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AXIOLINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF PAREMIAS OF THE KHOREZM OASIS

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ABSTRACT

This article presents an axiological-linguistic analysis of paremias characteristic of the Khorezm. The study identifies the system of values, socio-spiritual views, and images associated with regional mentality as reflected in paremias. Values related to labor, honesty, family respect, knowledge, and nature are defined as core components of the axiological structure. The research demonstrates that Khorezm paremias function not only as linguistic units but also as carriers of culturally embedded value systems shaped by historical experience and regional worldview.

KEYWORDS: *Khorezm, Paremia, Proverb, Axiolinguistics, Value, Mentality, Folklore.*

INTRODUCTION

The folklore of the Khorezm oasis, particularly paremias (proverbs and sayings), represents significant linguistic units that embody the ancient worldview, spiritual experience, and life philosophy of the Uzbek people. The semantic layers of paremias reflect not only linguistic meanings but also region-specific social values, moral norms, stereotypes, mental representations, and the linguistic manifestation of national character. From this perspective, axiological-linguistic analysis serves as an effective methodological approach to identifying the system of values encoded in paremias.

1. Theoretical Foundations of Axiolinguistics

Axiolinguistics is a linguistic discipline that studies values, moral norms, cultural standards, and social ideals reflected in the semantics of linguistic units. According to this approach, each word or image in proverbs carries not only a nominative meaning but also expresses the value system of a particular people.

Axiolinguistic analysis is based on the following criteria:

1. **Value component (ethical and moral content)**

Representation of concepts such as good and evil, honesty and betrayal, justice, labor, knowledge, and etiquette.

2. **Cultural and mental imagery**

Representations related to the worldview, lifestyle, and historical experience of the people.

3. **Sociolinguistic signals**

Socially valued roles and norms such as respect for parents, hospitality, courage, patience, and prudence.

2. The Axiological Field of Khorezm Paremias

Although Khorezm paremias are close to common Uzbek proverbs, their semantic structure widely incorporates regional vocabulary, culture-specific imagery, agricultural life, and values associated with living along the Amu Darya.

The main value domains are presented below.

2.1. The Value of Labor and Livelihood

In Khorezm folklore, labor is interpreted as the highest value.

Examples:

"Mehnat qilgan – to'yga yetgan."

— This paremia presents labor as a fundamental value leading to success and achievement.

"Yozda qiynalgan – qishda yayrar."

— Reflects agricultural hardship and the value of diligence and prosperity.

Axiolinguistic Interpretation

Labor is a socially significant value in Khorezm mentality and a key factor for gaining respect within the community.

2.2. The Value of Honesty and Moral Purity

"Halolning qo'li quruq bo'lmaydi."

"Birovning haqqi – o'tga qolgan chaqqi."

Axiolinguistic Interpretation

Honesty is portrayed as a core moral principle of society. Honest labor, justice, and moral purity form the ethical foundation of communal life.

2.3. The Value of Intellect, Knowledge, and Wisdom

Khorezm has historically been a center of scholarship (al-Biruni, al-Khwarizmi, Zamakhshari), and this tradition is reflected in paremias.

"Aql – odamning ziynati."

"Bilim bilan dunyo topilar."

Axiological Interpretation

Knowledge is conceptualized as the primary means of success and the highest adornment of human character.

2.4. The Value of Family Respect and Social Unity

"Ota – tog', ona – bog'."

"Otasiz uy – otashsiz o'choq."

Axiological Interpretation

These paremias emphasize the sacred role of parents and the family as the highest value in the hierarchy of Khorezm social ethics.

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2.5. Values Expressed through Images of Water and Rivers

In the Khorezm environment, water is the source of life, which results in strong water imagery in paremias.

"Suvning qadrin suv ko'rgan biladi."
"Daryo oqsa – yer ko'rkar."

Axiological Interpretation

Water symbolizes abundance, sustenance, and vitality, while the absence of water represents danger and decline.

3. Axiology of Metaphorical Images in Khorezm Paremias

Image	Value Meaning	Example
Land	Prosperity, labor	"Yerga mehr – rizqqa mehr."
Heart	Courage, bravery	"Yurakdan chiqqan – yurakka boradi."
Soul	Purity, kindness	"Ko'ngil yorug' bo'lsa, yo'l yorug'."
Mother	Care, protection	"Ona — uy barakati."

4. Structural Features of Paremias as Axiolinguistic Units

4.1. Antithetical Structure

Value meanings are often intensified through oppositions such as good–evil, light–dark, diligence–laziness.

4.2. Rhythmic and Rhyming Patterns

Phonetic features specific to the Khorezm dialect enhance the aesthetic and emotional impact of value expression.

4.3. Use of Local Lexicon

Regional words such as *kechuv, chopiq, arig', dallol, bakcha* emphasize the local cultural identity of the value system.

CONCLUSION

Khorezm oasis paremias constitute an essential component of the spiritual heritage of the Uzbek people. The axiological units reflected in these paremias—labor and honesty, family respect, knowledge and wisdom, reverence for nature and water, courage and moral integrity—serve as a linguistic reflection of the Khorezm people's mental world.

Axiolinguistic analysis reveals that paremias encode not only semantic meanings but also an entire cultural-philosophical value system rooted in historical experience and regional mentality. The study demonstrates that, although the value system of Khorezm folklore is closely connected with traditional Uzbek moral heritage, its internal semantic layers distinctly reflect region-specific social-psychological perceptions, natural landscapes, and agrarian imagery.

The analysis confirms that the system of metaphors, antitheses, and symbolic images in paremias enhances the expressive power of values and provides a coherent cultural and spiritual representation of the worldview, life philosophy, and everyday practices of the Khorezm population. Overall, the axiological-linguistic study of Khorezm oasis paremias expands our understanding of their functional potential as linguistic units and enables a systematic scientific identification of the culturally embedded value system inherent in regional folklore. This, in turn, contributes to a deeper comprehension of the value-oriented content of Uzbek oral tradition.

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