

## MODIFICATION OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS WITHIN SCIENTIFIC DISCOURSE

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**Annotation.** *The main goal of this research is to clarify transformation of phraseological units in scientific research. A number of scientific works have been researched on this topic. The views of different scientists on this concept are given as an example. The study of the transformation of phraseological units in scientific research is relevant and important in the modern world, because phraseological units play an important role in linguistics and are an integral part of any language. The task of our research was to clarify the phenomenon of transformation in phraseology, in particular, in scientific research. The following linguistic and interdisciplinary research methods were used to achieve the goal and fulfill the tasks set in this research work: the method of linguistic description; method of oppositions; methods of communicative linguistics, in particular, the transformational method; semantic method.*

**Key words:** *phrase, phraseology, stable combinations, phraseological units, transformation, scientific research, scientific text, scientific discourse, academic discourse.*

### INTRODUCTION

In recent years, noticeable shifts have occurred in the language system, especially within its most dynamic component – the lexicon. Lexical items are increasingly moving across registers, reflecting the open and continuously developing nature of any language. Since the creation of entirely new words and expressions cannot expand indefinitely, the need for an economical and efficient use of linguistic resources becomes evident. One of the most universal mechanisms serving this purpose is the secondary exploitation of existing material, particularly through the transformation of established phraseological units.

Phraseological units possess fixed semantic integrity and are not interpreted by summing the meanings of their individual components, nor can they be translated literally into another language. For this reason, the study of



their transformation remains a relevant and significant issue in contemporary linguistics. Phraseology, as a major subfield of linguistics, examines idiomatic expressions that function as indivisible semantic wholes and enrich language with imagery and stylistic diversity. However, along with changes in society and communication, phraseological units themselves are subject to modification.

The historical dimension of phraseological transformation is a compelling area of research, as it reveals how idiomatic expressions evolve across languages and eras. Phraseological units carry cultural, religious, historical, and social meanings, and the study of their diachronic changes enables us to track shifts in their semantic structure and functional use. Their evolution is shaped by a combination of factors: historical events, sociocultural developments, and contact with other languages. Nevertheless, some phraseological units demonstrate remarkable stability, preserving their form and meaning over extended periods.

**Research Methodology.** In order to achieve the goal set in this research work and fulfill the set of tasks, based on the phenomenon of transformation in phraseology, in particular, in scientific research in contemporary linguistics, a multi-faceted interdisciplinary approach was used to study and describe these units, and the following linguistic and interdisciplinary research methods were used: linguistic description method (terminology in the description and analysis of phraseological units as an object of transformation); the method of oppositions (transformation of phraseological units); methods of communicative linguistics, in particular, the transformational method (in the analysis of structural or semantic changes of transformation of phraseological units depending on the situation); semantic method (in determining the meaning of phraseological units).

**Literature review.** The problem of transformation of phraseological units in world linguistics has been studied by many scientists. In particular, in Russian linguistics: V. L. Arkhangelsky, A. M. Babkin, V. V. Vinogradov, Yu. A. Gvozdev, V. P. Zhukov, A. V. Kunin, B.A. Larin, A.M. Melerovich, V.M. Mokienko, L. I. Roisenzon, A. I. Smirnitsky, V. N. Telia, A. I. Fedorov, N. M. Shansky, D. N. Shmelev and others; in world linguistics: H. Burger, C. Cacciari, F. Cermak, G. Corpas Pastor, A. P. Cowie, R. Eckert, C.J. Fillmore, W. Fleischer, B. Fraser, R. Gibbs, W.S. Glucksberg, P. Guiraud, L. Jaeger, J. A. Katz, J. Korhonen, A. Makkai, R. Moon, C. O'Connor, P. M. Postal, J. Strässler, U. Weinreich and others; in Uzbek linguistics: Ya.D. Pinkhasov, M. Xusainov, Sh. Shomaksudov, I.K. Kuchkartaev, K. Samadov, A. Abdunazarov, E. Umarov, B. Yuldashev, S. Karimov, X. Kakhharova, A.E. Mamatov, U.R. Mahmudov, B.I.



Boltaeva and others' works are served as the confirmation of research and many published scientific works on the transformation of phraseological units in Uzbek linguistics.

Analysis and Results. P.S. Dronov emphasizes that historical events directly shape the emergence of new phraseological units and modify the meanings of existing ones. This influence constitutes a key component of historical transformation in phraseology. Periods of war and military conflict often generate military-related idioms, while political upheavals tend to shift the semantics of phraseological units associated with governance and power [2].

