

CHAPTER 45

SLAVONIC & FINNO-UGRIAN STUDIES

Doctoral Theses

01. TRAVATI
Relation Between Man and Nature as Reflected in Russian and the Hindi Belt Seasonal Folk Songs.
Supervisors: Prof. Mohan and Prof. Neelakshi Suryanarayan
Th 26515

Abstract

The present research work is a comparative study of Russian and Hindi belt seasonal (calendar) folk songs, which reflect the relation of man with nature. Aim of this work was to analyze some Russian and Hindi belt seasonal folk songs depicting the relationship between man and nature, highlight the man - nature relationship reflected in these songs, describe the specific and the universal characteristics of the two cultures related to these songs and develop a cross cultural understanding. The songs for analysis were selected from collection of song books both in Russian and Hindi. An analysis of selected songs was followed by a comparative study of the same to reveal the common factors and the unique features related to Russian songs and songs of the Hindi belt. Our dissertation consists of an introduction, four chapters, a conclusion and bibliography. The First chapter consists of general information about folklore, its importance, functions, its sub classes, definition of folk songs, their importance and functions; relation of folk songs with people's beliefs and reflection of man and his relationship with nature in folk songs. This chapter consist of an overview of the works of important researchers who have worked in this field. We have also touched upon the main theoretical aspects of comparative study of literature. The Second chapter consist of an analysis of the selected Hindi belt seasonal folk songs. The Third chapter consist of an analysis of Russian seasonal folk songs. The Fourth chapter compares Russian and Hindi belt folk songs with the purpose of highlighting the specific and universal elements of the relationship between man and nature. This thesis can pave the way for ongoing comparative study of not only Russian and Hindi belt folk songs but other Slavic cultures as well. This can also be used as reading and lecture material to teach students the basis of folk songs and their ongoing importance as a rich source of cultural values.

Contents

1. Introduction 2. Song genres of folklore 3. Descriptive analysis of the relationship between man and nature in folk calendar songs of the Hindi belt 3. Descriptive analysis of the relationship between man and nature in Russian calendar folk songs 4. Comparative analysis of the relationship between man and nature 5. Bibliography and conclusions.