels about cunning heroes in Spanish literature, initiated by Fernando de Roxas (the end of the XV century) in the

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form of a dialogue, has been taken to a higher level by Francesco Gomez de Quevedo (1580-1645).

The emergence of the “cunning novels” was caused by the circumstances of the social life in the mid -16th century - the outbreak of poverty and the desire to live easy life. Because, it is natural that under such circumstances the violent try to rule over the helpless by defects like, extortion, fraud, oppression and theft. These works that deeply reflected the real conditions of life have been called “cunning novels” in literary studies. The characteristic features of these type of works can be seen in the followings:

- The protagonist runs away from home during his childhood;
- The protagonist’s escape from home is caused by his family’s poverty;
- The main protagonist is driven out to the street by his widow mother or aunt for his cheating and cunning deeds.
- The plot of the work consists of an interesting but painful adventure of a stray, abandoned, homeless orphan hero;
- The young hero does all he can to make a living, for this he is forced to use various tricks;
- The hero falls from one master’s hand to another during his adventures;
- The important part of the plot is the motif of hero’s serving in the hands of the greedy rich and ignorant priests, having severely beaten and expelled by them;
- The culmination of these works is stealing bread to survive and facing with robbers on his way;
- Though the protagonist serves on the doors of several people he never becomes full and never can afford his needs;
- The hero gains great experience by tasting the bitterness of life;
- These works are usually small in size, but satirically powerful.

II. METHODS AND METHODOLOGY

In Mark Twain's "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" and in Gafur Gulom's "Shum Bola", travel of heroes is a necessity. Actually, it is the wish of neither the heroes of the works, nor the characters that surround them, this is the existing circumstances or accidents that force them to do so. More precisely, the reasons for undertaking such quests include the purpose of finding their place in the brutal world, to seek shelter and to provide food. And the heroes have to struggle against many obstacles in the pursuit of their dreams. While the hero of “Shum Bola” Koravoy is forced to leave home in disgrace when his mother reveals that he secretly stole oil and egg from his home, the hero of “The adventures of Tom Sawyer” Tom, who has similar event with stolen butter and bread, burns out with the desire to see the foreign countries and live as a pirate (he considers that being a pirate is good and heroic thing). But they can't go

very far: all of the events which they undergo take place in their own country, around their birthplace.

III. DISCUSSION

As it is known from the sources Uzbek writer Gafur Gulom created his masterpiece in 1936. But at first he called the work with another name, later changing some episodes and description, the name was also changed. This story describes the writer’s childhood and the image of Tashkent in the early 20th century. Although many of the events at the center of the work are taken from the writer’s life (for example, the writer himself admitted that for the hero Hoji Bobo he simply chose an unusual features and words of his father), [13,37] the work can not be considered to be an autobiographical. In it, the artistic texture and the fantasy is stronger than the real historical facts. L.Bat said about this work the followings: “*In essence, this work, with deep national spirit, is close to Mark Twain’s “The adventures of Tom Sawyer” and some of Dicken’s novels*”. [13,7]

In its turn, inspiration for many of the characters in Mark Twain’s “The adventures of Tom Sawyer”, which was written in 1876, comes from actual people. For example, he depicted his mother as Aunt Polly, his sister Pamela and brother Henry as Cousin Mary and Cousin Sid. The book also captures his school experience and his father’s courtroom became the setting for the trial scene in the story. Mark Twain was famous as a great humorist, his sticking to American themes, settings and language set him apart from many other novelists of his time and these factors had a powerful effect on many later writers.

Though Mark Twain and Gafur Gulom lived in different places and at different times, the analysis shows that there are various artistic coincidences between some details of their works. In the works mentioned above the authors created realistic images of orphan children. The skills of both writers are evident in the creation of images. Tom lives with his younger brother and sister at Polly aunt’s home. Koravoy also has a little brother and sister and lives with his single mother.

