

A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF ANIMAL-BASED PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN
ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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Ingliz tili o'qitish metodikasi kafedrası katta o'qituvchisi f.f.f.d. (PhD)

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.20553958>**Annotation**

This thesis presents a comparative analysis of animal-based phraseological units in English and Uzbek, exploring the symbolic meanings of animals in both languages. It examines how animals are metaphorically represented and used in idiomatic expressions, reflecting the cultural, historical, and social contexts of both English and Uzbek-speaking communities. By analyzing a wide range of idioms, the study identifies patterns of similarity and difference in the use of animals in these two languages, focusing on animals such as lions, cats, dogs, and eagles. The research highlights how these idioms convey emotions, behaviors, and cultural attitudes, offering insights into the cognitive and cultural processes behind language use. Ultimately, the thesis emphasizes the importance of understanding animal-based phraseology as a means to deepen our knowledge of the interplay between language, culture, and thought.

Keywords: Animal-based idioms, phraseological units, comparative analysis, English language, Uzbek language, metaphorical expressions, cultural symbolism, cognitive linguistics, language and culture, idiomatic expressions, linguistic diversity, animal symbolism.

Annotatsiya

Ushbu dissertatsiya ingliz va o'zbek tillarida hayvonlarga asoslangan frazeologik birliklarni taqqosiy tahlil qilishga qaratilgan bo'lib, hayvonlarning ikkala tilda ham ramziy ma'nolarini o'rganadi. Unda hayvonlar tilshunoslikda metaforik tarzda qanday ifodalanishi va frazeologik birikmalarda qanday ishlatilishi tahlil qilinadi, shuningdek, bu ifodalar ingliz va o'zbek tillaridagi madaniy, tarixiy va ijtimoiy kontekstlarni aks ettiradi. Tadqiqotda, asosan, sher, mushuk, it va burgut kabi hayvonlarning frazeologik birliklarda qanday ishlatilgani o'rganiladi. Ushbu frazeologik birikmalar his-tuyg'ularni, xulq-atvorlarni va madaniy munosabatlarni ifodalashda qanday ishlatilishi, tildagi nutq va madaniyat o'rtasidagi o'zaro bog'liqlikni yoritishga imkon beradi. Natijada, dissertatsiya hayvonlarga asoslangan frazeologik birliklarni til, madaniyat va fikrlash o'rtasidagi o'zaro aloqalarni chuqurroq tushunish uchun muhim bir vosita sifatida e'tirof etadi.

Kalit so'zlar: Hayvonlarga asoslangan idiomalar, frazeologik birliklar, taqqosiy tahlil, ingliz tili, o'zbek tili, metaforik ifodalar, madaniy ramzlar, kognitiv tilshunoslik, til va madaniyat, idiomatik ifodalar, tilshunoslik xilma-xilligi, hayvon ramzi.

Аннотация

Данная диссертация представляет собой сравнительный анализ фразеологических единиц, основанных на животных, в английском и узбекском языках, исследуя символические значения животных в обеих языковых системах. В работе рассматривается, как животные используются метафорически в идиоматических выражениях, отражая культурный,

исторический и социальный контексты англоязычных и узбектоязычных сообществ. Изучаются фразеологизмы с участием таких животных, как львы, кошки, собаки и орлы. Анализ этих выражений показывает, как они передают эмоции, поведение и культурные установки, раскрывая когнитивные и культурные процессы, стоящие за использованием языка. В конечном итоге диссертация подчеркивает важность изучения фразеологических единиц, основанных на животных, как средства углубленного понимания взаимосвязи между языком, культурой и мышлением.

Ключевые слова: Идиомы с животными, фразеологические единицы, сравнительный анализ, английский язык, узбекский язык, метафорические выражения, культурные символы, когнитивная лингвистика, язык и культура, идиоматические выражения, языковое разнообразие, символика животных.

Introduction

Phraseological units, often regarded as multi-word expressions, are an integral component of any language, embodying the cultural, historical, and societal aspects of the community that speaks it. These units in both English and Uzbek exhibit rich imagery and figurative meanings, drawing on various sources of knowledge, including nature, history, and social life. One of the most intriguing categories of phraseological units involves animals, where various animals are used metaphorically to convey particular meanings or emotional expressions. This thesis presents a comparative analysis of animal-based phraseological units in English and Uzbek, examining their origins, metaphorical uses, and the cultural context that shapes them. By analyzing these units in both languages, this study aims to reveal the similarities and differences in how both cultures perceive and utilize animals in their linguistic expressions.

Literature Review

The study of phraseological units has been a prominent area in linguistic research, with a focus on how different languages employ idiomatic expressions and metaphors. Early research in this field, such as that by Makkai (1972)¹ and Dufter (2007), has examined the structure, meaning, and function of idiomatic expressions in various languages. Additionally, scholars like Moon (1998)² have explored the relationship between language and culture in the context of phraseology, highlighting how idiomatic expressions reflect the worldview of a particular society.

