Comparison of the Images of Afanti and Fei Langji

Saiheidi Saidahemaiti

Department of Chinese INguage and Literature, Northwest Minzu University; Lanzhou, Gansu 730030, China

Abstract

Afanti is an image of a folk wit that has been widely spread around the world, especially in my country, Central and South Asia, West Asia and even Europe. The image in the folk is a person with sharp thinking, humorous posture, and full of jokes. In the recently hit Indian movie "Indian Thug", the audience can see a character named Fei Langji. The image of Fei Langji riding a donkey and traveling around the people at the beginning of the movie will naturally remind the audience of the image of Afanti. In the article, the author compares the similarities and differences between the two characters, and explores that the image of Fei Langji is the corresponding evidence of the influence of Afanti in India.

Keywords

Afanti; Fei Langji; Similarities and Differences.

1. Introduction

Afanti (in Uyghur language means Mr., Your Excellency), natal Nasredin (with different writings such as Nasridin and Nasiriddin), honorably called Hoja (also written in different writings such as Huozhao and Hezhuo), which means "mentor, spiritual leader". Out of respect for him, people generally call him "Afanti". From the perspective of Uyghur language usage, although "Afanti" means "sir, sir", one thing is clear: Uighurs generally respect or have special social status as "Afanti". From this point of view, the influence of Afanti among the people is not simple. There are different opinions on Afanti's life experience. But almost everyone agrees with the view that "Afanti lived between the 12th and 13th centuries". From the perspective of his specific ancient books and living location, different groups in different regions have the view that he is related to different geographical locations. For example, "He was born in Turpan, my country, and the Uzbek people said he was born in Bukhara, Uzbekistan."[1] and so on.

2. Organization of the Text

2.1. Spreading of Afanti’s Intelligent idea in the World

Obviously, there are many interesting stories and philosophical fables worth mentioning in different regions and people in the world, but such stories are all spread under the name of Afanti. Therefore, people of different countries call him different according to their own preferences. Because of this fact, some scholars believe that "Afanti" is not the name of a single person, but the "title" of a witty person. In the eyes of everyone, Afanti is a philosopher, a legendary figure of eloquence with wit surpassing ordinary people, agile thinking ability, and humorous jokes. It is common among the folk literature of various ethnic groups in northwest my country, and it is one of the representative, symbolic and brand characters. However, Afanti and its humorous images, joyful and philosophical stories, and humorous and peculiar personalities have been passed down from ancient times to the present, affecting readers, audiences, and listeners (whether in movies, TV, or on stage, books, From time to time, the figure of Afanti appears). In any case, it is obvious that Afanti is riding a donkey, telling humorous jokes, and playing with folk, surpassing an ordinary person with his own peculiar
personality, humorous jokes, convenient and sharp thinking, and using intellect as a tool to defeat Evil force, the spiritual messenger who guarantees the joy and happiness of the working people. Regarding the origin of the Afanti story, some scholars said, "Zhu Ha's anecdotes are actually the predecessor of the story of Nasredin Afanti" [3]. In any case, it can be inferred that "Afanti is no longer an image of a real historical figure, but a symbol of cleverness, wit and humor. We know that this is the case in almost all countries in the world, and people tend to concentrate some witty and humorous stories. To a more famous character, strengthen the image of this character, and give readers and listeners a stronger infection and deeper impression" [3] What needs to be explained is that the story of Afanti is widely circulated in Xinjiang, Central Asian countries, the Arab world, India and other places. These countries and regions have the image of a witty character corresponding to Afanti. Specifically, in the future, some scholars said, "The story of Afanti may have an impact on the story of Birbar in India."

