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**The significance of using proverb in the African literature
with the reference to (Chinua Achebe's Things Fall Apart)**

أهمية استخدام الامثال في الرواية الافريقية بالرجوع ل (جينوا اجيبي وتبعثرت الاشياء).

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment for the requirements
of the degree of M.A.

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DEDICATION

To my dear family.

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I am extremely grateful to my supervisor Dr. Wigdan Yagoub for being my mentor and for her support during my entire M.A programme .Special thanks are to my true friends without whose sincere help this effort could have not been a success in the research programme without them such as my closest friend the most outstanding of who is Ustaz Omer Ahmed. Also I shouldn't forget my university colleagues Mogbel, Ali, Musaab and our great colleague Ustaz Ali EL shrief. Also my colleague in the work(Ibad ELrahman high secondary school) for being by my side at the previous days. Finally I would like to thank everyone who had helped me before especially those whom I might forget to mention.

ABSTRACT

This study is aimed at discussing the proverbs which are used in the African literature with the reference to (Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*). The researcher went through the proverb and displayed all the proverbs in the novel *Things Fall Apart* then the researcher explains the literal meaning and the actual meaning for every proverb by its own and finally the researcher elaborates why the author is used to use proverb in his writing so the researcher arrived at the following results: first; using proverb in the novel gives the surrounding environment so the audience can imagine more about the place where the novel takes place. Second; using proverbs serve language aspects by specific meaning. Third; using proverb has psychological matters. For what has been mentioned above, it is clear that using proverb has significance in the African literature. The following recommendations are for syllabus designers: they should put the proverbs at the end of each book as a glossary and explain them completely, explain and show the dimension of each proverb. Teachers should elaborate, explain and make the students understand the proverb and its dimension. Students should understand proverbs by understanding the environment of characters and to know the setting of the text. That helps them to understand what the author wanted to say and the ideas which he wanted to deliver to the audience.

مستخلص البحث

تهدف هذه الدراسة الى بحث ومناقشة الدور الذي تؤديه الامثلة المستخدمة في الادب الافريقي بالرجوع للمؤلف (جينوا اجيبي وروايته وتبعثرت الاشياء). توصل الباحث لما غاص قي اعماق الامثلة المستخدمة في القصة اعلاه واستعراض الامثلة ابراز المعنى الحقيقي و المعنى المجازي لكل مثال على حده وقد توصل الباحث الى النتائج التالية : اولا كل الامثلة المستخدمة في النص كانت مستمدة من الواقع الطبيعي و البيئة المحيطة دون اغراق القارئ في الخيال مما يساعد على استيعاب النص بشكل افضل . ثانيا قد استخدام الامثلة الى اعطاء المعنى المراد بدقة ووضوح شديدين . ثالثا كما لها تاثير ايضا في مراعاة الجوانب النفسية لافراد ذلك المجتمع . وقد خلصت الدراسة الى التوصيات التالية : يجب على ادارة المناهج مراعاة البعد اللغوي والنفسي والاجتماعي للطلاب . يجب على المعلمين استعراض الامثلة بدقة لتوضيح البعدين الزماني والمكاني للنص . كما يجب على الطلاب ان يعي هذه الامثلة ويجب ان يفهم ما ترمي اليه الامثلة المستخدمة في النص لزيادة الرصيد اللغوي وفهم المعاني المقصودة .

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

1.0 Overview

Proverbs are crucial in the understanding of African cultures and wisdoms.

Mostly employed by elderly people, proverbs are valued because they help to construct and comprehend society. One rarely reads through literary texts by African authors without encountering more than a dozen proverbs. Such expressions are found in the works of Chinua Achebe, Wole Soyinka, Bole Butake, Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Ola Rotimi, Ama Ata Aidoo, to name just a few. To underline the traditional, perhaps aesthetic, relevance of proverbs in specifically Ibo conversations, Chinua Achebe ascertains in *Things Fall Apart* (1958) that "proverbs are the palm-oil with which words are eaten".

