

## Gender Approaches in the Concept of Happiness Regarding to Different Linguo-Culturology

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### ANNOTATION

In this article, there are given different ideas, information and facts about happiness itself and the concept of happiness. There is written about the concept of "happiness" by comparing different cultures and languages. In addition to this, different examples are given about gender approaches connecting with the concept of happiness. Besides, peculiarities of gender approaches of the Russian and Uzbek languages are compared with examples and meanings are described.

**KEYWORDS:** concept, notion, happiness, "women's happiness", "men's happiness", linguo-culturology.

Nowadays, we face the term "concept" in linguistics and in other spheres, that is controversial and challenging to understand. I am going to give some definitions given in some dictionaries. The term concept is defined as: "Concepts are the building blocks of thoughts. Consequently, they are crucial to such psychological processes as categorization, inference, memory, learning, and decision-making. This much is relatively uncontroversial."<sup>1</sup>[7] In another dictionary, there is given another description about concept: "Concepts are defined as abstract ideas. They are understood to be the fundamental building blocks of the concept behind principles, thoughts and beliefs." So it is understood that concept is the generality of thoughts and ideas. It is a general term that embraces wide ideas and meanings. The term "concept" has many definitions and representations. "Professor V.A. Maslova analyzed various definitions and provided her own variant: "A concept is a semantic unit that has linguo-cultural features and characterizes speakers of any chosen ethno-culture. While reflecting an ethnic mindset, a concept marks the ethnic language world image and serves as the so-called brick to build "the house of our being". A concept is a linguo-philosophical unit that was introduced thanks to an anthropocentric approach in linguistics. A concept defines and groups almost every possible meaning of any given word and their development."<sup>2</sup>[1, 3167-3178] Philosopher Anselm (1033-1109) was the first to introduce the term "concept". In the Latin language, it has several meanings: *conseptio* – 1) a connection, code, system; 2) warehouse; 3) signing legal acts; 4) seeds receiving; 5) a sentence.<sup>3</sup> [4, 222]

<sup>1</sup> Stanford encyclopedia of philosophy, *First published Mon Nov 7, 2005; substantive revision Mon, Jun 17, 2019*

<sup>2</sup> Concept as the Main Research Object of Cognitive Linguistics, INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL & SCIENCE EDUCATION 2016, VOL. 11, NO. 10, 3167-3178

<sup>3</sup> Latin-Russian dictionary, (1976). Moscow, pp: 222.

Often, “concept” is thought as the same as “notion”. Even in other languages, including Uzbek, both of the words are translated similarly like “tushuncha”. However, the term concept is widely understood and has more general view and meaning rather than the term notion.

The term happiness is explained differently in vocabularies. In a dictionary, it is described as: “**Happiness** is a state of emotional well-being that a person experiences either in a narrow sense, when good things happen in a specific moment, or more broadly, as a positive evaluation of one’s life and accomplishments overall—that is, subjective well-being. According to Erich Fromm<sup>4</sup>: “Happiness is the indication that man has found the answer to the problem of human existence: the productive realization of his potentialities and thus, simultaneously, being one with the world and preserving the integrity of his self. In spending his energy productively, he increases his powers, he “burns without being consumed.” So everybody gives different definitions to “happiness”, it might be because each person feels happiness differently. For some people, it is just living in the world peacefully. For the poor, happiness is finding bread or some meal for a day, having a shelter and clothes. For the rich, from my observations and experience, calmness in their family, because in such families there are always conflict between husband and wife or between parents and children. For the ill, happiness is health, they envy by observing the healthy people around them. For the family without children, happiness is having a baby in their family. So everyone understands “happiness” differently regarding to their conditions and life. All in all, it can be concluded that happiness is the experience of joy, living, health, wealth or contentment.

Let’s analyze the concept of happiness in English and Uzbek. There are given some examples according to the gender approaches in each languages.

The happiness of a person does not depend on him: it is given to him by fate or is conditioned favorable set of circumstances. View of happiness is independent from a person, the phenomenon is expressed, for example, in such proverbs and sayings:

English: The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places.

Uzbek: Yugurganniki emas, buyurganniki

In English and Uzbek phraseology, there is another idea which assures that happiness is given to a person from divine power. Russians, British and some other nations associate it with the observation of *a baby born in a shirt - be born with a caul/on one's head*, while Uzbek people say: *boshiga baxt qushi qo`ndi or peshonasi yarqiragan*. From these examples, it can be explained that the words are not translated the same, like “baxt qushi, qo`nmoq, yarqiramoq hamda shirt, caul, baby” words do not suit each other in each language, however words are chosen according to the nation’s mentality.

According to the ideas of the British, *to be born happy is to be born into a wealthy family: be born with a silver spoon in one's mouth*. It means that silver spoon is considered as valuable, instead of a silver spoon there could be used another material or another word, but British people understand this expression like “happiness” or “wealth”. In some of the Uzbek

<sup>4</sup>Erich Seligmann Fromm (March 23, 1900 – March 18, 1980), German social psychologist, psychoanalyst, sociologist, humanistic philosopher, and democratic socialist.

phraseological units, having material property is considered to be happiness.

Uzbek: *Qo`yi mingga yetdi*. The given example refers to husbandry life of the nation. And it means “happiness”.

Uzbek people say about a happy person that *he was born with a ring of happiness: Baxt yozuvi bilan tug`ilgan*. This phraseological unit etymologically goes back to the myth of the prophet Suleiman, who became fabulously rich because of a magical ring that had the power to subdue spirits, birds, all animals, winds and waters.

Analyses show that in both languages particularly in English, the feeling and experience of happiness are conveyed by phraseological units, in which there is a component indicating celestial bodies:

English: *be /sit on a cloud-on cloud nine* (It is believed to originate from a type of thunder cloud which can rise to over 12,000 meters above the ground), *in seventh heaven, over the moon, walking on air*.

Uzbek: *boshi osmon(ko`k)ga yetmoq, O`zini yettinchi falakda deb bilmoq*. We can understand both languages' meaning by seeing its key words like cloud, seventh heaven, moon. Moreover, in phraseological units of the English language a person who feels happy is assimilated to a lark: *(as) happy as a lark; a possum on a eucalyptus tree: (as) happy as a possum up a gum-tree; or a clam: as happy as a clam* (The complete version of this idiom is '*as happy as a clam at high tide*'). Clams are a type of shellfish and when the clams are open, they look like they are smiling).

In Uzbek phraseology, extreme joy is presented by original images - the image of the laughing sun of happiness: *baxt quyoshi kulib boqmoq*; Other examples include the lexeme ear- quloq: *qulog`iga moydek yoqmoq, o`g`zi qulog`ida*. Similarity is seen with the usage of the lexeme time-vaqt in both languages.

English: *have a whale of a time*.

Uzbek: *vaqti chog` bo`lmoq*.

In both languages, most people understand happiness linking with the concept of luck. Luck and happiness come together in our speech, in our life. Besides, in the Uzbek language, there are some idioms used for people: this is a dream come true: *murod/maqsadiga yetmoq*; for children: *bolalar bizning baxtimiz*, for marriage: *avvalgi baxtim —gul baxtim, Keyingi baxtim —suvga oqdim*, for good mood: *Baxt kulgu bor uyga kirar*.

The idea of the English of a happy life is significantly associated with the image of a downy bed: *a bed of down* or with a bed of roses: *a bed of roses*. The expression goes back to the custom of the rich in ancient Rome to cover their bed with rose petals. So idioms or phrases have not been taken easily, they have also their origins and reasons to be taken.

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