

## **PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN UZBEK AND TURKISH: INVESTIGATING CULTURAL CODES**

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**Abstract:** Phraseological units constitute one of the richest and most culturally complex layers of language. They are not merely combinations of words but serve as vehicles reflecting the historical, cultural, social, and even psychological codes of a community. Each phraseological unit carries its own context, historical development, and semantic meaning, making language not only a tool for communication but also a mirror of culture and identity. Uzbek and Turkish belong to the Turkic language family and share many lexical and phraseological similarities. However, historical, geographical, and cultural differences have led to divergences in the context of use and semantic nuances of certain expressions. Comparative analysis of these units thus allows for a deeper understanding of the cultural and linguistic layers of both languages.

**Keywords:** Phraseological units, cultural codes, Uzbek language, Turkish language, comparative analysis, linguistic research, language and culture

The main aim of this study is to conduct a comparative analysis of phraseological units in Uzbek and Turkish, identify their cultural codes, and explore the interaction between language and culture. The research follows two main directions: first, examining the lexical, morphological, and semantic similarities and differences of phraseological units; second, analyzing their cultural, historical, and social contexts. The study draws on a range of materials, including classical and contemporary literature, oral traditions, poetry, and journalistic texts.

Methodologically, the research employs comparative phraseology, cultural code analysis, and contextual analysis. For each language, a corpus of phraseological units is compiled and categorized according to linguistic parameters (idiomaticity, morphological and syntactic structure, semantic layers) and cultural parameters (cultural-conceptual codes, historical and social context, and intrinsic meaning). The comparative analysis highlights the similarities and differences between the two languages, as well as the influence of cultural context on the usage of phraseological units.

The findings indicate that while many phraseological units are similar in Uzbek and Turkish, cultural and historical differences result in unique semantic nuances and usage contexts. For instance, some units widely used in modern Uzbek may be restricted to literary or historical contexts in Turkish. Nevertheless, in both languages, phraseological units reflect cultural values, traditions, and interpersonal relationships. This research has implications not only for linguistics but also for cultural studies, translation, literary studies, and international education.

Furthermore, the study is particularly relevant for international grants and scholarships, such as the Turkish Scholarships (Türkiye Bursları), as it demonstrates the interaction between language and culture, comparative linguistic analysis, and the role of phraseological units in illustrating linguistic and cultural integration. The results provide a foundation for bilingual and intercultural research, making the study significant for the global academic community.