CONTEXT OF COMMUNICATIVE SYSTEM: INTERACTIONS OF FOLK LEGENDS AND PROVERBS

LINA BŪGIENĖ

Summary

Having briefly surveyed different concepts and classifications of contexts in folklore theory, the author of the article picks up one sub-category of context, specified by Richard Bauman (1982) as context of communicative system. According to him, every piece of folklore in one way or another relates to other kinds of folklore. The aim of the present article is to examine this relationship as manifested in the archived material of Lithuanian folklore. In the focus of analysis are numerous folk legends representing folk views on acquiring wealth, especially those ascribing individual accumulation of riches thanks to the activities of the fabulous being aitvaras / kaukas, and corresponding proverbs, dealing with similar issues. Having found numerous similarities as well as discrepancies of attitudes expressed by different genres, the author concludes that Lauri Honko (1979) was only too right describing this phenomenon as “genre-specific communication”. Therefore intertextuality seems to be a very important approach while dealing with the archived folklore texts as well.