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ETHNOGRAPHIC LINGUOCULTUREMES AND THEIR REPRESENTATION METHODS IN TOHIR MALIK'S LITERARY TEXTS

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Abstract

The present study investigates the representation of ethnographic linguoculturemes in the literary works of Tohir Malik, one of the most prominent figures of modern Uzbek literature. Ethnographic linguoculturemes are regarded as linguistic units reflecting national traditions, customs, beliefs, household realities, social relations, and cultural values of a particular ethnic community. The study aims to identify the main ethnographic linguoculturemes employed in Tohir Malik's novels and stories and to analyze the linguistic and stylistic methods through which these units are represented in literary discourse. The research applies descriptive, semantic, contextual, and linguocultural analysis methods. The findings reveal that ethnographic linguoculturemes in Malik's works function as important markers of national identity and cultural memory. They contribute significantly to the creation of national color, characterization, and the transmission of cultural knowledge. The study also demonstrates that the writer effectively employs lexical, phraseological, symbolic, and contextual means to preserve and convey ethnographic information. The results emphasize the importance of literary texts as valuable sources for linguocultural and ethnolinguistic research.

Keywords

ethnographic linguocultureme, linguoculturology, national culture, cultural code, ethnolinguistics, literary discourse, Uzbek culture, Tohir Malik, semantics, cultural identity

Introduction

The relationship between language and culture has become one of the central issues of contemporary linguistic research. Within the anthropocentric paradigm of linguistics, language is viewed not only as a communication tool but also as a repository of cultural knowledge and collective memory. This perspective has contributed to the development of linguoculturology, a field that investigates the interaction between language, culture, and human cognition.

One of the key concepts of linguoculturology is the linguocultureme. Linguoculturemes are linguistic units that embody cultural meanings, national values, traditions, beliefs, and social experiences of a particular community. They serve as cultural markers through which the worldview of a nation is encoded and transmitted.

Ethnographic linguoculturemes constitute a special category of linguoculturemes associated with everyday life, customs, rituals, traditional occupations, household objects, clothing, food, kinship relations, and other aspects of ethnic culture. These units provide valuable insights into the cultural identity of a nation and play an essential role in literary discourse.

The literary works of Tohir Malik occupy a significant place in Uzbek literature due to their deep representation of national life, cultural values, and social realities. His novels such as "Shaytanat," "Alvido Bolalik," "Falak," and "So‘nggi O‘q" vividly portray Uzbek traditions, family

relations, neighborhood culture, religious values, and everyday practices. Consequently, his works contain a rich layer of ethnographic linguoculturemes deserving systematic linguistic analysis.

Despite numerous studies devoted to Tohir Malik's literary achievements, limited attention has been paid to the linguocultural aspects of his texts, particularly to the representation of ethnographic linguoculturemes. Therefore, the present study seeks to fill this gap by examining the linguistic mechanisms through which ethnographic cultural meanings are conveyed.

The objectives of the research are:

to define the theoretical foundations of ethnographic linguoculturemes;
to identify ethnographic linguoculturemes in Tohir Malik's literary texts;
to classify these units according to thematic categories;
to analyze their semantic and stylistic functions;
to determine their role in expressing national cultural identity.

The object of the research consists of selected literary works by Tohir Malik, while the subject of the study is the ethnographic linguoculturemes functioning within these texts.

2. Materials and methods

The study is based on selected novels and stories written by Tohir Malik, including "Shaytanat," "Alvido Bolalik," "Falak," "Murdalar Gapirmaydilar," and "So'nggi O'q." These works were chosen because they contain extensive representations of Uzbek national life and cultural traditions.

Several complementary research methods were employed.

Descriptive Method

The descriptive method was used to identify and categorize ethnographic linguoculturemes appearing in the literary texts. This method enabled the systematic classification of linguistic units according to their cultural functions.

Semantic Analysis

Semantic analysis was applied to reveal the meanings and conceptual structures of ethnographic linguoculturemes. Particular attention was paid to the relationship between lexical meaning and cultural significance.

Contextual Analysis

Contextual analysis was utilized to examine how ethnographic linguoculturemes function within specific narrative situations. This approach helped determine their pragmatic and stylistic roles.

Linguocultural Analysis

The linguocultural method served as the principal analytical framework. Through this approach, linguistic units were interpreted as carriers of cultural information reflecting national mentality, customs, and collective experience.

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