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# ANALYSIS OF IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS FOR EXPRESSING LOVE IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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**ABSTRACT.** This article analyzes the metaphorical expressions of the concept of love in English and Uzbek languages and how cultural values are reflected through idiomatic expressions. The study highlights the similarities and differences of the concept of love across various cultures, as well as the emotional, social, and spiritual perspectives of people expressed through this concept. The role of metaphorical expressions, proverbs, and idioms in the cultural context is examined, and the universal and unique features of the concept of love are explored.

**Keywords:** concept, love, affection, love, metaphor, idiomatic expressions, English language, Uzbek language, cultural values, folk proverbs, linguistic research.

**INTRODUCTION.** Love is one of the oldest and most universal emotions in human history, holding a special place in intercultural communication. The concept of love and affection is a fundamental notion that reflects human relationships, social values, and emotional states. Idiomatic expressions representing love across different languages and cultures allow for a deeper exploration of the linguistic and cultural features of this concept.

Language is not merely a means of communication; it is also a window into culture. Idiomatic expressions serve as a rich linguistic treasure preserving cultural heritage. The uniqueness of each culture is vividly manifested in how love is expressed. For instance, in English, phrases like "fall in love" reflect the sudden and captivating nature of love, while in Uzbek, expressions like "koʻngil qoʻyish" convey emotional closeness and affection.

This article focuses on examining the linguistic and cultural specificities of idiomatic expressions representing the concept of love in English and Uzbek. The research includes a semantic and etymological analysis of idiomatic expressions in both languages, identifying their commonalities and differences. This topic is significant in the fields of linguistics and cultural studies, contributing to the understanding of the cultural characteristics of expressing love in various languages.



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#### **METHODS**

### 1. Selection of Materials

**English Language:** Idiomatic expressions representing the concept of love were selected from the Oxford Idioms Dictionary and other reliable dictionaries, as well as samples from English literature and popular culture (poems, novels, proverbs).

**Uzbek Language:** Idiomatic expressions representing love were sourced from the Uzbek Phraseological Dictionary, as well as Uzbek folk proverbs and literary works.

### 2. Methods

**Semantic Analysis:** The lexical and contextual meanings of each idiomatic expression were studied. The cultural and emotional significance of these meanings and concepts was also examined.

**Comparative Method:** A comparative analysis of idiomatic expressions representing love in English and Uzbek was conducted to identify their similarities and differences. This method helps illustrate both intercultural commonalities and unique features.

### 3. Sources of Data

**English Sources:** Cambridge Idioms Dictionary, Oxford Dictionary of English, and literary works (e.g., works of William Shakespeare and Jane Austen).

**Uzbek Sources:** Uzbek Phraseological Dictionary, collections of Uzbek folk proverbs, and literary works by Alisher Navoiy and Choʻlpon.

#### RESULTS

As a result of the study, the following key aspects of the semantic and cultural characteristics of fixed expressions expressing love in English and Uzbek were identified:

Representation of Love as a Natural Process: In English, love is often portrayed as a spontaneous and uncontrollable process that deeply affects individuals. For instance, the phrase "fall in love" represents love as an accidental and uncontrollable phenomenon. This expression holds metaphorical meaning, likening love to an act of physical falling, where a person suddenly becomes vulnerable and overwhelmed by emotions. The phrase is semantically similar to expressions like "fall ill" or "fall into a trap", emphasizing love as a complex yet natural part of human life and emotional experience.

**Metaphorical Meanings:** Love in English culture is described through various metaphors, such as:

• **Journey:** "love journey"



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• **Battlefield:** "love is a battlefield"

• War: "all's fair in love and war"

• **Fire:** "the flame of love is burning"

• Illness: "love-sick"

These metaphors highlight the complex and intense emotional experiences associated with love.

Cultural Features: English idiomatic expressions often reflect individualism, emphasizing personal freedom, choice, and emotional intensity. Love is frequently depicted as a personal and private experience, allowing individuals to explore their feelings independently.

**Expression of Love as an Inner Emotional State:** In Uzbek, love is often expressed through concepts such as the heart (yurak), soul (koʻngil), and spirit (dil or qalb). Examples include phrases like yurak bogʻlamoq ("to love deeply"), koʻngil bermoq ("to fall in love"), koʻngil yormoq ("to express love"), and yuragidan urmoq ("to fall in love suddenly"). These expressions highlight the emotional and internal nature of love.

