

Paronymy in the Uzbek Language: Lexico-Semantic Analysis

Haydarov Anvar Askarovich
Professor at Bukhara State University

Barnoeva Madinabonu Akbarovna
Master's Degree Student

Abstract. *This study is dedicated to examining paronymy in the Uzbek language, analyzing its structure and functions. The work explores the main types of paronymic relations, their role in the systemic organization of the lexicon, and their impact on the formation and clarification of word meanings. Special attention is given to paronymic relations related to different levels of abstraction and professional domains. The research results contribute to the theoretical enrichment of linguistics and practical application in lexicography, education, and translation. Cultural and social aspects reflecting the unique features of the Uzbek language are particularly emphasized.*

Key words: *Paronymy, Uzbek language, lexico-semantic analysis, lexicography, abstraction, professional lexicon.*

Introduction. Paronymy, as one of the most complex lexico-semantic categories, plays a significant role in the structure of the Uzbek language, reflecting deep connections between words and their meanings. In the context of globalization and rapid advancements in information technology, the study of paronymic connections has gained special significance, as it enables an understanding of how words are organized within the lexical system and how they are interrelated. The relevance of this study is driven by the need to systematize and deepen knowledge of lexico-semantic relationships in the Uzbek language, which contributes not only to the theoretical enrichment of linguistics but also to practical applications in education, translation, and dictionary creation.

According to statistical data, over 60% of lexical units in the Uzbek language possess a complex semantic structure that includes paronymic connections¹. This highlights the necessity for a detailed analysis of these connections to better understand the lexical system of the language. For instance, a 2015 study found that paronymic relationships are frequently used in educational materials, helping students improve their comprehension and retention of new vocabulary.

The purpose of this research is to conduct a comprehensive analysis of paronymic relationships in the Uzbek language, to identify their structural and semantic characteristics, and to determine their role in the systematic organization of the lexicon. This study covers a broad range of linguistic sources and methods, including lexicographic and contextual analysis, comparative and cognitive approaches. Such a multi-faceted methodological approach allows for a deeper understanding of the nature of paronymy and its influence on the functioning and development of the Uzbek language, ultimately contributing to advances in linguistic research and practical applications.

¹ According to the National Corpus of the Uzbek Language (2018), more than 60% of lexical units have a complex semantic structure that includes paronymic relationships.

Literature Review. Research on paronymy in the Uzbek language is based on an extensive body of scholarly work that addresses various aspects of this lexico-semantic category. One significant contribution to the study of paronymy is the work of S.S. Gubaeva, "Paronymy and Toponymy of the Fergana Valley," where the author examines the interrelationships between paronymic and toponymic elements in the Uzbek language, focusing on their functions and cultural significance [1]. Another important work is M. Guboglo's study, "Gagauz Terminology in Animal Husbandry," which expands the understanding of paronymy through the examination of livestock terminology. Guboglo analyzes how paronymic connections help systematize and organize lexical material in the Gagauz language, which parallels the Uzbek lexicon [2].

A significant contribution to the study of paronymy in the Uzbek language was made by B. Kilichev. In his monograph, "Paronymy in the Uzbek Language," he examines the structure and functions of paronymic connections in the Uzbek language in detail, analyzing them based on lexicographic data and textual material [3].

The *Linguistic Encyclopedic Dictionary* (1990) also provides valuable information on paronymy, defining it as one of the key categories of lexical semantics and describing its functions and manifestations in various languages. This resource is fundamental to understanding the general theory of paronymy and its application in specific languages [4].

The foundations of the linguistic theory of meaning proposed by V.M. Nikitin offer an important theoretical basis for analyzing paronymic connections. Nikitin discusses the basic principles of semantic theory that help explain how paronymic relationships form and function in language [5].

The works of A.V. Superanskaya and A.V. Suslova, "Onomastics and Norm," examine the norms and rules of onomastic analysis, which are also relevant for studying paronymy. The authors focus on how onomastic elements, including paronymic ones, integrate into the overall linguistic system and its norms [6].

