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Analysis of theology in children fiction Relying on the story works of Claire Jobert

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Abstract

Studying the subject of theology in children fiction literature, regarding having the educational, moral and social functions, has significant and particular value and place. In this research, we are studied and analyzed that theology in the works of Claire Jobert, and the point that how this author considered and interpreted the concept of God – the highest religious concept- and the religious concepts which are related to that. In this regard the author, after explaining the summary of each story and explaining its main issue, performed an apparent and content analysis, psychological studying, religious and moral teachings studying and analysis, explaining the story style features, dialogues and characterization. And according to the studies and researches that are done in the works of Claire Jobert the following results are obtained: Mrs. Claire Jobert used indirect speaking and tangible and objective examples through the sense of God seeking, curiosity and endless questions of children about God, and tried to change children's insight and vision by presenting the monotheistic world view and inducing theism and god centeredness. Her books, because of having important and various aspects of theology, have great value and have wonderful influence on the children's God seeking mentality.

Keywords: children literature, fiction, theology, religious and moral teachings, Claire Jobert.

Introduction

Art and literature contrary to the experimental sciences that tries to discover the relationships between events, is the field of expressing desires and ideals and replies more to the spiritual and emotional tendencies, so develop motifs of beliefs and values in it. One type of literature is the children and teenagers' literature. Children and teenagers' literature is the result of artistically struggles of authors and great persons who guide children and teenagers toward growth in the form of speech and with suitable language and method that is understandable by children and teenagers. Children and teenager's literature leads to development of studying and increase the awareness level of this age group. So through such a recognition it will be possible to understand that this type of literature has the educational aspect. In the past time, this was considered as the subcategory of educational sciences, but now this literature becomes so independent that is known all over the world and has opened an special place for itself in classifications, list of books and fairs. The works of Mrs. Claire Jobert as a successful writer in the field of story writing for children have high place and investigative value, she wrote her stories in French before entered the field of Persian children fiction literature.

The importance and value of this research is that acquaintance with authors of various countries who are brought up with various cultures, can be indicative and helpful, in addition to their being exciting, particularly the persons who write for children and teenagers and can have deep influence on the children's spirit and mid and character. It is honorable for the author that could analyze and study the theology in the works of Claire Jobert. Of course, this work confronted two problems: on one side, the research had to be done in a very time and opportunity and on the other hand there were insufficient sources in the field of criticizing children's religious literature. The author hopes

the readers forgive the shortages and deficiencies of this research to this inexperienced researcher because of existence of the before mentioned problems and also because of newness of this subject. The children literature includes a part of literature that is distinguished suitable for children in the ages from pre-school to the end of teenage. Today's children are the future managers of society and their self-knowledge will lead to theology. Theology is one of the basic principles of inspired religions schools, particularly Islam, and one of the most important infrastructural issues of human's spiritual and religious life and if monotheism and theology are expressed according to the children's knowledge and understanding without imitation and modulation, its perception will be possible for children easily. Since theology is the first step in the way of thralldom and religiosity, has pressing need to studying this subject to have a completely ideal society. On the other hand the social, political, cultural aims and tens of particular aims have desired the children literature. Stories which are published during recent years become more complete and firm in their structure and stories are about issues of daily life but religious teachings and themes. In fact, religious teachings are inserted indirectly and in the form of story in the form of training themes. For this reason the works of Mrs. Claire Jobert, as a successful writer in the field of story writing, has a high place and investigative value. She wrote her stories in French before entered the field of Persian children's fiction literature. The researcher of this article will try to study even the type of publication and printing of Jobert's works and determine their value and importance from the viewpoint of technical writing of children's prose literature. Therefore, Hejvani (1999/ 1378) concluded in a research that the religious concepts must be expressed indirectly in children's literature and the purpose should not be merely transmission of religious concepts in the way that older peoples understand them. In another research Naeemi (2000/1379) believed that in training the concept of God to the child, at first must establish emotional communication with him. Then discover and capture the spirit of the child and lead him toward discovering God. The child must find God through mysticism, and must not introduce God as an inaccessible and unavailable creature.

Research purposes

- Studying Jobert's child fiction works with the subject theology and religious teachings.
- Studying the virtues and faults of this type of story writing for children.
- Creating a motivation to amend novel approaches of story writing special for children.
- Developing the children's fiction literature and making its subjects and themes various.

Research hypothesis

1- The religious teachings in the case of theology in Claire Jobert's fictions are conformed with standards of writing fictional books for children from the viewpoint of subjective and content structures.
2- The religious teachings in Claire Jobert's fictions have even some superiorities from the viewpoint of contents and structures and accepted values in writing children's fictions.
3- The axial religious teachings in the moral and social fields have more frequency than other fields in Claire Jobert's fictions.
4- Fictions of Mrs. Claire Jobert conformed to children psychology and particular characterizations of each age group.

