

The Basis For The Formation Of The Concept Of "Friend" As A Lexeme

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Abstract: This article examines the foundations of the formation of the concept of "friend" as a lexeme using a comparative linguistic approach. The study analyzes the etymological origin, semantic development, and linguocultural characteristics of the lexeme "friend" based on data from Russian, European languages (English, French, German, and Greek), and Turkic languages (Turkish, Uzbek, Kazakh, and Karakalpak). The findings demonstrate that the concept of "friend" has developed as a universal human value across different language families while retaining national and cultural specificity. Particular attention is paid to the social and ethical content of this lexeme in the Karakalpak language and its functioning in oral and literary discourse.

Keywords: Friend concept, lexeme, etymology, semantics, linguoculture, comparative linguistics, Turkic languages.

Introduction: Language is a complex phenomenon that reflects the cultural, social, and historical development of society. Each linguistic unit, primarily lexemes, expresses the worldview, values, and mentality of that people. From this perspective, the lexeme "friend" is considered one of the most ancient and semantically diverse units expressing human relationships. The concept of "friend" has national-cultural characteristics in its semantic content, evaluative components, and usage in different cultures and languages.

A friend is one of the central elements of a person's social system and is expressed in many languages through a separate lexical unit or term. These lexemes are confined to the lexical system of the language. It also reflects the culture, values, and socio-psychological character of that language.

Studying the etymology of language units reveals the origin of a word and the cultural and conceptual layers associated with it. The lexeme "friend" is one of the oldest and most universal concepts of human relations and is considered the main semantic unit expressing feelings of social closeness, trust, loyalty, and devotion

in almost all languages.

The object of our research, the lexeme "friend," will first be addressed in general linguistics, including its etymology within European languages. The word "friend" in English originated from the ancient English word "freond." It comes from the verb *freon* - to love. The appearance of this lexeme in the oldest written sources dates back to the 12th century (1175). There is evidence that during those times, this lexeme was used in forms such as *frend*, *freond*, *frendis*, *frende* [1.]. The *Friend* form began to be used in 1637, that is, in the 17th century. The Oxford English Dictionary provides the following explanation. A friend is a person who forms close and informal relationships based on mutual trust and closeness, a close acquaintance [2.].

In Germanic languages, the lexeme "friend" appears in the form of "*frigonz*," denoting "*priy*" - close, beloved. In German: *freund*, in Dutch: *vriend*, in Swedish: *vän*. Nevertheless, in all these languages, semantically, they express and explain the same meaning: "intimacy" and "love."

In Russian linguistics, the word "*друг*" is characteristic

of Slavic languages and originated in the form "дpyr." According to scholars, this unit originally meant "companion." In some etymological sources, the lexeme "дpyr" is used to mean "one who acts in turn" or "to stand on one side, to support."

In the etymological dictionary of the linguist M. Fasmer, in Russian linguistics, the forms *drug*, *drugа*, and *druziya* exist. This dictionary lists the forms of the lexeme "friend" not only in Russian but in all languages close to that language. In the Old Prussian language *asylwaldūnen* - joint heir, in the Lithuanian language *draūgas* - companion, joining, uniting, in the Gothic language *driugan* - military campaign, soldier, in the Old German language *trucht* - a detachment going to war. In this dictionary, we can see that the lexeme "friend" was first used in military lexicon in ancient times [4.].

Let's consider the usage of this unit in Slavic languages: in Polish: *dróg*, in Czech: *druh*, in Serbian: *drug*. This situation demonstrates the connection between the concept of friendship in Slavic culture and social origin [5.].

In European linguistics, including Latin, the word *amicus* (friend) means *amare* - to love. This form is also widely used in Romance languages. In French: *ami*, in Italian: *amico*, in Spanish: *amigo*. Thus, in Romance languages, the lexeme "friend" represents the semantics of "love" [6.].

In ancient Greek, the lexeme *philos* (friend) means "close, beloved, friend." This unit is etymologically related to the verb *philos* - to love, and in Greek philosophy, the concept of *philia* expresses the moral and social basis of friendship [7.].

In the lexical system of Turkic languages, the lexeme "friend" has its own semantic and linguocultural significance and is considered one of the main concepts reflecting the socio-ethical criteria of interpersonal relationships. The origin of the term "friend" in Turkic languages is linked to various linguistic factors. While scholars associate this lexeme with ancient Turkic languages, some scholars argue that it was adopted into Turkic languages as a result of long-standing historical and cultural relations with Persian-Tajik languages. Therefore, it is advisable to analyze the manifestations of this lexeme in some Turkic languages separately.

The lexeme "friend" in Turkic languages is not primarily a unit belonging to the Turkic genetic layer; it is a unit borrowed from the Persian-Tajik lexeme "friend." The original meaning of this word is "close," "beloved," "faithful person," and it has an emotional-axiological meaning in the Persian language. This unity entered Turkic languages through Islamic culture and played an active role in literary language, fiction, and oral literature. As a result, in Turkic languages, the term "friend" often conveys meanings such as spiritual closeness, loyalty, and trust.

"Do'st" (from Persian) - (from "dust" - companion, close, beloved) confidant, close, companion, beloved [14.]. It is used as "döst" in Uzbek, "döst" in Kazakh, "döst" in Kyrgyz, and "döst" in Uyghur. The following information is provided in the etymological dictionary of Persian-Tajik languages regarding the term "friend." The word "do'st" (friend) in Persian belongs to the ancient Iranian lexicon and belongs to the original vocabulary found in both New Persian and Middle Persian. In Middle Persian, "do'st" means "close person, loyal person," while in modern Persian, "do'st" means "friend, beloved, supporter" [8.]. According to the etymology of many scholars (Dehkhoda, Sokhan, P. Horn, F. Steingass), the word "friend" is related to Indo-European languages and expresses the semantics of closeness and affection [9].

