

# REFLECTION OF FEUDAL SOCIETY IN ROBIN HOOD AND TRANSMISSION OF OUTLAW CULTURE

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## Abstract

This article examines the depiction of feudal society and outlaw culture in Robin Hood's time in The Ballad of Robin Hood. It can be said that some taxes paid by the people were not included in the law and the money collected from these taxes was taken away by some government officials. The article serves to reveal exactly such hidden situations.

**Keywords:** translator, translation, work, dictionary, analysis, review, author, concept, change, method, tradition, custom, folk.

## Introduction

A ballad is a form of folk song that tells a story. According to information, it appeared in Europe in the Middle Ages. In ballads, events are described in a simple and direct form, sometimes in the form of a dialogue. Some ballads are danceable, and ballads may (or may not) have musical accompaniment. They are always performed with more emphasis on the lyrics than the tunes. Because ballads are always historically oriented, the melodies used in them are very beautiful.

Ballads of different countries differ from each other and have different names. In France they are called ballads, in Italy - "ballata", in Spain - "romance", and in Russia - "bilina". In America, ballads are divided into several groups. One consists of traditional ballads that take us back to British history six or seven centuries ago. There are many types because they have undergone changes as they have been passed down orally through many generations. Another group of ballads dates back to 17th-19th century England. Sometimes they are called poster ballads. Many of them were printed on the backs of breaking news posters and sold on the streets for pennies.

"English ballads were brought to the colonies, where most of them have survived. Using them as models, Americans created ballads about outlaws like Jesse James and Billy the Kid, strongmen like John Henry, and down-on-their-luck girls like "young Charlotte." They were often based on old English tunes, and in many cases American music was used with the same plot.

So, it can be said that the ballads of each nation do not repeat each other, that is, they are fundamentally different from each other. One of the main reasons for this is the diverse traditions and culture that are reflected in the ballads. Culture is an important factor that determines the past and present of each nation, the dignity of the nation and distinguishes it from other countries.



Ballads are derived from the medieval French ballad, which were originally "dance songs". Ballads were particularly characteristic of the popular poetry and song of Great Britain and Ireland from the late Middle Ages to the 19th century. They were widely used in Europe, and later in Australia, North Africa, North America and South America. In all traditions, most ballads are narrative, self-narrative, often concise and relying on imagery rather than imagery, which may be tragic, historical, romantic, or comic." "The themes of rural laborers and their toil are common, and there are many ballads based on the legend of Robin Hood." "Another common feature of ballads is repetition, sometimes repeating the fourth stanza in subsequent stanzas, as a refrain, sometimes the third and fourth stanzas, and sometimes entire stanzas."

In addition, as it is clear, the essence of some ballads is based on reality, while some of them are manifested through fictional images. That is, to be more precise, the events in some of the ballads may have been exaggerated or, on the contrary, reduced by word of mouth.

"Robin Hood is a legendary hero whose canon was originally depicted in English folklore and later in literature, theater and cinema. According to legend, he was an archer and swordsman. Some versions of the legend depict him as a nobleman, while modern accounts sometimes depict him as participating in the Crusades before returning to England to find his lands occupied by the Sheriff. In the earliest known versions, he is a member of the yeoman class. Lincoln is traditionally depicted in a green suit, said to have stolen from the rich to give to the poor.

As soon as we hear the name of Robin Hood, the image of an ideal hero is embodied in our eyes, without any flaws, without any flaws. Indeed, this character is depicted in this way in the movie and in cartoons, in various versions of the ballad of Robin Hood. So, we can know from this that visual expression plays a very important role in influencing the reader. That is, a visual expression can make the reader interested in the work being read, the movie or cartoon being watched, or, on the contrary, it can turn away from it.

"Through retellings, additions and variants, a collection of familiar Robin Hood characters has been created. Among them are his girlfriend, Cuzi Marian; his band of outlaws; Merry Men and his main rival, the Sheriff of Nottingham. He became a popular folk figure in the late Middle Ages, and while his support for the common people and opposition to the Sheriff is one of the earliest features of the legend, his political interests and Angevin setting developed in later centuries. The oldest ballads in which he participated date back to the 15th century.