Research Literature

"children and teenagers' literature, is a collection of writings of specialist authors which are provided regarding the taste and growth level of children." (Shoary Nejad, 2004/1389: 29)

"Children's literature is the collection of writings, songs and words that are provided by the adults of society to be used by children." (Hashemi Nasab, 1991: 10)

"In the culture of psychology and education, the children literature refers to a collection of works or writings (books and articles) which are provided by the expert writers for children's free studying and in all of them the children's taste and growth level and maturity are observed." (Shoary Nejad, 1985: 33)

Although the above mentioned definition is more comprehensive that previous ones and in some extent paid attention to the fourfold bases of communication, but it is not still complete. Because "quality of communication" (that is effectiveness or ineffectiveness of writings) and "direction of message" are not considered in this definition.

The importance of children and teenagers' literature: nowadays story writing is evaluated as an important branch in literature and its influence is evident in training sciences. To study the role of literature it must be considered that all the progresses and advances including policy, art, morality and industry is centered on the axis of compiling and writing the book and publishing news papers and among these compiling for children and teenagers, as the future generation and real capitals of each society has frequent important and sensitivity.

The artistic fiction and story is effective on society, and its role can never be ignored , the writer of fiction can impose his/her thoughts and beliefs to the reader through it directly or indirectly. Struggle to increase the useful studying time of children and teenagers is one of the old disturbances of all societies and in the performed studies and researches television is evaluated as the competitor of literature many times because it fill more leisure times of children and teenagers. Although television fill the time of children and teenagers by different programs but literature has maintained its place all over the world and the most important defect of this work is that long time watching TV will cause to decoration of mental activities through taking the opportunity of thinking. To attract the attention of children to the book, writers must work and study more than ever to step further of future and industry and technology with attractive stories, intact and new design and plan and persistence in creating new world that is full of endless power of imagination.

The most important purposes of children's literature

A) Making the child ready to know, like and build the environment.
B) Making known the child to himself/herself, making respect to humanistic nobility and desire to continual elevation and advancement.
C) To entertain and being pleasurable.
D) Making the child interested to study and accustom to it.
E) Establish and reinforce the peace in the world.

The history of children's literature in the world

Children's literature doesn't have a determined beginning time, from the time that the troglodytic mother sang a song for her child, a kind of children's literature was created too. The lullaby or the pleasant music at the sleeping time for adults, is tranquilizing the heart and soul, and is one of the first verbal literature, also "fiction" is another type of children's verbal literature. Studying the works and books of eastern and western philosophers during the primary centuries indicates this fact that children all over the world have passed common childhood with lullabies and parables. With these interpretations there wasn't the children's literature with concept that we believe it today, then at 19 century a person who is called "the father of children's literature" "Hones Christian Anderson (1805-1875) wrote some fictions and established this concept.

"Children's literature flourished by appearance of childhood period and concept of childhood. Before appearance of childhood period and concept of childhood, naturally it was not possible to form the children's literature. Some of the researchers and investigators of children's literature believe that the origin, date and cause of appearance of children's literature is associated to the appearance of childhood period and concept during the current period of human's history and civilization". (Pooladi, 2005/1384: 47-48).

Children's religious literature

The children's religious literature refers to the literature that conveys the religious heritages of current generation that include religious disturbances and teachings to the next generation, with a glimpse to the written religious fictions in Iran it can be said that most of them are the fictions which are written on the basis of the prophets, innocent Imams and divine Imams and include moral and faith points. Regarding the fact that addressees of children's literature have particular characterizations its necessary to pay more attention in expressing the religious subjects and concepts and prepare them on the basis of needs and desires of addressee. Most of the children's writers who have written in this field have done this work from the viewpoint of a Muslim writer who is fascinated by the Imams (peace upon them), this can be a reason that an artistic work is not created and it is not admired by the public.

"Training the religious musts and musts not (religious respects) and rights and wrongs (ethics) and things that were performed and done before (history and tradition) in not too distant past has the narrative, oral and verbal form. The

religious training was not limited to these, but also each of the mosque and pulpit, particular gatherings and Hosseinieh, and storytelling, screen reading, and commemoration gatherings and even coffee-houses was considered a place for training them. And on the occasions of Muharram, Safar and Ramadan and … months the most enthusiasm for telling and hearing of religious teachings are provided". (Kamary, 2000/1379: 100).

