

**A COMPARATIVE-TYOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF KINSHIP TERMS IN ENGLISH, RUSSIAN, AND UZBEK LANGUAGES (A CASE STUDY OF THE CONCEPTS "AMAKI" AND "TOG'A")**

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**Abstract:** *In this article, the system of kinship terms in English, Russian and Uzbek languages is studied from a comparative-typological point of view. The main goal of the research is to determine the lexical-semantic features of kinship relations in different languages and to reveal their connection with cultural codes. In the work, the issues of inter-linguistic lacunae and semantic differentiation are highlighted through a comparative analysis of the terms "amaki" and "tog'a" with the English "uncle" and the Russian "дядя". As a result, the fact that the kinship system in the Uzbek language has a hierarchical and paternalistic character, and the dominance of linear and functional models in the English and Russian languages has been scientifically substantiated.*

**Key words:** *Kinship terms, linguoculturalism, comparative analysis, semantic differentiation, lacuna, uncle, uncle, lexical-semantic field.*

**Аннотация:** *В данной статье система терминов родства в английском, русском и узбекском языках изучается со сравнительно-типологической точки зрения. Основная цель исследования это определить лексико-семантические особенности родственных отношений в разных языках и выявить их связь с культурными кодами. В работе вопросы межъязыковых лакун и семантической дифференциации освещаются посредством сравнительного анализа терминов «амаки» и «тога» с английским «uncle» и русским «дядя». В результате научно обосновано то, что система родства в узбекском языке имеет иерархический и патерналистский характер, а в английском и русском языках доминируют линейные и функциональные модели.*

**Ключевые слова:** *термины родства, лингвокультурализм, сопоставительный анализ, семантическая дифференциация, лакуна, amaki, tog'a, лексико-семантическое поле.*

**Annotatsiya:** *Ushbu maqolada ingliz, rus va o'zbek tillaridagi qarindoshlik terminlari tizimi qiyosiy-tipologik jihatdan tadqiq etiladi. Tadqiqotning asosiy maqsadi bu turli tillardagi qarindoshlik munosabatlarining leksik-semantik xususiyatlarini aniqlash va ularning madaniy kodlar bilan bog'liqligini ochib berishdan iborat. Ishda "amaki" va "tog'a" terminlarining inglizcha "uncle" va ruscha "дядя" birliklari bilan qiyosiy tahlili orqali tillararo lakunalar va semantik differentsiallashtiruv masalalari yoritilgan. Natijada, o'zbek tilidagi qarindoshlik tizimi iyerarxik va paternalistik xususiyatga ega ekanligi, ingliz va rus tillarida esa chiziqli va funksional modellar ustunligi ilmiy asoslab berilgan.*

**Kalit so'zlar:** *Qarindoshlik terminlari, lingvokulturologiya, qiyosiy tahlil, semantik differentsiallashtiruv, lakuna, amaki, tog'a, leksik-semantik maydon.*

The language of every nation is the main tool that reflects its culture, way of life and social values. In particular, kinship terms are one of the most ancient and stable layers of the language, which clearly

indicate the family structure of society. Through linguistic units, people not only name their loved ones, but also determine their place, rights and obligations in the family hierarchy.

The relevance of this study is that the increase in communication between English, Russian and Uzbek languages in the process of globalization requires a comparative study of kinship terms. For example, the words "uncle" in English and "дядя" in Russian generally represent male relatives from the father's or mother's side, but in Uzbek, these concepts are strictly differentiated as "amaki" and "tog'a". Such inconsistencies can cause misunderstandings not only in the process of translation, but also in intercultural communication.

As M. Karabayeva (2023) noted, the words of kinship are not just a name, but a linguistic tool that regulates a person's position in society and his relationship with others. In Uzbek culture, "amaki" is considered a representative of the paternal clan and a person "in place of the father", while "tog'a" has a special social status as an honored representative of the maternal clan. The scientific analysis of these differences helps to understand the unique outlook on the family system of each nation.

The purpose of the research is to reveal their semantic and linguistic features through a comparative analysis of lexical units representing male relatives in English, Russian and Uzbek languages. Also, the article touches on the issue of interlinguistic "lacunae" and explains the causes of these differences in connection with socio-cultural factors.

