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THE CONCEPT "WOMAN" IN LINGUACULTURAL INVESTIGATIONS

Abstract

In the article, the concept of "Woman" is considered within the framework of language and cultural studies. This study analyzes lexical units and phraseological expressions and conducts psycholinguistic experiments to investigate the perception of women in different languages and cultures. The analysis identified universal and cultural characteristics of women's representations. Androcentrism is stronger in English, particularly in the realms of the mind, social behavior, and intimate relationships, suggesting that gender stereotypes predominate. A comparative analysis of research methods helps to understand the representation of women in language and culture, and highlights the universal and cultural characteristics of the concept of "Woman". Studying this concept in a linguistic framework is crucial for understanding gender dynamics, cultural differences, and sociocultural processes in society.

Keywords: woman, linguacultural, gender relations, cultural stereotypes, psycholinguistic studies, comparative analysis, lexical units, subject phraseology, linguistic paradigm, love.

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ЛИНГВА МАДАНИЯТТЫ ИЛИКТӨӨДӨГҮ «АЯЛ» КОНЦЕПЦИЯСЫ

Кыскача мазмуну

Макалада "Аял" концепти лингвомаданий изилдөөлөрдүн алкагында каралат. Бул изилдөө лексикалык бирдиктерди жана фразеологиялык сөз айкаштарын талдап, ар кандай тилдер менен маданияттардагы аялдардын кабылдоолорун изилдөө үчүн психолингвистикалык эксперименттерди жүргүзөт. Талдоо аялдардын репрезентацияларынын универсалдуу жана маданий өзгөчөлүктөрүн аныктады. Англис тилинде, айрыкча акыл-эс, социалдык жүрүм-турум жана интимдик мамилелер жаатында андроцентризм күчтүүрөөк, бул гендердик стереотиптердин басымдуулугун көрсөтөт. Орустар болсо аялдарды сулуулук, сүйүү, камкордук жана энелик сыяктуу оң сапаттар менен байланыштырышат. Изилдөө ыкмаларын салыштырмалуу талдоо аялдардын

тилде жана маданиятта репрезентациясын түшүнүүгө жардам берет, "Аял" концептинин универсалдуу жана маданий өзгөчөлүктөрүн белгилейт. Лингвомаданияттын алкагында бул концептти изилдөө коомдогу гендердик динамиканы, маданий айырмачылыктарды жана социомаданий процесстерди түшүнүү үчүн өтө маанилүү.

Түйүндүү сөздөр: аял, лингвомаданият, гендердик изилдөөлөр, маданий стереотиптер, психолингвистикалык изилдөөлөр, салыштырмалуу анализ, лексикалык бирдиктер, предметтик фразеологиялык бирдиктер, сүйүү.

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КОНЦЕПТ «ЖЕНЩИНА» В ИССЛЕДОВАНИЯХ ЯЗЫКА И КУЛЬТУРЫ

Аннотация

Статья исследует концепт "Женщина" в лингвокультурологии. В ходе исследования анализируются лексические единицы, фразеологизмы, а также проводятся психолингвистические эксперименты для изучения восприятия женщин в разных языках и культурах. Анализ выявил как универсальные, так и культурно-специфические особенности репрезентации женщин. В английском языке наблюдается более выраженный андроцентризм, особенно в отношении интеллекта, социального поведения и интимных отношений, что свидетельствует о большей выраженности гендерных стереотипов. В русском же языке женщины ассоциируются с такими положительными качествами, как красота, любовь, забота и материнство, что отражает культурные и исторические традиции. Сравнительный анализ методов исследования помогает понять представление женщин в языке и культуре, выделяя как универсальные, так и культурно-специфические черты концепта "Женщина". Изучение данного концепта в лингвокультурологии имеет решающее значение для понимания гендерной динамики, культурных различий и социокультурных процессов в обществе.

Ключевые слова: женщина, лингвокультурология, гендерные исследования, культурные стереотипы, психолингвистические эксперименты, сопоставительный анализ, лексические единицы, фразеологические единицы, предметные фразеологизмы, лингвистическая парадигма, любовь.

