

THE PHRASEOLOGICAL AND SEMANTIC FEATURES OF THE CONCEPT OF “HAPPINESS” IN UZBEK AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES

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Annotation: This article explores the phraseological and semantic features of the concept of happiness in Uzbek and English. The study analyzes how happiness is conceptualized in these languages, the cultural values and beliefs reflected in these expressions, and the semantic differences between phraseological units. The research contributes to a better understanding of linguistic and cultural diversity.

Key Words: Happiness, phraseology, semantics, Uzbek language, English language, cultural values, phraseological units.

ФРАЗЕОЛОГИЧЕСКИЕ И СЕМАНТИЧЕСКИЕ ОСОБЕННОСТИ КОНЦЕПТА “СЧАСТЬЕ” В УЗБЕКСКОМ И АНГЛИЙСКОМ ЯЗЫКАХ

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Аннотация: Данная статья посвящена изучению фразеологических и семантических особенностей понятия «счастье» в узбекском и английском языках. Исследование анализирует, как концепт счастья выражается в этих языках, какие культурные ценности и убеждения отражаются через данные выражения, а также различия в семантике фразеологических единиц. Работа способствует более глубокому пониманию лингвистического и культурного разнообразия.

Ключевые слова: Счастье, фразеология, семантика, узбекский язык, английский язык, культурные ценности, фразеологические единицы.

Introduction: Happiness is one of the most fundamental human emotions, universally experienced yet expressed uniquely across different cultures and languages. It is not merely a psychological state but a deeply ingrained cultural

concept that reflects the values, traditions, and worldview of a society. Uzbek and English, as representatives of two distinct linguistic and cultural traditions, offer a rich field for exploring how the concept of happiness is expressed. English, a global language, is shaped by a blend of individualistic tendencies and a history of cultural evolution influenced by many traditions. In contrast, Uzbek, rooted in the Turkic language family, reflects a collectivist and nature-oriented worldview steeped in centuries of Central Asian traditions. These differences are evident in the idiomatic expressions and semantic nuances associated with happiness in each language. Idiomatic expressions and phraseological units are particularly significant because they encapsulate cultural wisdom and emotional experiences in a concise form. For instance, English phrases like "over the moon" or "on cloud nine" depict happiness with metaphors of elevation, while Uzbek phrases such as "Ko'ngli tog'day bo'lish" (feeling as strong as a mountain) and "Yuragi quvonchdan yayraydi" (heart blooming with joy) emphasize nature and internal emotional states. Such differences reveal not only linguistic preferences but also how each culture conceptualizes the experience of happiness. This study aims to delve into the phraseological and semantic features of happiness in Uzbek and English to uncover their similarities, differences, and cultural connotations. By examining commonly used idioms and expressions, the research seeks to answer the following questions:

1. How is happiness conceptualized in Uzbek and English phraseology?
2. What cultural values and beliefs are reflected in these expressions?
3. How do the semantic features of happiness-related idioms differ between these two languages?

The findings of this study will contribute to a deeper understanding of linguistic and cultural diversity in emotional expression. It will also provide practical insights for language learners, translators, and intercultural

communication specialists, enhancing their ability to navigate the nuanced meanings behind idiomatic expressions.

Methods

Data Collection: The study was conducted using the following resources:

1. Uzbek and English idiomatic dictionaries and linguistic corpora.
2. Authentic texts, including literature, media, and spoken discourse.
3. Interviews with native speakers of both languages to understand the cultural implications of expressions.

Results: Common phraseological expressions which can be used in English are shown as an example :1. "Over the moon" – Extreme happiness or delight.2. "Walking on air" – A feeling of euphoria.3. "On cloud nine" – A state of bliss or happiness.4. "Bursting with joy" – Overflowing with happiness.

In Uzbek also has different type of phraseological expressions which can identify happiness :1. "Ko'ngli tog'day bo'lish" – Feeling as if one's heart is as strong as a mountain, symbolizing immense happiness.2. "Yuragi quvonchdan yayraydi" – The heart is blooming with joy, indicating pure happiness.3. "Oltin boshli bo'lish" – Feeling invaluable or extremely fortunate.4. "Besh qo'lida gullar ochilgan" – All five fingers blooming with flowers, symbolizing great fortune and joy.

Analysis: In this section, a detailed analysis of the phraseological and semantic features of the concept of "happiness" in Uzbek and English is presented. The analysis is divided into two parts: phraseological expressions and their semantic features. Each part explores how happiness is linguistically encoded and culturally shaped in these two languages.

Phraseological Expressions of Happiness in English: English idioms related to happiness often use metaphors of elevation, lightness, and external

manifestations of joy. Common expressions include: **1. "Over the moon"** – This phrase reflects an intense state of happiness, often tied to personal achievements or good news. Example: "I was over the moon when I received the job offer." Semantic implication: Happiness is perceived as an elevated state, surpassing normal emotions. **2. "On cloud nine"** – Symbolizes a state of extreme joy, often accompanied by a sense of detachment from worldly concerns. Example: "After winning the award, she felt like she was on cloud nine." **3. "Walking on air"** – Indicates euphoria, often associated with romantic or emotional fulfillment. Example: "He was walking on air after their first date."

