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GEORGE ORWELL'S FIGURES OF SPEECH IN «ANIMAL FARM»

Abstract. This research paper aims to investigate the figures of speech in *Animal farm*. One of the aims of a literary text is to say as much as possible as briefly as possible, which means to say more in few words to achieve maximum effectiveness. Orwell uses personification in the novel *Animal Farm* to portray people of power and the common people during the Russian Revolution and to describe his feelings at that time. The study used the analytic method which found that: the writer wants to convey his message of this novel implicitly and indirectly, so he has used more types of figures of speech that have figurative meaning beyond their meaning. Many people read *Animal Farm* as a fable novel without paying attention to figurative meaning or discover what beyond the novel so Orwell succeeded in sending his message at the time that impossible to write directly about the policy, so he used figures of speech which decorated *Animal farm* and made them a unique novel among Orwell's novels.

Key Words: Figures of Speech; Allegory; George Orwell; *Animal Farm*; Russian Revolution.

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ЯЗЫК АЛЛЕГОРИИ В РОМАНЕ ДЖОРДЖА ОРУЭЛЛА «СКОТНЫЙ ДВОР»

Аннотация. В статье рассматриваются фигуры речи в романе Джорджа Оруэлла «Скотный двор» с точки зрения реализации одной из главных целей художественного текста – наиболее точно и глубоко в отобранных словах выразить экспрессию образа Оруэлл использует прием персонификации в повести «Скотный двор» для изображения персонажей власти и простых людей, связанных с революцией в России и описать их чувства в те времена. В статье анализируются типы аллегорических образов, в которых автор передает опосредованно свои мысли, оценки происходящего. Не имея возможности говорить напрямую о своем отношении к политике, Оруэлл использует аллегорию, фигуры речи для декорирования, создания условно сказочного эффекта от *Скотного двора*, что делает его роман уникальным среди других его произведений.

Ключевые слова: фигуры речи; аллегория; Джордж Оруэлл; «Скотный двор»; революция в России.

Figures of speech are figurative words for description of a situation in a figurative form in a specific language, which should not be attempted to be understood literally. Figurative expressions are found in all languages of the world. Personification has long been taken for granted as an important aspect of Western narrative. Personification, one of the symbolic tropes in the field of stylistics, has so far been an interesting study topic all over the world. It has both cognitive and expressive function, it is widely used in various linguistic styles: natural language style, political commentary style and literary language style. It could be seen that personification is one of the most common and vivid stylistic devices, which George Orwell (*Eric Blair 1903 – 1950*) uses in *Animal Farm (1945)* to beautify it. Personification, an indispensable technique could be used by writers to give their works great value, and it allows the character to express their feelings, helps the story unfold, and makes it more enjoyable.

In this paper, we will see some theories about personification, which takes a big part in *Animal Farm* and the

analysis of some literary devices that related to personification such as allegory and metaphor. On other hand, there are several instances when this literary element is prominently used in the book *Animal Farm*. To begin with, however, personification can be defined in a general way as giving things that are not human some traits that are largely attributable to humans. These traits could include but are not in any way limited to characteristics, action, feelings as well as qualities.

George Orwell was born in 1903, in Bengal, India, the son of a minor official in the Indian Civil Service. He was brought to England at an early age, and educated at St. Cyprian's, and then at Eton, on a scholarship. At Eton, he encountered, for the first time, popular liberal and socialist ideas, which were common subjects of discussion there, especially in the period immediately following the First World War. When he graduated, instead of going to a university, he joined the Indian Imperial Police. Orwell served in Burma from 1922 to 1927 until his dislike of imperialism induced him to resign. In 1945 Orwell published the first of the two books for which he is generally known, *Animal Farm*; like *Nineteen EightyFour* (1949), an anti-utopian novel, in the form of a political satire. The obvious subject of the satire is Soviet Russia, but more generally it deals with the totalitarianism of any kind. The language of these novels is full of allegories and symbols.

The term symbol in literature is often a figure of speech in which a person, an object, or a situation represents something in addition to its literal meaning [1]. Conventional or traditional literary symbols work in much the same way, and because they have a previously agreed upon meaning, they can be used to suggest ideas more universal than the physical aspect itself. A symbol may appear in a work of literature in several different ways to suggest many different things. An author may repeatedly use the same object to convey a deeper meaning or may use variations of the same object to create an overarching mood or feeling. Symbolism is often used to support a literary theme in a subtle manner [1] familiar. Emotions, abstract concepts and natural forces have all been given human characteristics in myth and literature.

