

## NATIONAL-CULTURAL SEMANTICS OF ANIMALISTIC PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS OF THE UZBEK LANGUAGE

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**Abstract:** This article explores the national-cultural semantics of animalistic phraseological units in the Uzbek language. By examining the cultural significance and symbolic meanings of these expressions, the study aims to shed light on the unique linguistic and cultural heritage of Uzbek nationality. The analysis reveals how animalistic phrases reflect traditional beliefs, values, and social norms in Uzbek society, providing insight into the rich tapestry of Uzbek culture. The findings contribute to a deeper understanding of the interplay between language, culture, and identity in the Uzbek context.

**Keywords:** Uzbek language, animalistic phraseological units, national-cultural semantics, cultural significance, values, language, culture.

**Introduction** Any language's phraseology is a vibrant and distinctive component of its vocabulary. The national identity of each phraseological phrase in the Uzbek and English languages sets it apart and determines its expressive color in the given situation. This article focuses on translating English phraseological units that contain a component-zoonym. We distinguish this problem from the entire range of issues that come up when translating phraseological units (PU) because of the unique challenges associated with an individual from a different ethnic culture understanding animal names. <sup>42</sup>

A zoonym's implicational lexical meaning contains a lot of connotations, partly because of people's traditional perceptions of this representation of the fauna, such as a clever fox, a cowardly rabbit, a "crooked" monkey, etc. The most important PU in literary works is thus the one that allows their authors complete creative freedom in terms of how they create their artistic universe. Zoonyms play a significant part in this

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<sup>42</sup> Ter-Minasova, S.G. Language and intercultural communication: textbook./S.G. Ter-Minasova. - M.: Slovo, 2000. - 624 p.

story since they allow the author to highlight the hero's distinguishing qualities while also adding a unique hue to the reality that is portrayed.

One of the most expressive forms of language is represented by the diversity of how animals are perceived, ranging from positive to neutral to vehemently negative, and also by the stylistic and emotional coloring that serves this linguistic occurrence. Many zoonyms have pronounced national colors, particularly those that indicate particular cultural, historical, or geographic realities for a particular people, or that contain distinct components that indicate such realities. This suggests that appropriate means of expressing the hidden meaning in another language should be sought after. When translated literally, the mismatch between figurative representations in various cultures distorts the author's meaning and prevents communication. Any phraseological unit translation is extremely challenging, especially figurative ones, as many of them are vivid, emotionally charged phrases with a distinct national character that fit into a certain speech pattern. Because of the uncertainty in interpreting the connotative load of animal names that has developed in this ethno-culture, translating phraseological units with a zoonym component makes it more difficult to understand the metaphorical meaning of this linguistic unit. As stated above, the goal of this work is to investigate the peculiarities of translating phraseological units in English that contain zoonyms into Uzbek in order to identify the particular challenges associated with conveying the meaning and expressive connotative coloring of this linguistic phenomenon. The study material is composed of phraseological units with an English component word; illustrative examples were chosen from Uzbek and English phraseological dictionaries using a continuous sample.

The translator or compiler of the phraseological dictionary may attempt to enlighten the reader about the meaning of the phraseological unit by altering it to the extent that it may reflect the original meaning because of its figurative nature. Here are a few challenges raised:

- 1) There are few lexically similar phraseological units in other languages that contain realities that are found in most other languages. They might theoretically

coincide, or they might not coincide at all. Furthermore, even while the conceptual component of the meaning of some phraseological units comprising realities is identifiable, we are unable to discuss the whole semantic equivalence of these units due to their expressive and tonal colors. Consider the idiom. In Uzbek, the term “April fish” sounds like a practical joke;

2) While several zoonyms are readily translated into Uzbek at first appearance, their traditional meanings may differ: to “drink like a fish, drink like a horse” (in this instance, linked to the zoonym choice, ambiguous, since neither fish nor horse are commonly associated with heavy alcohol consumption, reflecting the customary use of zoonym in this ethnic culture);

3) The phraseology’s meaning is connected to a well-known historical truth or a well-known figure in English literature: the Kilkenny cats, who battle to the death, are like the Cheshire cat, who is constantly grinning and smiling. Kilkenny is an Irish county. This county’s residents were known as “cats”. Kilkenny was home to two cat tribes in the Middle Ages, one of which resided in an English town with walls and the other in an Irish town. The cats were incessantly at odds with one another. To make them fight, Cromwell’s soldiers knotted the tails of cats they grabbed for amusement. Kilkenny cats were too strong for any of the other cats.

