

# RESEARCH ISSUE OF EUPHEMISMS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

*Sattorova Madina Abdurashid qizi*

*Termez State University 1<sup>st</sup> course master student*

**Annotation.** This article is devoted to the linguistic role of euphemistic units in linguistics. To achieve its goal, the study conducted a comparative analysis of the materials of different structural languages: English and Uzbek. Research has shown that euphemisms can reflect not only the internal features of a language, but also its external features (cultural differences, national culture).

**Keywords:** *euphemism, antiphrasis, periphrasis, linguoculture, taboo.*

The phenomenon of euphemism is a super-speaking layer, which is integral to the emergence of language and thinking, has evolved, has undergone evolutionary stages such as language itself, based on the need for human interaction, the demand for speech, and now has its own object of study. We understand euphemism as the process of creating a euphemism, the process of replacing a word or phrase with a euphemism, and the phenomenon of applying euphemisms to language. At this point, we want to dwell on the concept of euphemism.

In Uzbek, **EUPHEMISM** (Greek *ειρπεγша — юмшоқ ифодалаш*<sup>1</sup>/*euphemismos* < *eu* – *яхши*+*rphemi* – *гапираман*<sup>2</sup>) — words that appear as synonyms for words and phrases that seem awkward, inappropriate, or rude to the speaker. Euphemism is the avoidance of calling a negative reality, mitigating the negative effects of such a reality, minimizing, concealing, concealing the negative effects of situations that offend, annoy, disrespect, violate moral norms, or cannot be told directly; it is used to convey an unpleasant message in a softer, softer form. For example, instead of saying *ўлди* used *оламдан ўтди, кўз юмди, вафот этди*;

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<sup>1</sup>Ўзбекистан миллий энциклопедияси, Э харфи. Ўзбекистан миллий энциклопедияси: Давлат илмий нашриёти, 2000. – Б.10.

<sup>2</sup>Ҳожиев А. Тилшунослик терминларининг изоҳли луғати. – Тошкент: Ўзбекистан миллий энциклопедияси, 2002. – Б. 131.

instead of saying *туғди* use expressions such as *кўзи ёриди, енгиллашди*. In English, instead of saying *to kill or disable a target* used the euphemism *neutralize* or instead of saying *bombing* is observed the expressions such as *limited air strike, air support, protective reaction*.

The use of euphemisms in language has been shaped as a historical ethnographic phenomenon associated with the taboo phenomenon. Euphemism is associated with the development of traditions, cultural levels, aesthetic tastes, and ethnic norms in nations. With the development of language, its euphemistic layer also develops. New forms of euphemism emerge on the basis of new morals, new worldviews. There is also euphemism in language, which arises from the demand for a particular speech situation, the meaning of which is often clarified through the text. For example, «*Раънони эгасига топширмагунимизча, — деди Нигор ойим, — қуйилмайдиганга ўхшайди*» (А. Қодирӣ) a euphemism in the form эгасига топширмақ was used instead of the phrase эрга бермақ in terms of speech etiquette. Euphemism is widely used in scientific and formal methods.

O. S. Akhmanova's "Dictionary of Linguistic Terms" defines euphemism as follows:

**ЭВФЕМИЗМ** (антифразис) англ. euphemism, фр. euphémisme, нем. Euphemismus, verhüllendes Wort, Hüllwort, Deckname, исп. eufemismo. Троп, состоящий в непрямом, прикрытом, вежливом, смягчающем обозначении какого-л. предмета или явления; противоп. дисфемизм; Ср. табу (в 1 знач.). а Русск. *Он в почтенном возрасте ем Он стар; Он пороха не выдумает ем. Он неумен*<sup>3</sup>.

The following definitions of euphemism are given in English dictionaries:

**EUPHEMISM** – the use of a polite, indirect expression instead of a direct, offensive one: the converse is dysphemism. E.g. the neutral *die*, the euphemism *pass away* and the dysphemism *snuff* it. (Greek *eu* 'well', *dus* 'un-, mis-, as in *mischance, phemi* 'I speak')<sup>4</sup>. Euphuism, affectation in speaking. (Gk.) So named

<sup>3</sup>Ахманова О.С. Словарь лингвистических терминов. – Москва: Сов.Энциклопедия, 1966. – С. 513.

<sup>4</sup>Brown K, Miller J. The Cambridge Dictionary of Linguistics. – Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013. – P.158.

from a book *Euphues*, by J. Lyly (1579). – Gk. “*εὐφρησ*”, well-grown, excellent. – Gk. *εὖ*, well ; “*φρη*” growth, from “*φρημαι*”, I grow<sup>5</sup>.