The evolution of phraseological material across languages is also driven by linguistic contact. When languages interact, idioms may be borrowed, adapted, or reinterpreted. For instance, prolonged exposure to English has introduced into Russian a range of phraseological expressions reflecting Anglo-American cultural concepts [1].

Another significant factor in the historical transformation of phraseology is the impact of socio-cultural change. New technologies, social practices, and everyday objects regularly give rise to novel idioms or reshape the figurative meaning of existing ones. As society modernizes, language responds by generating phraseological units that reflect new realities. Overall, the historical dimension of phraseological transformation provides insight into how idioms shift in form, meaning, and function over time. Historical events, intercultural contact, and socio-cultural developments all play decisive roles in shaping this evolution. Examining these influences clarifies the mechanisms through which phraseological units adapt to changing cultural, linguistic, and communicative contexts.

Russian linguists D.O. Dobrovolsky and Yu.N. Karaulov note that the variability and modification of phraseological units are not merely features of their contextual use but serve as markers of native-speaker competence itself [3, p. 109].

As previously mentioned, the issue of phraseological transformation has been extensively explored in Russian linguistics, particularly in the works of I.M. Abramovich, A.M. Babkin, K.L. Shadrin, E.I. Dibrova, V.P. Kovalev, D.O. Dobrovolsky, A.M. Melerovich, and V.M. Mokienko. Historical analysis of phraseological transformation demonstrates that many idioms emerged within specific historical periods and reflected the socio-cultural background of their time. Yet, as conditions changed, these units evolved, adapted to new contexts, and underwent various forms of transformation.

In the dictionary *Фразеологизмы в русской речи* [5, p. 41], several standard types of phraseological transformation are identified. These include



syntactic inversion, external syntactic and morphological modification, shifts between affirmative and negative forms, as well as the use of formal and paradigmatic variants of phraseological units described by A.I. Molotkov [6].

T.A. Pichkur defines the transformation of phraseological units as a deliberate, stylistically motivated alteration introduced by an author to produce a specific pragmatic effect while still preserving recognizability of the original expression [7]. In contrast, L.G. Efanova interprets transformation more broadly, viewing it as spontaneous changes in the form and meaning of fixed word combinations [4].

So, the transformation of phraseological units involves several key challenges:

1. Translation difficulties. Many phraseological units have fixed meanings that do not correspond directly to expressions in other languages. As a result, literal translation often leads to loss of idiomatic value and diminished expressiveness.

2. Cultural and religious mismatch. Idioms are deeply rooted in the cultural, religious, and historical background of a specific community. When transferred to another language, these associations may not be transparent, which complicates the task of conveying cultural nuances, historical references, and religious connotations. Translators must account for these differences and find adequate ways to reproduce the cultural meaning in the target language.

3. Semantic shifts. During transformation, phraseological units may undergo changes in meaning. These changes often arise from differences in cultural semantics and mental frameworks across languages. The interpretation of an idiom may depend not only on the linguistic context but also on the historical development and worldview of the speech community.

4. Structural constraints. Some idioms have unique syntactic or morphological structures that do not align well with the grammatical patterns of another language. Maintaining meaning may therefore require structural adaptation or the selection of functionally equivalent constructions.

5. Stylistic variation. Phraseological units frequently carry specific stylistic or emotional coloring that may be difficult to reproduce in translation. Preserving tone, register, and stylistic nuance often demands creative reformulation rather than literal reproduction.

These factors require the translator to engage in careful analysis and to determine solutions that preserve both meaning and expressive force when adapting phraseological units into another language.

Conclusion. Socio-cultural aspects of phraseological transformation demonstrate that shifts in social practices, cultural norms, and communicative



patterns directly affect the semantics of idioms. The emergence of new technologies and social networks in the digital era has stimulated the creation of new phraseological units and modified the usage of existing ones. Cognitive dimensions of transformation reveal that changes in meaning are closely connected to shifts in collective conceptualization. When associations and mental models held by native speakers evolve, the interpretation of phraseological units also changes. In the context of the modern information society, the spread of the Internet and digital communication has increased the frequency and convenience of using phraseological units, but has also accelerated their semantic evolution. From a practical standpoint, studying phraseological transformation is valuable both for linguistic research and for language pedagogy. Understanding how idioms change enriches our knowledge of linguistic dynamics and helps learners grasp ongoing cultural and communicative shifts. Thus, the analysis of transformation in phraseological units reveals a multifaceted process shaped by historical, linguistic, socio-cultural, and cognitive factors. This comprehensive perspective enables deeper insight into how idioms evolve and adapt within the changing landscape of human communication.

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