

**Секция «Философия. Культурология. Религиоведение»**

**Cradle songs as a marker of culture (in comparison with European, Russian and Uzbek samples)**

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Every nation differs from each other with its traditions, wedding habits, customs, ways of dressing, eating habits and many other features. The Uzbek is no exception. The Uzbek alla (nursery rythme) has been developing from the ancient times and it will help to absorb the feelings of humanity, kindness, respect the elderly people and also peacefulness in the baby's heart.

The first samples of alla appeared in Turkestan province. For example, in "Devoni lug'oti turk" of Qashgari the songs sung to babies were called "balu balu". Besides, the holy book of Zoroastrian "Avesto" contains some songs devoted to the goddess Anahita as the birth of new babies depended on this goddess's will. Moreover, in "Farxod va Shirin" of Alisher Navoi and "About writing poems" of Abu Ali Ibn Sino we come across the parts written about alla (nursery rythme).

There are words in every language which are difficult to translate into another language as these words express only one nation's cultural and historical background or attitude to the events happening around them. For this reason, I consider it is unnecessary to translate these words and sometimes it is impossible. In most languages, songs sung to help children sleep quickly are called "lullaby" which has totally different meaning from alla (Uzbek), колыбельные (Russian), lori (Indian), Schaffied (German), nana (Spanish).

According to Jewish belief, Lilith was a devil who comes to take the childrens' soul at night. People began to hang amulet on the four angles of the baby's room which means Lilith-abi (or Lilith-bye), that's to say "go away Lilith". Some people think it is the origin of today's lullabies.

To conclude, I think to use the word "lullaby" for Uzbek "alla" or Russian "колыбельные" will lose the meaning of these words.

Languages from the Cradle (The Lullabies of Europe) project has collected lullabies in the original European languages, with their translations. Completed project contains samples of the 35 lullabies in 7 European languages (Greek, Danish, Check, Spanish, German, Dutch, UK).

I would like briefly touch upon some examples from this project.

**United Kingdom**

*Twinkle, twinkle, little star.* The lyrics is from the poem "Star" written at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century by Jan Taylor. A-a, b-b, d-d is the form of the poem. First it was published in 1806 in the collection of "Songs for children" of Taylor and her sister. The song is in the tune of French melody.

The song is about a star. The child wants the star to twinkle all the night shining the way the traveler walks in. It is taken from the child's language: though he himself doesn't know what it is, he wishes it shines through all the night when the sun is not in the sky.

### **Spain**

Spanish lullabies are called nanas. Shortness is the most common feature of Spanish nanas. They are usually about animals like elephant, ox, chickens and some of them are about foods (rice and milk). For example, the song “chickens” is from the chickens’ early life. It speaks about the responsible hen that has gone to look for some food for them. The next nana “elephants” is similar to famous Russian story “turnip”. One elephant is trying to ride the spider’s net (which is difficult to believe), then, as he couldn’t do it himself he calls another one, then another one, then another one. . . The nana “Ox” is similar to the previous one as the frog can cut the flowers and plant some other plants in it.

To my interest, I wanted to do some additional report on the samples of Russian nursery rhythm.

### **Russian**

Songs sung to children before going to bed are called “kolibelnie” in Russian. As I have mentioned above every nation has its point of view to call something new. So, calling those songs lullaby (with the origin to pursue the devil) is not appropriate for Russian kolibelnie.

The famous kolibelnie I remember from my early childhood is “Spyat ustalie igrushki”. The song urges the child to sleep as there is no one awake. Toys, books are already asleep. Blankets are waiting for the children. So close your eyes, bayu-bay. Everybody should sleep as there is a new day tomorrow.

Another kolibelnie that drew my attention with its soft rythme is “Kolibelnaya medvetsi”. The lyrics reveal us that the song is played for the child in cold, snowy lands. Your neighbors and white bears are sleeping, why aren’t you sleeping, little child?-the mother wants him to sleep.

### **Uzbek**

Now let’s try to get the meaning of the Uzbek allas. Allas are different from other nations’ lullabies as the lyrics speak about praising the country and the passing customs and traditions in generations. For example, the mother wishes her child to be a useful person to the community, besides asking for his living a long life.

Alla is the source of Uzbek soul as they express not only praising the country, but also it aims to absorb respect to the elder people into the heart of the baby by means of traditions.

In one of the most spread songs, the mother sings her child about great ancestors of the nation like Al-Xorezmi, Ibn Sino. Moreover, she urges her child to be clever as Nodira, and brave as Temur so that the nation will be thankful with his devotion or benefit to the community. They summon to humbleness and generosity. Mostly, allas are written in an advice and counsel mood.

Due to its rythme Russian and Uzbek allas and kolibelnii are alike. They are both in soft mood, not too high, not to low. But it’s different from the lullabies possessing the feature of involving the child in today’s world issues. Uzbek ones express aims only to calm the baby down and stop crying. The child will be separated from world’s problems and the main aim is to not mention about the bad side of life, at least for some time until he discovers it himself.

According to the reports I have provided above, I conclude that some lullabies have exact year and author of origin. But others like Uzbek allas do not possess any author or year of origin. Of course, today we do not come across the ancient children songs, but it is clear they are coming from generation to generation informing us about that time’s issues. Just like fashion nursery rhythms are designed in a new way as the time passes. The new

samples of allas are now being sung by famous Uzbek singers like Sevara Nazarkhan, Zulayho Boyxonova, Zamira Suyunova.

I only tried to define the features of nursery rhythms, but we can talk about the benefits of these songs for children for hours. Obviously, again we come across the specialty of every nation in this issue. But the main reason is to give calmness to the crying child. As I have observed a lot of children most of them stopped crying and fell asleep following the rhythm of the songs.

Sing songs to your children so they will be the greatest person in the world.

### **Литература**

1. Elanguages.org: <http://www.elanguages.org>