

THE SEMANTIC FIELD OF THE CONCEPT OF TRAVEL: A COMPARISON OF GERMAN AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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Abstract

This article analyzes the semantic field of the concept “travel” based on materials from the German and Uzbek languages. Special attention is paid to the lexical-semantic means expressing this concept as well as their linguocultural features.

Keywords: Concept, semantic field, travel concept, linguoculturology, cognitive linguistics.

Introduction

In this article, we analyze the concept of a concept in modern linguistics as one of the central categories of cognitive linguistics, linguoculturology, and semantics. A concept is a generalized model of knowledge, experience, cultural values, and elements of worldview formed in human thought, which is manifested through language. Language is one of the most important means of expressing, transmitting, and preserving these concepts. Therefore, the study of concepts based on linguistic units is of great scientific importance in determining the relationship between language and thought.

In linguistics, the theory of semantic field is used as one of the important methodological foundations in the analysis of concepts. A semantic field is a systematic set of lexical units associated with a particular concept. These units are interconnected through semantic relations and form a single system of meaning. The semantic field consists of central and peripheral units, which represent the main and secondary semantic components of the concept. [Lakoff G., Johnson M., 1980].

The concept of "travel" is one of the concepts that has occupied an important place in the history of mankind. Travel is a type of activity associated with the process of exploring new territories, getting acquainted with the cultures of different peoples, and gaining experience. This concept has played an important role in the development of human civilization. According to historical sources, since ancient times, trade, pilgrimage, scientific research, and diplomatic relations have been carried out through travel.

In the language system, the concept of travel is expressed through various lexical units, phraseological units, and paremiological units. These units reflect various aspects of the travel process - elements such as the road, journey, movement, discovery of new places, recreation, and cultural exchange. Therefore, the semantic field of the concept of travel is very wide and has a complex structure.

Despite the fact that German and Uzbek belong to different language families, both languages have a wide range of lexical units related to travel. In German, there are several lexemes related to the concept of travel, for example, expressed through units such as: die Reise, die Fahrt, die Tour, der Ausflug, die Expedition, die Pilgerreise, while in Uzbek, similar lexemes are expressed through units such as safar, sayr, yo'l, ziyorat. The semantic properties and linguoculturological interpretation of these units are closely related to the cultural and historical development of both languages.

The main purpose of this article is to identify the semantic field of the concept of travel in German and Uzbek, analyze the lexical units included in this field, and comparatively study their linguocultural characteristics.

Main part

Considering the semantic structure of the concept of travel, in fact, according to the theory of semantic field, each concept is represented by a certain system of lexical units, and these units form a single meaning field through semantic relations. The concept of travel is also a complex semantic field represented by various lexical units in the language system. This field consists of central and peripheral components, which reflect different semantic aspects of the travel process.

The central units of the concept of travel in the Uzbek language are: travel, journey, journey, path, pilgrimage. Although these units are semantically close,

there are certain differences in their usage and shades of meaning. For example, travel refers to a movement over a longer distance, while journey refers to a short walk for the purpose of rest or recreation. Pilgrimage refers to a type of travel related to visiting religious or sacred places.

In German, the concept of travel is expressed through units such as die Reise, Fahrt, die Tour, der Ausflug, die Expedition. These units also reflect different semantic components of the travel process. For example, die Reise means a trip in a general sense, der Ausflug means a short-term walk or excursion. Die Expedition, on the other hand, refers to a long journey undertaken for scientific or research purposes.

In addition to the central units, the semantic field also includes peripheral units. These units represent concepts that are indirectly related to travel. For example, vehicles, road infrastructure, traveling individuals, and types of travel-related activities constitute peripheral components of the semantic field. In the Uzbek language, such units include units such as passenger, tourist, caravan, guest, and travel companion. In German, units such as der Reisender, der Tourist, der Wanderer, der Fahrer are peripheral components of the travel concept.

