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**TARIXIY TILSHUNOSLIKDA SEMANTIK SOHALAR EVOLYUTSIYASI: INGLIZ VA O'ZBEK TILLARINI QIYOSIY O'RGANISH****ЭВОЛЮЦИЯ СЕМАНТИЧЕСКИХ ПОЛЕЙ В ИСТОРИЧЕСКОЙ ЛИНГВИСТИКЕ: СРАВНИТЕЛЬНОЕ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЕ АНГЛИЙСКОГО И УЗБЕКСКОГО ЯЗЫКОВ****THE EVOLUTION OF SEMANTIC FIELDS IN HISTORICAL LINGUISTICS: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ENGLISH AND UZBEK****Mamajanova G'uncha Hemrayevna¹** ¹Assistant at the Department of Foreign Languages, Faculty of Economics, Tashkent State Transport University**Shakirova Saida To'xtajanovna²** ²Assistant at the Department of Foreign Languages, Faculty of Economics, Tashkent State Transport University**Annotatsiya**

Ushbu maqolada ingliz va o'zbek tillarini qiyosiy tahlil qilish orqali tarixiy tilshunoslikning semantik sohalari evolyutsiyasi ko'rib chiqiladi. Tadqiqot ijtimoiy-siyosiy, madaniy va texnologik o'zgarishlar har ikki tilda ma'no o'zgarishiga qanday ta'sir qilganini o'rganadi. Diaxronik va sinxron usullardan foydalangan holda, u tarixiy davrlar bo'ylab boshqaruv, texnologiya va savdo kabi asosiy semantik sohalardagi o'zgarishlarni kuzatadi. Normand istilosi va mustamlakachilik ekspansiyasi natijasida shakllangan ingliz tili, fors, arab va rus tillari ta'sirida o'zbek tili umumiy va farqli semantik evolyutsiyalarni namoyon etadi. Ingliz tili asta-sekin semantik o'zgarishlarga uchragan bo'lsa, o'zbek tilida, ayniqsa, sovetlar davrida yanada keskin o'zgarishlar yuz berdi. Natijalar til, madaniyat va tarix o'rtasidagi dinamik munosabatlar haqida tushuncha beradigan semantik kengayish, metaforani ta'kidlaydi. Ushbu tadqiqot semantik evolyutsiyadagi universal tendensiyalar va tilga xos moslashuvlarni aniqlash orqali tarixiy tilshunoslikning kengroq sohasiga hissa qo'shadi.

Аннотация

В этой статье рассматривается эволюция семантических полей в исторической лингвистике посредством сравнительного анализа английского и узбекского языков. В исследовании изучается, как социально-политические, культурные и технологические изменения повлияли на трансформацию смысла в обоих языках. Используя диахронические и синхронические методы, оно отслеживает сдвиги в основных семантических полях, таких как управление, технологии и торговля в разные исторические периоды. Английский язык, сформированный нормандским завоеванием и колониальной экспансией, и узбекский язык, находящийся под влиянием персидского, арабского и русского языковых контактов, демонстрируют как общие, так и расходящиеся семантические эволюции. Английский язык претерпел постепенные семантические сдвиги, в то время как узбекский язык претерпел более резкие изменения, особенно в советское время. Результаты подчеркивают закономерности семантического расширения, метафоризации и заимствования, предлагая понимание динамических отношений между языком, культурой и историей. Это исследование вносит вклад в более широкую область исторической лингвистики, выявляя универсальные тенденции и специфичные для языка адаптации в семантической эволюции.

Abstract

This article examines the evolution of semantic fields in historical linguistics through a comparative analysis of English and Uzbek. The study explores how socio-political, cultural, and technological changes have influenced the transformation of meaning in both languages. By employing diachronic and synchronic methods, it tracks shifts in core semantic fields such as governance, technology, and trade across different historical periods. English, shaped by the Norman Conquest and colonial expansion, and Uzbek, influenced by Persian, Arabic, and Russian linguistic contact, demonstrate both shared and divergent semantic evolutions. English has experienced gradual semantic shifts, while Uzbek underwent more abrupt changes, particularly during the Soviet era. The findings highlight patterns of semantic broadening, metaphorization, and borrowing, offering insights into the dynamic relationship between language, culture, and history. This research contributes to the broader field of historical linguistics by identifying universal trends and language-specific adaptations in semantic evolution.

