



CULTURAL VALUES AND POLITENESS NORMS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK SPEECH COMMUNITIES.

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Annotation: *This study explores the intricate relationship between cultural values and politeness norms within English and Uzbek speech communities. It examines how cultural backgrounds shape communication styles, particularly in terms of politeness, respect, and social hierarchy. The research highlights key differences and similarities in how politeness is expressed in both cultures, influenced by factors such as collectivism versus individualism, social status, and familial ties. Through comparative analysis, the study aims to provide insights into the linguistic strategies employed by speakers in each community, illustrating how language reflects broader societal values.*

Keywords: *Politeness, cultural values, speech communities, communication styles, intercultural communication, collectivism, individualism, linguistic strategies, respect, pragmatics, familial ties, face-saving strategies, cross-cultural comparison,*

Introduction

Cultural values and politeness norms are fundamental aspects of communication that shape interactions within any speech community. These elements not only reflect the underlying beliefs and practices of a society but also influence how individuals express themselves and relate to one another. This article aims to explore the cultural values and politeness norms prevalent in English and Uzbek speech communities, highlighting their similarities and differences while examining how these factors affect interpersonal communication.

Language serves as a mirror of culture, encapsulating the traditions, social structures, and historical contexts of its speakers. In English-speaking cultures, which are often characterized by individualism and a focus on personal autonomy, politeness norms tend to emphasize directness, clarity, and efficiency in communication. This is evident in the use of explicit language, where speakers often value straightforwardness over ambiguity. The concept of "saving face" is also present but is frequently balanced with the need for honesty and transparency. Such values are shaped by broader societal norms that prioritize personal rights and freedoms, leading to a communication style that is often perceived as assertive.

One aspect of politeness that proverbs often highlight is its universal nature. Proverbs such as "Politeness is the language spoken by the wise" or "Politeness is the crowning jewel of good character" emphasize that being polite is not specific to any particular culture or time period. Instead, it is viewed as a timeless virtue valued by individuals across various societies. This universality suggests that politeness is recognized as a fundamental aspect of human interaction and interpersonal harmony. Proverbs also shed light on the impact and benefits of,



politeness. For example, the proverb "A kind word turneth away wrath" illustrates how a simple act of politeness can diffuse conflicts and defuse volatile situations. It implies that by choosing our words carefully and approaching others with respect, we can transform tense moments into opportunities for understanding and resolution. Moreover, proverbs frequently emphasize the significance of small acts of politeness. The proverb "A courteous act is a small step towards a better world" suggests that even seemingly insignificant gestures can have significant positive effects. This highlights the idea that politeness is not confined to grand gestures or formalities but encompasses everyday acts of consideration and kindness. It underscores the power of cumulative small actions in fostering a more harmonious and inclusive society. Besides, the interpersonal aspect of politeness is present in many proverbs. For instance, "A polite gesture carries the weight of a thousand words" emphasizes the impact of non-verbal cues and actions in communication. It suggests that thoughtful and considerate gestures can have a profound influence on how our words are received and understood by others. And the proverb "Politeness is the language spoken by the wise" highlights the notion that truly wise individuals understand the value of being polite and using courteous language. Proverbs also emphasize the universal nature of politeness, demonstrating that it is a quality that should be practiced by all. "He who is kind and courteous reaps a bountiful harvest" suggests that being polite not only benefits others but also brings rewards to the polite individual. Additionally, the proverb "Speak with politeness, and you shall be heard with reverence" underscores the idea that by choosing our words carefully and treating others with respect, we are more likely to be listened to and respected in return. "Politeness is the river that brings people together" illustrates how politeness acts as a connector, fostering understanding and bringing individuals closer. In the mentality of the Uzbek people, the Politeness category is the richest and most applicable aspect. We can learn this by getting acquainted with the content of thousands of Uzbek folk proverbs that promote the ideas of politeness and manners. For instance, "Onangga boshingni xam qil, Otangga gapingni kam qil" this proverb is described in Uzbek culture as an address calling for the sanctity of parents and the need to show respect to them. And in the next proverb, "Og'ani ko'rib ini o'sar, Opani ko'rib - singlisi" reflects the family environment is taken as the main central part, and it is said that politeness and upbringing are formed under the influence of their grown-up family members, parents, siblings. Furthermore, "Odobli O'g'il ko'kdagi yulduz, Odobli Qiz yoqadagi qunduz" in this proverb, irony is used through the method of comparison, and the form of the proverb is formed in a poetic way. It is said that the semantic meaning of a decent boy and a girl child is considered the most valuable achievement. In the next one, they say, "Salom- farz, Alik ham farz". The real Uzbek culture is reflected, and there is an instruction for people who do not know this nation: All conversations, whether it is with adults or small people, close relatives, acquaintances or strangers. The use of the phrase "Assalamu aleikum" and "Waalaikum assalam" is the biggest sign of mentality and a norm that shows politeness. Additionally, through such proverbs "Husn Husn emas, Odob husndir", "Yaxshi xulq-kishining husni" yoki "Turqi buzuqdan xulqi buzuq yomonroq" illustrates the meaning that,