Religious teachings for children and teenagers in the old Persian texts

"May be Ismailia's educational essays were the oldest Persian religious training books. Ismailia that are known as the men of education too, challenged the mental beliefs and mental conceptions of youths and students of their own time with the method of asking the theological and philosophical questions, and invited them to the principals of seven Imams Shiite school and Batenyan (or Ismaeelia). "Soaliyeh (question) ode" of Abolheysam Jorjani, is the oldest of these texts, that has compiled during the reign of Samanides in Transoxiana, and there are two descriptions and interpretations for it in Persian. The first one was written by Mohammad ibn Sorkh Neyshaboury at 370 A.H, and the second one was written by Naser Khosro under the title of "Jame ol Hekmateyn during the reign of Seljukian at 462 A.H. among the other remaining books from the fifth century, which have religious content, include the "stories of honorable Quran" or "soor Abady's interpretation" from Aboubakr Atigh Neyshaboory. This book is not for teenagers, but undoubtedly its stories and fictions were read for children and teenagers; particularly the stories that were referred to the childhood of Imams". (Kashefi Khansary, 2011/1390: 11-13).

"Among the limited old Persian books that their subject is clearly educational and most of its addressees are teenagers and youths, we can name "Ghaboosnameh". Onsorolma'ali Keikavous ibn Voshmgir, has compiled this book for his son "Gilanshah" at475 A.H. The first chapter of this book is about "knowing the exalted God" and the second chapter is about "creation and worship of prophet". The language, logic and reasoning and argumentations of book are simple and instructional. Another book that surely can be specified for children and teenagers' use of it is "Kelileh and Demneh". The translator of it specified its suitability for children, and there are several documents about using that for children and by them in family and school, from the past centuries to the contemporary time. "Kelileh and Demneh" has been translated by Nasrollah Monshi to Persian at 6th century A.H. and is used to instruct and train children and teenagers until the present time too. The book begins with praise of the Great Prophet (peace upon him), and naturally so many children and teenagers have read this introduction. It must be said that during various centuries, more than ten rewiting, selection and … of "Kelileh and Demneh" is done by various writers". (the same, 2-16).

The methods of training and introducing God to children

Knowing God is an important issue for children. There are several various methods to instruct theology to the children that can be used to introduce God and his attributes to the children correctly. The childhood period is the best time to instruct the concept of God and methods of theology to children because belief in God will give direction to their life, and will be so helpful in understanding the meaning of life. "Knowing God means to live in another way and having a life with meaning, hope, and valuable obligations and making decisions on the basis of thinking, spiritual and moral growth because of existence of God in all places and obeying God's commands". (Rahimiyan et. al, 2010/ 1389: 134).

Importance of fiction

Children have sweet and incredible friendship and familiarity with story. Some of the great behavioral problems of children can be changed by saying and bringing up fiction through mental preparedness. Also the fiction can be used for better conveying the concepts, the method that is actually recommended in Quran.

Biography of Claire Jobert

Claire Jobert was born at 1962 A.D. (1340 solar year), in France in an artist and educated family. Her father was an artist and her mother was a doctor and she has three younger brothers. She loved painting and writing from her childhood. She took her Bachelor degree in education and her M.A. degree in children's literature (from University of Le Mans, in France, from distance) and she also has educated in Seminary too. She began the work of writing and illustration simultaneously since 20 years ago, and she wrote in both of Persian and France. She cooperated with children's journals from 2009 (1388), and is a member of the group of expertise and evaluating the (Novice growth) (Roshd No Amooz) and cooperated with Soroush , Nabat KOcholo (Little candy) journals and sometimes other

children's journals. She became a member of the expertise and evaluating group of Child's soroush journal and also a member of the child workgroup of public libraries in the country. She tries to communicate with children by the side of writing and illustration and cooperated with library of the society for protection from work children for some years. She also liked the work of research in the field of children's literature and philosophy with children. Her published compiled works in Iran includes: the burnt tree, the Islamic Culture Publications Office, 1996 (1375), the painter of faces (rewriting), Soroush publication, 1997 (1376), in search for God, institute for intellectual development of children and young adults, 2004 (1384) (the prize of the tenth Book festival of hi guys and Poopak, the prize of Roshd educational aid books festival). And also she has published some books in French in Lebanon and France.

Research method

In this research the research type is on the basis of qualitative and theoretical researches. The research information and data are gathered through referring to the reliable university libraries and institutes for intellectual development of children and young adults, referring to the internet sites and searching the research articles from digital libraries. The research method is descriptive-analytical that is studied and analyzed after data gathering and is compiled on the basis of the research plan.

The method and tools of data gathering for research: the subjects of this research are gathered through library studies and the tools of data gathering include taking notes and data base.

