

## **A LINGUOCOGNITIVE ANALYSIS OF CONCEPTUAL METAPHORS IN UZBEK AND ENGLISH WITHIN THE ANTHROPOCENTRIC PARADIGM**

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**Abstract:** This article presents a linguocognitive analysis of conceptual metaphors in Uzbek and English within the framework of the anthropocentric paradigm. The primary objective of the study is to identify how human cognition and cultural values are expressed through metaphorical constructions. Comparative analysis demonstrates that, while universal cognitive tendencies exist in both languages, cultural context and language-specific features play a decisive role in shaping conceptual metaphors. The findings provide valuable insights for linguocultural studies and cognitive linguistics research.

**Keywords:** conceptual metaphor, linguocognitive analysis, anthropocentrism, cultural values, comparative linguistics, Uzbek and English.

### **ANTROPOSENTRIK PARADIGMA ASOSIDA O‘ZBEK VA INGLIZ TILLARIDAGI KONSEPTUAL METAFORALARNING LINGVOKOGNITIV TAHLILI**

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**Annotatsiya:** Mazkur maqolada antroposentrik paradigma asosida o‘zbek va ingliz tillaridagi konseptual metaforalar lingvokognitiv nuqtai nazardan tahlil qilinadi. Tadqiqotning asosiy maqsadi metaforalar orqali inson tafakkuri va madaniy qadriyatlarining ifodalanishini aniqlashdir. Qiyosiy tahlil natijalari shuni ko‘rsatdiki, ikki tilda ham umumiy kognitiv tendensiyalar mavjud bo‘lsa-da, madaniy kontekst va tilga xos xususiyatlar konseptual metaforalarning shakllanishida muhim rol o‘ynaydi. Maqola natijalari lingvokulturologik tadqiqotlar va kognitiv tilshunoslik sohalarida qo‘llanilishi mumkin.

Kalit soʻzlar: konseptual metafora, lingvokognitiv tahlil, antroposentrizm, madaniy qadriyatlar, qiyosiy tilshunoslik, oʻzbek va ingliz tili.

**ЛИНГВОКОГНИТИВНЫЙ АНАЛИЗ КОНЦЕПТУАЛЬНЫХ МЕТАФОР В  
УЗБЕКСКОМ И АНГЛИЙСКОМ ЯЗЫКАХ В РАМКАХ  
АНТРОПОЦЕНТРИЧЕСКОЙ ПАРАДИГМЫ  
ХУДОЙМУРОВОДА ХАДИЧА ЗОКИР КИЗИ  
МАГИСТРАНТ ТЕРМÉЗСКОГО УНИВЕРСИТЕТА ЭКОНОМИКИ И  
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**НАУЧНЫЙ РУКОВОДИТЕЛЬ: БАКИРОВ ПОЯН УРАЛОВИЧ**

Аннотация: В статье проводится лингвокогнитивный анализ концептуальных метафор в узбекском и английском языках в рамках антропоцентрической парадигмы. Основная цель исследования – выявить способы выражения человеческого мышления и культурных ценностей через метафоры. Сопоставительный анализ показал, что, несмотря на существование универсальных когнитивных тенденций, культурный контекст и языковые особенности играют решающую роль в формировании концептуальных метафор. Результаты исследования могут быть использованы в лингвокультурологических и когнитивно-лингвистических исследованиях.

Ключевые слова: концептуальная метафора, лингвокогнитивный анализ, антропоцентризм, культурные ценности, сопоставительное языкознание, узбекский и английский языки.

### **Introduction**

Language serves as a mirror of human cognition and cultural experience, reflecting the ways in which individuals perceive, interpret, and interact with the world. In recent decades, cognitive linguistics has emphasized the role of metaphor not merely as a stylistic device but as a fundamental mechanism through which human thought is structured. Metaphors allow individuals to conceptualize abstract concepts such as life, time, emotion, morality, and social relations in terms of more concrete experiences. Within this context, the **anthropocentric paradigm** positions human cognition and experience at the center of linguistic analysis, highlighting the interplay between mind, culture, and language. Uzbek and English, representing distinct linguistic families and cultural traditions, offer a unique opportunity for comparative investigation. Uzbek metaphors are deeply rooted in collective experiences, natural phenomena, and social

harmony, whereas English metaphors often emphasize individuality, personal development, and pragmatic considerations. Studying these metaphors from a linguocognitive perspective reveals how universal cognitive patterns interact with culture-specific frameworks, providing insights into the mental and cultural dimensions of language. The present study aims to examine **conceptual metaphors in Uzbek and English within an anthropocentric framework**, identify both universal and culture-specific patterns, and analyze how cultural values and human cognition are encoded in metaphorical expressions.