The study of the concept of "Woman" in linguacultural studies is linked to the growing interest in gender studies in linguistics. Early works in this field, such as those by E. Sapir and O. Jespersen, highlighted the "masculine" language as the norm and the "feminine" as a deviation from it. In the late 20th century, feminist linguistics and sociolinguistics also actively developed, identifying the

androcentrism of language and portrayal of women within it [1, p.55].

Domestic research has long focused on this topic. Studies by scholars, such as Ya. Nemirovsky, A.A. Zaliznyak, M.V. Kitaygorodskaya et al. examined gender in various languages, considering the designations of men and women with regard to social and linguistic factors [2, p.64].

The linguacultural approach to the concept of "Woman" is actively developing in domestic science, while Western science focuses more on psycho- and sociolinguistics as well as feminist linguistics.

Linguacultural studies cultural phenomena through language, and its task includes describing basic cultural concepts, such as "Woman." In linguacultural, the study of the concept of "Woman" is closely related to the study of the concepts of "masculinity" and "femininity," which are fundamental oppositions in human culture.

In the Indo-European mythological tradition, "Woman" is associated with the Earth as a mother, while "Man" is associated with the sky as a father-patriarch, reflecting patriarchal structures in society.

Thus, the concept of "Woman" is studied in the context of language, culture, and gender relations, at both the international and domestic levels.

Comparative analyses allowed for the identification of differences and similarities in traditional gender roles and expectations across different societies. Another important aspect is the study of language use in the construction of gender identities. Linguists analyze which linguistic means are used to express gender belonging and how they influence perceptions of gender in society.

Thus, linguacultural studies of the concept of "Woman" aim to identify the androcentrism of language, compare perceptions of men and women in different cultures, and analyze the use of language in constructing gender identity.

The characteristics, properties, and attributes associated with the studied concept in language and culture are also examined.

Studies of lexical units related to the notion of "woman" in various languages often reveal negatively connotated terms. For instance, many words pertaining to women in the English language have negative connotations, particularly concerning appearance or sexuality. This may reflect a heterosexist and masculinocentric culture

where women are primarily viewed through the lens of their appearance and sexuality. Among the works devoted to this problem, it is possible to name the works of A.A. Zaliznyak [3, p.55], M.V. Kitaygorodskaya [4, p.66], A.P. Babushkin and Z.D. Popova [5, p.14], R.I. Rozina [6, p.120] and other scientists. Phraseology serves as crucial material for analysis, reflecting specific perceptions of the world and societal moral ideals. Both Russian and English languages contain numerous phraseological expressions related to women with negative connotations, indicating a predominance of the male perspective and negative attitudes towards the female gender. Comparative analysis of perceptions of men and women in different cultures also enables the identification of differences and similarities in the evaluation of gender roles and characteristics. Thus, linguacultural studies of the concept of "Woman" not only uncover the androcentrism of language and culture but also elucidate the ideological and cultural factors influencing perceptions of women in society. The field of cognitive linguistics emerged in the 1990s, but its foundations were laid in the works of scholars such as Wilhelm von Humboldt, Alexander Potebnya, Edward Sapir, Vladimir Toporov, and Leo Tolstoy, who all advocated for the study of culture through language. The characterological properties and conceptual parameters of women in language and culture encompass a variety of aspects, including natural-physical, psychological, social, and role-related characteristics.

The characteristics and conceptual parameters of women's language and culture encompass a variety of aspects, including physical, psychological, social, and role-related characteristics.

1. Natural and physical characteristics: Age, appearance, sexuality, etc. These characteristics can influence the perceptions and evaluations of women in society and culture [7, p. 17]. This is an opinion held by IS. Ulukhov.

2. Psychological characteristics include personality traits, moral qualities, emotional characteristics, and behavior. Women are often attributed to traits such as emotionality, sensitivity, and caring. This view of the problem under consideration is reflected in the work of the N.I. Tolstoy [8, p.137].

3. Social status and role characteristics: This includes a woman's social position in society, her role in the family and society, professional characteristics, etc. For example, the image of a "homemaker" or a "career woman" can have a significant meaning when evaluating a woman in culture. This point of view has been developed and clarified in the work of S. G. Ter-Minasova [9, p. 18].

