

"YOSH ILMİY İJODKORLAR: SHARLOTTA BRONTENING "JEYN EYRE" ASARI ASOSIDA"

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THE POWER OF REPETITION IN CHARLOTTE BRONTË'S NOVEL: THE ROLE OF EPIPHORA IN JANE EYRE

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Abstract. *This article explores the use of epiphora, a rhetorical device involving the repetition of a word or phrase at the end of successive clauses, in Charlotte Brontë's Jane Eyre. The analysis highlights how Brontë employs epiphora to deepen the emotional resonance of key scenes, reinforce central themes of autonomy and love, and shape the development of the protagonist, Jane Eyre. Through the repeated use of certain phrases, Brontë not only emphasizes Jane's moral and emotional journey but also critiques the societal norms of the 19th century. The study demonstrates how epiphora serves as a powerful tool for character development, thematic exploration, and emotional intensity, contributing to the novel's feminist undertones and overall narrative cohesion.*

Keywords: *Epiphora, repetition, Charlotte Brontë, Jane Eyre, rhetorical devices, character development, autonomy, feminist literature, emotional intensity, thematic exploration.*

Introduction. Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre* stands as a monumental work in English literature, not only because of its compelling plot and feminist undertones but also due to the masterful use of stylistic devices that enhance its emotional and rhetorical power. Among these, epiphora—the repetition of a word or phrase at the end of successive clauses or sentences—plays a critical role in intensifying emotional resonance, reinforcing key themes, and deepening the reader's engagement with the protagonist's journey. This article explores how Brontë utilizes epiphora throughout *Jane Eyre*, emphasizing its function in character development, thematic emphasis, and narrative cohesion.

To begin with, Brontë employs epiphora as a powerful tool for character development, particularly in illustrating the evolving internal state of Jane Eyre herself. For instance, in emotionally charged moments, repetition allows Jane to assert her beliefs, emotions, and identity with heightened emphasis. When she declares, "I am not talking to you now through the medium of custom, conventionalities, nor even of mortal flesh:—it is my spirit that addresses your spirit; just as if both had passed through the grave, and we stood at God's feet, equal,—as we are!" she emphasizes "spirit" and "equal," repeating the sentiment of spiritual equality. This repeated emphasis on her inner being rather than outward appearance

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highlights her deep longing for moral and emotional justice. Moreover, such repetition underscores Jane's resilience. When she is forced to leave Thornfield, she repeats phrases like "I must respect myself," demonstrating her emotional struggle but also her unwavering self-respect. Consequently, the epiphora not only illustrates her conflict but affirms her internal strength. Through this technique, Brontë ensures that Jane's personal convictions remain vivid and memorable in the reader's mind.

Furthermore, epiphora serves to reinforce central themes of the novel, such as autonomy, morality, and identity. Throughout the text, Jane repeatedly voices her desire for liberty and self-respect, especially in opposition to oppressive forces. For example, during her early years at Lowood School and later in her encounters with Mr. Rochester, Jane often repeats phrases related to freedom and principle. In one instance, she says, "I am no bird; and no net ensnares me; I am a free human being with an independent will." The repetition of the idea of being "free" and having an "independent will" reinforces the novel's recurring theme of personal autonomy. In addition, Brontë uses epiphora to heighten the theme of love that transcends physical and social boundaries. Jane's declarations of love are often framed through repetitive phrasing that emphasizes spiritual connection rather than mere social compatibility. The repeated motif of spiritual equality between Jane and Rochester serves to challenge Victorian class and gender norms. By doing so, Brontë subtly critiques the social hierarchy while embedding these critiques in emotionally resonant language [1].

In terms of emotional intensity, epiphora significantly enhances the affective quality of key scenes. For example, when Jane leaves Rochester, she says, "I will keep the law given by God; sanctioned by man. I will hold to the principles received by me when I was sane, and not mad—as I am now." The repetition of "I will" adds a rhythm that mimics a mantra or an oath, lending strength to her resolution while simultaneously exposing her inner turmoil. This dual effect enriches the complexity of her emotional state, engaging the reader more deeply with her moral struggle. Additionally, repetition through epiphora contributes to the cohesion of the narrative by linking various emotional arcs and echoing motifs across chapters. Jane's experiences, although fragmented across different settings—from Gateshead to Thornfield to Moor House—are unified by recurrent expressions of resolve, self-awareness, and moral clarity. Thus, the repeated language becomes a binding thread, subtly linking her various life stages and reinforcing her character consistency [4, 64-93].

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It is also important to highlight how Brontë's use of epiphora functions as a proto-feminist literary strategy. At a time when women were expected to be passive and submissive, Jane's repeated affirmations of independence and equality serve as bold assertions of female agency. Phrases like "I am equal," "I am free," and "I must respect myself" are not merely stylistic flourishes but revolutionary statements embedded within the 19th-century context. Furthermore, these repeated declarations provide a linguistic space in which Jane's voice resists silencing. Brontë deliberately places repeated words at the end of clauses, ensuring they are the final notes heard by the reader. This positioning amplifies their impact, making Jane's voice not only heard but remembered. In this way, epiphora empowers the character and, by extension, empowers the reader to question traditional gender roles and societal expectations.

Conclusion. In conclusion, Charlotte Brontë's use of epiphora in *Jane Eyre* is far more than a rhetorical flourish; it is a sophisticated literary strategy that enriches character development, reinforces thematic concerns, intensifies emotional expression, and unifies the narrative. Through repetition, Jane's voice is both strengthened and made enduring, allowing her emotional and moral integrity to resonate across generations. As a result, Brontë's stylistic choices contribute significantly to the novel's lasting impact, underscoring how repetition—particularly epiphora—can serve as a powerful vehicle for literary expression, social critique, and emotional depth.

References

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