

THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF SYNONYMY AND SYNONYMIC SERIES IN UZBEK AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES

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Annotation. This article examines the historical development of synonymy and synonymic series in Uzbek and English languages through a comparative linguistic perspective. The study analyzes the origins, formation, and stylistic functions of synonymic series in both languages. Particular attention is given to the historical sources of synonyms, including native lexical elements and borrowings from other languages. The research reveals that synonymic systems in Uzbek and English have developed through similar linguistic processes, especially the interaction of native vocabulary with borrowed words.

Keywords: synonymy, synonymic series, lexical semantics, comparative linguistics, Uzbek language, English language, lexical development, semantic relations, vocabulary enrichment.

Аннотация. В данной статье рассматривается историческое развитие синонимии и синонимических рядов в узбекском и английском языках с точки зрения сравнительной лингвистики. В исследовании анализируются происхождение, формирование и стилистические функции синонимических рядов в обоих языках. Особое внимание уделяется историческим источникам синонимов, включая исконную лексику и заимствования из других языков. Результаты исследования показывают, что синонимические системы узбекского и английского языков развивались через сходные лингвистические процессы, особенно во взаимодействии исконной лексики и заимствованных слов.

Ключевые слова: синонимия, синонимический ряд, лексическая семантика, сравнительное языкознание, узбекский язык, английский язык, лексическое развитие, семантические отношения, обогащение словарного состава.

Annotatsiya. Ushbu maqolada o'zbek va ingliz tillarida sinonimiya hamda sinonimik qatorlarning tarixiy rivojlanishi qiyosiy lingvistik nuqtai nazardan o'rganiladi. Tadqiqotda har ikki tilda sinonimik qatorlarning kelib chiqishi, shakllanishi va uslubiy funksiyalari tahlil qilinadi. Sinonimlarning tarixiy manbalariga, jumladan, o'zlashgan so'zlar va milliy leksik birliklarga alohida e'tibor qaratiladi. Tadqiqot natijalari shuni ko'rsatadiki, o'zbek va ingliz tillaridagi sinonimik tizimlar o'xshash lingvistik jarayonlar orqali, ayniqsa, milliy lug'at tarkibi va o'zlashgan so'zlarning o'zaro ta'siri natijasida rivojlangan.

Kalit so'zlar: sinonimiya, sinonimik qator, leksik semantika, qiyosiy tilshunoslik, o'zbek tili, ingliz tili, leksik rivojlanish, semantik munosabatlar, lug'at boyishi.

Introduction. Synonymy is one of the important semantic phenomena studied in linguistics and lexicology. It refers to the relationship between words that have similar or nearly identical meanings but differ in their form, stylistic usage, or contextual nuance. Synonyms enrich the vocabulary of a language and allow speakers to express ideas with greater precision, variety, and stylistic flexibility. In linguistic theory, synonymy is often studied not only as individual word pairs but also as

synonymic series, which are groups of words sharing a common semantic core while differing in shades of meaning, stylistic value, or emotional coloring.

The existence of synonymic series plays a significant role in the development and enrichment of vocabulary. Through synonymic variation, speakers and writers are able to choose words according to context, communicative purpose, and stylistic needs. Synonymic series also contribute to the expressiveness and aesthetic richness of language, particularly in literary and publicistic texts. In both spoken and written communication, synonyms help avoid repetition, clarify meaning, and convey subtle semantic distinctions.

Historically, the formation of synonyms in world languages has been influenced by several linguistic and socio-cultural factors. One of the main sources of synonymy is the coexistence of native lexical elements and borrowed words. For example, many European languages developed rich synonymic systems through borrowings from Latin, Greek, and French. Similarly, many Eastern languages expanded their vocabulary through borrowings from neighboring languages and cultural traditions. Over time, these borrowed and native words often formed synonymic pairs or series, each acquiring specific stylistic or semantic functions.