The method of analyzing the research data: After taking notes and extracting the information and data from databases and sites, the subjects which are proportionate with the research purposes were classified and then the information and data are analyzed through gathering the notes and describing them with reasoning, logic and examples. In this manner, it is referred to the works of Mrs. Claire Jobert several times and these works are studied exactly and deeply to find witnesses and examples.

Introduction: In this research the researcher analyzed and studied the theology in the Claire Jobert's story book with the name of "the God's cookies", and refers to the abridgement of the story, apparent and content analysis, the main axes of the story, the psychological teachings, the religious and moral teachings and in addition to these she studied other elements and parts of fiction and story in these works. Internet websites have been used to refer the religious traditions and narrations and the specifications of that book is mentioned in the list of references.

The aims of explaining the concept of God

"However we say that deism is innate and natural, but it must be accepted that, like all of the innate and natural aspects of human beings creation, it's prosperity needs enrichment, revival and bringing up to prevent its withering or disappearance. Since fiction literature can motivate affections and thinking through delineating tangible situations for children, so fiction can be a suitable way to strengthen the familiarity with God, intensify the sense of theocentricity and transferring or conveying the monotheistic concepts. So the fiction must not be considered just as the entertainment for children but also it is one of the best methods and ways to talk about God and religious concepts with children and also to reply their infinite questions and in some extent to convey some of the religious teachings. The main purpose of a literary work is not merely to convey the religious knowledge and learning, but also it must make required enthusiasm and desire and motivation in the child, to find his/her way toward God without imposition.

Analysis of Claire Jobert's fiction

Writer and illustrator: Claire Jobert

Publication year: 2008 (1387)

Circulation: 15000

Age category: "B"

Price: 850 Tomans

Publication: Institute for Intellectual Development of children and young adults

Pages number: 32 (color) illustrated

1- An abstract of the story

The little bear wants to thank God because of all of the beauties that is created, but he don't know how he must do it? The crow suggested that he bakes some cookies for God. But porcupine says that he can be kind with all instead of baking cookies, because the God likes kindness more than cookies. At last the little bear baked the cookies and goes with the crow. On the way toward the hill, he gave all the cookies to the persons who somehow need, and all the animals said that "the God be content and satisfied from you". In the end when the little bear reached the hill, he didn't have any cookie but he feels that God is content and satisfied from him.

2- The main theme of the story

Theology and thanking the God is the main theme and subject of the story. The story of the God's cookies is translated to Arabic by Mrs. Amimeh Mohsen and translated to French by Mrs. Claire Jobert.

3- The apparent analysis

The cover of the book of "the God's cookies" is glossy and its form is epistolary and is painted with green and blue background. The cover image is a hill that there is a seven-color rainbow on it and some multicolor bushes are drawn on the top and down of the hill. In fact the cover image pictured a part of beauties of the nature and the title of the book "the God's Cookies" is written in black and in fantasy form on top of the page. After the cover image, the first thing that is important and indicator in the children's book, is the title of that book that can be effective in attracting the children's attention. "the God's Cookies" is an attractive and interesting title that is chosen for this book. Cookie is a lovely and available edible for children that has a material and tangible concept. But God, evokes an spiritual and supernatural concept for children. Choosing this title increases the curiosity and motivation to read this book. The pages number of this book is little and suitable for children in the "B' age group. Since children in the early primary school ages like to read the books with lower volume and more little pages and makes it possible for them to finish it in one stage. It's font size is chosen large and is proportionate with the age, mental and physical qualities and specifications of children. The large fonts are the cause of happiness and contentment for children for two reasons: first is that they are read more easily and better, and the other is that cause the pages are turn over sooner and this quality causes that the children's thirsty soul be full more quickly. The book doesn't have the page number, but in the book information page the number of pages are mentioned 32 colored pages. The cover image and the book title are completely coordinate with the content and context of story. The first page of the book "In the Name of God", the picture of a tree with red , white and pink blossoms block out the image of spring in our mind. Also the images of multicolor flowers and butterflies that are drawn on the ground, create a beautiful and considerable space for child addressee. Use of light and lovely and attractive colors at the beginning of the page, show the happy environment of the story. This point lead to attract the addressee, because it is conformed to the child's age qualities, because they need happiness. Children like to read the books which have more joyful and exciting aspects and enjoy reading them. Using the red color for the dots of "In the name of God in Persian" increase the child's attention. In the page after "In the Name of God", there are the cover image, the image of rainbow and hill with the green color background, in addition to the title of the book. In the next page the green background will change to the blue background. But the green ground and plants and insects that are walked on them have been illustrated and drawn. Images, indicate the flowing life of nature, the nature that give tranquility and rest to everyone. The completely expressive and animate images are places in front of the children's eyes to meet this spiritual need of them. In the first page that the story context is begun in it there are both of the context and image in both sides of that page. But after this page in the next pages, there is the context just in one side of the page and the beautiful images are completed in both sides of the page (in front of each other). This characteristic is seen until the end of the book. The page background is often blue and just in some pages it becomes green. In this book the sentences are short, expressive and clear, and there aren't long and breath taking sentences, and the images will convey the message and content of that page to the addressees well. One of the important and main features of Mrs. Jobert's illustration is happiness of animal characters in addition to using the lovely and various colors. In the

