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A STYLISTIC ANALYSIS OF GHANI KHAN'S THE PATHAN

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ABSTRACT

The study aims to explore the style of Ghani Khan in his work *The Pathans*. He has used a unique style and structure which is significant for the researcher. The book contains figures of speech such as simile, metaphor, anaphora, satire, personification, juxtaposition, hyperbole, symbol, alliteration, and oxymoron. Through these devices, these have deflected the norms, values, history, and politics of the Pathan tribe. These are thoroughly researched and examined stylistically in the paper using the approach of Barry's presentation of literary devices of linguistic and stylistic categories. Barry's concept allows for critical interpretation of language descriptions. According to the study's findings, the author used various figures of speech in his book to provide a vivid description of the Pathan tribe and their way of living their history and politics as well. Furthermore, the study finds that Khan has used a unique style and used many literary devices to portray the norms, values, and culture of the Pathan tribe. His choice and arrangement of words plays a vital role in the deflection of the Pathan tribe.

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

The Pathans is a work by Ghani Khan. He expounds on the culture, customs, traditions, norms, politics, and laws of a specific cast, *The Pathans*. He contradicts all stories and so-called historians regarding Pukhton being a Jew because of his nose, and he also refutes the historian (Herodotus) who links Pathan with the Bactain. Abdul Ghani Khan thinks that Pathans are a combination of all races, including Persians, Greeks, Mongols, and Turks. He also sheds light on their folk songs, customs, blind faith in magic and priests, and their nature of taking Revenge. He elegantly portrays Pathan's character in three words: *the most complex simplicity*. He also writes about Pathan's nature, saying that he loves music but hates artists, sings love songs yet executes his daughter's lover. He is the one who aspires to be a fighter but does not wish to serve in the military. He is the sort of person who can only be defeated if you make him your friend. This masterpiece is designed for individuals who have a strong desire to learn about the characteristics of the Pashtun people.

Ghani Khan

Ghani Khan was born in 1914 in Utmanzai village in district Charsadda and died in 1996 in Peshawar. He was the eldest son of Abdul Ghaffar Khan, who was the political leader of Pathans. He got his early education in Azad Afghan School. After completing matriculation, he was sent to Delhi Jamia Milli to get some Islamic education, and then sent to England for higher studies but could not continue his studies due to financial and domestic problems because his father was arrested. He also took part in politics and became a member of the legislative assembly in 1945 later he founded a force of youth, which he named Zalmi Pashtoon. In 1954 he lifts politics and devoted himself to art and literature. He was keen in depicting image and study imprisonments He begins his literary career by writing columns with name *Gadi Wady* in a weekly journal *Pakhtoon*. His columns were published regularly in the journal. He wrote *The Pathans* in 1947. This book is translated into Pashto, Urdu, and Sindhi languages. Among his contemporaries, he was regarded as the greatest poet of 20th century of Pashto poetry. His first poetry book, '*Da Panjry Chaghar*' is written 1965. He published other poetry books such as *Kulyat* and *Latoon*. He also wrote a book *Khan Sahib* in Urdu language.

Style

Styles for individuals, genres, ages, times, writings, or languages might be used. Style is a linguistic expression. Every form of analysis seeks to define the artistic principle which underlying an author's choice of speech or poet's choice. It thus expresses the style of speech, structure, and formality of words. This might be professional, casual, conversational, lyrical, or extremely personal. Style is the way the thoughts and philosophy are expressed and portrayed in the phrase. Besides the choice of words as the form of expression, a literary instrument is an important aspect of the style, which include figures of speech, rhythm, composition and the structure and length of the sentence. Ghani Khan's

approach is understated in *The Pathans*, and he discusses Pathans beliefs, history and a variety of topics and shows the true traits of a character.

Stylistics

Stylistics is a critical approach to literary study that employs the tools and discoveries of linguistic research. The word stylistics was coined in the twentieth century with the goal of demonstrating how technical linguistic characteristics of a literary work, such as the grammatical structure of its sentences, contribute to the overall meaning and effect of the work. Critics of stylistics explain technical features of a text's language, such as grammatical structures, and then utilize this information to interpret it. The aim of stylistics is to examine language, especially the role of creativity in word choice and its contribution to meaning construction. Stylistics increases our thinking processes, and language exploration enhances our understanding of literary texts. The interpretation and acknowledgement of various literary works identify different objectives of stylistics research. Most literary conclusions are based on impressionism or subjectivity, with no evidence provided in the text to back up the claim. As a result of studying stylistics, it is possible to make conclusions about the text. The decision regarding the fact that whether a particular literary text is "Great" or not can be taken based on the objective realities of language present in the text itself. (Barry, 2002).