Materials and Methods. This study utilized a variety of linguistic sources and analytical methods. The main material for analysis was the "O'zbek Tilining Izohli Lug'ati" (Explanatory Dictionary of the Uzbek Language), which provides a comprehensive database of lexical units, their meanings, and examples of usage. In addition, specialized dictionaries and reference books, including technical and medical dictionaries, as well as monographs and scholarly articles such as works by U. Tursunov (2008) and N. Mirzaev (2015), were used, both of which examined lexico-semantic groups in the Uzbek language.

The methodological framework of the study included a multi-faceted approach to analyzing lexico-semantic relationships in the Uzbek language. The following methods were employed:

- **Lexicographic Analysis:** This allowed for a systematic investigation of paronymic relationships based on data from explanatory dictionaries. Lexicographic analysis involved detailed study of definitions, examples of word usage, and their semantic connections. This approach facilitated the identification of primary types and characteristics of paronymic relationships.
- **Contextual Analysis:** Conducted on a corpus of texts including literary works, scientific articles, technical documentation, and other genres, this method helped identify the unique features and functional characteristics of paronymic pairs across various texts and genres. Literary works by authors such as Abdullah Qadiri and Ismail Sadikov were used as examples.
- **Comparative Analysis:** Used to compare paronymic connections in Uzbek with similar phenomena in other Turkic languages and international linguistics. Studies by A. Topchibashev (2010) and K. Karaev (2012) were referenced for comparison. This method revealed both unique and shared features of paronymy, enriching the understanding of this phenomenon.
- **Cognitive Analysis:** This approach allowed for the study of cognitive processes associated with the perception and use of paronymic pairs, examining mental models, associative connections, and categorical structures underlying paronymic relationships. Cognitive linguistics studies by S. Ibragimov (2014) and Z. Yusupov (2016) were particularly useful in this context.

- **Frequency Analysis:** This method quantitatively assessed the prevalence of paronymic connections in the Uzbek language. A statistical analysis of the frequency of paronymic pairs in a text corpus helped identify the most frequently encountered pairs and their variations, using data from the National Corpus of the Uzbek Language (2018).

These methods were used collectively, enabling a comprehensive and multi-dimensional study of paronymy in the Uzbek language. This approach not only described paronymic connections but also elucidated their functional and cognitive nature, highlighting their role in the systematic organization of the Uzbek lexicon. The study results were rigorously verified and analyzed using software tools for text and data processing, such as AntConc and Sketch Engine. These tools facilitated word frequency analysis, semantic network construction, and data visualization, ensuring the accuracy and reliability of the findings.

Results and Discussion. The study of paronymy in the Uzbek language reveals a considerable number of examples and structural features that contribute to a better understanding of lexical organization. Paronymic relationships play a vital role in refining word meanings and establishing their interconnections, which is especially valuable for further research and the development of educational materials. This section explores various aspects of paronymy in the Uzbek language, supported by examples and detailed tables.

Paronymic relationships manifest in various structural elements of language. They include semantic synonyms, specific-to-general associations, as well as part-to-whole relationships. These structures help consolidate specific meanings under broader concepts, which is especially important in educational and scientific contexts.

In Uzbek, there are numerous examples of paronymic lexico-semantic groups (LSGs). For instance, the lexeme "Odam" (person) contains several paronymic connections with body parts. These connections are essential for understanding both everyday speech and scientific texts. Examples include:

- **Odam - Bosh (head):** a part of the human body that plays a key role in expressing emotions and thoughts.
- **Odam - Qo'l (hand):** a part of the human body used for performing various actions.
- **Odam - Barmoq (fingers):** part of the human body providing fine motor skills and sensory perception.

Similarly, the lexeme "Daraxt" (tree) demonstrates rich paronymic connections with various plant parts, such as:

- **Daraxt - Shox (branch):** a part of the tree playing an important role in growth and development.
- **Daraxt - Barg (leaf):** a part of the tree responsible for photosynthesis and metabolism.
- **Daraxt - Po'stloq (bark):** a part of the tree that protects it from external impacts and pests.

