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## Graduonymy as an Object of Study in Uzbek Linguistics

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### ANNOTATION

This scientific article is devoted to the study of graduonymy in modern Uzbek linguistics. It gives the analysis of scientific works of scientists and researchers who have studied the categories of adjective powers, the phenomenon of graduonymy and their specific features. The article generalizes the existing material on the studied topic in Uzbek linguistics, and introduces such terms as gradation, gradualness, gradational relation, gradational scale, climax, anticlimax, etc.

As a research task, the author has defined an attempt to evaluate the study of graduonymy from the point of view of Uzbek linguistics. Graduonymy in Uzbek linguistics has not been fully studied, so it requires more thorough and in-depth research.

**KEYWORDS:** degree, gradation, graduonymy, degree scale, climax, anticlimax, linguistics, semantics, functional, ethnic, national-cultural, mental.

There are 7151 languages belonging to 142 families<sup>1</sup> of languages on the Earth, developing and improving on the basis of historical, ethnic, national and cultural peculiarities specific to each language. One of these languages is Uzbek, which is among the most widespread languages in Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Russia, Turkey and other countries. It is the official language of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The number of Uzbek-speakers today is more than 60 million people<sup>2</sup>, and it is taught in more than 50 higher educational institutions in foreign countries. That testifies to the fact that for the recent years the status and prestige of the Uzbek language has increased a lot of researches on linguistic peculiarities of the Uzbek language are carried out, as it has been forming for centuries on the basis of its cultural heritage. The fact that all these processes were influenced by the Cyrillic alphabet, the ancient alphabet of the Slavic languages, which served as a source of enrichment, replenishing the vocabulary of the Uzbek language with foreign words and terms, is also of no small importance.

<sup>1</sup> <https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/> (circulation date October 2, 2022)

<sup>2</sup> <https://kun.uz/news> (circulation date November 2, 2022)

It is expedient to note that the world linguistics deeply studies the language picture of the universe from the point of view of thinking, language consciousness, evaluation and values of speakers of each language. The signs of any object / subject, event, phenomenon, the ratio of the criteria of increase / decrease in relation to the norms of perception of reality and way of life, reflect through language both ethnic and national-cultural characteristics of a particular nation.

Along with this, special attention is also paid to the systematic study of the factors of formation, worldview of this or that nation, their connection with the way of life and systematic study of scientific-theoretical interpretations through the reflection of the sign in the language, norm and subjective evaluative attitudes to it, as well as the degree of increase / decrease of the feature, quality or quantity.

The first mentions of graduonymy appeared in Uzbek linguistics at the end of the XX century. A number of scientific studies were conducted on the relationship between the types, methods, means of gradation, which is a process embodying ethnic factors, national-cultural features as an aspect of personality development in society. Fruitful scientific work on the study of the category of degrees of adjectives, which later laid the foundation for the study of graduonymy, is found in the studies of such scientists as Z.M.Magrufov<sup>3</sup>, F.G.Is`khakov<sup>4</sup>, A.Khametova<sup>5</sup>, M.Sadykova<sup>6</sup>, S.Giyasov<sup>7</sup> and others.

Regarding the phenomenon of graduonymy in Uzbek linguistics, we can note that it has been investigated by such scholars, Sh.Orifjanova, O.Bazarov, N.Vahidova, J.Jumabaeva and G.Rakhmonov<sup>8</sup>.

We face the task of studying of graduonymy in the Uzbek language, as the samples displaying and combining elements of graduonymy were discovered much earlier than it began to be studied by scientists of other countries.

The term gradonimity first appeared in Uzbek linguistics as the term *gradonomy*, and the term *gradation* (from Latin *gradation* - gradual increase, gain) was interpreted as a stylistic means denoting the increase, increase of a sign of one of other elements of speech. The term *gradonimia* (*grad+onimia*) was formed by adding two bases, as well as other terms: synonymy, antonymy<sup>9</sup>, etc.

<sup>3</sup> Magrufov Z. Comparative degree of adjectives in the Uzbek language / Institute of Language and Literature named after A.S. Pushkin. - T., 1949. p.131-143.

<sup>9</sup> Orifjanova Sh. Lexical graduonymy in the Uzbek language: diss. Candidate of Philological Sciences. – T., 1996. p.113

<sup>4</sup> Is`khakov F.G. The adjective name // Studies on comparative grammar of Turkic languages. Part 2: Morphology / M.: Publishing house of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. 1956. p.143-145.

<sup>5</sup> Khametova A. Superlative and exaggerative degrees of adjectives in Turkic languages (on the materials of modern Uzbek, Uighur, Kazakh and Turkmen languages): doctoral dissertation ... in Philosophy. - T., 1969. p.14-45.

<sup>6</sup> Sadykova M. The adjective name in the modern Uzbek language, Fan. T., 1974. p.40.

<sup>7</sup> Giyasov S. Semantic structure and component analysis of qualitative adjectives in the Uzbek language. Author's dissertation ... Candidate of Philosophy. - T., 1983. p.22-32.

<sup>8</sup> Orifjanova Sh. Lexical graduonymy in the Uzbek language: diss. Candidate of Philological Sciences. – T., 1996; Bazarov O. Graduonymy in the Uzbek language. Diss. ... Doctor of Philosophy. - T., 1997. p.270; Vokhidova N. Ergebnisse einer webbasierten Umfrage zur Graduonymie // Akten des 43. Linguistischen Kolloquiums: Pragmntax II. Zumaktuellen Stand der Linguistik und ihrer Teildisziplinen, 2007; Vokhidova N. Lexikalisch-semantische Graduonymieim Deutschen // GLDV-2007: Workshop on Lexical-Semantic and Ontological Resources: Proceedings / C.Kunze, L.Lemnitzer, R.Osswald. p.119-128; Dzhumabaeva J.Sh. Lexical and stylistic gradonimiya in Uzbek and English languages. Diss. ... Doctor of Philosophy. - T., 2016. p.231; Rahmonov G. The relationship between lexical synonymy and graduonymy in the Uzbek language. Diss. ... Candidate of Philological Sciences. - F., 2018. p.132.

