

Inside and outside nature of Zahhak story

Zohreh Roodsarabi^{1*}, Abas Ali Maghsodloo² and Kobra Noodehi²

1- Ms student Department of language and Persian literature, Gorgan, branch, Islamic Azad University, Gorgan, Iran

2- Department of Persian Literature, Gorgan Branch, Islamic Azad University, Gorgan, Iran

Corresponding author: Zohreh Roodsarabi

ABSTRACT: One of the significant issues in epopee is the category of "the inside and outside nature of the characters " that we are dealing in other literatures too. This study is intended to examine this topic in Ferdowsi epopee. Moral properties within human are called inside nature such as: anger, happiness, and thinking and ... outside nature is whatever is visible such as trees, battle elements, cover and ... In this study; all of these about Zahhak character in epopee have been studied. The purpose of this study is to show that the inside and outside nature are not apart and characters and events have direct relationships with nature inside and outside. First, Zahhak character is introduced, because knowing the position of the characters in epopee gives the reader a better understanding. Then, the inner nature, including the nature of positive and negative emotions, and outside nature including individual behavior are described, which makes the reader aware and understand the epopee and consequently a deeper impression on advice and composing epic goal.

Keywords: *epopee, Ferdowsee, inside nature, outside nature ,Zahhak.*

INTRODUCTION

Undoubtedly, epopee is the most unique works of Persian poetry in which the characters are portrayed in the best way possible. Poet describes the various virtues and moral cruelty, war and topography and these make the epopee as an artistic hub unprecedented. Eloquent poet spoke shows the eloquently of Persian language and impacts on the reader deeper by descriptions of inner and outer nature of man's. Wise write the adventures of war heroes with the words and Persian language is represented more stylish. Epopee themes have been part of the conflict between good and evil and secularist and spirituality throughout human history. The characters are trying to have good virtues. Balance between truth and moral grandeur and subtleties of expression and human characteristics and emotions of the great men of history and the sufferings endured to reach the stage of humanity made this book as a lasting impression. This question is raised that what are the characteristics of the characters or what behavior point was and what caused this behavior or a decision made. The answer to this question helps the reader to better understand the conclusions of their stories and the message Ferdowsi' epopee. These include internal nature. Other factors affecting is external nature. External nature is comprised of two parts: mountains, deserts, plains, forests and has a direct impact on mood. People who live in the desert are different with the humans who inhabited the forests. The second parts of external nature, which can be paid, are normal and abnormal actions that created with or without the intervention of human and events where humans are involved such wars. Ferdowsi created beautiful pictures and images with beauty. Nature in Shahnameh is image. Ferdowsi creates pretty pictures from the scenery by his ability. Our aim in this paper is to explain the nature inside and outside in Zahhak story.

In Persian mythology, Zahhak is embodiment of all evil and ugliness that appear in the world so often and develop destruction. Zahhak in Shahnameh, which includes part of the Iranian mythological history, is the imagination of evil and good and when govern on the world so there is the incarnation of evil, conflict between good and evil in his favor rests with the darkness of fear and repression all over the world.

Zahak entry into ruin is accompanied with depravity and darkness and when he is the king of the world, erudition and wisdom are lost and replaced by the cowardice and deceit. Snakes of his shoulders, although

Ferdowsi says that the devil gave him and was created by evil kiss, but truth is that both are symbols of his incarnated ideas. Thought that has not experienced justice and benevolence.

zahak

Avestan zahak: Azhy Dehak is myths of Iranian kings, Mardas's son and Martian plains king. He sits on the throne after killing his father; the Iranians were tired of Jamshid oppressions. King of Persia came to him and accepted him as king.

Evil kissed Zakhak shoulder and two snakes grew. Evil came to his aid and told that two snakes should eat the brains of two youths not to harm him. Thus the days of his reign last a thousand years, until the blacksmith named Kaveh came, his leather tore raised the flag of Freedom, he called people to support Fereidoon and battle with Zakhak and Fereidoon took Zakhak in Alborz Mountain (Damavand).