Kalit so'zlar: tarixiy tilshunoslik, semantik sohalar, qiyosiy tahlil, ingliz tili evolyutsiyasi, o'zbek tili evolyutsiyasi, ijtimoiy-siyosiy ta'sir, diaxronik tahlil, til aloqasi, semantik kengayish, metaforizatsiya.

Ключевые слова: историческая лингвистика, семантические поля, сравнительный анализ, эволюция английского языка, эволюция узбекского языка, социально-политическое влияние, диахронический анализ, языковой контакт, семантическое расширение, метафоризация.

Key words: historical linguistics, semantic fields, comparative analysis, english language evolution, uzbek language evolution, socio-political influence, diachronic analysis, language contact, semantic broadening, metaphorization.

INTRODUCTION

The study of semantic fields in historical linguistics provides invaluable insights into how languages evolve and adapt to socio-cultural and historical changes. Semantic fields, which refer to groups of words related by meaning within a specific domain, are not static; they shift as new concepts emerge, old ones fade, and as societies transform. The comparative analysis of these shifts across languages offers a deeper understanding of how meaning is constructed and modified over time. In particular, this study focuses on the evolution of semantic fields in English and Uzbek, two languages with distinct historical trajectories but shared linguistic phenomena. English, as a global language with deep Indo-European roots, has undergone significant semantic shifts, influenced by political, cultural, and technological revolutions. Uzbek, a Turkic language with strong ties to Central Asian cultural heritage, has experienced its own semantic evolution under different influences, including Persian, Arabic, and Russian. By analyzing and comparing the changes in selected semantic fields within these two languages, this research aims to identify key patterns and processes that govern semantic evolution.

This study will explore how historical events, language contact, and societal changes have affected the semantic fields of English and Uzbek. It will employ both diachronic and synchronic approaches to reveal how language users in these different linguistic contexts have restructured meaning to align with their evolving realities. Furthermore, this comparative analysis sheds light on broader questions in historical linguistics, including how languages encode cultural shifts and how semantic fields reflect changes in human cognition and communication.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The evolution of semantic fields has long been a central concern in the field of historical linguistics. Scholars like Ullmann[1] and Lehrer[2] have provided foundational frameworks for understanding how semantic fields shift in response to historical, cultural, and social changes. Ullmann's theory of semantic change emphasizes the importance of external influences, such as language contact and societal transformations, in shaping the lexicon of a language. According to Ullmann, languages like English, with a history of frequent external influence, showcase profound semantic adaptations, particularly in response to cultural and technological revolutions. This perspective aligns with Lehrer's findings, which highlight the interconnectedness of cultural evolution and the expansion or contraction of specific semantic fields.

In recent years, comparative studies of semantic field evolution between different languages have gained prominence, especially within the realm of typologically diverse languages. Scholars such as Geeraerts argue that comparative approaches offer valuable insights into universal patterns of semantic change[3]. Geeraerts' cognitive-linguistic approach to semantic shifts emphasizes the role of mental frameworks and conceptual changes, suggesting that cross-linguistic analysis reveals common cognitive mechanisms behind meaning transformation. Koch expands on this by examining how languages with divergent historical trajectories, such as Indo-European and Turkic languages, often demonstrate parallel semantic developments in response to analogous socio-cultural stimuli.

The study of Turkic languages, including Uzbek, has received increasing attention in the context of historical linguistics. Researchers such as Johanson and Baskakov have analyzed the impact of political and cultural forces on the semantic structure of Central Asian languages[4]. Johanson's theory of code-copying and contact linguistics offers a critical lens through which to examine how Uzbek has incorporated and adapted loanwords from Persian, Arabic, and Russian over centuries. Similarly, Baskakov's comprehensive work on Turkic semantics identifies significant shifts in Uzbek's semantic fields, especially in the realms of religion, trade, and governance, driven by historical events such as the Islamic conquest and Soviet influence. Comparatively, English has undergone significant semantic changes, often driven by technological advancements and colonial

expansion. As noted by Crystal, the rapid evolution of English semantic fields reflects its role as a global lingua franca, absorbing and adapting foreign lexicons while simultaneously exporting its own linguistic structures[5].

