



## THE SEMANTIC FIELD OF "PRIDE" IN THE LITERATURE OF THE 21ST CENTURY

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**Abstract:** The paper analyzes pride, several types of pride, dignity, arrogance, superiority, authentic and hybristic pride and their differences, facial expressions and its nature.

**Key words:** pride, facial expressions, nature, arrogance, vice.

**Introduction:** We are aware that a person's nature is many-sided and every human is characterized by both positive and negative traits that we are powerless to alter this. When you hear or read this term, it elicits feelings you are unfamiliar with. We have often seen or heard that being too proud leads many negative consequences, not only in literature, but also in life.

**Literature review:** A lot of scholars in America and also in the world repeatedly pointed out in their works that pride has negative consequences or that some people in time realize that it is a negative habit. For instance, Arthur Miller's "Crucible" and "Pride and Prejudice" by Jane Austen, "The Stone Angel" by Margaret Lawrence.

*"A person's reputation is damaged due to rumors and wrong actions, and a person utilizes pride as shield to prevent this. But instead of protecting a person, pride leads humanity an abyss"*<sup>1</sup>. The pride of the Salem's humans in the novel "Crucible" by Miller leads to the death of numerous people. Pride is delight or elation arising from some act, possession, or relationship... And his idea is skillfully advanced by Arthur Miller in his work through the characters. We can see that the negative aspects of pride are clearly depicted in the work of Margaret Lawrence. *"Pride was my wilderness and the demon that led me there was fear"*<sup>2</sup>. We can see that many meanings are hidden in this single

<sup>1</sup> Budick, E. Miller. «History and Other Specters in Arthur Miller's the Crucible.» Bloom's Modern Critical Interpretation: The Crucible 21-40, 2008.

<sup>2</sup> Hall, Roderick. The Double Vision: A study of Symbol and Imagery in Margaret Laurence's The Stone Angel and A Jest of God. Diss. 1977.



word of Margaret Lawrence. The novel of "Stone Angel" is dedicated to the consequences of pride. The person who feels pride wants to have power over another, believes that he can do so, and wants the other to know that he can overcome his power.

In the book of Mormon, you can read these words: the record of fallen people, you may have query, why they fall? Because of pride, in the closing part: "*their pride can lead to the destruction*"<sup>3</sup>.

Doctrine and Covenants also commented on this work. "*Avoid being arrogant to avoid becoming like the ancient Nephites*"<sup>4</sup>.

In other words what is the scientist trying to convey here. In the book of Mormon, the people of Nephites fell due to their pride.

These scientists again proved the evil of pride in their work very skillfully. This scientist said that pride keeps us away from God. Pride means arrogance and it is regarded as a very bad vice among people.

There are a lot of information about pride in Bible. Arrogance is also condemned in religion because it is pride. And one example from Bible: With pride comes only strife... "Proverbs 13:10 from the Bible".

And pride for people of Islam religion. About pride is written in ten places of their holy book Qur'an. For instance: Allah says: "*he hates a proud and arrogance man. Allah will chastise them who are proud with a painful chastisement*"<sup>5</sup>. "*A person who is proud and arrogant, the hell is ready for them and enter the gates of hell that is very bad*"<sup>6</sup> All of the scholars and also in religion, pride is condemned.

**Analysis:** Pride is divided in different types by several scholars. Two of them Tracy and Robin confirmed that there are two types of pride and made several comments about it. More recently, Tracy and Robins examined the nature, purposes and manifestations of pride and separated it into two categories that they are authentic pride and hubristic pride. Over several studies, they have achieved that we know that, it is very complicated. "*Two types of pride which are:*  
*Authentic pride*

<sup>3</sup> Lindgren, A. Bruce. "Sign or scripture: Approaches to the Book of Mormon." Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought 19.1, 69-75, 1986.

<sup>4</sup> Benson, Ezra Taft. «The Book of Mormon and the doctrine and covenants» Ensign, May 85 1987.

<sup>5</sup> Quran, Al-Nisa surah, 4:172-173verse.

<sup>6</sup> Quran, Al-Zumar surah, 39:72verse.



