
ALLUSION IN POETRY OF TWO LANGUAGES UZBEK AND ENGLISH

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Abstract

Allusion is as a main part of what majority of writers and poets use, so it's worth defining the word as a stylistic device and term by exploring some of the issues that arise from its use in literary texts and poems. Initially though, a handy one-sentence definition might help: allusion is when a writer or the poet calls into play the work of another writer, implicitly mentioning that other writer by name. If the writer is mentioned, it becomes a reference. An allusion, therefore, is often implied and not direct, rather than being spelt out for the reader.

Keywords: stylistic device, reference, mythological allusions, Biblical allusions, Qur`anic allusions.

Introduction

Many poems and novels contain words, phrases, or complete lines borrowed from other poets and writers being referenced. The allusion often creates a metaphor which intensifies and vivifies the poet's message by hinting, indicating, illustrating, or suggesting deeper meaning to the reader.

There are times when allusions in poems are not easily identifiable, and one must track down the reference to understand the meaning intended by the poet in order to better understand the poem. That process is easier today. Tracking down allusions makes the meaning of the poem richer, because if you do not know what the poet is alluding to or the mental picture the poet is attempting to create through the allusion, then the effect is lost.

One of the masters of allusion was the poet T. S. Eliot. His poetry was filled with allusions. Some of his favorite sources to shape his poems were the works of Dante or the Bible in famous poems he wrote, such as *The Wasteland*. Several of his references were from those two sources. Eliot was a literary scholar and the technique of allusion was a hallmark of his poems. John Milton's famous Epic Poem, *Paradise Lost*, is another classic with countless allusions, mostly to the Bible.

Allusions in English Poetry

Example #1: *Paradise Lost* (by John Milton)

“All night the **dread less Angel** unpursued
Through Heaven`s wide Champaign held his way; till Morn.
Waked by the **circling Hours, with rosy hand**
Unbarred the gates of Light. There is a cave
Within the Mount of God, fast by his Throne”

When talking about allusion, any conversation would not be complete without discussing the King of Allusion, 17th century English poet, John Milton. In these lines alone, we count no fewer than three allusions: one to Abdiel, one to the Greek Myth “The Horae,” and one to Homer’s “The Odyssey.”

Example #2: Epistles to Several Persons (by Alexander Pope)

“Another age shall see the golden ear
Embrown the slope, and nod on the parterre.
Deep harvests bury all his pride has planned,

And laughing Ceres reassume the land.”

Here, Pope is making an allusion to Demeter, the Goddess of Wheat and Grain, showing how this place will once again return to earth for plough.

Example #3: Ode to a Grecian Urn (by Keats)

“Sylvan historian, who canst thus express
A flowery tale more sweetly than our rhyme
What leaf-fringed legend haunts about thy shape Of deities or mortals, or of both,
In **Tempe** or the dales of Arcady?”

“Tempe” is an allusion to the Vale of Tempe, where the gods gathered. This shows his utmost respect for the urn.

Example #4: Firebird (by Lee Emmett)

“Nothing prepares us for brilliant
Entrance of creature of fantasy
or object of enchantment Useless to resist its allure always takes unawares”
This allusion is slightly different, as it is an open allusion, meaning that everyone can interpret it differently. Some see Greek mythology allusions, while other see Biblical allusions.

Example #5: All Overgrown by Cunning Moss (by Emily Dickinson)

“All overgrown by cunning moss
All interested with weed, The little cage of ‘**Currer Bell**’
In quiet ‘Haworth’ laid.” Here, Dickinson makes an allusion to another writer, Charlotte Bronte, who used Currer Bell as a pen name so she could be published.

Example #6: Nothing Gold Can Stay (by Robert Frost)

“So **Eden** sank to grief
So dawn goes down to day. Nothing gold can stay.”
In this poem, Frost’s allusion to Eden strengthens the theme of the fleeting nature of happiness. His mention of Eden shows that humans are often their own downfall.

Example #7: The Burial of the Dead (by T. S. Eliot)

“Summer surprised us, coming over the **Starnbergersee**
With a shower of rain; we stopped in the colonnade,
And went on in sunlight, into the **Hofgarten**,
And drank coffee, and talked for an hour.”

