

## THE CONCEPT OF «BEAUTY» IN ENGLISH PROVERBS AND SAYINGS

## Концепт «красота» в пословицах и поговорках английского языка

## Англис тилиндеги макал-лакаптардагы «сулуулук» концепти

**Abstract:** This article examines the concept of «beauty» on the basis of the proverbs and sayings. As a result, it was possible to establish that this concept has volume content. It should be noted that this concept can vary in interpretation, so the choice of this or that verbalized version of this concept depends on the field of use. There are many options for presenting this concept, which only confirms its relevance.

**Аннотация:** В данной статье рассматривается понятие «красота» на основе пословиц и поговорок. В результате удалось установить, что это понятие имеет объемное содержание. Следует отметить, что данное понятие может различаться по трактовке, поэтому выбор того или иного вербализованного варианта этого понятия зависит от области использования. Вариантов подачи этой концепции много, что только подтверждает ее актуальность.

**Аннотация:** Бул макалада макал-лакаптарга негизделген сулуулук концепти каралат. Натыйжада, бул түшүнүктүн көлөмдүү мазмуну бар экендигин аныктоого мүмкүн болду. Белгилей кетүүчү нерсе, бул түшүнүк чечмелениши менен айырмаланышы мүмкүн, ошондуктан бул концепциянын тигил же бул вербалдаштырылган вариантын тандоо колдонуу чөйрөсүнө жараша болот. Бул концепцияны сунуштоонун көптөгөн варианттары бар, ошондуктан бул анын актуалдуулугун гана тастыктайт.

**Key words:** beauty, concept, paremia, quality, appearance, consciousness.

**Ключевые слова:** красота, концепт, паремия, качество, внешность, сознание.

**Урунттуу сөздөр:** сулуулук, концепт, паремия, сапат, сырткы кебете, аң-сезим.

In recent years, interest of linguists to aesthetics has been increasing. The word “beauty” is mentioned almost in every literary work. The attractiveness of the «beauty» concept for analysis can be explained by the richness of its components as well. The conceptual structure of the linguistic unit deduced from the meaning of the nominative sign allows us to make certain observations regarding the structure of representation of knowledge existing in human thought. This concept in the English language includes a great number of images related to different spheres of life; one concept can include nature, human appearance and traits of character. In the images hierarchy of beauty in the English language the perceptive images of the environment (nature) are drawn forward. Beauty of nature is described in English literature through a wide range of colors beginning from turquoise-blue sky with white clouds and ending with brilliant green vegetation. It has been revealed that English literature is characterized by gloss of objects.

With regard to the nature it is shine of leaves, petals, sun shine. English writers idealize beauty without any infelicity. Everything must be perfectly beautiful, pure and dazzling: «In the shade of a tall laurel bush the sunlight slipped over the polished leaves»; «the green lacquer leave». It should be noted that the great importance in English literature is attached to describing fragrances. In nature there are lots of nice, delicious flavors: «the rich odour of roses, the heavy scent of the lilac, or the more delicate perfume of the pink-flowering thorn», «the keen aromatic air» [1].

In English, the concept of beauty is represented by various parts of speech: adjectives, nouns, verbs, and adverbs. It should be noted that the means of language implementation of this concept are not limited to these lexical units. This list continues with idioms, proverbs, aphorisms, and associations.

Proverbs as case texts contain value priorities that include various types of evaluation of a particular society. The concept of evaluation is closely related to the concept of value. The focus of this study is on the paremiological characteristics of the concept of «beauty». To conduct the research, we considered aphorisms and proverbs in English to identify the meanings of the semantic picture of the world. The material for the study was a solid selection of phraseological and idiomatic dictionaries of the English language, dictionaries and collections of English proverbs and aphorisms.

A proverb is a cultural saying that expresses people's appreciation and opinion. It reflects the spiritual image, the centuries-old experience and life of people, aspirations and ideals, and judgments about various aspects of life. For centuries, passing from generation to generation, proverbs and sayings supported the way of life of people, strengthened the spiritual and moral aspects of people. The main source of proverbs and sayings is the life social and historical experience of people. Thus, the concept of beauty is an expression of the ethnos of culture and the basic unit of language consciousness. It has a linguistic expression in paremias. The evaluation of the stated concepts in the paremiological units of English language is closely related to the value orientations of society's behavior.

General ideas of beauty English paremiology are reduced to the recognition of moral shortcomings with external beauty. The main specific ideas about beauty in English paremias are accentuation of choice as a condition for recognizing something corresponding to the criteria of beauty, awareness of the relationship between **beauty and health** [2].

Among the English proverbs associated with the concept of «beauty», there are **two groups**. The **first** of these includes proverbs that represent beauty in an active form, the second of which is passive [3]. Proverbs of the first group represent «beauty» as a beginning, independent of man and playing in conjunction with him active role, for example: *Beauty dies and fades away, but ugly holds its own; Beauty is a living thing.*

In proverbs of the **second group** of a person and beauty, the relationship of evaluation (characteristics):

- Evaluation of a person's actions;
- Evaluation of artifacts, objects;
- Appreciation of appearance.