More on Robin Hood: In the decades after Ritson's book was published, other ballad collections occasionally published Robin Hood ballads that Ritson missed. In 1806, Robert Jamieson published the earliest Robin Hood ballad, Robin Hood and the Monk, in Volume II of Songs from Popular Ballads and Traditions. In 1846, the Percy Society included "Bold Peds" and "Robin Hood" in their "Ancient Poems, Ballads, and Songs of the English Peasants." In 1850, John Matthew Gutch published his collection of Robin Hood Ballads, Robin Hood Garlands and Ballads with the Story of Lytel Geste, which in addition to Ritson's entire collection included Robin Hood and the Pedlars and Robin Hood. In 1858, Francis James Child published his English and Scottish Ballads, which collected all the ballads of Robin Hood in one volume, including all the ballads published by Ritson, the four lost ballads published since then, as well as those mentioned there are some ballads.



**Main Body:**

Today, Europe is divided into many countries. But in the 9th-15th centuries it was integrated. Europe was divided into large estates (pomesstie), and the people who lived in them did not consider themselves French, German or English. It's just that everyone was loyal to their landlord, this landlord was more influential than him, and the most prestigious was the king. Local lords with large estates did not want any of the worry and expense of maintaining a community to administer these estates. But because they needed support and protection, they pledged allegiance and gave plots of land to noble people. These were knights. They also became property owners. Although some knights did not own land, they lived near the lord, in his castle.

The lords who owned the property were serfs and serfs. Servants are attached to the property. It is sold with services. Servants worked the lord's land, but the lord neither fed nor clothed them. Instead, they were given plots of land, and the serfs treated the land as their own. This land was not taken away from them, it was inherited by the serf's children, but the heirs had to pay the lord for it. Peasants were like serfs, but unlike serfs who paid taxes on the produce of the land, they paid a fixed amount to the lord for their land. The properties are self-sustaining. This meant that nothing was imported from other estates, and that everything necessary for living was produced on site.

The lord had a mill, wine presses, and pastures for sheep. Servants can use them for a fee. If the lord was kind, the peasants and serfs lived peacefully. They worked long and hard. And the Lord protected and took care of his subordinates. The disintegration of the feudal system did not occur as a result of the peasant uprising. It's just that the lords began to oppose the will of the king. English feudal society, historically pre-capitalist socio-economic formation in which parliaments began to function, nations were formed, and soon freed peasants ran independent farms, but were personally and economically dependent on the ruling class - large landowners - who paid feudal rents to them. It is a system of society that followed in England during the Middle Ages. In this system, the khans, emirs and other aristocrats who had central authority to rule the country were influential by definition. English feudal society was usually ruled by a strong aristocracy of the country and aristocrats, and this and the severe division of the country and the wars between the aristocrats were frequent. The last stage of the feudal society coincided with the 14th and 15th centuries and paved the way for cultural and legal modernization. Feudal society usually had a variety of privileges and each part of the country had its own characteristics, which played an important role in establishing the economic and political order throughout the country. This system does not have an easy structure, because usually khans, emirs and aristocrats were distinguished by mutual wars, legal disturbances and struggles.

In the ballads of Robin Hood, nobles have great power and privileges. Often depicted as the main antagonist of Robin Hood, the Sheriff of Nottingham represents the authority of the ruling class. His abuse of power and exploitation of the common people serves as a reflection of the corruption and oppression that can exist in a feudal system.

In Balada, common people, including peasants and serfs, make up the majority of the population. They are depicted in harsh conditions, subject to heavy taxes, unjust laws, and the



whims of their noble rulers. Robin Hood and his merry men are celebrated for protecting the peasants from the injustice of the feudal system.

Feudalism is characterized by the exchange of land for military or other services. Land ownership plays an important role in the ballads, with disputes over land rights often causing conflict between Robin Hood and the authorities. Sherwood Forest, where Robin and his group take refuge, is a symbol of freedom from the constraints of feudal land ownership.

