A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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Abstract. *This article presents a comparative analysis of phraseological units in English and Uzbek. The study examines the theoretical foundations of phraseology, similarities and differences between phraseological units, and their cultural aspects. Special attention is paid to translation challenges. The findings highlight the importance of phraseological units in language teaching and translation studies.*

Keywords: *phraseology, phraseological unit, idiom, proverb, saying, comparative analysis, English language, Uzbek language, culture, translation, linguistics.*

Аннотация. *В статье проводится сравнительный анализ фразеологических единиц английского и узбекского языков. Рассматриваются теоретические основы фразеологии, сходства и различия фразеологических единиц, а также их национально-культурные особенности. Особое внимание уделяется проблемам перевода фразеологических единиц. Результаты исследования показывают их значение в преподавании языков и переводоведении.*

Ключевые слова: *фразеология, фразеологическая единица, идиома, пословица, поговорка, сравнительный анализ, английский язык, узбекский язык, культура, перевод, языкознание.*

Annotatsiya. *Ushbu maqolada ingliz va o‘zbek tillaridagi frazeologik birliklarning qiyosiy tahlili amalga oshirilgan. Tadqiqotda frazeologik birliklarning nazariy asoslari, o‘xshash va farqli jihatlari hamda milliy-madaniy xususiyatlari yoritilgan. Shuningdek, frazeologik birliklarning tarjima jarayonidagi muammolari tahlil qilingan. Tadqiqot natijalari ularning til o‘qitish va tarjimashunoslikdagi ahamiyatini ko‘rsatadi.*

Kalit so‘zlar: *frazeologiya, frazeologik birlik, idioma, maqol, matal, qiyosiy tahlil, ingliz tili, o‘zbek tili, madaniyat, tarjima, tilshunoslik.*

Phraseological units are fixed expressions whose meanings cannot always be understood from the meanings of their individual words. They play an important role in enriching language, making speech more expressive, vivid, and culturally meaningful. Phraseological units include idioms, proverbs, sayings, and other stable word combinations that are widely used in everyday communication. Language and

culture are closely interconnected, and phraseological units reflect the history, traditions, values, and worldview of a particular nation. Through these expressions, speakers convey not only information but also cultural identity and national mentality. Therefore, the study of phraseological units provides valuable insights into both linguistic and cultural aspects of a language.

The main purpose of this research is to compare phraseological units in English and Uzbek, identify their similarities and differences, and analyze the cultural factors that influence their formation and usage. The study also aims to demonstrate how phraseological units reflect the unique characteristics of each language and culture. A comparative analysis of English and Uzbek phraseological units is significant because it contributes to the fields of linguistics, translation studies, and language teaching. Understanding the similarities and differences between phraseological expressions in the two languages helps learners improve their language proficiency and intercultural communication skills. Furthermore, it facilitates more accurate translation and interpretation of idiomatic expressions between English and Uzbek.

Phraseology is a branch of linguistics that studies fixed word combinations, their semantic structures, and their functions in language. The term *phraseological unit* refers to a stable expression whose meaning is wholly or partially transferred and cannot always be interpreted from the meanings of its individual components. Phraseological units are regarded as an important element of a language's lexical system because they reflect both linguistic and cultural characteristics.

Various linguistic approaches have been proposed to define and classify phraseological units. According to V. V. Vinogradov, phraseological units can be categorized based on the degree of semantic cohesion between their components. Similarly, A. V. Kunin emphasized the stability, reproducibility, and idiomaticity of phraseological expressions as their defining features. Modern phraseological studies consider these units as an essential means of expressing national identity, cultural values, and collective experience. Phraseological units are commonly classified into several categories, including idioms, proverbs, sayings, and other fixed expressions. Idioms are expressions whose meanings cannot be understood literally, such as the English idiom *"break the ice."* Proverbs are concise statements expressing traditional wisdom or moral lessons, while sayings are fixed expressions that convey common observations and experiences. Stable word combinations occupy an important place in everyday communication and contribute to the expressiveness and richness of language.

Despite belonging to different language families and cultural traditions, English and Uzbek contain numerous phraseological units that express similar meanings and reflect universal human values. Such expressions often convey ideas related to wisdom,

hard work, patience, honesty, and human behavior. Their existence demonstrates that people from different cultures may share common life experiences and moral principles. Many phraseological units in both languages are semantically equivalent, although their lexical structures may differ. For example, the English proverb *"Better late than never"* corresponds to the Uzbek proverb *"Hechdan ko'ra kech yaxshi."* Both expressions emphasize the importance of accomplishing a task, even if it is completed later than expected. Likewise, the English proverb *"Actions speak louder than words"* and the Uzbek expression *"Gap bilan emas, amal bilan"* highlight the value of actions over mere promises or statements. These examples illustrate that English and Uzbek phraseological systems share common conceptual meanings despite linguistic differences. Such similarities facilitate intercultural communication and contribute to a better understanding of universal human values.

Alongside their similarities, English and Uzbek phraseological units also exhibit significant differences resulting from distinct historical, cultural, and social backgrounds. These differences are particularly evident in the imagery and metaphors used to express certain ideas. National and cultural characteristics influence the formation of phraseological expressions. For instance, the English idiom *"When pigs fly"* is used to describe something impossible or highly unlikely. In Uzbek, a similar meaning is conveyed by the expression *"Tuyaning dumi yerga tekkanda."* Although both expressions communicate impossibility, they employ different cultural images that are familiar to speakers of each language. Another example is the English idiom *"A piece of cake,"* which means something very easy to do. In Uzbek, a comparable meaning can be expressed by *"Cho't emas."* While both phraseological units indicate simplicity, they differ in their lexical composition and metaphorical representation. These differences demonstrate that phraseological units are closely connected to the cultural environment in which they emerge. Comparative analysis reveals not only linguistic distinctions but also the unique worldviews and cultural identities reflected in English and Uzbek phraseological expressions.

Phraseological units serve as important carriers of cultural knowledge and reflect the worldview of a particular speech community. Both English and Uzbek phraseological expressions embody the traditions, beliefs, customs, and historical experiences of their respective nations. As a result, phraseological units provide valuable insights into the cultural identity of a people.

National values are often reflected in phraseological expressions. English phraseological units frequently emphasize individual responsibility, practicality, and personal achievement, whereas Uzbek phraseological units commonly highlight respect for elders, hospitality, family relations, and collective values. These cultural

characteristics influence the imagery and meanings of phraseological expressions used in everyday communication.

The translation of phraseological units presents a significant challenge because their meanings are often culture-specific. Direct or literal translation may fail to convey the intended meaning and stylistic effect of the original expression. Therefore, translators frequently employ equivalent phraseological units or descriptive translations to preserve both semantic and cultural content. A thorough understanding of cultural context is essential for achieving accurate and effective translation.

Conclusion

The comparative analysis of English and Uzbek phraseological units demonstrates that both languages contain expressions reflecting universal human experiences as well as culture-specific features. Similarities can be observed in phraseological units expressing common values such as diligence, wisdom, and moral behavior, while differences emerge in their imagery, metaphors, and cultural references.

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