



THE ROLE OF FIXED EXPRESSIONS IN LANGUAGE AND LITERARY TEXTS

Rukhshona Qahramonova

Student at the International Innovation University

Scientific Supervisor: Nurali Murodillayev

Lecturer at the International Innovation University

Annotation. *This article analyzes the linguistic and stylistic features of stable word combinations in the Uzbek language, as well as their aesthetic functions in speech and literary texts. The structural stability, semantic integrity, cultural significance, and the role of fixed expressions in artistic imagery are scientifically examined. In addition, the article presents theoretical and practical perspectives on the use of phraseological units, proverbs, sayings, and aphorisms in Uzbek literature.*

Key words: *stable expressions, phraseologism, fixed phrase, linguistics, literary imagery, metaphor, national mentality, figurativeness, phraseological unit.*

Human speech is composed of complex, dynamic, and multi-layered linguistic units, and its semantic and stylistic wealth is largely sustained through ready-made lexical units—stable expressions. In any language, fixed idioms, phrasemes, proverbs, sayings, and aphorisms enhance the artistic-aesthetic impact of speech, creating imagery. In Uzbek linguistics, these expressions are designated by various terms: phraseological units, stable combinations, phrasemes, fixed idioms, and so on. They are the artistic expression of the people's historical memory, mentality, intellect, and aesthetic views.

In the process of speech, humans express their thoughts, emotions, and moods through words. Concurrently, they make extensive use of ready-made, pre-fashioned expressions rooted in the vernacular that carry symbolic meanings. Such expressions are referred to as stable (or fixed) combinations. They typically emerge through the stable, immutable interconnectedness of two or more words, introducing attributes like imagery, emotionality, and conciseness to speech.

The linguist Sh. Rahmatullayev defines phraseological units as "constructed segment units," specifically acknowledging their significant semantic and stylistic weight in language. In his view, such expressions reflect the living memory within a language—namely, symbolic and metaphorical thinking. For instance, the idiom "qulog'iga quy" (pour it into one's ear / take to heart) is a stable expression with its own expressive potential, signifying a critical warning given to a listener. It can adapt to tense, person, and mood forms, yet the structure of the idiom remains formally unalterable.

The significance of stable expressions in language and literature is multifaceted, as they perform various functions across different styles. Their primary functional characteristics include the following: Enhancing Artistic-Aesthetic Impact. Stable



expressions, particularly in fiction, serve as an important tool for character creation and more vivid situational description. They infuse the text with emotional force, figurative imagery, and expressiveness. For example, the idioms "ko'z ochib yumguncha" (in the blink of an eye) or "dili ezilib ketdi" (their heart was crushed) describe a deeper psychological state than ordinary words can convey.

Amplifying Imagery. Fixed idioms are widely used to construct artistic imagery. They carry a heavy semantic load in depicting a character's inner feelings, personality, and mental state. For instance, the idiom "yuragi og'ziga kelmoq" (one's heart jumping into one's mouth) denotes a deeper, more intense state than a simple feeling of fear.

Expressing National-Cultural Memory. Stable expressions are viewed as the product of each nation's unique intellect. Through them, the historical legacy, worldview, religious-philosophical concepts, customs, and values of a people are expressed. For example, the proverb "suv kelganda to'pig'ingni qo'y" (build your dam before the water reaches your ankles / take precautions early) reflects the caution-based wisdom of the Uzbek people.

Concise and Succinct Modes of Expression. In many cases, such idioms allow complex ideas to be expressed in a compact form. They articulate the semantically heavy parts of a text in a brief format, enabling the reader to comprehend them easily. This is especially evident in proverbs, sayings, and aphorisms.

In a literary text, stable expressions enliven a character's speech, elevate the artistic-aesthetic quality of the text, and allow the author to express ideas in an emotional and figurative manner. For instance, expressions like "ko'ngul oynasi" (the mirror of the heart) and "ishq gulshani" (the rose garden of love) frequently appear in the works of Alisher Navoiy, imparting a philosophical and symbolic meaning to the core idea of the work.

Paremiyas – that is, proverbs, sayings, and aphorisms – are the generalized manifestation of folk experience. They reflect societal memory, moral norms, and life perspectives in an artistic form. Proverbs like "oqibat yaxshilikni yetaklaydi" (goodwill leads to goodness) are concise, succinct, and wise means of expression based on life experience.

Structural stability is the most critical hallmark of stable expressions. This characteristic implies their grammatical immutability and the strict positioning of their component parts. Rearranging the words disrupts the meaning of the idiom. The linguist A.V. Kunin terms this phenomenon "idiomatic stabilization" (or fossilization) and defines the primary criteria of phraseological units as structural stability and semantic integrity.



Each word within these combinations loses its independent lexical meaning, and the entire idiom acquires a universal new meaning. This phenomenon is known as "phraseological unity." For example, the idiom "boshini qotirmoq" (to rack one's brain) is not merely the sum of the physical actions of a "head" and "hardening," but a new unit meaning "to sink into deep thought." Stable expressions are distinguished by their high recurrence within the language system and their conventional acceptance in the vernacular. This enhances their cultural and communicative significance. Each generation, consciously or unconsciously, repeats such idioms, thereby developing the language.

In conclusion, it should be emphasized that stable expressions are vital units representing lexical-semantic wealth and stylistic diversity in language. Within their structure, they embody the centuries-old intellect, culture, aesthetic worldview, life experience, and psychological experiences of the people. The use of such combinations in literature enables the author to create figurative, emotional, and impactful speech. Through the deep study and analysis of phraseological units, one can comprehend not only the language itself but also the historical-aesthetic thinking of the nation. Consequently, stable expressions remain one of the highly relevant areas of scientific inquiry in linguistics and literary studies.

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