When it comes to animal-based phraseological units, the work of Krennmayr (2011)³ and Titford (2006)⁴ stands out, as they explore how animals are represented metaphorically in English idioms. Similarly, research on Uzbek idioms, such as that by Karimov (1991)⁵, has shown that animals in Uzbek culture play a significant role in the construction of idiomatic expressions. These studies illustrate that animals often carry symbolic meanings that are deeply embedded in the cultural history of both English-speaking and Uzbek-speaking communities. Thus, comparing these two linguistic traditions provides valuable insights into the cultural and cognitive processes behind the use of animal-related idioms in both languages.

Main Part

¹ Makkai, A. (1972). Idiomatic Expressions and Their Role in Language Structure. *Linguistic Studies*, 15(2), 234-245.

² Moon, R. (1998). *Fixed Expressions and Idioms in English: A Critical Evaluation of Theories and Methods of Analysis*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

³ Krennmayr, T. (2011). *English Animal Metaphors: A Cognitive Approach to Cultural Reflections*. Berlin: Springer.

⁴ Titford, S. (2006). Cultural Insights into Animal Symbolism in English. *Journal of Language and Culture*, 22(1), 56-75.

⁵ Karimov, I. (1991). *Uzbek Phraseology and Idioms*. Tashkent: National Publishing House.

Animal-based phraseological units are often employed to express a wide range of human experiences, emotions, and behaviors in both English and Uzbek. In English, animals such as lions, cats, and dogs frequently appear in idiomatic expressions. For example, the phrase "the lion's share" refers to receiving the largest portion of something, drawing on the lion's symbolism of strength and dominance. Similarly, expressions like "cat's whiskers" or "a dog's life" convey nuanced ideas about importance or suffering, respectively. These units often reflect qualities attributed to animals based on their behavior, appearance, or role in society.

In Uzbek, animals are also central to idiomatic expressions, but the specific animals used often differ. The phrase "burgutday uchish" (to fly like an eagle) symbolizes greatness and freedom, highlighting the eagle's status as a symbol of power and independence in Uzbek culture. Additionally, phrases like "to'yga borsang, qo'yingni ko'r" (when going to a wedding, look at the donkey) may refer to the idea of observing humility or modesty, reflecting the donkey's symbolic association with hard work and perseverance in Uzbek tradition. Other animals, like the wolf, are often used to represent cunning or wisdom.

The comparison between English and Uzbek animal-based phraseological units reveals both similarities and distinct cultural nuances. For example, both languages use the metaphor of the lion to convey strength, but in English, the lion's pride is often emphasized, whereas in Uzbek, the focus is on the lion's status and nobility. Furthermore, while both cultures use domestic animals like dogs and cats in their idioms, the emotional connotations associated with these animals can differ significantly. In English, a "sly fox" suggests cleverness, whereas in Uzbek, a fox can be perceived more negatively, symbolizing deceit and trickery.

This analysis not only sheds light on the shared motifs in both languages but also reflects the unique cultural contexts that shape the way animals are used metaphorically. By exploring the meaning, structure, and function of animal-based idioms, we can better understand the linguistic and cognitive processes that underpin these expressions in both English and Uzbek.

Methodology

This research employs a qualitative comparative approach, analyzing animal-based phraseological units in both English and Uzbek. The study involves the collection of idiomatic expressions from various sources, including dictionaries, literary texts, and spoken language, ensuring a representative selection of commonly used idioms. The collected phrases are then classified based on the animals used and the metaphorical meanings they convey.

The analysis will focus on identifying patterns of similarity and difference between the two languages, particularly in terms of the animals selected, the cultural significance of these animals, and the contexts in which they are used. The study will also examine the symbolic meanings attached to the animals in both languages, drawing on existing literature in linguistics, cultural studies, and cognitive science to provide a deeper understanding of the relationship between language and culture. The comparison will be structured thematically, focusing on key themes such as strength, cunning, and loyalty, and how these are represented by animal metaphors in English and Uzbek.

Conclusion

This thesis aims to contribute to the understanding of how animal-based phraseological units reflect cultural attitudes and values in both English and Uzbek. Through a comparative analysis, it becomes evident that while both languages share some common metaphorical representations of animals, they also diverge in terms of the specific animals used and the symbolic meanings associated with them. These differences reflect the unique cultural and historical contexts in which

these languages have developed. The study of animal-related idioms not only deepens our understanding of language but also highlights the intricate relationship between language, culture, and cognition. Ultimately, this research underscores the importance of examining phraseological units as a window into the worldview of different linguistic communities.

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