

LINGUISTIC FEATURES OF FLOWER NAMES IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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ABSTRACT

This article explores the linguistic features of flower names in English and Uzbek languages from a comparative perspective. It examines the etymological roots, morphological structures, and semantic characteristics of selected flower names. The study also highlights cultural aspects influencing the naming traditions in both languages. The analysis aims to reveal both universal and culture-specific features in the linguistic representation of flowers, contributing to cross-linguistic and cultural understanding.

Keywords: flower names, comparative linguistics, etymology, semantics, morphology, cultural linguistics.

Annotatsiya

Ushbu maqolada ingliz va o'zbek tillaridagi gul nomlarining lingvistik xususiyatlari qiyosiy nuqtai nazardan o'rganiladi. Unda tanlangan gul nomlarining etimologik ildizlari, morfologik tuzilishi va semantik xususiyatlari tekshiriladi. Tadqiqot, shuningdek, har ikki tilda nom berish an'analariga ta'sir qiluvchi madaniy jihatlarni ham ta'kidlaydi. Tahlil gullarning lingvistik tasviridagi universal va madaniyatga xos xususiyatlarni ochib berishga, tillararo va madaniy tushunishga hissa qo'shishga qaratilgan.

Kalit so'zlar: gul nomlari, qiyosiy tilshunoslik, etimologiya, semantika, morfologiya, madaniy tilshunoslik.

INTRODUCTION

Language serves not only as a means of communication but also as a mirror of culture and national identity. One of the most vivid reflections of this relationship can be observed in the naming of natural objects, particularly flowers. Flowers are deeply rooted in the cultural, historical, and social contexts of any nation. The names assigned to flowers in different languages are often influenced by various linguistic, aesthetic, and symbolic factors. This article investigates the linguistic features of flower names in English and Uzbek, two languages from distinct language families with rich botanical lexicons.

While English belongs to the Germanic branch of the Indo-European family, Uzbek is a Turkic language. These typological differences result in varying linguistic mechanisms in the formation and usage of flower names. Additionally, the naming of flowers often carries metaphorical or symbolic meanings that are shaped by a society's traditions, folklore, and worldview. By comparing flower names in English and Uzbek, this study aims to uncover common patterns and differences, thereby contributing to the broader understanding of linguistic and cultural diversity.

This article begins with a theoretical overview of linguistic and cultural approaches to flower nomenclature, followed by an etymological, morphological, and semantic analysis of selected flower names in English and Uzbek languages. The discussion highlights how cultural values influence naming traditions and how linguistic structures reflect such cultural insights.

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

The study of flower names within linguistic frameworks encompasses several domains: etymology, morphology, semantics, and cultural linguistics. Etymology focuses on the historical origin and development of words. Morphology examines the structure and formation of words, while semantics deals with their meanings. Cultural linguistics explores how cultural values and beliefs shape language. The names of flowers often serve as rich linguistic artifacts that reflect the intertwining of nature and culture in human societies.

In both English and Uzbek languages, flower names have evolved through centuries of interaction with nature, religion, folklore, and foreign influences. Some names are borrowed from other languages, while others are native creations based on physical features, colors, medicinal properties, or mythological associations. Comparative linguistics helps identify similarities and differences in the naming conventions, offering insights into the unique worldviews embedded in each language.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF FLOWER NAMES IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

Etymological features

English flower names such as 'rose' (from Latin 'rosa') and 'lily' (from Latin 'lilium') demonstrate strong influences from Latin and Greek, mainly through Old French. These names often reflect classical origins and mythological symbolism. In contrast, Uzbek flower names such as 'lola' (tulip) and 'atirgul' (rose) often have Persian and Arabic roots, revealing historical and cultural exchanges with neighboring civilizations.

Morphological Features

In English, many flower names are simple nouns, but compound forms such as 'sunflower', 'buttercup', or 'honeysuckle' are also common. These often combine descriptive elements that highlight visual or functional features. Uzbek flower names also include compounds, such as 'atirgul' (rose, literally 'perfume flower') and 'tong gul' (morning flower), showcasing a similar descriptive morphology. Affixation is more common in Uzbek, which allows for productive word formation.

Semantic Features

Semantically, flower names often carry connotations beyond their literal meanings. In English, the 'lily' can symbolize purity, while the 'poppy' evokes remembrance. In Uzbek, 'lola' symbolizes beauty and sometimes sorrow, appearing in poetry and folklore. The symbolic meanings of flowers often influence their use in literature, proverbs, and customs.

Cultural Aspects of Flower Naming

Culture plays a significant role in how flowers are named and perceived. For instance, the rose is a universal symbol of love in both English and Uzbek cultures, but the tulip holds a particularly special place in Uzbek culture due to its presence in traditional art and poetry. Religious and seasonal associations also influence flower names, with specific flowers tied to holidays or rituals in both linguistic contexts.

Discussion

The comparative analysis of flower names in English and Uzbek reveals both linguistic and cultural parallels as well as striking differences. The etymological paths of flower names reflect historical contacts and language influences, such as Latin in English and Persian in Uzbek. Morphologically, both languages employ compound and descriptive naming, though Uzbek makes broader use of affixation.

From a semantic and cultural perspective, the symbolism of flowers often transcends linguistic boundaries, with certain flowers like roses symbolizing love in both traditions. However, cultural nuances—such as the association of tulips with Uzbek identity and folklore—underscore the importance of viewing language through its cultural lens. These findings suggest that flower names are more than lexical units; they are carriers of cultural memory, aesthetic perception, and social values.

CONCLUSION

This study has demonstrated that the linguistic features of flower names in English and Uzbek languages are shaped by distinct historical, morphological, and cultural factors. While both languages exhibit descriptive and symbolic naming traditions, the differences in their etymological roots and morphological systems reflect their unique linguistic typologies.

The symbolic meanings and cultural significance of flowers further enhance the richness of both lexicons. Understanding these features contributes to broader insights in comparative linguistics and cultural studies. Future research may expand on this foundation by incorporating sociolinguistic data and exploring regional or dialectal variations in flower naming across English- and Uzbek-speaking communities.

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