

## A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF VOCATIVE (NIDĀ) AND ADDRESS FORMS IN ARABIC AND UZBEK

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**Abstract.** *This article examines the lexical features of vocative units in Arabic and Uzbek languages based on a comparative-analytical approach. The semantic types of vocative units, their pragmatic functions in speech, their connection with socio-cultural factors, as well as their grammatical forms of expression are analyzed. The similarities and differences between vocative forms in Arabic—particularly those formed by the particle “yā”—and vocative (undalma) units in Uzbek are illustrated through examples.*

**Keywords:** *vocative units, address forms, vocative (nidā), lexical-semantic features, speech etiquette, pragmatics, Arabic language, Uzbek language.*

In the language system, vocative units are considered an important component of the communicative process. Units used in speech to call the interlocutor, attract attention, and express respect or familiarity are referred to as vocative units. In Uzbek linguistics, the concept of undalma has been widely studied and is interpreted as a syntactically independent unit that is intonationally distinguished. In Arabic, however, the phenomenon of address is expressed through the category of nidā.

Vocative units possess not only grammatical but also lexical-semantic and pragmatic features. They reflect interpersonal relationships, social distance, the degree of respect, and national mentality.

In Uzbek linguistics, the issue of undalma has been studied by a number of scholars. In particular, A. G‘ulomov interprets the vocative as a syntactic unit that is not a part of the sentence but is directly related to its meaning. Sh. Rahmatullayev, on the other hand, pays special attention to the lexical and emotional-expressive features of vocatives.

In Arabic linguistics, the category of nidā has been extensively studied within the framework of classical grammar (naḥw). Sibawayh, in his famous work Al-Kitāb, thoroughly analyzed the syntactic and morphological features of vocative particles. Among modern Arab linguists, Tammam Hassan evaluates vocative units from a communicative-pragmatic perspective.

In Arabic, the main vocative particle is “yā,” which precedes the noun: YāMuhammad!

Yā waladī!

In Uzbek, however, the vocative (undalma) is expressed without a special marker and is separated by intonation and punctuation (comma): Ali,come here! Father, they are calling you.

In both languages, vocative units can be lexically classified into the following groups:

1. **Anthroponymic vocatives** (personal names)

Type	Arabic	Uzbek	Explanation
Address by name	Yā Ahmad	Ahmad!	Simple calling
Name + nickname/title	Yā Abā Bakr	Bakr aka	Expresses respect or familiarity
Kinship term	Yā ummī	Ona!	Indicates emotional closeness

In Arabic, addressing someone through kunya (Abū, Umm) is widely распространён. This phenomenon expresses social respect and cultural norms. In Uzbek, additional elements such as aka (older brother), opa (older sister), ota (father), and xon are used to convey similar meanings.

2. **Vocatives Expressing Social Status**

Arabic	Uzbek	Meaning
Yā ustādh	Ustoz	Teacher
Yā sayyidī	Janob	Respectful form

In Arabic, forms such as sayyidī and mawlāy express a high degree of respect. In Uzbek, units like janob and hurmatli serve a similar function.

3. Arabic Uzbek

Yā ḥabībī!Jonim!

Yā qalbī! Azizim! / Bolajon!

These units express affection, love, and emotional closeness.

Lexical-Semantic Features

1. Semantic Extension

In Arabic, the word akhī (“brother”) denotes not only kinship but also friendship. Similarly, in Uzbek, the word aka is sometimes used as an expression of respect beyond its literal meaning.

2. Metaphorical Vocatives

Arabic Uzbek

Yā asad! (for a brave person) Sherim! Lochinim!

These units are used in a metaphorical sense.

3. Pragmatic Aspects

Vocative units depend on social distance and the speech situation:

Situation	Arabic	Uzbek
Formal	Yā sayyid	Hurmatli janob
Informal	Yā ṣadīqī	Do‘stim
Family	Yā ummī	Onajon

In Arabic, the presence of the vocative particle (nidā) serves as a grammatical marker, whereas in Uzbek, intonation is the primary means of expressing address.

### Conclusion

Vocative units in Arabic and Uzbek form a rich system in terms of lexical-semantic and pragmatic features. In both languages, they: indicate interpersonal relationships; express degrees of respect and familiarity; reflect national and cultural values.

While in Arabic the vocative particle (nidā) functions as an active grammatical marker, in Uzbek, vocatives are mainly expressed through intonation and lexical means. From a lexical perspective, kinship terms, professional titles, and metaphorical expressions occupy an important place in both languages.

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