makes a person's beauty is not in his physical appearance, but his beautiful character. know this nation: All conversations, whether it is with adults or small people, close relatives, acquaintances or strangers. The use of the phrase "Assalamu aleikum" and "Waalaikum assalam" is the biggest sign of mentality and a norm that shows politeness. Additionally, through such proverbs "Husn Husn emas, Odob husndir", "Yaxshi xulq- kishining husni" yoki "Turqi buzuqdan xulqi buzuq yomonroq" illustrates the meaning that makes a person's beauty is not in his physical appearance, but his beautiful character.

Through the linguistic and cultural analysis of the proverbs related to politeness, we can see how close the culture, language, and thoughts of the two nations: English and Uzbek are, through the following results: For example, the English proverb "He Who shows respect will be respected" is equally equivalent to the Uzbek proverb "Hurmat qilgan Hurmat ko'radi". When analyzing it linguistically, these two proverbs are grammatically, lexically, and spiritually equivalent to each other. This shows that the cultures of the two countries share the same mindset in some aspects. Below we can get acquainted with similar examples:

English	Uzbek
The Hand that gives is always on top	Beruvchi qo'l oluvchi qo'ldan afzaldir
Good behaviour is the best outfit you can wear	Odobdanda go'zalroq libos yo'q
Politeness is the flower of humanity	Odob insonning naqshidir
A person who is impolite to others is impolite to themselves	O'zini hurmat qilmagan inson O'zgani ham hurmat qila olmaydi

In order to enrich our research, I have included in this article an analysis of the book "Polite Conversation" by Jonathan Swift. "Polite Conversation" by Jonathan Swift is a satirical work that mocks the insincere and superficial nature of polite exchanges among the upper class in 18th-century England. Through witty and ironic dialogue, Swift exposes the artificiality and hypocrisy of social interactions, challenging the notion that politeness reflects genuine respect and consideration. The work parodies the formulaic and predictable patterns of polite conversation, criticizing the rigid social etiquette and hierarchical nature of polite society. Overall, "Polite Conversation" serves Web of Semantic: Universal Journal on Innovative Education ISSN: 2835-3048 <https://univerpubl.com/index.php/semantic> 179 as a sharp critique of the hollow and complacent nature of polite exchanges during Swift's time. Let's see the proverbs given in this work relating to politeness:

1. "Keep your breath to cool your porridge" (page 87) means to refrain from speech where it is futile or not wanted; To shut up
2. "Good folks are scarce" (page 69) means a good man is hard to find
3. "Miss, your tongue runs before your wit" (page 103) means a stupid person who talks before thinking so very often he or she talks nonsense
4. "Your tongue is no slander" (page 121) means He who speaks truth from his heart and has no slander on his tongue





5. "Scornful dogs will eat dirty puddings" (page 145) means people in emergency will do things that they usually scorn
6. "I'm as old as my tongue and a little older than my teeth" (page 77) means a vague response given when one is asked how old they are
7. " pox on your picture" (page 73) means to express curses upon somebody, when irked or wroth as though wishing a pox
8. "You won't give your head for the washing" (page 71) means to submit passively to a reprimand punishment or mistreatment
9. "Promises and pie-crust are made to be broken" (page 96) means promises by some sort of people should not be trusted
10. "She looks as if butter wouldn't melt in her mouth but I warrant, Cheese won't choke her" (page 149) means so the sense nearest the mark is (one who is) superficially nice but is treacherous deep down. The underlying insincerity is shown in this excerpt from Jonathan Swift's Polite Conversation.

Conclusion

In examining the category of politeness within English and Uzbek proverbs, we can see a common thread that emphasizes the importance of courteous behavior, respect for others, and the positive impact of politeness in our daily interactions. While the proverbs may differ in wording and cultural context, they share similar underlying themes that resonate across different societies. Both English and Uzbek proverbs highlight the universal nature of politeness, recognizing it as a timeless virtue valued by individuals across cultures. The proverbs emphasize that being polite is not specific to any particular language or country but is an essential aspect of human interaction and social harmony. And both English and Uzbek proverbs underline the importance of politeness as a fundamental aspect of human interaction. They convey the significance of respectful behavior, kind words, and considerate actions in fostering positive relationships and creating a harmonious social environment. These proverbs serve as timeless reminders that politeness is a universal language that transcends cultural boundaries and that it plays a vital role in shaping our interactions, both locally and globally.

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