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## THE COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF LULLABY POETICS IN ENGLISH AND KARAKALPAK LANGUAGES

**Abstract.** This article presents a comparative analysis of the poetics of lullabies in the English and Karakalpak languages, examining their thematic content, structural elements, and cultural significance. English lullabies often emphasize comfort, security, and parental love, using nature imagery and simple, repetitive structures to create a soothing effect. In contrast, Karakalpak lullabies incorporate blessings, references to the nomadic lifestyle, and cultural symbols, reflecting the traditional values and oral traditions of the Karakalpak people. Both traditions use repetition, rhyme, and rhythm to calm and reassure the child, although the specific literary techniques and motifs differ based on cultural contexts. This study highlights the universal purpose of lullabies in providing comfort and the unique ways in which different cultures achieve this through their poetic traditions. By exploring these differences and similarities, the article offers insights into how lullabies function as a means of cultural expression and continuity.

**Keywords:** lullabies, poetics, English Language, Karakalpak Language, cultural expression, thematic analysis, structural elements, oral traditions, rhyme

**Introduction.** Lullabies are a universal form of expression that transcends cultural boundaries, offering a unique window into the values, traditions, and emotional landscapes of different societies [8]. These simple, yet profound songs are primarily designed to soothe infants and young children, but they also serve as a vital means of cultural transmission, embedding within them the hopes, beliefs, and traditions of their respective communities. In this article, we explore the poetics of lullabies in two distinct linguistic and cultural contexts: English and Karakalpak. The primary purpose of this research is to conduct a comparative analysis of the poetics of lullabies in English and Karakalpak languages. By examining the thematic content, structural elements, and cultural significance of lullabies in these two languages, we aim to uncover both the universal and unique aspects of these songs. Through this comparison, we seek to understand how different cultures utilize lullabies not only as a means of comforting children but also as a medium for cultural expression and continuity.

**Methodology.** We used a comparative analytical approach. The study involves the collection and analysis of lullaby texts from both English and Karakalpak sources. Key criteria for comparison include thematic content, structural elements, and cultural symbols. By systematically examining these aspects, we aim to draw meaningful insights into the poetics of lullabies in these two languages.

**Literature review.** Lullabies have been the subject of various scholarly studies that explore their psychological, cultural, and linguistic dimensions. According to Trehub and Trainor, lullabies play a crucial role in the emotional and cognitive development of infants, providing not just comfort, but also a means of early language acquisition and bonding between the caregiver and the child [7]. Research by de l'Etoile underscores the universal features of lullabies, such as their slow tempo, simple melodies, and repetitive structures, which are designed to soothe and calm infants [2].

N.Dawqaraev notes that common themes in Karakalpak lullabies include parental love, safety, and the natural world, with frequent references to the moon, stars, and nighttime settings. The structural simplicity of these lullabies, characterized by repetitive phrasing and melodic lines, is highlighted as a key feature that aids in their soothing function [4].

**Results.** English lullabies primarily aim to create a sense of comfort and security for the child. They often feature soothing, reassuring language that helps to calm the child and prepare them for sleep.

For example, "Rock-a-bye Baby" begins with an image of a baby being gently rocked, creating a sense of physical comfort and safety.

Rock a bye baby, on the tree top,

When the wind blows the cradle will rock.  
When the bough breaks the cradle will fall,  
And down will come baby, cradle and all.

Rock a bye baby, gently you swing,  
Over the cradle, Mother will sing,  
Sweet is the lullaby over your nest  
That tenderly sings my baby to rest.

From the high rooftops, down to the sea  
No one's as dear as baby to me  
Wee little hands, eyes shiny and bright  
Now sound asleep until morning light

Rock a bye baby, on the tree top,  
When the wind blows the cradle will rock.  
When the bough breaks the cradle will fall,  
And down will come baby, cradle and all.

The lullaby is believed to originate when women working in fields used to take their babies along to work and tie their cradles to the branches of the trees so that the wind could rock them to sleep.

Karakalpak lullabies often contain blessings and good wishes for the child's future, reflecting a deep cultural emphasis on invoking protection and prosperity. These lullabies frequently include prayers for the child's health, happiness, and success in life. For instance, a typical Karakalpak lullaby might bless the child with strength, wisdom, and a prosperous future, underscoring the parents' hopes and aspirations for their offspring.

For example, Besik jiri indicates the blessings of mother to their child:

Háyyiw-háyyiw, qàràgım-àw,  
Aydày bolgàn shıràgım-àw,  
Jurt súymese súymesin-àw,  
Ózimniń súygen àydàyım-àw.  
Háyyiw-háyyiw, hàydàsı-ày,  
Qàshàn tiyer pàydàsı-ày,  
Oqıp àdàm bolgàn soń-ày,  
Sondà tiyer pàydàsı-ày.  
Háyyiw-háyyiw, àq bópem-ày,  
Aq besikte jàt, bópem-ày,  
Apàn toygà ketkende,  
Jilày kórme, sen, bópem-ày.  
Aynàlayın àppàgım-ày,  
Qızlar kiygen qàlpàgım-ày,  
Qàtarińnàn kem bolmày-ày,  
Ashılgày bálàm, bul baxtıń-ày.  
Aynalayın degende,  
Aylar kóship baradı,  
Qarağım meniń degende,  
Kúndey kúlip baradı.  
Meniń balam tayınshaq,  
Jal quyırığı bir qushaq,  
Terbenbestiń boyında,  
Shawıp júrgen qulınshaq

Háyya, háyya appagım,  
Gúl ishinde japırađım,  
Qozım meniń gúl bolğay,  
Jıynađanım toy bolğay,  
Toyım toyğa ulasqay,  
Dáwlet kelip ornasqay.

This traditional Karakalpak lullaby features repetitive, rhythmic phrases that are soothing to the child. The lyrics include blessings and wishes for the child's health and prosperity, invoking natural elements like the steppe and animals to create a peaceful atmosphere. The use of cultural symbols, such as strong animals and resilient plants, emphasizes the community's values and hopes for the child's future.

**Discussion.** The comparative analysis of English and Karakalpak lullabies reveals both universal and culturally specific elements in their poetics. Both traditions utilize themes of comfort, love, and protection, employing repetition and rhythm to soothe children. However, the cultural contexts significantly shape the thematic content and structural elements of the lullabies. English lullabies often use universal nature imagery and simple rhymes, while Karakalpak lullabies embed rich cultural symbols and metaphors, reflecting their nomadic heritage and spiritual beliefs.

This comparison underscores the dual role of lullabies in providing immediate comfort and in fostering cultural continuity. By examining these differences and similarities, we gain a deeper understanding of how lullabies function as a means of cultural expression and preservation, highlighting the intricate ways in which different societies nurture and transmit their cultural identities through poetic traditions.

**Conclusion.** This comparative analysis of English and Karakalpak lullabies reveals significant insights into how different cultures use lullabies not only to soothe and comfort children but also to transmit cultural values and traditions. Despite their differences, both traditions share the universal goal of providing comfort and security through song. The findings of this study highlight the importance of understanding lullabies as more than just soothing songs for children. They are a vital part of cultural heritage, playing a crucial role in the transmission of cultural values and traditions. The comparison of English and Karakalpak lullabies demonstrates how different cultures adapt this universal form to reflect their unique identities and experiences. By recognizing the cultural significance of lullabies, we can gain a deeper appreciation for their role in both personal and cultural development.

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