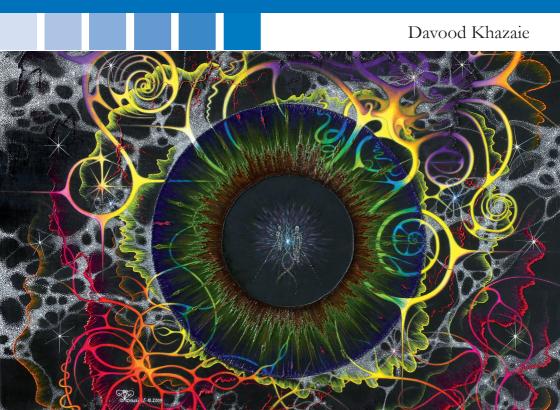
# **Human Frailties and Faculties**

Social Relationships in English, Persian and German Folktales



## **Human Frailties and Faculties**

# Social Relationships

in English, Persian and German Folktales

Davood Khazaie

Zugleich: Dissertation, Universität Osnabrück, 2017, Fachbereich Sprach- und Literaturwissenschaft, Gutachter: Prof. Dr. phil. Thomas Kullmann, Prof. Dr. phil. Peter Schneck

### Berichte aus der Literaturwissenschaft

## Davood Khazaie

## Human Frailties and Faculties

Social Relationships

in English, Persian and German Folktales

Shaker Verlag Aachen 2019

#### Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek

The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available in the Internet at http://dnb.d-nb.de.

Zugl.: Osnabrück, Univ., Diss., 2017

Copyright Shaker Verlag 2019

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publishers.

Printed in Germany.

ISBN 978-3-8440-6473-5 ISSN 0945-0858

Shaker Verlag GmbH • P.O. BOX 101818 • D-52018 Aachen Phone: 0049/2407/9596-0 • Telefax: 0049/2407/9596-9

Internet: www.shaker.de • e-mail: info@shaker.de

## To

 $My\,wife, Masoumeh$ 

My daughter, Parniyan

My son, Parsamehr

## Acknowledgements

I would like to express my special appreciation and thanks to my advisor Prof. Dr. phil. Thomas Kullmann for encouraging my research, for insightful comments during the study, and for overhauling different versions of the research. Without his constant guidance this project would not have been accomplished. Thanks are also due to Prof. Dr. phil. Peter Schneck for his time in reading and reviewing the text. I would also like to thank Prof. Dr. phil. Ulrich Marzolph, who kindly accepted our invitation for being the guest advisor in this regard. He read the manuscript and made brilliant comments and suggestions which improved it greatly. I should also thank Prof. Morteza Khosronejad (the director of SUCCLS) who was always there for supporting me by his keen ideas.

Special thanks are dedicated to my beloved wife Masoumeh Javadifar for her persistent support, guidance, and encouragement in the moments of need.

## Contents

Chapter I.	Introduction
1.1.	Folktale as a Universal Genre 1
1.2.	Materials of the Study 7
1.3.	Center and Periphery 13
	Centration and Decentration 15
1.5.	Deconstruction in Folktales 18
1.6.	Bakhtin's Concept of Carnivalesque-grotesque in Folktales 21
1.7.	Review of Prominent Studies on Folktales 23
	1.7.1. Propp's Morphology of the Folktale 24
	1.7.2. Freudian and Jungian Studies 24
	1.7.3. Bengt Holbek's Interpretation of Fairy Tales 25
	1.7.4. Jack Zipes and Maria Tatar 25
1.8.	Purpose of the Study 26
1.9.	Methodology 27
1.10	. A Survey of the Main Chapters 28
Not	es to Chapter 1 32
-	Far from the Maddening Crowd
	Introduction 37
	Summary of "The Maddening Crowd" 45
	Analysis of "The Maddening Crowd" 48
	Three Other Persian Variants 53
2.5.	English Variants 55
	2.5.1. "The Three Sillies" 55
	2.5.2. "Jack Hannaford" 56
2.6.	German Variants 57
	2.6.1. "Die kluge Else" ("Clever Elsie"/"Clever Alice") (KHM 34)
	57
	2.6.2. "Die klugen Leute" ("Wise Folks") (KHM 104) 59
2.7.	Techniques of Decentration in Tale Type "ATU 1450 - Clever
	Elsie" 60

2.8. Bakhtin's Concept of Carnivalesque-grotesque and the Tale Type

1450 65 2.9. Conclusion 68

#### Chapter 3. Art and Vengeance

- 3.1. Introduction 73
- 3.2. Summary of "The Wandering Nightingale" 80
- 3.3. Analysis of "The Wandering Nightingale" 82
  - 3.3.1. Variants with Murderous Father 82
  - 3.3.2. Stepmother in Center-Periphery 83
  - 3.3.3. The Helper and Rituals of Rebirth 87
  - 3.3.4. The Song of Revenge 90
  - 3.3.5. Parental Cannibalism vs. Parental Protection 92
  - 3.3.6. Domesticity and Socialization 94
  - 3.3.7. Initiation and Transformation 94
- 3.4. Summary of "The Rose Tree" 98
- 3.5. Analysis of "The Rose Tree" and Comparison with Other Variants 99
- 3.6. Bakhtin's Concept of Carnivalesque-grotesque and the Tale Type 720 107
- 3.7. Conclusion 108

