

A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PROVERBS WITH THE LEXEME "RIVER" IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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Abstract This study examines proverbs containing the lexeme "river" in English and Uzbek languages to explore their linguistic and cultural significance. By comparing the structure, meaning, and usage of such proverbs, the research aims to identify similarities and differences that reflect cultural values and worldviews. The analysis employs a qualitative methodology, drawing from linguistic corpora and ethno linguistic sources. The findings indicate that while both languages use "river" as a metaphor for life, continuity, and change, the specific connotations and cultural underpinnings vary significantly.

Key words: comparative analysis, proverbs, lexeme "river", english language, linguistic features, cultural significance, metaphorical meanings, universal themes, culture-specific nuances, life and continuity, individualism

СРАВНИТЕЛЬНЫЙ АНАЛИЗ ПОСЛОВИЦ С ЛЕКСЕМОЙ «РЕКА» В АНГЛИЙСКОМ И УЗБЕКСКОМ ЯЗЫКАХ

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Аннотация. В этом исследовании изучаются пословицы, содержащие лексему «река» в английском и узбекском языках, с целью изучения их лингвистического и культурного значения. Сравнивая структуру, значение и использование таких пословиц, исследование направлено на выявление сходств и различий, которые отражают культурные ценности и мировоззрения. Анализ использует качественную методологию, опираясь на

лингвистические корпуса и этнолингвистические источники. Результаты показывают, что, хотя оба языка используют «реку» как метафору жизни, преемственности и изменения, конкретные коннотации и культурные основы значительно различаются.

Ключевые слова: сравнительный анализ, пословицы, лексема «река», английский язык, лингвистические особенности, культурная значимость, метафорические значения, универсальные темы, культурно-специфические нюансы, жизнь и преемственность, индивидуализм

Introduction Proverbs are an integral part of linguistic heritage, encapsulating the wisdom, traditions, and cultural values of a society. Among the myriad of natural elements featured in proverbs, "river" holds a special place due to its universal significance in human life. Rivers are often associated with continuity, fertility, and the passage of time. This study aims to compare proverbs containing the lexeme "river" in English and Uzbek, focusing on their metaphorical meanings and cultural contexts.

The primary objectives of this study are:

1. To analyze the linguistic features of proverbs with "river" in English and Uzbek.
2. To identify cultural and metaphorical nuances associated with "river" in both languages.
3. To draw insights into how these proverbs reflect societal values and worldviews.

Methodology This research adopts a qualitative comparative approach, relying on textual analysis of proverbs collected from English and Uzbek proverb dictionaries, linguistic corpora, and cultural literature. The selection criteria for proverbs included the explicit mention of the lexeme "river" and their metaphorical or idiomatic usage. Data were categorized based on thematic elements, such as life, time, and morality. Comparative analysis techniques were applied to identify patterns of similarity and divergence.

Results The analysis revealed both universal and culture-specific characteristics of proverbs with the lexeme "river."

1. **Universal Themes:**

In both English and Uzbek, rivers symbolize life and its continuity. For example, the English proverb "You can't step into the same river twice" parallels the Uzbek saying "Daryo bir joydan ikki marta oqmaydi", both reflecting the transient nature of life.

Rivers as symbols of boundaries and obstacles are another shared theme. The English expression "Don't cross the river until you come to it" mirrors the Uzbek proverb "Daryoni kechib o'tmasdan o'tgan deb bo'lmaydi".

2. **Culture-Specific Nuances:**

English proverbs often emphasize individualism and pragmatic problem-solving, as seen in "Don't throw away the oars when the river is calm."

Uzbek proverbs reflect communal values and a strong connection to agrarian lifestyles. For instance, "Daryoni suvi bo'lsa, hosil yaxshi bo'ladi" highlights the importance of rivers for agricultural prosperity.

Discussion The findings indicate that while "river" serves as a universal metaphor, the cultural contexts significantly influence its specific connotations. The emphasis on individuality in English proverbs contrasts with the communal and agrarian focus in Uzbek sayings. These differences underscore the role of proverbs as cultural artifacts, shaped by historical, geographical, and social factors.

Conclusion This comparative analysis highlights the rich metaphorical and cultural dimensions of proverbs containing the lexeme "river" in English and Uzbek languages. While sharing universal themes, the proverbs reflect distinct cultural values and worldviews. Understanding these nuances contributes to cross-cultural communication and the appreciation of linguistic diversity. Future research could expand the scope to include other natural elements and their representations in different languages.

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