One of the most prominent literary elements utilized in the book is an allegory. In all probability, *Animal Farm* is an allegory of the happenings in Russia in the period ranging between 1920 and 1940. The allegory, in this case, is delivered through old Major's speech which in basic terms presents all the key components of communism as were put down in the 1848 communist manifesto by the likes of Fredrick Engels and Karl Marx. Further, *Animal Farm* uses Russia's tsar, Nicholas II when it comes to the use of Mr. Jones as an allusion. George Orwell combined several of these methods in *Animal Farm*, which, under the guise of a fable, and expressed his disillusionment with the outcome of the Bolshevik Revolution and showed how one tyrannical system of government was replaced by another one.

Since Orwell's 'disguise' was a 'fable', it would be rather relevant to give some information about short fables, simple forms of naive allegory. The fable is usually a tale about animals who are personified and behave as though they were human beings. The device of personification may be extended to trees, stones, winds, and other natural objects. The early tales included humans and Gods as characters; however, fables tend to concentrate on animating the inanimate, which is the feature that isolates them from the ordinary folk tale-like Orwell's *Animal Farm*, fables tend towards detailed, sharply observed social realism which finally leads to satire. Orwell's allegory *Animal Farm* in the form of a beast fable, has been successful since it allows us to view the rise and fall of a change in society. If the characters had been human beings, a greater emphasis would have been placed on the characters, and the reader's reactions would have focused on the human emotions rather than on the forces and activities involved in the failure of society.

Personification is the attribution of human features to inanimate objects [2]. It is a tool that persons of truth are obligated to use; the goal of this tool is persuasion in the soul briefly, one aspect of rhetoric is style, which includes ornamentation; and one avenue for ornamentation is the use of tropes. There are many instances when this literary element is prominently used in the book *Animal Farm*. To begin with, however, personification can be defined in a general way as giving things that are not human some traits that are largely attributable to humans. These traits could include but are not in any way limited to characteristics, action, feelings as well as qualities. In *Animal Farm*, personification is a common occurrence.

George Orwell wants to send a message indirectly about what happened during the period between 1930 – 1950 by using animals. *Animal Farm* was published in England on 17 August 1945. According to Orwell, the book reflects events leading up to and during the Stalin era exactly before the Second World War, and it was written at a time when the wartime alliance with the Soviet Union was at its height and it was initially rejected by many British and American publishers. And this novel was a very interesting, complex, and informing novel. In the novel, George Orwell uses farm animals to portray people of power and the common people during the Russian Revolution. The novel starts with Major explaining to all the animals on the farm how they are being treated wrongly and how they can overthrow their owner, Mr Jones. They finally gang up on their owner and he leaves the farm. Then they start their farm with their own rules and commandments. Originally the two people in charge of the *Animal Farm*, which they titled, were Napoleon and Snowball. The main literary device that is used is personification, and this last is the attribution of human characteristics to something that is not human [3]. Hence, the novel is a great masterpiece in personification and symbols. The author here wants to tell the reader about communism and other types of government because in this story Mr Jones the owner of the farm is in danger of losing his farm. The animals are planning a rebellion against humans because they are treating them bad. Old major the oldest animal and the wisest organize all of it. When Old Major dies Snowball, Napoleon and Squealer take the lead of everything because the pigs are considered as the most intelligent animals on the farm. After that Napoleon takes the head of the government.

According to Paul De Man's theory, personification is the attribution of human characteristics to any inanimate object, abstract concept, or impersonal being [4]. In *Animal Farm* find that the pigs play an important role in presenting human being as personified pigs. Old Major is the father of 'Animalism'. He represents Karl Marx, but in some ways also symbolizes the original communist leader Vladimir Lenin. The book also says, that Old Major has been exhibited at shows under the name Willingdon Beauty who is trying to instigate animals against human beings and give them reasons and proofs about the despicable of human beings to make sedition between people (between animals): «*The Old Major said: [...] why, work night and day, body and soul, for the overthrow of the human race! That is my message to you, comrades: Rebellion! I do not know when that Rebellion will come, it might be in a week or a hundred years*» [5].

Here the Old Major is planning a rebellion against the owner of the farm Mr Jones, so, animal act as humans especially that they had made a meeting and they decide to make a Rebellion because they see that the owner Mr Jones does not give them their rights and this behaviour is human. Old Major has lived a life of ease as a show pig. However, this kind of life has allowed him sufficient time to think and to observe other animals, while the others spent their time concentrating on hard work and survival. Orwell wants to say that The old Major is the father of 'Animalism', which represents Karl Marx, but in some ways also symbolizes the original communist leader – Vladimir Lenin (in the book, Old major's skull is displayed similarly to the way Lenin's remains were displayed to the public) The book also says that Old Major had been exhibited at shows under the name Willingdon Beauty.