Here, Eliot makes a reference to Starnbergersee and Hofgarten, which are important royal places in Germany. Instead of these actual places, however, they are meant to show the beauty of life.

Example #8: The Raven (by Edgar Allan Poe)

“Perched upon a bust of **Pallas** just above my chamber door—”

“Is there—is there **balm in Gilead?**—tell me—tell me, I implore!”

Here are two allusions: One to Pallas to show the burst of wisdom, as Pallas is the Greek Goddess of Wisdom. The other is more obscure: “Balm in Gilead” is an old statement that was used to ask if there was comfort in the world.

Example #9: Dulce et Decorum Est (by Wilfred Owen)

“Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues,-

My friend, you would not tell with such high zest To children ardent for some desperate glory, The old Lie: **Dulce et Decorum Est** Pro patria mori.”

“**Dulce et decorum est**” is an allusion to the start of World War I. These were the words uttered by many on the battle lines – meaning that it is sweet and right to die for your country.

Example #10: Venus and Adonis (by William Shakespeare)

Narcissus so himself himself forsook

And died to kiss his shadow in the brook.”

The word in bold is used as an allusion, taken from the classical mythology where a handsome man falls in love with his own body and keeps looking at himself in the water.

Allusions in Uzbek poetry

Uzbek poetry is rich in allusions like which are given above. However, they are used with another term as “talmeh”. It is a kind of stylistic device which has the same function with allusion.

Example #1. Bo`l magay (by by Hofiz Sheroziy)

“**Vomiqu Farhodu Majnunlar** agar kelsa qator,

Hech biri olamda sargardon maningdek bo`l magay.

The words in bold are used as allusions, they are the names of the main heroes taken from the classical novels of Alisher Navoi.

Example #2. Soqiyona (by Hofiz Sheroziy)

“Menga **Farhod** birla **Majnun** iztirobidan quying,

Layliyu Shirin uzar gulning gulobidan quying.

The words in bold are used as allusions, they are the names of the main heroes and lovers “**Farhod and Shirin, Layli and Majnun**” taken from the classical novels of Alisher Navoi.

Example #3. Hofiz Sheroziy

Qasri bunyodingni ,ey dil, gar fano seli yiqar,

Nuh panohing bo`lsa gar, _to`fonga kelgay, g`am yema.

Nuh, Nuh to`foni – The people, who did not follow the way which Nuh alayhissalom directed, were exposed to the terrible storm by Allah. In this storm only the followers of Nuh survived.

Example #4. Hofiz Sheroziy

Gum bo`lib ketgay **Yusuf Kan`onga**, g`am yema,
G`am uyi bir kun munavvar onga kelgay, g`am yema.

Yusuf Kan`onga (arab) – Yusuf from Kan`on. Yusuf alayhissalom. It is known that Yusuf`s birth brothers sold him to Egyptian merchants. In this place it is hinted.

Example #4. Hofiz Sheroziy

Yusufi Kan`onim mening xusn elining podshosi,

Xusn elining podshosi sen **Yusufu Kan`onim** mening.

Yusuf Kan`onga (arab) – Yusuf from Kan`on. Yusuf alayhissalom. In religious books it is mentioned that Allah gave 99% beauties to Momo Havo, 1 was divided into 10. 9 out of 10 was given to him by Allah and 1 was given to all humankind.

Example #4. Hofiz Sheroziy “G`am yema”

Hofizo, bu faqru xilvat kechalarning qo`ynida

To tiling aytar, diling **Qur`onga** kelgay g`am yema.

Qur`on- as a holy book of Islamic religion.

Conclusion

Allusions are a way for a writer and a poet to create layered meaning as given above. Allusions are intentional and indirect references made to other things, for example, to politics, other literature, pop culture, or history. Allusions can be grouped by the way they allude to something or by the material they allude to. For example, an allusion can be casual, single, self, corrective, apparent, conflating, political, mythological, literary, historical, or cultural. Allusions are effective literary devices because they enhance the reading experience. They help to stimulate additional levels of thought for a reader, add greater depth, and also creates a sense of familiarity. For the above reasons it is commonly used in all languages in order to make their novels or poems more attractive and effective like Uzbek and English allusions.

References

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3. Hofiz Sheroziy “Collection”. 1994.