

## THE REFLECTION OF NATIONAL CULTURE IN PROVERBS

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**Abstract:** This thesis discusses the role of proverbs as language units reflecting national culture. On the basis of Uzbek and English proverbs, it analyzes how people's values, worldview, and lifestyle are expressed through language.

**Key words:** proverb, culture, language, national values, linguaculture

**Аннотация:** В данных тезисах рассматривается роль пословиц как языковых единиц, отражающих национальную культуру. На примере узбекских и английских пословиц анализируется, как через язык передаются ценности, мировоззрение и образ жизни народа.

**Ключевые слова:** пословица, культура, язык, национальные ценности, лингвокультурология

**Annotatsiya:** Ushbu tezisdagi maqollarning milliy madaniyatni ifodalovchi til birligi sifatidagi o'rni yoritiladi. O'zbek va ingliz maqollari misolida xalqning qadriyatlarini, dunyoqarashi va turmush tarzi til orqali qanday aks etishi tahlil qilinadi.

**Kalit so'zlar:** maqol, madaniyat, til, milliy qadriyat, lingvokulturologiya

**Introduction** Language and culture are closely connected. A nation's customs, traditions, mentality, and moral values are reflected in its language. One of the brightest examples of this connection can be seen in proverbs. Proverbs are short but meaningful expressions created by the people over many years. They preserve life experience, practical wisdom, and national character in a compact form. Therefore, the study of proverbs is important not only for linguistics but also for cultural studies.

In modern language education, the role of cultural knowledge has become stronger. Students learning a foreign language should understand not only grammar and vocabulary but also the cultural meanings hidden in language units. Proverbs are especially useful in this process because they show how people think, evaluate life, and express social norms. For this reason, the analysis of proverbs from a linguacultural perspective is highly relevant [1]. The aim of this thesis is to examine how national culture is reflected in proverbs and to show the importance of proverbs in understanding the relationship between language and culture.

Proverbs are considered one of the oldest and richest layers of folk wisdom. They usually appear from people's daily observations, work experience, family relations, and moral beliefs. As a result, proverbs reflect the cultural identity of a nation. For example, in Uzbek culture respect for knowledge, patience, modesty, and family values is strongly expressed in proverbs. The proverb "Ilm — boylik, hunar — tiriklik" shows the high value given to knowledge and profession. It expresses the idea that education and practical skills are the true source of human success. In English culture, proverbs also reflect social values, but some of them emphasize individual effort, time, and discipline more strongly. For instance, the proverb "Time is money" clearly reflects a practical and efficiency-oriented worldview. Another example,

“Where there is a will, there is a way,” highlights determination and personal action. These proverbs reveal cultural attitudes that are deeply rooted in English-speaking societies [2].

A comparison of Uzbek and English proverbs shows that some themes are universal, while others are culture-specific. Universal themes include hard work, honesty, friendship, patience, and wisdom. For example, the Uzbek proverb “Mehnatning tagi rohat” is close in meaning to the English proverb “No pain, no gain.” Both encourage effort and persistence. This similarity shows that different cultures may share common human values.

At the same time, many proverbs contain images and symbols specific to a particular culture. Uzbek proverbs often include references to hospitality, family ties, elders, and collective life. English proverbs more often reflect personal responsibility, time management, and direct practical reasoning. These differences make proverbs an important source for understanding national mentality.

From the educational point of view, proverbs can be effectively used in language and culture classes. First, they enrich learners' vocabulary and improve their figurative thinking. Second, they help students understand cultural meanings beyond literal translation. Third, they increase interest in the target language because proverbs are memorable and expressive. If teachers compare Uzbek and English proverbs in the classroom, students can better understand both their native culture and the foreign one [3].

Proverbs also develop intercultural competence. When learners see how similar ideas are expressed differently across cultures, they become more attentive to national identity and communication style. This is especially important in foreign language teaching today, where cultural awareness is considered part of communicative competence.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, proverbs are not only stable language units but also valuable carriers of national culture. They preserve a people's wisdom, values, worldview, and social experience. The comparison of Uzbek and English proverbs shows that language reflects both universal human ideas and culture-specific features.

Therefore, the study of proverbs has great importance in the field of language and culture. It helps learners understand the deep connection between linguistic expression and cultural meaning. In foreign language teaching, the use of proverbs can make lessons more meaningful, practical, and culturally rich.

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