**Cultural Context:** Expressions of love often reflect Uzbek cultural values, emphasizing affection, human sincerity, and devotion to family and a beloved partner. Fixed expressions in Uzbek commonly illustrate familial values, traditions, and mutual respect and affection within society.

**Metaphorical Meanings:** In expressing love, metaphors tied to nature and everyday life are frequently used, such as yuragidan urmoq ("to strike the heart"), oshiq boʻlmoq ("to become infatuated"), koʻngil qoʻymoq ("to devote one's heart"), dil bermoq ("to give one's heart"), and koʻngilga urugʻ sochmoq ("to sow seeds in the heart"). These metaphors vividly portray the emotional depth and sincerity associated with love in Uzbek culture.

**Comparative Results** 

Commonalities: In both languages, love between a girl and a boy is often described as a strong emotional process. It is compared to different things, objects, and events in different ways, depending on the culture of the representatives of both languages.

Differences: In English, love is expressed more through expressions that emphasize individual feelings and experiences, while in Uzbek it is formed on the basis of social relationships, sincerity, and family values. While in English, expressions that describe love as an unexpected, sudden event are more common, in Uzbek, expressions that describe love as a conscious and deep feeling are more common.



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### **DISCUSSION**

In recent years, research has been conducted in various directions in modern linguistics on the concept of love. In particular, the direction of those who seek love as an integral part of the national mentality. According to the scientist V.V. Kolesov, who conducted research in this direction, "love" is the dominant of Russian culture, it is a separate linguistic and cultural value. Another group of scientists studies the concept of love as a metalinguistic concept. An example of this is A. Verzbitskaya. They try to identify aspects of an adequate interpretation of the concept of love related to metalinguistics. Also, another direction is linguists who study the concept of love as a linguocultural concept. One of the representatives of this direction is S.G. Vorkachev. They describe the ethnosemantics of the concepts of "Love" and "Happiness" in Russian and English, reflecting the uniqueness of the concept of love in their research. Linguist L.E. Kuznetsova, on the other hand, studies the concept of love from an ethical and psychological perspective, develops a semantic model of the concept of love, and lays the foundation for the direction of those who study the concept of love as an irrational feeling, that is, through the semantic model of love.

To date, the definition of a word combination has been studied based on the teachings of V.V. Vinogradov. According to him, when a word combination is said, it is understood that independent words are interconnected on the basis of subordination.

Understanding a word combination in this way seems to be related to only one side of the issue. After all, it is fully recognized in modern linguistics that there are word combinations formed by the entry of their components into a relationship based on equality.

It is worth noting that the area of word combinations based on the relationship of components in a stable state is quite wide, and in addition to purely stable combinations, they include paraphrases, phraseological expressions in the form of a word combination, and some combinations with a sign of stability. However, despite this, each of them differs from the other in the degree of stability of the connection of its components and its semantic weight.

T.A. Lapayeva, speaking of stable combinations, says that they should be distinguished from phrasemes. It is emphasized that stable combinations reflect the relationship of words in an unchanged state and do not have the idiomatic meaning inherent in phrasemes.

The concept of love has a rich semantic content that expresses the cultural values and worldview of different peoples. Through the analysis of stable combinations, metaphors, and folk proverbs related to love in English and Uzbek, cultural differences and similarities can be



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observed. The results of this study show that the concept of love is formed based on the historical, religious and social values of each nation.

In English culture, love is often associated with individualistic values. For example, metaphors such as "follow your heart" or "falling in love" describe love as the result of personal choice and inner feelings. These metaphors reflect the great importance placed on personal freedom and self-expression in Western culture. Therefore, the concept of love in English is mainly based on romantic relationships and personal desires. In Uzbek culture, love is often associated with collective values and social responsibility. For example, stable expressions such as "love is loyalty" or "to cherish love with respect" indicate that the concepts of loyalty and family occupy a central place in love relationships. This approach reflects the great attention paid to family and community values in Uzbek culture.

In conclusion, it can be noted that although the concept of Love reflects different aspects in English and Uzbek cultures, in both cultures this concept is an integral part of human values. English culture illuminates personal experiences and emotions through love, while Uzbek culture connects love with social and spiritual values. The results of this study show that the unique cultural values and worldview of each people are clearly reflected through the metaphors and stable associations that express love.

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