

SEMANTIC AND STRUCTURAL FEATURES OF MYTHOLOGICAL IDIOMS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES**Xaitboeva Oyibibi Shavkatovna**

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e-mail: xaitboevaoyibibi@gmail.com**ABSTRACT**

Mythological idioms constitute an essential group of phraseological units, which express cultural treasure, collective beliefs, and national worldview. The aim of the research is to analyze similarities and differences in the semantic motivation and structural patterns of myth-based idioms in the English and Uzbek languages. The study is based on a comparative and descriptive analysis of idioms gathered from phraseological dictionaries, folklore sources, and literary texts. Semantic analysis reveals that English mythological idioms are predominantly originated from Greco-Roman and Biblical mythology, while Uzbek idioms are originated in Turkic mythology, folklore, and Islamic traditions. Structurally, English idioms preserve proper names of mythological characters, while Uzbek idioms utilize descriptive and metaphorical constructions.

АННОТАЦИЯ

Мифологические идиомы представляют собой важную группу фразеологических единиц, выражающих культурное достояние, коллективные убеждения и национальное мировоззрение. Цель исследования — проанализировать сходства и различия в семантической мотивации и структурных моделях мифологических идиом в английском и узбекском языках. Исследование основано на сравнительном и дескриптивном анализе идиом, собранных из фразеологических словарей, фольклорных источников и литературных текстов. Семантический анализ показывает, что английские мифологические идиомы преимущественно происходят из греко-римской и библейской мифологии, в то время как узбекские идиомы — из тюркской мифологии, фольклора и исламских традиций. Структурно английские идиомы сохраняют имена собственные мифологических персонажей, в то время как узбекские идиомы используют описательные и метафорические конструкции.

ANNOTATSIYA

Mifologik iboralar madaniy meros, jamoaviy e'tiqodlar va milliy dunyoqarashni ifodalovchi frazeologik birliklarning muhim guruhini ifodalaydi. Ushbu tadqiqotning maqsadi ingliz va o'zbek tillaridagi mifologik iboralarning semantik motivatsiyasi va strukturaviy naqshlaridagi o'xshashlik va farqlarni tahlil qilishdir. Tadqiqot frazeologik lug'atlar, folklor manbalari va adabiy matnlardan to'plangan iboralarning qiyosiy va tavsifiy tahliliga asoslangan. Semantik tahlil shuni ko'rsatadiki, ingliz mifologik iboralari, asosan, yunon-rim va bibliya mifologiyasidan, o'zbek iboralari esa turkiy mifologiya, folklor va islom an'alaridan kelib chiqqan. Strukturaviy jihatdan ingliz iboralari mifologik shaxslarning o'ziga xos nomlarini saqlab qoladi, o'zbek iboralari esa tavsifiy va metaforik konstruksiyalardan foydalanadi. Ushbu farqlarga qaramay, ikkala til ham kuch, zaiflik, xavf, go'zallik va taqdir kabi mavhum tushunchalarni tasvirlash uchun mifologik tasvirlardan foydalanadi. Ushbu tadqiqot natijalari mifologiyaning frazeologik ma'no va tuzilmani yaratishdagi rolini tasdiqlash orqali qiyosiy frazeologiya va lingvomadaniy tadqiqotlarga hissa qo'shadi. Mifologik iboralar madaniy meros, jamoaviy e'tiqodlar va milliy dunyoqarashni ifodalovchi frazeologik birliklarning muhim guruhini ifodalaydi. Ushbu tadqiqotning maqsadi ingliz va o'zbek tillaridagi mifologik



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INTRODUCTION

Mythological phrases constitute an essential layer of the phraseological systems of many languages, expressing the cultural, ancient, and cognitive practice of a nation. These idioms, constructed on the basis of historical myths, legends, and religious beliefs, protect archaic horizon and symbolic meaning, which continue to function actively in modern discourse. The study of mythological idioms is of particular importance for comparative linguistics, and cultural study. In both English and Uzbek languages, mythological phraseologisms perform not only a nominative function, but also express evaluative, emotive, and pragmatic concepts. These idioms show a high degree of semantic opacity and structural stability that make them distinct from free word combination. Their internal figure demonstrates national and general mythological meanings, suggesting researchers to trace similarities and differences between languages connecting to different linguistic families.

Despite the increasing interest in phraseology, the semantic and structural features of mythological idioms in English and Uzbek have not been explored in a comparative framework. The relevance of the research is determined by the need to systematize mythological idioms from a semantic and structural point of view, and to determine their linguacultural specificity. The research also contributes to a deeper comprehension of how mythological thinking is verbalized via idiomatic. The aim of the article is to explore the semantic and structural traits of mythological idioms in English and Uzbek languages. The study sets the following objectives: to explore mythological idioms as a phraseological category; to classify them according to their semantic and structural features; to analyze similarities and differences in their usage in English and Uzbek. The results of the research may be profitable for further studies in comparative phraseology, interpretation studies, and linguacultural analysis.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The study of phraseological units has been a central topic in linguistics within the frameworks of semantic, structural, and cognitive analysis. Scientists such as Vinogradov, Kunin, and Cowie have maintained that idioms express fixed expressions characterized by semantic indivisibility and structural stability. Mythological idioms occupy a specific position due to their origin in historical mythological thinking and collective cultural memory. Mythological have been explored from various perspectives in English linguistics. The researchers believe that many English idioms emerged from Greek and Roman mythology, Biblical narratives, and medieval legends, such as *Achilles' heel*, *Pandora's box*, and *The sword of Damocles*. These phrases retain myth-based imagery while performing as stable semantic units in modern English discourse. The explorations maintain their metaphorical nature and strong evaluative potential that contribute to expressive power.