IV. ANALYSIS

In the beginning of the novels we can see that the heroes are young, energetic, mischievous boys, who don’t feel any responsibilities before their family. Boys who prefer playing in the streets rather than studying at school. The following lines can prove that both Tom and Koravoy spend their whole time in the street playing with their peers:

Tom did play hookey, and he had a very good time. He got back home barely in season to help Jim, the small colored boy, saw next-day’s wood and split the kindlings before supper — at least he was there in time to tell his adventures to Jim while Jim did three-fourths of the work. [3,5] (The adventures of Tom Sawyer)

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Ertadan kechgacha ko`cha changitib hammaning joniga tegib, kampirlardan qarg`ish eshitib, o`spirinlardan kaltak yeb, sandiroqlab yuradigan o`vin-to`da bekorchi bolalarmiz. [2,6]

We are a bunch of idle children who dust the streets from morning till night, bothering everyone, hearing the curses of old women, and being beaten by grown-ups. (Shum Bola - translated by the author of the article)

And the games they play are very different, with special types for morning, afternoon, evening, even they had seasonal games. The games they create were unusual and funny, and the items they used for their games were unusual even more.

By the time Ben was fagged out, Tom had traded the next chance to Billy Fisher for a kite, in good repair; and when he played out, Johnny Miller bought in for a dead rat and a string to swing it with — and so on, and so on, hour after hour. And when the middle of the afternoon came, from being a poor poverty-stricken boy in the morning, Tom was literally rolling in wealth. He had besides the things before mentioned, twelve marbles, part of a jews-harp, a piece of blue bottle-glass to look through, a spool cannon, a key that wouldn't unlock anything, a fragment of chalk, a glass stopper of a decanter, a tin soldier, a couple of tadpoles, six fire-crackers, a kitten with only one eye, a brass doorknob.....[3,18]

In the second novel we can also read the lines where the hero describes unnecessary items as being their great treasure. The illustration of their diverse range of games is given like this:

Bular hammasi oqshom o`yinlari, kunduzgi o`yinlar boshqacha: har xil oshiq o`yinlari, yong`oq o`yini, to`p o`yini, o`q-kamalak otish, yalang`och poyga, ot o`g`risi va hokazo. Ramazon oyida o`yinizning turlari yana ko`payib ketadi. Oqshomlari eshikma-eshik yurib Ramazon aytamiz.[2,6]

These are all evening games, daytime games are different: nut game, ball game, arrow throwing, naked race, horse thief and so on. During the month of Ramadan, the variety of our games will increase again. In the evening we go door to door in the neighborhood and say Ramadan. (Shum Bola - translated by the author of the article)

The development of the events that led to heroes' departure can be taken as an example. In "The adventures of Tom Sawyer" Mark Twain choose the motif of stealing bread and butter and being exposed by his aunt as the reason for Tom's departure:

"And here was Auntie pegging away at the questions, and me a shaking all over and ready to sink down in my tracks I was that scared; and the place getting hotter and hotter, the butter beginning to melt and run down my neck and behind my ears; and pretty soon, when one of them says, „I'm for going and getting in the cabin FIRST and right NOW, and catching them when they come ", I most dropped; and

a streak of butter come a-trickling down my forehead, and Aunt Sally she see it, and turns white as a sheet, and says: "For the land's sake, what is the matter with the child? He's got the brain-fever as shore as you're born, they're oozing out!" "

In Gafur Gulom's "Shum Bola" we can see the following situation which is very similar to the above mentioned description:

Noiloj qoldim, tuxumni qalpoqchamga solib, kiyib oldim-da, oshxonaga kirdim. Onam meni tergay boshladi. Men jimgina quloq solib, o`choqning yoniga cho`qqayib o`t qalashirmoqqa boshladim. Men bilmagan ekanman. O`ning taftiga lippamdagi yog`erib, pochamdan oqmoqda ekan. Oyim qo`lidagi xamir yoyib o`tirgan o`qlov bilan boshimga astagina urdi. Oyim boshimga o`qlov bilan urganda qalpoq tagida bo`lgan tuxum pachaqlangan edi. Uning oqi sarig`i bilan aralashib chakkamdan sirqib, yuzimga oqmoqda edi. Oyim: "Bola bechoraning boshini yorib, qatig`ini chiqarib yubordimmi", deb esi chiqib ketgan ekan. [2,11]

Desperately, I put the egg under my hat and went into the kitchen. My mother started scolding me. I listened quietly, slipping beside the furnace and starting to stir the fire. I was not aware that from the heat of the fire the butter had melted and leaked out of my pants. Mother slapped me on my head with the dough-roller which was in her hand. When my mother hit me the egg that was under my hat was crushed. The mixture of egg's yolk and white began flowing through my cheeks. My mother was frightened thinking that she had damaged my brain. (Shum Bola - translated by the author of the article)

As it is proved by the examples, there can be noticed exact similarities in the style of the writers: both boys steal butter from their home, both women think that the boy's brain is flowing and in both works these motifs were the reason for the heroes' departure and the start of their adventures. The authors who worked on the field of children's literature tried to reveal the mentality of orphan images through their collision with social environment.

