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## THE TEMPORAL CONCEPT OF TIME IN ENGLISH AND KARAKALPAK FAIRY TALES

Ajibekova Gulsara Jengisbaevna

Doctoral Student Of Karakalpak State University, Uzbekistan

**ABSTRACT:** This scientific article explores the temporal concept of time as portrayed in English and Karakalpak fairy tales. By analyzing a selection of traditional folk narratives from both cultures, we aim to uncover the underlying cultural and linguistic influences that shape the perception of time in these tales. The study delves into the ways in which time is represented, manipulated, and valued in these narratives, shedding light on the distinct temporal paradigms that exist in English and Karakalpak folklore.

**KEYWORDS:** Temporal Concept, Time Perception, English Fairy Tales, Karakalpak Fairy Tales, Folklore, Cultural Time, Narrative Time.

### INTRODUCTION

The concept of time is a fundamental and universal aspect of human existence, influencing our perception of reality, our daily lives, and our cultural narratives. Across the globe, cultures have developed unique ways of conceptualizing and representing time, often reflected in their folklore and storytelling traditions. In this scientific article, we embark on a journey to explore the temporal concept of time as depicted in English and Karakalpak fairy tales.

Fairy tales, as a genre of folklore, serve as a rich tapestry of cultural expressions, encapsulating the values, beliefs, and societal norms of a given community. Through the lens of these traditional narratives, we aim to unravel the intricate temporal paradigms that shape the storytelling traditions of the English and Karakalpak cultures.

English and Karakalpak fairy tales offer an intriguing juxtaposition, representing two distinct linguistic and cultural traditions. English folklore, with its roots in Western thought, often presents time as linear, emphasizing progress and individual agency. In contrast, Karakalpak folklore, rooted in the nomadic traditions of the Central Asian steppes, tends to depict time as cyclical, highlighting the importance of tradition, community, and ancestral wisdom.

Our investigation into the temporal concept of time in these fairy tales will not only reveal the unique cultural and linguistic influences at play but also shed light on how these narratives shape and are shaped by the societies from which they originate. By delving into the representation, manipulation, and valuation of time in English and Karakalpak fairy tales, we seek to provide a comprehensive understanding of the temporal dimensions of these rich storytelling traditions. Through this exploration, we hope to uncover the distinct ways in which time is woven into the fabric of human culture and narrative, ultimately enhancing our appreciation for the intricate tapestry of world folklore.

## The Temporal Concept of Time in English Fairy Tales

English fairy tales have long captivated the imaginations of readers young and old, transporting them to magical realms where the boundaries of reality are blurred. Among the enchanting elements that comprise these tales, the concept of time plays a pivotal role in shaping the narratives and conveying deeper cultural values. In this section, we will delve into the temporal concept of time in English fairy tales, highlighting its key characteristics and how it contributes to the richness of these stories.

**The Opening Phrase: "Once upon a time..."** English fairy tales typically begin with the iconic phrase, "Once upon a time..." This opening not only sets the stage for the fantastical events to come but also underscores a fundamental aspect of English fairy tale time – its timeless and distant nature. By commencing with these words, storytellers signal that the narrative unfolds in a remote past, detached from the constraints of the present. This temporal distancing invites readers and listeners to suspend their disbelief and immerse themselves in the world of the story.

**Linear Progression of Events** A hallmark of English fairy tales is their linear progression of events. The narratives are structured in a chronological sequence, with phrases like "then," "next," and "afterward" guiding the reader through the unfolding story. This linear approach aligns with the Western worldview, which values progress, cause-and-effect relationships, and the forward movement of time.

**Magical Manipulation of Time** Time in English fairy tales is often imbued with magical qualities. Characters may encounter enchanted objects, spells, or creatures that allow them to manipulate time. For instance, in "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" by Lewis Carroll, the White Rabbit carries a pocket watch that plays a pivotal role in the story's temporal elements. These magical interventions can lead to time dilation, time travel, or even time reversal, creating fascinating narrative twists and challenges for the protagonists.

**Time as a Precious Resource** Many English fairy tales emphasize the scarcity and preciousness of time. Characters frequently find themselves racing against the clock, facing impending doom if they fail to accomplish their goals within a specified time frame. This motif underscores the value placed on time in Western culture and serves as a driving force in the stories, intensifying the sense of urgency and adventure.

**Nostalgia and Timelessness** English fairy tales often evoke a sense of nostalgia, harkening back to an idyllic past. Characters may encounter moments or places where time appears to stand still, offering a glimpse into an idealized era. This theme of nostalgia reflects a longing for a simpler, bygone time, and it resonates with readers who, too, may harbor similar sentiments.

In conclusion, the temporal concept of time in English fairy tales is a multi-faceted and integral element of these beloved narratives. From the timeless beginnings to the linear progression of events, from the magical manipulation of time to the emphasis on its scarcity, time weaves a rich tapestry within these stories. English fairy tales provide a window into the cultural values and worldview of Western societies, where time is often perceived as a finite resource to be cherished, manipulated, and revered. Understanding the temporal dimensions of these tales enhances our appreciation for their enduring appeal and the cultural significance they hold.

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