

****THE SEMANTIC REPRESENTATION OF THE CONCEPT “BEAUTY”
IN UZBEK AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE CULTURE****

Nasridinova Sitora Utkirovna

Assistant Teacher, Department of Philology, Asia International University,

Bukhara, Uzbekistan

Ergasheva Sug'diyona O'lmas qizi

MA Student, Department of Philology, Asia International University,

Bukhara, Uzbekistan

E-mail: sugdiyonaergasheva1@gmail.com

Abstract

Beauty is one of the most important aesthetic concepts in human cognition and cultural consciousness. The present study purpose to explore the semantic representation of the concept “beauty” in Uzbek and English language cultures from a cognitive and cultural linguistic perspective. The research is conducted within a comparative framework. The methods applied in this study include conceptual analysis, semantic interpretation, and comparative analysis of metaphorical and evaluative language units. The theoretical basis of the research relies on Conceptual Metaphor Theory, semiotics, and cultural semantics. The results of the study show that while beauty is a universal concept, its linguistic realization differs considerably across cultures. In Uzbek culture, the notion of beauty is largely associated with inner virtue, humility, and a connection with nature, while in English culture, more importance is given to physical appearance, personal uniqueness, and aesthetic appreciation. The study finds that cultural values and the national perspective significantly effect how the concept of “beauty” is semantically constructed in both languages.

Key words: concept, beauty, semantics, cultural linguistics, metaphor.

Introduction

In modern linguistic studies, special attention is paid to the analysis of concepts as key elements of cognitive and cultural worldview. Concepts reflect how people perceive reality and encode their experience through language. One of the most

universal yet culturally specific concepts is beauty. Although beauty is recognized in all cultures, its interpretation and linguistic expression vary depending on historical, social, and cultural factors.

The concept of beauty is not limited to physical appearance; it also includes moral, spiritual, and social dimensions. Therefore, the study of beauty in different language cultures allows researchers to identify both shared human values and culture-specific semantic features. This article aims to analyze the semantic representation of the concept “beauty” in Uzbek and English language cultures.

Materials and Methods

The study is based on qualitative research methods. The main materials of the research include lexical units, metaphorical expressions, and evaluative descriptions related to the concept of beauty in Uzbek and English. A comparative approach is applied to identify similarities and differences between the two language cultures.

The theoretical framework integrates several key approaches: Conceptual Metaphor Theory, which explores how metaphors shape our understanding of abstract ideas; semiotic analysis, which interprets beauty as a culturally constructed sign; and cultural-semantic analysis, which examines how social and historical contexts influence the formation of meaning.

Result and Discussion

The analysis shows that in Uzbek language culture, beauty is often associated with inner purity, ethical behavior, and harmony with nature. Linguistic expressions frequently compare beauty to natural elements such as flowers, the moon, and spring, emphasizing balance and modesty. Beauty is seen in a positive light when it demonstrates moral excellence.

In English language culture, beauty is primarily linked to visual attractiveness and individual perception. Metaphors related to light, radiance, and perfection are commonly used. The discussion of beauty often focuses on external appearance and personal charm. Despite these differences, both cultures perceive beauty as a socially valued and desirable quality.

Conclusions

The study shows that while the idea of “beauty” is universal, the way it is understood and expressed varies across cultures. In Uzbek culture, beauty is closely

tied to moral and spiritual qualities, whereas in English-speaking cultures, it is more focused on appearance and personal expression. These distinctions highlight the influence of cultural values and perspectives. Overall, the findings offer valuable insights for research in cultural linguistics and intercultural communication.

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