

Research Article

Fantasy, Animal Mystery, Historical and Science Fantasy in Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book*

Dr. L. Mahalakshmi, Ms. N. Ilakkia, Ms. M. SathyaPrabha, Ms. P. Indhu, Ms. J. Suganya,

Assistant Professor, Department of English, AVP College of arts and Science, Thirumurugan
Poondi, Tirupur-641652

ABSTRACT

Rudyard Kipling beautifully designed the fantasy world in *The Jungle Book* by portraying the small boy Mowgli and how he is taken care by the parent wolves. The young boy learns to live with the animals and all the animals express the true love to the boy. Animals are the five sense creatures that survive in the jungle and get associated with nature and sometimes with human beings. It is a mystery to imagine how humans survive with animals when the humans are supposed to think about everyday livelihood. Its reflections treat every reader, especially children to think about the survival along with the animals. Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book* plays vital role in expressing the fantasy concepts and to understand the value of human life as well as to realize the feelings of animals. The description of fantasy world among the weird animals and the boy's survival with the wolves makes especially the reader to move in the imaginary world and the historical background as well. The narration arouses some interest in the wild animals subconsciously. Every human being understands about the righteousness of life. Animal behavior can be used as a lesson for people's behavior in this novel. Every human being's duty is to know or scrutinize about the real world and the real meaning of life granted by the almighty. Kipling, as the man of literary genius inspired everyone and expresses the Darwinian struggle for survival. This paper aims to talk about sensitization of human needs through "Fantasy, Animal Mystery, Historical and science fantasy in Rudyard's Kipling's *Jungle Book*."

Key Words: Fantasy, Creatures, Mystery, Sensitization, Imaginary, Pragmatic

Introduction:

Rudyard Kipling (30th December 1865- 18 January 1936) was an English Journalist, Short Story Writer, Poet and Novelist. He was born in India. His birthplace gave him much inspiration to develop his writing career. He was one among the United Kingdom's most popular writers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. His children's books are considered as classics and praised by the critics as a versatile and luminous narrative. In 1907 he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.

The Jungle Book is a collection of stories and most of the characters are animals with unique names such as Shere Khan, the tiger and Baloo, the bear and the principal character is the boy Mowgli who has become one among the members of the wolf family and rose with a lot of struggles. In spite of that, the boy has the freedom to enjoy nature.

The Jungle Book was written by Rudyard Kipling in the year 1894, it deals about the life of Mowgli with animals in the jungle and the way how the wild animals care for the small boy whereas human beings never visits the jungle. The child's life with wild animals is reflected as a mystery in this work. Rudyard Kipling, one among the great geniuses of English Literature portrayed the fantasy world of child versus animal and taught the human values by explaining the animal's behaviour towards the young boy. Wild animals of different varieties have their own places wherever in the jungle and live along with their family members. Like human beings, animals also create their own rules. One animal cannot occupy other animals and they too have friends and enemies.

JungleBook plays vital role in expressing the fantasy concepts and to understand the value of human life as well as to realize the feelings of animals. The description of fantasy world among the weird animals and the boy's survival with the wolves makes the reader especially to move on the imaginary world and the historical background as well. The narration arouses some interest in the wild animal unknowingly. Every human being understands about the righteousness of life. Animal behavior can be used as a lesson for people's behavior in this novel. Every human beings duty is to know or scrutinize about the real world and the real meaning of life granted by the almighty. Kipling, as the man of literary genius inspired everyone and expresses the Darwinian struggle for survival. The support given by the animal to the boy makes everyone to realize practicalities in the modern world. The small boy was taken care by the wolves and lives there as one among the family members. Whereas Shere Khan, a Bengal tiger and the antagonist of the story and also a villain to the boy Mowgli. When the boy shifts from the jungle the father wolf grouse about his separation feels bad about the dangers and hurries to take care of the boy. As a real human father, Mowgli was taken care by the father wolf wherever the boy goes. He says that the boy should follow the law of the jungle and the boy has no right to change his quarters without due warning. Through this Kipling makes every child to understand about the responsibility, how the animals have certain rules, why the humans ignore and as a human being it's our duty to obey the rules of the society they live in. The boy's survival in the jungle throughout the book is a great wonder and mystery that makes every reader lives in the fantasy world of jungle. The orphaned boy who was guided by his animal guardians takes the journey of self discovery and becomes courageous throughout the novel. After the boy's entry in the jungle all the animals are forbidden to eat human beings.

