



An Investigation and Comparative Analysis of the Value and Function of Conceptual Metaphors in the Field of Love in Old and New Literary Texts: A Case Study of Sharif Razi's Ghazals and Awraq al-ward Book by Sadiq al-Rafii, Mustafa

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Summarized Abstract

The linguistic theory of conceptual metaphor posits that metaphor plays a significant role in comprehending creative thought within literary works, as well as in literary aesthetics. The similarity of conceptual metaphors on emotions in a given language and culture is not entirely uniform, as societal and temporal factors, as well as individual variations, also play a role in this phenomenon. The literary works of Sharif Razi's Ghazals (394) and Sadiq al-Rafii's Mustafa book of Awraq al-ward (1976) are representative of distinct historical periods and are characterized by their creative and imitative nature. These texts serve as valuable examples of the literary landscape during their respective eras. Furthermore, it is noteworthy that the two aforementioned works share a common theme, wherein the portrayal of love is imbued with a mystical and romantic quality. The objective of this study is to utilize the analytical-comparison approach to investigate the function, similarities, and differences of conceptual metaphors about the domain of love in the aforementioned texts. The research findings indicate that the conceptual metaphor about the domain of love has undergone a progressive evolution, revealing additional underlying strata of meaning. Moreover, these literary pieces have employed the characteristic of integration, which is a highly potent mechanism for transcending the conventional conceptual framework, as well as the characteristic of inquiry and elaboration to a greater extent.

Keywords: Conceptual metaphor, Love, Awraq al-ward, Sharif Razi's poetry, Metaphor function

Extended Abstract

The linguistic theory of conceptual metaphor posits that metaphor plays a significant role in comprehending creative thinking in literary works, as well as in literary aesthetics. The similarity of conceptual metaphors on emotions in a given language and culture is not entirely uniform, as societal and temporal factors, as well as individual differences, play a

role in shaping this phenomenon. The literary works of Sharif Razi's Ghazals (394) and Sadiq al-Rafii's *Mustafa* book of *Awraq al-ward* (1976) are representative of distinct periods and exhibit creative and imitative qualities. These texts serve as valuable examples of the literary works produced during their respective eras. Furthermore, it can be observed that the two aforementioned literary pieces share a common thematic element, wherein the portrayal of love is characterized by a mystical and romantic quality. The objective of this study is to utilize the analytical-comparison methodology to investigate the function, similarities, and differences of conceptual metaphors in the domain of love in the aforementioned texts. The results indicated that:

- The conceptualizations present in the old Arabic texts appear to be less complex. To clarify, it can be observed that older texts exhibit a narrower range of metaphors, while newer texts demonstrate a greater level of complexity in conceptualization. Increasingly, contemporary texts are acknowledging the multifaceted functions of hidden layers of metaphor. The complexity of life may be attributed to the increasing intricacy of human thinking. Thus, this generalization can be applied to other novel texts.

Over time, there appears to be a correlation between the development of self-awareness and the utilization of conceptual metaphors in conceptualization. In literary works, it was common for poets and writers to employ metaphors such as likening the beloved to the sun and the moon as a means of conveying the concept that love is illuminating. However, as time progressed, it became apparent that the term "light" began to serve as a more direct reference to this idea. However, as time has progressed, this conceptualization has become more deliberate. This phenomenon is also grounded in the social fabric of humanity and the notion that human cognition has undergone evolution throughout history.

- The characteristic of "elaboration" pertains to the depiction of a metaphor in an unconventional manner. Similarly, the characteristic of "integration" is regarded as one of the most potent mechanisms for transcending the commonplace conceptual system. Additionally, the feature of "inquiry" denotes a distinctive metaphor that is consistently fitting and effective, while its validity and accuracy are questioned. However, it is most obvious in contemporary texts, and this phenomenon may be attributed to the temporal progression and the increasingly intricate nature of existence and interpersonal interaction. While possessing the attribute of being a good artist, this trait cannot be attributed to al-Rafii specifically. However, it may apply to new literary works.

- In the book of *Awraq al-ward*, the metaphors are more structural and coherent; that is, in Sadiq al-Rafii, Mustafa himself gathers the members of one conceptual field into a coherent structure and maps them onto the members of another conceptual field. It can be said that the reason for this is that in the old texts, there was no membership unity in poetry; therefore, this feature can also be extended to other new texts.

Keywords: Conceptual metaphor, Love, *Awraq al-ward*, Sharif Razi's poetry, Metaphor function.

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