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“SEMANTIC FIELD OF COLOUR CONCEPTS IN  
INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION (ON THE BASIS OF KAZAKH,  
KOREAN AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES)”**

**Annotation of Dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)  
on the educational program 8D02310 — Philology**

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## **ANNOTATION**

**to dissertation work by Khussainova Gulmira Zhangaliyevna on the topic “Semantic field of colour concepts in intercultural communication (on the basis of Kazakh, Korean and English languages)”, submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the educational program: 8D02310 – “Philology”**

### **Annotation**

**General overview of the study.** The dissertation is devoted to the current problem of studying the semantic field of the concept of color in the intercultural linguistic consciousness of ethnic groups, presented through the prism of the color symbolism of languages. In particular, our research is devoted to the comparative analysis of the semantic field of the concept of color from the point of view of the explication of the community and national-cultural specificity of the images of consciousness of the compared linguacultural communities, in this case - the Kazakh, Korean and English ethnic groups. The work is carried out in line with the interesting and recently widely studied problems of the phenomenon of color, the functioning of color designations (hereinafter - CD) in the linguistic picture of the world. The multidimensionality and multi-aspect nature of this phenomenon led to the emergence of various scientific approaches to its study, including those based on the integration of different sciences. Since ancient times, man has reflected on the phenomenon of color, was interested in whether color is a substance, an objectified essence, or whether it is an accidental property, a transient quality. The phenomenon of color is the subject of study of many fundamental sciences and a component of many arts. However, until now color has no general concept within any one science or a certain direction. Color plays a large role in human life. Currently, the need to study language in its real functioning in various spheres of human activity has become generally recognized. The first attempts to solve the problem of the relationship between language and culture are reflected in the works of W. Gumboldt [1]. Language is a means of communication between individuals, and culture is a certain level of development of society. In view of the widespread development of the economy and international cooperation of our country with the countries of the West and the East, the use and acquisition of world experience, determine the need and relevance of the study of the linguistic consciousness of communicants, in this case - representatives of the Kazakh, Korean and English ethnic groups. The dissertation examines color terms as an extremely important element of the linguistic picture of the world and its influence on us, color designation in different cultures. Attention in the work is focused on the special features of color terms based on a comparative analysis of color designations. The relevance of the above-mentioned problems is evidenced by the scientific works of foreign and Kazakh scientists: M.A. Sternin, N.D. Arutyunova, Z.K. Akhmetzhanova, V.N. Teliya, E.D. Suleimenova, B. Khasanov, N.V. Dmitryuk, Sh.K. Zharkynbekova, B. Berlin, P. Key, V.A. Maslova and others. The

semantic field of color designations in intercultural communication most clearly manifests itself in the group of non-equivalent or partially equivalent vocabulary, in particular, in myths, proverbs and sayings, in phraseological units. These units are a conservative class, since they have deep historical roots and represent archaic meanings of human cognition of the surrounding world, therefore, myths and legends, phraseological units, proverbs and sayings help to understand the historical ideas of man about color. The idea of national specificity of language was once expressed by W. von Humboldt, who expressed his conviction in the special way of designating the phenomena of reality by each people, reflected in the language: "Each language describes a circle around the people to which it belongs, from the limits of which one can leave only if you enter another circle" [1, p. 43]. Mythologization is the process of conceptualizing the world, creating a mythological model of the world from the point of view of the human dimension. In the Kazakh, Korean and English cultures, myths have developed that focus on cosmonyms. One of the objects of our study was the mythical perception of color in cosmonyms, a comparison of the understanding of color in mythical images of heavenly bodies, mythical characters of myths. The phraseology of a particular people is richly represented by nationally specific material. "Language colors the conceptual model of the world in national-cultural colors through the system of its meanings and their associations," and in language "those figurative expressions that are associated with cultural-national standards, stereotypes, mythologemes, etc., are fixed and phraseologized, and which, when used in speech, reproduce the mentality characteristic of a particular linguacultural community" [2, p. 233]. According to E.D. Suleimenova, the study of the phraseological fund of language helps to reveal the means and methods of penetration of cultural traditions and values into language [3].

