APHORISMS AND PROVERBS: MAIN DIFFERENCES

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Annotation This article reveals the main differences between aphorisms and proverbs, by observing the definition, distinctive features of each one separately. Moreover, this article observes each linguistic unit separately, by providing information on proverbs and their functions, simultaneously revealing the distinctive features of them compared to aphorisms.

Key words: aphorisms, proverbs, language, distinctive features.

Аннотация В данной статье раскрываются основные различия между афоризмами и пословицами, путем изучения определений, отличительных особенностей каждого из них в отдельности. Кроме того, в данной статье рассматривается каждая языковая единица отдельно, предоставляя информацию о пословицах и их функциях, одновременно раскрывая их отличительные особенности по сравнению с афоризмами.

Ключевые слова: афоризмы, пословицы, поговорки, высказывания, язык, отличительные свойства.

ANNOTATSIYA Ushbu maqolada aforizmlar va maqollar o'rtasidagi asosiy farqlar ularning har birining o'ziga xos xususiyatlarini o'rganish orqali aniqlangan. Bundan tashqari, ushbu maqolada har bir til birligi yakka xolda ko'rib chiqilgan bo`lib, maqollar va ularning funksiyalari haqida ma'lumot berilgan, va bu ayni paytda aforizmlarga mansub bo`lgan o'ziga xos xususiyatlarini ochib berishga xizmat ko`rsatgan.

Kalit so'zlar: aforizmlar, maqollar, madaniyat, til, o'ziga xos xususiyatlar.

With the increasing interest in studying aphorisms simultaneously, the need to clarify the true definition of it is also growing, which supposes making clear differentiating points between aphorisms and very similar to this language tool – proverbs.

If we consider the most popular international dictionaries, the following definitions of an aphorism are given:

— *"A phrase or clause, concise and possibly memorable, expressing some piece of everyday wisdom:"*[8, p.245]

e.g. 1) Handsome is as handsome does 2) Oscar Wilde was famous for such aphorisms as "Experience is the name everyone gives to their mistakes."[8, p.43]

While in Oxford concise dictionary of linguistics provides with the next definition:

— *"a concise statement of a principle"*

— *"a terse formulation of a truth or sentiment:"*

— *an ingeniously terse style of expression: aphoristic language*[4, p.245]

According to Matveev T.V:

— *"An aphorism is a concise, terse, laconic, or memorable expression of a general truth or principle. They are often handed down by tradition from generation to generation."* [6, p.31]

While for the proverbs:

— "…a short sentence, etc., usually known by many people, stating something commonly experienced or giving advice"

— *"The appetite, says the proverb, grows with eating."*[4, p.556]

Therefore, there may occur question that each of these definitions can be attributed to proverbs, but there are still clear distinctions between these concepts and aphorisms. Let us analyze them.

There are following distinctive features between proverbs and aphorisms:

The first distinctive feature is <u>Source/Origin</u>

Unlike aphorisms, a proverb *is "a short folk saying that is stable in speech, has the ability to use multiple meanings and has an edifying meaning and often a rhythmically organized structure,"*whereas aphorisms have multiple origins starting from folk to prominent individuals in media, literature, politics, sport and etc. However, despite the similarity of the definitions of proverbs, the above-mentioned controversy about aphorisms involved them in its orbit. The next distinguishing factor is that,

Author

Aphorisms have a literary origin and a certain author, while proverbs are the product of folk-poetic creativity only.

Lack of ambiguity/ (implementation)

An important property of proverbs is the ambiguity of their application. If you take, for example, the proverbs: */There is no smoke without fire/, / Rome was not built in a day/* — they are interesting for us not in themselves, but because everyone can find many life situations that these proverbs perfectly fit. This polysemy provides proverbs with a large distribution, mass reproducibility. Aphorisms do not have the ability to use multiple meanings in speech on the principle of analogy, and they are not characterized by mass reproducibility; their origin gives them a purely personal, individual character.

The presence of a prosaic tone

Aphorism is mainly a prose genre and, with relatively rare exceptions, has a one-dimensional-direct meaning.

Complex lexical structure

The vocabulary and syntax of proverbs, which are based on folk colloquial speech, are usually simpler, while aphorisms are characterized by more complex, refined syntactic constructions (for example, the aphorisms of great writers about love):

— *"It is not true that love makes all things easy; it makes us choose what is difficult."*[2, p.4]

George Eliot

— *"Each time that one loves is the only time one has ever loved."*[2, p.2]

Oscar Wilde

— *"First love is a kind of vaccination which saves a man from catching the complaint the second time."*[2, p.4]

Honore de Balzac

As the examples indicate, aphorisms have a complex construction of creating multiple turns, most often complex sentences are all about them. Moreover, this complexity of construction is not created deliberately in aphorisms; it is organically inherent in aphorisms, because they most often contain deep philosophical generalizations, while proverbs reflect the everyday wisdom of the people.

Huge subject matter

Compared to proverbs, aphorisms are not limited by generally accepted topics. A Moreover, thematic differences between aphorisms and proverbs are huge. The overwhelming number of proverbs is with moral and practical nature, while the object of aphorisms is multifaceted. Some other features of aphorisms, such as their "high style", are not peculiar to proverbs. Aphorisms are more than proverbs in this sense. Aphorisms have a motivating factor in this sense.

Therefore, it follows that the above-analyzed facts indicate the presence of significant differences between proverbs and aphorisms and allow us to conclude that the proverbial and aphoristic genres are independent.

As for the development trend of these two genres, we can assume that aphorisms have more bright promising future. Due to the rise of popular culture, the rapidly developing Internet space and the increasing importance of literature in people's lives, which undoubtedly affect negatively to the growth rate of folk art. The method of spreading new thoughts by word in oral way is naturally shortened. This is probably true, and therefore it can be considered that in comparison with proverbs, aphorism is a more promising genre of literature. Since existence of social media including Instagram, Facebook Telegram etc. where everyone can share, upload, download beautiful illustrations with aphorisms on them,

prolongs the existence of this linguistic phenomena. For a more in-depth study of the topic of scientific work, it is also necessary to analyze the historical development of aphorisms.

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