2.2. Afanti and Feilangji

Then, starting from the Afanti story, go directly to the image of African Lange in the popular Indian movie "Indian Thug" in 2018, and compare the two. Is it possible to explore the similarities and differences between the two? In order to answer a question, I think it is necessary to briefly introduce "Indian Thugs". "Thugs of Hindostan" (Thugs of Hindostan) was made in 2018, an Indian-language action-adventure film, written and directed by Vija Krisima, and published by Yassi Raj. Actors include Amitaba Bachchan, Amir Khan, Fatima Sana Shuike, Katrina Kaif, Youyid Owen and others. Among them, the character image of Amir Khan played by Feilangji reminds the audience of the image of Afanti. Feilangji in the movie does not have many shots that are the same as Afanti, but there are many similarities. Therefore, the author believes that with the widespread spread of Afanti stories around the world, many of the fun and humorous stories under his name have become common treasures of the world's people's library. Therefore, it is possible to explore the stigma that Afan mentioned in his literature and art around the world. This will not only promote the deepening of the friendship between different regions and cultures, but most importantly, we can better understand the positive influence of the excellent culture of the motherland in various countries. Is the image of Fei Langji the original folktale material of India or the result of Afanti’s influence in India? If it is to be confirmed that the "Zhuha story is the predecessor of the Afanti story", then the facts in time prove that the Afanti story is an Indian story at least more than a century earlier than Bilbar. Because it is a recognized viewpoint in the academic circles that Afanti lived from the 12th to the 13th century, but the Birbar in the story of Birbar is backed by historical figures in the Akbar era. Therefore, from the chronological perspective: the story of Zhuha (earlier than the 10th century)-the story of Afanti (between the 12th and 13th centuries)-the story of Birbar (not earlier than the second half of the 16th century). Obviously, the Indian story Bill Barr "is indeed influenced by the story of Afanti” [3]. What about the Philangi in "Thugs of India"? "Thug of India" is a film based on the historical reality when the British East India Company took control of India at the end of the 18th century.

3. Similarity

The author believes that there are not many images of Fei Langji that are the same as Afanti in the film, but its source may be the image of the Indian story Birbar. Because Bill Barr is also an image based on historical figures, and "Indian Thugs" is also a movie about historical facts. In Lenovo's view, the two historical periods are not the same, but we cannot exclude the earlier historical reality from having an impact on the later historical reality. At the very least, it is possible for the filmmakers to model the film image by referring to the images of real characters in history. Sex. Besides, the Fei Langji in the movie was originally a helper for the local bandits. In order to achieve the purpose of getting rich, he rode a donkey and sought an easy way to get
rich. Of course, he is a thief, so he does not scrutinize any means, as long as his main purpose is to satisfy his private desires. If Fei Langji is the artisticization of historical figures, then as a robber, he will certainly be influenced by the image of Bill Barr. For example, one of the stories of Bill Barr is "Similar to the Donkey". The story of Bill Barr has the story of "How far is it from the donkey". Once, Emperor Akbar joked, "Bilbar, you How far is it from the donkey?" Bill Barr did not answer immediately, but measured the distance between himself and the emperor, and then said: "Your Majesty, the difference is not far, only six feet." This is the same as "Afanti's Joke" (See: Mr. Ge Baoquan Zemoto). Therefore, Fei Langji is an artistic image produced through the influence of the image of Afanti on the Indian story of Birbar. However, the similarities and differences between the image of Afanti and the image of Fei Langji are obvious in the following two aspects: 1. Similarities As we all know, Afanti is often related to the skinny donkey that he can't live without. As the witty nature of Afanti became more and more improved, his posture of riding a donkey began to be deeply engraved in the hearts of the masses. Sometimes, public opinion adds a lot of magic to Afanti’s donkey. No matter what, Afanti rides a donkey, is full of humorous jokes, and has strong philosophical thinking constantly shaped in our minds. When we see the Afanti opera on the stage, we will naturally think of how the donkey will appear on the stage; when we see the Afanti movie screen, we will naturally think of the donkey on the big screen. In the same way; when we read the story of Afanti, we will naturally also read the loyal donkey that the translator accompanies him and never abandons. The character Fei Langji in "Thugs of India" is very similar to Afanti, riding a donkey into the camera. However, both people are riding donkeys, so it is reasonable for the two people to have similarities, but further evidence is needed. Because, in order to achieve a more academic and rational inference, there must be a deeper and more convincing basis. In the movie, Fei Langji is riding a donkey and traveling around the folks on the screen. At this time, the audience couldn't help but recall the character "Afanti" that we are all familiar with. Because only Afanti has the image of riding a donkey everywhere in our minds. His skinny donkey can't do without him, it walks there wherever he goes. Sometimes, Afanti's donkey is a media satirizing the corrupt classes such as Bayi who oppress the working people. Such satirical behavior of "using the donkey as the media" reappeared when Fei Langji wanted to pass the road controlled by the East India Company. For example: He has to cross that road, but the manager said that he can only pass through payment. At this time, Fei Langji asked them, "My lord, a servant has to pay. Should he or his director pay?" The management replied, "Of course it is his director." At this time, Fei Langji said: I am me Servant of the donkey, then you want my donkey to pay. This shot further proves that Fei Langji obviously repeats the image of Afanti, that is, it is obviously affected by the image of Afanti. Because, from the story of Afanti, we can also see such humorous and smart fragments. In addition, while riding a donkey and traveling around the people, Fei Langji is often nosy. The purpose of nosy is to satisfy personal interests and unconsciously help others. At first he passed that path "using donkeys as media". At this time, a rich man wanted to visit here. He saw Fei Langji’s talent and paid him. This is very similar to the story of Afanti using his wisdom to get the assistance of Bayi who he wants to defeat. Because Fei Langji wanted to find a way to get the wealth of the rich who paid for himself. This proves that although Fei Langji did not do anything like Afanti for the benefit of many people, the way he used his wisdom to obtain what he wanted was very much like Afanti’s behavior.