The study of synonymy in Uzbek and English languages is particularly relevant because both languages possess complex and historically layered lexical systems. In English, synonymy developed through the interaction of native Germanic vocabulary with numerous borrowings from French and Latin after the Norman Conquest. In Uzbek, synonymic richness emerged from the interaction of the Turkic lexical base with extensive borrowings from Arabic and Persian during different historical periods. As a result, both languages demonstrate interesting parallels in the historical formation of synonymic series.

Methods. This study employs several linguistic research methods in order to analyze the historical development of synonymy and synonymic series in Uzbek and English languages. Since the research focuses on both the semantic structure and historical sources of synonyms, a combination of comparative, historical, and semantic analytical methods is applied.

First, the comparative linguistic method is used as the main approach in the study. This method allows the researcher to identify similarities and differences between synonymic systems in Uzbek and English. Through comparison, the study examines how synonymic series are formed in each language, what sources contribute to their development, and how they function in communication. The comparative approach also helps to reveal common linguistic patterns as well as language-specific features of synonym formation.

Second, the research applies historical-semantic analysis to examine the origins and evolution of lexical units that form synonymic relationships. This method focuses on tracing the historical development of words, including their etymology, semantic change, and the influence of language contact. In English, particular attention is given to the interaction between native Germanic vocabulary and borrowings from Latin and French. In Uzbek, the analysis considers the role of the Turkic lexical base together with borrowings from Arabic and Persian, which have significantly contributed to the formation of synonymic series.

Another important method used in the research is componential and contextual analysis of synonymic meanings. Componential analysis helps to identify the semantic components that distinguish one synonym from another within a synonymic series. Although synonyms share a common core meaning, they often differ in emotional coloring, stylistic value, or degree of intensity. Contextual analysis, on the other hand, examines how synonyms function in real communicative situations and how their meanings may vary depending on context. This method is particularly useful in identifying stylistic differences between synonyms used in literary, formal, and colloquial speech.

The sources of data for the research include literary texts, explanatory and bilingual dictionaries, and scholarly linguistic studies related to lexicology and semantics. Literary works provide authentic examples of synonym usage in different contexts and stylistic environments. Dictionaries help to identify synonymic relationships and provide definitions, usage notes, and etymological information. In addition, academic publications and linguistic research offer theoretical perspectives and previous findings relevant to the study of synonymy.

Results. Historical Sources of Synonyms in the English Language. The development of synonymy in the English language is closely connected with its historical evolution and the interaction of different linguistic layers. English vocabulary has been formed through the coexistence of native lexical elements and numerous borrowings from other languages. As a result, many synonymic series in English consist of words that originate from different historical sources.

One of the main sources of synonyms in English is the native Germanic lexical layer. These words originate from Old English and represent the earliest stage of the language. They are usually short, simple in structure, and widely used in everyday communication. Examples include words such as *begin*, *ask*, *help*, and *rise*. Native words often serve as the core elements of synonymic series because of their frequency and neutrality in usage.

Another important source of synonym formation in English is borrowings from Latin and French. After the Norman Conquest in 1066, a large number of French words entered the English vocabulary, especially in the fields of government, law, culture, and literature. Latin borrowings also became common through religious, scientific, and academic traditions. These borrowed words often formed synonymic pairs or series with native English words. For example, the synonymic set *ask* – *question* – *interrogate* demonstrates the interaction of different lexical sources: *ask* is native, *question* comes from French, and *interrogate* originates from Latin.

The influence of cultural and historical processes has also played an important role in synonym formation in English. Social changes, political events, and cultural exchanges have introduced new lexical items that coexist with older native words. Over time, these words developed stylistic differences. Native words are often associated with informal or everyday speech, while French and Latin borrowings are frequently used in formal, academic, or literary contexts. This historical layering has created a rich and complex system of synonymic series in the English language.

Historical Sources of Synonyms in the Uzbek Language. The formation of synonymy in the Uzbek language has also been influenced by its historical development and cultural contacts with other civilizations. The Uzbek lexical system consists of both native Turkic words and numerous borrowings from other languages, particularly Arabic and Persian. These layers have contributed significantly to the development of synonymic series.

