

LINGUISTIC DESCRIPTION AND CLASSIFICATION OF DIALECTAL UNITS

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Abstract: This article examines the linguistic characteristics of dialectal units in the Uzbek language, focusing on their phonetic, morphological, and lexical features, as well as their scientific classification. Although dialectal elements deviate from the literary norm, they serve as essential sources that reflect linguistic development, national culture, and regional language identity. The study presents a systematic classification of dialectisms supported by linguistic research and practical examples.

Keywords: dialectism, dialect, linguistic description, classification, phonetics, morphology, Uzbek language.

SHEVAGA XOS BIRLIKLARNING LINGVISTIK TAVSIFI VA TASNIFI

Annotatsiya: Mazkur maqolada o'zbek tilining dialektal qatlamiga mansub birliklarning lingvistik tavsifi, ularning fonetik, morfologik, leksik xususiyatlari hamda ilmiy tasnifi tahlil qilinadi. Shevaga xos birliklar adabiy til me'yoridan chetlashgan bo'lsa-da, ular til taraqqiyoti, xalq madaniyati va hududiy til xususiyatlarini yoritishda muhim manba hisoblanadi. Maqolada o'zbek tilshunosligida mavjud tasniflar, dialektolog olimlarning qarashlari va amaliy misollar asosida sheva birliklarining o'rni yoritiladi.

Kalit so'zlar: dialektizm, sheva, lingvistik tavsif, tasnif, fonetika, morfologiya, o'zbek tili.

ЛИНГВИСТИЧЕСКОЕ ОПИСАНИЕ И КЛАССИФИКАЦИЯ ДИАЛЕКТНЫХ ЕДИНИЦ

Аннотация: В статье анализируются лингвистические особенности диалектных единиц узбекского языка, их фонетические, морфологические и лексические свойства, а также научная классификация. Несмотря на отклонение от литературной нормы, диалектизмы являются важным источником для изучения истории языка, культуры народа и региональных языковых особенностей.

Ключевые слова: диалектизм, диалект, лингвистическое описание, классификация, фонетика, морфология.

INTRODUCTION

In the natural process of language development, regional differences as well as lexical, phonetic, and grammatical peculiarities emerge. An important layer of these features is formed by dialect-specific units, known as dialectisms. Dialects represent the living form of language within the linguistic system and are closely connected with the people's way of life, culture, and historical development¹.

The study of dialectal units in the Uzbek language began to take shape as a scientific field in the early 20th century. However, in today's context of globalization, the preservation of dialectal

¹ Qayumov, M. *O'zbek tili lahjalari va shevalari*. — Toshkent: O'zbekiston, 1996.

layers and their reassessment from the perspectives of artistic literature, linguoculturology, and sociolinguistics has become an urgent issue².

The aim of this research is to scientifically analyze the linguistic nature of dialect-specific units and to clearly identify their classification, structural characteristics, and communicative functions.

The novelty of the research lies in the fact that dialectal units are examined not only from the traditional phonetic–lexical standpoint but also through linguopoetic, pragmatic, and sociolinguistic approaches³.

LITERATURE REVIEW AND METHODOLOGY

The scientific analysis, classification, and linguistic description of dialectal units have occupied an important place in the research of scholars such as I. I. Zarubin, E. D. Polivanov, K. K. Yudakhin, A. Ishayev, S. Otamirzayeva, and O. Madrahimov⁴. In Uzbek dialectology, dialect-specific units are traditionally studied in three main aspects:

- according to their phonetic features;
- according to their morphological features;
- according to their lexical (vocabulary) features⁵.

In recent years, issues related to dialectisms have also been examined within the frameworks of linguoculturology and aesthetic linguistics (A. Sobirov, N. Mahmudov, A. Rasulov). These approaches have revealed the cultural code, identity markers, and artistic–aesthetic dimensions of dialectisms⁶.

The research relied on the following scientific methods:

- the descriptive-linguistic method — structural analysis of dialectal units;
 - the comparative method — identifying similarities and differences among dialects of various regions;
- sociolinguistic analysis — determining the motivational factors behind the use of units in speech;
- the linguopoetic approach — defining the aesthetic functions of dialectisms in literary texts;
- contextual analysis — demonstrating the semantic functions of units based on real communicative situations⁷.

The combination of these methods ensured that the research findings were scientifically grounded and systematically structured.

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

Dialect-specific units, which constitute one of the essential layers of the development of the Uzbek language, represent a linguistic phenomenon closely linked to the natural speech of the people, the historical roots of the language, ethnographic traditions, and regional cultural worldview⁸. Although such units appear to deviate from the norms of the literary language, in reality they enrich the internal structure of the language and expand its lexical, phonetic, and grammatical possibilities across various layers. Elements found in dialects originate from the

² Ishayev, A. *O‘zbek tili dialektologiyasi*. — Toshkent: TDPU, 2007.