Phonological units containing a zoonym can be categorized into 3 groups according to the level of translation difficulty:

1. Phraseological units that are exact translations from English to Uzbek, meaning that they are entire equivalents in both languages. To put it another way, many PU are readily translated into Uzbek (grab the bull by the horn, seize it by its horn, etc.) and can be understood from context (one embellishes everything, all of one’s geese are swans).<sup>43</sup>

<sup>43</sup> Kunin, A.V. The Great English-Russian phraseological dictionary/A.V. Kunin; edited by M. D. Litvinov. - 4th ed., reprint. and add. - M.: Rus. yaz., 1984. - 944 p.

Based on mythical tales, biblical legends, and historical events, full equivalents are equivalents that agree in content, lexical composition, imagery, stylistic orientation, and grammatical structure.<sup>44</sup>

- scape goat – hamma baloga to’g’anoq odam;
- divide (or separate) the sheep from the goats – yaxshini yomondan ajratmoq;
- fish begins to stink at the head – baliq boshidan chirydi. - This category also includes: - глагольные словосочетания;
- work like a horse – eshshakday ishlamoq.

2. Partial counterparts of English and Uzbek phraseological units that lack an onomastic ingredient in another language. A partial equivalent simply contains lexical, grammatical, or lexico-grammatical inconsistencies in the presence of the same meaning and stylistic orientation; it does not imply any incompleteness in the transfer of meaning. Regarding the level of translation adequacy, the partial equivalent is therefore comparable to the complete equivalent.<sup>45</sup>

*a) partial lexical equivalents:* We can categorize partial lexical equivalents into two classes based on A.V. Kunin’s widely recognized classification.<sup>46</sup>

The first category consists of Uzbek translations of English phraseological units that, while having a somewhat different lexical composition, are similar in meaning, stylistic direction, and imagery to the original phraseological units. In this instance, phraseological units’ grammatical structures might or might not line up. The following are instances of equivalent translations for phraseological units that contain zoonyms:

- kill the goose that lays the golden eggs
- kill the hen that lays the golden eggs;
- seize the bull by the horns

<sup>44</sup> Kunin, A.V. On the translation of English phraseological units in the English-Russian phraseological dictionary / A.V. Kunin // Questions of theory and history of translation [Electronic resource]. - Access mode: [http://samlib.ru/w/wagapow\\_a\\_s/transl-book-kunin.shtml](http://samlib.ru/w/wagapow_a_s/transl-book-kunin.shtml)

<sup>45</sup> Svirina, L. On the role of a literary text in the formation of intercultural competence / L. Svirina // Materials of the 2nd All-Russian Scientific Conference “Text. Composition. The reader.” - Kazan, 2011. - p. 229.

<sup>46</sup> Kunin, A.V. The Great English-Russian phraseological dictionary/A.V. Kunin; edited by M. D. Litvinov. - 4th ed., reprint. and add. - M.: Rus. yaz., 1984. - 944 p.

- to take the bull by the horns;

Some proverbs also belong to this group:

- one swallow does not make a summer
- one swallow does not make a spring.

It is evident that in the example of “don’t count your chickens before they hatch,” an antonymic translation—that is, the transfer of a negative value through the use of an affirmative construction—is employed. In certain situations, a negative construction may be used to transmit a positive number.

