

**CULTURAL HERRITAGE: WEDDING TRADITIONS IN UZBEK AND
ENGLISH CULTURE**

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Abstract. Traditions and customs are one of the important cultural heritage in every nation and country. As they present national identity and uniqueness of the different cultures. In this article the researchers focus on wedding traditions of two culture: Uzbek and English and depict the peculiarities and differences of the two wedding ceremonies.

Keywords: match-maker, 'Fotiya', 'padar osh', groom, newlyweds, register, sweat equity, honeymoon, bridal abductions.

Traditionally in Uzbekistan, the future mother-in-law and other close relatives act as match-makers, collecting information about the girl and her family and visit the girl home. It is only on the third visit that the girl and her family give their consent to be matched. Weddings in Uzbekistan are big and extravagant celebrations that last for several days, with an emphasis on hospitality and entertaining guests. The groom's family traditionally prepares a large amount of food to serve to guests, which can include pilaf, lamb shish kebab, and traditional bread. The bride's family presents the groom with a gift, often of a traditional robe, which symbolizes acceptance of the marriage proposal. On the day of the wedding, the bride and groom participate in a ceremony called "nikokh-tuyi," which involves exchanging vows and rings. During the wedding reception, it is customary for the bride to change into multiple traditional dresses throughout the night, including a heavily embroidered dress known as "belbogli." In Uzbekistan, the wedding ceremony lasts two or three nights. There will be an engagement before the wedding ceremony. This is called 'Fotiya' (Engagement). On the day of Fotiya,

festively dressed women and men walk the streets in a procession led by musicians. The loud music announcing to the entire district that the girl is betrothed and will soon be married. On the morning of the wedding, at the bride's house, pilaf is prepared. Traditional sad songs are sung as this is a sad day for the father to say farewell to his daughter. This is often called 'Padar Osh' (father's pilaf). Traditionally, weddings take place in the bride's home. In many ways, the wedding is similar to European weddings. After the wedding, the guests and the groom leave the bride's house. The bride spent the night at her parents' house. The next morning, a person from the groom's family comes to take the bride to her groom. This tradition is called 'Evening' (evening ceremony). This tradition exists in some regions of Uzbekistan, but in others it passes in a different way. In the first months of family life the young couple are invited to visit relatives, from both sides. All the guests take presents.

There are some common traditions and customs for weddings in the United Kingdom:

The bride is traditionally accompanied by her father as she walks down the aisle to meet her groom. The groom typically sports a suit or tuxedo and may wear a boutonniere, while the bride wears a white wedding dress and often carries a bouquet of flowers. The wedding ceremony may take place in a church or other religious location, but non-religious venues are also popular.

A wedding breakfast or reception follows the ceremony, where guests enjoy a meal, speeches, and toasts to the happy couple. At the reception, it is common for the bride and groom to have their first dance together. They might also cut a tiered wedding cake, with the top tier set aside for their first anniversary. It's traditional for the bride to throw her bouquet of flowers to unmarried female guests, with the belief that whoever catches it will be the next to get married. British wedding attire often includes a fascinator or hat for the women, as well as formal suits and ties for men. Some couples may also incorporate unique elements into their wedding celebrations, such as a ceilidh dance or a gin bar.

Weddings in the USA can vary greatly depending on the couple's cultural background and personal preferences. Many American weddings involve a ceremony officiated by a religious or civil leader, often in a church or other location that holds significant meaning for the couple. It is traditional for the bride to wear a white wedding dress, and for the groom to wear a suit or tuxedo. Wedding receptions typically involve dancing, toasts, and a meal for guests, with popular dances including the bride and groom's first dance together and a father-daughter dance. In recent years, some American couples have also incorporated non-traditional elements into their weddings, such as food trucks or themed décor.

Weddings in the **United States** follow traditions often based on religion, culture, and social norms. Most wedding traditions in the United States was assimilated from other, generally European countries. Marriages in the U.S. is typically arranged by the participants and ceremonies may either be religious or civil. There is a tradition that the prospective bridegroom ask his future father-in-law for his blessing.

Weddings in the **United States** are the most varied and flexible in the world. There are not many wedding traditions that are unique to the United State because most are derived from other cultures. Most of these customs stem from European. Indeed, it is considered American tradition to follow the traditions of one's culture or religion. That said, some wedding traditions remain as the default in the U.S. It is customary to give newlyweds gifts for their new home together at the wedding reception. To prevent duplicate gifts and having to return gifts that are not liked, many couples "register" at department stores. Couples pick out items they would like to receive as gifts, and their friends and family can choose to buy one of those items.

Additionally, although most American weddings are typically elaborate and involve extensive professional planning, some DIY home weddings in America can be quite simple in terms of ceremony, albeit costly in terms of the sweat equity involved regarding the logistics. Some say the honeymoon stemmed from the bridal

abductions. The kidnapped bride and her groom would run off to a hidden location so no one would find them. They were usually gone for about a month. Others highlight that the reason for the honeymoon was to travel to visit friends and relatives who couldn't attend the wedding itself. Either way, the honeymoon is now firmly embedded in American wedding culture.

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