Research Questions

What style has Ghani Khan adopted in *The Pathans*?

How has Ghani Khan employed literary devices to describe the character of a Pathan?

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

The Pathan has been reviewed by various critics; the observations of these critics have been discussed in this chapter. According to Yousafzai, Ghani Khan is an ardent critic of the social customs and laws and always challenges the flaws of the system, makes fun of pseudo-intellectuals, hollow religious leaders, ignorant and hypo-critic politicians, and rulers. However, a huge portion of his works has a vivid message of resistance and revolt against the colonial system. He advocates his people to get united, topple the British Raj, and set free themselves from colonial bonds through the use of force and violence. Sahibzada (2001) observes that Ghani Khan is a passionate devotee of freedom and an ardent anti-colonialist and his poetry and prose embody a message of liberty from the British Raj. He has accommodated the themes of anti-colonial discourse and the resistance of the *Pakthuns* against the British rulers. He was born during the colonial period (1914) and experienced the colonial cruelties which hit his educational career and professional talent. The colonial rulers put his father behind the bars and owing to economic constraints he could not complete his education. Ghani Khan, as a writer and poet have a unique style that he hammered out for his themes and depiction. His creativity touches several literary dimensions, and his works can be divided into various phases. *The Pathan* is written in the English language, published in 1947, and is dedicated to Khan Abdul Ghafar Khan (Bacha Khan), a great anti-colonialist

and reformer. The tone and style of the book indicate that it is addressed to the colonial rulers as in the very introductory chapter, Ghani Khan informs them that the *Pathans* tribe is living on the most unfortunate side of India which is adjacent to a great power Russia (USSR). He warns that Russia would play a dominant role in political matters in the coming time. However, owing to the strategic locations they would lock horns with the *Pathans* tribe, before they come to the then British rulers of India. The last chapter of the book is "Politics" which tells us about the political struggle of the *Pakhtuns* against the British Raj. Ghani Khan informs the British rulers that *Pakhtuns* love freedom and history is witness to it that they never tolerated the foreign aggression. He challenges the policies of the British Raj and argues that during the two hundred years of rule, the British Raj tried to introduce the practice of bribery and corruption in the *Pakhtun* society. The most vulnerable section among the *Pakhtuns*, according to Ghani Khan, is the priests, Khans, pseudo-religious leaders, and intellectuals who supported the colonial policies for the titles and vested interests. However, among the *Pukhtuns*, there exist great freedom fighters like Bacha Khan. He has discussed in detail the struggle and rise of the *Pukhtuns* against the colonial rulers. He informs the readers that the first *Khudai Khidmatgar* and reformer Bacha Khan came forward for the reformation of the *Pakhtuns* and offered his resistance against the British rulers. He refused to accept a commission in the British army and settled the score with the foreign aggressors who had taken the *Pakhtuns* into their clutches. He was aware of the talent and strength of his people; however, the local representatives of the rulers could not sense the respect of human rights. The first violation was the raid of the assistant commissioner at the village of Utmanzai and the arrest of the innocent and respectable people of the village including Behram Khan, (father of Bacha Khan), Bacha Khan, and other notables. A heavy fine of sixty-five thousand rupees was imposed upon them and they were treated inhumanly during the custody. However, they decided to accept the challenge of the English rulers. They thought about various strategies to get rid of the cruel rulers and their savage policies. (Yousafzai, 2018). Yousafzai summarizes the text of *The Pathan* in very simple language. He discussed every chapter of the book and concluded that Ghani Khan has given the readers a picture of *Pathan* ethnicity that he could grasp.

