

LINGUOCULTURAL STUDY OF TOPONYMS NAMED AFTER COLOR NAMES IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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Annotation: This article presents a linguocultural analysis of toponyms derived from color names in both English and Uzbek languages. The study explores how color terms are used in place names, reflecting cultural, historical, and environmental aspects of the respective communities. By comparing English and Uzbek toponyms, the research highlights similarities and differences in linguistic expression and cultural significance. The findings contribute to the broader understanding of how language and culture intersect in geographical naming practices.

Keywords: color names, toponyms, linguocultural analysis, English language, Uzbek language, place names, cultural significance

Introduction.

Toponyms, or place names, are an important part of linguistic and cultural heritage. They often carry rich historical, geographical, and social meanings that reflect the identity of a community. One interesting aspect of toponyms is the use of color names, which can provide insights into how people perceive and relate to their environment. Colors are universally recognized elements, yet their symbolic meanings can vary greatly across different cultures and languages. This study focuses on the linguocultural analysis of toponyms derived from color names in English and Uzbek. By examining these place names, we aim to understand how colors are used to describe and symbolize locations in both languages. Comparing the English and Uzbek contexts helps reveal both common patterns and unique cultural traits embedded in geographic naming traditions. Ultimately, this research contributes to the broader field of linguistic geography and cultural studies.

Main Body.

The study of toponyms derived from color names reveals significant linguistic and cultural insights in both English and Uzbek contexts. Colors often serve as descriptive elements in place names, indicating physical characteristics, historical events, or cultural symbolism tied to a location. In English toponyms, color names such as "Black," "White," "Red," "Green," and "Blue" are commonly used. For example, "Black Forest" in Germany (widely known in English) refers to the dense, dark appearance of the forest. Similarly, "Greenwich" in England contains the root "green," symbolizing lush vegetation or fertile land. These color-based toponyms often describe

natural features such as soil, vegetation, water, or landscape colors. In Uzbek toponyms, color terms like “Qora” (black), “Oq” (white), “Qizil” (red), and “Yashil” (green) also appear frequently. For instance, “Qoraqalpoq” (meaning "black hat") is an ethnonym used as a regional name, reflecting historical and cultural identity. “Oqtepa” (white hill) describes a geographical feature characterized by its light-colored soil or terrain. The use of colors in Uzbek place names often conveys symbolic meanings related to purity, strength, or historical significance. Comparing the two languages, it is evident that color names in toponyms serve both descriptive and symbolic functions. However, cultural values and historical contexts influence the choice and meaning of colors differently. For example, while “red” in English place names may relate to soil color or historical events (e.g., Red River), in Uzbek culture, “qizil” often symbolizes bravery and vitality. This linguocultural perspective on color-based toponyms enriches our understanding of how language reflects the interaction between humans and their environment. It also highlights the role of cultural perception in naming practices, emphasizing the importance of preserving linguistic heritage in geographic names.

Conclusion:

The linguocultural study of toponyms derived from color names in English and Uzbek reveals the deep connection between language, culture, and geography. Color-based place names not only describe physical characteristics of locations but also carry symbolic meanings shaped by cultural values and historical backgrounds. While both languages use colors to enrich geographic names, the significance and usage of specific colors vary according to their unique cultural contexts. Understanding these differences enhances our appreciation of the cultural diversity embedded in toponymy and contributes to the broader field of linguistic and cultural studies.

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