Achebe's incorporation of Ibo elements is his frequent reference to traditional Ibo proverbs and tales. These particular elements give *Things Fall Apart* an authentic African voice. The Ibo culture is fundamentally an oral one – that is, "Among the Ibo, the art of conversation is regarded very highly, and proverbs are palm-oil with which words are eaten" (Chapter 1). To provide an authentic feel for Ibo culture would be impossible without also allowing the proverbs to play a significant role in the novel.

Achebe weaves Ibo proverbs into the novel's dialogue, to clarify a point, to teach a lesson, and usually to provide humor. Also many Ibo words are used in the text without translation. Some of these can be understood by the reader through context, but others remain mysterious and create a distance between the non-Ibo reader and the Ibo world of *Things Fall Apart*.

The metaphorical labeling of proverbs as symbols of livelihood, i.e. oil, validates the relevance of this study, which focuses on the proverbs used by

Chinua Achebe in *Things Fall Apart*. The idea behind this study is that the proverbs represent a potential part of the novel and give it vividness.

1.1 Statement of the problem:

The basic idea of this study is to evaluate Chinua Achebe's use of proverbs in his novel "*Things Fall Apart*". The researcher proposes that the writer uses the proverbs potentiality. This potentiality is evident in a wide range of applications, for example proverbs enhance the understanding of the cultural background of African society of the time in general and the Ibo society in particular. In addition they create a lively atmosphere of how Ibo's people live their lives. Also they are used to show humor. Moreover the proverbs help in teaching many values and lessons. Furthermore proverbs are used for clarification between the speakers involved.

1.2 Questions of the study:

1. How are the proverbs used by the writer in *Things Fall apart*?
2. What are the language aspects that show the use of proverbs in the novel?
3. What are the social dimensions that show the use of proverbs in novel?
4. Are there any psychological matters that show the use proverbs other than social ones?

1.3 Hypotheses of the study:

1. The writer uses proverbs effectively in novel.
2. There are many language aspects that show the use of proverbs in the novel.
3. There are many social dimensions that show the use of proverbs in the novel.
4. There are many psychological matters that show the use of proverbs other than social ones.

1.4 Objectives of the study:

The main objective of this study is to evaluate Chinua Achebe's use of proverbs in his novel *Things Fall Apart* and to see to what extent he uses proverbs in this novel. Also, this study seeks to explore the proverbs used in the novel, explain meanings and significance.

1.5 Significance of study:

This study is significant because it sheds light on the use of proverbs, which are considered one of the important features of African literature. Proverbs are widely used by most of African writers, so they require investigation and studying.

1.6 Methodology Of The Study:

The method whereby the researcher will collect data is analytical method. The researcher will analyze the use of proverbs in the novel. Likewise, he will use a critic's analysis that covers them.

1.7 Limitations of the study:

The first limitation of this study is the study of proverbs in the novel *Things Fall Apart*. The second limitation is the investigation of how these proverbs are used in the novel.

CHAPTER TWO
THEORETICAL FRAME WORK
AND PREVIOUS STUDIES

Chapter Two

Theoretical Frame Work and Previous Studies

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the researcher defines proverbs, explains how proverbs can be used as a rhetorical device, describes the nature of proverbs and finally mentions two previous studies.

2.0DEFINTION OF PROVERB

In this section the word proverb is defined by many scholars who think that there is no single comprehensive definition of proverb. one of those scholars is Grysbok (1994)as cited by (Fashion (2006 170) he mention the assertion that there is no single comprehensive definition of proverb .The assertion has the validity based on fifty five various definition of the term approved by Milder and Litovking (1999)-the following the definition show that as well as there are scholars we have definition that corresponds with their numbers and in other words. the definition are many –but in this part some definition are used –the workable definition that capture approximately the present study

A proverb is commonly thought of as phrase.

Saying sentence statement or expression of folk which contains above all wisdom/truth/morals/experience/lessons and advice concerning handed down in form generation to generation (Milder and Litovkina/1999). We can divide this definition in to two parts the first part is structural in the way that it shows how proverbs are built. The second part is the message that proverb convey or try to

convey /for example – proverbs have many message .They teach lessons give advice that are useful in life in addition proverbs also help linking generation.

