

# The Unique Characteristics Of Khudoyberdi To'Xtaboyev's Work "The Land Of Sweet Melons Or The Battle Of The Magics"

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## ABSTRACT

This article highlights the artistic features of Khudoyberdi Tukhtaboev's work "The Land of Sweet Melons or the Battle of Wizards" which holds a special place in children's literature, as well as ideas that serve to expand children's worldview through fantastic images, an adventurous plot line, and the author's unique humorous style. The dynamic development of events in the work, the skill of the characters in creating characters, the combination of national and fairytale elements are interpreted from a scientific point of view. Through this work, the role of Kh.Tukhtaboev's work in Uzbek children's science fiction is also substantiated.

**Keywords:** Children's fantasy, adventure motifs, system of images, humorous style, nationality, fairy tale elements, vices, fairy tale-novel, good-evil.

## INTRODUCTION

Children's literature is one of the literary trends of invaluable importance in the formation of national spirituality, expanding the horizons of thinking of the younger generation, and establishing educational upbringing. Especially in the second half of the 20th century and during the period of independence, Uzbek children's literature was enriched in content, developed with new ideas, artistic explorations, and genre diversity. In this process, the role of Khudoyberdi Tukhtaboev's work is of particular importance, and the adventure-fantasy works he created are an important stage in the formation of children's literature.

The writer's work "The Land of Sweet Melons or the Battle of the Wizards" is recognized as one of the works that develops children's imagination, artistically illuminates life's truth through fantastic events, and is rich in humor and adventure. The combination of characters in

the work with realism and fairytale imagery, plot dynamics, comical situations, the laws of the fantastic world, and ideological depth determine the peculiarities of the author's style. Through this work, Tokhtaboyev not only creates an interesting story for children but also artistically embodies national values, diligence, honesty, and the ideas of goodness.

Therefore, the scientific study of the poetic nature of the work, the harmony of fantastic and adventure elements, national and universal aspects of the characters' personalities is of great importance in understanding the stages of development of Uzbek children's literature. In this article, these aspects are analyzed in detail.

## METHOD

One of the works of the famous children's writer Khudoyberdi Tukhtaboev, written in an adventure-

fantastic style, is the fairy tale novel "The Land of Sweet Melons or the Battle of Wizards". This work is a logical continuation of the works "Riding the Yellow Giant" and "Death of the Yellow Giant". It depicts the adventures of Hashimjon's friend Akbarjon and "Magic Hat". In this respect, there is a dependence on the two works listed above. The work "The Land of Sweet Melons or the Battle of the Wizards" differs from the works "Riding the Yellow Giant" and "Death of the Yellow Giant" by the high level of fantastic imagery. In both of these works, there are many adventure-fantastic images. Only where the Magic Hat is involved is there a fantastic image. In "The Land of Sweet Melons or the Battle of the Wizards", the fantastic image is not only connected with the Magic Hat. The work is based on fantastic imagery from beginning to end. The Magic Hat develops from the middle of the work.

"Thank God, a truly fantastical work has finally been created in Uzbek children's literature. We sincerely congratulate the author and ask the publishers to publish it in large quantities as soon as possible" [1; 4]

From this description, we can also see that the work was received with great interest by the creators and readers. Also, the following aspects deserve special attention in the novel. National diversity - the adventures of the heroes are enriched with Uzbek landscapes, rural life, folk jokes and proverbs, which helps to feel the "Uzbek" spirit in the events.

Through the symbolic representation of the struggle between good and evil - fantastic images, the author artistically interprets the struggle between human vices (lie, boastfulness, bribery, slander, laziness, malice, envy, etc.) and virtues (loyalty, honesty, truthfulness, sincerity, justice, love, courage).

The work was published in 1986 by the "Young Guard" publishing house. At the "Cholpon" publishing house, following the last words of folklorist scholar Omonullo Madayev, another 100,000 copies were printed. A year later, in 1989, he was awarded the State Prize of Uzbekistan. The work was published several times after this. In particular, it was republished in 2012 by the "Yangi asr avlod" publishing house, and in 2023 by the "Yoshlar matbuoti".