Since beauty is, first of all, an attribute of the fair sex, it is possible to distinguish units that are attractive to women. So, about a beautiful woman, the English can say: beauty - красавица; nymph (поэтич.) - красивая, изящная девушка; bell - красавица; the fair (уст.) - красавица; a glamour girl (разг.) - красотка, шикарная девица; as pretty as a picture - очаровательная, хороша как картинка; a pretty-pretty face - куколка, смазливое личико; as fair as a lily – прекрасна как лилия; as fair as a rose – прекрасна как роза.

In English proverbs, predominates reflecting the positive internal qualities of a person: *Good fame is better than a good face A clear conscience shines not only in the eyes.*

In English language consciousness, a special place is occupied by a proverb that distinguishes the beauty of a woman: a woman's appearance is contrasted with her **moral qualities**: *Every woman would rather be handsome than good.*

The beauty of a woman fades, if its vices prevail: *Every woman is beautiful till she speaks. A fair woman without virtue is like palled wine.*

In English language consciousness, beauty is true if it is accompanied by **health**: *Good health is the sister of beauty Health and cheerfulness make beauty Health and gaiety foster beauty.*

For English, appearance is not a guarantee of a **happy life**: *Every bean has its black Every man has his faults.*

In folk English consciousness, beauty is a manifestation of feelings and the result of **love**:  
*Beauty lies in lover's eyes*  
*Beauty is in the eye of the beholder*  
*H who loves at one — eyed girl thinks that one-eyed girls are beautiful.*

In English, the importance of a person's beautiful speech is emphasized. Proverbs point to the importance of kind words and the essential role of English folklore consciousness is played by the brevity of speech: *Beauty is silent eloquence.*

The English paremias proclaim the **value of speech**:  
*Fair words break no bones*  
*A bird is known by its note and a man by his talk,*

In English people's consciousness, people are valued not by words, but by deeds:  
*Better to do well than to say well*  
*Doing is better than saying.*

For English language consciousness is characterized by the predominance of the paremias that verbalize the concept of "beauty" through the perception of time.

In English language consciousness, beauty **does not have eternal value**: *Age before beauty*  
*What blossoms beautifully, withers fast*  
*All that fair must fade*  
*Beautiful roads never go far.*

It should be noted that in English linguoculture there is a serious and evidently grounded **distrust of beauty**, for example: *A fair face may hide a foul heart*  
*Who hath a fair wife needs more than two eyes*  
*The greatest care ought to be in the choice of a wife, and the only danger there is beauty.*

In English proverbs, beauty is declared less valuable than honor and conscience, for example: *Good fame is better than a good face; Handsome is as handsome does.* In English proverbs, beauty is often incompatible with the high moral character of a person: a pretty girl, a heart of gall. Beauty is the result of love, the manifestation of feelings: *beauty lies in lover's eyes*. In English naive picture of the world, there is an understanding of the duration of beauty: *beauty is a living thing - beauty is only skin deep* = beautiful forever; beauty is short-lived. The pessimistic English utterance about the ephemeral beauty and permanence of ugliness attracts attention: *Beauty dies and fades away, but ugly holds its own*. Beauty is of little importance without a corresponding moral image, without feelings, without a special inner world: *Fair without, false within; Fairface may hide a foul heart.*

In English aphorism, the concept of "beauty" gets a variety of characteristics. Common to the compared lingua-cultures is the following:

- 1) Beauty is recognized as one of the highest human values;
- 2) Beauty is given more attention than the characteristics of negative aesthetic evaluation;
- 3) Beauty is associated with other higher values;
- 4) The beauty of a woman can be deceiving.

For example, John Milton emphasizes that only weak minds can be charmed by beauty:  
*Beauty stands in the admiration only of weak minds led captive.*

Let's pay attention to a combination of a sign of an aesthetic estimation and age actual for English-speaking consciousness. The authors of aphoristic maxims discern that beauty (just like mind or success) can evoke a negative attitude towards itself because of human envy: *Against the beautiful and the clever, and the successful, one can wage a pitiless war, but not against the unattractive* [4].

It is sad that the peculiarity of people is paid more attention to the ugly in the world around them than to the beautiful:  
*What beastly incidents our memories insist on cherishing! The ugly and disgusting... the beautiful things we have to keep diaries to remember!* [5]

Aesthetic evaluation in anecdotes is given only to the appearance of people. They make fun of silly beauties and people who try in vain to look better than they really are. In the English, anecdotes sharply negatively, sometimes cynically characterized people with defects in appearance and the elderly, the subject of jokes on this topic is the discrepancy between the attempts of ordinary men to attract the attention of beautiful women and the futility of attempts to improve their appearance.

Linguistic material shows that in the English picture of the world, the concept of «beauty», verbalized in language, is primarily based on the harmonious ratio of external beauty and internal beauty, and, consequently, the ethical assessment of a person is as relevant as the aesthetic assessment, or even dominant. Hence the main value of a person in his soul, character, and attitude to people. For the English-language picture of the world, the fundamental universal values that dictate a person to be fair, generous, educated, tactful, respectful, and conscientious are relevant. It is these qualities that make a portrait of a beautiful person complete.

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