



THE ROLE OF MYTHOLOGICAL CONCEPTS IN THE FORMATION OF
PHRASEOLOGICAL MEANING IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK.

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Abstract: *This research investigates the profound cognitive and semantic processes through which mythological concepts act as the primary architects of phraseological meaning in the English and Uzbek languages. By analyzing the "mythological aura" surrounding idiomatic expressions, the study demonstrates how ancient Greek and Roman narratives, Biblical parables, Turkic shamanistic beliefs, and Islamic hagiography provide the figurative "DNA" for modern communication. The study highlights that phraseological meaning is not merely a linguistic convention but a structured repository of a nation's archetypal memory, dictating the cultural logic behind concepts of heroism, morality, and human destiny.*

Keywords: *Mythological concepts, semantic formation, phraseological meaning, English linguaculturology, Uzbek idiomatic fund, cognitive archetypes, cultural identity, etymological layers.*

In the field of modern linguaculturology, the formation of phraseological meaning is understood as a process of "cultural compression." Myths, which are the earliest attempts of humanity to explain the mysteries of existence, do not disappear as societies modernize; instead, they migrate into the deep structures of language. In both English and Uzbek, mythological concepts provide the "semantic seeds" from which complex figurative meanings grow. These units function as intellectual and emotional shortcuts, allowing speakers to evoke a vast narrative and ethical framework with a single phrase. This lecture explores the specific ways in which the Greco-Roman and Biblical foundations of English, and the Turkic-Islamic foundations of Uzbek, have generated distinct systems of meaning that reflect the spiritual and social history of their respective peoples.

The formation of English phraseological meaning is inextricably linked to the "Classical Paradigm"—the enduring legacy of ancient Mediterranean mythology. This system provides a series of "moral blueprints" that English speakers use to evaluate human behavior. For instance, the phraseological meaning of "the Midas touch" transcends the simple idea of wealth; it carries the mythological irony of a blessing that becomes a curse, warning against the dehumanizing effects of greed. Similarly, the "sword of Damocles" creates a precise semantic field of "imminent danger in a position of power," a meaning that is rooted in a specific historical-mythical anecdote. These units demonstrate a Western preoccupation with the individual's struggle with power, ego, and the "hubris" that leads to tragedy. The Biblical layer further enriches this by introducing meanings of spiritual trial and moral dichotomy,





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such as "to separate the wheat from the chaff" or "the scapegoat," where the mythological act of sacrifice or judgment forms the core of the idiom's modern meaning.

In contrast, the formation of phraseological meaning in the Uzbek language is a sophisticated synthesis of "Central Asian Stochasticism" and "Islamic Mysticism." The Uzbek language does not rely on a pantheon of personified, warring deities but rather on a hierarchy of "Avliyo" (saints), "Pirlar" (spiritual guides), and "Doston" (epic) heroes. The concept of "Xizr" (Khidr) is perhaps the most influential mythological architect of meaning in Uzbek. Unlike the Western concept of "luck," which is often seen as random or mechanical, the meaning of phrases associated with Xizr involves a "spiritual encounter" and "divine timing." The semantic core of "Xizrni yo'qlash" implies that fortune is a reward for hospitality or hidden virtue. While English focuses on the physical, external labor of a hero like Sisyphus (the Sisyphean task), Uzbek phraseology emphasizes internal, spiritual endurance through the concept of "Sabri Ayyub" (the patience of Job/Ayyub). The meaning here is a form of sacred resilience that views suffering not as a tragedy to be escaped, but as a path to enlightenment.

Cultural specificity is most visible in how "supernatural archetypes" shape the meaning of beauty, power, and evil. In English, the "Siren" forms a meaning of destructive, seductive temptation, reflecting an ancient maritime fear of the unknown and the danger of sensory pleasure. In Uzbek, the "Semurg" (the bird of the soul) forms meanings related to the collective attainment of wisdom and the overcoming of the self. The English "Dragon" almost exclusively forms a meaning related to a hoarder of treasure or a beast to be slain for the sake of glory. Conversely, the "Ajdah" in Uzbek and Persian-influenced myths can represent a cosmic protector or a manifestation of the raw, untamed forces of nature that a hero must harmonize with or overcome through spiritual purity. These differences prove that the "semantic aura" of an idiom is dictated by the specific role the mythological figure played in the nation's historical imagination.

The concept of "Fate" (Taqdir) represents the ultimate divergence in mythological meaning formation. In English, mythological meaning often centers on the "Promethean" spirit—the attempt to steal fire from the gods or to "cheat" fate through technological or intellectual prowess. This creates a phraseological fund that values autonomy and defiance. In Uzbek, the meaning of fate is rooted in the "Lauh-u Mahfuz" (the Preserved Tablet). The phraseological meaning of "peshanaga yozilgan" (written on the forehead) suggests a mythological acceptance and a rhythmic harmony with the divine plan. This leads to a linguistic culture where idiomatic meanings are more contemplative, emphasizing "Shukr" (gratitude) and "Qanoat" (contentment) over the aggressive defiance found in many Western mythological structures.

In conclusion, mythological concepts are the silent architects of the phraseological meanings that we use every day. They ensure that language remains more than just a tool for the exchange of data; they make it a living museum of human belief. English phraseology remains a testament to the synthesis of Classical logic and Biblical ethics, focusing on the individual's journey through a world of tragic flaws and heroic possibilities. Uzbek





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phraseology remains a vibrant mosaic of Turkic courage, Sufi mysticism, and Eastern poetic wisdom, focusing on communal integrity and the omnipresence of the divine. Understanding these mythological roots is essential for mastering the deep, connotative layers of these languages, as it allows us to hear the ancient echoes that continue to resonate in modern speech.

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