Feudal system is based on loyalty and service exchange between lords and vassals. Knights and other followers of Robin Hood demonstrate their loyalty to him by bravery and following his code of honor. Similarly, Robin Hood's loyalty to the rightful king, often portrayed as Richard the Lionheart, underscores his commitment to ideals of chivalry and feudal loyalty.

The feudal society depicted in the ballads is characterized by a significant economic gap between the ruling elite and the common people. Rich nobles enjoy a lavish lifestyle, while peasants struggle to make ends meet. Redistributing wealth through Robin Hood's act of "stealing from the rich and giving to the poor" serves as a form of social justice aimed at alleviating these disparities.

The depiction of feudal society in the ballads of Robin Hood reflects the tensions and inequalities inherent in medieval English society, while also celebrating the common people's resistance to tyrannical authority. Through the character of Robin Hood, the ballads criticize feudalism and its injustices, while defending the values of freedom, justice, and equality.

## 2.2 Appearance of outlaw culture in Robin Hood

The outlaw culture depicted in the ballads of Robin Hood depicts a sense of rebellion against unjust authority and oppression. Robin Hood and his band of Merry Men are portrayed as outlaws who oppose the corrupt system and champion the cause of the downtrodden. They live outside the boundaries of traditional society, often living deep in Sherwood Forest and working outside the law.

Ballads celebrate Robin Hood's generosity, bravery, and skill with the archery, while highlighting his cunning tactics in defeating his enemies, particularly the Sheriff of Nottingham and other tyrannical figures. The friendship of outlaws, their loyalty to each other, and their willingness to stand up for what is right against all odds is the central theme of these ballads.

In addition, the culture of lawlessness depicted in the ballads of Robin Hood serves as a symbol of resistance against oppression and injustice, inspiring ordinary people to fight against the authorities and fight for a just society. The tales of Robin Hood continue to resonate because they speak to universal themes of justice, equality, and the triumph of the human spirit over adversity. Robin Hood stories have dialogues about upholding justice, protecting orphans, and providing security. In its historical form, being friends with people under the roots and generally helping each other has its place. Robin Hood represents the most important values of this view of culture, humanity, justice, and safety. Robin Hood's role in culture is similar to showing the importance of justice and humanity. His stories are seen as fighters against powerful and oppressive figures in society. In these stories, the poor and those who fight to protect them all stand together, and this is seen as one of the best examples of justice and happy interaction. With various articles, books, films and theater programs about Robin Hood in the



country, his importance in culture is huge. It teaches the important essences of knowing the value of people, mastering justice and fighting against lies.

If we dwell on the appearance of outlaw culture in Robin Hood, we can see them in the example of the following.

Robin Hood and his merry men are rebels who openly challenge the authority of the ruling class, particularly the Sheriff of Nottingham and other corrupt officials. They oppose oppressive laws and unjust taxation imposed on common people who resist unjust government. Sherwood Forest serves as a sanctuary and stronghold for Robin Hood and his band of outlaws. It is described as a haven where they can avoid capture and resist the authorities. The forest also represents freedom from the constraints of society and Robin and means the possibility for his followers to live according to his moral code.

One of the most striking aspects of the legend of Robin Hood is the idea of stealing from the rich to give to the poor. Robin Hood and his merry men steal against rich nobles and corrupt officials, redistributing ill-gotten gains to the needy. This concept of social justice through wealth redistribution resonates with themes of rebellion against economic inequality and exploitation.

### Conclusion:

Despite being outlaws, Robin Hood and his band follow a code of honor that separates them from ordinary criminals. They are portrayed as noble and courageous figures who show compassion to the downtrodden and uphold the principles of justice and fairness. This code of honor includes such values as loyalty to comrades, bravery in danger, and respect for the innocent.

Robin Hood is celebrated as a folk hero and champion of the common people, widely supported and admired for his acts of defiance. Ballads portray him as a charismatic leader who inspires loyalty from his followers as well as gratitude from those he helps.

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