

# The Symbolic and Spiritual Formation of The Concept of The Moon in English And Uzbek Folklore

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**Received:** 12 February 2026; **Accepted:** 09 March 2026; **Published:** 31 March 2026

**Abstract:** This article explores the symbolic and spiritual formation of the concept of the Moon in Uzbek and English folklore. The study highlights the association of the Moon with beauty, femininity, love, protection, life cycles, and natural rhythms. In Uzbek folklore, the Moon is often represented as a symbol of feminine beauty, spiritual purity, and love, while in English folklore it is interpreted as a symbol of intuition, mystery, and different stages of human life. The research also examines the connection of the Moon with agricultural life, seasonal changes, and fertility in both cultures. Furthermore, the historical evolution of the Moon's symbolism is analyzed, showing how its meanings have transformed from ancient times to the present. The findings demonstrate that the Moon is a universal and multi-layered symbol across cultures.

**Keywords:** Moon concept, folklore, symbolism, femininity, beauty, life cycle, spiritual meaning, agricultural symbolism, natural rhythm, cultural studies.

**Introduction:** In folklore, the moon is often associated with trust and protection. Because the moonlight illuminates a person in the dark and provides security. The moon is also associated with the cycle of life and death. It waxes and wanes every month, which is the same as the rhythm of nature. The moon is also a symbol of love and affection. In many folk songs and epics, the moon comes as a symbol of romantic feelings and love.

In English folklore, the moon also appears as a symbol of cycles. For example, in the fairy tale "The Man in the Moon", the moon reflects the periods in human life depending on the change of each season, and "new moon" is interpreted as a symbol of beginning, "full moon" as a symbol of maturity.

In Uzbek folk songs and epics, the full moon mainly represents the nature and beauty of women. The story "The Moon Called the Maiden" represents the moon illuminating and protecting the path of life through the light on its surface. In English culture, the moon is also

associated with femininity; in ancient Greek legends, the goddess Selene shines in the dark and protects people. At the same time, in English folk tales, the moon is used as a means of expressing inner intuition, mysterious power, and feminine energy.

In addition, in Uzbek folklore, the moon is also used as a symbol associated with the change of seasons, water, and harvest. For example, the motif "Working in the Field by the Moonlight" refers to agricultural cycles.

In English folklore, the motif "Harvest Moon" also has a symbolic meaning associated with harvesting and the rhythm of nature. In these two cultures, the moon is represented as a symbol of harmony with nature and the rhythms of agrarian life.

Over time, the concept of the moon has been perceived differently in each era and has left its mark on the forms of oral creativity. While in ancient times the moon was associated with gods, in the Middle Ages it became a central symbol in folk festivals and seasonal rituals.

In modern folklore, the moon is used in connection with human psychology and concepts of nature.

When it comes to the symbol of the moon in Uzbek and English folklore, this topic reveals deep layers of folklore. People still discuss the cultural significance of these symbols. They turn out to have similar and different meanings in different peoples.

### **Symbolic images and meanings**

In Uzbek folklore, symbolic images are the main means of expressing the worldview of the people. For example, "... dominant symbols are the main means in folklore, expressing the worldview of the people, spiritual values, ideals and dreams. For example, mountain. Stability and strength. Moon and sun. Symbol of light and justice." Here, the concepts of light and justice are associated with the symbols of the moon and sun. So, in Uzbek folklore, ideal concepts such as the light of nature, spiritual light, beauty are expressed through the symbol of the moon. These symbols reflect the inner world and worldview of the people.

Such symbols reflect layers of moral, philosophical and spiritual meaning in Uzbek folklore. For example, in folk songs and epics, the image of the "moon-faced moon" is not only a symbol of beauty, but also a symbol of love, loyalty and purity. In the lines "My moon-faced moon has come, the world is filled with light", the image of the moon, along with beauty, represents spiritual purity and the divine form of love.

In the most ancient imagination of the Uzbek people, the moon is a symbol reflecting the ideas of renewal and transience in human life. The moon changes its state every month. It is born, grows full and then decreases again. Therefore, in folklore it is used as a symbol of the cycle of life, the passage of time and the changeability of fate. For example, in some fairy tales, the "moon-faced moon" shows the mental state of the hero or the balance in society.

As folklore analysts note, the multi-layered interpretation of the image of the moon reflects the concept of harmony between nature and man in the folk mind. Because in the folk mind, the spiritual world of man and the movements in nature are considered interconnected. The moon shines on the earth at night. And man seeks his spiritual "light" in the darkness of life. This metaphorical harmony is the main principle of

the system of symbols.