A proverb is wisdom expressed in sentence (ibid). This definition is shorter than the previous one. Structurally it says sentence and with respect to message it sends. Wisdom is expressed.

According to Padoye(2012) proverbs add poetic quality to literary wireless generally and are expression of wisdom with connotative and contextual meaning of what new about this definition it that is adds poetic quality as it . A proverb is a verse or a line or lines in a poem also the definition shows the indirect meanings of the proverbs connotative and meaning from context of use

A fourth definition is provided by (Adako 1998:59) he defines it as it proverbs are commonly used to mark thematic shifts indigenous high rhetoric self conscious speech and the intellectual sharpness of characters or persons. This definition looks rather complex but is possible to say that it expresses something about personality. Here the use of proverbs is the focus not its definition. So proverbs are used to convey transmission of information of a person to other people taking in consideration the person psychological side

According to(Fashina 2008:314) proverb is a condensed text which embeds a whole gamut of historical cultural and moral narrative with intent for didactic values as a school of philosophical thought like the previous definitions . this definition tell us that proverbs reflect historical cultural and moral narrative with intention of sending message for lite in addition it's about how to say thoughts philosophically

Proverb is social and linguist narrative of logical against extending circumstance of social and economic negative

(Fashina ibid) this definition brings something new if we compare it with the previous ones. Here we observe linguistics and logic as well as revolt. Proverb not only structural that send message about certain circumstance they are used revolt and protect against.

Negative social and economic practice of particular society so they have an extra purpose other than expressing message they can be used as tools or means to revolt against any unacceptable

Practice of society.

According to (Akpobaro-2004: 80)

APROVERB is graphic statement that expresses the truth of expressing beauty and source of delight is that what say is readily perceived and accepted as an incontrovertible truth.

Here we can see that a new aspect or thing is mentioned (graphic) so it looks like graph in that has dimension and axis it agree with all the other definition in its explanation of truth of experience all of the agree about the idea that proverbs are about experience and how it is expressed and condensed using few words again the focus here it's the experience has logic or intention they are based on and emerged from experience of people and from relationship and interaction with world nature.

To Ruth Finnegan as refaced in (Akpobaro,2004: 81) a proverb is saying in more less fixed form marked by shortness sense and salts distinguished by the popular acceptance of the trust expressed in it according to this definition the

popularity acceptance of the truth expressed in a prone distinguished it from any other expressing in addition proverbs ,are short fixed or less fixed forms that here sense and salt.

A proverb is traditional saying that is concise witty and figurative in form and which usually express a truth derived frompractically expressing (Akporobaro-ibid: 96)

Again experience the care of proverbs – proverbs reflection experience this experience is expressed by using concise and condensed forms that have figurative manner.

A proverb can be defined as a wisdom -studded corpus of verbal reasoning anchored on indigenous.

(Folk science (FASHINA, 2006)

From this definition we can notice that proverb are used to express wisdom by structures that based on folk science , tradition and customs proverbs societies experience tradition and customs are the bases of proverbs.

From all of the above proverbs have many definition but they share many thing in common – for example they are short expression used metaphorically to reflect upon as experience to convey wisdom and lesson for life they are slightly different in mirror matters like assimilating some of them graph rhetoric ,poetic, thematic, philosophical and self conscious speech.

2.1 Proverb as a Rhetorical Device

Before explain proverb as a Rhetorical Device it is useful to conceptualist Rhetorical Device in both forms of English Writing and speaking .Rhetorical Devices are aids to discourse they are those linguist source that helping creating effect and beauty of expressions.

They are very important for every expression .they add colour to what is said. They help in enhancing graphic description and production of ideas for rooted insight. They emply connection deeply and deepen writers' textual meanings. Consequently they raise or lift the writer's expression and in order to yield connotation an expression is contextualized from linguistics and situational view point. Rhetorical devices are very important substances that add to the flavour of expressions. They make them interesting because nodiscourse can be effective without them.

