

**METHODS OF TRANSLATING ENGLISH PROVERBS INTO UZBEK AND VICE
VERSA**

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Abstract: This study examines linguistic, cultural, and pragmatic challenges in translating English proverbs into Uzbek and vice versa. Using a qualitative comparative approach, 150 proverbs were analyzed to identify the most effective translation strategies. Findings indicate that functional and full equivalence are most effective, while literal translation often results in semantic or cultural loss. The study concludes that successful translation requires balancing meaning, cultural context, and pragmatic function.

Keywords: English proverbs; Uzbek proverbs; paremiology; translation methods; equivalence; literal translation; cultural adaptation; functional equivalence; descriptive translation; cross-cultural communication

Annotatsiya: Ushbu tadqiqot ingliz maqollarini o'zbek tiliga va aksincha tarjima qilishda yuzaga keladigan lingvistik, madaniy va pragmatik qiyinchiliklarni o'rganadi. Sifatli taqqoslash usulidan foydalanib, 150 ta maqol tahlil qilindi va eng samarali tarjima strategiyalari aniqlashga harakat qilindi. Tadqiqot natijalari shuni ko'rsatadiki, **funksional va to'liq ekvivalentlik** eng samarali usullar bo'lib, so'zma-so'z tarjima ko'pincha semantik yoki madaniy yo'qotishlarga olib keladi. Tadqiqot shuni xulosa qiladi-ki, muvaffaqiyatli tarjima uchun **ma'no, madaniy kontekst va pragmatik funktsiyani muvozanatlash** zarur.

Аннотация: В данном исследовании рассматриваются лингвистические, культурные и прагматические трудности при переводе английских пословиц на узбекский язык и наоборот. С использованием качественного сравнительного подхода было проанализировано 150 пословиц для определения наиболее эффективных стратегий перевода. Результаты показывают, что **функциональное и полное соответствие** являются наиболее эффективными методами, тогда как буквальный перевод часто приводит к потере семантики или культурного контекста. В исследовании делается вывод о том, что успешный перевод требует **баланса между значением, культурным контекстом и прагматической функцией**.

Introduction

Proverbs constitute a highly compact and culturally saturated genre of folklore, functioning as repositories of collective experience and crystallized wisdom within linguistic communities. Their semantic density, metaphorical complexity, and socio-pragmatic functions render them a significant object of study in linguistics, cultural anthropology, and translation theory. In both English and Uzbek linguistic traditions, proverbs occupy a central role in shaping communicative behavior, moral discourse, and national values, reflecting the historical, social, and cognitive worldview of each culture.¹

1. Mieder, Wolfgang. Proverbs: A Handbook. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2004.

Literature Review: The study of proverb translation lies at the intersection of paremiology, translation studies, and cross-cultural linguistics. Numerous scholars have emphasized the complexity of translating culturally embedded expressions, noting that proverbs are “miniature

texts” whose meanings extend beyond their lexical components (Mieder, 2004). According to Mieder, proverbs encode collective norms and culturally specific models of behavior, making them resistant to simplistic translation approaches.²

2. Newmark, Peter. *A Textbook of Translation*. New York: Prentice Hall, 1988.

Methods: This study employed a qualitative descriptive research design supported by comparative and linguistic analysis. A corpus of 150 proverbs (75 English and 75 Uzbek) was compiled from dictionaries, academic articles, and folklore collections.³

3. Nida, Eugene A. *Toward a Science of Translating*. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1964.

Results: Analysis of 150 proverbs revealed differences in structural, semantic, and cultural characteristics influencing translation strategies.

Discussion: The study confirms that translating proverbs between English and Uzbek requires flexible, context-driven strategies. Full equivalence is limited to universally shared experiences, whereas functional equivalence is dominant.⁴

4. Venuti, Lawrence. *The Translator’s Invisibility: A History of Translation*. London: Routledge, 1995.

Conclusion: This research demonstrates that translating proverbs between English and Uzbek is a complex task requiring linguistic, cultural, and pragmatic competence. Full equivalence is limited, functional equivalence is most widely applicable, literal translation works only for semantically transparent proverbs, and descriptive translation addresses culturally specific cases.

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