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Extended Abstract

Internal Structure of Mental Spaces in Metaphors of the Story of "Rostam and Sohrab" Based on Fauconnier's Theory

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Introduction

Metaphor is one of the topics that has always been discussed in literature and has been looked at from different perspectives. Among the new approaches is the cognitive view of metaphor, which can be found in Fauconnier's theory (Fauconnier, 1994). From Fauconnier's point of view, metaphor can be analyzed in terms of mental spaces. Mental space is defined as going from one space to another.

The characteristic of the approach of mental spaces and the general cognitive view of metaphor is that metaphor is considered to be a wider and more flexible phenomenon compared to its conception in traditional view, including in literature. The metaphors of the text of "Rostam and Sohrab" are not uniform and are significant from different dimensions. The common feature of all metaphors is that the power frame controls them from above. Metaphors differ in their abstraction. The metaphors attributed to Rostam and Sohrab are on the way of becoming abstract, but a group of metaphors of *Makniyeh* go from abstract to concrete. Another subcategory of *Makniyeh* metaphors can be analyzed in terms of the relationship between the components of a frame.

Background

One of the issues raised in literature is whether metaphor in literature is different from non-literary texts. In this regard, there are two main approaches: first, the approach that believes in the lack of connection

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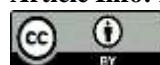
between literary metaphors; second, the approach that believes in the connection between literary and non-literary metaphors (Mukaŕovský, 1970:42).

In the texts, this deviation from language norm brings parts of the text to the foreground and practically gives the reader a new world view and perspective. In this tradition, metaphor is interpreted as a linguistic deviation at the semantic level (Short, 1996:43).

This group of researchers considers metaphor in literature to be different from metaphor in non-literary texts because metaphors interact with each other and other aspects of the text (Nowottny, 1965:72ff).

Although specialists such as Leach and Short are fully aware of the cognitive nature of metaphor, they nevertheless emphasize its linguistic nature. In contrast, Tsur (1992:1) uses cognitive theories in poetry to construct and influence them. Tsur believes that metaphorical expressions have a logical contradiction that can be solved by suspending the characteristics of the vehicle and transferring them to the tenor (1992:209ff).

In opposition to the general belief in the lack of connection between literary metaphors and other metaphors, Lakoff and Johnson (1980) and Lakoff and Turner (1989) present a cognitive theory based on the premise that natural language is full of metaphors, and poems can be considered the center of new metaphors that comprise the foundations of everyday creative use (Lakoff and Turner, 1989:67-72). The advantage of this approach is that it can justify the common dimensions of metaphor in the readers' interpretation of literary texts.

Discussion

Rostam's mental spaces include his representations as wolve, tiger, lion, moon, fire, sea, dragon, bergamot, and Ahriman or the devil. These are categorized as animals (wolf, leopard, lion), nature (sea, fire), celestial bodies (moon), otherworldly beings (Ahraman), imaginary beings (dragon) and fruit (bergamot).

Rostam, like Sohrab, is projected in different mental spaces, which can be examined in the parts of nature (sun, fire, sunlight, sea), animals (sheep, wolf) and concepts (darkness). The layers that activate the metaphoric spaces of the text give an image that is naturalistic and heavenly while endowed with forces that are common in everyday life. These characteristics make the story of Rostam and Sohrab distinguishable from the text under the influence of transcendental forces and virtual and unreal discourses. Makniyeh metaphors are classified in two categories: one group of metaphors can be analyzed in the form of a frame and the relationship between its components, and another group is significant in terms of their abstract path because, unlike other metaphors, they move from the abstract to the concrete.

Conclusion

Metaphors in the cognitive form of mental spaces are considered to go from one space to another space and this is done by the linguistic expressions in the text as activators. The metaphors of the text of "Rostam and Sohrab" can be analyzed in several formats: metaphors for which more general categories can be activated, and these categories, despite the linguistic diversity, all activate a metaphor in the text, and therefore several

mental spaces are associated with a metaphorical space. The power frame is the most important frame that connects the metaphors of the text. Another category of metaphors in the direct text is metaphor activator, and general categories do not play much of a role for them. Another group of metaphors are also present in the text that activate a process space and are worthy of attention from the perspective that their frame is very active and adds elements to the text that are in the text itself. The constancy of the elements in these frames is worthy of attention from the cognitive aspect because cognitive grammar considers linguistic expressions as activators that can activate any frame from a theoretical point of view. However, regarding the metaphors of Makniyeh, this activation is much more limited than what is proposed in the cognitive grammar. These metaphors add usually human elements to the inanimate space of the text and expand their meanings compared to their usual uses in language. The direction of movement of metaphors is also worthy of attention due to being objective or abstract. Most metaphors in the text follow a path from concrete to abstract; however, regarding the metaphors of Makniyeh, there are metaphors in which the direction of movement of the metaphor is from abstract to concrete, while in the cognitive view, the direction of metaphor is mainly from concrete to abstract. The rate of occurrence of metaphors and their types show that the metaphors of people have the greatest impact in the text and the discourse of the text is influenced by natural factors.

Keywords: metaphor, frame, mental spaces, mapping

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