

FROM WHICH CENTURIES DO LEGENDS ORIGINATE?

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Annotation: Legends are closely connected with history; however, unlike historical records, they are not fixed to exact dates. Instead, they develop gradually over long periods of time. Most legends begin as oral traditions and are later recorded in written form. Both English and Uzbek legends trace their origins to ancient and medieval centuries, although they continued to evolve in later historical periods.

Keywords: legends, oral tradition, historical narratives, folklore, English legends, Uzbek legends, cultural heritage, medieval literature, folklore studies, narrative tradition.

Аннотация: Легенды тесно связаны с историей; однако, в отличие от исторических записей, они не привязаны к точным датам. Вместо этого они развиваются постепенно в течение длительных периодов времени. Большинство легенд начинаются как устные предания и впоследствии записываются в письменной форме. Как английские, так и узбекские легенды восходят к древним и средневековым векам, хотя они продолжали развиваться и в более поздние исторические периоды.

Ключевые слова: легенды, устная традиция, исторические повествования, фольклор, английские легенды, узбекские легенды, культурное наследие, средневековая литература, фольклорные исследования, повествовательная традиция.

Annotatsiya. Afsonalar tarix bilan chambarchas bog‘liq; ammo, tarixiy yozuvlardan farqli o‘laroq, ular aniq sanalarga bog‘liq emas. Buning o‘rniga, ular uzoq vaqt davomida asta-sekin rivojlanadi. Ko‘pgina afsonalar og‘zaki an‘analar sifatida boshlanadi va keyinchalik yozma shaklda qayd etiladi. Ingliz va o‘zbek afsonalarining kelib chiqishi qadimgi va o‘rta asrlarga borib taqaladi, garchi ular keyingi tarixiy davrlarda ham rivojlanishda davom etgan bo‘lsa ham.

Kalit so‘zlar: afsonalar, og‘zaki an‘ana, tarixiy rivoyatlar, folklor, ingliz afsonalari, o‘zbek afsonalari, madaniy meros, o‘rta asr adabiyoti, folklorshunoslik, rivoyat an‘anasi.

Origins of English Legends

Early Medieval Period (5th–9th centuries)

Some of the earliest English legends emerged during the Anglo-Saxon era. These included warrior tales, stories of early kings, and narratives about battles with invading forces. During this period, the spread of Christianity also influenced legend-making, leading to the emergence of saintly and moral stories.

High Medieval Period (10th–13th centuries)

Many of the most famous English legends became widely known in this era. The legends of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table, although rooted in earlier Celtic traditions, were written down and popularized in the 12th century. Similarly, the legend of St. George and the Dragon gained prominence as Christian values spread across England.

Late Medieval to Early Modern Period (14th–16th centuries)

The legends of Robin Hood flourished during the 14th and 15th centuries, reflecting the social struggles of common people living under feudal systems. During the same period, ghost stories and supernatural legends associated with castles, abbeys, and towns became increasingly popular.

17th–19th Centuries

In these centuries, legends were actively collected, adapted, and written down by scholars and writers. For example, Sir Walter Scott played an important role in preserving and reshaping many Scottish and English legends, giving them new literary form.

Origins of Uzbek Legends

Pre-Islamic Period (Before the 8th Century)

“Ilmiy tadqiqotlarni amaliyotga joriy qilishning muammo va yechimlari” mavzusidagi onlayn xalqaro ilmiy-amaliy anjuman materiallar to‘plami. NamDU - 2026-yil 20-21-fevral

Before the spread of Islam, Central Asian peoples developed rich Turkic and nomadic legends. These included stories about spirits such as dev and jinn, sacred mountains, and mythical heroes, reflecting ancient beliefs and close connections with nature.

Islamic Golden Age (8th–12th Centuries)

With the spread of Islam, Uzbek legends began to emphasize spiritual themes, moral values, and the lives of saints. Many legends from this period focus on Sufi figures such as Ahmad Yassavi and explain the sacred nature of shrines and holy places.

Medieval Period (13th–16th Centuries)

This era produced legends connected with powerful rulers and national heroes, including Amir Timur and Jaloliddin Manguberdi. These stories combined historical facts with idealized portrayals of leadership, bravery, and justice.

Later Centuries (17th–19th Centuries)

During this period, oral legends were preserved and transmitted by poets, storytellers, and historians. Epic narratives such as Gorogly continued to be retold across generations, reflecting social struggles, heroism, and moral lessons.

20th Century and Beyond

In the modern era, folklorists began systematically collecting, recording, and publishing Uzbek legends. This effort ensured the preservation of oral traditions for contemporary readers and future generations.

Comparative Perspective

English legends are most strongly associated with the medieval period, particularly through figures such as King Arthur, Robin Hood, and Christian saints. Uzbek legends, by contrast, span a broader historical range—from ancient pre-Islamic times through the Islamic and medieval periods—and are closely connected to religion, spirituality, and historical rulers.

Overall, both traditions demonstrate that legends are timeless. Although they originated centuries ago, they continue to live on in modern culture, literature, and popular media, including films and storytelling traditions.

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