The results of the research are of practical importance for the fields of translation studies, lexicography and comparative linguistics, and serve to make communication between speakers of two different worldviews more effective.

The methodological basis of this study is based on the principles of comparative-typological analysis. During the research, a number of methods were used to study the lexical-semantic field of kinship terms in English, Russian and Uzbek languages.

In particular, the comparative-contrastive method served as the main tool in determining the common and different aspects of kinship systems in English (Germanic), Russian (Slavic) and Uzbek (Turkic) languages belonging to different language families. At the same time, the specific models of naming kinship of each language were coordinated.

Also, using the method of componential analysis, each lexical unit (for example, uncle, дядя, Amaki/Tog'a) was divided into small semantic parts (semas). In the process of analysis, differential signs such as "gender", "lineage", "generation level" and "marriage relationship" were used as a basis, which made it possible to reveal the internal meaning structure of the terms.

Through the method of linguistic and cultural interpretation, the expression of kinship terms in the language was analyzed in connection with the national mentality, social structure and historical values of these peoples. As noted in the works of researchers such as Kh. Baratova (2025) and Z. Khalilova (2024), it was scientifically substantiated that the organic connection between language and culture is clearly manifested in terms of kinship.

Lexical units were selected from authoritative sources such as "Oxford English Dictionary", "Explanatory Dictionary of the Uzbek Language" and academic dictionaries of the Russian language as research material. Their use in different contexts and semantic changes were studied in detail. In forming the theoretical base of the research, as M. Muminova, M. Karabayeva, and T. Vakhitova published in international scientific databases were relied upon. This served to ensure the scientific validity of the research and the reliability of the results.

The study of kinship terms is one of the most ancient and rich traditions of linguistics. Research in this field sheds light not only on linguistic units, but also on the socio-cultural landscape of society. In her research, Zarnigor Khalilova (2024) conducted a comparative analysis of the semantic field of kinship terms in the English and Uzbek languages. The researcher scientifically substantiated that the lexicon of kinship in the Uzbek language is much wider and more hierarchical than that of the English language. In her opinion, each term in the Uzbek language retains the sign of belonging to the father's or mother's clan (paternal vs maternal), which is often neutralized in English.

On the basis of a linguoculturological approach, Khulkar Baratova (2025) studied the relationship between kinship terms and national mentality. She describes the Uzbek kinship system as a "complex and structured social code". According to Baratova, kinship for the Uzbek people is inextricably linked not only with blood, but also with respect and the division of duties in society. This is especially evident in the strict distinction between the concepts of "amaki" and "tog'a"

In Russian linguistics, the issue of interlinguistic differentiation of kinship terms was deeply studied by T. Vakhitova (2022) and her co-authors. The study analyzed "linguistic lacunae" (concepts that do not exist in a given language) between the Russian and Turkish languages. According to Vakhitova's conclusions, the Russian term "дядя" has a universal character like the English "uncle", and it does not fully correspond to the Uzbek words "amaki" and "tog'a". This requires the use of additional clarifying tools in the process of communication and translation.

Also, researchers such as M. Karabayeva (2023) and M. Muminova (2026) analyzed the lexical-semantic features of kinship terms based on modern linguistic methods. They evaluate the kinship system in English as "functional", and the system in Uzbek as "structural-hierarchical".

This literature review shows that kinship terms express different semantic concepts in the studied languages. In this article, based on the theoretical views of these scientists, the comparative analysis of the concepts of "amaki" and "tog'a" will be highlighted in a new context.

English kinship terminology is based on the so-called "Eskimo model" (lineal system) in linguistic typology. The peculiarity of this system is that it makes a sharp distinction between direct descendants (nuclear family) and relatives in the side network (uncles, aunts), but it neutralizes the differences within the side network (whether it is the father's or the mother's side).

As M. Muminova (2026) noted, the English term "Uncle" is a generalizing (super-ordinate) concept that includes several denotative meanings. This unit includes not only father's and mother's brothers, but also the husbands of father's or mother's sisters.