Studying thematic groups and phraseologies related to the concept of "Woman" allows us to identify national-cultural features in the perception of women. For example, phraseologies that reflect stereotypes about female behavior and character are often encountered in the Russian language. However, in English, a greater variety of motives can be observed when evaluating female appearance, ranging from hedonistic to utilitarian.

Thus, the characteristics of women in terms of language and culture are complex and multifaceted phenomena that reflect various aspects of the perception and evaluation of women in society. According to V.A. Maslova, linguoculturology studies the phenomena of "national culture that are reflected and manifested in language" [10, p. 28].

Psycholinguistic experiments conducted in the context of studying the concept of "Woman" in different languages and cultures allow for a deeper understanding of the mental characteristics of attitudes toward women in different societies.

As noted by Slyshkin in Russian linguistic consciousness, a woman is often associated with positive qualities such as beauty, love, self-sacrifice, and motherhood. According to the results of psycholinguistic experiments conducted by A.B. Kirilina, the image of

a woman in Russian, is evaluated more positively than that of a man [11, p.91]. Femininity in Russian is associated with strength, decisiveness, endurance, patience, love, intelligence, and beauty.

Another important aspect is the high evaluation of motherhood in Russian language and culture. According to researchers, Russian emphasizes the role of a woman as a mother, even in situations where she performs a different function.

In English, semantic domains associated with intellect and social behavior are more often linked to men, often in negative contexts. In the realm of intimate behavior, English frequently employs lexicons with negative connotations. These findings indicate a more pronounced androcentrism in English than in Russian.

Thus, the results of the psycholinguistic experiments demonstrate that mental attitudes toward women vary depending on language and culture. In Russian, women are evaluated more positively and associated with positive qualities, whereas in English, there is a more pronounced androcentrism.

Examining these issues from a comparative perspective is important for identifying universal traits of the concept of "Woman" and its cultural specifics. According to D. Malyshevskaya, "linguoculturological analysis allows us to reconstruct and describe the collective representations of the ideal and anti-ideal of man and woman, fixed in the self-consciousness of the people - the bearer of the language and culture". The study of this concept within the framework of linguacultural studies is primarily conducted using lexical, phraseological, and paremiological units. Although the gender factor can be examined at any level of the language system, it usually correlates with the description of the concept of "femininity." Analyzing the linguistic representations of this concept, we see a reflection of patriarchal cultural norms rooted in mythology, religion, and philosophy. Studies of lexical units

naming women in the English language have shown that in English dictionaries, all words about women are mostly negatively evaluative. Comparing the results obtained from the analysis of thematic groups in different languages allows us to identify both universal and culturally specific features of the "Woman" concept. An interesting observation is that the results of studying lexical material sometimes contradict the findings of psycholinguistic experiments. For example, in the Russian language, there is a high esteem for women and a low degree of male dominance, which does not always correspond to the patriarchal traditions reflected in lexical material.

Conclusion

Studying the concept of "Woman" within the linguacultural framework is a complex and multi-aspect process that allows us to identify various aspects of women's perceptions in different languages and cultures. During the analysis of lexical units, phraseological expressions, and psycholinguistic experiments, the following regularities were identified.

1. Semantic domains related to the natural, physical, and psychological characteristics of women may vary across languages and cultures,

reflecting the specificity of the mentality and sociocultural characteristics of society.

2. More pronounced androcentrism is identified in the English language, especially in the areas of intellect, social behavior, and intimate relationships, which may indicate a more significant presence of gender stereotypes.

3. In Russian, the assessment of women is more often associated with positive qualities such as beauty, love, care, and motherhood, which may reflect the peculiarities of cultural and historical traditions.

4. Comparative analysis of various research methods allows for a more complete understanding of the representation of women in language and culture, revealing both universal and culturally specific features of the concept of "Woman."

Thus, studying the concept of "Woman" within the framework of linguoculturology is important for understanding gender dynamics, cultural differences, and sociocultural processes in society. This allows us to identify not only universal characteristics but also differences in the representation of women in different cultures, contributing to a deeper understanding of gender relations and stereotypes.

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