The humble behaviour of the wolf speaking for the right and wrong is the important aspect in life that children have to learn. The innocent boy Mowgli's survival may give spark to every child who is safe in their parents' best care and the boy's situation makes the children to think about their luxurious life, to feel satisfied and to live along with their parents and relatives.

Through the character Mowgli, Rudyard Kipling taught perseverance. In difficult circumstances children will face the problems themselves and they can also try to find easy solutions if they are true and moralistic. Psychologically the children make their mind to set up with what they are experiencing and understanding what life is? What survival is? In *The Jungle Book*, the author drafted a fantasy world by portraying the boy's life with wild animals and proves the phrase 'Survival of the Fittest' and it also proves that not only man can teach the moral and ethical values but the animals can also teach something to the human beings.

Fantasy is fantastic when people imagine living with all the luxuries. In *The Jungle Book* the author depicted a fantasy world full of mystery and makes every individual wonder about the possibility to live along with the animals. A small boy gets the love and affection from the animals except Shere Khan. The acquisition of animal language and the casual communication between the boy and the wolf really gives delight and joy to all. "Men and their cubs are wise. He may be a help in time," Truly a help in the time of need; for none can hope to Lead the Pack forever;" (9) This shows how the animals are intellectual, their behaviour and survival for their entire life in the jungle.

Mowgli entered into the jungle as a kid and also lost his father. So his journey starts in the jungle along with the animals at a very early stage. He never thinks about his native and inhabitant as a small boy for everything is new and follows the guidelines of father wolf and enjoys as much as possible. Each and every chapter shows the importance of protecting the environment as well as family relationships. Akela is the lone wolf protecting the boy Mowgli from the red dogs, the boy also shows much love to the lone wolf Akela.

Animal Mystery prevails everywhere in the novel from the beginning to till the end. Every incident that occurs to the boy with the animals in the jungle are troublesome. It is a great unrevealed mystery that how the father and boy are left in the jungle, the small boy survives in the forest throughout the novel but at the same time the father was killed by the ferocious animal. The animals' love and care towards the boy makes everyone wonder and the moment of the boy's life in the jungle is mysterious and with great difficulty the boy escapes from every danger with the animals. Understanding the human values among human beings is a great mystery. Animals understanding the values of life and relationship are greatly pictured by Rudyard Kipling. The mystery of the animals and the boy's relationship is clear whenever the animals protect the boy.

One can see the evaluation by natural selection and it is the resurgence of the relationship between human beings and animals. The fantastic quality of this story uniquely expresses individual development and emphasizes the value of experience by structuring potentiality and embedding Mowgli's growth in a teleological narrative. After Kipling attempts to move Mowgli's story into historical time, the space has allowed for the happy convergence of myth and science fantasy and realism begins to unravel. In this way Jungle book expresses the elaborate fantasies and mysteries through the boy's individual experience and represents the role of environmental pressures, played by the animals as well as human beings.

Conclusion

This paper thoroughly explains about the real care and relationship between the animal and human which sometimes we cannot expect even from the human being. The mystery of animal versus humans survival shows how all are inter connected with nature to maintain perfection in the entire life. The animals shouldering the responsibility of leaving the boy to his companions safely allows the boy to move to his environment where the human beings live. It makes the entire community to think about what responsibility is rendered by everyone to the sufferers? Friends and relatives will be taken care of but Kipling insists that whoever is the sufferer the utmost care is needed and people should learn and should understand about real life existence.

References:

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