In Uzbek linguistics, phraseological explorations have focused national-cultural specificity, semantic classification, and stylistic functions of idioms. Uzbek myth-based phraseologisms emerged from folklore, epic traditions, religious beliefs, and historical Turkic mythology. Expressions connected with mythical creatures, supernatural strengths, fate, and moral values express the perspective and spiritual heritage of the Uzbek people. Comparative analysis of phraseological units in different languages show that mythological phrases reveal



both general and culture-specific traits. While some phraseological phrases represent similar ideas across languages, others differ in their semantic structure and imagery.

METHODS

The research employs a combination of qualitative and comparative linguistic methods. The primary method is semantic analysis that is utilized to explore the meaning, connotations, and evaluative elements of mythological idioms in both languages. The method supports the classification of myth-based phraseologisms in terms of their semantic features and mythological sources. Structural analysis is applied to explore the grammatical patterns and syntactic composition of myth-based phraseologisms in Uzbek and English. It involves the identification of dominant structural models like nominal, verbal, and adjectival organizations. The comparative approach plays a key role in revealing similarities and differences between English and Uzbek mythological phrases. Through contrastive analysis, isomorphic and allomorphic traits are analyzed, maintaining general tendencies and national-specific characteristics. The exploration material involves in mythological phrases selected from authoritative phraseological dictionaries, folklore sources, and literary texts in both languages.

RESULTS

The exploration of mythological phraseologisms in English and Uzbek languages reveals a number of important semantic and structural traits. The collected material illustrates that myth-based phraseologisms in both languages are characterized by semantic integrity, figurativeness, and a high degree of expressive concept. From a semantic perspective, mythological idioms in English and Uzbek can be classified into several groups. The first group involves idioms illustrating human character features and moral traits like strength, weakness, wisdom, betrayal, and pride. English phrases originated from classical mythology express vulnerability or fatal flaws, while Uzbek mythological phrases tend to focus on moral judgement and social values emerged from folklore and religious beliefs. The second semantic group involves in idioms denoting fate, destiny, and supernatural forces. In English, these idioms are often connected with mythological or Biblical narratives, while in Uzbek they are associated with traditional beliefs, spiritual ideas, and mythical expressions of fate. Structurally, myth-based phraseologisms in both languages represent relative stability. The dominant structural models in English involve noun phrases (e.g., possessive constructions), verb phrases, and prepositional constructions. In Uzbek language, myth-based phraseologisms are frequently represented through verbal constructions and syntactically complete expressions, expressing the agglutinative nature of the language.

DISCUSSION

The exploration confirm the theoretical assumptions discussed in previous phraseological research regarding the close association between myth, language, and culture. The semantic analysis shows mythological phrases function as a linguistic reflection of collective mythological consciousness and cultural memory in both English and Uzbek languages. The analyzed semantic groups demonstrate that myth-based expressions are actively utilized to conceptualize abstract notions like morality, fate, and human behavior. However, the ways these notions are verbalized differ depending on cultural and ancient contexts. English myth-based phraseologisms tend to protect historical symbolic images, while Uzbek mythological phrases express national traditions, folklore, and religious worldview.

CONCLUSION

The research has explored the semantic and structural traits of myth-based phraseologisms in English and Uzbek languages from comparative prospective. The exploration shows mythological phrases constitute an important part of the phraseological systems of both languages, performing as linguistic reflections of historical mythological thinking, cultural values, and collective practice. The finding demonstrates that myth-based phraseologisms in both languages are featured by semantic integrity, figurativeness, and expressive potential. Semantically, they are mainly used to transfer ideas connected to human trait, moral values, fate,



and supernatural forces. But the specific imagery and connotative meanings of these phrases vary relating to cultural and historical backgrounds. Structurally, myth-based phrases reveal both similarities and differences. English mythological idioms tend to be more nominal and structurally compact, whereas Uzbek myth-based phrases often reveal in verbal and syntactically extended forms. These differences are expressed in typological characteristics of the languages and grammatical systems. The comparative analysis confirms that complete equivalence between the two languages' mythological phrases is limited. Functional or partial semantic correspondence can be demonstrated. This maintains the importance of considering cultural and pragmatic factors in translation and intercultural communication. The results of the exploration may function as a theoretical basis for further studies in linguacultural linguistics, translation studies, and cross-linguistic phraseological analysis.

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