pictures of animals their happiness can be seen in both of their eyes and lips clearly. For example, the little bear that is the main character of the story smiles in addition to the eyes that smile too in all the pages. In this manner, it conveys and transfers happiness and smile to the addressee and reader. The illustrator created a beautiful harmony and coordination by the use of hot and cold colors and by this property it will follow the peak of visual line among its own child addressees. The cover image of the book (the hill and rainbow) is repeated at the end of the book together with the image of the bear and porcupine that have a satisfaction smile on their lips. Also the image of the page "in the Name of God" is repeated at the end of the book. Repetition of the images with little changes is one of the characteristics of Mrs. Jobert's illustration. It seems that the repetition will develop and increase the precision, the intelligence and imagination circle of children, without making him/her bored and tired.

4- Content analysis

The book of "the God's cookies" with the subject and theme of theology and thanking from God, has the religious and social theme. This book is so effective and useful for children, particularly for the age group of "B" that includes children between 7 to 10 years old. Because this age category is the ages of imitation, dreaming, and creating moral and social values in the more developed form. Children find out several moral and social values such as: thanks and gratitude, kindness and help to others and this has an important role in development of children's characteristic. The story begins with a good description of arriving spring: "the spring was begun, the apple tree at the middle of the plain was full of blossom. It was morning and the sun shines on the dew of meadow." Mrs. Claire Jobert delineates the beauties of spring and nature for children through various images and colorful flowers in addition to describe them. She comes nearer to the world of children by keeping distance from the world of adults. In a manner that the language and speech in the story of "the God's cookies" explains and expresses the feelings and moods of children completely. Children communicate with the story easily and gives its positive effect too. The writer points to the God's creative power with complete familiarity with the world of children, with a childhood language in the form of talking and conversing God.

"the little bear looks at his around and shouts with wonder: "woe, my God! "How beautiful make you here!"". She attracts children attention through looking at the natural world and beauties of creation and world. She breaks the habit of daily watching them and turns it into paying attention and thinking into the nature. Thinking about beauties of creation and blessings and gifts of God is possible through reaching theology. Mrs. Jobert guides her addressees to the creator of the beauties (God) through showing the beauties of nature to them. In fact her theological method is in this manner: conveying the thought of creation and making nature by the Glorious God to the children; conveying the pure monotheistic thought that the owner of all the beauties and blessings is the God.

The main axes in the story of "the God's cookies"

1- Religious and moral teachings

One of the methods of strengthening the thanks giving spirit in human beings, is to think about blessings. Essentially the motive for thanksgiving and tendency to it is originated from thinking about the God's blessings. With this method, human beings obtain a complete knowledge and understanding about blessings and reach to the owner and donator of blessings through thinking about them. At the beginning of the story Mrs. Jobert, tries to make the children familiar with the concept of thanking from God and thanksgiving through mentioning the blessings and beauties of spring, just like the manner that is used in Quran.

"the little bear scratches his head and asked himself: "how can I thank the God for all of these beauties?""

As in the Al-Rahman Sura, the types of blessings in the sky and ground are presented and after mentioning the blessings the verse of : O'thou, the jinn and human you deny which of your God's blessings" is repeated 31 times. For the reason that the God's blessings surrounds from our heat to the foot, they are not countable and nor deniable. Thanking God is sometimes with tongue and speech and sometimes by action and behavior. One of the evidences of thanking God that is mentioned in Quran is to say praying. Praying is the best work for thanking God. The God say to the prophet (my God send greetings to him): (say your prayers to thank us for giving you Kosar (a river in Paradise)). (Kosar Sura/ verse 1-2). "the little bear asked the porcupine and crow: "in your opinion, what can I do to thank God?"". Mrs. Jobert by asking this question, instruct this point to the children that to give thank is a thing more that action and it must be understand among the actions and it is not enough that just say thank you to God.

Another point is that the little bear goes to consult with his friends to find the answer of his question and chooses the most correct and right work and do it. As it is said in the following honorable verse that: "do their work by consultation" (shora, 28)

"The crow says: "the best action is that bake cookies for God"".