With this context in mind, the English language’s figurative reinterpretation of the semantic lexemes “dog” and “cat” appears highly strange, such as:

- It’s raining cats and dogs - “yomg’ir sharros quymoqda”.

***b) partial grammatical equivalents:***

The Uzbek phraseological units that fall under this category are comparable to the English phraseological units in terms of meaning, stylistic orientation, and imagery; nevertheless, they differ in terms of word order or number in which the noun stands.

***c) discrepancy in the plurality:***

- fish in troubled waters - fish in troubled water.

The difference in the word order:

- if you run after two hares - you chase after two hares.

3. Phrasal units in Uzbek and English that do not have an equivalent translation—that is, no English or Uzbek version exists—do not translate the same. - a package, box, or container containing leftover food that a guest packs and takes with them from a restaurant. This term is used in American English. - army ant: a kind of ant found in the tropical regions of North America that migrates and consumes insects and animals along the way.

The uncertainty surrounding zoonyms adds another layer of complexity. For instance, the word “lion” denotes bravery and strength in both Uzbek and English: *as brave as a lion-brave as a lion*;

Simultaneously, the English term “lion” can also refer to a celebrity: a great lion is a well-liked figure, and to “make a lion out of somebody” is to make them famous. When proverbs and sayings are translated verbatim, surprising and frequently absurd outcomes might arise.

There’s a saying in Uzbek that means “and the dead will rise”, which means “enough to make a cat laugh” in English. In the original language, the dead are what can make you laugh.

Due to the reader’s mental image that is created when an animal with which conventionally developed associations are merged is presented, phraseological units with the zoonym component enable you to build a memorable character.

The creative text offers a total immersion in another person’s normative and value system in the absence of a language environment. This gives the required backdrop to compare how representatives of various ethnic cultures view their surroundings.<sup>47</sup>

According to the investigation, a sizable portion of phraseological units in English that contain zoonyms lack lexically corresponding units in Uzbek. They could be theoretically or physically coincident.<sup>48</sup>

This is the challenge of translation: these phraseological units, which contribute to the creation of vivid figurative expressions, are linked to the variations in the ethno-cultural representations of animals in the linguistic landscape of the world’s peoples. As such, the translator must exert particular effort to discern the connotative load of these phraseological units, which was formed as a consequence of the traditional perception of the animal, literary image, historical event, or language borrowing. As a result, there are many different meaning components to consider when translating, such as historical allusion, emotional evaluation, and transparent internal form.

The analysis of phraseological units containing animalistic elements is the focus of the dissertation’s final and concluding section. We get the conclusion that it’s critical to learn the meaning and application of each idiom based on the material provided in

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<sup>47</sup> Anglo-Russian phraseological dictionary “Melodikt” [Electronic resource]. Access mode : <http://melodict.com> 100; 6, 73

<sup>48</sup> Ter-Minasova, S.G. Language and intercultural communication: textbook. /S.G.

Ter-Minasova. - M.: Slovo, 2000. - 624 p.

the third chapter. In light of the aforementioned, this page compares several idioms that use animal names from English to Uzbek in an effort to assist all learners. A few cat-related idioms and expressions could be confusing to most people. Idioms often have ambiguous meanings, but taking this particular term's actual meaning into account helps visualize how almost impossible the task is. It's impossible to even try to discipline numerous cats; it's difficult enough to train one to follow your instructions. By employing this idiom, one might highlight the fact that organizing larger numbers of people is not possible, or at least not without a significant deal of effort and perseverance.

In conclusion, the national-cultural semantics of animalistic phraseological units in the Uzbek language reflect the rich linguistic heritage, traditional beliefs, and cultural significance of Uzbek nationality. These phrases carry symbolic meanings that are deeply rooted in the country's social norms, values, and cultural identity. By exploring the language and culture intertwined in these expressions, we gain a deeper understanding of the unique symbolism and national culture of Uzbekistan. The study of animalistic phraseological units not only enriches our knowledge of the Uzbek language but also provides insights into the intricate relationship between language and culture.

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