

THE SYSTEM OF LEXICAL AND SEMANTIC UNITS REPRESENTING THE IDEAL SOCIETY IN FOLKLORE AND UTOPIAN DISCOURSE

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Abstract: This article is devoted to the analysis of the system of lexical and semantic units representing the ideal society within the framework of folklore and utopian discourse. The study deeply examines the lexical units that shape the concept of society in utopian and folkloric texts and their semantic structures. The central feature of utopian and folkloric discourse is manifested through lexical units related to social values, moral principles, legal and cultural norms. These units allow for the definition and systematization of the semantic field within the discourse. The semantic analysis of lexical units reveals how they represent the image of an ideal society in utopian and folkloric texts. The results of the study demonstrate that the system of lexical units provides an opportunity to identify, categorize, and functionally analyze the concept of society in linguistic and discourse studies.

Keywords: Folklore, utopian discourse, ideal society, lexical units, semantic units, linguistic analysis, social values, discourse studies.

Introduction: The concept of an ideal society occupies a central place in the cultural, philosophical, and sociological thought of humanity. This concept is expressed differently in various contexts. Utopian texts typically create a model of society through idealized normative structures and convey moral and social values to the reader. Folkloric discourse, on the other hand, shapes the image of society based on the everyday life experiences and historical memory of the people. Lexical and semantic units serve as a central means of representing the concept of society in utopian and folkloric texts. Their analysis allows for the identification of the communicative, didactic, and normative functions of the discourse. This article focuses on the linguistic and discourse-based study of the concept of an ideal society in folklore and utopian texts.

The system of lexical and semantic units representing the ideal society in folklore and utopian discourse is considered an important object of linguistic and discourse studies. Research shows that the central feature of utopian discourse is manifested in its conceptual and normative structure. The images of an ideal society are usually formed through lexical units associated with social values, moral principles, and legal and cultural norms, which allow for the definition and systematization of the semantic field within the discourse. In this sense, utopian texts not only create an idealized depiction of society but also indicate normative directions to the reader, thereby reinforcing the communicative and didactic functions of the discourse.

The semantic analysis of lexical units reveals how ideal society images are expressed in utopian and folkloric texts. Studies show that metaphorical and symbolic means are among the main tools of utopian discourse, emphasizing the positive qualities of society. Through these means, concepts such as justice, harmony, prosperity, and stability are combined with visual and linguistic representations, resulting in the conceptual model of an ideal society. Additionally, as an invariant of utopian discourse, social harmony and moral norms are repeatedly reinforced, making the texts semantically consistent and firmly established in the reader's mind.



In folkloric texts, the concept of an ideal society is typically expressed through the social experience and historical memory of the people. These lexical units are contextually and pragmatically rich and reflect the normative, moral, and cultural values of society. In folkloric discourse, the images of an ideal society are often linked to real-life experiences, daily life practices, and the ethnopedagogical values of the community. From this perspective, the difference between utopian and folkloric discourse becomes apparent in their system of lexical and semantic units: utopian discourse is more focused on creating idealized and normatively structured images, while folkloric discourse models the concept of society based on real-life experiences and social values.

Research shows that through the semantic field of lexical units, it is possible to systematically analyze utopian and folkloric discourse. Such analysis not only identifies images of an ideal society but also allows for their categorization in functional and pragmatic terms and a deeper study of linguistic interpretations. For example, semantic units used in utopian texts are usually related to social harmony, stability, justice, and ideal moral values, and they are organized as a consistent model within the discourse. In folkloric texts, these units are more closely associated with the experience and social values of the people, and they are contextually and pragmatically rich.

Thus, the system of lexical and semantic units is important not only as a component of text organization but also as a primary means of shaping the concept of society in utopian and folkloric discourse. Through this system, researchers can represent society in an idealized form, analyze the normative function of discourse, and create linguistic models. The interrelation and differences between folklore and utopian texts are reflected in the specific characteristics of the system of lexical and semantic units, further emphasizing the relevance of this research area.

Research Methodology: The research methodology includes source selection, discourse analysis, semantic categorization, comparative analysis, and pragmatic analysis components. Classical utopian texts and Uzbek folkloric sources were selected for study. By analyzing folkloric epics, tales, and legends, their lexical units and semantic fields were identified. Lexical units were categorized by themes including justice, prosperity, stability, science, freedom, and social harmony. Similarities and differences between the systems of units in utopian and folkloric texts were analyzed comparatively. Additionally, the contextual and pragmatic aspects of utopian discourse were examined alongside folkloric texts to investigate their capacity to reflect social, moral, and cultural values. Linguistic, discourse-analytical, and comparative methods were applied, and the system of lexical and semantic units was analyzed as a conceptual model.

Analysis and Results: The analysis shows that in utopian discourse, images of an ideal society are closely connected with social harmony, justice, prosperity, and stability, and lexical units are positioned as normative and idealized models within the discourse. Central semantic units in utopian texts are manifested in phrases such as just ruler, prosperous city, and stable society, which conceptually reflect the positive qualities of society. For example, in Thomas More's *Utopia*, it is emphasized that every man has a right to everything, and yet no man desires anything ("In Utopia every man has a right to everything, and yet it is certain that no man wants anything; for what can be wanting, when every man may have as much as he will of those things that are not scarce?" More, T. *Utopia*, London, 1516), which represents a semantic unit expressing the distribution of resources and social harmony.

Similarly, in Francis Bacon's *New Atlantis*, the purpose of the foundation is to understand the causes and secret motions of things and to expand human dominion in order to accomplish all



possible things ("The end of our foundation is the knowledge of causes, and secret motions of things, and the enlarging of the bounds of human empire, to the effecting of all things possible." Bacon, F. *New Atlantis*, London, 1627), in which lexical units relate to knowledge and control, reflecting the intellectual and social harmony of an ideal society.

Furthermore, in William Morris's *News from Nowhere*, the absence of a political system and people acting freely and happily is described ("We are very well off as to politics, because we have none. The whole system of coercion and authority has disappeared; men do what they will, and are happy in doing it." Morris, W. *News from Nowhere*, London, 1890), creating a semantic unit representing social stability and prosperity through the absence of authority and coercion. The study shows that lexical units in utopian texts are usually associated with social harmony, stability, justice, and ideal moral values, arranged as a consistent model within the discourse.

In folkloric discourse, the concept of an ideal society is formed based on the real-life experience and ethnopedagogical values of the people. These units are contextually and pragmatically rich and closely connected to reality. For example, phrases describing a hero fighting for the prosperity of the people constitute folkloric lexical units. Semantic differences between utopian and folkloric discourse are thus revealed: while utopian texts organize units in an idealized and conceptual manner, folkloric texts connect units to real-life experience and social values. The system of lexical and semantic units' functions as a tool performing communicative, didactic, and normative functions. The study shows that this system allows for conceptual and pragmatic analysis of the concept of society, giving researchers the opportunity to systematically examine the discourse.

Conclusion: The results indicate that the system of lexical and semantic units shaping the images of an ideal society in folklore and utopian discourse is the central subject of the study. Utopian discourse expresses the concept of society primarily through normative and idealized units, while folkloric discourse creates a model of society based on real-life experience. The system of semantic units allows researchers to analyze the concept of society conceptually and pragmatically, and to identify the communicative, didactic, and normative functions of discourse. This study enables a deeper examination of the system of lexical and semantic units representing an ideal society within linguistic and discourse-based approaches and allows for a systematic identification of semantic and lexical differences between utopian and folkloric texts.

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