SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN VALUES OF UZBEK AND ENGLISH CULTURES

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Abstract. *This article explores the similarities and differences between the values held in Uzbek and English cultures. By comparing key aspects such as family structures, communication styles, individualism versus collectivism, and attitudes towards tradition and change, the study aims to highlight the complex cultural interplay between these two societies. Understanding these distinctions contributes to greater intercultural awareness and fosters more effective communication in an increasingly globalized world.*

Keywords: *values, beliefs, non-verbal cues, traditions, intercultural competence, distinctions, cross-cultural dialogue, historical heritage.*

Annotatsiya. *Ushbu maqolada o'zbek va ingliz madaniyatlarida mavjud bo'lgan qadriyatlar o'rtasidagi o'xshashlik va farqlar o'rganilgan. Oila tuzilmalari, muloqot uslublari, individualizm va kollektivizm, an'ana va o'zgarishlarga munosabat kabi asosiy jihatlarni taqqoslab, tadqiqot ushbu ikki jamiyat o'rtasidagi murakkab madaniy o'zaro ta'sirni ta'kidlashga qaratilgan. Ushbu farqlarni tushunish madaniyatlararo xabardorlikni oshirishga yordam beradi va tobora globallashib borayotgan dunyoda yanada samarali muloqotni rivojlantiradi.*

Kalit so'zlar: *qadriyatlar, e'tiqodlar, og'zaki bo'lmagan belgilar, an'analar, madaniyatlararo kompetentsiya, farqlar, madaniyatlararo muloqot, tarixiy meros.*

Аннотация. *В этой статье исследуются сходства и различия между ценностями, существующими в узбекской и английской культурах. Сравнивая ключевые аспекты, такие как семейные структуры, стили общения, индивидуализм и коллективизм, традиции и отношение к изменениям, исследование стремится подчеркнуть сложное культурное взаимодействие между этими двумя обществами. Понимание этих различий может помочь повысить межкультурную осведомленность и способствовать более эффективному общению во все более глобализированном мире.*

Introduction

Culture embodies the shared beliefs, values, and practices of a group of people. Values serve as guiding principles in the lives of individuals and communities (Hofstede, 2001). When examining cultures as distinct as Uzbek and English, it becomes evident that while globalization has brought some convergence, deep-rooted historical, geographical, and social influences continue to differentiate them. This paper investigates both the converging and diverging cultural values of Uzbekistan and England.

Family and Community Values

Uzbek Culture: Family occupies a central position in Uzbek culture. The concept of *mahalla* (neighborhood community) demonstrates the traditional collectivist orientation where social life is deeply intertwined with familial and communal obligations (Kamp, 2006). Respect for elders, hospitality, and maintaining strong kinship ties are paramount.

English Culture: Conversely, English culture emphasizes a more nuclear family model, where independence is nurtured from a young age (Williams, 2009). While family remains important, personal autonomy often takes precedence over familial obligations.

Similarity:

Both cultures value familial support structures, though the degree and expression of that support differ. For instance, both cultures place significance on caring for elderly family members, although institutional care is more common in England (Foster, 2002).

Individualism and Collectivism

Uzbek Culture: Uzbek society leans heavily towards collectivism. Decisions are often made considering the family's or community's welfare rather than individual preferences. Public image, or *obro'*, is crucial, affecting personal choices (Saidov, 2010).

English Culture: England exemplifies individualism, promoting personal freedom, self-expression, and privacy (Hofstede, 2001). Success is often measured through personal achievements rather than collective recognition.

Difference:

This divergence creates contrasting approaches to career choices, marriage, and

education. In Uzbekistan, decisions in these areas frequently involve familial input, whereas in England, individuals often act independently.

Communication Styles

Uzbek Culture: Communication in Uzbek culture tends to be indirect and high-context, relying on non-verbal cues, shared knowledge, and politeness strategies to maintain social harmony (Rustamova, 2015).

English Culture: English communication, though polite, tends toward low-context and direct expression. Clarity and efficiency are prized in professional and social settings (Lewis, 2006).

Similarity:

Both cultures value politeness; however, the manifestation differs. Uzbeks use more implicit language, while English speakers employ structured politeness forms (e.g., "please," "sorry") even in casual exchanges.

Attitudes Toward Tradition and Change

Uzbek Culture: Uzbekistan maintains a strong attachment to traditions, often blending Islamic customs with ancient Turkic and Persian elements (Abdullaev, 2013). Changes are approached cautiously, and preserving cultural identity remains a priority.

English Culture: Although England has a rich historical heritage, it exhibits a more flexible attitude towards change, often embracing modernization and innovation while simultaneously honoring traditions like the monarchy (Kumar, 2003).

Difference:

The Uzbek preference for cultural continuity contrasts with the English tendency to adapt traditions to fit contemporary contexts, reflecting differing comfort levels with societal change.

Conclusion.

While Uzbekistan and England share certain universal values such as the importance of family and politeness in communication, they diverge significantly in their approach to individual autonomy, tradition, and community dynamics. Understanding these cultural nuances fosters deeper cross-cultural dialogue and cooperation, essential in an interconnected world.

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