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EXPLORING CONNOTATIVE MEANINGS AND SYMBOLISM IN ABDULLA KAHHOR'S WORK "THE PATIENT"

Annotation: this article delves into the connotative meanings embedded in Abdulla Kahhor's short story "The Patient." Through the analysis of key phrases, symbols and imagery, the article explores how connotations related to cultural, emotional and social factors inform the story's deeper meanings. It also discusses the role of irony, metaphor and cognitive psychology in revealing the characters' struggles with both physical and emotional distress. The analysis emphasizes the importance of connotation in understanding the societal and psychological dimensions of the narrative.

Key words: *connotative meaning, symbolism, evaluative components irony, metaphor, denotative meaning, stylistic devices, dramatic irony.*

Аннотация: это статья углубляется в коннотативные значения, скрытые в рассказе Абдуллы Каххора "Больной". Через анализ ключевых фраз, символов и образов статья исследует, как коннотации, связанные с культурными, эмоциональными и социальными факторами, формируют более глубокие смыслы рассказа. Также рассматриваются роль иронии, метафоры и когнитивной психологии в раскрытии борьбы персонажей как с физическим, так и с эмоциональным страданиями. Анализ подчеркивает важность коннотации для понимания социальных и психологических аспектов повествования.

Ключевые слова: *коннотативное значение, символы, ирония, оценочный компонент, метафора, денотативное значение, денотатив, драматическая ирония.*

Annotatsiya: ushbu maqola Abdulla Qahhorning "Bemor" hikoyasida mavjud bo'lgan konnotativ ma'nolarni chuqur tahlil qiladi. Asosiy iboralar, ramzlar va tasvirlarni tahlil qilib, maqola hissiy, madaniy va ijtimoiy omillarga aloqador konnotatsiyalar qanday qilib hikoyaning chuqur ma'nolarini aniqlashda rol o'ynashini ko'rib chiqadi. Shuningdek, ironiyaning, metaforaning va kognitiv psixologiyaning roli haqida so'z boradi, bu personajlarning jismoniy va hissiy og'riqlar bilan bog'liq kurashlarini ochib beradi. Tahlil hikoyaning ijtimoiy va psixologik o'lchamlarini anglashda konnotatsiyaning ahamiyatini ta'kidlaydi.

Kalit so'zlar: *Konnotativ ma'no, ramzlar, ironiya, baholovchi komponent, metafora, denotativ ma'no, denotativ, dramatik ironiya.*

Connotative meaning is the additional emotional, evaluative or cultural meanings associated with a word over and above its literal (denotative) meaning. The culture, history and worldview of each country also play an important role in contributing to the meanings. Viktor Vinogradov, a renowned Russian linguist, associated connotative meaning with the stylistic and expressive potential of a word. He defined connotative meaning as the evaluative and emotional undertones of a word. English and Western linguistics often separate denotation and connotation distinctly, influenced by philosophers like Ogden and Richards and Ferdinand de Saussure. In Uzbek connotative meaning most commonly arises through proverbs, metaphors, and traditional poetic forms that are infused with cultural and historical values. Uzbek scientists link connotation to firm national traditions, proverbs and national identity.

To support our arguments with evidence, we will analyze Abdulla Kahhor's short story *The Patient*. We will focus our attention on the epigraph of the work.

1. *The sky is clear and the ground is hard.*

On the surface, the epigraph appears to be setting the external environment or the weather: the absence of clouds invokes an image of a clear, cloudless sky. The phrase "the ground is hard" can be taken to mean that the earth is dry and hardened as though from cold weather. However, when one's mind is directed towards the symbolic and emotional connotations alluded to by the author, it becomes evident that there exists a deeper meaning embedded in the epigraph. Though life on the outside may seem peaceful and organized, it silently reflects the indifference and apathy that pervades the hearts of individuals and society as a whole.

Sotiboldi's wife became ill. Sotiboldi taught the patient - no, he showed it to the doctor. The doctor took blood. Betob's eyes widened and he felt dizzy. Bakhshi read. A woman came and beat him with a piece of string, slaughtered a chicken and bled.... All this, of course, comes with money. At such times, the thick is elongated and thin.

In the sentence "The doctor took blood. The patient's eyes widened and he felt dizzy," not only is the bodily weakness of the patient explained, but also his spiritual weakness — lethargy, despair, hopelessness. It reveals not only the suffering of illness but the isolation in society and the neglect of the socio-economic conditions of poor individuals.

There is only one doctor's office in the city. What Sotiboldi knew about this doctor's office was: a tall, beautiful white building buried in a tree in a cool, quiet park; There is a bell button on the gray glass door. Simgan did not go to the doctor's office when his master, Abduganiboy, who traded in seeds and sausages, was trapped under sacks that had collapsed in the warehouse. had gone. When he said the hospital, Sotiboldi thought of a 25-sum coin with a carriage and a picture of a white king.

