

Current Trends in Educational Science and Practice **II.**

Pavel Doulík (ed.)

Ústí nad Labem
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TEACHERS' TRAINING FACULTY IN UŽICE
UNIVERSITY KRAGUJEVAC IN KRAGUJEVAC

Pavel Doulík [ed.]

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УЖИЦЕ

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ÚSTÍ NAD LABEM — NITRA — KRAGUJEVAC

EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF FABLES IN TEACHING¹

Miomir MILINKOVIC, Snezana MARINKOVIC,
Ljiljana KOSTIC

Abstract

The fable represents one of the oldest literary forms. Although not written specifically for children, its structure and content have always attracted the young reader, but, at the same time, its allegorical moral has always repelled him. This paper explores educational value of the fable, its influence on adoption of moral values and its significance in personality formation of the young reader.

Key Words: *fable, moral allegory, educational value, the child and the fable.*

1. Origins of the Fable.

The fable is among the oldest literary forms and thus can be considered the original source of all literary forms. Although not written specifically for children, its structure and content have always attracted the young reader, but, at the same time, its allegorical moral has always repelled him.

There are no reliable sources on the place and the date of origin of the fable. Some facts point to a conclusion that the cradle of the fable could be India or the Mediterranean, and that they had appeared in the age of animistic concept of the ancients. The oldest evidence of the fable can be traced back to Hesiod's *Works and Days* (9th-8th AD), works of the Greek poet Archilochus and writings of the Athenian lawmaker Solon (7th AD). A Phrygian slave Aesop, "a famous narrator of Indian and Greek fables" (Maljković, M., 2007, p. 31) had greatly assisted in the spreading of fables. "Educational role of the fable and its universality incited the spread" of his work (Samardžija, S., 2011, p. 78). Phaedra's adaptations of Aesop's fables were very popular, not only in Latin literature, but also with Byzantine authors. From the 17th century onwards, there was a renewed interest in Aesop's fables (Lessing, La Fontaine, Krylov etc.). Adaptations of Dositej Obradović are the most significant for Serbian literature. He had developed dialogues in the fable, introduced elements of

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