



THE FORMATION OF ALLEGORY AND ITS TYPES

Azimova Anora Saydulla kizi

The 1st department of English theoretical aspects

The first faculty of English

Uzbek State World Languages University

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Email: aanora239@gmail.com

ABSTRACT: This article explores the key features of allegory, which intricate the meaningful formation of every literal work. While analyzing the origin of allegory, the first founders of this literal device can be regarded as Plato in his work named “The Republic”, but the root of it was from Bible works. There were mentioned not only general types of allegories, like biblical, classical and modern, but also specific ones, such as political and social allegories. Each allegory type is provided with the appropriate samples of the literal works, namely “The Tortoise and the Hare” by Aesop, “The Chronicles of Narnia” by C.S. Lewis, “Gulliver’s Travel” by Jonathan Swift, “A Christmas Carol” by Charles Dickens, “The Lord of the Rings” by J.R.R. Tolkien.

KEYWORDS: allegory, metaphor, fable allegories, biblical allegories, classical allegories, political allegories, social allegories, modern allegories.

INTRODUCTION

As literature is the main source in which, children gain knowledge and interpret it in their pace of life, it referred to be the important aspect of teaching languages.

“Literature adds to reality; it does not simply describe it. It enriches the necessary competencies that daily life requires and provides; and in this respect, it irrigates the deserts that our lives have already become.” - C.S. Lewis, a British scholar and novelist. Among literal works the fundamental influence is regarded to be literal devices, which play the crucial role in understanding the moral of the literal works.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The analysis presented in this article is grounded in a qualitative research approach, focusing on a formation of allegory in literature. The methodology involves a detailed examination of key elements of allegory. These theories are provided with certain samples in order to illustrate broader analysis of this phenomenon.

In addition to the primary source, secondary sources are utilized to provide a theoretical framework for the analysis. Scholarly articles like, “What’s the story, allegory?” by Stephen Brown, Lorna Stevens and Pauline Maclara published in 2021, as well as our national researcher works such as, “The origin of allegory as a stylistic device” by Rajapova Malika and other works, are referenced to situate the term “allegory” within the broader literary tradition.

Besides this research method, there is utilized descriptive one as well. While forming the several types of allegory, the descriptive method widely used. Allegories are found mainly in folklore, tales, parables, riddles, and proverbs. It gives more attractive color and meaning to the rich artistic texts of folklore. This stylistic trope can be studied in a unique way in different fields, but its meaning-making and figurative expression always shows its strength. The use of allegory is also used to give humorous, satirical meaning to the speech, to give a good meaning to irony.

They are based on the sound similarity of words or their ambiguity, or the two cases are related to each other.¹

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. The origin of allegory

Allegories have been used as a literary and rhetorical device since ancient times. The origins of allegorical interpretation can be traced back to at least the 1st millennium BCE, with early examples appearing in ancient Mesopotamian literature, the Hebrew Bible, and early Greek works. For instance, the use of parables and symbolic narratives in the Hebrew Bible and the works of ancient Greek poets, like Hesiod and Homer, can be considered allegorical in nature.

One of the earliest known allegories is the “Allegory of the Cave” by Plato, from around 380 BCE, found in his work “The Republic.” However, the practice of using allegorical elements to convey more in-depth meanings predates Plato, suggesting that the roots are ancient and widespread, evolving alongside human storytelling and philosophical inquiry. Using them allowed storytellers and philosophers to explore complex ideas and moral questions through more accessible narratives.²

The term “allegory” is derived from the Latin word “allegoria,” which means “to talk to infer something else.” An allegory is a short narrative that illustrates a greater point about society or human nature, and the characters may be actual people. Situations in the novel may sometimes allude to historical or contemporary events without directly declaring the link.

Allegories and metaphors are similar in that they both use a comparison to explain a point. Allegories, on the other hand, are whole tales with characters, while metaphors are just a few words.

In literature, allegory is employed to communicate broad, often abstract concepts or to make a social statement. Allegory allows the author cover to discuss contentious topics that might otherwise be too hazardous to discuss clearly, as in George Orwell’s famous political allegory book *Animal Farm*.³

George Orwell, *Animal Farm*. *Animal Farm* is a perfect example of allegory, and is often taught in high school English classes to introduce the concept. In this farm fable, animals run a society that divides into factions and mirrors the rise of Leon Trotsky and the Russian Revolution. The story can be read as a fable of farm animals running a society, or it can be interpreted as the author’s criticism of communism.

2. The main types of allegory

Allegory is a powerful literary device that allows writers to convey deeper meanings beneath the surface of a narrative. By using symbolic characters, events, and settings, allegories explore moral, political, social, or spiritual themes in a way that encourages reflection and interpretation. Depending on its focus, allegory can be categorized into several types. There are several different types of allegory, each serving a different purpose. They include:

1) Fable allegories are short, instructive stories that often feature talking animals, personified objects, or elements of nature. These narratives are designed to impart moral or ethical lessons in a simple and accessible format.