Zakhak in Avesta

In Avesta (Yasna 9-7, Yt. 23-5,34, 34:14, 19:27), Zakhak (In Avesta: Azhy Dehak) is a three-headed dragon that Fereidoon fights with him. Only it is in writings after Avesta that we see him as peoples(bahrami-1369:65). In Shahnameh, Ferdowsi, introduced him as a man and two snakes had grew due to evil kiss and wicked long in Iran and the slaughter of young Iranians and profits from their brains to stew for his shoulder snakes until the resurrection of Kaveh and Fereidoon, ABTIN's son, Zakhak was arrested and imprisoned in Alborz mountains.(bahrami-1369:71)

zakhak in Pahlavi literature

In Pahlavi writing, like Bundahišn 31-6, he was called sometimes Dehak and sometimes Azhy dehak and it is so far his fourteen ancestors were counted and eventually brings him to the devil. During the Pahlavi literature, Zakhak is with traits with thousand horses too. Based on ancient traditions, an athlete who can totally eliminate Zakhak is Garshasb, legendary Iranian hero who upset Zakhak in fourth millennium and the world will be thrown down" (mirfakhrayi-1367:60)

zahak in Middle Persian writings

"Based on the report of Middle Persian, usual place of Zakhak imprisonment is Damavand, Homavi, after a short report about Damavand glorious writes that Fereidoon, Ibn Asfyan Afrydvn Alasbhany arrested Zakhak in Damavand, According to Muhammad ibn Jarir Tabari: Zakhak had seven heads and is now in prison on Damavand Mount, Master believes that he has is sorcerer and dissolute.(hamavi-1367:475)

In Gardezi history it is mentioned that: "Afrydon arrested zakhak and took him towards Mount Damavand, in the way, Fereidoon slept. He said Mrbnad bin Fairuz to hold zakhak, Ibn Bendad was known as a man of courage and brave. And Afrydvn slept, Mrbnad said him, if you give me up, I will give you half of my kingdom. Afrydvn sat up and fastened other dams on the body ... then took him to Mount Damavand".(gardizi-1363:39)

In Tojarabol omam, we have that in response; Fereidoon said I will kill you to revenge the bull that was in my ancestor Cain.(meskoye-1366:61)

The nature inside Zakhak

In the first verses of Shahnameh which introduced Zakhak refer to his internal evil that Ferdowsi writes as follows:

There was a boy who not has any kindness

His name was Zakhak, brave, frivolous and foul (shahnameh-1376:44)

Due to his evilness, evil came into him and deceived him

One morning, evil came to him like a benevolent

Evil deceived him by kindness and Zakhak listened to him(shahnameh-1376:44)

Evil deceived Zakhak with his deceptive words and Zakhak who is evil and arrogant and swinger, welcomed evil speech. Devil deceived Zakhak in the first step:

Devil said that there is no one just you to deserve the kingdom(the same:44)

In next stage, he started to collapse Zakhak and suggested him to kill his father:

Why your father is the king and you should listen to me

You should give this wealth and become the owner of the world

If you believe me, you are the only person deserving for the kingdom(the same:44)

Because Zakhak is in the beginning, it is still hope for humanity. He has doubts and hesitation:

He thought, and got full of pain

He said devil that it does not deserve to kill his father (the same:45)

Devil does not allow Zahhak to return and deceives him:

Zahhak listened to the devil and ordered to kill his father(the same:45)

Zahhak asked about the remedy and devil explains that, his father was praying in the garden, Zahhak dig a deep well in his way, his father fell in the well and died. Here is the first stage of Zahhak destruction of human personality.

Ferdowsi said in the following that a child can't murder his father even he is so bad (the same: 46)

and believes that Zahhak is not legitimate

But maybe the spoke is another thing and secret is with the mother(the same: 46)

Then, devil who wants to destroy humanity appears to have a kind heart and introduces himself as a chef

After killing of his father, devil came as a kind and wise young

He talked to Zahhak in good way and always encouraged him

He said that if you accept me, I will be at your service all my life(the same:46)

Devil starts cooking the meat and Zahhak learned to eat meat alot . He triggered temper once it is fully belly. Each day he provides a variety of stews and Zahhak, due to animal and the evil mood turns into carnivore.

Zahhak enjoys the work and says:

Zahhak told the devil that you should tell me your dreams to meet (the same:47)

The devil here runs his next plan and asks Zahhak to kiss him on the shoulder

I have one dream that before dying, I can kiss the king shoulders

I don't have any other dreams(the same:48)

Zahhak was unaware of the devil intentions and allowed him to kiss. Two snakes came out of the place. As they cut, they grow back. Again, the devil will be in the role of a doctor to treat pain

Like a doctor, again devil came to cure Zahhak(the same:48)

The last phase of his plan was to destroy the world people, so devil run it. He said that the way to treat the pain is making stew right out of the human brain. Zahhak also listened to doctor. Zahhak after the killing of Jamshid, reached Iran kingdom. He married to Jamshid daughter and started to cruelty and he used two people brains used for food for his pain.