Similarly, Jalal (2017) talks about the colonial aspect of the book that in the following book Ghani Khan informs the colonial rulers that *Pathans* tribes are living on the most unfortunate side of India which is adjacent to the great power Russia. However, the researcher is stylistically analyzing and especially, focusing on literary devices which are implied by Ghani Khan in text of *The Pathans*. These reviews by the following critics suggest that the text of *The Pathans* has not been analyzed from the stylistics viewpoint. So, the following review is about the style and stylistic analysis. This is link the both the sections with each other.

Style is a broader term. It can be discussed in many ways. Like the style of a person walking, eating and son and so forth. In the same way, a person may have different speaking and writing style. The writing style is discussed by the figurative stylistics as, the author's style that can be seen from the use of figurative and literary work. The analysis of the figurative language stylistics

may cover the choice of the figurative language, the meaning of figurative language, and the specific meaning or purpose of using the figurative language as employed by the author. In other words; why the author chooses to use that specific figurative language and do the figurative contain the author's own interpretation of the word. (Leech and Short, 1981)

According to Peter Barry (1995) stylistic is the way of making criticism on literary texts by linguistics element. Stylistic can provide a thorough analysis since it has a lot of tools and can cover a lot of areas. The stylistic approach deals mainly with textual analysis and its technical usage in a literary text. In the dictionary of stylistics (2001), Wales explained that stylistic is the study of style. It is variable in terms of the approach that exists since it is deeply affected by vastness and linguistics and literary criticism. The purpose of stylistic criticism is to identify the style and the text and its important meaning in the text.

Figurative language uses unusual features semantically or grammatically. Meanwhile, figures of speech are used and creating imagination by comparing two or more different things Furthermore, it stated that figures as the smallest deviant language unit and figures do not follow the rule of linguistic. (Wales, 2001).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Qualitative research is based on data gathered via direct observation, interviews, questionnaires (on which participants write descriptively), focus groups, participant observation, field recordings, documents, and artifacts. Generally, the data are not numerical. Ethnography, grounded theory, discourse analysis, and interpretive phenomenological analysis are all examples of qualitative techniques. While the process of collecting and analyzing numerical data is known as quantitative research. It can be used to look for patterns and averages, make predictions, test causal relationships, and extrapolate results to larger groups. The objective of research methodology is to provide a research work plan. The sort of study that is being considered is qualitative. *The Pathans* by Ghani Khan is the subject of this study, which includes a stylistic analysis. The approach or mode of expression is referred to as style. Stylistics is a bridge between linguistic and literature. It is a method of analysis as well as theory. Stylistics is a literary text presentation style in which the writer wants to convey his or her ideas in his or her in a unique way. This research paper analyzes the literary text of Ghani Khan's book *The Pathans* to identify literary elements. As an approach, the stylistic analysis is used in this study. The stylistic analysis approach is used to investigate figures of speech such as simile, metaphor, anaphora, satire, personification, juxtaposition, exaggeration, symbol, alliteration, and oxymoron.

Research Design

Research design is the framework or technique adopted by the researcher while working on the project. In this paper the researcher adopted qualitative method of research, in which peter berry theory of stylistics is applied on the text of *The Pathans* to find out literary devices which are used in different chapters of the

book. The applications of literary devices which are used in the text are further analyze and their exact meaning is extracted.

Data Collection

The data is directly taken from *The Pathan* by Ghani Khan. The researcher collects data by stylistically analyzing *The Pathans'* text and identifying the specific literary devices used in various sections of the book *The Pathans* and *Style in fiction: A linguistic introduction to English fictional prose (2nd Ed.)* are the major sources of information.

Stylistics as a Method of Analysis

Stylistics is a critical approach to literary study that employs the tools and discoveries of linguistic research. The word stylistics was coined in the twentieth century with the goal of demonstrating how technical linguistic characteristics of a literary work, such as the grammatical structure of its sentences, contribute to the overall meaning and effect of the work. Critics of stylistics explain technical features of a text's language, such as grammatical structures, and then utilize this information to interpret it. The aim of stylistics is to examine language, especially the role of creativity in word choice and its contribution to meaning construction. Stylistics increases our thinking processes, and language exploration enhances our understanding of literary texts. The interpretation and acknowledgment of various literary works identify different objectives of stylistics research. Most literary conclusions are based on impressionism or subjectivity, with no evidence provided in the text to back up the claim. As a result of studying stylistics, it is possible to make conclusions about the text. The decision regarding the fact that whether a particular literary text is "Great" or not can be taken based on the objective realities of language present in the text itself. (Barry, 2002)

Stylistics and Literary Devices

A literary device is any specific aspect of literature, or a particular work, which we can recognize, identify, interpret and/or analyze. Both literary elements and literary techniques can rightly be called literary devices.