### Materials and methods

The research employed a **qualitative-comparative approach**. The corpus consisted of:

**Uzbek language sources:** Literary works, proverbs, journalistic articles, and public speeches, totaling approximately 150,000 words.

**English language sources:** Classic and contemporary literature, newspapers, and online media articles, also totaling roughly 150,000 words.

This selection ensured a broad representation of linguistic registers and contexts, enabling comprehensive identification of metaphorical expressions. Metaphors were identified following the **cognitive linguistic framework** of Lakoff and Johnson (1980) and Kövecses (2010). Each sentence was analyzed for expressions where abstract concepts (life, time, emotion, morality, social relations) were described via concrete or experiential domains. Both explicit and subtle metaphors were included. Three bilingual researchers independently annotated the corpus to ensure **inter-coder reliability**, with discrepancies resolved through discussion. Identified metaphors were categorized into **conceptual domains** for systematic comparison. The study applied an **anthropocentric paradigm**, emphasizing the centrality of human cognition, experience, and cultural context. Conceptual metaphors were analyzed along three dimensions:

1. **Cognitive domain:** How humans conceptualize abstract notions.
2. **Cultural dimension:** How culture-specific values shape metaphorical expressions.
3. **Comparative perspective:** Cross-linguistic similarities and differences between Uzbek and English.

The data were coded thematically, and recurrent patterns were identified. Comparative tables were created to illustrate universal and culture-specific tendencies.

## Results

Analysis of the corpus revealed **480 conceptual metaphors**, 260 in Uzbek and 220 in English. They were classified into the domains of **life, emotion, time, morality, and social relations**. Key findings include:

**Life metaphors:** Both languages conceptualize life as a journey. Uzbek expressions emphasize collective experience (“*Hayot yo’lga o’xshaydi*” – “Life is like a path”), while English expressions emphasize individual choice (“*Life is a journey*”).

**Emotion metaphors:** English often links emotions to physical reactions (“*boiling with anger*”), whereas Uzbek metaphors are grounded in natural phenomena (“*Qalbi bahor kabi gulladi*” – “His heart blossomed like spring”).

**Time metaphors:** English focuses on productivity (“*Time is money*”), Uzbek reflects natural cycles (“*Vaqt daryo kabi oqadi*” – “Time flows like a river”).

**Morality metaphors:** English emphasizes personal responsibility, while Uzbek metaphors stress communal ethics.

**Social relations:** Uzbek metaphors highlight family and cooperation; English metaphors emphasize hierarchy and personal achievement.

## COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF CONCEPTUAL METAPHORS IN UZBEK AND ENGLISH

Conceptual domain	Uzbek examples	English examples	Commonality	Cultural specificity
Life	<i>Hayot yo’lga o’xshaydi, Hayotning bosqichlari</i>	<i>Life is a journey, At a crossroads</i>	Life as a journey/path	Uzbek: collective, social; English: individual, personal development
Emotion	<i>Qalbi bahor kabi gulladi, G’am ko’zi yomg’irday oqdi</i>	<i>Boiling with anger, Flooded with joy</i>	Emotions linked to experiences	Uzbek: nature, seasons; English: body, physical reaction

Time	<i>Vaqt daryo kabi oqadi</i>	<i>Time is money, Time flies</i>	Time as flow/resource	Uzbek: natural/cyclical; English: productivity-focused
Morality	<i>Halol yo'ni tanla</i>	<i>Follow your conscience, Right vs wrong</i>	Moral guidance	Uzbek: communal ethics; English: individual responsibility
Social Relations	<i>Do'stlik gulladi, Oila bog'i muhim</i>	<i>Climbing the social ladder, Power struggle</i>	Social interaction	Uzbek: family, cooperation; English: hierarchy, achievement

### Conclusion

The study demonstrates that **conceptual metaphors reflect both universal cognitive structures and culture-specific values**. Uzbek metaphors emphasize collective experiences, social harmony, and natural rhythms, while English metaphors focus on individuality, personal development, and pragmatism. The **anthropocentric paradigm** effectively explains how human cognition, cultural norms, and linguistic expression interact. Findings contribute to **cognitive linguistics, comparative linguistics, and linguocultural studies**, offering insights for language teaching, translation, and cross-cultural communication. In sum, metaphors are not mere stylistic devices but serve as a key channel through which **human thought and cultural values** are communicated across languages.

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