

Abstract

The following essay means to compare and contrast two superheroes, Esfandiar from Shah Name by Firdausi and Achilles from Iliad by Homer. The main purpose behind making this choice is that primarily these two represent very famous and tangible examples from the world of myths. Furthermore, they can be good models for indicating the culture and beliefs of Persian and Greek people, which can be traced back in a holistic worldview about myths in general. This paper aims to show how an epic writer creates and at last destroys a typical super hero. The highlighted points in this study are; 1) the reason why they are given physical flaws, while they are considered much mightier than other ordinary human beings, and 2) why they are created in such an exaggerated way and then they are killed. The first result of this paper will point to the fact that they are bound to these flaws to be made digestible for human being's cognition. The second conclusion is related to the fact that they will die, because the epic writer tries to convey a metaphorical message. He shows that although the balance of nature (the accepted cognitive perceptions) is apparently violated at first, but eventually, mother of nature takes control and reshapes everything back into normal even if the process takes some extreme measures such as killing and destroying some super powerful human.

Keywords: Cognitive linguistics, death of the author, deconstruction, comparative mythology, logos