Therefore Harris (2008) makes the assertion that they come in the second place of importance to suitable and obvious these enough supporting arguments as well as logical and continuous arrangement of ideas.

Their persuasive tools especially in argumentative discourses and court room discourses are the base line for their beauty and effect. As a result EnyemaLakwe and Alo(2011) identify them as necessary ingredients of court room linguistic persuasive strategies. They add beauty to expressions because of the colour they add to participants discourse utterances Rhetorical devices types linguistic or traditional lift interlocutors' expressions by make their meanings deep using connotation.

So proverbs are connotative in essence they amply context of use to express meaning therefore they are one of the Rhetorical devices that add flovour and

colour to expressions .they make expressions interesting because they employ indirect way of explaining meanings of utterances . It is obviously to say that they are Rhetorical devices that make expressions more powerful and effective in nature

2.3 The natural proverbs

In this section the researcher explains the nature of proverbs by mentioning some of scholar's thoughts and ideas including the author of the novel (Chinna Achabe- Firstly Crystal David (1995: 184) comments on the nature of the proverbs. The effectiveness of a proverb lies largely in its brevity and directness what make proverb effective is that they are brief and direct in sending messages to listeners or readers. The sentence structure of a proverb is simple the pictures are rived and clear and therefore easy to comprehend in addition the use of poetic devices such as alliteration (repetition of consonant sounds) rhyme and rhythm make proverbs memorable. In other words the use of these poetic devices make proverbs easy to remember we could describe proverbs as popular humorous sayings with words of advice or warning proverbs could be regarded as a depositors of native intelligent code of moral lauds and philosophy of both life and social justice from the definition of proverb listed above . Proverbs can be inferred .

Secondly is Kernel which contains wisdom of the traditional people and they are also philosophical They are moral expositions contracted to a few words because they are intended to teach particularly in having moral instruction as an ulterior motive People use proverbs to suit every situation and occasion. (This is so because appropriate proverbs can be used to strength and support every important affirmation traditional value or belief by using proverbs we can settle

social difficult and personal problems for example punishment proverbs Achebe [1958] comments on the importance of the use of proverbs among the Ibo people therefore he says among the Igbo the art of conversation is regarded very highly and proverb are the palm oil with which words are eaten? More over the use of proverbs is unavoidable because the traditional African society highly praised them and used them to depict certain actions or events in visually attractive manner.

M.H[1981] posits that Style is the manner of linguistic expression in prose or verse It is that how a speaker or writer says what it is that he says He also points out that the direction or choice of words sentence structure and syntax the density and types of its figurative language the patterns of its rhythm components sounds and other formal features and its rhetorical aims and devices may be used to analyze the characteristic style of a work of a writer style could be described as a way or habit of expression of a writer especially in a literary artist.

A literary device is any the element or the 'entirety' of element atwitter deliberately uses in the structure of the literary work An identifiable rule of thumb a convention a literary an organization that is employed in literature and storytelling or the a absence of them are examples of literary techniques used by writers [wiki ,the free encyclopedia[2012] The main focus of the previous definition is the way language is used by an individual writer.

The context of use plays an important part in the use of all these literary devices denim[1999] sheds a light on the differences between imaginative literature and other forms in print He says the language is one of the main difference is the language and how are words are structured in patterns or

they are created to draw our attention to the experiences writers present in their work (Bolorundaro H.M.[1974]) comments on Achebe's style He says that Achebe has developed not one prose style but several and in each novel he is careful to select the style or styles that with his subject he goes further to submit that Achebe portrays a high sense of literary ability by using other devices which have done great credit to the novel *Things fall Apart* 24 Previous studies ; In this section the researcher presents two studies about Achebe's proverbs each study will be presented by mentioning its main claim the results and recommendations 2 ,4,1 Proverbs as custodian of native wisdom in Achebe's *Things fall apart* Onyenelulime Ndubuis, HI Ogbechie Catherine 02 1 2 department of language school of liberal studies yaba college of technology Nigeria[2014].