This word, explains the material and superficial imagination of children from God. Children's understanding and perception is proportionate with his/her personal desires, observations and experiences and become more complete gradually with his/her intellectual and physical growth. "the porcupine protested and said: "no, the best work is that be kind with everyone. The God likes kindness more than cookies"". The above sentence, explains the spiritual and divine imagination from the concept of God. Mrs. Claire Jobert changes the children's observation and insight from a material and superficial look to a beautiful spiritual look and develops and growths it. Being kind and treat others kindly, in the form of being kind with all the peoples not with a particular person or specified group, is one of the religious and moral teachings that is effective in social relations and communicating with other their own kinds. The foundation of Islam is on the basis of affection, kindness and treating kindly with others. Imam Ali (peace upon him) said: "use your good works for all and in fact nothing is equal to the virtue of good works for God". (description of Ghurar al-Hikam: 236). The notable thing is that the amount of cookies are seven. The rainbow on the cover has also seven colors and it seems that the reason of choosing number seven for cookies and rainbow is originated from religious and cultural beliefs of Mrs. Jobert: "the little bear came back his home and began to work, he baked seven cookies. From the ancient times, number seven was of great holiness and considered by various tribes particularly eastern tribes and it is a sign of complete discipline and arrangement and it is a complete period. In Christianity religion, is paid special attention to the number seven, and seven miracles, seven evil spirits, and seven types of happiness are mentioned in the Gospel. In Islam, it is recommended to circumambulate the Kaaba seven times and the first number that is mentioned in Quran is number seven. This number is repeated 27 times in Quran. Also the sky and Hell have seven floors. The little bear of this story, gives the first cookie to the little deer in response to his appeal contrary to the desire of the crow. The little bear remembers the words of porcupine and says to himself: "if I show kindness to the little dear surely the God would be more happy" and he experiences being kind and says himself: "being kind is not so difficult"". Mrs. Claire Jobert creates a religious knowledge for children addressees on the basis of their spiritual and religious needs through preparing the situation of spiritual experiences, and emphasizes on this main point that love to the unique God passes from the way of love to the servants of God and human beings and supplying the needs of needful people is the best thank of God. Imam Hussein (peace upon him), are considered supplying the needs of other peoples as the divine blessings and said: "indeed the people's need to you is the blessing of God to you, don't be tired from these blessings". (Bahar-ol -Anvar: 318). Mrs. Claire Jobert indirectly instructs that doing a service and help that is for the satisfaction of God, is a worship and will lead to become nearer to God. Example: "the little bear at the time of helping Mrs. Squirrel thought that: this time again I can be kind for the sake of God" and gave a cookie to Mrs. Squirrel". Thank of each animal from the little bear express this religious concept that thanking and gratitude from created peoples is like thanking from creature or God. Because God uses his created peoples as the medium to give his own blessings to other creatures. Also Ayatollah Makarem Shirazi has said that: "thanking and gratitude from persons who are the medium of blessing to other peoples is also a kind of gratitude". (Tafsir Nemooneh: 51). As it is written in this story : "Mrs. Squirrel thanks. The little deer thanks". The writer includes the contents of traditions and narrations of Prophet and innocent Imams (peace upon them) in the context of story. The example: "Mrs. Squirrel said: "I wish you are blessed and enjoy your blessings, little bear, now my children will become so happy"". The prophet of Islam (my God send greetings to him) says: "the people are the pensioners of God and the most beloved of them for God is the person who benefit to the other peoples or the God's family and make a family happy". (Ousul al-Kafi: 164). There are significant moral and instructional points in this story that can be completely instructive and useful for children. The little bear understand the greatness and power of God through looking at the God-given nature and blessings, and decides to thank God with humility and courtesy. The instructions of thanking and gratitude from God, humility and courtesy toward the power of God is one of the moral and instructional virtues which are emphasized in Islam. Surrendering in front of the thing that God like this: "God likes kindness more than the cookie". This sentence, suggests the instructional and moral teaching of being kind and kindness to others indirectly. Another instructional and moral teaching that is observed in this story is to pay attention to the God's satisfaction. the action that he gives all the cookies to the needful animals for the God's satisfaction and happiness. In fact the writer emphasizes on having the well behavior and well attitude at the time of doing a good and blessing action. In the following example it is also emphasized on self-devotion and sacrifice and prefer the benefit of others to the benefit of yourself:

"the little bear helped the family of rat and cuts the cookie into some pieces and says to all of them: "help yourself, help yourself, eat it"". And another example:

"a piece of cookie remained for the little bear, but he didn't eat it, and only touched his stomach that growls and said "be silent".

