

**A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PROVERBS AND SAYINGS GLORIFYING
LABOR IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK****Mamatqulova Zilola Muxiddinjon kizi**
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Abstract: This article presents a comparative analysis of proverbs and sayings glorifying labor in the English and Uzbek languages. The study is based on paremiological and linguocultural approaches and reveals the expression of the concept of labor in proverbs, as well as their semantic and pragmatic features. Proverbs selected from English and Uzbek are classified into semantic groups, and equivalent and non-equivalent units are identified. The results demonstrate that the concept of labor is interpreted as an important moral and social value in the cultures of both peoples. The figurativeness and content of the proverbs are substantiated as being closely connected with national mentality and historical experience.

Key words: concept of labor, proverbs and sayings, paremiology, linguoculturology, comparative analysis, semantic groups, equivalence, national culture, English and Uzbek languages, pragmatic function

INTRODUCTION

Proverbs and sayings are among the most ancient and significant genres of folk oral creativity, reflecting the life experience, worldview, and socio-moral values formed by a people over centuries. In particular, proverbs glorifying labor demonstrate attitudes toward work, honesty, perseverance, patience, and dedication as expressed through language.

In the context of globalization, comparative study of cultural values of different peoples—specifically, the analysis of how the concept of labor is reflected in English and Uzbek proverbs—is of great importance in revealing the harmony between language and culture. Although English and Uzbek belong to different typological language families, both rely on universal human ideas in glorifying labor.

Recent studies in paremiology and linguoculturology (Permyakov, Mieder, Maslova, Rahmatullayev, etc.) indicate the necessity of analyzing proverbs not only as linguistic units but also as cultural-cognitive units.

The relevance of this research arises from the need to conduct a systematic comparative analysis of proverbs glorifying labor in English and Uzbek from semantic, pragmatic, and linguocultural perspectives.

The aim of the study is to identify common and national features of proverbs and sayings glorifying labor in English and Uzbek and to analyze their linguocultural and semantic similarities and differences.

Objectives of the study:

to identify ways of expressing the concept of labor in proverbs;

to classify English and Uzbek labor-related proverbs into semantic groups;

to determine their equivalent and non-equivalent types;

to identify national and cultural differences.

METHODS

The following methods were used in the research:

1. Comparative-typological method

Labor-related proverbs in English and Uzbek were compared in terms of structure, semantics, and function.

2. Semantic analysis

The semantic structure, core meaning, and implicit connotative meanings of proverbs were revealed.

3. Linguocultural analysis

The connection between attitudes toward labor and national mentality was explained through cultural concepts.

4. Pragmatic analysis

The communicative functions of proverbs in speech—such as advice, motivation, and evaluation—were analyzed.

5. Descriptive method

The obtained results were systematized and presented through classification and tabulation.

Research material:

60 English proverbs related to labor,

70 Uzbek proverbs related to labor
(selected from proverb collections, explanatory dictionaries, and electronic sources).

RESULTS

1. Semantic groups of proverbs based on the concept of labor

As a result of the analysis, proverbs glorifying labor were classified into the following main semantic groups:

Table 1. Semantic classification of labor-related proverbs

Group	English	Uzbek
Labor and success	No pain, no gain	There is no pleasure in easy work
Labor and patience	All things come to him who waits	Patience leads to golden reward
Labor and honesty	Honesty is the best policy	Work honestly, eat honestly
Labor and time	Time is money	Time is more precious than gold
Labor and skill	A skill is a lifelong asset	If you have a skill in your hand, bread will be found on your way

These groups show that labor holds high social and moral value in the worldview of both peoples.

2. Full and partial equivalent proverbs

The analysis identified many cases of semantic equivalence:

No pain, no gain — If you do not suffer, where will you find delight; if you do not climb the mountain, where will you find the hawthorn.

Practice makes perfect — Repetition is the mother of learning.

Hard work pays off — The end of labor is comfort.

Although the meanings are almost identical, the imagery and expression differ according to national characteristics.

3. Culturally specific non-equivalent proverbs

In Uzbek, imagery related to agriculture and craftsmanship is frequent:

If you care for the land, the land will feed you.

Sustenance comes through labor.

In English, pragmatic and rational orientations prevail:

Industry is the mother of success.

Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.

This difference is directly connected with national economic systems and social development.

4. Pragmatic-functional results

In both English and Uzbek, labor-related proverbs perform the following pragmatic functions:

motivational,

warning,

educational,

socially evaluative.

DISCUSSION

The results indicate that although labor-related proverbs in English and Uzbek are based on universal human ideas, their imagery, underlying life experience, and cultural context differ.

In English paremiology, priority is given to:

personal initiative,

determination,

time management,

individual success.

In Uzbek paremiology, the central concepts are

collective labor,

honesty,

patience,

sustenance and blessing.

If these linguocultural differences are not taken into account in translation, the pragmatic effect of a proverb may be lost. Therefore, translating paremiological units should be based not on literal translation but on cultural equivalence.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the study, the following conclusions were drawn:

Proverbs glorifying labor in English and Uzbek share a common semantic core, expressing the concepts of labor, honesty, patience, and success.

Many proverbs demonstrate semantic equivalence, while their imagery reflects national characteristics.

Uzbek proverbs emphasize agriculture, collective labor, and sustenance, whereas English proverbs highlight individual action and the importance of time.

A linguocultural approach should be applied as the main method in translating labor-related proverbs.

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