

VERBAL EXPRESSION OF THE CONCEPTS OF “HEART” AND “YURAK” (IN COMPARISON BETWEEN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES)

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ANNOTATION

This article investigates the semantic and cultural nuances embedded in the verbal expressions of "heart" in English and "yurak" in Uzbek. While both terms broadly denote a central organ associated with life, their linguistic manifestations extend far beyond the physiological, encompassing rich metaphorical landscapes related to emotion, courage, essence, and intellect. Through a comparative analysis, this study aims to delineate the similarities and divergences in how these concepts are utilized in idiomatic expressions, proverbs, and everyday language within their respective linguistic and cultural contexts. The research employs a contrastive linguistic approach, drawing on corpus linguistics for data collection and semantic field theory for analysis.

Keywords: Heart, Yurak, Comparative Linguistics, Semantics, Idioms, Cultural Nuances, English Language, Uzbek Language.

АННОТАЦИЯ

В данной статье исследуются семантические и культурные нюансы, заложенные в вербальных выражениях «сердце» в английском языке и «юррак» в узбекском языке. Хотя оба термина в широком смысле обозначают центральный орган, связанный с жизнью, их лингвистические проявления выходят далеко за рамки физиологических, охватывая богатые метафорические ландшафты, связанные с эмоциями, мужеством, сущностью и интеллектом. Цель данного исследования – посредством сравнительного анализа выявить сходства и различия в использовании этих концептов в идиоматических выражениях,

пословицах и повседневном языке в соответствующих лингвистических и культурных контекстах.

Ключевые слова: Сердце, Юрак, Сравнительное языкознание, Семантика, Идиомы, Культурные нюансы, Английский язык, Узбекский язык.

ANNOTATION

Ushbu maqolada ingliz tilidagi “yurak” va o‘zbek tilidagi “yurak” so‘z birikmalarida mavjud bo‘lgan semantik va madaniy nuanslar o‘rganiladi. Ikkala atama ham keng ma’noda hayot bilan bog‘liq markaziy organni bildirsa-da, ularning lingvistik ko‘rinishlari his-tuyg‘u, jasorat, mohiyat va intellekt bilan bog‘liq bo‘lgan boy metaforik landshaftlarni qamrab oluvchi fiziologik doiradan ancha kengaydi. Qiyosiy tahlil orqali ushbu tadqiqot ushbu tushunchalarning idiomatik iboralar, maqollar va kundalik tilda o‘zlarining til va madaniy kontekstlarida qanday qo‘llanilishidagi o‘xshashlik va farqlarni aniqlashga qaratilgan.

Kalit so‘zlar: Yurak, Yurak, Qiyosiy tilshunoslik, Semantika, Idiomalar, Madaniy nuanslar, Ingliz tili, O‘zbek tili.

INTRODUCTION

The concept of the "heart" holds a universally recognized, yet culturally specific, significance across human societies. Beyond its primary anatomical function as a vital organ responsible for circulating blood, the "heart" has long served as a profound symbol in language, literature, philosophy, and religion, often representing the core of human existence, emotions, morality, and inner self. In English, expressions involving the "heart" are ubiquitous, reflecting a deep-seated connection between the organ and emotional or psychological states, as seen in phrases like "heartfelt" or "broken-hearted." Similarly, in the Uzbek language, the term "yurak" (юрaк) carries immense cultural weight, frequently appearing in expressions that denote courage, love, compassion, and inner conviction. This article embarks on a comparative linguistic

journey to explore the multifaceted verbal expressions of "heart" in English and "yurak" in Uzbek. By juxtaposing their semantic fields, idiomatic usages, and proverbial wisdom, we aim to uncover the convergences and divergences in how these fundamental concepts are articulated and understood within their respective linguistic and cultural frameworks. The study seeks to provide a comprehensive analysis that not only illuminates the linguistic intricacies but also sheds light on the underlying cultural perspectives that shape these expressions¹. Understanding these distinctions is crucial for effective cross-cultural communication and for appreciating the diverse ways in which human experience is conceptualized and verbalized across different languages.

