



## INTERPRETATION OF THE STRUGGLE OF GOODNESS AND EVIL IN THE EPICS, A FOLK ORAL CREATION

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**Annotation:** *This article exemplifies the struggles of heroes in the lives of kindness and villainy, using the examples of the stories "The Blossoming of the Pomegranate", "Zulfizar" and "Yunus and Misqol Pari". The beginnings of literature have been oral traditions that illustrate the history, culture, and customs of each nation. In epic narratives, such as these exemplary tales of oral literature, this aspect becomes particularly evident.*

**Key words:** *Gurogli, Hasanxon, narrative, kindness, enemy, wandering ascetics, cunning.*

All nations have created stories in the form of oral literature, serving as exemplary tales depicting the life and lifestyle of our people during the period when the stories were created, especially reflecting their aspirations and dreams. Since the emergence of humanity, there has been an ongoing struggle on Earth between two opposing forces: good and evil. This struggle between kindness and villainy is particularly highlighted in stories, where greater emphasis is placed on this dichotomy.

In Uzbek stories, much like in the folklore of other nations, the way of life and lifestyle of our people during the time the stories were created are vividly portrayed. Humanity came into being, and on Earth, there is an eternal struggle between two forces: good and evil. This conflict is especially emphasized in stories, where more urgency is given to the clash between kindness and villainy. In particular, in the story "The Blossoming of the Pomegranate," the conflict between good and evil is not only present in the personal lives of the story's heroes but also extends to the relations between two states, even in diplomatic policy. Specifically, there is a war between the realm of Mari's qo'rg'oni, ruled by Kovushtixon, and the land of Yovmut, ruled by Odilxon.

The Yomut land emerged victorious because their intentions were righteous. The land of Kovushtixon, which was the instigator of the war, was defeated and laid waste. The main conflict in the story lies between the Zangar land and the Taka Yovmut land. In a crucial moment, Hulmon, the vizier, advises: "If the enemy has allies on all sides, instill fear in them by making everyone your ally." In reality, the Takaturkman and Takayovmut lands unite, fighting against the common enemy and achieving victory. The Zangarlands, on the other hand, were defeated due to their isolation, and they retreat to their homeland. Shoxdorxon, however, cunningly seized the power of this alliance. As the saying goes in the story:

The value of homeland is unknown to kings  
Until they descend from the golden throne.  
The value of one's own land is unknown  
Until one does not step onto foreign soil.



It means that most people only appreciate something after they have lost it. In the story of Alpomish, this can be exemplified by the character Boysari, who realizes the true value of his homeland only after being far away, holding it in his hands like a piece of gold. In the sequence of Turkic stories, the Zulfizar tale takes a prominent place, standing out with its intricate narrative between the conflicts of good and evil. In this tale, Zulfizar, who is a part of the Go'ro'gli series, navigates through the struggles between kindness and villainy. In the story, she is the daughter of the ruler Hashtarxon and is distinguished by her beauty, being referred to as Zulfizar due to her golden and ruby-colored locks.

Zulfizar is so beautiful that she captures the heart of a young man who sees her. The ruler Hashtarxon's son, Chomitxon, falls in love with Zulfizar, being the only one able to appreciate the true beauty of Go'ro'gli's descendants. The story is particularly rich in wise counsel, especially from the wise and knowledgeable adviser.

In the tale, Go'ro'gli's son, Avazxon, imparts several pieces of advice to his son. In particular, he advises, "Do not step into the pit of envy. Do not teach someone else's language. Do not neglect the well-being of your feet by saying, 'I am on foot.' Do not desire the wealth of the weak as a hero. Do not be a hypocrite, be truthful." Such pieces of advice align with the timeless wisdom that every father should impart to their child even in the present day. Go'ro'gli calls upon his child to avoid hypocrisy and adhere to the path of righteousness.

Indeed, the best way for us humans, the straight and righteous path, is the path of truth. In the tale, Chomitxon becomes a victim of his own deceit, having strayed from the path of righteousness. Even in the story, the positive character Avazxon stands firm against Chomitxon's cunning ways. Initially, Chomitxon attempts to win Avazxon through the deception of a peasant girl introduced to Avazxon through his own schemes. However, Avazxon does not fall for his trickery.

In this sequence, we consider the person who has ensnared Avazxon as someone who has succumbed to his own desires. Along the way, Avazxon faces another challenge – bandits. In the story's plot, they are described in the guise of oppressors and usurpers of power. Avazxon liberates the captives, including merchants and peasants. In the culmination of the tale, Chomitxon, having strayed from the path of righteousness and being caught up in deceit and cunning, meets his bitter end with Zulfizar lying lifeless in his hands.

The elders advise not to be proud in the world,  
For a ruler, both power and glory are transient,  
To be born in one cradle, to die is the destiny,  
Would it be joyful to live in such a way?

In conclusion, when expressing it with the proverb of Go'ro'gli: "Never do harm to anyone. If it comes from your hand, do good, do good." This implies that the purpose of our existence and survival in this world is not only about doing good to others but also about creating a beautiful end for ourselves. This is also the main idea in the article.



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