<sup>9</sup> Begmatov E., Nematov H., Rasulov R. Lexical microsystem and its research methodology (Theses of system lexicology) // Uzbek tili va adabiyoti. 1989. №6. p.35-40.

A number of studies conducted by Uzbek linguists substantiate that the semantic basis of semantic categories of adjectives is determined by graduonymy, along with this discursive change of semantic features of adjective degrees has several bases: direction and distance on the scale; depending on the nature of naming (increase / decrease); change in the appearance of the interpreted quantitative feature. It has been proved that polylexemic and monolexemic lexical units of adjective degrees in the Uzbek language depend not only on morphological and syntactic characteristics, but also on ethnic and cultural features.

The category of graduonymy is most noticeable on the grading scale, which is based on philosophy, logic, psychology, along with the fact that consciousness, worldview, human activities are more or less manifestations of its relationship with the world around. The analysis of the phenomena of gradation, graduonymy allows to illuminate the peculiarities of the phenomenon, specific methods of evaluation, means of expressing semantics. Graduality becomes relevant due to the fact that it serves to determine and justify the universality of language, identify ethnic features, national and cultural relations, features of mental consciousness. In addition to the above-mentioned works, phonetic graduonymy, graduonymy in compound sentences, differences between synonymy and graduonymy, etc. have also been studied.

E.Kilichev, analyzing semantic degree, denotative, connotative meanings of 99 verbs from the works of Alisher Navoi in his time, found that the verb *yig`lamoq* (to cry) may well constitute a graduation series of 7 verbs with the meaning of increasing action (*йигламоқ, инграмоқ, синграмоқ, сиқтамоқ, ўқирмоқ, уничкирмоқ, ҳой-ҳой йигламоқ*), and the verb *ichmoq* (to drink) is made up of 6 verbs that differ from each other in their meaning.

*Soqiyo tut bodakim, dir lahza o`zimdand boray,*

*Shart bukim, har necha tutsang labo-lab sipqoray.*

*Soqiyo chu ichib, manga tutar qo`sh:*

*Tomshiy-momshiy ani qilar no`sh.*

These lines represent the meaning of the verb *ichmoq* (to drink) according to the different degrees of action, in which the sign of action is most noticeable.

In addition, graduonymy is also reflected in the specific titles of Alisher Navoi's works, thus expressing the degree of increase: "*G'aroyib us-sig'ar*" ("Miracles of Youth"); "*Navodir ush-shabbob*" ("Rarities of Youth"); "*Badoye ul – vasat*" ("Midlife Discovery"); "*Favoyid ul-kibar*" ("Conclusions of Old Age").

An identical picture is observed in the title of Tolstoy's autobiographical trilogy: "*Childhood*", "*Adolescence*", "*Youth*".

The genre in which he created his poems also looks in ascending order of size: *musallas* → *murabba* → *muxammas* → *musaddas* → *musabba* → *musamman* → *mutassa* → *muashshar*<sup>10</sup>.

In "*Baburnama*" by Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur there are also verbs with the meaning of increasing action, for example: *yukinmoq* → *biroz yukinmoq* (bend over a bit) → *uch qatla yukinmoq* (bend over three times) → *besh-olti qatla yukinmoq* (bend over five or six times) → *to`qqiz qatla yukinmoq*<sup>11</sup> (to bend over nine times). The verb *yukinmoq* means "to incline," in the work it acts as an obligatory etiquette gesture of greeting in the

<sup>10</sup> Kilichev E. An abstract course "Hozirgi o`zbek tili". Bukhara University Press, B., 1999. p.68.

<sup>11</sup> Kholmanova Z. Boburnoma - til qomusi. - T., 2021. - p.336.

East. The increasing degree of inclination characterizes the degree of respect, and the semantic meaning expresses the gradality of the verb to *incline*.

With the exception of pronouns and prepositions in all parts of speech in the Uzbek language we can find examples of graduonymy. Regarding nouns we can note that as a result of the analysis of the conducted studies of gradation we found out that foreign prefixes as *hyper-*, *macro-*, *maxi-* (expressing amplification), *hypo-*, *micro-*, *mini-* (expressing decrease) are widely used, for example: *gipermatn*, *makroiqtisodiyot*, *maksimal*, *gipomarkaz*, *mikroo`g`it*, *minimal*.

However, there are some degree series that are considered unique, such as: *nimchorak* (one-eighth), *mahalla* (administrative-territorial unit of Uzbekistan), *oqsoqol* (venerable old man); cyclical: *bomdod* → *peshin* → *asr* → *shom* → *xufton* (time of namaz), due to national and cultural peculiarities.

In spite of the fact that the terms graduonymy, gradonymic relations and gradality are perceived as synonyms in Uzbek language, there are different opinions of scientists concerning this phenomenon, its categorical features, composition, means of expression and structure. There are no definitive scientific justifications and prerequisites for considering the phenomenon of graduonymy as a functional-semantic field.

Based on the above, we can note that each language is inherently universal and idio-ethnic (national-cultural peculiarity). Throughout the entire historical period of its formation and development, each language improves in interrelation with social reality, relations, perception, awareness of reality. As it became known, the phenomenon of graduonymy under our consideration has long been familiar to Turkic linguistics, and its differentiating properties have been investigated, the examples are the samples of works of the late XV - early XV centuries by prominent classics Alisher Navoi and Zahiriddin Muhammed Babur.

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