4. Difference

In addition to the above-mentioned similarities, there are also differences between the image of Afanti and the image of Fei Langji. First of all, to be more specific, Afanti is a famous figure riding a donkey backwards, but Fei Langji does not have a scene of riding a donkey backwards. According to legend, Afanti once explained his donkey riding posture and said: "If I ride on the donkey face forward, you will be behind me; if you walk in front of me, I can only see your back."
Therefore, I chose the most correct way to ride a donkey, that is, my back is facing forward and my face is facing back, so that I can solve all problems and can look at the speaker’s face better, which is more polite" [2]. In other words, Afanti and Fei Langji have the same orientation when riding a donkey, but they have different postures when riding a donkey. Secondly, Fei Langji is not like Afanti who always seeks good for the people and kills others. Initially, he was a member of the Bandit Gang. In order to satisfy their private interests, they are tyrannical and take thieves as their lifestyle. From this point, the image of Fei Langji and Afanti is far apart. Through the profound plot of the movie, the audience will naturally find that although Fei Langji is a thief, he is not fundamentally pregnant. The main reason is that he did not get the formal spiritual guidance. After finally receiving the spiritual guidance, he made an unforgettable great cause. In this regard, Fei Langji is a national hero, and Afanti did not fight like Fei Langji, so he is not a national hero. Again, Fei Langji does not have many shots like Afanti, although not many, there are still differences. For example, Fei Langji initially tried to get the wealth he wanted, and later wanted to be a traitor and was recognized by the British. In this regard, Fei Langji is still clearly different from Afanti. However, like Afanti, Frangi acts in a way that makes people surprised, even angry, but the final result is admirable. The same is true for Afanti, but the two behave differently. Afanti always uses the trivial matters of daily life to show us the power of intelligence and the victory of justice. But Fei Langji made us angry at first, and in the end, it proved to us that this person riding a donkey also has a certain heroic temperament and can do a lot of great causes for the motherland and the people. Therefore, to sum up these three points, Fei Langji and Afanti have seemingly the same but essentially different differences. In short, the image of Afanti is a common treasure of the people’s library of all ethnic groups in the world, including our nationalities. Afanti has a unique style and atmosphere on stage, in books and in the animation world. As the cultural exchanges among the various nations of the world become stronger day by day, cultural symbolic figures such as Afanti have become broader and more common, as well as new and modern styles appearing before our eyes.

5. Conclusion

We can see the image of a character named Fei Langji in the action-adventure film "Indian Thugs", a popular Indian historical story in 2018. Although Fei Langji is not always the incarnation of the image of Afanti, the image in his walk-in and subsequent shots is very similar to Afanti. From this point of view, it can be explained: Fei Langji is the influence of the Indian story of Birbar through the image of Afanti, an artistic figure re-discovered in the world today. The author is to make a little foundation for future research. The article briefly compares the similarities and differences between the image of Afanti and the image of Fei Langji. The purpose is not to comprehensively and deeply study the comparison between the two. Its broader and deeper research still has a long way to go.

References