

## ABSTRACTS

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### BOUNDARIES OF SYMBOL IN STYLISTICS

The article views a symbol as an integral element of stylistic structure of the text and determines its boundaries through an attempt to analyze and systematize developments in the theory of contiguous linguistic phenomena such as sign, image, myth, allegory and metaphor.

The correlation of a symbol and a sign is seen through their structure. A symbol is defined in this article as a multi-layered sign characterized by the detached strata of meanings added in various contexts. Thus a continuity of meanings is formed which ascends to absolute ideas.

There are oppositions between an image and a symbol. An image is seen as a reflection of the author's subjective reality, while a symbol incorporates notions, senses and storylines.

Delineation of a symbol and a myth is achieved through the fact that a myth is a narrative conveying traditional wisdom, whereas a symbol is above narrative. Mythical storylines tend to form a symbolic core and turn into symbols that function in culture both synchronically and diachronically. Both symbol and allegory are marked by a cultural component. The symbol comprises the power of the layers of meaning acquired through history. While allegory is interchangeable in different cultures, symbol is of the unconventional character and cannot be replaced in other cultures.

A metaphor and a symbol differ in their stylistic functioning. Metaphors perform the descriptive function, while symbols tend to reveal each of their multiple meanings triggering the chains of archetypal associations. Thus, symbols develop to the stage of cultural stereotypes and are also refracted through the author's interpretation

Symbol as a universal of discourse functions in various anthropological spheres and its nature is interdisciplinary. Noticeable features that characterize symbol as a linguistic and stylistic unit are the following: it is a sign, its nature is figurative, it is complex and possesses a multiple meanings and senses. The main finding of the article is the multilayered character of the symbolic structure. Its significant feature is intertextuality caused by the polysemantic quality of the symbol.