2.4 Previous studies

(1) Proverbs as custodians of native wisdom

IN ACHEBE, S IN THINGS FALL APART ONYEMELUKWE NDUBUISIHI1
OGBECHIE O21, 2D DEPARTMENT OF LANUAGES, SCHOOL OF
LIBERAL studies,Yaba College of technology, Nigeria (2014).

This study is motivated by the indispensable need for wisdom in humanity. Wisdom is indispensable in life, because it catalyzes positive character formation as asserted by Onyemeluhwe and Oriaku (2011), is everything such that whoever loses character loses everything consequently, this study is undertaken to explicate proverbs custodians of native wisdom. the explication is done with reference to Achebe's *Things fall apart* (TFA), purposively selected for being very rich in oral traditions and oration , especially in relation to the use of proverbs , the objective being to provide open access to wisdom for

youngers and needy adults and , by doing so , stimulate unparalleled enlightened creativity in both ideational and concrete terms . The study anchors terms the study anchors on the theoretical premise that proverb is a rhetorical device, and therefore, a discourse strategy pregnant with meanings which holistically incubate native wisdom. An outstanding finding of the study is that native wisdom is spark Divine wisdom. Moreover, tge study identifies three categories' of proverbs;core, soft and special proverbs. Finally, the the study identifies the folkloric elements of myth, legends folktale and folksongs alternative sources of native wisdom. Acclaming the Christian holy write as the ultimate source of Divine wisdom, which is wisdom in all its ramifications, the study enjoins global communities to continually rely on proverbs, the folkloric elements and the living word for wisdom which serves the purpose on ensuring value –adding life

(2) study of the use of proverbs as a literary device in Achebes Things Fall Apart and Arrow of God

ALIMI, S. A Emmanuel Alayande college of education, department of General studies (English) Oyo (2012)

The literary artist,s tool is language . He uses to describe his characters appearance actions habits inner feelings and thoughts. It is germane to say categorically that style of writing determines the authenticity and acceptability of any literary works. It has also been observed that effective that manipulation of language in writing determines the proficiency of the writers. Achebes uses proverbs as tool for delineating his characters in the selected novels for the study. This research therefore, thoroughly examines some proverbs used in the literary text and their interpretations. The research method or findings in this

paper include appraisal of the proverbs in the novels, the thorough study of critical writings on Achebe's works and contacting other critically minded people for more enlightenment on the use of proverbs.

Conclusion Recommendations

It is apparent that pithiness and economy of words are inherent. Therefore, the effectiveness of proverbs lies on the aptness of their usage in a particular context. Much of the vividness with which the setting of each of the novel is conveyed comes from Achebe's use of proverb. He has succeeded in expressing the romantic vision of Ibo life in realistic form through the use of proverbs and other rhetorical devices. Achebe's choice of diction is relatively simple and lucid, hence it makes his message clearer to the reader. Generally proverbs add poetic quality to the literary works and also reflect the culture and world culture of people to which literary experiences refer to. It is therefore pertinent to say that his peculiar use of proverbs as a literary device in Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* and *Arrow of God*. A list of proverbs selected is by no means exhaustive and therefore leaves room for further study of this kind.

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CHAPTER THREE

Methodology

ANALYSIS OF PROVERBS FROM A CRITICAL POINT OF VIEW

Methodology

Analysis of proverbs from a critical point of view

3-0 / Introduction:

In this chapter the researcher displays, discusses, shows, and analyzes the proverbs which they are introduced in the story (Things fall apart) by the Nigerian author (Chinua Achebe) in 1958.

The proverbs in the issue may pivoted in four parts or aspects and each of them concentrates on different dimensions and the first one is the language aspect which elaporate on this part this part of proverbs serve only the language aspect and to explain certain phenomena by using short and brief patterns or make the audience or to let them understand meanings by the way they could understand easily this happens because always the proverbs which used are from their surrounded environment.

