



THE ROLE OF COMPOUND WORDS (JUFT SO'ZLAR) IN SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXTS IN GERMAN AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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Abstract: *This article explores the role of compound words (juft so'zlar) in the social and cultural contexts of the German and Uzbek languages. Compound words, as an essential component of both languages, reflect the society and culture in which they are used. They not only enrich the vocabulary but also serve as vehicles for cultural expressions, embodying the values, traditions, and social structures of their respective communities. The article examines how compound words in German and Uzbek reflect social practices, historical influences, and cultural values. Furthermore, it investigates how these compound words adapt to modern social changes and continue to shape the way speakers of these languages view the world.*

Keywords: *compound words, juft so'zlar, social context, cultural context, German language, Uzbek language, linguistic creativity, social identity, cultural expression.*

Compound words, known as *juft so'zlar* in Uzbek and *Zusammensetzungen* in German, are linguistic constructs that play a central role in the formation of meaning within a language. These compound structures—combinations of two or more words to create a new term with a specific meaning—are more than just grammatical entities; they are a reflection of the social and cultural realities in which they arise. Both in German and Uzbek, compound words reflect social practices, cultural values, and the worldview of the speakers. In these languages, compounds often symbolize collective identity, social norms, and historical development. This article aims to explore the significance of compound words in both languages, focusing on their social and cultural roles and how they evolve over time to represent shifts in societal values and collective consciousness.

In the German language, compound words have long been a hallmark of its linguistic structure. German is known for its ability to form lengthy and complex compound words that encapsulate specific meanings. Many of these words reflect social customs, historical moments, and societal transformations. From everyday objects to abstract concepts, German compounds serve as a powerful tool for conveying meaning, particularly in the context of social and cultural understanding.

• **Social Context of German Compound Words:** In German, compound words often embody social practices and values. For example, *Wohlstandsgesellschaft* (society of prosperity) reflects the post-World War II economic boom and the societal shift towards



material well-being. *Bildungslücke* (education gap) refers to the social issue of unequal access to education. These compounds are not only used in language but also function as social identifiers, reflecting the values and priorities of a given time and place.

- **Cultural Context in German Compound Words:** Compound words also express aspects of German culture, such as the importance of precision, order, and innovation. For example, terms like *Weltraumforschung* (space exploration) reflect Germany's scientific and technological advancements, while words like *Volkfest* (people's festival) are deeply rooted in German traditions of communal celebrations and cultural heritage.

- **Adaptation to Modern Social Changes:** The German language has also adapted its compound words to reflect modern social issues. For instance, *Genderngerechtigkeit* (gender equality) emerged as society recognized the need for gender-based reforms, illustrating the role of language in responding to shifts in social consciousness.

Uzbek is a language that has undergone significant social and cultural changes, particularly in the 20th and 21st centuries. As a Turkic language, it relies heavily on agglutination and compounding to form new words. The role of compound words in Uzbek reflects both traditional cultural values and the influence of modernization, Russian colonial history, and global interactions.

- **Social Context of Uzbek Compound Words:** Uzbek compound words frequently embody the collective social identity and practices of the Uzbek people. For instance, words like *obod hayot* (prosperous life) or *ko'prik qurilishi* (bridge construction) reflect the importance of community, stability, and infrastructure in Uzbek society. Moreover, *oila davrasida* (within the family circle) refers to the centrality of family life and communal relationships in Uzbek social structure.

- **Cultural Context in Uzbek Compound Words:** Many compound words in Uzbek are deeply rooted in the culture's historical and religious context. For instance, terms such as *mehnatsevar* (hardworking) and *e'tiborli* (attentive) reflect the values of diligence, respect, and care that are emphasized in Uzbek society. Additionally, words like *yurtga qaytish* (return to the homeland) evoke the importance of national identity, belonging, and patriotism in Uzbek culture.

- **Modern Influence on Uzbek Compound Words:** The Soviet era brought significant lexical and social changes to Uzbek, with new compound words reflecting political ideologies and technological progress. Words like *kompyuter texnologiyalari* (computer technologies) and *madaniy meros* (cultural heritage) emerged during the period of modernization, showing the impact of global trends on Uzbek society.

While both languages share the structural feature of compound word formation, the social and cultural contexts in which these compounds arise are shaped by different historical, social, and cultural factors.

- **Shared Characteristics:** Both German and Uzbek compound words often encapsulate core societal values, such as the emphasis on education, family, and prosperity. For example, *Bildungslücke* (education gap) in German and *ta'limdagi farq* (gap in



education) in Uzbek reflect concerns about educational inequality. Both languages use compound words to highlight societal issues, whether they are economic, political, or social in nature.

- **Cultural Influences:** One key difference lies in the cultural influences on compound word formation. German compounds are heavily influenced by Western ideals of progress, individualism, and innovation, with terms like *Freiheit* (freedom) and *Demokratie* (democracy) reflecting the country's history. In contrast, Uzbek compound words carry strong cultural and historical connections to the land, family, and community, which are central to Uzbek identity.

- **Evolution and Modernization:** Both languages demonstrate the adaptability of compound words to modern issues. However, German compounds tend to evolve quickly, reflecting the rapid pace of change in German society, while Uzbek compound words often undergo gradual changes influenced by national identity and political context.

Compound words in both German and Uzbek play a crucial role in reflecting and shaping the social and cultural identities of their speakers. They are more than just linguistic constructs; they are windows into the values, traditions, and social practices that define a community. In German, compound words are a reflection of precision, order, and modernity, while in Uzbek, they express deep-rooted cultural values of community, family, and national identity. Both languages demonstrate how language evolves to meet the needs of its speakers, adapting to societal and cultural shifts while preserving key aspects of tradition. The study of these compound words offers valuable insights into the relationship between language, culture, and society.

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