The use of children's perspective by writers in describing social conditions and injustice is an important factor that unites both works. In Tom Sawyer's adventures we can see that Tom was beaten and punished for his trivial mischief, like taking sugar from his aunt's house or eating jam. However, when he takes someone else's gold as his own he was respected, admired and envied by the adults. Through this Mark Twain tries to reveal the social life of Western Europe, where a person was imprisoned for stealing a piece of bread and a person who stole millions of money from ordinary people was respected by all. The protagonists are embarrassed and ashamed when they steal chicken, but when they steal someone's treasure they call themselves as heroes.

Gafur Gulom uses the same style for depicting social life of his period. The rich who used to exploit

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ordinary people lived in a comfort being respected by everybody and no one paid attention that they were flourishing by plundering the poor common people.

The main heroes depicted in these works are able to get out of any difficult situation, for these they can forge all sorts of lies in a single moment.

Let's remember the scene connected with the punishment of Tom when he returned from school on Friday fighting with his friends and dirtying his clothes. Tom was made to whitewash the fence as punishment on Saturday. At first, he was disappointed by having to forfeit his day off. However, he soon cleverly persuades his friend to trade him small treasures for the privilege of doing his work.

But Tom's energy did not last. He began to think of the fun he had planned for this day, and his sorrows multiplied. Soon the free boys would come tripping along on all sorts of delicious expeditions, and they would make a world of fun of him for having to work — the very thought of it burnt him like fire. He got out his worldly wealth and examined it — bits of toys, marbles, and trash; enough to buy an exchange of WORK, maybe, but not half enough to buy so much as half an hour of pure freedom. So he returned his straitened means to his pocket, and gave up the idea of trying to buy the boys.[3,15]

The same case can be seen in "Shum Bola". It happened when Koravoy and his friend Omon were serving at one of their rich master. The first day Omon stayed inside the house to do the house work and Koravoy went to graze the cow. He returned home being extremely exhausted after he had chased the stubborn cow the whole day. Considering that Omon spent his day in a comfort without any difficulty, he tries to tease his friend. At the same time, Omon had also suffered from tough works ordered by his master. So, both boys started to boast that they had a wonderful day. The next day they exchange their duties. Unfortunately, staying and doing housework turned to be not so enjoyable as Koravoy had expected. He understood that he was deceived by his friend.

The analysis of the works by Mark Twain and Gafur Gulom clearly indicate that their writing style are very similar to each other with describing people and characters, setting and events, social issues and problems.

V. CONCLUSION

Having thoroughly analyzed the two masterpieces of American and Uzbek literature we came into the following conclusion:

A. As it is evident from the examples, "The adventures of Tom Sawyer" and "Shum Bola" have a number of similar features in setting, character description, plot development and so on.

B. American novelist Mark Twain and Uzbek writer Gafur Gulom are outstanding representatives of realism, who could create a vivid picture of social life of their time by exposing the bitter truth of it in a sharp humoristic way. For their work they equally used their own experiences.

C. At the beginning of the events the authors presented the description of streets, games and items that both heroes valued, thus demonstrating their sincere feelings and innocent wishes.

D. Both writers used the life and adventures of orphan children as a tool for revealing the darkness of society.

E. Their work differs from other writers by simplicity, naivety and childish cheerfulness of their protagonists.

F. In both works orphanhood and poverty are portrayed as a huge obstacle for children to achieve their dreams and find their place in life.

G. The departure of the heroes from their home was caused by their failure of stealing some food. They were caught on a shameful crime.

H. During their adventures the boys come across with a variety of people, who tried to get advantage of their labour in an cruel and unfair way.

I. In their adventures these heroes accompanied by a friend who shared similar life, dreams and problems.

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