The cognitive process is not set from the outside, but bears a clear imprint of human cognitive activity. The formation of both specific and universal concepts in human consciousness is conditioned by cognitive activity - the process of human thinking. Despite the universality of basic cognitive processes, such as metaphor, their specific content, according to B.Kh. Khasanov, reflects the national characteristics of each people, which, along with universal ones, has its own unique and specific spheres of experience [4]. A concept may include features characteristic only of a given linguacultural society. In the structure of a concept, even recorded in related languages, different physical characteristics of an object may appear. According to N.V. Dmitryuk, "associations (definitions, features, characteristics) associated with an object may arise in the consciousness of native speakers, which in reality are not inherent in this object as such. This provides grounds for studying associations in order to identify background denotative or significative features in the semantics of the corresponding word, as well as to find out how an idea, falling into the field of action of various culturally conditioned ideas, is reflected in the system of value orientations" [5, p. 47]. Relevance of the research topic. The topic of the scientific work and the questions posed are considered within the framework of the general paradigm of research on color perception through the prism of compared cultures and languages, the role of

language in human cognitive activity and the determinative conditioning of the phenomena of language and culture. Also, according to the law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On the languages of the Republic of Kazakhstan" dated July 11, 1997 No. 151, the relevance of studying the concepts of color perception in the Kazakh language in comparison with other languages determines the relevance of the chosen research topic. The relevance of the work is determined by the problems in the issues of the color designation system, which plays an important role in intercultural communication, marked in all languages ethnoculturally, in this regard, it often has a symbolic meaning, which causes significant difficulties in translation. Color symbolism (hereinafter - CS) of any language contains a clearly expressed specificity of culture, mentality, national psychology of the ethnic group, which aroused interest in identifying this specificity using the example of systematization, description and comparative analysis of the Kazakh, Korean and English CS. The work attempts to describe a wide range of figurative meanings of some words - TS of the Kazakh, Korean and English languages, to explain the motives underlying these nominative and connotative meanings. According to the Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated October 16, 2023 No. 914 on the "Concept for the Development of Language Policy in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2023-2029", the relevance of the research topic is determined by the poor study of the problem of actually functioning images of consciousness of representatives of non-homogeneous cultures, in this case, the Kazakh, Korean and English ethnic groups. This problem has not received comprehensive, trilingual, sufficiently exhaustive coverage either in domestic or in foreign linguistics, which also determines the relevance of this work. The comparative analysis of Kazakh, Korean and English CPs in mythical images, in phraseological units (hereinafter referred to as PU), carried out within the framework of this work, like any cultural and intercultural study, is aimed at in-depth acquaintance with the history, traditions, and peculiarities of life of the linguacultural communities under consideration, at studying the specifics of their national character, mentality, predicting an atmosphere of mutual understanding, goodwill and tolerance in the process of intercultural communication, which also determined the relevance of the research topic.

**The object of the study** is the national-cultural specificity of the linguistic consciousness (national code) of representatives of the Kazakh, Korean and English ethnic communities, presented through the prism of the semantic field of the CS of these languages. The subject of the study is the ethnolinguistic and linguo-cultural features of the CO, CS, phraseological units with the component "color" of the Kazakh, Korean and English languages as sources of information about the national-specific features of the worldview of these peoples, as well as the features of the implementation of polysemanticism of the CS of the vocabulary of the compared languages. The material of the study was phraseological units with the component "color" in the Kazakh, Korean and English languages, which indirectly represent a reflection of the national-cultural specificity of the perception of the real world, mythical comparisons of the CS, the semantics of color in flags, traditional clothing, the semantic fields "color" in the languages under