In the Turkic language, the lexeme "do'st" is preserved in the form "dost," which is one of the units that has preserved a stable semantic content in the historical development of the language. This term is used in the Turkic literary language in the forms "dost" and "arkadaş." The lexeme "friend" was borrowed from Persian and assimilated into its own language. The term "Arkadaş" (friend) is formed by the noun "arqa" (back, support) and the suffix "daş," indicating companionship. Although this term is literally translated as "to close the rope," it semantically means "a person who supports, relies on, and helps others." However, the forms *do'st* and *döst* (friend) are actively functioning in the same meaning in modern Turkish [10.].

In the Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Nogai, and Uzbek languages, which are closest to Karakalpak linguistics, the etymology of the lexeme "friend" is borrowed from the Persian-Tajik languages. In ancient Persian, the military lexeme later became a lexical term with socio-ethical

meaning.

First of all, it is necessary to dwell on the issue of etymological origins and semantic development of the lexeme "friend" in the Uzbek language. In the Uzbek language, this unit forms the basis of ancient Turkic languages and is perceived as a lexical layer formed mainly as a result of the influence of the Persian-Tajik language.

In the Uzbek explanatory dictionary, "Do'st" is derived from Persian and means "kind friend, companion, acquaintance, beloved." This term expresses meanings such as close person, soulmate, and close friend, and is actively used in modern Uzbek [11.].

As the object of further research, we will focus on the lexeme "friend" in the Kazakh language. In the Kazakh language, this unit is phonetically abbreviated, and its root is closely related to all Turkic languages.

The explanatory dictionary of the Kazakh language defines the lexeme "friend" as follows. The word "do'st" (friend) comes from the Persian word "do'st," meaning "spiritual companion." In the Kazakh language, the term "friend" belongs to the noun category and also means "a person who sincerely helps each other, respects, shares secrets, a precious person." If figurative meanings are used: "companion, companion, advisor, caring person, compassionate person" [12.].

In Karakalpak linguistics, the lexeme "friend" is one of the main semantic units denoting concepts such as closeness, loyalty, trust, and cooperation between people. This lexeme is distinguished by the fact that it reflects not only personal relations, but also a wide range of socio-ethical values. Specifically, in examples of Karakalpak folklore, proverbs, epics, and literature, the lexeme "friend" is often presented as a symbol of loyalty and faithfulness.

Our next research objective is to examine the origin of the lexeme "friend" in the Karakalpak language and its definitions in scientific explanatory dictionaries. The term "friend" in the explanatory dictionary of the Karakalpak language has the following meanings:

"Friend" noun. 1. Each of two or more people with similar views, actions, and thoughts, connected by harmony and unity. Dear friend. Loyal friend. If a friend gives a hand to a friend, even a hair won't pass between them (proverb). 2. Close, familiar. Your people are

brave, friendly and kind, Flourish freely and live forever (I. Yusupov). 3. A supporter of something or someone, their protector. Cleanliness and order are your friends, Remember, children (X.Turimbetov). 4. Figurative. Caring. I need just men who don't let a friend's child cry (Berdaq). 5. Figurative. Spiritual nourishment. A book is a friend to a person (proverb). For the purpose of observation and communication. A man who has journeyed to the east, Hurry, my friend, to reach our land (I. Yusupov). 7. Phrase. It's said when a friend, a close person, does something bad. A true friend is one who doesn't spare their life. Even if a close friend sacrifices their life, wealth won't be sacrificed by a close friend's wealth (proverb). This explanatory dictionary also contains the term "dosaq," meaning friend. Dosaq horse. Folk Friend, comrade. Many friends have already realized their inability to reach (K.Raxmanov). Furthermore, terms like "friend" and "enemy," "friend" and "friend" are also among those that express the meaning of "friend." Friend-enemy noun. Friends and enemies. Whoever joins with tears will not recognize their friend and foe (proverb). *Döst-yor* (n.) friend, companion. Drawing relatives close to your heart, Trusting friends and brothers (A. Amaniya). Friendly name. Friend, friendship, companion, peer. Maxtumluli was a poet, He praised his friends and companions (Berdaq) [13.].

In this article, the etymological and semantic features of the concept of friend and its rhyming lexemes in Russian, European (French, German, Greek), and Turkic languages (Turkish, Uzbek, Kazakh, Karakalpak) were analyzed based on a comparative-linguistic approach. Research results show that, despite belonging to different language families, the concept of friendship has been established as a universal value in human thought, preserving a close semantic core in many languages.

Analyses show that in Indo-European languages, the lexeme "friend" is associated with the meanings of "to love," "to be close," and "loyalty," while in Turkic languages, this concept is enriched with socio-ethical meanings such as "faith" and "unity." Especially in the Uzbek, Kazakh, and Karakalpak languages, the lexeme "friend" emphasizes not interpersonal relationships, but social harmony and community closeness, further enhancing its linguocultural significance.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the conducted research has scientifically demonstrated that the concept of friend has a multifaceted semantic structure and that it has both common and specific aspects in different languages. The results of this research can serve as a theoretical basis for further research in the fields of conceptual linguistics, ethnolinguistics, and comparative philology.

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