Notes to Chapter 3 112

#### Chapter 4. Of Things Deformed and Broken

- 4.1. Introduction 113
- 4.2. "Läuschen und Flöhchen" ("The Little Louse and the Little Flea") 119
- 4.3. "Titty Mouse and Tatty Mouse" 121
- 4.4. "Flea in Tandoor" 124
- 4.5. Comparative Analysis 128
- 4.6. Bakhtin's Concept of Carnivalesque-grotesque and the Tale Type 2022 134
- 4.7. Conclusion 135

Notes to Chapter 4 138

### Chapter 5. In Quest of Power

- 5.1. Introduction 143
- 5.2. "Tischchen deck dich, Goldesel und Knüppel aus dem Sack" 148
  - 5.2.1. Summary 148
    - 5.2.2. Analysis 149
- 5.3. "The Ass, the Table, and the Stick", Summary and Analysis 157
- 5.4. "The Crow and the Bean Gardener" 159
  - 5.4.1. Summary of "The Crow and the Bean Gardener" 159

- 5.4.2. A Glance at Other Persian Variants 160
- 5.4.3. The Vermin as Helper 164
- 5.5. Comparative Study of Major Variants 165
  - 5.5.1. Initiation 165
  - 5.5.2. Instruments of Power 168
  - 5.5.3. Techniques of Decentration 169
    - 5.5.3.1. Metafictionality (Narrator's Intrusion and Self-revelation) 169
    - Happy Ending, Exaggeration, Inversion, Multiperspectivism, and Reversibility 171
- Bakhtin's Concept of Carnivalesque-grotesque and the Tale Type
   172
- 5.7. Conclusion 173

Notes to Chapter 5 176

#### Chapter 6. Stubbornness and Subversion of Gender Roles

- 6.1. Introduction 177
- 6.2. "The Jamming Pan", an English Variant 185
  - 6.2.1. "The Jamming Pan", Summary 185
  - 6.2.2. "The Jamming Pan", Analysis 186
- 6.3. "The Stubborn Man", Sobhi's Variant 187
  - 6.3.1. Summary of "The Stubborn Man" 187
  - 6.3.2. "The Stubborn Man", Analysis 190
- 6.4. A Glance at Other Variants of "Silence Wager" in Persian Tales
  - 6.4.1. Tales with One Antagonist not Four 196
    - 6.4.1.1. Phillott's Variant 196
    - 6.4.1.2. Mashdi Galin Khānom's Variant 198
- 6.5. German Variants 201
- 6.6. Bakhtin's Concept of Carnivalesque-grotesque and the Tale Type 1351 204
- 6.7. Conclusion 205

Notes to Chapter 6 207

### Chapter 7. Justice and Injustice in a Society Ruled by Scoundrels

- 7.1. Introduction 213
- 7.2. "Divān-e-Balkh" ("The Court of Balkh"), Summary 221
- 7.3. Analysis 231
  - 7.3.1. General Analysis 231

		7.3.2. Character Analysis 232		
		7.3.2.1. Mehrak 232		
		7.3.2.2. Pīr-e <u>k</u> āksār (The Humble Old Man) 233		
		7.3.2.3. Simeon 234		
		7.3.2.4. The Qāżi and his Friends 236 7.3.2.5. Šahr-āšub 238		
	7.4.	English Variants 241		
		7.4.1. A Variant in <i>Cursor Mundi</i> 241		
		7.4.2. The Ballad, "Gernutus, the Jew of Venice" 242		
	7.5.	German Variants 243		
		7.5.1. "Kaiser Karl's Recht" ("The Emperor Charles's Law") 243		
		7.5.2. "Kaiser Lucius' Tochter" ("The Emperor Lucius's Daughter"		
		245		
	7.6.	Bakhtin's Concept of Carnivalesque-grotesque in "Divān-e-Balkh		
		247		
		Conclusion and overall Comparison 248		
	Note	es to Chapter 7 252		
Chanton	8 Ca	onclusion		
Chapter		An Overall Review 255		
		Review of the Tales 256		
	0.2.	8.2.1. A Review of Persian Folktales 256		
		8.2.2. A Review of English Folktales 259		
		8.2.3. A Review of German Folktales 262		
	0 2			
		A General Review of Persian, English and German Tales 264 Common Features of Folktales 267		
	0.4.			
		8.4.1. Being Culture-bound 267		
		8.4.2. Being Intertextual 271 8.4.3. Being Satiric 273		
		<ul><li>8.4.4. Being Deconstructive and Subversive 275</li><li>8.4.5. Being Carnivalesque-grotesque 277</li></ul>		
	9.5	Concluding Remark 278		
		es to Chapter 8 280		
	TNOU	isto Chapter 6 200		
Appendi	ces			
-r r	4	I. 1. 202		

## A

Appendix 1 283 Appendix 2 289 Appendix 3 309

## Bibliography

Primary Sources 317 Secondary Sources 323

#### Indices

Index of Tales, Ballads, Games 343
Index of Motifs and Tale Types 348
Index of Persian, Arabic and Turkish words, phrases, proverbs 352
Index of names and characters in the tales 355
General Index 357