

THE EMBODIMENT OF ZONIMS AS AN IMAGE IN UZBEK FOLK PROVERBS

Yuldashev Shokhrukh Iqboljon ugli

Turan International University, Faculty of Humanities and Pedagogy,

M. Lin AU-23 group, master

Abstract: This article includes a comprehensive analysis of the use of zoonims (animal names) as images in Uzbek folk proverbs. Zoonims are regarded as an important tool that reflects the lifestyle, life experiences, and cultural values of the people. The research highlights the semantic and functional characteristics of zoonims, their role in imagery, and their influence on national consciousness.

Keywords: zoonim, image, folk proverbs, culture, Uzbek literature, national consciousness.

Introduction

Proverbs are a priceless spiritual treasure that reflects the social, cultural, and spiritual life of every nation. They are a bright reflection of the wisdom and centuries-old experience of the people. Uzbek folk proverbs play a significant role in symbolically expressing the rich life experiences and values of the nation. In the content of these proverbs, a harmony between nature and human life is apparent.

Animals, that is, zoonims, serve as means to express human actions and behaviours in folk proverbs. Through zoonims, life realities and complex social phenomena are expressed in a simple and understandable way. This article is aimed at a deep study of the semantic and imagery functions of zoonims in Uzbek folk proverbs.

Literature Review

Although Uzbek folk proverbs have been studied over different periods by scholars, the subject of the use of zoonims as images has not been fully covered. In the works of famous literary and linguistic scholars, the depiction of natural phenomena and the animal world in folk proverbs is generally addressed. For instance, Tohirov Sh. and Rashidov U. focused on the semantic characteristics of folk proverbs in their research. This article seeks to analyse the unique imagery and metaphorical functions of zoonims more deeply.

Methods

This article is based on the following methods:

1. Text Analysis: Proverbs containing zoonims were selected from collections of Uzbek folk proverbs.

2.Semantic Analysis: The meaning and contextual relevance of each zoonim were analysed.

3.Comparative Analysis: The imagery of zoonims in Uzbek proverbs was compared with those in proverbs from other cultures.

4.Systematization: The gathered data was categorised, and general conclusions were drawn based on these categories.

Results

1.The Imagery Function of Zoonims in Uzbek Folk Proverbs

Zoonims in Uzbek folk proverbs serve as symbolic tools that express human behaviour, lifestyle, and social environment. The main images are as follows:

oImages of Loyalty and Fidelity:

"The dog barks, the caravan passes" – ignoring the noise and disturbances in human life.

"Even if you decorate a donkey with gold, it will still remain a donkey" – regardless of external appearances, a person's true nature does not change.

oImages of Courage and Power:

"A wolf does not cease to be a wolf" – signifies the constancy of human nature and character.

"A sheep escapes from the wolf, but does not forget to defend itself" – the harmony of bravery and caution in life.

oSymbol of Simplicity and Usefulness:

"A chicken is valuable when it lays eggs" – a person's worth is related to the benefit they bring.

"A crow does not peck the eye of another crow" – the idea of mutual protection among individuals.

2.Expression of National Values Through Zoonims

Uzbek folk proverbs illuminate the nation's cultural identity, attitudes toward social life, and values through zoonims. Examples:

o"A crow does not peck the eye of another crow" – the principles of mutual solidarity and alliance among people.

o "There are many leopards, but few lions" – the rarity of genuine leadership and strength.

3. Results of Comparative Analysis

Zoonims in Uzbek folk proverbs are also found in proverbs from other cultures, but their metaphorical interpretations possess national characteristics. For instance:

o In the Uzbek saying "The dog barks, the caravan passes," it expresses patience and endurance, while in the English proverb "Let sleeping dogs lie," it means to avoid disturbing the peace.