

SOCIOLINGUISTIC FEATURES OF THE FUNCTIONAL-SEMANTIC FIELD OF “UGLINESS” IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Qalandarova Shaxzoda Qurbonboy qizi

Teacher Uzbekistan State World Languages University

Email: shaxzoda.qalandarova.96@gmail.com

Phone: +998935133338

Annotation: *The article examines the sociolinguistic and semantic features of the functional-semantic field of “ugliness” in English and Uzbek. The study analyzes the evaluative, emotional, and culturally marked components of lexical units expressing negative aesthetic and moral qualities. Special attention is paid to anthropocentric motivation, metaphorical extensions, and sociocultural connotations in both languages. The comparative analysis demonstrates that the linguistic conceptualization of “ugliness” reflects national value systems, cultural norms, and social judgments embedded in English and Uzbek linguistic worldviews.*

Keywords: *ugliness, functional-semantic field, evaluative semantics, connotation, anthropocentrism, sociolinguistics, semantic analysis.*

СОЦИОЛИНГВИСТИЧЕСКИЕ ОСОБЕННОСТИ ФУНКЦИОНАЛЬНО-СЕМАНТИЧЕСКОГО ПОЛЯ «БЕЗОБРАЗИЯ» В АНГЛИЙСКОМ И УЗБЕКСКОМ ЯЗЫКАХ: СРАВНИТЕЛЬНЫЙ АНАЛИЗ

Каландарова Шахзода Курбонбой кизи

преподаватель,

Узбекский государственный университет мировых языков

Email: shaxzoda.qalandarova.96@gmail.com

Телефон: +998935133338

Аннотация: В статье рассматриваются социолингвистические и семантические особенности функционально-семантического поля «безобразия» в английском и узбекском языках. Анализируются оценочные, эмоциональные и культурно маркированные компоненты лексических единиц, выражающих отрицательные эстетические и моральные качества. Особое внимание уделено антропоцентрической мотивации, метафорическим переносам и социокультурным коннотациям. Сравнительный анализ показывает, что концептуализация «безобразия» отражает национальные ценности, культурные нормы и социальные установки, присущие английской и узбекской языковым картинам мира.

Ключевые слова: безобразие, функционально-семантическое поле, оценочная семантика, коннотация, антропоцентризм, социолингвистика, семантический анализ.

INGLIZ VA O'ZBEK TILLARIDA "XUNUKLIK" FUNKSIONAL- SEMANTIK MAYDONINING SOTSIOLINGVISTIK XUSUSIYATLARI: QIYOSIY TAHLIL

Qalandarova Shaxzoda Qurbonboy qizi

O'qituvchi,

O'zbekiston davlat jahon tillar universiteti

Email: shaxzoda.qalandarova.96@gmail.com

Телефон: +998935133338

Annotatsiya: Maqolada ingliz va o'zbek tillarida "xunuklik" funksional-semantik maydonining sotsiolingvistik va semantik xususiyatlari tahlil qilinadi. Unda estetik va axloqiy jihatdan salbiy baholovchi leksik birliklarning emotsional, konnotativ va madaniy belgilangan komponentlari o'rganiladi. Shuningdek, antropotsentrik motivatsiya, metaforik ko'chishlar va sotsiomadaniy konnotatsiyalar alohida yoritilgan. Qiyosiy tahlil

“xunuklik” konseptining ingliz va o‘zbek tillarida milliy qadriyatlar, madaniy me’yorlar va ijtimoiy qarashlar asosida shakllanishini ko‘rsatadi.

Kalit so‘zlar: xunuklik, funksional-semantik maydon, baholovchi semantika, konnotatsiya, antropotsentrizm, sotsiolingvistika, semantik tahlil.

Phraseology and lexical semantics constitute an important domain of linguistic analysis where human experience, cultural memory, and value systems are encoded in language. Negative aesthetic categories, including the concept of “ugliness,” represent a culturally loaded fragment of the worldview, reflecting subjective judgments, social stereotypes and evaluative attitudes embedded in linguistic consciousness. In both English and Uzbek, lexical items forming the functional-semantic field of “ugliness” demonstrate a high degree of anthropocentricity, since human appearance, behavior, and moral qualities are frequently conceptualized through metaphorical and culturally specific models.

The functional-semantic field of “ugliness” incorporates lexical units with denotative, significative, and connotative meanings. The denotative component reflects the objective property or phenomenon perceived as aesthetically or morally negative. The significative component represents the generalized conceptual meaning describing deviation from socially accepted norms of beauty, morality or behavior. The connotative layer includes emotional, evaluative, expressive, and stylistic nuances, which play a decisive role in shaping social attitudes toward “ugliness.”

In English and Uzbek, negative evaluative semantics often arise from metaphorical extensions: for instance, English items such as ugly, hideous, repulsive, foul, nasty and Uzbek equivalents such as xunuk, badbashara, qo‘pol, jirkanch, badfe’l convey not only physical unattractiveness but also moral or behavioral deviation. The metaphorical transfer from physical to moral domains (“ugly person” → “ugly behavior”) demonstrates universal tendencies in semantic development.

Emotional-evaluative connotations represent a core feature of this semantic field. As observed in previous studies, negative categories tend to accumulate stronger emotive

and expressive coloring compared to positive ones, due to the more intense psychological reaction to undesirable phenomena. In this regard, the lexical items of “ugliness” in both languages often contain intensified emotional markers, including hyperbole (hideous, disgusting, dreadful; Uzbek: judayam xunuk, rosa jirkanch).

Anthropocentric metaphor is also significant. Both languages conceptualize moral “ugliness” using animal imagery, abnormal shapes, or culturally taboo features. In English, expressions such as ugly truth, ugly mood, ugly behavior illustrate semantic broadening, whereas in Uzbek, units such as xunuk gap, xunuk ish, xunuk fe’l demonstrate parallel development. These examples show that “ugliness” functions as both an aesthetic and ethical category in social communication.

The sociolinguistic dimension is revealed through the influence of cultural values on lexical choice. For instance, English tends to separate physical and moral ugliness lexically (ugly vs. wicked), whereas Uzbek often uses the same adjective xunuk for both domains, indicating a culturally existing evaluative overlap. Social factors such as politeness norms, gender expectations, and community-based judgment patterns influence how “ugliness” is expressed and avoided in communication.

The thematic classification of the analyzed lexicon allows identification of several groups:

- (1) lexical units denoting physical unattractiveness;
- (2) expressions describing moral-ethical deviation;
- (3) metaphorical and culturally motivated expressions;
- (4) socially intensified evaluative units.

This classification demonstrates that both English and Uzbek exhibit universal tendencies with national-cultural specificity in conceptualizing negative aesthetic categories.

The comparative analysis of English and Uzbek lexical units expressing “ugliness” reveals a strong anthropocentric and sociocultural foundation. Despite universal cognitive mechanisms, each language reflects unique cultural meanings shaped by social norms, value systems, and collective perceptions of beauty and morality. The

semantic field of “ugliness” therefore functions as an important indicator of sociolinguistic worldview, demonstrating both convergence and divergence between English and Uzbek linguistic cultures.

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