



PHRASEMES IN UZBEK PROSE: THE CASE OF NAZAR ESHONQUL'S STORIES

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Annotation. *This article analyzes the semantic features of phraseological units used in the stories of the Uzbek writer Nazar Eshonqul. Phraseological units are considered an important tool for enriching the artistic style, reflecting the national culture and worldview, and revealing the inner world of characters. The article also explores the function of phraseological units as moral and educational advice, their role in maintaining language stability and text memorability. The study highlights the place of phraseological units in Nazar Eshonqul's works and their spiritual and aesthetic significance in Uzbek literature.*

Key words: *Nazar Eshonqul, phraseological units, story, semantic features, national culture, artistic style, Uzbek literature, moral advice, language stability, worldview.*

In literature, the concept of a phraseme (phraseological unit) refers to stable expressions where words are firmly interconnected, yet their overall meaning differs from the individual meanings of the component words. Phrasemes are the wealth of a nation's language, serving as a mirror of its national philosophy and life experience. In national literary works, particularly in the short stories of the Uzbek writer Nazar Eshonqul, phrasemes possess unique spiritual, aesthetic, and expressive characteristics, serving as an important tool to illuminate the spirit, characters, and core ideas of the work.

An expression of national culture and popular worldview. In the works of Nazar Eshonqul, phrasemes often appear as products of folklore, reflecting the distinct facets of national culture. For instance, idioms such as "qalbni so'latmoq" (to wither the heart), "qalbi ko'r bo'lmoq" (to have a blind heart), and "og'irini yelkasiga olmoq" (to take someone's burden upon one's shoulders) illuminate the people's life experiences and worldview while expressing the characters' inner emotional states. Through these phrasemes, the author brings the spiritual values, moral principles, and life tenets of the Uzbek people closer to the reader.

Enriching the artistic style of the story and deepening the meaning. As a concise and precise means of expression, phrasemes evoke a powerful visual imagination in the reader. In Nazar Eshonqul's short stories, the role of phrasemes in the artistic style is incomparable. They help illuminate the inner essence of events, heighten the mood, and render the chain of events more lively and natural. For instance, expressing a character's challenges or inner experiences through a phraseme brings them closer to the reader and evokes a deep sense of empathy for the events.



The role of phrasemes in character development. Through phrasemes, the inner world, psychological state, and character of the protagonists are depicted more precisely and impactfully. In Nazar Eshonqul's short stories, phrasemes are widely utilized in the characters' speech and in the expression of their thoughts and feelings. For instance, idioms like "*ko 'zidan yosh to 'kmoq*" (*to shed tears*), "*yuragi siqilmoq*" (*to feel tight-chested / to be heavy-hearted*), and "*og 'zini ocholmaslik*" (*to be unable to open one's mouth / to be tongue-tied*) convey the characters' emotions in a clear and simple manner. This, in turn, enhances the reader's ability to understand and connect with the characters.

Phrasemes as moral and educational council. In Nazar Eshonqul's short stories, phrasemes often serve to express life advice, moral values, and spiritual principles drawn from folk wisdom. For instance, idioms such as "*o 'ziga o 'zi do 'st bo 'lish*" (*to be a friend to oneself*), "*qo 'lga kiritilganni qadrlash*" (*to cherish what you have acquired*), and "*kamgina bo 'lsa ham, ozodlik yaxshi*" (*freedom is better, no matter how small*) convey crucial life lessons to the reader. Through these phrasemes, the author provides deep spiritual commentary within his work, aiming to nurture the inner world of the individual and cultivate them into a morally mature human being.

Linguistic stability and memorability. Phrasemes help preserve the characteristics of stability and tradition within a language. In Nazar Eshonqul's short stories, the frequent use of phrasemes enhances the memorability of the text. They shape the narrative style, deeply engaging the reader in the events and amplifying their impact. Therefore, as an inseparable part of the author's style, phrasemes play a crucial role in creating the psychological-historical tone of the story.

The wealth and uniqueness of the uzbek vernacular. In the short stories of Nazar Eshonqul, phrasemes emerge as one of the most distinctive expressive tools of the Uzbek language. Through phrasemes, not only the artistic but also the spiritual-aesthetic potential of the language is revealed. They enrich the language further, lending a sense of naturalness and folkloric warmth to the dialogue. Through these phrasemes, the writer seamlessly weaves the historical roots of the national language and the rich heritage of oral folklore into the fabric of the work.

Phrasemes utilized in Nazar Eshonqul's stories serve as an essential medium for expressing the national culture, moral-social values, and life experiences of the Uzbek people. They enrich the artistic style of the narrative, flesh out the characters, and evoke vital life lessons and insights in the reader. Furthermore, phrasemes ensure the linguistic stability of the text, enhancing its memorability. In this manner, phrasemes form the spiritual-aesthetic foundation of Nazar Eshonqul's short stories and further solidify the place of his works within Uzbek literature.



Conclusion. Phrasemes utilized in Nazar Eshonqul's short stories emerge as an exceptionally vital tool in illuminating the artistic and spiritual layers of the work. While demonstrating the writer's mastery in character creation, these phrasemes serve as an artistic reflection of national culture, folk wisdom, moral principles, and life experience through vernacular modes of expression. Phrasemes act as a core stylistic device in revealing the psychological states and characters of the protagonists, as well as in conveying the sequence of events in a natural and impactful manner. Furthermore, they ensure the memorability of the text, creating a distinct stability inherent to the work's language and style. Through the phrasemes examined in this article, Nazar Eshonqul manifests the national psyche, aesthetic views, and linguistic wealth of the Uzbek people based on a profound artistic analysis. Consequently, it is confirmed that phrasemes constitute an inseparable part of the writer's artistic style, possessing a high degree of literary and educational significance.

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