consideration. The illustrative material was extracted by the method of continuous sampling from phraseological dictionaries, texts of fiction and as a result of field research - communication with informants-native speakers of the studied languages. The obtained data were systematized in the form of a card index, numbering more than 600 phraseological units, including designations of various colors (200 Kazakh phraseological units + 200 Korean phraseological units + 200 English phraseological units) with the component black and white, which made it possible to identify many differences in the linguistic pictures of the world, illustrating the position on the discrepancy between different, ethnically conditioned images of the world reflected in the consciousness of the Kazakhs, Koreans and the English. The results of the comparative analysis also made it possible to identify a large number of correspondences in the images of the linguistic consciousness of representatives of the compared ethnic groups, which was reflected in the coincidence and differences of the nominative and connotative meanings of color, the CO of mythical images of different ethnic origins. The theoretical basis of the study is the scientifically substantiated coloristic culture of the people. This is, first of all, the attitude of the people to the color of objects and things that they produce and use in their everyday life. It is important to take into account the color, tonal saturation, and coloring of the object. With all the variety of color designations inherent in individual languages, each of them has so-called "primary" colors, which is primarily associated with the culture of the people. The methodological basis of the study is based on the achievements of Kazakhstan and foreign science in the field of studying the fundamentals of linguo-philosophical anthropology in the works of W. Humboldt [1], color theory in B. Berlin & P. Kay [6], issues of language and culture, the theory of intercultural communication, sociolinguistic studies in the monographs of N.D. Arutyunova [7], Z.K. Akhmetzhanova [8], M.A. Sternin [9], V.A. Maslova [10]; methods and techniques of classification analysis of phraseological units proposed by V.N. Teliya [2], E.D. Suleimenova [3]; semantic-cognitive, ethnological and cultural issues of word semantics, problems of intercultural psychology in the works of B. Khasanov [4], N.V. Dmitryuk [5], Sh.K. Zharkynbekova [11].

**The aim** of the work is to compare the semantic fields of the symbolism of words denoting white, black, red, green, blue, light blue and yellow colors in Kazakh, Korean and English set expressions, myths and to reveal the cognitive features of the CO in the compared languages.

**The intended goal** defined the following tasks of the work: - to define the main general theoretical provisions concerning the aspects and directions of scientific research in the linguistics of color, based on the materials of previous works; - to study the components of lexical-semantic information (significative, denotative, pragmatic); - to model the semantic field of color designation words in English and Russian with the subsequent study of the correlations of this field; - to analyze color designation words in context and to highlight ethno-priority and ethno-relevant colors in the studied languages. Research methods. To achieve the stated goal and solve the problems in the dissertation, comparative-contrastive, contrastive-descriptive methods and the method of constructing the semantic field

"color" were used. The contrastive-descriptive (interpretative, cognitive-semantic) method was used to characterize the colors under consideration and to try to explain the reasons for the discrepancies in the images in the consciousness of native speakers of the compared ethnic groups, which was reflected in the Kazakh, Korean and English interpretations. The comparative-contrastive method was used to determine the correlating and specific correspondences, similarities and differences of the selected color components, reflecting the elements of the linguistic consciousness of representatives of the Kazakh, Korean and English ethnic groups. The component analysis method was used to identify the degree of rethinking and metaphorization of phraseological units with the "color" component in a comparative sense. We used the methods of questionnaires, modeling and introspection to determine the degree of agnonymy of color designations in the linguistic consciousness of the Kazakh, Korean and English ethnic groups (the degree of agnonymy is calculated from the ratio of "coincidence" or "discrepancy" in the interpretation of the color meaning). The theoretical significance of the dissertation lies in the further development and specification of the general provisions of the theory of linguistic consciousness, the linguistic picture of the world, the theory of intercultural communication, including in the translation aspect. The theoretical interest of the proposed study also lies in the fact that it allows, on the specific material of the Kazakh, Korean and English CS, to develop a methodology for describing color phraseological units with the subsequent reconstruction of the archetypes of linguistic consciousness of these ethnic groups and some historically established features of their national linguistic picture of the world.