The lexeme "Mashina" (car) is of particular interest in technical vocabulary, illustrating how paronymic relationships apply in this domain:

- **Mashina - Dvigatel (engine):** the part of the car that provides movement and functionality.
- **Mashina - Kolesa (wheels):** parts of the car necessary for movement.
- **Mashina - Salon (interior):** the interior part of the car intended for the driver and passengers.

The lexeme "Qishloq" (village) includes elements of rural infrastructure, exemplifying paronymy as well:

- **Qishloq - Maktab (school):** a part of the village infrastructure responsible for education.
- **Qishloq - Bozor (market):** a part of the village infrastructure where trade occurs.
- **Qishloq - Ko'cha (street):** a part of the village infrastructure facilitating residents' movement.

The lexeme "Kitob" (book) also includes paronymic relationships with book parts:

- **Kitob - Sahifa (page):** a part of the book where text is printed.
- **Kitob - Mundarija (table of contents):** a part of the book containing a list of chapters and sections.
- **Kitob - Boshliq (chapter):** a part of the book representing a separate section or chapter.

Examples of paronymy can also be found in literature and everyday speech. For example, "Odamning boshi og'riganda, butun tana uni sezadi" ("When a person's head aches, the whole body feels it") illustrates a paronymic relationship between bosh (head) and odam (person). Another example is "U daraxt shoxlarini kesdi" ("He cut the tree branches"), where shoxlar (branches) are a part of daraxt (tree), again demonstrating paronymy.

Paronymic relationships illustrate how lexical units connect to form a complex system, with each part occupying its place and significance. These relationships play a key role in understanding and organizing the Uzbek language lexicon, which is important for both theoretical research and practical applications in education and translation.

The study of paronymy has revealed several key aspects that help to better understand the structural and semantic features of the Uzbek language lexicon. Firstly, paronymic relationships are an integral part of the systematic organization of the language, reflecting complex connections between words and their meanings. These connections help to refine word meanings, which is particularly important in the context of lexicography and dictionary creation. Secondly, paronymic relationships play a crucial role in educational and scientific contexts, allowing for efficient organization and classification of lexical material. Thirdly, analysis of paronymic Lexico-Semantic Groups (LSGs) shows that such relationships can be used in various contexts, from literature to technical documentation.

Paronymic relationships also play an important role in vocabulary development for students. Creating specialized dictionaries based on paronymic connections can lead to a deeper understanding of the language and improve language proficiency. Such dictionaries help students not only better understand word meanings but also establish connections between various lexical units, which is particularly valuable for advanced language learning.

To gain a deeper understanding of paronymy in the Uzbek language, it is also important to consider the influence of cultural and historical factors on the formation of lexical connections. Paronymic relationships reflect unique aspects of Uzbek culture, such as traditional crafts, cuisine, customs, and rituals. For instance, in Uzbek culinary terminology, many paronymic relationships can be found, such as "Palov - Go'sht" (meat) and "Palov - Sharbat" (broth), where each component is an essential part of the dish.

The study of paronymy in the Uzbek language also opens new opportunities for interdisciplinary research. Paronymic relationships can be used in cognitive linguistics to study how people organize and classify information. In psycholinguistics, these connections can help to understand the processes of perception and processing of lexical meanings. In computational linguistics, paronymic relationships can improve algorithms for machine translation and natural language processing.

Paronymic relationships are also important in the creation of new words and terms. In Uzbek, the word formation process often includes the use of paronymic relationships to create new meanings and concepts. For example, the lexeme "Kompyuter" (computer) can include multiple paronymic connections with various parts and components of a computer system:

- **Kompyuter - Protessor (Processor):** the central component that performs calculations.
- **Kompyuter - Monitor:** a device for displaying information.
- **Kompyuter - Klaviatura (Keyboard):** a device for inputting data.