Here the researcher selected 25 proverbs from the story {Things fall apart} and gave each one its literal (according to the text) and its actual meaning also

3.1.0

a- *“proverbs are the palm-oil with which words are eaten* (chapter 1) this proverb shows the importance of the proverbs well this literal meaning; and also there is an actual meaning which mean and also this is proverb is rather complex, it is known that for those have a little knowledge of Igbo clan they absolutely know the importance of the palm oil in cooking maybe and also used as a fuel source eating words simply is a poetic way of seeing to take them in or to gain knowledge – Basically this proverbs means that proverbs as general are absolutely potent to the whole context .

This proverb within the first part of the research, here the author explains the proverb its self of context at first the majority of the clansmen may become angry and they might ask why we should appreciate proverbs by our ancestors so Achebe must explain the importance of the proverbs in the Umuofian Society and it is a witty way to use the terminologies which they could understand easily .

B- “ *Okonkwo was a slippery as a fish in water* “ (chapter 1)

Also this proverb joined the part of serving the language aspect and because the proverb explain the elegance of Okonkwo so the author borrow the it item of which the clansmen could understand easily.

Of the issue that the fish move with elegantly in water

this proverb was displayed that Oknokwo was fast and agile this particular problem is a nice example as how were independent by to giving people a better of understanding of a proverb by simple giving a metaphorical speech that a person could easily visualize

c- *When the moon shining the cripple becomes hungry for walks*, (chapters 1)

Even those who should not work and could not move but when the moon is shining in that time he has an ability to move and even to walk,

In Umuofia, the moon was an important because of this in the night, and in telling stories in the Igbo clan, the influence effect of of the moon on the people in the tribe was so strong that the moon shines on them even a cripple could walk, this was an extreme way of saying that the moon gave the tribe the power to do everything. Night time is such an interesting time especially when the moon is full.

D- *a child fingers are not scalded by a piece of hot yams which its mother puts into its palm* (chapter 8)

Simply this means mothers do not burn their children or make them feel any kind of pain directly if that happens must be one on a purpose , if anything hurts you must be sure you worth or giving him punishment for doing such an evil thing .

Mothers should not burn their child finger by hot yams.

Actual meanings: It's clear that this proverb is very complex but, explain such an easy and simple meaning that unless you obey orders by your own parent, you will be punished .Using clauses which are well known in their surrounded environment give even the meaning effectively

E- *Never kill a man who says nothing*, Chapter 15)

Clearly that is warning of somebody to anything those who says nothing and never does or says nothing it's a wise to kill him or to make any action against him.

Even animal don't make an action against you unless you begin

Also to elaborate this problem the author uses the surrounding environment to give a meaning of ideas and a warning to take a part in doing bad things against anything that does not hurt you.

F- *(You can tell a ripe corn by its look)* Chapter 3)

When you see a ripe corny you can give your opinion about it just by using your eyes or by looking at it, if it looks good that means it must be good at the end.

This proverb is used by Nawakie to tell that Okonkwo is ready to receive the gift which given to Nawakibe and not take it for granted. This means that no one of the yams will be destroying.

As we said before the author wants to explain something's by using the culture of the society when they live in.

In our random poetic we find the same meaning of previous problem

(You can know what within letter from its title).

g- Our elders saythat the sun will shine on those who stand before it shines on those who kneel under them(chapter1).

3.1.2

These are abundle of proverbs which ar used in the way that Things Fall Apart but they concentrate on other aspects. Those bundles of proverbs give more interest to the social dimension.

Elders always mean wise so their talking is appreciated those who wake up early catch the sun light before those who kneel down or they are still sleeping.

Simply this proverb teaches us that if you want to get success in live you should pay its lost or the subtended paymet.

h- If a child washed his hands, he could eat with kings “(chapter1).

