



THE LINGUISTIC FEATURES OF ZOONYMIC COMPONENTS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

Saidova Khumora Golibovna

The master student of Asia International University,

School No. 11 in Bukhara city

e-mail: xumorasaidova6@gmail.com

Abstract: This thesis investigates the origin of animal names in English and Uzbek and their role in linguistics. The works of several English and Uzbek scholars who have studied zoonyms. Additionally, detailed information on the linguistic classifications of zoonyms and their role in expressing human character and social traits is provided. Throughout the study, phraseological units and metaphorical meanings were analyzed. As a result, both the similarities and differences in semantic features between the two languages were identified.

Key words: zoonym, zoonymic components, phraseological unit, linguistics, English language.

Introduction. Language is an essential tool that reflects human thought, experience, and culture. Each language expresses the worldview and values of its speakers through its lexical richness. Within the lexical system of a language, animal names, or zoonyms, occupy a special place. Zoonyms are used not only to name animals but also to convey numerous figurative and metaphorical meanings.

Main body. Zoonymic components play a significant role in the lexical and phraseological systems of both English and Uzbek. Animal names are often used metaphorically to describe human character, behavior, and social traits. This phenomenon enhances the imagery of language and reflects the worldview and cultural perspectives of the people. Therefore, zoonyms are studied in linguistics from semantic, phraseological, and linguistic-cultural perspectives.

In English, zoonymic components frequently appear in phraseological units. For example, the expression *as brave as a lion* is used to describe a very courageous person. Similarly, in Uzbek, the phrase *sher yurak* conveys the same meaning. This example demonstrates that in both languages, the image of the lion or sher is considered a symbol of courage and strength.

Animal names are also widely used to express traits such as cunning or slyness. In English, *as sly as a fox* describes a cunning person, while in Uzbek, *tulkidek ayyor* serves the same purpose. This example shows that in both languages, the fox is associated with craftiness and cleverness.



Some zoonymic expressions describe negative human traits. For instance, the English phrase *as stubborn as a mule* depicts a very stubborn person, while in Uzbek, *eshakday qaysar* conveys a similar meaning. Here, the behavior of the animal is compared to human character.

Zoonyms also play an important role in representing positive human traits. In English, *as busy as a bee* refers to a very hardworking person, and in Uzbek, *asalari kabi mehnatkash* or *asalari kabi tinmay ishlaydigan* expressions are used. These examples illustrate that the hardworking nature of bees is perceived similarly in both languages.

The concept of loyalty is often expressed through zoonymic components as well. In English, *as faithful as a dog* describes a loyal person, while in Uzbek, *itdek sodiq* is widely used. This demonstrates that the image of the dog is considered a symbol of loyalty in many cultures.

Moreover, in English, the phrase *a wolf in sheep's clothing* refers to a person who appears good outwardly but is malicious in reality. In Uzbek, this is expressed as *qo'y terisiga kirgan bo'ri*, showing that some zoonymic units have nearly identical semantic structures in both languages.

At the same time, the usage of some zoonyms may depend on national and cultural characteristics. Certain expressions are widely used in one language but are represented by different images in another. Therefore, comparative studies of zoonymic components are important for understanding the connection between language and culture.

Overall, zoonymic components in English and Uzbek are important tools for describing human character, enhancing figurative language, and reflecting cultural perspectives. Analyzing their semantic and phraseological features makes it possible to identify similarities and differences between the two languages.

Conclusion. Zoonymic components occupy an important place in the lexical and phraseological systems of both English and Uzbek. Animal names are often used metaphorically to describe human character, behavior, and social traits. In this regard, zoonyms play a crucial role in enhancing the imagery of language and expressing cultural perspectives.

The study results show that many zoonymic units in English and Uzbek have similar semantic meanings. For example, *lion* — *sher*, *fox* — *tulki*, *bee* — *asalari* are used metaphorically in a similar way in both languages. However, some zoonymic units may be interpreted differently due to national and cultural characteristics.

Thus, comparative research on zoonymic components not only reveals the phraseological richness of both languages but also helps understand the relationship between language and culture. Future studies should further



explore the linguistic-cultural and pragmatic aspects of zoonyms, which can have significant scholarly importance.

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