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Ghani Khan used very symbolic and metaphoric language. Figurative devices have been used in each chapter of *The Pathan* in a very distinctive way. The researcher aims to find out the figure of speech in Ghani Khan's work.

Simile

A simile is a figure of speech in which the comparison of two dissimilar things is involved. A simile uses terms like "like" or "as" to demonstrate similarity. In everyday speech, similes tend to represent basic comparisons taken from nature. Ghani use a simile in the second chapter of *The Pathan* 'History' "Ants as big as Dogs" (p.02) In the same chapter, he makes the comparison "like Greek he is a great poet and great warrior" as Greeks are great poets and fighters, thus he

compares Pathans with Greeks and says that a Pathan has the same traits and attributes as a Greek. In chapter 10 “politics” Ghani compare the spirit of Bacha khan against British with steel “but his spirit was like steel” (p.53).

In the third chapter “Folk Song”
 Are like the flowers of Narcissus
 O the groom is as a pine
 O the boy is tall like a poplar
 Look his body is big as a mountain
 Like a golden partridge.
 Like dirt under his feet (p.07)

In the same chapter, another simile is used “So cover your dove-like eye and grow claws” (p. 09) here the parent preparing their child for the upcoming consequence of life, take care of their selves, comparing his eyes with the dove and grow your claws to protect himself from the evil in society.

Metaphor

It is a common figure of speech that makes a comparison by directly relating one thing to another unrelated thing. Unlike simile there will be no use of words “like” or “as” for comparison. In the third chapter in which folksong of Pathans are listed, metaphor is used as “The bride is a bush of roses” (p. 08) here bride is directly compared to a bush of rose’s means that the bride is beautiful like she is a bush of rose. In the same chapter ‘he compares his beloved with an unrelated object like “You are my morning star,” You the flower on the slope” (p.07) you the white snow on the peak”. Similarly in the same chapter another metaphor is used “He becomes a hawk”. In the tenth chapter where the politics of Pathans have been discussed and a metaphor is used to describe the personality of a Pathan “Pathan imagines he is Alexander the great” means that Pathan compares themselves with Alexander, that they are brave and intelligent like Alexander the great who created one of the largest empires of the ancient world.

Anaphora

Anaphora is when a certain word or phrase is repeated at the beginning of a sentence or clause which follows each other. This repetition stresses the sentence while adding rhythm to the passage, which makes it more memorable and enjoyable. While analyzing the text of *The Pathans* stylistically the researcher notices that in the third chapter Ghani Khan uses anaphora “O my life, O my soul, O my little mountain poppy” (p.07) through the repetition of “O my” make the phrase more emotionally change and sounds good. Similarly in the same chapter, another anaphora is used “You are my morning star, you the flower on the slope, you the white snow on the peak” (p.07) here the repetition of “you” gives rhythm to the phrase and beautify it. Other examples of anaphora that are applied in the work are:

“His struggle, his dreams, his field, his watchtower, his new rifle and his old wife” “Nor dark, nor clever” (p.12)

In chapter nine the repetition of “his” and “Them” gives the rhythm to the phrase and beautify it.

“He ate with them, slept with them, and gambled with them”

“He mixed up hopelessly his fear of his cousins with his fear of the Lord” (pp. 40-41)

Satire

Satire is the use of sarcasm, irony, exaggeration, or ridicule to expose and condemn someone's ignorance or vices. Satire does two things: it pokes fun at things like ideas, people, or institutions. It's not only for fun; it's also meant to enlighten or provoke thought about the topic under consideration. In the second chapter, Ghani Khan used satire to criticize the historian 'Herodotus,' who authored a false history of *The Pathans* and called them Bectians. In the same chapter, Ghani Khan uses satire "Herodotus is perfectly truthful and has thus written the biggest number of lies" (p.04). Herodotus is mocked here because people trust him, which is why he wrote so many lies.