Barthes, in his work on denotation and connotation, emphasized that symbols often carry deep cultural meanings. The white building here is not just a building — it is: "A mythologized image of the medical institution, coded as purity and salvation".

Thus, the white building in nature is an ideal, healing environment, yet distant and exclusive. In analyzing this work there is attention to word selection, sentence form, connotative meaning of sentences and phrases, for example, how words evoke person's feelings, cultural references, and symbolic associations. **"A tall beautiful white building"** **white-** in culture it signals purity cleanness and safety. In medicine as a symbol it is employed for security and faithfulness, which accords with G.Leech's hierarchy of connotative meaning. Thus, the white building in the midst of nature stands for an ideal, healing environment but a remote and exclusive one. Here, the focus lies on word selection, order and connotative meaning of sentences and phrases, i.e., the ways in which words elicit emotions, cultural allusions and symbolic worth.

"Tall, beautiful" — they are describing adjectives with positive affective load. In their testimony, the building is being presented as an ideal, dream-like environment.

2. "When he said the hospital, Sotiboldi thought of a 25-sum coin with a carriage and a picture of a white king"

Here in this phrase, connotative meaning can be analyzed since words and meanings don't supply the denotative meaning but extend down to emotional, cultural and social status too. The imagery of a 25-sum coin matters here. Coins are generally associated with their monetary value, but here it is combined with the hospital, which suggests some kind of relationship between economic value money and medicine. The image of the white king can symbolize not only economic value, value of money but also idealize and symbolize of power. The white color in culture usually symbolizes purity, trust, and safety. The image of the "white king" can symbolize idealism and even authority, though. Thus, hospital's relationship and white king's image can denote ideal type symbol or dominant societal order. This sentence denotes that Sotiboldi's perception of the hospital cannot be taken into account based on any reason against the healthcare system only against money needs. In Uzbek culture, there is typically a direct relationship between money and health, perhaps an economic one but possibly social as well. Sotiboldi considers the hospital to be a place that must be paid in order to have access to it. This suggests that access to health is a matter of social status and economic capacity. The white king image also carries connotations of idealism and authority, which connect to a perceived hierarchy system. The connection between the hospital and this image, hence, may suggest a hospital as an idealized institution but yet one that is not easily accessible to everyone, signifying elitism or limited access.

In Uzbek society, money and healthcare are often symbolically connected with economic inequality and social stratification. The reference to a 25-sum coin is that the accessibility of healthcare decided in terms of money, a broader social criticism of the character of the healthcare system.

In addition, the iconography of the white king is one of authority, purity and idealism, implying that healthcare institutions, while ideally represented as spaces of healing, are also founded upon social hierarchy and can be read as institutions of power whose function is to maintain certain exclusivities. Thus, this statement is connotative in meaning. The connection between the 25-sum coin, the white king, and the hospital reflects economic as well as social issues and captures attitude toward health care. The term denounces economic inequality, stratification of society and institution elitism of way of life behind the health care system, i.e., one's accessibility will typically be obstructed by both one's socio-economic status as well as material resources.

We will now focus on the next example:

The patient became heavier. Sotiboldi went to his master to complain, but he did not know exactly what he meant by that. Abduganiboy was very sorry to hear him say that he was ready to kick his wife if he could, and then asked:

"Did you bring anything to Devonai Bahovaddin?"
What about Gavsul Azam?

Sotiboldi is gone. He had to smile in front of the patient and at the same time earn a living - he learned to weave baskets. From morning till night he weaves baskets in rags and weaves baskets.

3. "The patient became heavier."

The patient has become heavier," typically indicates that the patient has put on weight. A weighing scale can be used to verify this, and the result is displayed in pounds or kilograms.

Implied Meaning (Indirect Inference):

When people use the word "**heavier**" they don't always mean weight. Additionally, it may indicate that

the patient is experiencing: worse on an emotional level, such as depressed, nervous or tense, mentally weary or overburdened.

In certain instances, it might indicate that the patient's general health—not just their physical health, but also their emotional and mental well-being—is deteriorating.

Metaphor: Feelings (such as stress or sadness) can be compared with the word "heavier".

4. "Sotiboldi went to his master to complain, but he did not know exactly what he meant by that".

Irony plays a big role in Sotiboldi's quest for help, which turns out to be ironically pointless since he can't quite express what's really bothering him. This situation reflects the idea of dramatic irony — the audience often understands his struggles better than he does. From a cognitive psychology perspective, this might indicate a meta-cognitive deficit, meaning he has a reduced ability to think about his own mental state.

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