³ Madrahimov, O. *Zamonaviy o‘zbek adabiy tili va shevalar*. — Termiz: TDPI, 2018.

⁴ Zarubin, I. I. *Uzbek Dialect Studies*. Moskva, 1930

⁵ Ishayev, A. *O‘zbek tili dialektologiyasi*. Toshkent: TDPU, 2007.

⁶ Mahmudov, N., Rasulov, A. Lingvokulturologik yondashuvlar bo‘yicha maqolalar, “Filologiya masalalari”, 2012.

⁷ Madrahimov, O. *Zamonaviy o‘zbek adabiy tili va shevalar*. Termiz: TDPI, 2018.

⁸ Qayumov, M. *O‘zbek tili lahjalari va shevalari*. Toshkent: O‘zbekiston, 1996.

everyday life of the people and often form an ancient, unofficial stratum of the literary language. Therefore, the linguistic description and classification of dialectal units, as well as their comparison with the literary language, are necessary directions for both theoretical and practical linguistics⁹.

The linguistic nature of dialect-specific units manifests primarily through phonetic features. In Uzbek dialects, phonetic alternations are among the most active processes and appear in the interchange, shortening, or lengthening of vowel and consonant sounds. For instance, the alternation $o > a$ occurs in some southern dialects: bola—bala, qayta—qayta(qayto); the alternation $e \rightarrow i$ appears in forms such as kel—kil, sen—sin; and consonantal alternations such as $g \sim y$ (bog—boy, yog—yoy) and $q \sim k$ (qiz—kiz, qalpoq—kalpak) are widely attested¹⁰.

Morphological features also have their own system: for example, the suffix -lik appears in the dialectal variants -luk, -loq, -laq (qishloq—qishlaq—qishlaqo); archaic possessive affixes appear in forms such as kitobum, uyumuz; and archaic verb paradigms are reflected in forms like keladur, boratti, kettiyapman¹¹.

Lexical dialectisms form the richest layer, reflecting the ethnocultural life and historical lifestyle of each region. In Surxondaryo, for instance, the words puchuq, ulim, berman-kel are commonly used; in the Fergana Valley, qoqi, mazgi, cho'pchak; and in Khorezm, yovg'on, zinga, maysa constitute essential parts of the local vocabulary¹².

The classification of dialect-specific units typically includes:

- lexical dialectisms;
- phonetic dialectisms;
- grammatical dialectisms;
- semantic dialectisms;
- archaic dialectisms¹³.

These classifications show that dialects are an important layer in forming the historical, ethnolinguistic, cultural, and social structure of the Uzbek language. Furthermore, the scientific study of dialectisms is invaluable for reconstructing language history, understanding literary language norms, and identifying the natural form of the people's linguistic worldview.

CONCLUSION

Dialect-specific units occupy a special place in the national richness of the Uzbek language. They embody the historical experience of the people, their cultural and everyday life, regional speech characteristics, and ethnic worldview¹⁴. The phonetic, morphological, and semantic features of these units serve as important sources for illuminating the formation of the language and its historical layers.

Modern linguistic research shows that the study of dialectal elements plays a significant role in identifying the internal laws of phonetic development, morphological formation, and lexical expansion¹⁵. A systematic analysis of dialects helps scientifically explain the developmental stages of the literary language. In artistic literature, dialectisms individualize the speech of

⁹ Yudaxin, K. K. *O'zbek shevalarining grammatikasi*. Toshkent, 1955.

¹⁰ Polivanov, E. D. *Phonetic features of Turkic dialects*. Moskva, 1956.

¹¹ Ishayev, A. *O'zbek tili dialektologiyasi*. Toshkent: TDPU, 2007.

¹² Otamirzayeva, S. "Shevalarda ishlatiladigan leksik birliklar", *Filologiya masalalari*, 2015.

¹³ Yo'ldoshev, K. *O'zbek tilining shevalari*. Toshkent: Fan, 1980.

¹⁴ Qayumov, M. *O'zbek tili lahjalari va shevalari*. Toshkent: O'zbekiston, 1996.

¹⁵ Ishayev, A. *O'zbek tili dialektologiyasi*. Toshkent: TDPU, 2007.

characters, create national color, and infuse the text with naturalness and realism¹⁶. Therefore, dialect-specific units are valuable not only as linguistic phenomena but also as social markers of cultural identity.

Overall, the in-depth study of dialectal units represents an essential task for dialectology, ethnolinguistics, and textual studies, providing an important scientific foundation for determining the future directions of the development of national language culture¹⁷.

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¹⁶ Madrahimov, O. *Zamonaviy o‘zbek adabiy tili va shevalar*. Termiz: TDPI, 2018.

¹⁷ Yo‘ldoshev, K. *O‘zbek tilining shevalari*. Toshkent: Fan, 1980.