**Practical value** of the obtained results. The results of this study can be used in ethnolinguistics and linguacultural studies, in compiling lexicographic and phraseological dictionaries, in the theory and practice of translation of set expressions, in the field of intercultural communication research. The research material can be used in compiling special courses on intercultural communication, translation theory and semasiology of the Kazakh, Korean and English languages for bachelors and masters. The scientific novelty of our study is as follows: - for the first time, the semantic field of color symbolism is systematically studied from the point of view of its ethnocultural specificity using the material of three languages with different systems: Kazakh, Korean and English; - using the material of phraseological units with the color component of the Kazakh language, a comparative analysis of the color concept with other languages, in particular with Korean and English, was carried out. For a specific comparative-contrastive analysis of the color concept, phraseological units with the components "black", "white" colors were selected; - in order to study the historical and linguistic paradigm of national views on color perception, cosmonyms, mythical characters with color-symbolic descriptions were used as factual material; - based on the material of the studied languages, a semantic field of color perception was compiled, which made it possible to conduct a detailed comparative linguacultural analysis of the identified color perceptions; - for the first time, based on the material of the Kazakh, Korean and English color perception languages, the degree

of color-cognitive agnomy was studied: the study of linguistic units from the point of view of the presence/absence in the consciousness of native speakers of any ideas about the content of these units, the nature of such ideas, their dependence on the amount of knowledge about the world, linguistic and cultural competence (both of an individual linguistic personality and large and small groups); - during the interpretation of the intercultural semantics of the analyzed OC, the features of the national mentality and specific cultural information characteristic of the representatives of the compared ethnic communities were identified; - the undertaken comparison of the images of consciousness of representatives of the two largest ethnic groups of Kazakhstan (Kazakh and Russian) was carried out on the basis of psycholinguistic, ethnopsychological and cognitive methods. Such psycholinguistic studies of the images of consciousness of the Russian and Kazakh ethnic groups in domestic ethnopsycholinguistics have not been carried out, which also allows us to talk about the scientific novelty of the work. The following provisions are submitted for defense: - color linguistics as one of the promising areas of linguistics opens up new facets of such fundamental problems as the concept of "color" in the linguistic picture of the world, "Language and Culture", "Language and Communication"; - linguocultural features of the semantics of the words of the CO in the Kazakh, Korean and English languages are manifested in the difference of their significative, denotative and pragmatic components; - characteristic features of the English language system are widely developed synonymy, antonymy and hyponymy of the words of the CO, which are not characteristic of the words of the CO in the Kazakh and Korean languages; - associative connections of the words of the CO in the Kazakh, Korean and English languages appear in 8 similar models, however, there are differences in the degree of actualization and lexical content of individual models; - poetic and paroemic materials of the compared languages demonstrate differences in the area of ethnopriority and ethnorelevance of colors in the compared linguocultures; - elements of the common linguistic consciousness of different ethnic groups, common cultural constants on the basis of which national pictures of the world are formed, provide a fundamental opportunity to find optimal ways of intercultural communication of representatives considered in the framework of this study of ethnic communities at any level and contribute to the creation of an atmosphere of mutual understanding, tolerance and goodwill.

**Approbation of work.** The main provisions and results of the study were discussed at the meetings of the Kazakh language department of M. Auezov SKSU (Shymkent, 2021-2024), published in open press in 7 scientific articles. Of these, 1 article was published in a journal with a high impact factor based on Scopus Q1. 2 articles in journals recommended by the Committee for Quality Assurance in Education and Science of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan. There are 5 articles published in scientific journals and domestic and international scientific and practical conferences. Structure and scope of work. The dissertation consists of an Introduction, three sections, a Conclusion, a List of references (162 titles), and includes 21 tables and 7 figures.