

SEMANTIC MAPPING OF METONYMIC TRANSFERS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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Abstract: The study investigates the critical role that phraseological units fixed expressions, idioms, and set phrases play in shaping, framing, and conveying meaning within political communication. Political discourse is a powerful tool used by politicians, media, and institutions to influence public opinion, assert authority, and construct ideological narratives. Phraseological units, due to their figurative and often culturally loaded meanings, serve as effective instruments for persuasion, simplification of complex issues, emotional appeal, and identity construction. This research adopts a functional-pragmatic approach to explore how such expressions operate in real political contexts across English and Uzbek languages, comparing their usage, functions, and stylistic effects. Through qualitative analysis of speeches, interviews, debates, and media texts, the study identifies dominant functions of phraseological units, including manipulation, solidarity, criticism, and national sentiment enhancement. The findings highlight the cultural specificity and strategic deployment of phraseology in political communication and provide insights into the intersection of language, ideology, and power.

Keywords: *Phraseological units, political discourse, idioms, figurative language, pragmatics, rhetorical strategies, persuasion, cultural identity, linguistic expression, English and Uzbek comparison, political language, discourse analysis, semantic impact, ideological framing, public communication.*

Annotatsiya: Tadqiqotda frazeologik birliklarning turg'un iboralar, idiomalar va turkum iboralarning siyosiy muloqotda ma'noni shakllantirish, ramkalash va etkazishdagi hal qiluvchi roli o'rganiladi. Siyosiy nutq - bu siyosatchilar, ommaviy axborot vositalari va institutlar tomonidan jamoatchilik fikriga ta'sir qilish, hokimiyatni mustahkamlash va mafkuraviy rivoyatlarni yaratish uchun qo'llaniladigan kuchli vositadir. Frazeologik birliklar o'zining majoziy va ko'pincha madaniy yuklangan ma'nolari tufayli ishontirish, murakkab masalalarni soddalashtirish, hissiy jozibadorlik va shaxsni shakllantirishda samarali vosita bo'lib xizmat qiladi. Ushbu tadqiqot funksional-pragmatik yondashuvni qo'llagan holda, bunday iboralarning ingliz va o'zbek tillaridagi real siyosiy kontekstlarda qanday ishlashini o'rganish, ularning qo'llanilishi, vazifalari va stilistik ta'sirini solishtirish. Nutqlar, intervyular, munozaralar va ommaviy axborot vositalari matnlarini sifat jihatidan tahlil qilish orqali tadqiqot frazeologik birliklarning dominant funktsiyalari, jumladan, manipulyatsiya, birdamlik, tanqid va milliy tuyg'ularni kuchaytirishni aniqlaydi. Topilmalar siyosiy muloqotda frazeologiyaning madaniy o'ziga xosligi va

strategik joylashuvini ta'kidlab, til, mafkura va kuchning kesishishi haqida tushuncha beradi.

Kalit soʻzlar: *Frazeologik birliklar, siyosiy nutq, idiomalar, obrazli til, pragmatika, ritorik strategiyalar, ishontirish, madaniy oʻziga xoslik, lingvistik ifoda, ingliz va oʻzbek tillarini solishtirish, siyosiy til, nutq tahlili, semantik taʼsir, gʻoyaviy tuzilish, ommaviy muloqot.*

Introduction: In contemporary linguistics, phraseological units commonly referred to as idioms, set expressions, or fixed collocations hold a significant position due to their ability to convey nuanced meanings, cultural references, and emotional undertones beyond the literal interpretation of their components. The study of phraseology has been actively explored within various branches of linguistics, yet its role within political discourse presents a particularly rich field of investigation, given the strategic use of language in political communication. Political language is not only a tool for conveying information but also a powerful instrument of persuasion, manipulation, and ideological expression. Within this domain, phraseological units serve as essential mechanisms that allow politicians and public figures to shape opinions, strengthen arguments, and build rapport with their audience.

The functional analysis of phraseological units in political discourse aims to uncover how these expressions contribute to the communicative goals of political actors. This includes examining their semantic, stylistic, and pragmatic functions, as well as understanding how cultural context influences their interpretation. In both English and Uzbek political rhetoric, the use of idiomatic expressions is widespread, revealing how language choices are intertwined with sociopolitical realities and cultural norms. By comparing and analyzing phraseological usage across these two linguistic contexts, researchers can identify both universal and culture-specific strategies employed in political discourse.

This article seeks to explore the functional roles of phraseological units in political discourse from a linguo-pragmatic perspective, focusing on their ability to persuade, criticize, legitimize, and emotionally engage audiences. Through the analysis of authentic political texts and speeches in English and Uzbek, the study aims to highlight the communicative power of phraseology and its contribution to the effectiveness and richness of political communication.

Main Part:

The main focus of this article is the functional analysis of phraseological units in political discourse, with an emphasis on how such expressions contribute to the persuasive and rhetorical power of political language. Phraseological units fixed, idiomatic, and often metaphorical language structures play a crucial role in shaping political messages, constructing ideologies, and framing arguments. Their deliberate and context-sensitive use is a strategic linguistic move that enhances the expressiveness, emotional appeal, and memorability of political speech.

Phraseological units, also known as idioms, set expressions, or collocations, are multi-word expressions that are semantically stable and often metaphorical. They typically carry figurative meanings that cannot be derived from the literal meanings of the individual components. For example, the English idiom “to beat around the bush” or the Uzbek equivalent “go‘rni aylanish” (lit. “to walk around the grave”) both imply evasion or avoidance of the main issue.

