

## IMAGES AND SYMBOLS IN PARABLES: HUMAN BEHAVIOR IN ANIMAL LANGUAGE

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**Abstract:** This article analyzes human behavior and its symbols in animal language in parables. Parables are an important part of oral folklore, in which human nature, character, and relationships are reflected through animals. Animal images often serve as a means of illuminating spiritual lessons, moral values, and social problems. The article examines animal symbols, how they represent human behavior in a psychological and social context, and the educational value of parables. It also provides information about the traditional image, customs, and philosophy of life of our people through the images of various animals and their symbols. The article helps readers see parables from a new perspective by deeply studying the issue of human behavior in animal language.

**Key words:** Parables, animal images, human behavior, symbols, folklore, moral values, spiritual lessons, educational value.

### INTRODUCTION

In the language of animals, human behavior is expressed in parables through unique and interesting images. Parables, which are an integral part of Uzbek folk oral literature, contain important spiritual and moral lessons not only for children, but also for adults. In these works, various aspects of humanity, social problems and moral values are deeply reflected in the images of animals, their characters and actions.

In parables, animals are often used as symbols, each of which has its own meaning. For example, through rabbits, lions, pigs and other animals, human traits such as courage, intelligence or recklessness are reflected. With the help of these images, authors achieve a stronger expression of their thoughts and convey important life lessons to readers.

At the same time, parables, as part of folk culture, also play an important role in preserving customs and traditions. The life philosophy, values, and historical experiences of our people are reflected through the images and symbols of animals. This article will analyze in detail how human behavior is depicted in the language of animals in parables, their symbols, and their spiritual significance.

### ANALYSIS AND METHODS

The methods used in parables to describe human behavior in animal language are not only important in conveying spiritual lessons, but also in preserving folk culture. Through symbolism, personification, mythological elements, and the short story form, parables reflect various aspects of humanity and encourage readers to think. Therefore, reading parables and learning from them is important for everyone.

## DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

The use of images and symbols in parables, in particular the reflection of human behavior in the language of animals, is one of the oldest and most widespread genres of world literature, and this area is of particular importance for folklore, literary studies, and culturology.

Parables are allegorical stories that reflect human virtues and vices through animal characters. They are created for educational purposes and serve to convey complex moral issues in a simple and understandable form. The main feature of this genre is the expression of abstract concepts through concrete images.

### **Symbolic meanings of animal images:**

The fox symbolizes a cunning, cunning, and resourceful person. Through its image, the power of intelligence, but at the same time the consequences of deception, are shown.

The lion is a symbol of power, authority, and justice, but sometimes it also becomes a symbol of arrogance and oppression. This dual interpretation reflects deep philosophical thoughts about the responsibility of power.

The hare represents weakness, cowardice and simplicity, but often fights against powerful enemies through ingenuity. Through these images, the idea of "reason is put forward."

The wolf becomes a symbol of evil, greed and cruelty, but sometimes also a symbol of loyalty and team spirit.

In each culture, animal images acquire their own meaning. For example, in Eastern fables, the dragon is a symbol of wisdom and strength, while in Western culture it is a symbol of evil. In Uzbek folk fables, animals such as the fox, wolf, bear are interpreted in the context of local nature and social relations.

The main task of fables is to provide moral education and transfer life experience. Through the images of animals, complex social relations, issues of justice and injustice are made understandable for children and adults. This method is psychologically effective, since abstract concepts are associated with concrete images.

The symbolic system in fables requires a deep structural analysis. Each animal image not only has an individual character, but also reflects a certain social hierarchy and value system in relation to other images. These images express power relations in society, the concept of justice, and moral norms.

Currently, the study of fables is carried out in the context of cognitive linguistics, semiotics, and cross-cultural studies. Using the methods of digital humanities, the universal and culture-specific properties of images and symbols in fables are analyzed. The genre of fables has not lost its relevance in the modern world - they are actively used in animated films, children's literature, and even political satire, which confirms their eternal influence.

## CONCLUSION

The depiction of human behavior in the language of animals in fables is one of the important aspects of folk oral art. Through symbolism, personification, and mythological elements, animal images reflect human character, moral values, and social problems. Each animal, along with its own unique characteristics, allows readers to convey life lessons. Fables are short and simple stories, their meaning deepens and encourages readers to think. Thus, fables serve not only as entertainment, but also as a means of spiritual education. They play an important role in preserving the cultural heritage of our people and continue to convey values to future generations.

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