Uzbek phraseological units also can express special meanings related to happiness are deeply rooted in cultural and natural imagery. Common expressions include: **1. "Ko'ngli tog'day bo'lish"** (Feeling as strong as a mountain) – Indicates immense happiness, often tied to familial or collective joy. Example: "Farzandim muvaffaqiyatga erishdi, ko'nglim tog'day bo'ldi." ("My heart felt as strong as a mountain when my child succeeded.") **2. "Yuragi quvonchdan yayraydi"** (Heart blooming with joy) – Symbolizes pure and radiant happiness, often related to emotional connections. Example: "Do'stlarim bilan uchrashdim, yuragim quvonchdan yayradi." ("Meeting my friends made my heart bloom with joy.") **3. "Oltin boshli bo'lish"** (Having a golden head) – Represents being extremely fortunate or joyful. Example: "Oila bilan vaqt o'tkazish oltin boshli bo'lishdek gap." ("Spending time with family feels like having a golden head.")

Semantic Features: Metaphorical Imagery

English: The use of elevation-related metaphors (e.g., "on cloud nine," "over the moon") reflects a tendency to associate happiness with upward movement, weightlessness, and a sense of escape from the ordinary. This aligns with an individualistic worldview, where happiness is often tied to personal success and achievement.

Uzbek: Nature-based imagery (e.g., mountains, flowers, hearts) reflects the collectivist and emotional nature of Uzbek culture. Happiness is often tied to familial or community-related events and is seen as an internal, organic feeling.

Cultural Connotations:1. English: The external manifestation of joy is emphasized. Phrases like "bursting with joy" suggest a visible or dramatic expression of happiness. This aligns with the Western emphasis on expressing emotions openly.2. Uzbek: The internal emotional state is highlighted. Phrases like "Ko'ngli tog'day bo'lish" emphasize the inner strength and fulfillment that come with happiness, reflecting a more introspective approach. Universality vs. Specificity While some idioms (e.g., "bursting with joy" and "Yuragi quvonchdan yayraydi") show universal elements of emotional intensity, others are culturally specific. For instance, "Oltin boshli bo'lish" has no direct equivalent in English, highlighting a uniquely Uzbek way of conceptualizing joy through the imagery of precious metals.

Comparative Analysis

Similarities : Both languages use metaphors to depict happiness, showing that this emotional state is universally recognized and creatively expressed. Happiness is associated with positivity, lightness, and abundance in both cultures.

Differences: English idioms often anchor happiness in individual achievements or external events, while Uzbek expressions emphasize relationships, family, and nature.

Discussion: The discussion section explores the findings of the analysis in greater depth, linking the phraseological and semantic features of "happiness" to broader cultural, linguistic, and social contexts. This section also reflects on the implications of these findings for intercultural communication, language learning, and linguistic research. The study highlights how the concept of "happiness" is shaped by cultural values and beliefs in Uzbek and English-speaking societies.

These differences are reflected in the imagery, metaphors, and contexts in which happiness is expressed. English expressions of happiness often emphasize individuality, personal success, and external manifestations of joy. For instance, phrases like "on cloud nine" and "over the moon" convey a sense of extraordinary personal achievement or happiness. These metaphors of elevation suggest that happiness is seen as an exceptional state, something above and beyond ordinary experiences. This aligns with the individualistic nature of English-speaking cultures, where personal accomplishment and self-expression are highly valued. Uzbek expressions of happiness, on the other hand, are deeply rooted in collectivist values and emotional depth. Idioms like "Ko'ngli tog'day bo'lish" (feeling as strong as a mountain) and "Yuragi quvonchdan yayraydi" (heart blooming with joy) emphasize internal emotional fulfillment rather than outward displays. These expressions often reflect happiness derived from family, community, or nature, highlighting the interconnectedness of people and their environment in Uzbek culture.

Linguistic: The study also reveals how linguistic choices reflect cultural perceptions of happiness:

- 1. Metaphorical Frameworks.** English: The frequent use of elevation metaphors (e.g., "walking on air," "on cloud nine") reflects a dynamic and aspirational view of happiness. These metaphors suggest that happiness is a heightened state, achieved by surpassing ordinary life. Uzbek: The reliance on natural and emotional metaphors (e.g., mountains, blooming flowers) conveys a more grounded and harmonious view of happiness. These metaphors reflect the deep connection between human emotions and the natural world in Uzbek culture.
- 2. Semantic Nuances:** In English, idioms like "bursting with joy" often imply a visible, dramatic expression of happiness, reinforcing the cultural emphasis on openly displaying emotions. In Uzbek, expressions like "Ko'ngli tog'day bo'lish" or "Besh qo'lida gullar ochilgan" focus on inner emotional strength and fortune, reflecting a more introspective and emotionally nuanced understanding of happiness.

Conclusion: The study of the phraseological and semantic features of the concept of "happiness" in Uzbek and English reveals the intricate relationship between language and culture. While happiness is a universal emotion, its linguistic representation varies significantly between these two languages, reflecting their distinct cultural values, traditions, and worldviews. In English, happiness is often portrayed through metaphors of elevation, lightness, and external manifestations, such as "on cloud nine" and "over the moon." These expressions align with the individualistic and dynamic nature of English-speaking cultures, where personal achievement and external displays of joy are highly emphasized. The metaphors used in English reflect an aspirational and outward-focused perspective on happiness.

In contrast, Uzbek expressions of happiness, such as "Ko'ngli tog'day bo'lish" (feeling as strong as a mountain) and "Yuragi quvonchdan yayraydi" (heart blooming with joy), draw heavily from nature and emotional depth. These idioms reflect a collectivist culture where happiness is closely tied to family, community, and harmony with the environment. The metaphors used in Uzbek highlight an inward-focused and emotionally grounded understanding of happiness. The similarities between the two languages, such as the use of metaphors to depict happiness and the association of joy with positivity and abundance, highlight shared human tendencies to conceptualize emotions through vivid imagery. However, the differences, particularly in the cultural anchors and semantic nuances, underline the unique ways in which language shapes and reflects cultural identity.

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