



COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS WITH COLOR SEMANTICS IN THE GERMAN AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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Abstract

This article presents a comparative analysis of phraseological units with color semantics in the German and Uzbek languages. The main aim of the study is to identify common and nationally specific features of color components in the phraseology of the two languages. The results of the analysis show that color-based phraseological units reflect cultural, historical, and mental characteristics inherent to the speakers of each language. The findings of the study may be applied in linguocultural studies, comparative linguistics, and the practice of teaching foreign languages.

Keywords: Phraseology, color semantics, comparative analysis, German language, Uzbek language, linguoculture.

Introduction

In modern linguistics, interest in phraseology has been steadily increasing. This tendency can be explained by the fact that phraseological units play a significant role not only in enriching the lexical system of a language but also in expressing a nation's worldview, national mentality, and cultural and spiritual values. Through phraseological units, the historical experience, traditions, and figurative thinking of a people are vividly manifested.

Color terms occupy a special place in human cognition and are considered one of the key cognitive categories. Colors serve not only as a means of describing objects and phenomena but also actively participate in expressing symbolic,



emotional, and evaluative meanings. Therefore, phraseological units containing color components preserve culturally significant information and reflect the linguistic worldview of each language community.

German and Uzbek are languages that differ significantly in genetic origin, typological structure, and cultural background. From this perspective, a comparative analysis of phraseological units with color semantics in these languages makes it possible to identify both universal and nationally specific features. Although color terms have been studied as independent lexical units, their role within the phraseological system and their semantic characteristics in a comparative aspect have not been sufficiently explored. This fact determines the relevance of the present study.

The main purpose of this research is to analyze phraseological units with color semantics in the German and Uzbek languages, to identify similarities and differences in their meanings, and to reveal the linguocultural factors underlying these differences.

Research methods

The following methods were applied in the course of the study:

- the descriptive method, used for systematizing and classifying phraseological units;
- the comparative method, aimed at identifying semantic similarities and differences in color components;
- componential analysis, employed to reveal the meaning of color elements within phraseological units;
- linguocultural analysis, used to interpret national and cultural characteristics.

The research material consists of phraseological units selected from German and Uzbek phraseological dictionaries, as well as examples taken from literary and journalistic texts.

Research results

The analysis revealed that phraseological units with color components are widely used in both German and Uzbek. In particular, phraseological units containing the



color terms **white**, **black**, **red**, and **green** demonstrate a high degree of productivity in both languages.

In German, the color schwarz (black) predominantly conveys negative meanings. It is often associated with pessimism, difficulty, unfavorable situations, or negative evaluation. For example, the phraseological unit schwarz sehen denotes a pessimistic attitude toward the future. In some cases, black is also linked to crime, illegality, or social deviation.

In Uzbek, the color qora (black) has a dual semantic nature. On the one hand, it expresses negative meanings such as misfortune or sorrow (qora kun, qora g'am). On the other hand, it conveys positive meanings related to stability, strength, and labor (qora mehnat, qora xalq). This semantic duality is closely connected with the agrarian lifestyle of the Uzbek people and their traditional relationship with land.

The color component white / weiß carries predominantly positive meanings in both languages. In German, the phraseological unit eine weiße Weste haben refers to innocence and moral purity. In Uzbek, the color oq symbolizes honesty, purity, sincerity, and good intentions (oq ko'ngil, oq yo'l).

The color green / grün in German phraseology is often associated with youth and inexperience, whereas in Uzbek it symbolizes life, nature, renewal, and hope. This difference illustrates how the same color can be interpreted differently depending on cultural context.

Discussion

The obtained results indicate that certain similarities in phraseological units with color semantics are related to universal cognitive mechanisms of color perception. For instance, the association of white with purity is characteristic of many languages.

However, the differences observed in German and Uzbek phraseology have been shaped under the influence of cultural, social, and historical factors specific to each language community. In German, color components often perform a rational and evaluative function, whereas in Uzbek they are closely connected with moral, spiritual, and traditional values.



In Uzbek phraseology, colors serve as an important means of expressing personal character traits, inner emotional states, and an individual's position in society. In contrast, German phraseology tends to use color components as concise and precise tools for evaluating situations. These distinctions reflect differences in national mentality and worldview between the two peoples.

Conclusion

The study demonstrates that phraseological units with color semantics in the German and Uzbek languages represent an important source for exploring the linguocultural layer of language. Color components within phraseological units not only enhance imagery but also convey national values, social experience, and moral attitudes.

The comparative analysis reveals that despite the presence of certain common semantic tendencies, the phraseological meanings of colors are shaped differently under the influence of national and cultural factors. This confirms the significance of comparative and linguocultural approaches in the study of phraseological units. The results of this research may have practical applications in teaching German and Uzbek as foreign languages, in translation studies, and in fostering intercultural communication. Future research may focus on investigating color-based phraseological units from the perspectives of corpus linguistics and cognitive linguistics.

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