The author focused on the following 4 aspects, stating that four situations in the work must have caused it to be readable and passed from hand to hand:

1. More space is given to the fantastic situation;
2. Improved humor as much as possible;
3. Opposite situations - the preservation of the conflict until the end;
4. My good laughter at life's truth and flaws in behavior and morals.

Analyzing from these 4 perspectives:

The fact that more space is given to the fantastic situation is manifested in the following aspects. In the work, the author harmonizes the scenes of real life with the miraculous world. Symbols such as "Land of Sweet Melons", "Magical Devil", "Magic Hat" take the reader out of everyday life and lead him into the world of imagination. These cases are:

- The hero's transition to other worlds;
- Images associated with the magical melon;
- A sharp change in the situation through magical objects;
- Processes of using medicines prepared by Dar Daraja and Akbar Akbari against waste products.

"The Devil of Magic's tricks in changing his appearance"

If we talk about the strengthening of humor to the extent possible, then Kh.Tukhtaboev is a master of the appropriate and effective use of humor in children's literature. In the work:

- The characters' wit and humorous language;
- The funny parts related to Akbar's habit of dropping melons, his nose's ability to smell.
- Humorous depiction of some characters;

The main dramatic conflict in the work is the struggle between Akbarjon and the Sorcerer Devil, and this conflict does not lose its force until the last pages. Let's pay attention to the fact that he mocked the vices of life and

behavior. Against the backdrop of fantastic events, the author exposes shortcomings in real life:

- wide spread of such vices as greed, deception, laziness;

-Proponents of goodness, on the other hand, extol virtues such as honesty, courage, and diligence.

- such an artistic approach strengthens in children's minds the feeling of aversion to bad behavior and appreciation for good behavior.

Based on the above considerations, we can draw the following conclusion:

Fantasy - opens the door to imagination;

Humor - makes reading enjoyable;

Conflict - makes the event exciting;

The truth of life gives the work educational content.

Therefore, "The Land of Sweet Melons or the Battle of the Wizard" is interesting and exciting not only for children, but also for adults.

Khudoyberdi Tukhtaboyev noted that the plot of the work is taken from Uzbek folk tales. The plot that gave the creator, who was the basis for writing the work, endless fantastic ideas, was as follows:

"A poor and destitute person's donkey gets fat. When he takes her to a healer, he says the cure is easy, take one walnut, crack it, chew half, apply it to the fat on the donkey's back, and eat the other half yourself. The poor man did as the healer said: in the morning he came out and saw, oh my, a walnut tree had grown on top of the donkey. The harvest was abundant. The poor man leads his donkey to the plowed field, throws clods of earth, and begins to shake the nuts. Oh my, neither a walnut nor a clod will fall! When he climbed the tree, he saw that two plots of land had appeared above it. When throwing a clod, a single melon seed fell there along with the clod. It sprouted and began to bear fruit. So many melons, each one is like a small chest. When he takes his knife from his side and tries to smash one of them.

## CONCLUSION

Khudoyberdi Tukhtaboyev's work "The Land of Sweet

Melons or the Battle of Wizards" is one of the major works created in the direction of adventure-fantasy in Uzbek children's literature. In it, the plot characteristic of folk tales, folk humor, national spirit, and modern artistic means are combined. The work sharply criticizes the struggle between good and evil, vices in society - laziness, boastfulness, bribery, envy, malice, greed, cowardice. At the same time, such qualities as honesty, loyalty, courage, and diligence are glorified. Fantastic imagery, humor, sharp conflict, and real-life truth are the main elements that enhance the artistic value and educational impact of the work.

The author skillfully used forms of fantastic expression - exaggeration, absurd logic, symbolism. As a result, simple social problems are transformed into a lively, expressive, and readable artistic scene in the reader's imagination.

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