The image of the moon has social and aesthetic significance in the spiritual world of the Uzbek people. It is used as a symbol that represents not only a celestial body, but also human qualities, such as love, purity and loyalty. Therefore, the symbol of the moon is manifested in its own forms in all genres of Uzbek oral literature, in songs, proverbs, riddles, epics and fairy tales.

### **The image of beauty and tenderness;**

In Uzbek oral literature, the symbol of the moon is often used as a symbol of beauty and tenderness. The research emphasizes: In Western literature, the moon symbol plays an important role in the symbolic depiction of beauty and delicate female nature. It is also clearly manifested in expressions such as "moon-faced, like a bright moon" in Uzbek folk songs. Uzbek female images are often compared to the moon. This shows the aesthetic views of the people and the tradition of harmonizing nature with human feelings. Such comparisons reveal the subtleties of folklore.

### **Function in oral texts**

In folk tales, songs and proverbs, the moon symbol has a different semantic load. For example, in fairy tales, the moon represents the night and a mysterious symbol. In songs, it is used as a symbol of longing, desire and love. Expressions revolving around the moon concept express the variability of life. The moon is also used as a poetic symbol expressing the inner experiences and mental state of the people. These functions indicate the versatility of the symbol.

Thus, in Uzbek folklore, the moon symbol is an expression of light, illumination, and spiritual beauty. It appears as an image associated with female beauty and tenderness. It also serves as a symbolic tool associated with changeability, the passage of time, and mysterious situations. These conclusions summarize the main aspects of folklore.

### **General symbolic meanings**

The moon is widely used in English and Western literature in general. "In literature, it is used as a symbol of folklore the moon is universally represented as feminine energy, signifying a person's lifecycle." That is, the moon represents, the cycle of life, change and inner experiences. This symbol is deeply rooted in

Western culture. It is found in various genres of literature.

### Folktales and examples of folklore

The moon symbol has a special place in English folktales. For example, in the tale "The Buried Moon", when the moon disappears, darkness covers the world. By returning it, light, goodness and life are restored. In this tale, the moon symbol is interpreted as a sign of light and goodness. Such examples show the symbolic richness of folklore.

### Qualitative analysis in Western literature

"The moon may be a big symbol, a toy left over from some primeval revelry The sun is always epic while the moon is lyric." In this view, the moon symbol is interpreted as a lyrical, emotional, and inner-worldly image. Therefore, in English literature and folk art, the moon is a symbol of spiritual experience, mystery, and feelings. This analysis reveals the literary significance of the symbol.

In English and Western folklore, the moon symbol is associated with femininity, emotion, and the inner world. It is a symbol of night, mystery, and change. It is also used as an expression of lyricism and inner spiritual experiences. These conclusions summarize the Western tradition.

In both cultures, the moon symbol is associated with light and spiritual radiance. It is used as a symbol of femininity, beauty, and tenderness. The phases of the moon represent change, the life cycle, and the cycles of nature. These similarities demonstrate the power of a universal symbol.

In Uzbek folklore, the moon symbol is more associated with the concepts of spiritual beauty, light, and justice, while in English folklore it denotes the inner psychological state, emotions, and feminine energy. In English culture, the moon is sometimes interpreted as a symbol of instability. "Don't swear by the moon, for she changes constantly." In Uzbek folklore, it is depicted as a source of positive light. In terms of genre, in Uzbek folklore, the moon symbol is widely used in proverbs, songs, and fairy tales, while in English folklore it is more common in fairy tales and lyrical literature. These differences reveal cultural characteristics.

The symbol of the moon in Uzbek and English folklore represents the spiritual connection between man and

nature. In Uzbek traditions, it is manifested as a symbol of spiritual light, beauty, and stability. In English folklore, it is a symbol of femininity, changeability, and emotions. In both peoples, the symbol of the moon is a universal image expressing the deep layers of the human psyche. This symbol shows the connection between cultures.

In folklore, the concept of the moon has been a symbol of humanity's understanding of nature and space. It is not just a timekeeper, but a great symbol that represents the human psyche, the rhythm of life, and cultural values. This symbol has gone through a historical path. In short, the beginning of the concept of the moon dates back to the first contacts of mankind with the cosmos, to the need to observe nature and rhythms. In oral literature, this concept has become a multifaceted symbol: a measure of time, the cycle of life and death, spiritual meaning, and harmony with nature. Based on this, the concept of the moon is not only an astronomical phenomenon, but also an element that has left a deep mark on human culture and thought processes.

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