Hence, from the above definitions, it can be understood that euphemism is the use of another softer word or phrase instead of a rude, rude word, phrase that is forbidden or inconvenient to use for some reason.

Euphemism as a unit of language and speech differs at the level of dictionary, syntax (euphemism, phrases, sentences, euphemism texts). Euphemisms are lexical units that denote uncultured words used instead of crude words in the narrow sense of the word.

Euphemisms (antiphrasis) are present in several language systems. In particular, euphemism in English, *euphémisme* in French, немис тилида Euphemismus in German and It is called *verhüllendes Wort*, *Hüllwort*, *Deckname*, *ушн*, *Eufemismo*. In English, euphemism is also considered a type of periphrasis (*passed away* – вафот этди, *give a birth* – кўзи ёриди, *harlatory* – оёғи суюқ), i.e., as units in which rude, obscene, as well as unpleasant expressions are replaced by a form that conveys a milder (or lighter) meaning. For example, *To join the majority, to go the way of all flesh, to pass away [to die]*.

The English tend to use less rude and harsh words by nature. Therefore, they make extensive use of euphemisms in their speeches. For example, — The use of euphemisms such as *untruth, storyteller, fabulous, reckless disregarder for truth, dissimulator, misleader, falser, fabricator* is common, instead of the word *liar*. Such cases are also observed in conversations related to the names of professions: The euphemism "shoe rebuild" instead of "shoe maker", and can be given as an example on the use of the euphemism "sanitation engineer" instead of the word "garbage man". However, such words are not used as a euphemistic unit (*liar, carpenter, beautification worker*) because they are not tabooed in Uzbek linguistics. It is also common in English *to pay a call, a call of nature, in the straw, in a (the) family way, in nature's garb, not a stitch on, in a state of nature, in one's skin* we can meet.

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<sup>5</sup>Walter W. Skeat. The Concise Etymological Dictionary of the English language. – Oxford: Clarendon press, 2013. – P. 172. <https://ia800909.us.archive.org/19/items/conciseetymologi00skea/conciseetymologi00skea.pdf>.

Problems related to the essence of euphemism have been studied by many scholars in world linguistics, including A.A. Reformatzky, N.S.Arapova, L.P.Krysin, V.P.Moskvin, A.M.Katsev, M.L.Kovshova, E .P.Senichkina, B.A.Larin, E.O.Miloenko, V.N.Yartseva, V.I. Karasik, V.N.Teliya, Yu.S.Baskova, N.M.Potapova, E.A.Zemskaya, D.N.Shmelev, E.I.Sheygal, E.N.Toroptseva, N.S.Valgina, A.S.Meyrieva, J.S.Neaman, C.G.Silver, A.Dąbrowska, H.M.Djabbarov, Sh.Ch.Sat, A.Akhmetov and others.

From a comparative point of view, the problems of euphemism are also studied by T.N. Abakova, E.S. Glios, A.P. Maryukhin, E.A. Mironova, L.V. Yu.Kharitonova, Yu.S.Arsenteva, T.S.Bushueva, L.V.Porohnitskaya, L.V.Artyushkinoy, N.M.Bedova, N.M.Potapova, E.E.Tyurina and other linguists studied.

In Uzbek linguistics, this topic has always been the subject of research. N.I.Gaybullaeva, Sh.K.Gulomova, Sh.Sh.Kalandarova, A.A.Tadjibayeva<sup>6</sup> and others in their scientific work have focused on the problems of studying euphemism.

In Uzbek linguistics, the term "euphemism" was reflected in 1963-1964 in N.Ismatullaev's research and dissertation "Euphemisms in the modern Uzbek language."<sup>7</sup> It was studied by A.J.Omonturdiyev<sup>8</sup>, in which special attention was paid to the basics of euphemistic Uzbek speech, speech culture, euphemisms that provide its own beauty and charm, and the results are comprehensively reflected in his monographic research on professional speech euphemisms.

