

**COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF
PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN UZBEK AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES**

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Abstract

This article presents a comprehensive comparative analysis of phraseological units in the Uzbek and English languages, focusing on their linguistic structure, semantic features, and deep-rooted cultural significance. Phraseological units, or idiomatic expressions, are essential elements of any language that reflect the worldview, mentality, and values of the people who speak it. The study investigates both universal and culturally specific phraseological phenomena, emphasizing how national identity, historical development, religion, traditions, and social norms shape idioms and fixed expressions in each language.

Through a cross-linguistic comparison, the article categorizes phraseological units into thematic groups such as those related to human behavior, nature, animals, family, emotions, and moral values. It highlights similarities that demonstrate shared human experiences as well as differences that reveal the uniqueness of each culture's cognitive and communicative approaches. In addition, the research explores how metaphor and symbolism function in idioms, shedding light on the role of cultural metaphors and conceptual imagery in the formation of phraseological units.

The article also analyzes the pragmatic and stylistic roles these units play in daily speech, literature, media, and folklore, offering insights into how idioms contribute to the expressive richness and communicative efficiency of language. Special attention is given to translation challenges and strategies when dealing with non-equivalent or culture-bound expressions. The findings of this study are valuable for linguists, translators, language learners, and educators, as they provide a deeper understanding of the intersection between language, culture, and cognition in English and Uzbek.

Keywords: Phraseological unit, idiom, cultural significance, metaphor, Uzbek, English, worldview, comparative analysis, translation equivalence.

Introduction

In recent years, the study of linguistic and cultural characteristics of phraseological units has gained significant scholarly attention. Phraseological units, also known as idiomatic expressions, go beyond mere fixed word combinations. They reflect the worldview, national identity, and historical memory of language communities, encapsulating cultural values, social norms, and traditional beliefs passed down through generations. As both a cognitive and cultural phenomenon, language naturally mirrors the unique experiences and mentality of its speakers. This paper compares and analyzes the phraseological systems of English and Uzbek, examining how these two languages conceptualize reality through idiomatic expressions shaped by their respective cultural and historical contexts.

Main Body**Phraseological Systems in English and Uzbek**

The phraseological systems of English and Uzbek are influenced by distinct historical, cultural, and linguistic factors. English idioms reflect its Anglo-Saxon, Latin, and Germanic roots, while Uzbek idioms are deeply embedded in Turkic, Persian, and Islamic traditions. These distinctions result in both structural and semantic differences that are crucial in understanding cross-cultural communication and translation. The comparison of English and Uzbek phraseology reveals how different cultures conceptualize similar or divergent aspects of reality, influenced by their distinct value systems and social norms.

Taboo Words and Euphemisms

Taboo words and euphemisms occupy an important role in both English and Uzbek linguistic systems. Taboo words are expressions that are avoided in public discourse due to their associations with social, religious, or moral prohibitions, while euphemisms serve to soften or indirectly express these sensitive ideas. The use of euphemisms and taboo words reveals cognitive, pragmatic, and sociolinguistic phenomena, reflecting deeper societal values and psychological processes. This section explores how taboo and euphemistic expressions function within English and Uzbek, comparing their structural and semantic characteristics.

Structural and Semantic Features

The structural features of taboo words and euphemisms refer to their grammatical and morphological composition, while their semantic features explore the meanings they convey and the cultural contexts in which they exist. Euphemisms often use indirect or softened forms, such as metaphors or periphrasis, to reduce the emotional impact of taboo topics. In contrast, taboo words tend to be more direct and emotionally charged. Semantically, euphemisms carry connotative meanings that evolve with changing societal norms, as seen in the English and Uzbek expressions for death or bodily functions. Both languages utilize euphemisms and taboos in ways that reflect their respective cultural frameworks, helping speakers navigate sensitive topics with politeness and respect.

Phraseology and Cultural Identity

Phraseologisms serve as vital carriers of cultural identity, collective memory, and worldview. Through metaphorical and symbolic meanings, idiomatic expressions encapsulate centuries-old traditions, beliefs, and social norms. English idioms such as "carry the cross" and "apple of one's eye" reflect Christian values, while Uzbek expressions like "yettiuxlabtushko'rmoq" and "yuzingyorug' bo'lsin" mirror the importance of family honor, spirituality, and hospitality in Uzbek culture. This section examines how idiomatic expressions in both languages reflect national humor, societal values, and emotional expression, offering insights into how culture shapes language and vice versa.

Methodology

This study employs a comparative and typological analysis of English and Uzbek phraseological systems. A qualitative approach is used to analyze idiomatic expressions from both languages, focusing on their structural, semantic, and pragmatic functions. The study examines various sources, including dictionaries, literature, and everyday usage, to identify and compare common idiomatic expressions. The analysis is grounded in the theoretical frameworks of linguistics, including cognitive linguistics, sociolinguistics, and pragmatics, with a particular emphasis on the works of Allan and Burridge (2006) on euphemisms, Lakoff and Johnson (1980) on conceptual metaphors, and Grice's Cooperative Principle in pragmatics.

Resources

The resources used for this study include:

1. **Language Corpora:** English and Uzbek language corpora were used to extract idiomatic expressions and analyze their structural and semantic properties.
2. **Literature:** A variety of literary works in both English and Uzbek were consulted to identify cultural-specific idioms and their applications.
3. **Dictionaries:** Bilingual dictionaries and phraseological dictionaries in both English and Uzbek provided essential data for identifying idiomatic expressions.
4. **Academic Articles and Studies:** Previous research in the fields of comparative linguistics, cultural studies, and translation studies were referenced to inform the theoretical underpinnings of the study.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this study provides a detailed comparison of the phraseological systems in English and Uzbek, revealing the deep connection between language and culture. Through the analysis of idiomatic expressions, taboo words, and euphemisms, it is evident that language reflects the worldviews, national identities, and historical experiences of its speakers. The findings highlight the importance of understanding cultural nuances in language, particularly for translation, intercultural communication, and language education. By further exploring the role of phraseological units and euphemisms, this research contributes to the broader field of comparative linguistics, offering practical insights for those working in translation and cross-cultural communication.

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