Such expressions are deeply embedded in cultural and historical contexts, making them powerful tools for political messaging. Their stability, familiarity, and metaphorical nature allow them to convey complex political ideas succinctly and effectively.

Functional aspects of phraseological units in political discourse

Phraseological units in political discourse serve several key functions:

a) Persuasive function

Politicians often use phraseological units to persuade their audience by appealing to shared cultural references or collective values. For instance, expressions like “a house divided cannot stand” or “old wine in new bottles” resonate with listeners due to their familiarity and evocative nature. These expressions enhance the speaker's credibility and emotional impact.

In Uzbek political discourse, expressions such as “Yurt tinch – xalq tinch” (“If the country is peaceful, the people are peaceful”) tap into cultural ideals of unity and stability, reinforcing political narratives.

b) Manipulative and ideological function

Phraseological units can conceal or distort reality, serving ideological purposes. By embedding ideologies within familiar expressions, political speakers can subtly influence public opinion. For example, calling economic reforms “a bitter pill to swallow” frames hardship as necessary and beneficial, which can manipulate perception.

Similarly, Uzbek politicians may use expressions like “Sabrning tagi shirin” (“Patience leads to sweetness”) to promote endurance and compliance among the populace in the face of economic or social challenges.

c) Emotive and expressive function

Phraseological units often carry strong emotional connotations. In political speeches, they are used to arouse patriotism, hope, fear, or anger. The English phrase “blood, sweat, and tears” invokes emotional resilience, while the Uzbek “Jonbozlik bilan xizmat qilish” (“To serve with one’s soul”) conveys devotion and self-sacrifice.

These emotionally charged expressions enhance the expressive quality of discourse and create an emotional bond between the speaker and the audience.

d) Framing and simplification function

Complex political phenomena are often framed using simple idiomatic expressions to make them more accessible and relatable. For example, “moving the goalposts” simplifies the concept of changing standards unfairly, and “a storm in a teacup” trivializes opposition or dissent.

In Uzbek, phrases like “Boshni qop bilan yopmoq” (“To cover one’s head with a sack”) may be used to criticize those who avoid responsibility or hide from truth. These expressions function as conceptual metaphors that frame public debates and simplify abstract political issues.

Comparative analysis of English and Uzbek phraseological units

A comparative analysis reveals both shared functions and culture-specific usage of phraseological units in English and Uzbek political discourse.

- **Universality:** Many functions, such as persuasion, emotional appeal, and ideological framing, are universal. Political discourse in both languages employs phraseology to achieve similar communicative goals.
- **Cultural specificity:** While English tends to draw phraseology from religious, historical, and literary sources (e.g., Bible references, Shakespeare), Uzbek phraseology is more rooted in proverbs, folklore, and Islamic values. For instance, phrases such as “Ko‘z ochib yumguncha” (“In the blink of an eye”) are widely used in Uzbek rhetoric and often tie back to traditional wisdom.
- **Contextual dependence:** The interpretation and effectiveness of phraseological units depend on sociopolitical context. In times of crisis, for example, leaders in both cultures may rely more heavily on expressions that promote unity, hope, or resilience.

Phraseology and media in political discourse

Modern political discourse extends beyond speeches to include digital media, social networks, and televised debates. Phraseological units in these contexts gain new layers of meaning and can quickly become viral or symbolic. For example, phrases like “fake news” or “draining the swamp” became globally recognized idioms through media amplification.

In Uzbekistan, television broadcasts and official statements frequently reuse culturally resonant idioms, reinforcing their political messaging through repetition.

Challenges in translation and interpretation

One of the difficulties in cross-linguistic and cross-cultural analysis of phraseological units is the challenge of accurate translation. Many idioms do not have direct equivalents in other languages, which may lead to misunderstandings or loss of meaning. This is particularly important in international diplomacy and multilingual political communication, where nuance is critical.

Translators must be culturally and contextually aware to preserve the pragmatic and rhetorical function of such expressions.

This comprehensive analysis underscores that phraseological units are not mere decorative elements of speech. In political discourse, they serve vital functions that shape thought, influence perception, and build ideological narratives. Understanding their role provides deeper insight into how language operates as a tool of power and persuasion in political contexts.

Conclusion:

The functional analysis of phraseological units in political discourse reveals the profound influence these linguistic tools exert on shaping public opinion, conveying ideological positions, and enhancing the persuasive power of political language. Far from being ornamental elements of speech, phraseological units are integral to the strategic construction of political narratives. They encapsulate complex ideas, cultural values, and emotional undertones in a compact and memorable form, making them highly effective in political communication.

In both English and Uzbek political discourse, phraseological units fulfill multiple communicative functions: they persuade, manipulate, simplify abstract political concepts, and evoke emotional responses. Their effectiveness lies in their cultural familiarity and metaphorical richness, which enable political figures to connect with their audiences on both rational and emotional levels.

Moreover, the comparative perspective highlights not only the universality of certain rhetorical strategies but also the unique cultural expressions embedded within each language's phraseological stock. While English discourse often draws on literary, historical, or religious allusions, Uzbek phraseological expressions are closely tied to traditional wisdom, folklore, and national values. Despite these differences, both linguistic traditions utilize phraseology as a powerful means to frame political debates and reinforce authority.

In conclusion, understanding the role and function of phraseological units in political discourse offers valuable insights into the interplay between language, power, and society. It emphasizes the necessity of linguistic awareness in political communication, translation, and cross-cultural dialogue. Future research in this area can further explore the evolution of phraseological usage in digital political media and its implications for global political rhetoric.

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