Analyzing the use of euphemistic units in Uzbek speech, we see that in the Uzbek cultural life the institution of the family has a specific national character,

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<sup>6</sup>Гайбуллаева Н.И. Ўзбек тилида тиббий эвфемизмлар (тиббий даврий нашр материаллари асосида): Фалсафа доктори (PhD) – 52 б.; Гулямова Ш.К. Ўзбек тили эвфемизмларнинг гендер хусусиятлари: фалсафа доктори (PhD) диссер... автореф. – Бухоро, 2020. – 58 б.; Қаландаров Ш.Ш. Ўзбек лингвомаданий муҳитида халқ мақоллари эвфемизацияси: фалсафа доктори (PhD) диссер... автореф. – Фарғона, – 2019. – 41 б.; Таджибаева А.А. Социокультурные и когнитивные аспекты лингвистического исследования эвфемизмов в английском языке: автореф. дисс. ... канд. филол. наук. – Ташкент, 2006. – 25 с.

<sup>7</sup>Исматуллаев Н. Эвфемизмы в современном узбекском языке: автореф. дисс. ...канд. филол.; наук. – Ташкент, 1963. – 19 с.

<sup>8</sup>Омонтурдыев А., Омонтурдыев Ж. Сўз қўллаш санъати. – Термиз: Жайхун, 1994. – 60 б.; Омонтурдыев А. Ўзбек нутқининг эвфемик асослари. – Тошкент: Халқ мероси, 2000. – 128 б.; Омонтурдыев А. Профессional нутқ эвфемикаси. – Тошкент: Фан, 2006. – 232 б.

and in this Uzbek linguocultural landscape euphemistic units related to the family are relatively common. For example, in Uzbek linguistics, euphemistic terms used in place of the names of persons associated with the bride and groom's address, or in general, which are considered obscene, gradually become the nickname or nickname of the person, and the official name is forgotten<sup>9</sup>. In particular, in a number of mountain villages of Surkhandarya there are such names as Kenja, Mergan, Qorasoch, Oqqo'zi, Domullo, Polvon, Mulla, Bakshi, Rais, Oqsoqol, Dallol, Qassob, Eshon which are derived from taboos, and not everyone realizes today that these are actually euphemistic nicknames pronounced with "capital letters"<sup>10</sup>.

According to the Uzbek linguistic culture, the means by which couples communicate with each other during the marriage period are not unique or formed. In particular, instead of openly addressing someone, Uzbek young couples treat each other with the means of abstract meaning words through pronouns like *у, улар, бу, булар*. The bride has named her husband *ўглинғиз* (your son) when speaking about him to father-in-law or the mother-in-law; the bridegroom has also named his wife as *келининғиз* (your bride) to his parents; or the bride called her husband *куёвинғиз* (your groom) when speaking in front of her parents about her husband; the groom uses with euphemistic units, such as *қизинғиз* (your daughter) about his wife when talking to his wife's parents.

The English, on the other hand, address each other in such situations by stating their family status: *Grandmother, Grandma, Gran, Nanny, Grandfather, Grandpa, Mother, Father, Mum(my), Mom(my), Dad(dy), Aunt(ie) Kate, Uncle Ben*<sup>11</sup>.

Analyzing the materials of the languages being compared, we came across the use of the word "ҳожатхона/toilet" in both languages, replacing it with several euphemistic units: in English, *what-do-you-call-it, rest-room, WC, toile, lavatory, loo, Mrs. Jones's Place, Old Soldier's Home, Poet's Corner*, in Uzbek, *хולי жой*,

<sup>9</sup>Omonturdiyev A. O'zbek nutqining evfemik asoslari. – Toshkent, 1997.

<sup>10</sup>Omonturdiyev A. Professional nutq evfemikasi. - Toshkent, Fan, 2006.-232 b.

<sup>11</sup><https://www.ef.ru/englishfirst/englishstudy/articles.aspx>.

*даштга, эдик, бўш жой, битта жой, военкомат, оқ уй, кабинет* and so on. These, in turn, form verbs that are used in the following euphemistic sense: *бадрафга бормоқ, унитазли хонага бормоқ, кабинетга бормоқ; пиёда бориладиган жойга бормоқ, ёлғиз бориладиган жойга бормоқ, ташқарига чиқмоқ, шамоллаб келмоқ, заруратга бормоқ.*

In conclusion, it should be noted that for the national-cultural typology of English and Uzbek euphemisms it is important to study the comparative-functional interpretation of the interaction and interdependence of intercultural competencies of the two peoples. The use of euphemisms in order to soften rude words is also important for the transmission and development of politeness of peoples' cultural life from generation to generation. It should be noted that they improve people's lives, have a positive effect on communication, help to avoid conflict situations and also contribute to the formation of a culturally educated.

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7. <https://www.ef.ru/englishfirst/englishstudy/articles.aspx>.