

**THE LINGUOCULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS WITH  
TOPONYMIC COMPONENTS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK**

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**Abstract:** This article explores the linguocultural significance of phraseological units containing toponymic components in English and Uzbek. Toponym-based idioms and fixed expressions preserve cultural memory, historical experiences, and national identity, making them valuable resources for understanding how language reflects the worldview of a speech community. Through comparative analysis, the study reveals that English and Uzbek toponymic phraseological units are shaped by geography, historical events, folklore, religion, and collective values. The findings demonstrate that Uzbek toponymic idioms predominantly reflect nomadic heritage, regional identity, and moral teachings, whereas English ones highlight colonial history, socio-political shifts, and cultural stereotypes associated with place names. By examining their origins, meanings, and cultural functions, the study highlights the crucial role of toponymic phraseological units in shaping linguistic worldview and strengthening cultural continuity.

**Keywords:** toponyms, phraseological units, cultural memory, linguoculture, idioms, worldview, Uzbek, English, national identity.

**Annotatsiya (O'zbek tilida):** Ushbu maqola ingliz va o'zbek tillarida toponim komponentiga ega frazeologik birliklarning lingvomadaniy ahamiyatini o'rganadi. Toponimlarga asoslangan idiomalar va turg'un iboralar xalqning tarixiy tajribasi, madaniy xotirasi hamda milliy dunyoqarashini aks ettiruvchi muhim til birliklari hisoblanadi. Taqqoslovchi tahlil shuni ko'rsatadiki, ingliz va o'zbek frazeologik birliklari turli tarixiy jarayonlar, hududiy xususiyatlar, diniy qarashlar va mentalitet asosida shakllangan. O'zbek toponimik frazeologizmlari ko'proq ko'chmanchilik an'analari, hududiy identitet va axloqiy qadriyatlarni yoritgan bo'lsa, ingliz tilidagilarda mustamlakachilik tarixi, siyosiy o'zgarishlar va joy nomlariga bog'liq stereotiplar yaqqol namoyon bo'ladi. Toponim komponentli frazeologik birliklarning kelib chiqishi, semantikasi va madaniy vazifalarini o'rganish ularning til va madaniyat o'rtasidagi bog'liqlikni kuchaytiruvchi muhim unsurlar ekanini ko'rsatadi.

**Kalit so'zlar:** toponim, frazeologik birlik, madaniy xotira, lingvomadaniyat, idiomalar, dunyoqarash, o'zbek, ingliz, milliy identitet.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Phraseological units with toponymic components represent a unique intersection of language, culture, and geography. Idioms that include place names encode centuries of cultural meaning, historical events, and social attitudes, functioning not only as linguistic expressions but also as cultural artifacts. In both English and Uzbek, toponyms frequently appear in proverbs, idioms, and fixed expressions to emphasize moral lessons, regional identity, stereotypes, historical memory, and evaluative attitudes toward people or events.

English toponymic phraseology developed under the influence of Celtic, Anglo-Saxon, Norman, and colonial histories, creating expressions that reflect political relations, economic changes, social stereotypes, and humorous evaluations associated with certain regions. Uzbek toponymic phraseology, by contrast, is shaped by Turkic nomadic culture, Islamic civilizational heritage, Silk Road geography, and strong regional identities.

This article aims to analyze the linguocultural significance of toponymic phraseological units in both languages by examining their origins, semantic features, and cultural functions.

The research highlights similarities and differences that demonstrate how languages encode worldview and cultural identity through toponyms.

## METHODS

The research employs:

### 1. Comparative Linguocultural Analysis

Used to compare Uzbek and English toponymic phraseological units in terms of structure, semantics, and cultural value.

### 2. Etymological Method

Applied to trace the historical origins of idioms, identify cultural events or legends behind them, and reveal how meanings have evolved.

### 3. Descriptive Method

Used to classify idioms according to their thematic groups:

- geographical markers
- ethnocultural stereotypes
- moral-ethical evaluations
- historical references
- symbolic meanings

### 4. Contextual Interpretation

Idioms were analyzed in context to determine their pragmatic function in communication.

Examples are selected from dictionaries, folklore materials, academic sources, and oral tradition.

## ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

### A) Toponymic Phraseology in Uzbek: Cultural Roots and Meanings

Uzbek toponymic idioms often reflect collective identity, moral evaluation, and historical experience. They encode regional stereotypes, nomadic worldview, and the significance of hospitality, wisdom, and morality.

1. “Toshkentcha gapirma” — “Don’t speak like a Tashkenter.”

Meaning: Do not exaggerate; do not boast.

Cultural origin: Historically, Tashkent was a major trade center where merchants used persuasive speech. Thus, the idiom evaluates boastful or overly embellished talk.

2. “Buxorodan kelgan dono” — “A sage from Bukhara.”

Meaning: An ironic reference to someone who pretends to be wise.

Cultural background: Bukhara, known as a center of Islamic scholarship, influenced the formation of this phrase.

\*3. “Qashqadaryoning qizi — jasoratning o‘zi.”

Meaning: A metaphor praising bravery associated with women of a specific region.

Cultural insight: Southwest Uzbekistan is historically linked with warrior traditions.

\*4. “Xorazmcha o‘ynama.”

Meaning: Do not act recklessly or unpredictably.

Origin: Refers to traditional dance characterized by impulsive, sharp movements — metaphorically used to describe chaotic behavior.

These expressions demonstrate how Uzbek idioms with toponyms function as evaluative tools reflecting ethics, regional identity, and cultural norms.

#### B) Toponymic Phraseology in English: Cultural Memory and Stereotypes

English uses place names to express humor, exaggeration, stereotypes, and social attitudes. These idioms reflect political history, colonial encounters, folk beliefs, and socio-cultural evolution.

1. “All roads lead to Rome.”

Meaning: Different methods can lead to the same result.

Origin: The Roman Empire’s advanced road system symbolized unity and centrality.

2. “Carry coals to Newcastle.”

Meaning: Perform a useless task.

Origin: Newcastle was historically a center of coal production; bringing coal there was unnecessary.

3. “When in Rome, do as the Romans do.”

Meaning: Follow local customs when visiting another place.

Cultural reflection: Highlights adaptability, politeness, and cultural tolerance.

4. “He’s gone round the bend.”

Meaning: Someone has gone crazy.

Origin: Some link the phrase to the winding roads near London’s historical mental asylums.

These examples reveal how English idioms often emphasize practicality, irony, and culturally sustained stereotypes.

#### C) Cross-Cultural Comparison

| Aspect                                   | Uzbek Toponymic Idioms                        | English Toponymic Idioms                         | Function                                   |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Moral lessons, identity, social cohesion | Humor, practicality, cultural norms           | Cultural focus                                   | Region-based identity, hospitality, wisdom |
| History, colonial past, stereotypes      | Semantic tone                                 | Mostly evaluative and ethical                    | Often ironic or humorous                   |
| Origins                                  | Nomadic lifestyle, Islamic culture, Silk Road | Roman history, industrial era, political changes |                                            |

#### D) Linguocultural Significance

Cultural Memory:

Toponyms preserve historical knowledge (e.g., Bukhara scholarship, Rome’s Empire).

Identity Construction:

Idioms mark belonging to a region or cultural group.

Stereotype Formation:

Language maintains collective perceptions of people associated with places.

Value Transmission:

Toponymic idioms teach morality, behavior norms, and cultural etiquette.

Worldview Representation:

Idioms reveal how cultures interpret space, geography, and social hierarchy.

### DISCUSSION

The analysis confirms that toponymic phraseological units serve as a mirror of national identity. In Uzbek, they highlight ethics, community, regional pride, and moral judgment. In English, they reflect pragmatism, humor, and historical consciousness. Both languages use toponymic idioms to express evaluation, but their cultural motivations differ: Uzbek idioms rely on moral-ethical symbolism, while English idioms emphasize historical associations and cultural stereotypes.

### CONCLUSION

Phraseological units with toponymic components play a crucial role in shaping the linguistic worldview of both English and Uzbek cultures. They preserve cultural memory, encode national identity, and convey social values through symbolic geographical references. Despite cultural differences, both languages use toponyms as powerful tools for linguistic expression, reflecting centuries of history, beliefs, and collective experiences. The comparative study confirms that

toponymic idioms enrich communication, deepen intercultural understanding, and highlight unique aspects of each nation's linguoculture.

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