



EXPRESSION OF THE MOTHER LEXEME IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES IN APHORISMS

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Abstract

This article examines the expression of the mother lexeme in English and Uzbek aphorisms from a comparative linguistic and cultural perspective. The semantic, symbolic, and pragmatic values of the lexeme are analyzed through representative aphorisms from both languages. The findings show that the concept of “mother” is one of the central cultural constructs across nations, yet each language reflects unique perceptions shaped by national worldview, mentality, and value systems. Uzbek aphorisms emphasize reverence, sacrifice, holiness, and moral authority of the mother, whereas English aphorisms highlight emotional support, unconditional love, moral strength, and individuality. The study reveals that despite cultural differences, both languages portray the mother figure as the ultimate source of guidance, love, and moral integrity.

Keywords: mother lexeme, aphorisms, English, Uzbek, comparative linguistics, paremiology, cultural concept.

The word was first used in the Aphorisms of Hippocrates, a long series of propositions concerning the symptoms and diagnosis of disease and the art of healing and medicine. The often-cited first sentence of this work is: "Ὁ βίος βραχύς, δὲ τέχνη μακρὴ" – "life is short, art is long", usually reversed in order (Ars longa, vita brevis). This aphorism was later applied or adapted to physical science and then morphed into multifarious aphorisms of philosophy, morality, and literature. Currently, an aphorism is generally understood to be a concise and eloquent statement of truth. Aphorisms are distinct from axioms: aphorisms generally originate from experience and custom, whereas axioms are self-evident truths and therefore require no additional proof. Aphorisms have been especially used in subjects to which no methodical or scientific treatment was originally applied, such as agriculture, medicine, jurisprudence, and politics



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Aphorisms — concise and meaningful expressions — are key carriers of cultural values and worldviews. They often highlight universal human experiences while reflecting each nation's specific cultural mentality. One such universal concept embedded in aphorisms is the mother lexeme, representing one of the most sacred and emotionally significant figures in human society.

In world linguistics, the research object of paremas is undoubtedly focused on aphorisms and has become the main problem of many schools of linguistics. In the study of aphorisms, their emergence as a product of human thinking, along with factors such as humanism, patriotism, and kindness, is of great importance in the development of intercultural communication. Based on this, the relevance of the selected topic is determined by conducting research on the problem of researching the linguistic nature of aphorisms on the basis of comparative and comparative analysis of structural-semantic models.

In Uzbek linguistics, the works devoted to the linguistic status of aphorisms are numerous. To be more precise, wise words (aphorisms) in Uzbek linguistics are lexical syntactic¹linguistic and cultural²partially studied

The linguistic and cultural conceptualization of “mother” provides insights into family structure, gender roles, emotional values, and moral principles in both English- and Uzbek-speaking communities. This article aims to conduct a systematic comparative analysis of aphorisms featuring the mother lexeme in English and Uzbek languages.

Onam bilan boshqalarning orasidagi farq shuki, boshqalar meni mahzun holda ko'rmaslikni orzu qiladilar. Ammo onam mendan mahzunlikni o'ziga olishni orzu qiladi³. (Mahmud Darvesh)

Onalarning oyog'i ostidadir, Ravzai jannatu jinon bog'i. Ravza bog'in visolin istar ersang, Bo'l onaning oyog'i tuprog'i. (Alisher Navoiy)

¹ Абдурахманов Х. Синтаксические особенности узбекских народных пословиц. Автореф. дисс... канд. филол. наук. –Тошкент, 1964. – 54 с; Абдурахманов Х. Особенности синтаксиса узбекского устного народного творчества. Автореф. дисс... доктора филол. наук. – Тошкент 1977. –57 с.

²Нармуратов З.Р. Инглиз ва ўзбек тилларида таълим ва илм концептларига оид паремаларнинг лингвوماданий тадқиқи. Филол.фанлари фалсафа доктори дисс. Термез, 2022. – 129 б.

³ Hikmatli gap olindi.<https://hikmatlar.uz/quote/2572>



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A mother is your first friend, your best friend, your forever friend [Ona sizning birinchi do‘stingiz, eng yaqin do‘stingiz, abadiy do‘stingizdir]. (Unknown)

Mother is a verb. It’s something you do. Not just who you are [Ona — fe‘l. Bu siz qiladigan narsa. Faqat kimligingiz emas]. (Dorothy Canfield Fisher)

Moms are the people who know us the best and love us the most [Onalar bizni eng yaxshi biladigan va eng yaxshi ko‘radigan odamlardir]. (Unknown)

A mother’s love is the fuel that enables a normal human being to do the impossible [Onaning mehr-muhabbati oddiy insonga imkonsiz narsani qilishga imkon beradigan yoqilg‘idir’]. (Marion C. Garretty)

Mother’s love is peace. It need not be acquired, it need not be deserved [Onaning sevgisi tinchlikdir. Uni olish shart emas, bunga loyiq bo‘lish shart emas]. (Erich Fromm)

For a mother is the only person on earth who can divide her love among 10 children and each child still have all her love [Chunki ona er yuzida o‘z mehrini 10 ta bolaga bo‘la oladigan yagona insondir va har bir bolada hamon mehr-muhabbat bor]. (Unknown)

A mother is she who can take the place of all others but whose place no one else can take [Ona hammaning o‘rnini bosa oladigan, lekin hech kim o‘rnini bosa olmaydigan ayoldir]. (Cardinal Mermillod)

There is nothing as powerful as mother’s love, and nothing as healing as a child’s soul [Ona sevgisidek kuchli va bolaning ruhi kabi shifo yo‘q]. (Unknown)

The comparative analysis of aphorisms in English and Uzbek languages reveals that the mother lexeme carries profound cultural, emotional, and symbolic significance in both linguistic traditions. While Uzbek aphorisms emphasize the mother’s sacredness, moral authority, and blessed role within a collectivistic society, English aphorisms foreground her emotional intelligence, psychological support, and individual impact within the family.

Thus, the lexeme “mother” functions as a powerful linguistic and cultural symbol, reflecting universal human values through culturally specific interpretations.



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