

The Features of the Concept of Generosity in English and Uzbek Phraseological Units

Khujamurodova Fayoza Rustamjon kizi
Teacher of Shahrissabz State Pedagogical Institute

Abstract. *The concept of generosity, deeply rooted in human cultural and moral values, finds vivid expression in the phraseological units of various languages. This study examines the linguistic representation and cultural nuances of generosity in English and Uzbek, focusing on their similarities and differences. By analyzing examples from both languages, it explores how cultural contexts shape the interpretation and use of idiomatic expressions related to generosity. The findings aim to contribute to cross-cultural linguistics and provide insights into the interplay between language, culture, and human values.*

Key words: *generosity, phraseological units, English language, Uzbek language, cultural linguistics, idiomatic expressions, cross-cultural analysis.*

The concept has a rich history of development as the most important term in philosophy, psychology, mathematical logic and cultural studies. There was an urgent need to define the concept, then due to a huge number of monographs, scientific articles and publications in the late XX - early XI centuries. Note that the ambiguity of the term and the appearance of various interpretations are natural in the period of its formation and development, which gives rise to many approaches to understanding this term. At the moment, there is a tendency to consider the concept from the positions of different fields of science to avoid insufficiency of interpretation and superficial study of a scientific phenomenon [2, 150].

Currently, there is a growing interdisciplinary trend in conceptual analysis. This approach integrates perspectives from different scientific fields to overcome the limitations of isolated interpretations and to ensure a more comprehensive and profound understanding of the phenomenon. This multifaceted exploration of the concept underscores its importance and relevance in contemporary scholarly discourse, offering a deeper appreciation of its role in shaping human knowledge and cultural understanding.

Generosity in the English language is derived from the Latin word «*generosus*,» meaning «*of noble birth*» or «*magnanimous*.» This origin reflects the historical association of generosity with qualities of nobility, honor, and largesse. Over time, the concept of generosity has evolved to encompass a broader range of meanings, emphasizing acts of kindness, charity, and compassion towards others [1, 118].

Phraseological units, a rich and nuanced component of language, reflect the cultural, social, and moral values inherent in a community. Among the diverse human qualities conveyed through language, generosity emerges as a universal concept celebrated across cultures. However, the linguistic expression of generosity often varies, shaped by each society's unique worldview, traditions, and norms.

In English, generosity is frequently articulated through idiomatic expressions emphasizing kindness, magnanimity, and a readiness to give. Expressions such as «open-handed» or «to give the shirt off one's back» illustrate acts of giving while encapsulating cultural attitudes toward selflessness and altruism. Similarly, Uzbek phraseological units portray generosity as a valued trait, exemplified by expressions like «qo'li ochiq odam» (a person with an open hand), symbolizing hospitality and giving nature.

This study aims to analyze the concept of generosity as reflected in English and Uzbek phraseological units. Through comparative analysis, it seeks to uncover the cultural foundations influencing these expressions and provide insights into their semantic and pragmatic aspects. Additionally, the research examines how these idiomatic expressions are applied in various contexts, highlighting universal and culture-specific features of generosity.

Generosity in the English language is predominantly represented through idiomatic expressions that emphasize the individual's willingness to give selflessly. Idioms such as «to give the shirt off one's back» or «open-handed» metaphorically express acts of extreme kindness and benevolence. These idiomatic phrases often carry connotations of altruism, underscoring the moral high ground associated with generosity.

For example:

«He'd give you the shirt off his back if you needed it.» This expression illustrates ultimate selflessness, suggesting that the individual prioritizes others' needs over their own comfort.

«A heart of gold»: This idiom conveys inherent kindness and generosity as intrinsic character traits.

Such expressions reflect the cultural importance placed on individual agency and moral virtues in Western societies. Generosity is seen as a choice reflecting personal character, often detached from communal obligations.

In contrast, Uzbek phraseological units often highlight generosity as a communal or familial obligation, deeply rooted in traditional values and hospitality. Expressions like «qo'li ochiq odam» (a person with an open hand) and «dasturxonni keng yozmoq» (to spread the table wide) emphasize the cultural expectation of sharing resources and welcoming guests.

Examples include:

«Qo'li ochiq odam» – this phrase describes someone known for their willingness to give without hesitation, reflecting a societal ideal.

