

HOSPITALITY CONCEPT IN UZBEK AND ENGLISH CULTURES: A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Najmiddinova Mehriqul Najmiddin qizi

Teacher of Navoi State University

Email: mehriqul@nspi.uz

Tel: +998907313080

ORCID ID: 0009-0007-8449-3373

Abstract *This paper explores the concept of hospitality in Uzbek and English cultures, analyzing its cultural, linguistic, and pragmatic dimensions. While Uzbek hospitality is predominantly perceived as a social and moral obligation deeply rooted in traditions, English hospitality often aligns with the service and business domain, reflected in the global “hospitality industry.” By comparing proverbs, idiomatic expressions, and cultural practices, the study highlights how hospitality functions both as a value and as an economic sphere. Findings show that Uzbek hospitality emphasizes generosity, respect, and spiritual symbolism, whereas in English culture, hospitality integrates personal choice, comfort, and professional service.*

Keywords: *hospitality, Uzbek culture, English culture, linguoculturology, pragmatics, tourism, hospitality industry.*

Introduction

Hospitality, as a universal human practice, carries different cultural interpretations across societies. In Uzbekistan, hospitality (*mehmondo'stlik*) is embedded in everyday life as a sacred duty and symbol of blessing. Conversely, in English-speaking contexts, hospitality frequently transcends household traditions and manifests as an organized industry connected to tourism, hotels, and business. This study seeks to compare the hospitality concept in Uzbek and English cultures, focusing on its linguistic expressions, cultural meanings, and pragmatic applications.

Methods

The study employs a comparative linguocultural method, analyzing:

1. Proverbs and idioms related to hospitality in Uzbek and English.
2. Pragmatic speech acts used when hosting or welcoming guests.
3. Socio-cultural practices tied to hospitality (home rituals in Uzbekistan vs. business-oriented hospitality in English culture).
4. Secondary literature on hospitality industry studies and cultural pragmatics.

Results

In Uzbek Culture Proverbs: “Mehmon otadan ulugʻ” (“A guest is greater than a father”), “Mehmon kelsa, kismat kelsin” (“A guest brings fortune”).

-Hospitality is considered a moral duty, often involving food, shelter, and respect.

-Guests symbolize baraka (blessing), and refusing hospitality is culturally unacceptable.

In English Culture common phrases: “Make yourself at home,” “Help yourself.”

-Hospitality reflects personal choice and comfort, not strict obligation.

-The notion of hospitality extends beyond private life into the “hospitality industry”, encompassing hotels, restaurants, and tourism services.

Discussion

The comparison demonstrates that hospitality in Uzbek culture remains collectivist and tradition-oriented, functioning as a moral-ethical principle. It reinforces social ties and reflects the nation’s identity as generous and respectful toward outsiders.

In contrast, English culture frames hospitality within individualist and business-oriented contexts. While domestic hospitality exists, it is less obligatory and more flexible. Instead, the concept flourishes in the service economy, where “hospitality” is professionalized and monetized.

Thus, the same concept acquires different pragmatic orientations:

- Uzbek culture: hospitality = obligation + spirituality.
- English culture: hospitality = comfort + industry/service.

Conclusion

The study concludes that the hospitality concept is universal yet culturally specific. In Uzbek culture, it symbolizes generosity, blessing, and tradition, whereas in English culture, it merges with modern business practices and global tourism. Understanding these differences is crucial for intercultural communication, tourism development, and linguocultural studies.

References

- 1.Karimov, I. A. (1996). O‘zbek xalqining ma’naviy qadriyatlari. Tashkent.
- 2.Lashley, C., & Morrison, A. (2000). In Search of Hospitality: Theoretical Perspectives and Debates. Oxford: Butterworth-Heinemann.
- 3.Najmiddinova M.N., Najmiddinova G.N. “Pedagogical mechanisms for improving student knowledge with the help of Artificial Intelligence”. International journal of scientific researchers”. www.wordlyknowledge.uz. Volume: 2, Issue: 1, 2023.
4. Najmiddinova M.N., Najmiddinova S.N. “Ways to organize the activities of teachers in the process of distance Education” . Asian Journal of Multidimensional Research, ISSN: 2278-4853 Vol. 11, Issue 5, May 2022.
5. Najmiddinova M.N. “Practical basis of the problem of teaching foreign languages in high education system”. International Conference on Sustainable Development and Economics. June 24-25.
6. Najmiddinova M.N. Linguodidactic features of proverbs related to the concept of “hospitality” (Examples from English and Uzbek languages) // il va adabiyot.uz Ilmiy-metodik elektron jurnal. -tilvaadabiyotuz@gmail.com, 6-son.2025.-B.227-230. <https://oak.uz/pages/4802>
7. Najmiddinova M.N., Furqatova H.A., Nabiyeva D.G‘. “Linguistic features of phraseological units with a common meaning “hospitality”, “Modern trends of teaching in the context of innovative and digital technologies in higher education: prospects, problems and solutions”. November 29, 2024. – B.607-609.<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14259715>.

8. Najmiddinova M.N. "Linguocultural and linguopragmatic features of the concept of "hospitality" in English and Uzbek"//International conference Philology, Methodology, Translation Studies: Current Issues of Modern Science. -8-9.11.2024.-P.306-309.<https://doi.org/10.2024/1xm0b673>.

9. Najmiddinova M.N. "Linguoculturalogical features of proverbs on "hospitality" in English and Uzbek", Tamaddun nuri // The light of civilization, ISSN 2181-8258, 10(61), 2024.-P.74-79. <https://jurnal.tamaddunnuri.uz/index.php/tnj/article/view/972>

10. Najmiddinova M.N., Qahramonova M.U. "Innovation in language teaching, learning and assessment" // Results of National Scientific Research International Journal, Volume 4| Issue 3 Researchbib 9.1, ISSN: 2181-3639,2025. -P.132-140. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15111294>

11. Najmiddinova M.N. "Mehmondo'stlik" tushunchasiga oid maqollarning pragmatik tahlili/"Universal journal of social sciences philosophy and culture". - <https://scienceresearch.uz/index.php/UJSSPC/article/view/286> ISSN: 2992-8834 IMPACT FACTOR: 8.0,2025.-B.44-50.. <https://zenodo.org/records/14732811>

12. Najmiddinova M.N. Similarities and differences between values of Uzbek and English cultures // Tanqidiy nazar, tahliliy tafakkur va innovatsion g'oyalar.2025.-B.107-111. <https://phoenixpublication.net/index.php/TANQ/article/view/3802>

13. Najmiddinova M.N., Rahmatova M.U. The role of Pragmatics in Intercultural Communication with an Emphasis on Politeness // Tamaddun Nuri/The light of civilization. - ISSN 2181-8258 IF-9.347 DOI 10.69691,4-son (67) 2025.-P.237-240. <https://doi.org/10.2024/1xm0b673>.

14. Najmiddinova M.N. Linguistic features of phraseological units with a common meaning "hospitality" // Qo'qon DPI. Ilmiy xabarlar,3-son. ISBN: 978-9943-7182-7-2 "CLASSIC" nashriyoti.2025.-P.1886-1891. www.kspi.uz journal.kspi.uz

15. Smith, V. L. (1989). Hosts and Guests: The Anthropology of Tourism. University of Pennsylvania Press.

16. Tylor, E. B. (2010). Primitive Culture. Cambridge University Press.

17. Wierzbicka, A. (1997). Understanding Cultures through Their Key Words. Oxford University Press.