As we know in oursociety children are forbidden to eat with adults ever they are ordinary people not kings this happens because children don't have full ideas about good behaviours the audults hav and of course they do not eat in perfect way that is the reason why they are not allowed to rest of the people.

at Uwofia okonkwo and when he was young as his age he has no superiority to be with old men but he could advance himself as a great farmer and a famous warrior and also the people at Umofia know that okonkwo can do great things so okonkwo became a partner side by side with the elders .

Elders and ancestors at Umofian society. If you are able to you would be able to aspire to any one you wished in the society he became the notorious warrior.

I- *“let the kite perch and let the eagle perch too. If one says no to other. Let his wing bark “(chapter3)*

This proverb is rather complex but simply it means that the kite is so weak and it has no power but also has the same chance with eagle that power and any of them said that must take responsibility.

This proverb basically displays the relationship between Okonkwo and his father Unoka.

And also shows that Okonkwo and his father had the same misfortune of his father.

k- *A man who sans respect to the great paves the way for his own greatness(chapter3)*

Literal meaning:

If anyone wants to gather or to own great things, first he must pay respect to it. For example if someone wants to be a warrior, he must respect the warriors at the first.

Literal weaning:

According to this proverb If you respect greatness, that will be the first step towards to become a great man yourself. Inadditions, this proverb means that in umofia, successful men respect greatness and they are suffered to be like that.

L – Eneke the bird says that since men have learned to shoot without missing.

(Actualmeaning:

The bird Ende started to get use to fly and not stop when he has learned that there is some people who shoot without missing their goals .

Essentially if Nwakibie gave yams to everybody who asked him for hisyams thenmany, of the yams would be wasted by their lack of their effort. The yams did not so much to someone who had not rightfully earned them. Basically someone must know how he could work or in something in order to respect the prosperous people them.

M – When mother – com is chewing grass its young ones watch it is mouth(chapter8)

It is a very simple proverb to explain that mothers have to show its children how to eat grass. So the first step is just to watch what was done by the parents or adults.

Actual meaning:

When Okonkwo was born he was a failure father and he bought to learn from his father by watching him but basically the proverb means that children copy their parents and learn everything they do from them. It is important for parents

to set a good example for their children will not live up to their expectation normally.

(n) *Mother is supreme*: (chapter 14)

It's very simple proverb and shows such an easy one, this proverb introduces a real opinion or a general point of view that is mother is very important and it has superiority than others.

At Umofia everyman and every child belongs to his father clan and his father country and women always do what their husbands tell them to do and all the wives have to live with their husbands and move from place to another according to their husband and their situation, but all that happens in the natural environment . In this part Uchandu, {Okonkwo uncle} explain a very deep philosophy. It explains that the mother is very important of all. And all the people agreed with that. So why that had happened then, after that he gave surprising philosophy the he said men always control every women or wife when everything is all right but when you have troubles you have to look to your mother land and your mother clan.

(o) *Living fire begets cold, impotents ash* (chapter 19)

After a hug fire you will get a burning coal and felt very cold a huge fire which could destroy everything

If somebody thinks to highly of themselves and their influence is too much, then the person alongside them will be able to come as successful.

(p) *Child cannot pay for his mother milk* (chapter 19)

There is no doubt that one of most invaluable thing that is the carefulness which you find in your mother household and everywhere you go you will not get a cost for what they are doing for what they pay to grow as a man in the best way and to be a man with an ideal character.

Basically parents who think that their children should pay them back for taking care of them is ridiculous. This because the parents are the ones that brought them to life, and then fore they are responsible for them and should take care of them by nature.

(Those handle of proverbs concentrate on other dimensions that was psychological aspect. Some proverbs are used serve people who they faced any psychological troubles. Because of these proverbs the wise men in almafia could help some of these who indeed to.

(q) *A toad does not run in the daytime for nothing* (chapter3)

There is no doubt there is something wrong if you see a toad in the daytime running without a goal it wants to get to . So it is not an ordinary situation when you see it in the afternoonwithout a perpose .

Specifically this proverbs could mean attitude of things, however its quite.

Appearent the meaning that something strange will not happen for a reason at all .obviously a toad does not run in the daytime Unless there is something happen and the reader can infer that the proverb means that everything happens for areason .