### *Hubristic pride"*<sup>7</sup>

Despite of dividing types, those scholars said that we can emphasis on four theories of pride and we shouldn't forget about this. These theories are: Authentic and hubristic pride are two different emotions. Authentic and hubristic pride are two types of pride that have positive and negative valence , respectively. Pride is made up of two types of activation: high activation and low activation. While hubristic pride is a personality attribute that identifies a person who has a predisposition to experience pride across contexts and throughout time, authentic pride is a state emotion that arises in response to a particular triggering event. Isabella Poggi and Francesca D'Errico's opinions that they divided

*"pride into three groups that they are:*

*Dignity.*

*Superiority*

*Arrogance"*<sup>8</sup>.

In their work, Isabella Poggi and Francesca D'Errico explained the reasons why the types of pride are divided into three types. According to Ronald McDonald's ideas *"pride is divided into four groups they are:*

*Pride of spirituality*

*Pride of knowledge*

*Pride of power*

*Pride of appearance"*<sup>9</sup>

Everyone comes across that kind of people who are proud and with that kind of people, they face many nuances and complexities in their life that is not straightforward.

**Discussion:** In this part, we can discuss the work of pride in literature. Firstly, we start from " Pride and Prejudice " by Jane Austen. The narrative describes a young woman named Elizabeth and her" adventures "while looking for marriage and love. Families belong to Bennet, Darcy and Bingley are crucial to the story's plot. In that story, Mr. Darcy is described as a proud man. At the beginning of the story, when he rejects

<sup>7</sup> J.L. Tracy, R. W. Robins, Show your pride: Evidence for a discrete emotion expression. Psychological Science 15, 194–197, 2004.

<sup>8</sup> Poggi, Isabella, and Francesca D'Errico. «Types of pride and their expression.» Analysis of Verbal and Nonverbal Communication and Enactment. The Processing Issues: COST 2102 International Conference, Budapest, Hungary, September 7-10, 2010, Revised Selected Papers. Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2011.

<sup>9</sup> McDonald, Ron. The Spirituality of Community Life: When We Come'round Right. Routledge, 2012.



to dance with Elizabeth, he comes across to the reader as annoying and arrogant. And his arrogance is evident in the third chapter of the story, *she is tolerable, but it is not enough to attract me, I don't desire to be that kind of women. That's why, don't talk about her*"(138p). These words are said by Mr. Darcy to his friend. Despite of Mr. Darcy's pride, the story ends with the love of them. They fall in love. Jane Austen explained the concept of pride very skillfully in this work and through the characters who described the loss of pride when faced with some challenges or unable to fall in love.

And we will emphasis on the work of " Stone Angel " by Margaret Lawrence who described the pride very skillfully with writing this story. The narrative depicts a woman named Hagar's life. The protagonist of Margaret Lawrence's "Stone Angel" has the same arrogance as the characters in the two novels mentioned above. At the start of the story, the girl named Hagar is very proud because of her father's success on society and money in life. As the novel final approaches, Haggars vice because of pride becomes increasingly obvious as she ages. In the end, she realizes the evil of being proud and shows it clearly with the saying these words:

*"My pride was my desert, I was very lonely due to my arrogance I have no close friends"* (156p). We have reviewed the works of two scholars. Both of them obviously shown the bad consequences of pride.

Arthur Miller described pride in his work of "Crucible". In that story, pride is described with the help of main characters who are John Proctor and Elizabeth. They don't comprehend with each other. People with pride has some kind of risks that they are losing everything and everyone. John Proctor is a proud man who is ready to do anything in order to clear his proud name of all accusations. And Her womanly pride had caused a distance with his husband. Because of her womanly pride, they have problems related on their relationships. We can see Elizabeth's pride in these words: " *I can't forgive you John*"(139p). These actions lead to many understandable situations and complication. To tell the truth, Arthur Miller described pride very successfully.

**Conclusion:** we have reviewed the works of many scientists on the concepts of pride. And the opinions many scientists all over the world is bad about pride and its negative consequences are depicted in their works through the characters. Pride is not condemned in modern times, it was considered one of the vices that have been hated





by people for many years. We can see the proof of this in the Holly book of Islam religion, the Koran, and the Bible of Christians. We know for sure that these are books from approximately 15 centuries ago. Therefore, it is huge mistake for everyone to think themselves a king because of their money and success in society.

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