

# Gender Linguistics in Uzbek Linguistics Research

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**Abstract:** Gender issues in linguistics have occupied a distinctive place in recent years. Gender linguistics is a scientific field that studies the social roles of men and women in language, the interaction of language and culture, and how gender-related expressions are formed and used in language. In Uzbek linguistics, gender issues have been relatively under-researched, although studies in this area have been increasing in recent years. This article discusses the role of gender linguistics in Uzbek linguistics, its development, the main directions of research, and its prospects for the future.

**Keywords:** Gender, gender linguistics, male, female, society, gender roles, stereotype.

**Introduction:** Gender Linguistics is a modern branch of linguistics that studies the relationship between language and gender. This field first emerged in the 1970s, developing based on linguistic and social theories. Gender linguistics focuses on analyzing how gender markers are expressed in language, how they influence linguistic changes, and how these changes are related to gender roles in society. The formation of gender linguistics is influenced by several social, cultural, and scientific factors, and it is directly connected with modern linguistic and feminist theories. Gender linguistics is a relatively recent but rapidly developing field within linguistics that focuses on understanding how gender differences manifest in language. This area of study is grounded in the belief that language is not only a tool for communication but also a mechanism that reflects and perpetuates the cultural and social constructs surrounding gender. The relationship between language and gender has been explored in various languages and cultures, but in Uzbek linguistics, this field is still in its nascent stages.

The term “gender” was introduced into scientific discourse in 1968 by American scholar Stoller. There are various interpretations of the term “gender” in the scientific literature. The English word “gender” refers to the social aspects of being male or female. This concept encompasses not only the biological differences between men and women but also the social and cultural distinctions in the sexual division within society.

## METHODOLOGY

This article follows a qualitative approach, reviewing the available literature on gender linguistics within Uzbek linguistics. The research primarily draws from studies conducted within the last two decades, focusing on empirical and theoretical works that address the intersection of gender and language in Uzbek. Data sources include academic papers, dissertations, and books from Uzbek linguistic researchers and scholars. Additionally, comparative analysis with global gender linguistics literature is utilized to contextualize the findings within international research.

The research focuses on three main aspects:

- 1. Gendered Linguistic Markers:** Investigating pronouns, nouns, verbs, and other grammatical structures in the Uzbek language that indicate gender differences.
- 2. Sociolinguistic Contexts:** Exploring how gender influences communication in different social settings such as family, work, and education.
- 3. Language and Gender Identity:** Analyzing how language shapes and is shaped by gender identities and roles in Uzbek-speaking communities.

By the 1990s, research on gender linguistics had gained significant momentum worldwide. As a result of these studies, some views on the topic began to appear in Uzbek linguistics. For instance, Z. Akbarova’s doctoral

thesis "Forms of Address in Uzbek and Their Linguistic Research" and N. Ahmedova's "Semantic and Connotative Analysis of Address Forms in Uzbek" address the explanation of address terms according to the gender designation field. Sh. Iskandarova's doctoral dissertation "Forms of Speech in Uzbek Communication" analyzes some linguistic differences between men's and women's speech, while her later work on "Studying the Lexicon of the Uzbek Language as a Semantic Field (Individual Microfield)" examines the distinction between names based on gender and physiological status. Iskandarova also provided valuable information on specific linguistic features of women's speech in her articles "Interjections in Women's Speech" and "Paralinguistic Means Representing Uzbek Speech Etiquette."

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

M. Saidkhonov's research "Nonverbal Means and their Representation in the Uzbek Language" addresses the ways in which Uzbek and women of other nationalities express sorrow. F. Musaev's article "Lexical-Semantic Methods of Expressing Biological Gender in the Uzbek Language" provides insights into lexemes that represent the meanings of male and female genders. Although these studies mainly cover one-sided aspects of linguistic features of women's speech and do not explicitly focus on gender as an object of study, they represent the early stages of gender linguistics research in Uzbekistan and are significant for its development.

Initial steps in the development of gender linguistics in Uzbekistan were taken through the doctoral research of young scholars such as A. Morozova, I. To'xtasinov, and G. Ergasheva. Morozova approached the gender issue through the material of the Spanish language, discussing the content of the concepts of "masculinity" and "femininity" and describing the gender stereotypes associated with them. Despite her cognitive approach, Morozova's research also presents scientifically grounded thoughts and hypotheses relevant to gender linguistics. To'xtasinov's comparative-typological research examined the gender-based lexical differences in artistic texts written in English and Uzbek, focusing on terms related to male and female physiological characteristics, including facial and body structure. Ergasheva's research analyzed the gender, pragmatic, and cognitive features of male and female concepts within the phraseological and paremological systems of English and Uzbek, as well as the descriptions of gender stereotypes in Uzbek phraseology. The scholar emphasized that gender studies in linguistics have become of crucial importance, as they deal with issues such as the elevation of spirituality, self-awareness, and human rights, and thus reflect the current significance of

gender linguistics.

Gender linguistics has also gained considerable attention in the works of Ph.D., Professor M. Qurbonova. In her 2011 article collection "Uzbek Linguistics in the Mirror of the Country's Innovative Development," she co-authored with S. Boymirzayeva an article titled "Gender Studies in Linguistics." In the scientific collection of the Republic Scientific-Theoretical Conference "Relevant Issues of Uzbek Linguistics," she co-authored with N. Rajabova an article titled "Gender Features of Discourse." These studies trace the gradual development of gender studies in linguistics and highlight how ideas from sociology, psychology, and other disciplines have contributed to the emergence of new methods and perspectives in linguistics.

In the article "Gender Studies in Linguistics," Qurbonova analyzes the relationship between language and gender and discusses the meanings of the term "gender" in the global scientific community. She also outlines significant works by Western and Russian linguists in this field and attempts to define the general linguistic essence of gender studies. Early gender linguistic research focused on the gender characteristics of linguistic forms, whereas current research aims to identify the "linguistic asymmetry" between men and women and how it relates to the concept of social gender.

In 2013, the collection "Relevant Issues of Linguistics" (Vol. VI) further expanded the focus on gender issues. The collection included the article "Gender Aspects of Stereotypes in Personal Ads" by N. Bekmuhamedova, "Gender Features of Zoonims Used for Personal Description" co-authored by B. Yo'ldoshev and K. Rajabova, and "Gender Features of Some Vulgarisms Used in Artistic Dialogic Speech" by M. Isayeva.

## CONCLUSION

The development of gender linguistics in Uzbek linguistics plays a crucial role in reflecting social and cultural changes. Studying gender issues through language helps to understand how linguistic traditions and social structures are formed. It is expected that research in gender linguistics will continue and open new prospects in the future. Gender linguistics in Uzbek linguistics research is an evolving field that has gained momentum in recent years. The early works of Uzbek scholars have laid a strong foundation for understanding how gender is represented and constructed in the Uzbek language. As societal attitudes toward gender continue to evolve, gender linguistics will remain a vital field for examining the intersection between language, culture, and gender roles. Future research in this area will undoubtedly

contribute to a deeper understanding of the ways in which language shapes and reflects gendered experiences in Uzbek society.

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