«Non sindirish» – literally meaning «breaking bread,» this expression signifies sharing food and resources, a symbolic act of unity and trust in Uzbek culture.

These idiomatic expressions underscore the collectivist nature of Uzbek society, where generosity is not merely a virtue but a social norm integral to maintaining harmony and relationships. Uzbek linguistic culture also pays attention to the fact that «generosity» should be shown to everyone without exception. This teaches us not to differentiate generosity by age or status, but to show nobility and frankness to everyone without exception.

«Generosity» is considered a social norm in many linguacultures. It can manifest itself in various forms - from material support to moral actions. According to proverbs, a generous person is considered not only one who generously shares his wealth, but also one who helps other people in difficult times, who does good deeds, and who can show understanding and tolerance to the world around him. Thus, the concept of «generosity» is an important moral value in linguacultures. It expresses the idea that «generosity» is not only financial assistance but also a manifestation of kindness, care and understanding to other people and the environment. It is important to remember that «generosity» is not only giving but also being able to accept, evaluate and appreciate the gifts that we receive. All this is emphasized by Russian and Uzbek proverbs, which are the legacy of the wisdom of the peoples of these cultures [5, 86]. «Generosity» is one of the noble character traits that elevates a person above others. This quality is manifested in the desire to share one's resources, time and knowledge with others without expecting anything in return [3, 12].

A comparative analysis reveals both universal and culture-specific elements in the linguistic representation of generosity. While both English and Uzbek idiomatic expressions celebrate generosity, they diverge in focus. English idioms often highlight the individual's moral choice, whereas Uzbek expressions emphasize societal expectations and collective well-being.

For instance, the English phrase «to have a heart of gold» centers on intrinsic goodness, while the Uzbek equivalent «*yuragi keng odam*» (a person with a wide heart) highlights emotional openness and an outward commitment to community.

English idioms like «to give freely» focus on the act of giving itself, whereas Uzbek expressions often tie the act of generosity to cultural rituals, such as hosting guests or sharing meals.

The pragmatic use of these idiomatic expressions varies depending on the cultural context. In English, phrases like «to lend a helping hand» are often used in everyday situations, signaling immediate and practical assistance. In Uzbek, expressions of generosity often carry deeper cultural and emotional resonance, reflecting societal values tied to respect, honor, and communal responsibility.

The linguistic representation of generosity in English and Uzbek phraseological units offers a fascinating insight into the interplay between language and culture. While both languages celebrate generosity as a universal virtue, the cultural nuances embedded in their idiomatic expressions reveal distinct societal priorities and worldviews. Understanding these differences not only enriches linguistic studies but also fosters greater cross-cultural appreciation and communication.

The concept of generosity, as reflected in the phraseological units of English and Uzbek languages, serves as a powerful lens to understand the cultural, moral, and social values of these linguistic communities. Through the analysis of idiomatic expressions, this study has highlighted both the universal and culture-specific aspects of generosity, revealing its multidimensional nature.

In English, generosity is often portrayed as an individual virtue, emphasizing personal kindness, altruism, and moral choice. Expressions such as "*to give the shirt off one's back*" and "*a heart of gold*" illustrate acts of selflessness and underscore the significance of individual agency in Western culture.

Conversely, Uzbek phraseological units reflect a collectivist perspective, where generosity is intertwined with communal responsibility, hospitality, and social harmony. Expressions like "*qo'li ochiq odam*" (a person with an open hand) and "*dasturxonni keng yozmoq*" (to spread the table wide) highlight the societal expectations of sharing and inclusivity, rooted in the traditions and values of Uzbek culture.

A comparative analysis underscores the interplay between language and culture in shaping the conceptualization of generosity. While both languages celebrate this virtue, their idiomatic expressions reveal differing emphases—individual moral choice in English versus communal obligation in Uzbek.

This study contributes to the broader field of cultural linguistics by providing insights into how human values are linguistically encoded and culturally transmitted. Understanding the linguistic representation of generosity fosters greater appreciation for the diversity of human expression and promotes cross-cultural communication and empathy. The findings underscore the importance of studying phraseological units as cultural artifacts that encapsulate the worldview and moral ideals of a society.

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