Thus, paronymic relationships are an integral part of the Uzbek language's lexical system, reflecting complex semantic connections between words and their parts. These relationships play a key role in

understanding and organizing the lexicon, enhancing precision and clarity in expression, and serving as a basis for creating new words and terms. Developing specialized dictionaries and lexicographic resources based on paronymic connections can significantly improve the quality of education and translation while fostering a deeper understanding of the language.

Paronymic relationships in the Uzbek language also demonstrate the importance of cultural and historical context in shaping the lexicon. These connections help to reflect the unique features of Uzbek culture and history, which is especially vital for preserving and developing the language. Future research on paronymy should continue exploring various aspects of this phenomenon, including its manifestations in dialects, specialized lexicon, and word formation processes. This will allow for a more comprehensive and accurate representation of the systematic organization and semantic connections in the Uzbek lexicon.

Discussion. The study of paronymy in the Uzbek language has revealed numerous key aspects that enable a deeper understanding of the lexico-semantic structure of the language. Paronymic relationships are an essential part of the language's systematic organization, reflecting complex connections between words and their meanings. This study also confirms the importance of paronymy for creating and refining lexical meanings, which is significant for both theoretical linguistics and practical applications, such as lexicography, education, and translation.

The results of our research align with findings from studies exploring various aspects of gradonymy and semantic connections in the Uzbek language. The author of these studies notes that paronymic relationships help to uncover complex structural connections within the language, as confirmed by our data. Specifically, paronymic groups linked to different levels of abstraction reflect important cultural and social aspects of the Uzbek people examining various types of lexico-semantic relationships, including paronymy, emphasizes their importance for the systematic organization of lexical material. Particularly, terminology related to agriculture and cuisine shows clear organization based on paronymic connections, which facilitates a deeper understanding and retention of lexical meanings [7].

The work examining various types of lexico-semantic relationships, including paronymy, emphasizes their significance for the systematization and organization of lexical material. In particular, terminology related to agriculture and culinary arts demonstrates a clear organization based on paronymic connections, which facilitates a deeper understanding and mastery of lexical meanings [8].

Comparisons with studies on synonymy and paronymy indicate that these phenomena play complementary roles in clarifying and expanding lexical meanings. These studies are an important resource for understanding how paronymic connections help structure and systematize lexical material, a finding that was also confirmed in our research [9].

The theoretical foundation for analyzing semantic relationships in the Uzbek language is presented in a work that discusses the basic principles of semasiology. These principles aid in understanding how paronymic relationships are formed and function within the language. This approach supports our conclusions regarding the importance of paronymy for the systematic organization of vocabulary and its impact on the processes of education and translation [10].

Comparisons with research on semantic relationships in the Tatar language demonstrate that paronymic connections play a vital role in clarifying word meanings and their semantic organization across various Turkic languages. The study analyzes paronymic groups related to nature and technology, which corroborates our observations about the significance of paronymy in different contexts [11].

The study reaffirms the important relationships for the systematic organization of the Uzbek lexicon. These relationships help refine word meanings, which is crucial for creating accurate and comprehensible lexicographic resources. Future research should continue exploring various aspects of paronymy, including its manifestations in dialects, specialized lexicon, and word formation

processes. This will create a more complete and precise representation of the systematic organization and semantic connections in the Uzbek lexicon.

Conclusion. The study of paronymy in the Uzbek language demonstrates the importance of this lexico-semantic category for understanding the structure and functioning of the language. Paronymic connections have a significant impact on the formation and organization of the lexical inventory, which, in turn, contributes to a more precise and thorough understanding of language processes. The results of this study confirm that paronymy plays a key role in the development and improvement of lexicographic resources, as well as in educational and translation practices.

Future research in the field of paronymy should include studying its manifestations in Uzbek dialects, analyzing specialized lexicon in various professional fields, and examining the dynamics of paronymic relationships in word formation. This will not only expand our knowledge of lexico-semantic relationships but also facilitate the development of new methodologies for effective language teaching and high-quality translation. A comprehensive approach to studying paronymy strengthens the theoretical foundations of linguistics and supports the practical application of findings in various fields.

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