

THE CONCEPT OF CULTURE IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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Annotation. The concept of culture is complex and varied. When we define culture in English and Uzbek, each language reflects its own historical, social, and cultural traits. This thesis provides an academic look at how culture is understood in both languages. The Concept of Culture: Definitions and Differences in English and Uzbek

Key words: concept, culture, Uzbek culture, heritage, cultural norms, cultural views

Аннотация. Понятие культуры является сложным и многогранным. Когда мы определяем культуру на английском и узбекском языках, каждый язык отражает свои исторические, социальные и культурные особенности. В данной статье представлен академический взгляд на то, как понимается культура в обоих языках. Понятие культуры: определения и различия в английском и узбекском языках

Ключевые слова: понятие, культура, узбекская культура, наследие, культурные нормы, культурные взгляды

1. Introduction. Culture includes all the values, customs, traditions, language, art, architecture, science, and other social activities which have developed throughout the years in the history of humanity. It captures the essence of the worldview, legacy, and life of a nation. Evaluating the concept of culture is important to grasp the collective psyche of every nation along with its interactions with other countries.

The meaning of culture in English and Uzbek has its unique features. This thesis will look at the definitions and differences of culture in both languages.

2. The concept of culture in English

The English word ‘culture’ comes from the Latin ‘cultūra,’ which means to nurture or cultivate. It mainly refers to the values and systems that appear in all social structures. The English term ‘culture’ has several meanings:

Artistic and intellectual expression: In English, culture often connects to areas like art, music, literature, and film. For example, phrases like ‘the culture of the Renaissance’ or ‘modern cultural trends’ illustrate this connection.

Lifestyle: Culture describes people’s day-to-day activities and their place in society. For instance, ‘the culture of a nation’ represents a nation’s culture, while ‘youth culture’ focuses on young people’s culture.

Social norms and values: Culture includes social systems, customs, and moral standards. In English, expressions like ‘cultural norms’ and ‘cultural diversity’ are commonly used.

There are also other related concepts in English. Terms such as ‘high culture’ and ‘low culture’ generally highlight differences in cultural expression across different social groups.

3. The concept of culture in the Uzbek language

In Uzbek, the term ‘culture’ (madaniyat) mainly refers to customs, traditions, moral values, art, and the results of people’s labor. Uzbek culture is founded on national values and historical traditions, containing many unique aspects. The concept of culture in Uzbek is commonly expressed in these forms:

National customs and traditions: Uzbek culture is often rooted in family and social traditions. The phrase ‘Uzbek national culture’ refers to the traditional lifestyle of the people, highlighting values like hospitality, respect, childrearing, and mutual support.

Aesthetic and artistic expression: In Uzbek, culture is also linked to art and literature. Phrases like ‘Uzbek literary culture’ or ‘Uzbek musical culture’ represent people’s aesthetic vision and artistic values.

Social and moral values: Uzbek culture includes traditional elements and embodies social norms and moral values. The term ‘civilized person’ usually describes someone who is respectful, polite, and morally upright toward others.

4. Comparison of the concept of culture in English and Uzbek

Similarities:

- In both languages, culture includes values, customs, art, and social norms.

- Both cultures shape society's development and how its members interact.

Differences:

- In English, culture is more linked to modern life and global connections. It highlights the interplay between values and cultural expressions on an international level.

- In Uzbek, culture is rooted in national, historical, and traditional values. Its uniqueness is closely tied to the social system and religious values of Central Asia.

5. Conclusion

Culture represents the relationships and values among various social structures in humanity. Although the definitions of culture in English and Uzbek have similarities, each nation's cultural traits connect closely to its historical, social, and religious backgrounds. While culture in English is explored in a global and modern context, in Uzbek, it is more aligned with traditional, national, and social values.

While both English and Uzbek cultures value family, community involvement, and respect for tradition, they differ mainly in their focus on individualism in English culture and collectivism in Uzbek culture. They also differ in how religion is part of daily life and their views on national identity and global influence. English culture emphasizes individualism and a more secular perspective. In contrast, Uzbek culture is more traditional, influenced by Islam, and centered around family. Despite these differences, both cultures add to the rich diversity of the world.

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