

INTERPRETATION OF THE PORTRAIT OF WOMEN IN THE WORK “STEP-MOTHER”

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Abstract:

This article is about the analysis of the character of Fatima Khanum in the work “Stepmother” by the famous Turkish writer Ahmet Lutfi Kazanci. It discusses the power of maternal love and the fact that a woman can do anything her heart desires.

Keywords: writer, novel, artistic analysis, image, stepmother.

Ahmed Lutfi Kazanchi was born in 1936 in the Çurum district of Turkey. When the writer wrote the work “Stepmother”, we would not be mistaken if we say that he wanted every woman to be like Fatima khanum. In the image of Fatima khanum, he was able to portray a truly passionate and kind woman. He was able to describe the responsibility, difficulties, and responsibilities inherent in being a mother. By reading the work, one can understand how a stepmother, not an ordinary mother, raises someone else's children as her own, and in the example of Fatima khanum, one can admire the image of a “stepmother”. Mother is a creature that cannot be described in words. Every person loves, honors, and values their mother even more than the world. Just as a mother is ready to give her life for her child, a child is also ready to sacrifice himself for his mother.

However, life is not always perfect. While some live in the arms of their mother, satisfied with her love, others, by the will of fate, end up in the hands of a stepmother. In society, stepmothers are always portrayed in a negative light, as the apple of another woman's eye, always humiliating and hurting a child, loving and cherishing their own child, and making someone else's child fall into the trap. Nevertheless, are all stepmothers really like this?

Turkish writer Ahmet Lutfi Kazanci proved through his work “Stepmother” that not all stepmothers in the world are the same. By reading the work, we can understand that some

stepmothers raise and perfect their children even more than those they gave birth to. The story begins with the beating of Ismail by Mrs. Saniha and the incident with Mrs. Fatima, who expresses her reaction to this.

The main character of the work, Fatima, who is 19 years old and has not yet married, rejects suitors from among those who have not yet married and marries Odilbek, who is left with two orphaned children after the death of his wife. People around her react differently to this, and we cannot say that there are no people who oppose her in the work. Nevertheless, Fatima does not give up her decision.

The work describes the attitude of a woman named Samiha towards her stepson Ismail. Fatima observes this situation. She believes that stepmothers are also mothers, and they should take care of and raise orphaned children as if they were her own children, and give them love. A unique feature of Fatima is that she was educated in a religious sense. In a conversation with her mother, she talks about Ismail and Samiha and says:

“Is not it cruel to a baby? Is it necessary to be so cruel to a baby without a mother? In fact, it shouldn't show that it does not have a mother... if it does this instead, will it be able to bear it?” [1. Pp.7].

We know that our Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was orphaned before he was born, and orphaned when he was six years old. According to the hadiths, the hands that stroked the head of an orphan will be next to our Prophet in Paradise. This was also the true goal of Lady Fatima. She reached the pleasure of Allah by stroking the heads of two orphans.

When Fatima khanum enters another house as a bride, various bad thoughts first appear in Odilbek's mind. In his mind, the two orphans could laugh for the last time today, sleep well, and eat. Nevertheless, this did not happen. Fatima, who came to be a mother to two orphans for the sake of Allah, makes friends with the children on the very day she arrives, introduces herself to them as a mother. Throughout the events of the work, we can learn that Fatima khanum never acted as a stepmother to the orphans, and never let them feel that they were stepmothers. She raised them perfectly since she was born. Even when strangers tell her children that Fatima khanum is their stepmother, she is able to convince them that this is a lie. Hussein's neighbors convince him of this by telling him that Fatima khanum is his stepmother. Hussein comes and asks his mother. Here, too, Mrs. Fatima reassures her son with an unexpected answer, surprising the reader again. She beautifully explains to her son why her and her son's eyes are different, using only one cat. In the case of Mrs. Khayriya, she does the following: He sent a letter to his wife's office, in which he wrote that in the evening Hussein would ask her about Mrs. Khayriya and told her how to answer. He asked her to tell him that Khayriya was Fatima's second name.

“- Come on, my son, ask your father for my name?” she said.

- Father, what is my mother's name? - He said.

- Fatima, my son.

- Does my mother have another name?

- Yes, one name is Khayriya. But we often call her Fatima..." [1. Pp. 55].

It is clear from this that, while convincing her that she is not a stepmother, Fatima does not want the children to forget their real mother. Through this act, she also prevents her children from losing their love for their mother and from being forgotten. Her unique feature is that most stepmothers sever ties with their stepmother's parents. However, our hero does not do this, but rather improves her relationship with her deceased stepmother's mother. She raises her children to be affectionate towards their grandmother. Many events surprise us while reading the work. Another one of them happens after Fatima gives birth to her child. Adila gives peas to Samiha, who is only three months old. Adila does not do this on purpose, and she does not even realize what she has done. Children who are left alone by their mother for five minutes "play tricks" in their hearts. When Fatima entered the house, she saw Samiha struggling to breathe, and immediately realized what had happened and rushed to help her child.

"- Adila, what did you feed your sister?

- I fed her chickpeas. She cried.

A desire that came up inside Fatima ordered her to put down the baby and beat Adila thoroughly, at least give her a slap. This was the most convenient thing to do during a seizure. At least sprinkle some water on her heart.

However, is the stick that hits Adila any good for Samiha? Will the child recover with two slaps? Did Adila do this to make the child fall into this state? Did she want to?" [1. Pp. 65].

It is clear from this that Fatima is a woman who acts based on her mind, not her emotions. Even when there was a chance that her child would die, she did not give in to her feelings, she did not blame Adila, and on the contrary, she considered this to be from Allah. If it had been another person in her place, she would probably have beaten Adila instead of Samiha. This is also, what makes her stand out from the others. Her feminine elegance is also in our opinion. She has qualities that any woman should emulate. She always monitors her children's education and knowledge. She even argues with her husband a little for Hussein's education. She really wants her children to study and receive education for their religion and worldly life, and she achieves this goal.

In conclusion, we can see in Fatima the image of a real mother, not a stepmother. It is true that we witness various events throughout our lives. It is a sad situation that in some cases we can see mothers who are unable to properly raise their own children. Alternatively, we cannot say no to mothers who take their suffering away from their children and deliberately cause them suffering. We can show them women like Fatima as an example.

There is another perception in our society that all stepmothers are bad and only cause suffering to their stepchildren. No, this perception is wrong. In fact, there are many mothers like Fatima khanum in life. However, not all of them have been written about in books.

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