From a linguistic point of view, the criterion "lineage" in English is not lexically important. This situation is explained by the predominance of individualism and the fact that family ties are more functional in English culture. According to the analysis of M. Karabayeva (2023), in English, "Speaker's Gender" does not affect the choice of term, which ensures the simplicity of the system.

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The kinship system in the Russian language is also typologically close to the English language, but it is distinguished by its pragmatic use. As T. Vakhitova (2022) noted, in the modern Russian lexicon, the term "дядя" has the same universal character as the English "Uncle".

One of the unique features of the Russian language system is lexical universality, which means that for Russian speakers there is no strict lexical boundary between the concepts of paternal and maternal uncles. Such a difference can be shown only with the help of clarifying words (for example, дядя по отцовской/материнской линии).

In addition, unlike the Uzbek and English languages, the Russian word "дядя" has a special social connotation, and it is used as a unit of communication even in relation to unfamiliar men ("чужой дядя"). Although this situation is reminiscent of the use of the Uzbek word "amaki" in relation to strangers, in Russian it is distinguished by a much more informal tone.

The kinship system in the Uzbek language is one of the most complex and differentiated systems in the world. Z. Khalilova (2024) and Kh.Baratova (2025) have shown that "lineage" and "hierarchy" are fundamental criteria in the Uzbek language.

The difference between the terms uncle and uncle in the Uzbek language is not only lexical in nature, but also embodies a deep socio-cultural meaning.

In particular, since the Uzbek people are historically a patrilineal society, an uncle is often seen as a "father in place of a father". He is the heir and responsible representative in making family decisions. Also, in Uzbek culture, special respect is shown to the uncle, who is the representative of the mother's clan. As "mother's brother" the role of the uncle in the upbringing of nephews and family weddings is highly valued.

Table 1. Component analysis of kinship terms in English, Russian and Uzbek languages.

Lexical unit	Language	Gender (male)	Paternal line	Maternal line	Affinal
Uncle	English	+	+	+	+
Дядя	Russian	+	+	+	+
Амаки	Uzbek	+	+	-	-
Тог'а	Uzbek	+	-	+	-

The table above shows that the semantic boundaries of kinship terms in the three languages are fundamentally different from each other. The words "Uncle" in English and "дядя" in Russian are universal, covering both the father's and mother's side, as well as relatives related by marriage.

In the terms "amaki" and "tog'a" in the Uzbek language, "lineage" is a mandatory semantic sign. That is, a male relative from the father's side must be called only "amaki", and the one from the mother's side only "tog'a". This proves that the kinship branch is the most important piece of information for Uzbek speakers.

The comparative-typological analysis of kinship terms in English, Russian and Uzbek languages shows that language is not only a means of communication, but also a complex system that preserves the social structure and cultural values of each nation. As a result of the conducted research, the following scientific conclusions were reached.

First, the structural differences between the languages show that the kinship system in English and Russian is more "lineal" in nature. In these languages, whether a relative is on the father's or mother's side is not considered lexically important, which is explained by the individualistic culture of these peoples and the functional nature of family relations. In the Uzbek language, the system is hierarchical and paternalistic, and the lineage (paternal or maternal clan) of each relative is strictly defined.

Secondly, the disproportion in the semantic scope is manifested in the fact that the English "uncle" and the Russian "dyadya" units cover a wider field of meaning than the Uzbek "Amaki" and "Tog'a" words. The separation of these concepts in the Uzbek language is not just a linguistic phenomenon, but reflects the different social and spiritual duties of Amaki and Tog'a in a family.

Also, in the process of comparing languages, it was found that there are "linguistic lacunas". Generalizing terms in English and Russian need to be clarified depending on the context when translated into Uzbek. This requires translators and language learners not only to have a wealth of vocabulary, but also to have deep cultural knowledge.

The preservation of the words "Amaki" and "Tog'a" in the Uzbek language means the high respect of the Uzbek people for the family tree, the appreciation of kinship ties, and the traditions of clearly dividing social responsibilities. In short, the comparative study of kinship terms is important in understanding the nominative capabilities of languages and the reflection of national mentality in the language system. The results of the research can serve as a theoretical and practical source for future research in the fields of comparative linguistics, translation studies and linguocultural studies.

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