As to Napoleon he is correlated with Joseph Stalin, the second leader of the Soviet Union. *Animal farm* skips the short rule of Lenin (and seems to combine Lenin with the character Old Major) and has Napoleon leading the farm from the beginning of the revolution: «*One Sunday morning when the animals assembled to receive their orders Napoleon announced that he had decided upon a new policy. From now onwards Animal Farm would engage in trade with the neighbouring farms: not, of course, for any commercial purpose but simply to obtain certain materials which were urgently necessary*» [5]

The animals here wanted to engage with a trade, like a human, and this kind of treatments is human (between people or countries) to make deals or transactions. Besides that, trade has rules, so we understand that the animals act like humans, and Orwell's motive here is to show the Nazi-Soviet pact. Napoleon is a huge boar, quite fierce-looking and often getting his way although he does not talk much. Even before the Rebellion, these traits lead the other animals to think that he has a great depth of character compared to Snowball, which represents Leo Trotsky. Trotsky was one of the original revolutionaries. But as Stalin rose to power he became one of Stalin's biggest enemies and was eventually expelled from the Politburo in 1925 – one year after Stalin took control of the nation. Snowball is exiled from the farm

just as Trotsky had been in 1929. But Trotsky was not only exiled in body but was also exiled from the minds of the Russian people. His historical role was altered; his face cut out of group photographs of the leaders of the revolution. In Russia, he was denounced as a traitor and conspirator and in 1940 a Stalinist agent assassinated him in Mexico City. «*One Sunday morning when the animals assembled to receive their orders Napoleon announced that he had decided upon a new policy. From now onwards Animal Farm would engage in trade with the neighbouring farms: not, of course, for any commercial purpose but simply to obtain certain materials which were urgently necessary*» [5]. The animals here wanted to engage with a trade like a human, and this kind of treatments is human (between people or countries) to make deals or transactions. Besides that, trade has rules, so we understand that the animals act like humans, and Orwell's motive here is to show the Nazi-Soviet pact.

Personified Horses in *Animal Farm* represent the middle and working class of revolutionary Russia. Boxer represents the working class. Boxer is portrayed as being a dedicated worker, but as possessing a less-than-average intelligence. In the next passage, Boxer expresses remorse after having inflicted physical harm upon a human being while defending the farm from an impending attack. «*He is dead, 'Boxer said sorrowfully.' I had no intention of doing that. I forgot that I was wearing iron shoes. Who will believe that I did not do this on purpose?*» [5].

Clover represents Boxer's female counterpart. In the next passage, clover is trying to learn the alphabet A, B, C, D. But learning is human behaviour and is a classic example of the assignment of human characteristics to animals i.e. learning whereas, in real life, animals cannot learn. «*Clover learnt the whole alphabet, but could not put words together. Boxer could not get beyond the letter D. He would trace out A, B, C, D, in the dust with his great hoof*» [5].

Personified Dogs represent the military or police. Throughout *Animal Farm*, the dogs are generally portrayed as blindly obedient, and minimal description is given in regards to the way the dogs' characteristics develop throughout the story. However, the next passage personifies the dogs in such a way that reveals they are indeed able to read, as well as their intellectual interests or lack thereof. «*The dogs learned to read fairly well, but were not interested in, reading anything except the Seven Commandments* [5].

Personified Sheep represent the masses at large. They (like horses) are characterized in terms of their blind obedience to the pigs; however, their innocence is more accentuated as is their simplicity of mind. The next passage alludes to their ability to memorize a phrase as well as the ability to verbally recall the memorized information. «*When they had once got it by heart the sheep developed a great liking for this maxim, and often as they lay in the field they would all start bleating 'Four legs good, two legs bad! Four legs good, two legs bad!' and keep it up for hours on end, never growing tired of it*» [5].

As it is was, this article aimed to find out the effect of using figures of speech on the *Animal farm* and understanding figures of speech used for explaining speech beyond its usual usage. The acquired result shows that the writer wants to convey his message of this novel implicitly and indirectly, so he has used more types of figures of speech that have figurative meaning beyond their meaning. Many people read *Animal Farm* as a fable novel without paying attention to figurative meaning or discover what beyond the novel so Orwell succeeded in sending his message at the time that impossible to write directly about the policy, so he used figures of speech which decorated *Animal farm* and made them a unique novel among Orwell's novels.

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