

**LEXICOGRAPHIC STUDY OF ZOOMORPHIC METAPHORS (IN ENGLISH AND
UZBEK LANGUAGES)**

Buriyeva Shaxodat Baxriddinovna

University of Information Technologies and Management

Abstract: This article explores zoomorphic metaphors in English and Uzbek, focusing on their lexicographic presentation. It outlines how these metaphors enrich language expressiveness and reflect cultural values. The comparative analysis and dictionary-based study reveal their semantic, stylistic, and functional characteristics.

Keywords: zoomorphic metaphor, lexicography, semantics, function, comparative analysis

1. Introduction

Metaphors, particularly zoomorphic ones, play a significant role in both English and Uzbek. These metaphors attribute animal characteristics to humans and serve as tools of vivid expression. The study aims to analyze how these metaphors are used and presented in dictionaries of both languages and to understand their semantic and cultural implications.

2. Methods

This research uses descriptive and comparative methods. Dictionaries such as the Oxford Idioms Dictionary and Uzbek phraseological dictionaries were examined. Zoomorphic metaphors were collected, categorized by animals, and analyzed based on their meanings, frequency, and stylistic usage.

3. Results

Examples of zoomorphic metaphors:

English:

- As sly as a fox – cunning person
- A bear with a sore head – irritable person
- Snake in the grass – untrustworthy person

Uzbek:

- Tulkidek ayyor – cunning like a fox
- Bo‘riday yovuz – cruel like a wolf
- Iloqdek chaqqon – agile like a weasel

In both languages, metaphors express not just character but also emotional attitude. These metaphors are found both in daily speech and formal texts.

4. Discussion

The metaphors found in English and Uzbek show both universal and culture-specific elements. While some animals (e.g., fox, wolf) convey similar traits, the choice of animals and their symbolic meanings can differ based on national perception. Lexicographically, English dictionaries tend to include more fixed idioms, while Uzbek sources may vary in consistency.

5. Conclusion

Zoomorphic metaphors reflect human attitudes and cultural values. Their analysis through lexicography provides insight into language richness and worldview. This study contributes to metaphor research and highlights the need for more comparative studies in linguistic imagery.

References

1. Oxford Idioms Dictionary, Oxford University Press.
2. O‘zbek tilining izohli lug‘ati. G‘afur G‘ulom, 2006.
3. O‘zbek tilining frazeologik lug‘ati. Fan, 1992.
4. Kövecses, Z. Metaphor: A Practical Introduction. Oxford University Press, 2010.
5. Lakoff, G. & Johnson, M. Metaphors We Live By. University of Chicago Press, 1980.