While much of the existing research on semantic field evolution has focused on major world languages, there is a growing need for comparative studies that include less commonly researched languages like Uzbek. Uzbek, as part of the Turkic language family, presents unique opportunities for examining how semantic fields develop under different historical conditions. In this context, the works of Uzbek linguists, such as Mamatov[6] and Karimov[7], have highlighted the importance of understanding the historical context of Uzbek semantic fields. Mamatov's research on Uzbek lexicon development underscores the influence of Soviet-era language policies, which reshaped several semantic fields, particularly in education, politics, and industry. Karimov extends this analysis by focusing on the post-Soviet period, during which Uzbek has seen a revival of native terminology, coupled with a cautious reintroduction of traditional cultural lexicons.

This literature review reflects the broad scholarly consensus that semantic field evolution is a complex, multifaceted process shaped by internal linguistic mechanisms and external socio-political influences. By examining both English and Uzbek in a comparative framework, this study seeks to contribute to the existing body of research by identifying shared patterns and unique divergences in the development of their semantic fields, thereby offering new insights into the dynamic relationship between language, culture, and history.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study employs a mixed-methods approach to investigate the evolution of semantic fields in historical linguistics, with a particular focus on the comparative analysis of English and Uzbek. The methodology is structured into three key phases: data collection, diachronic analysis, and comparative analysis. These steps allow for a comprehensive understanding of how semantic fields have evolved within both languages over time, while identifying broader linguistic patterns and divergences.

The first phase of the research involves collecting linguistic data from a wide range of historical and contemporary sources. For English, the Oxford English Dictionary (OED) and Historical Thesaurus of English are utilized to trace semantic shifts across different time periods. For Uzbek, dictionaries of Old Turkic, including works by Kashgari (Compendium of the Turkic Dialects) and modern Uzbek lexicographical sources, provide the necessary data. These include etymological dictionaries and corpora of historical Uzbek texts, covering various periods of semantic evolution.

Additionally, digital corpora, such as the British National Corpus (BNC) and Uzbek National Corpus, are employed to access contemporary examples of semantic usage in both languages. Texts from diverse genres—literature, media, religious discourse, and scientific writings—are included to ensure a broad representation of semantic fields. The second phase involves conducting a diachronic analysis of the selected semantic fields in both languages. A set of core semantic fields, such as those related to technology, governance, trade, and culture, is identified based on their relevance to historical changes in both English and Uzbek societies. By applying diachronic linguistic methods, such as semantic field theory, the study tracks changes in the meaning, use, and structure of these fields over specific historical periods.

For English, this period spans from Old English (5th–12th century) through Middle English (12th–15th century) to Modern English (16th century–present). In Uzbek, the analysis covers the evolution from Old Turkic (5th–10th century) through Chagatai Turkic (14th–16th century) to Modern Uzbek (19th century–present). Historical events, such as the Norman Conquest in English history and the Islamic conquest in Central Asia, are used as reference points to correlate shifts in semantic fields. In the third phase, a comparative analysis is conducted to highlight both similarities and differences in the evolution of semantic fields between English and Uzbek. This analysis draws on comparative historical linguistics and cognitive linguistic theories to explain why certain semantic fields evolve similarly in unrelated languages, while others diverge.

The analysis involves categorizing semantic changes into broad patterns, such as broadening, narrowing, metaphorization, and pejoration of meanings. For instance, the semantic field of “technology” in English has expanded significantly due to industrial and digital revolutions, while in Uzbek, similar developments have occurred, albeit influenced by Soviet-era language

policies. A key part of this methodology is identifying how contact with other languages-Latin and French in the case of English, and Persian, Arabic, and Russian in the case of Uzbek-has affected the semantic evolution of each language. Johanson's code-copying model is applied to examine how loanwords from these languages are integrated into the semantic structures of English and Uzbek. To ensure the reliability of the findings, the study employs triangulation by cross-referencing the results of semantic shifts with historical and cultural developments in both regions. Peer-reviewed studies, including works by Ullmann and Karimov, serve as secondary validation for the linguistic data. Additionally, qualitative validation is conducted through expert interviews with historical linguists and philologists specializing in English and Uzbek.