¹ Rajapova M. , The origin of allegory as a stylistic device, Uzbekistan, 2022,P.146

² Neumann L., Allegory – Definition, Famous Examples & Types. BachelorPrint. 2024, March
<https://www.bachelorprint.com/ca/academic-writing/allegory/>

³ [What Is Allegory? Types Of Allegory In Writing And 5 Tips On Using Allegory In Writing | by Rose Blomdahl | Medium](#)

A classic example is Aesop's fable, "The Tortoise and the Hare." In this story, a confident but careless hare challenges a slow-moving tortoise to a race. Trusting in his speed, the hare takes a nap mid-race, only to find the tortoise has kept moving and crossed the finish line first.

Moral Allegory: This tale serves as a metaphor for life's challenges, where the tortoise embodies persistence, discipline, and patience, while the hare represents arrogance and complacency. The message is clear—steady and consistent effort often outweighs overconfidence and haste.

2) **Biblical allegory.** Biblical allegory invokes themes from the Bible, and often explores the struggle between good and evil. One example of Biblical allegory is C.S. Lewis' *The Chronicles of Narnia*. The lion, Aslan, represents a Christ character, who is the rightful ruler of the kingdom of Narnia. Aslan sacrifices himself for Edmund, the Judas figure, and is resurrected to rule over Narnia once again. Biblical allegory can also refer to allegorical interpretations of the Bible, which differ from literal interpretations, and were popular in the Middle Ages.

3) **Classical allegory.** One of the best known allegories in classical literature is Plato's *Allegory of the Cave*. In this story, Plato imagines people living in a cave, only ever seeing objects as shadows reflected on the wall from the light of a fire — rather than seeing the objects directly. Plato used the cave as a symbolic representation of how humans live in the world, contrasting reality versus our interpretation of it.

4) **Political allegories** tackle themes related to power structures, ideology, corruption, and governance. These stories often use fictional settings to reflect real-world political issues in a more approachable and symbolic manner. Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels* is a standout example of political allegory. Through the satirical voyages of Lemuel Gulliver, Swift critiques various aspects of British and European politics of his time.

-In Lilliput, tiny people engage in absurd political conflicts, reflecting the pettiness of international disputes.

-In Brobdingnag, the giants' critical view of England underscores the flaws in European politics.

-In the land of the Houyhnhnms, rational horses live peacefully, while the savage Yahoos highlight the darker, baser nature of humanity.

Political Commentary: Swift uses fantastical elements to expose the hypocrisy, inefficiency, and corruption prevalent in political systems, making his satire both humorous and thought-provoking.

5) **Social allegories** shine a light on societal issues such as inequality, injustice, and class conflict. These stories use symbolic characters and scenarios to represent broader social concerns, prompting readers to consider real-world implications.

A prime example is Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. The story follows Ebenezer Scrooge, a miserly old man who undergoes a dramatic transformation after being visited by three ghosts representing Christmas Past, Present, and Future.

Scrooge's initial greed and lack of compassion reflect the harsh attitudes of Victorian society toward the poor. Characters like Bob Cratchit and his son Tiny Tim symbolize the struggles of the working class, while the ghostly visitors serve as a moral reckoning for Scrooge—and, by extension, for society at large.

Dickens uses the story to critique the social inequality of his time and to champion values such as generosity, empathy, and collective responsibility.⁴

6) **Modern allegory.** Modern allegory includes many instances of a phenomenon called "allegoresis," which refers to the interpretation of works as allegorical without them necessarily being intended that way. For example, there is an ongoing debate among readers about *J.R.R.*

⁴ Kodirova V., Baxtiyorova M., Analyzing types of allegory and classifying them, Uzbekistan, 2025, P.97

Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings series, and whether or not the books were written as an allegory for World War I.

CONCLUSION

Allegory remains a timeless and versatile tool in literature, allowing authors to explore profound ideas under the guise of narrative fiction. Whether teaching morals through animals, guiding readers through spiritual journeys, challenging political ideologies, or spotlighting social issues, allegories invite readers to look beyond the literal and uncover the deeper truths within.

REFERENCES

1. Rajapova M. , The origin of allegory as a stylistic device, Uzbekistan, 2022,P.146
2. Neumann L., Allegory – Definition, Famous Examples & Types. BachelorPrint. 2024, March <https://www.bachelorprint.com/ca/academic-writing/allegory/>
3. Umarova M. Author and hero's parallelism in English and Uzbek literature //Philology Matters. – 2021. – T. 2021. – №. 2. – C. 21-34.
4. Umarova M. ,The relationship among the writer, the Reader, and reality //News of the NUUz. – 2024. – T. 1. – №. 1.9. 1. – C. 357-358
5. Teshabaeva, D., Umarova, M., Babadjanova, N., Pulatova, M., Pardaev, A., Khidirov, O., ... & Turabayeva, Z. (2024). Architectural Innovations of the medieval era through structural and material advancements. *Archives for Technical Sciences*, 2(31), 340-350.
6. Kodirova V., Baxtiyorova M., Analyzing types of allegory and classifying them, Uzbekistan,2025,P.97
7. Azimova A.S., The psychological and behavioral influence of children's fiction to the upbringing of a child , Spectrum Journal of Innovation, Reforms and Development, 2022
8. [What Is Allegory? Types Of Allegory In Writing And 5 Tips On Using Allegory In Writing | by Rose Blomdahl | Medium](#)