LITERATURE REVIEW AND METHODOLOGY

The study of conceptual metaphors and the linguistic representation of human experience has been a prominent area within cognitive linguistics, significantly influenced by works such as George Lakoff and Mark Johnson's *Metaphors We Live By*. Their groundbreaking research established that metaphors are not merely rhetorical devices but fundamental to human thought, shaping our understanding of abstract concepts through concrete experiences. Various scholars have since applied this framework to analyze body part metaphors across different languages, revealing how cultural contexts influence semantic extensions. For instance, studies on the heart in Western languages often emphasize its role as the seat of emotions, while research on similar concepts in Eastern languages might highlight its connection to wisdom or courage. Regarding the Uzbek language, scholarly attention to conceptual metaphors, particularly those involving body parts, is growing but remains less extensively documented in international academic literature compared to more widely studied languages. Existing works often focus on lexical semantics or phraseology but less on

¹ Lakoff, George — *Metaphors We Live By* — Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2020, 242-245 pp.

a direct contrastive analysis of "yurak" with its English counterpart through a cognitive linguistic lens².

This study adopts a contrastive linguistic methodology, which involves systematically comparing two or more languages to identify similarities and differences in their phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. Specifically, we will employ a bilingual corpus-based approach to gather empirical data on the usage of "heart" and "yurak." Our primary data sources will include contemporary literary works, online news articles, proverbs collections, and colloquial expressions in both English and Uzbek³.

Discussion and Results

The comparative analysis of "heart" in English and "yurak" in Uzbek reveals both striking similarities and intriguing differences in their verbal expressions, largely reflecting shared human experiences yet filtered through distinct cultural lenses. Both terms are profoundly associated with **emotions**, serving as the primary metaphorical locus for feelings such as love, sorrow, joy, and fear. However, the specific emotional spectrum and intensity attributed to each can vary.

Table 1:

Semantic Associations of "Heart" and "Yurak"

Concept Category	English "Heart" Examples	Uzbek "Yurak" Examples	Shared or Divergent Emphasis
Emotions	<i>broken- hearted, kind-</i>	<i>yuragi ezildi (heart crushed - sad), yuragi</i>	Shared: Central to

² Kholmatova, M. — *Uzbek Tilida Konseptual Metaforalar* (Conceptual Metaphors in Uzbek Language) — Tashkent: Fan nashriyoti, 2015, 78-85 pp.

³ Kövecses, Zoltán — *Metaphor: A Practical Introduction* — Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002, 60-65 pp.

Concept Category	English "Heart" Examples	Uzbek "Yurak" Examples	Shared or Divergent Emphasis
	<i>hearted, heart- warming, heavy heart</i>	<i>yorildi (heart burst - overwhelmed with joy/sorrow), yurakni og'ritmoq (to pain the heart - to upset)</i>	emotional experience. Divergent: Uzbek often emphasizes sudden, intense emotional shifts.
Courage/Bravery	<i>faint- hearted, lionheart, to take heart</i>	<i>yurakli (brave/courageous), yurak qo'ymoq (to put heart - to dare)</i>	Shared: Both link the organ to bravery. Uzbek often more directly uses "yurak" as the adjective for "brave."
Essence/Core	<i>at the heart of the matter, to learn by heart, heart of the city</i>	<i>yuragi (its heart/core), yuragidan bilmoq (to know from the heart - to truly understand)</i>	Shared: Denotes the central or essential part of something.

The tables illustrate these nuances. For instance, while both languages describe emotional pain with reference to the heart, Uzbek often employs more visceral imagery, as seen in "yuragi ezildi" (his heart was crushed) for deep sorrow. Conversely,

the English "by heart" exclusively denotes memorization, whereas "yurakdan bilmoq" in Uzbek can also imply a deeper, sincere understanding or conviction, not just rote learning.

Conclusion

The comparative analysis of "heart" in English and "yurak" in Uzbek reveals a fascinating interplay of universal human experience and distinct cultural conceptualizations. While both terms fundamentally serve as powerful linguistic symbols for the core of human emotion, spirit, and vitality, their extended metaphorical uses and idiomatic expressions illuminate the unique ways in which each culture perceives and verbalizes these abstract concepts. The study has demonstrated that the "heart" in English predominantly functions as the metaphorical locus of emotions, love, and compassion, with secondary associations with courage and the essence of a matter. Its idiomatic expressions often emphasize emotional states, such as being "broken-hearted" or having a "heart of gold," or intellectual conviction, as in "knowing it by heart."

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