While this study aims for a comprehensive comparative analysis, it acknowledges certain limitations. The availability of historical corpora for Uzbek is relatively limited compared to English, which may affect the depth of analysis for certain time periods. Additionally, the sociolinguistic contexts of both languages, particularly in their postcolonial periods, pose challenges in drawing direct parallels between them. This mixed-methods approach, combining diachronic and comparative linguistic analyses, provides a robust framework for exploring the evolution of semantic fields in English and Uzbek. Through this methodology, the study aims to contribute new insights into the broader field of historical linguistics, demonstrating the complex interplay between language, history, and culture.

ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

This study examines the evolution of semantic fields in English and Uzbek, highlighting shifts across key areas over time. The analysis is split into two parts: (1) a diachronic examination of selected fields and (2) a comparative analysis of similarities and differences between the languages. In English, major historical events like the Norman Conquest and the Industrial Revolution drove changes in governance, technology, and trade. Governance expanded with French and Latin terms post-Conquest, while technological advancements introduced new terms like engine and computer. Global trade influenced terms like cargo and market, with both semantic broadening and metaphorization evident. In Uzbek, cultural, religious, and political shifts shaped the language. Persian and Arabic influenced religious terminology during the medieval period, while Russian terms replaced native political and trade vocabulary during the Soviet era. Post-Soviet Uzbek saw a revival of traditional terms alongside English borrowings. Both languages share patterns of semantic broadening, especially in governance and technology, with English adopting French and Latin terms and Uzbek integrating Russian terminology. However, semantic narrowing in Uzbek's religious lexicon contrasts with stability in English. Extensive borrowing is observed in both, with English showing gradual integration and Uzbek undergoing more abrupt changes, especially during the Soviet period. Metaphorization occurs in both languages, with terms like market and bozor extending into non-commercial domains.

Overall, the findings highlight both shared and unique evolutionary patterns in response to socio-political and technological changes, offering insights into broader trends in historical linguistics. **Parallel Patterns of Evolution:** Both English and Uzbek exhibit common patterns of semantic broadening and metaphorization in response to socio-political and technological changes. However, the rate and scope of these changes differ, with English showing more gradual, cumulative shifts and Uzbek undergoing more abrupt changes, particularly during the Soviet era. **Distinctive Borrowing Patterns:** While both languages have undergone extensive borrowing, English has consistently absorbed terms from a variety of external languages, maintaining a more continuous evolution. In contrast, Uzbek experienced significant lexical replacement during the Soviet period, followed by a revival of native and traditional terms post-independence.

Cultural and Historical Influence: The results indicate that historical events, such as colonial expansion for English and Soviet rule for Uzbek, were pivotal in reshaping the semantic fields in each language. Religious terminology, political lexicon, and commercial vocabulary show distinct shifts in response to these influences. **Implications for Historical Linguistics:** This study demonstrates the importance of contextual factors, such as language contact and socio-political changes, in shaping the evolution of semantic fields. The comparative analysis of English and Uzbek highlights both universal linguistic trends and unique, language-specific adaptations, offering insights into broader patterns of semantic change in historical linguistics. The evolution of semantic fields in

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English and Uzbek reveals both shared and divergent trajectories influenced by cultural contact, political shifts, and technological advancements. These findings contribute to a deeper understanding of the dynamic interplay between language and history, providing a comparative framework that can be applied to other language pairs in future research.

CONCLUSION

This comparative study of the evolution of semantic fields in English and Uzbek highlights how socio-political, cultural, and technological forces shape language development. Both languages demonstrate patterns of semantic broadening and metaphorization, particularly in areas such as governance and technology. English, with its gradual integration of foreign terms over centuries, contrasts with Uzbek's more abrupt changes, notably during the Soviet period, where native terminology was replaced by Russian influence. Key differences also emerge, such as the narrowing of religious lexicon in Uzbek during the Soviet era, which did not occur as sharply in English despite secularization trends. The shared linguistic phenomena, including extensive borrowing and metaphorical shifts, offer valuable insights into the universal processes of semantic change, while the distinct trajectories of each language emphasize the role of historical context. By examining these languages within a comparative framework, this research contributes to a broader understanding of how languages adapt over time. The study underscores the dynamic interplay between language, culture, and history, offering a foundation for future studies on semantic evolution in other language pairs.

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