The native Turkic lexical layer represents the fundamental basis of Uzbek vocabulary. These words originated from ancient Turkic languages and are widely used in everyday speech. They usually express basic concepts related to daily life, nature, and human activity. Examples include words such as *yurak* (heart), *ko'z* (eye), *yaxshi* (good), and *katta* (big). Native words often function as the central elements of synonymic series in Uzbek because they are stylistically neutral and commonly used in spoken language.

Another important source of synonym formation in Uzbek is borrowings from Arabic and Persian. Throughout history, especially during the medieval period, the Uzbek language came into close contact with Islamic culture, science, and literature. As a result, many Arabic and Persian words entered the Uzbek vocabulary. These borrowed words often became synonyms of existing Turkic words. For example, the words *yuz* and *chehra* both refer to “face,” where *yuz* is Turkic and *chehra* is Persian in origin. Similarly, *yurak* (Turkic) and *qalb* (Arabic) can function as synonyms in certain contexts.

The role of historical and cultural contacts has therefore been crucial in the development of synonymy in Uzbek. Contacts with Persian-speaking regions, the influence of Islamic scholarship, and later cultural interactions enriched the vocabulary and created synonymic series with different stylistic and semantic nuances. In many cases, native Turkic words are used in everyday communication, while Arabic and Persian borrowings often appear in literary, poetic, or formal contexts.

Discussion. The results of the study demonstrate that the synonymic systems of Uzbek and English languages share several structural and functional similarities despite belonging to different language families. One of the main similarities lies in the historical formation of synonymic series through the interaction of native vocabulary and borrowed lexical elements. In both languages, native words usually serve as the basic and most frequently used elements of synonymic series, while borrowed words often carry more specific stylistic or semantic nuances. This layered lexical structure has played an important role in shaping the richness and diversity of synonymic systems in both Uzbek and English.

At the same time, the development of synonymy in both languages has been influenced by various linguistic and cultural factors. Historical events, cultural contacts, and the spread of education and literature have significantly contributed to vocabulary expansion. In the English language, the Norman Conquest and the strong influence of Latin and French in administration, law, and scholarship introduced numerous borrowed words that later formed synonymic relationships with native Germanic words. In the Uzbek language, the influence of Islamic culture and the long-standing interaction with Persian-speaking regions led to the adoption of many Arabic and Persian lexical items. These borrowings enriched the Uzbek vocabulary and created synonymic series that differ in stylistic tone and semantic nuance.

Another important aspect revealed in the study is the stylistic and semantic function of synonymic series in both languages. Synonyms allow speakers and writers to select words according to communicative intention, stylistic context, and emotional coloring. In many cases, different synonyms within a series may express varying degrees of intensity, formality, or expressiveness. For instance, some synonyms are used in everyday communication, while others appear primarily in literary, poetic, or formal contexts. Such distinctions demonstrate that synonymic series are not merely groups of interchangeable words but rather structured systems in which each element fulfills a specific communicative function.

Conclusion. The present study examined the historical development of synonymy and synonymic series in Uzbek and English languages through a

comparative linguistic approach. The research has shown that synonymy plays a crucial role in the enrichment of vocabulary and in the expressive potential of language. Both Uzbek and English possess complex synonymic systems that have been formed through long historical processes influenced by linguistic, cultural, and social factors.

The analysis demonstrated that in both languages synonymic series often arise from the interaction of native lexical layers and borrowed words. In English, the coexistence of Germanic, French, and Latin elements has created a rich system of synonyms that differ in stylistic and semantic nuance. Similarly, in the Uzbek language, synonymic series have developed through the interaction of the Turkic lexical base with borrowings from Arabic and Persian.

The comparative analysis revealed several similarities between the two languages. In both Uzbek and English, native words generally function as the stylistically neutral core of synonymic series, while borrowed words frequently appear in more formal, literary, or specialized contexts. However, differences are observed in the historical sources and cultural influences that contributed to synonym formation in each language.

Overall, the study confirms that synonymy is an essential component of lexical development and plays a significant role in effective communication and stylistic variation. The findings of this research may contribute to further studies in lexicology, comparative linguistics, translation studies, and language teaching.

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