Personification

Personification occurs when an inanimate object is given human characteristics in its description. You will find examples of using personification in the second chapter of examining the text, but not when describing individuals. “Carved stones tell their story anyone who would care to listen to” (p. 04). Similar, personification is employed in the first chapter: "A blank sheet of paper staring stupidly into your face." (p.01). Here, "staring stupidly" is a human characteristic given to the blank sheet of paper.

Juxtaposition

Juxtaposition is a figure of speech in which two or more than two things are presented side by side to point out their contrasts. In juxtaposition, two opposing ideas are put beside one another like Ghani Khan used juxtaposition in the chapter 'History' “He is a good shooter, and a bad soldier” (p.05) in the same chapter he used another juxtaposition “He was a good sculptor and a poor Buddhist” (p.05). Similarly in chapter “folk song” Ghani Khan used another juxtaposition “The Pathan may shoot the lover of his daughter but he will sing to the glory of love” (p.14). In last chapter “His greatest virtue and his greatest drawback” is another example of juxtaposition which is used by Ghani Khan.

Alliteration

It's considered alliteration when two or more words have the same first sound and are near to one another. While the repetition of letters is a common element of alliteration, the repetition of sounds is important. “He is hot-blooded and hot-headed and poor and proud” (p.05) in this sentence, there is a repetition of sound both in hot-blooded, hot-headed, and poor and proud. In chapter fourth, another example of alliteration is “*Khudai Khedmatgar*” in which the repetitions of the same sounds are involved. In chapter sixth “Custom” “it is a subtle system of

selective breeding" (p.29) here the repetition of the same words is involved like "subtle, system, selective".

Symbol

The symbol is defined as any image or thing which stands for something else. It is a representation of an object, function, or process, symbolism is employed like in the first chapter *The Pathans*. "Look at his nose most people, claim that he is a Jew" (p.03). In the nose, the individual belonging to a specific group is symbolically employed for identification. The "Black magic" which is the symbol of evil is also mentioned in Chapter eight.

Oxymoron

An oxymoron is a verbal figure that combines opposites. The combination of these contradictory components reveals a contradiction, confusion, and laughter to the reader. Oxymoron is a self-contradictory word or collection of words. Oxymoron is employed as "Complicated simplicity" in the first chapter with two conflicting terms. Another example of an oxymoron is the "intellectual bumpy," which is mentioned in the fourth chapter.

Hyperbole

Hyperbole is a speech figure in which an author speaker exaggerates to an extreme intentionally or obviously; it is employed for criticizing and humoring a description. In chapter four of *The Pathans* Ghani Khan employs the "by fire" hyperbolic fire by the use of the term "crackling," i.e. fire-making noise. In Chapter 8, "Charmers are the greatest enemies of men" (pp. 36-37) is another exaggeration employed here by using the term "greatest" which gives charming people the most in every aspect. In the opponent is exaggerated. Likewise in the first chapter "Great eater and big hunter" (p.03).

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

To sum up, everything mentioned in this book the writer has made his writing vibrant and stylish by using numerous figures of speech across practically all the chapters of the book. The author compares Pathans with other creatures using similes and metaphors. The historian, who created the false Pathans history, criticized the satire. The distinctiveness of a Pathan has been transmitted through juxtaposition. In hyperbolic phrases, the fundamental character of Pathans is emphasized. The writer symbolizes the look of Pathan tribe, who resemble Judaea in symbolism. Moreover, Ghani Khan attracted the readers' attention to the book by indicating alliteration. In addition, in the opening chapter, the writer used an oxymoron to urge readers to know about tribe complexity in the book. In addition, Ghani Khan provided the real Pathan ethnicity portrait and described from all perspectives The Pathan ethnicity. The book suggests the theory of stylist on *The Pathans* text to identify several literary techniques in the book. The book's style is really special, simple, and imaginable. A speaking figure is used in the text and is the book's major feature. Through stylistic research, the researcher discovered some of Ghani Khan's literary figures of speech in his book "*The Pathans*." However, interpreting this

work through stylistic perspectives is insufficient. It is further recommended that the reader examine the aesthetic elements of Ghani Khan's poems. They may interpret Ghani Khan's views toward Nature by doing an Eco-critical analysis of his work. Ghani Khan Works contain many elements like love, revolution, and spirituality.

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