

BINOMIAL CONSTRUCTIONS IN UZBEK LINGUISTICS: CURRENT STATUS, ISSUES, AND PROSPECTS

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Annotation: This article examines the understudied phenomenon of binomial constructions (e.g., "mother and child," "come and go") in Uzbek linguistics. It highlights the current terminological ambiguity surrounding these units (often termed "stable pairs," "compound words," etc.) and the lack of a consistent definition. A core issue explored is their disputed phraseological status, particularly for non-idiomatic but culturally significant pairs.

Keywords (for both): Uzbek linguistics, Binomial constructions, Stable pairs, Phraseology, Terminology, Structural-semantic analysis, Corpus linguistics.

Constructions like "ladies and gentlemen" (*xonimlar va janoblar*), "short and sweet" (*qisqa va mazmunli*), "again and again" (*yana va yana*), and "black and white" (*qora va oq*) – known as binomials or binomial constructions – are a significant and widely used phenomenon in the Uzbek language. However, their study within Uzbek linguistics, their terminological status, and their linguistic nature remain underdeveloped, raising many questions. This article summarizes the current state of research on binomials in Uzbek linguistics, the challenges encountered, and future prospects.

1. Terminological Ambiguity and Limited Research Scope

Currently, the precise terms "binomial" or "binomial construction" are not widely used or firmly established as scientific terminology in Uzbek linguistics. Research related to this phenomenon is limited, and no independent, comprehensive investigations have yet crystallized around it.

- Studied Under Various Names: Linguists approach binomials using different labels:
 - "Stable pairs" (e.g., *tog'u tosh* - mountain and rock, *ona va bola* - mother and child, *qora va oq* - black and white)
 - "Compound words" or "Paired words" (e.g., *borib kelmoq* - come and go, *yo'zib o'qimoq* - write and read)
 - "Compound words without conjunctions" or "Pairs formed via conjunctions like *va* (and), *bilan* (with), *yoki* (or)".

- Growing Scholarly Need: As the significance of binomial units within the language system becomes increasingly apparent, so does the need to study them. However, this need currently lacks a clear terminological and methodological foundation.

2. Phraseological Status: An Open Question

Comprehensive research on Uzbek phraseology (by M. Mirtojiyev, N. Mahmudov, M. Jumanazarov, A. Madvaliyev, etc.) has primarily focused on idiomatic, figurative, and proverbial units. The question of whether binomial constructions belong within the phraseological fund remains a significant and unresolved issue.

- The Problem of Non-Idiomatic Pairs: Binomials like "mother and child" (*ona va bola*), "bread and water" (*non va suv*), and "honor and glory" (*sharaf va shon*) are frequently used and carry cultural connotations. However, they are typically non-metaphorical, semantically transparent, and their components can often be used independently. The question of whether to classify such semantically clear yet stable and culturally loaded pairs as phraseological units lacks a consistent resolution.

3. Research Level: Significant Gaps

Currently, Uzbek linguistics lacks major, comprehensive studies examining binomials through a multifaceted lens. While they might be mentioned in passing in some grammatical manuals or articles, instances where they are treated as a primary, independent object of research are very rare. Key research needs to focus on the following areas:

- Structural-Semantic Analysis: Studying the morphological (word classes), syntactic (linking methods - *va* (and), *bilan* (with), *yoki* (or), conjunctionless) and semantic (relationships between components: synonymy, antonymy, meronymy, association; the generation of combined meaning) structure of binomials. Examples: "wind and sun" (*shamol va quyosh* - contrast), "mountain and rock" (*tog'u tosh* - solidity), "young and old" (*keksa va yosh* - full spectrum - compare English "old and young").
- Stylistic-Functional Analysis: Examining the role of binomials in discourse, their stylistic functions (enhancing expressiveness, creating imagery, balance), intonational features, and their usage across different speech domains (literature, media, everyday speech). They perform functions like description ("big and small" - *katta va kichik*), contrast ("good and bad" - *yaxshi va yomon*), and establishing equilibrium ("master and servant" - *xo'jayin va xizmatkor* - compare English "lord and master").
- Cultural-Pragmatic Analysis: Analyzing the place of binomials within culture (reflecting traditions, values, social relations - e.g., "with mother and father" - *onali va otali*, "young and old" - *yosh va keksa*) and the pragmatic purposes of their use (emphasis, comparison, balancing - e.g., "many and few" - *ko'p va kam* - compare English "more or less").
- Inclusion in the Phraseological Fund: Determining the status of binomials as phraseological units. Distinguishing between idiomatic ("bread and water" - *non va suv* - meaning basic sustenance) and non-idiomatic ("car and house" - *mashina va uy* - components retain independence) types. Investigating their relationship with collocations, clichés, and other phraseological types. Uzbek binomials reflect cultural and linguistic specificity, and their stable, widely accepted forms are prevalent in society.

In conclusion, binomial constructions are prevalent and highly functionally significant units in the Uzbek language. Key tasks for Uzbek linguistics include: establishing recognition of the term "binomial" in scientific literature, resolving terminological ambiguity, clarifying the issue of phraseological status, and, most importantly, conducting independent, comprehensive research examining binomials from structural-semantic, stylistic-functional, cultural-pragmatic, and phraseological perspectives. The research undertaken on this path will serve to deepen our understanding of the language, fully express its richness, and develop new scholarly directions.

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