After several years, he dreamed

After 40 years, God wants another fate for him

One night that he was in deep asleep, dreamed that

Three was happened in the kingdom palace

Two were big wars and one was small war

They arrested Zahhak and brought him to Damavand Mount(the same:54)

Zahhak was greatly afraid and wake up

When he was asleep, he dreamed badly,

Such that he woke up and screamed (the same:54)

Zahhak is very worried and is looking for interpreter to interpret dreams. He defines his dream for the best interpreters across the country. After a few days, the interpreters interpret dreams after some day consultation, but do not dare tell it.

Three days passed and no one has dare to tell it

In the fourth day, Zahhak got angry

Finally one interpreter said if you want to live, other things should be lasting

The interpreters were afraid of his angry eyes(the same:56)

At last, the elder of the group interprets the dream that his inner character is like this:

From those clever interpreters, one was so wise and brave

He was tighter, so he went to Zahhak (the same:56)

He said from Fereidoon that the kingdom is lost by him, Zahhak got unconscious by fear

When Zahhak heard that, he got unconscious

Ferdowsi explains Zahhak inner emotion beautifully:

He started to find Fereidoon around the world

Neither quiet nor sleep nor eat from daylight (the same:57)

Zahhak is worried and restless.

Zahhak was so bad that he called Fereidoon day and night (the same:61)

Zahhak was looking for a solution to suppress the agitation and fear, a way to get out, in the first attempt he gathered the elders and said his problem

One is my enemy in secret and all wisdoms know that(the same:61)

He tells the solution: gathering the army:

I should add my army of people (the same:61)

Zahhak thinks to increase his army to prepare themselves to deal with Fereidoon . A second proposed command by Zahhak, writing notarized which he is a testimony and justice:

He told that I am worry

And a registry office should write that I am a good king (the same: 62)

Nature outside Zahhak

Zahhak is the hero sat on the horse and rides.

He rides the horse day and night, because he was a great king(the same:44)

Because of devil kiss, two snakes grew on his shoulders:

He kissed Zahhak and got disappeared

No one can see such a strange thing

Two black snakes grew and he got ill-favored(the same:48)

When Zahhak reaches kingdom, society got unorganized

Since his kingdom, all things got indistinct

Wisdoms withdrew and bad people came to the palace

Art got degraded and magic got precious

Truth got secret and bad things got clear(the same:51)

When Zahhak heard the interpreter, he fainted

His bed was from ivory and his crown was from turquoise

Zahhak bed was made of ivory and turquoise(the same:57)

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Kondro came to Zahhak to tell about Fereidoon news. Zahhak gets angry and responds:

Zahhak became angry as wolf; he heard the words of his death

He bestrewed the interpreter(the same:73)

Zahhak commanded to move back into his house to get out Fereidoon:

He told to prepare the horses

All his army got ready to come back(the same:74)

The Revolutionary Guards went toward Fereidoon army. They closed Zahhak way. Towns' people come together to help Fereidoon Corps:

All people were in the army

All supported Fereidoon army; all were tired of Zahhak cruelty(the same:74)

When Zahhak saw that he can't enter his palace,

He was looking for the solution;

he wore an iron cover and went up a roof by force (the same:75)

At last Zahhak fate was such that Fereidoon arrested him in Damavand Mount

CONCLUSION

Zahhak story is purely symbolic and snakes on his shoulders grown were signs involved in the destructive nature. Rampage battle between light and darkness the peoples throughout history have faced the issue like the monopoly of a certain time and the nation.

The battle between darkness and light, perversity and right, black and white, Ahura and evil, good and evil, whether in the form of myths and epics incorporated in national and religious traditions? The evil is formed in a character called Zahhak that is dictatorial and absolute power and undermine the young brains to destroy the world and destroying the human. When the despotic power of young people apparatus brain is destroyed, corruption, superstition, and stupidity can be replaced.

This story reflects the forces of good and evil in man., in this story, the conclusion is that pride is the unforgivable sin. Zahhak is one of the most prominent examples of humor wicked and wrong in the world, but also a moment of peace, no more suffering, and oppresses more and more. This story can be seen in the darkness of oppression and domination to replace the lighting, but after a while it seems to prevail and the wicked punished. Another important consideration is centered on the meaning of the story; in fact, a result of moral judgment is sinful and wicked in the end its oppression and insists the wrong of his unrest destruction.

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