R – *An old woman is always uneasy when dry bones are mentioned in proverb*(chapter3)

This ametphorical proverb which it can explained easily that old women don't want to listen about death – so it not accepted for something is said that offects them or hurt them actual meaning .

Because okonkwo was frightened of the bad misfortune of his father he does not want to listen anything because he was afraid to live in the same way of his father's life and terrible end.

T – *The lizard that jumped from high iroko tree to the ground said he would praise himself it no one else did* “(chapter3).

When the lizard jumped from the tree of iroko then it will think he was in right way and he will get success even others think it is a terrible mistake.

This proverb is simple and it shows that every one dothings according to his own opinion if no body appreciates what you have done you will remain proud of yourself it since you know your accomplishment was successful absolutely this one touches the psychological aspect .

U – *“Looking at the king mouth one would think he never sucked at his mother breast”*(chapter4).

If you do not meet a king bfore and it is the first time at that position just then look at his mouth of him you would never that mouth was an annocent in an era before because now is full of fear. So it not believable that mouth had suckod from his mother's breast.

Although okonkwo once was alittle baby it feels as he never could be vulnerable, because now he is so big and robust.

It scares him to think that he could have ever been as vulnerable as he was when he was younger. Also here the psychological aspect is meant specifically.

V – *“Those whose palm kernels were cracked for them by abanvolent spirits should not forget to be humble. (Chapter4).*

The people whose palm – kernels were cracked they live happily and feel very humble this proverb is rather simple. Simply it means that the people who are blessed with available luck by their own gods, and should not be proud and not to think they are better solely because they are lucky.

“When a man says yes his chi always says yes (chapter4).

First we have to know that (chi) is the personal god. so it basically means when you are looking to do something that depends on your own, your chi first and always helps you and be with you, helps you to do something and to push you forward and when you say yes to something your own god also says yes.

According to the Igbo culture everyone has his own god or (chi) and if you are ambitious, will get the wish or the hope which you already want and also this proverb describes that there is no reason to be failure in your life and then you may say that my gods doesn't help me. That proverb explains that Okonkwo had changed to a great warrior because he wants to be like that and works to get what he wants to.

Y *“They called him the little bird nza who so far forgot himself after a heavy meal that he challenged his chi“(chapter4).*

It is a fool of little bird nza to think it could challenge his chi after it had it need beauty meal.

This proverb could indicate that Okonkwo was ignorant and not humble. Okonkwo was said to be so prideful he would challenge his own chi. Even though being prideful would be a good thing, it would be bad to think even could challenge his chi that because his chi basically should stand beside him and it is not a wise to stand against his own chi.

CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION, FINDINGS

, RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTION FOR FURTHER

STUDIES

Chapter four

4.0 Conclusion

In this research the researcher shows, discusses, explain and displays the significance of using proverbs in the African literature with reference to (china Achebe. Thing Fall Apart). Also the research has many hypotheses.

- The writer has used the proverbs effectively in the level.
- There are many language aspects that show the use of proverb in the novel.
- There are many social dimensions that show the use of proverb in the novel.
- There are many psychological matters that show the use of proverbs is important than social ones.

4.1findings

The researcher find out that the use of proverbs in the novel (thing fall apart) have many social dimensions, have many psychotically matters and for all we have above that prove that proverbs absolutely are effective in the novel (thing fall apart).

4.2 Recommendations

The researcher recommends that:

- The syllable designers to put the proverbs at the end of the book as a basic glossary and should explain then dimensions to their students.
- Teachers should elaborate, explain and make the students understand the proverb clearly.

- Students should understand the proverbs understanding the environment of character and settings of the novel. That help students have what the writer actually want to say or the ideas which he has.

4.3 Suggestion to further studies the researcher suggests that the following to be researched.

- The impact of proverbs in leadership of Igbo tribe or the African society.
- The influence of proverbs in the attitude or the motivation the African audience.
- An investigation on the role of proverbs awareness to Igbo local language.

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