2- Social beliefs

A kind of thanksgiving is to recount the blessings. If retelling and recounting the blessings is done as thanksgiving and appreciating God it will have some possible positive influences in addition to the fact that it will develop and evolve the human being in the position of obedience of God and will have some tranquilizing influences on the spirit and soul of human being too. If the peoples of the society strengthen their thanksgiving morale and thanks other peoples because of their help and doing service, the people's hearts will become near to each other and they will be encourage to help and do service for others. Thanking the efforts and troubles of other peoples is a way to thank God. So, a people who has this belief will thank other peoples because of their helps and services, as little as it was, and with this work the morale of willingness to service will increase in the society. A person who knows him/herself responsible in front of each blessing, and the nature enrichment is growth and developed in him/her doesn't have any expectation from others and doesn't agree to throw his/her own responsibility on the other person's shoulder, but also he/she will be a responsible person. This action will create a reaction too. People will be a\the responsible, without so many expectations, loyal and dutiful and will to do services for others, and it is the best factor to progress and evolution and advancement of the society. Help to other people, philanthropy and contentment will lead to security in the society. This story is the best way to instruct the social skills to the children indirectly. The stories which are more near to the social skills will have more influences and reading them will prepare the child to be present in the society.

3- The appearance of psychological teachings

In spite of the fact that Mrs. Claire Jobert enters the adulthood but she could attain an innate and natural religious feeling of children through retrieval of her own childhood feelings. Children's spirituality and pureness, is not because of hypocrisy or playing a role but it is originated from their pure and sincere nature. In the story of "the God's cookies" she has reflected and shown the innocence, pureness and spirituality of children well. The thought of creation of the universe, thanksgiving God, being kind and help others are the great and notable thoughts. Mrs. Jobert has expressed the great thoughts for children in a simple language and without any complication and formality. In this story, helping to others is considerable and notable from psychological viewpoint. Human being always desire perfection. Doing good works includes two physical and spiritual aspects. Because when a person give up the material and worldly interests and concerns, at first he/she reaches to a tranquility and feeling of prosperity and proud and secondly will attracts other to him/herself. In fact, a benefactor person will keep away stress and anxiety from him/herself through giving or granting a part of his property and never is worried to lose his/her money and this will show his/her generosity. Doing good works causes inner happiness for the person who helps. The benefactor persons give up the root of pride and selfishness, that is one of the psychological calamities, through giving or granting a part of his property and this lead to increase of self-esteem and causes their spiritual and psychological health. Example: "the little bear doesn't have any other cookie to take it to god, but he was assured that God is satisfied from him". But the peoples who help others less often, are the persons who don't like to forebear their property and always are worried to lose it and always have fear and anxiety about that and other people take distance from them. This isolation caused some psychological problems for them. Example: " the crow looks at the basket apprehensively and said: "these cookies are so few for God, isn't better that we eat them too?"". Because of the frequent positive aspects of benefaction and doing good, in holy books, particularly Quran and Prophet and Imams' traditions it is emphasized on doing good and benefaction and helping others.

The style features in the story of "the God's cookies"

1- Structure of story

In the story of "the God's cookies" the element of narration and third-person perspective is used. The tone of story is quite politely and there isn't any weak and worthless word in it to lead children learn bad things.

The writer used the methods of saying words indirectly and appropriate prose through being familiar with the sensitive areas of religion and religious knowledge, and could create an story that learn and instruct the great religious concepts, holy and great moral concepts to the children. This story has an star and end point because of its own thinking and movement. There are high and great thoughts behind the writer's imagination that helps the children addressee to reach a trained, high and exalted and healthy character.

2- Characterization

Another important element of story is the character. Studying and evaluating the character is a difficult work, because the actions of one character will be imitated and repeated and will have significant and important effect on the reader. The little bear in this story, is a symbol of a beneficent and kind person. In this story the main character reaches a new knowledge and awareness from God and thanksgiving him and attain a kind of insight and knowledge from himself, life and God through experiencing to be kind and help others. It can be said that the character of the little bear is a changing and dynamic character. The writer could create an appropriate practical model for children by an attractive and effective characterization. Since the social relationships of children are developed gradually during the ages of primary school and will ne appeared by social relationships, strengthening the social positive behaviors in children is not possible by direct method or though counsel or advice, so the best way is to present an appropriate practical model. Children will take the positive influence that is considered by the writer because of their attachment and interest to the animal characters in the story. Children are combined with experiences of the main character of the story and participate in his experiences and attribute his thoughts, affections and feelings to themselves and simulate them. The character of crow in this story is a character quite opposite to the character of the little bear. As much as the character of the little bear is changing and dynamic, the character of the crow is quite stable and his insight and thoughts don't change from the beginning of the story to the end. The character of porcupine in this story is also the symbol of an omniscient and director.

