

## THE ROLE OF RIDDLES IN UZBEK FOLKLORE

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**Abstract:** In proverbs, mythological views related to nature and the universe, the image of plants and animals, as well as astromythological ideas are directly expressed, while in riddles they are expressed directly through metaphorical speech. If we look at the genesis of Uzbek folk riddles, it becomes clear that the ulam arose in connection with the magic-mythological views related to the cult of words and the tradition of "secret speech" in ancient symbolic-ritual ceremonies. Consequently, the euphemistic lexicon was formed based on the belief that the terms denoting the names of specific things and events are directly connected with the object or subject to which they belong, and one requires the other.

In ancient times, fortune-telling had a seasonal character, and it performed the function of determining whether the year would be fruitful or unblessed. The ancient riddles, which served as the verbal score of a specific magical action or archaic ritual, i.e. the interpretation expressed in words, had a symbolic-ritual essence. That's why in riddles there are often clues related to the inagical views that formed the essence of ancient rituals. The characteristics of the ancient form of performance of the puzzle are also visible in the symbolic statements based on questions and answers during the mourning ceremony.

The unique nature of riddles is one of the most important aspects of the poetic thinking of our ancestors - the ability to see the different and similar aspects between different things and objects, and on this basis, the tradition of artistic expression of the interrelationship of objects through metaphorical speech. is defined by its embodiment. While the artistic-aesthetic perception of reality has brought the tradition of using words in a figurative sense in the speech communication of people, in folklore it is the basis for the formation of riddles based on the interpretation of the essence of things and events by means of "hidden speech". has been As noted by the famous English scientist E. B. Taylor, the riddle appeared in the history of culture together with the riddle, and its heyday corresponds to the lower and middle stages of civilization. In his opinion, the riddle was not a modern word game leading to dry humor in the traditional form of question and answer, but it was a task in an ancient form that required a serious answer? The fact that among our people there are specific

rites related to telling a riddle and its "opening", i.e., finding the answer, indicates that in the past riddles were performed as a folklore example with a sacred-magical function. If the answer to the riddle is not found, following the traditions known as "giving the city" and "giving the fortress" in the vernacular, and performing certain question-and-answer statements in this process are the remaining rudiments of the ancient performance form of this jan.

In the past, riddles were told mainly on winter nights. At least two people, two groups, that is, the one who tells the riddle, and those who solve it, and those who find the answer, were required to perform the riddle. It was necessary to find the answer to the said riddle. If it is difficult to find it, additional instructions are given to make it easier. Additional questions about the features of the puzzle were definitely answered by those who found the answer. Even then, if the answer is not found, the finders "gave the city". "Taking the city" was done by shaming the person who couldn't find the riddle, making a joke, and thus entering the circle. The derogatory words spoken during the "City Giving and Taking" process did not bother the participants. On the contrary, morale and cheerfulness appeared in the circle. Riddles are found in poetic or prose structure. Most of them are metaphorical riddles. Aristotle, a great scientist of antiquity, emphasizes that riddles are made up of metaphors: "In practice, the essence of a riddle is to talk about something that really exists, and at the same time to combine something that is completely impossible. If it cannot be achieved through (commonly used) words, it is possible through metaphors". defines the essence of the traditional riddle.

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