In the course of the article, we also analyzed the lexical-semantic groups of the travel concept, in particular, in the process of analyzing the semantic field of the travel concept, it was revealed that it contains several lexical-semantic groups. These groups represent various aspects of the travel process.

As units denoting movement, one of the main semantic components of the travel concept is the concept of movement. Movement is associated with the movement of a person from one place to another and constitutes the main semantic basis of travel.

In Uzbek, this group includes units such as to set off, to set off on a journey, to travel, to be on a journey, to be on a journey. In German, this semantic group includes verbs such as reisen, fahren, wandern, unterwegs sein.

Units denoting place and space, the concept of travel, are often associated with the concept of space. Space represents the area where a person's movement takes place.

In Uzbek, this group includes units such as road, destination, journey path, station, caravan route. In German, units such as der Weg, das Ziel, die Route, der Bahnhof, der Flughafen constitute this semantic group.

Units denoting a traveling person, the person performing the movement during the travel process, are also an important semantic component. This component represents the subject of the travel process.

Units such as tourist, traveler, stranger belong to this group in Uzbek. In German, units such as der Reisender, der Tourist, der Wanderer represent a traveling person.

Linguo-cultural characteristics of the concept of travel

The concept of travel can be interpreted differently in different cultures. Each nation expresses the concept of travel in its own way, depending on its historical experience, cultural values, and social lifestyle.

In German culture, travel is often associated with tourism, recreation, and gaining new experiences. The culture of travel in Germany is highly developed, and travel is often seen as a recreational activity. For this reason, there are many tourist terms related to travel in the German language.

In Uzbek culture, the concept of travel is more related to social and religious aspects. For example, the concept of pilgrimage is associated with traveling to holy places, which has an important religious and cultural significance in Uzbek culture.

In addition, historically, trade and diplomatic trips were also important for the peoples of Central Asia, located along the Great Silk Road.

The paremiologically expression of the concept of travel, the concept of travel, is also widely reflected in folk literature. In particular, in proverbs and wise sayings, the importance of travel in human life is expressed through many examples. There are the following proverbs related to travel in the Uzbek language:

Ko‘p yurgan ko‘p biladi. Yo‘l yurib bilim ortar.

These proverbs express the fact that a person can gain knowledge and experience through travel.

In German, the concept of travel is also expressed in paremiological units. For example: Reisen bildet. (Travel educates a person), Wer reist, sieht mehr. (Who travels, sees more).

These proverbs also emphasize the importance of travel in broadening one's worldview.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this study has comparatively analyzed the semantic field of the concept of “travel” in German and Uzbek. The results of the study show that the concept of travel has a complex semantic structure in both languages, which is expressed through various lexical units, phraseological units, and paremiological units. These units embody various aspects of the travel process - such semantic components as movement, space, the traveler, and the purpose of the trip.

According to the results of the analysis, the semantic field of the concept of travel in German and Uzbek has common typological features. In both languages, the concept of travel is based on the main semantic components related to movement and space. At the same time, it is observed that the linguocultural interpretation of the concept of travel differs to some extent depending on national culture and historical experience.

While in German the concept of travel is more associated with tourism, recreation and gaining new experiences, in Uzbek this concept is also closely related to social, cultural and religious aspects. In particular, in Uzbek culture the concept of pilgrimage is one of the important semantic components of the concept of travel. This indicates the inextricable link between the concept of travel and national culture.

It was also found that the concept of travel is widely reflected in folk oral literature. German and Uzbek proverbs emphasize the importance of travel in expanding a person’s worldview, gaining experience and enriching knowledge. This indicates the connection of the concept of travel with universal cultural values.

In general, a comparative study of the semantic field of the concept of travel allows for a deeper understanding of the relationship between language and culture. The analysis conducted on the basis of materials from the German and Uzbek languages helped to determine the place of the concept of travel in the language system and its linguacultural characteristics. In the future, a deeper study of this concept based on phraseological units, discourse analysis, and cognitive modeling may lead to important scientific results.

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