3- **Making dialogues**

Conversation or dialogue is one of the most important elements of story that is defined as talking between characters of the story. This element is the most important tool for characterization and is one of the key and most important tools of writer to advance the theme. The first dialogue in this story is the conversation of lithe bear with God. "the little bear looks at his around and shouts with wonder: "woe, my God! "How beautiful make you here!"". The final dialogue of this book is also the conversation of the little bear with God too. "the little bear shouts with wonder: "woe, my God! "How beautiful make you the sky !"". In the beginning of the story the main character wonders the beauties of spring and rising of the day and it was the starter of his connection with God. Also at the end of story after the rain and moving away the clouds, a big rainbow is formed in the sky and again the main character of the story wonders from beauties of the sky and leads to his connection with the kind God. "the little bear baked seven cookies and put them in a basket, and exited from his den and asked crow: "now where should we take the cookies?"

"the crew smiled and said: "put the basket on the top of hill, then God don't be ashamed at the time of taking cookies"."

Dialogue of the little bear with his friend, crow, indicates the childish material and superficial imaginations of the beginning of story. Children of this age group take God to the sky and think he observes and control all the people from there. The hill, is higher than the ground and is nearer to the sky and God in the children's viewpoint so God can be access there easily. Children in this age group imagine God extraordinary not supernatural, and these description indicates their material imagination from God.

"the porcupine said to the little bear that: "bravo little bear, I wish to kiss you, what a pity that I have thorns". "the little beat smiled and gave the last piece of the cookie to the porcupine. Then asked anxiously : "are you sure that God likes kindness more than cookie?". The behavior of little bear is admired by the porcupine and it shows being kind and love others that establishes the social relationships and social affection. The question of little bear is formed because of doubt and lack of reliance. Mrs. Jobert gives the material and superficial imagination of the first character of story to the conception of passing and gives a tranquility and reliance to the children together with the little bear.

4- monologue

soliloquy in the story that is the same as monologue is also a part of communication in the story. The writer present various viewpoints and looks and these differences in viewpoints and looks makes stories distinct. In this story monologue and soliloquy belong to the little bear. Example: "the little bear scratches his head and asked himself: "how can I thank the God for all of these beauties?"". Connection with God and find knowledge and cognition about him, provides the practical tendencies to thanksgiving and as much as these connection and relationship with God is more the practical tendencies are also developed.

"The little bear remembers the words of porcupine and says to himself: "if I show kindness to the little dear surely the God would be more happy".

"the little bear smiled and said himself: "being kind is not as much as difficult that I thought".

The little bear attain an spiritual experience and enjoys it.

"the little bear thought that: "this time I can be kind for the sake of God too". The pleasure and tranquility of doing a good work (help others) causes to repeat and continue that.

Conclusion

Mrs. Claire Jobert begins to write stories in the field of theology with interest and studying about various religious and fields and also about children, she has written her works with familiarity with children's questions about God and theology. She could give acceptable and guidance answers to their questions in the most artistic form and fable story pattern with the method of saying indirect, by knowing the imagination features of children. Since children's knowledge and perception is more tangible and they can't understand issues rationally and reasonably, Mrs. Claire Jobert at first makes children familiar with noticeable, sensible and tangible symbols and beauties of the universe and by this way guides them toward the creator of the universe. The writer, considered the conditions of children's age, and used the sensitive and tangible methods, which are the best methods to instruct some concepts such as God and proves existence of God , and expressed the most complicated religious concepts in the form of short and understandable sentences for the children. The dominant concept in the works of Claire Jobert is affection and social communications. She is able to do this well, in addition to this feature use of pictures with light, lovely and attractive colors is another reason of her success. Her story has happy and expectative ending and create special spiritual and mental tranquility for the child and tries to stabilize and intensifying the children's love and affection to God through emphasizing the God's divine characteristics. Proving God, existence of God, communicate and relate with God, image of God, attributes and performances of God are all the aspects of theology that the writer considers all of these aspects in her story through making interesting and appropriate dialogues. In addition to prove the existence of God and the world after death she considers some religious teachings such as God's knowledge and awareness, have a trust to God, rely on God, being tranquil through remembrance of God, thanksgiving, the God's satisfaction and submission to God, self-knowledge, humility and courtesy in front of God, praying and 0000 too. Also some moral and social teachings such as veracity and loyalty, etiquette, respect others, generosity and self-devotion, benefaction and doing good against other, kindness and treat others kindly, consultation, friendship, sympathy and unanimity are observed in her works. In this regard it is suggested that the other honorable researchers perform research and investigations in the following fields:

1- study and compare the religious and imaginative fictions of Claire Jobert with other writers
2- study and compare the children's religious literature in Iran before the Revolution and after it
3- comparative study of children's religious literature in Iran with other countries and nations

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