

ANNOTATION
to the dissertation of Zhansaya Musilkhanovna Pansat
submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
in the educational program «8D02310 – Philology»
on the topic «Linguocultural Nature of the Concept «kök» in the Kazakh
Language» General characteristics of the research

Color terms form a system of meaningful features that emerged at the early stages of human cognitive and cultural development. In human consciousness, color phenomena are perceived not only as physical properties, but also as manifestations of traditional knowledge. The ability to differentiate colors reflects the sensory and cognitive development of the individual. Over time, color terms acquire symbolic meanings and become a special semantic code of each ethnoculture. Through color designations, cognitive mechanisms of classification and interpretation of the world are formed, which play an important role in the system of language–culture relations. The number of ethnic groups corresponds to the diversity of culturally symbolic systems of colors, each having its own imagery shaped by national specificity, linguistic expression, and worldview stereotypes. These features rely on the historical and cultural experience and worldview structure of the respective ethnic group. The system of color terms represents a significant semiotic mechanism that reflects the spiritual worldview of a people and relates to key objects of cultural semiotics. The ancestors of the Kazakh people attributed special significance to each color, endowing them with culturally conditioned meanings. Among the seven primary colors, «kök» occupies a distinct position as a concept with multilayered cultural and spiritual content.

Grounded in these theoretical premises, this dissertation aims to provide a comprehensive study of the cognitive, linguocultural and ethnosemantic characteristics of the concept «kök» in the Kazakh language. The research systematizes the semantic and pragmatic aspects of «kök» as the «origin of the world» within the Turkic worldview and defines its conceptual domain. It also identifies the place of «kök» in the national worldview of the Kazakh people and examines its cultural functions. Studying the concept «kök» from a linguocultural perspective demonstrates the interrelation between national language and culture.

Relevance of the research. Color designations represent an essential linguistic category that reveals deep layers of language and culture and reflects the worldview, psychology, and social structure of an ethnic group. Color meanings are formed in close connection with the historical and cultural characteristics of a people. In the Kazakh language, «kök» represents a complex cultural concept that conveys the spiritual values of the ethnos. Investigating the linguocultural, cognitive, and ethnosemantic properties of the concept «kök» is of great significance for preserving and actualizing national identity, which makes this topic relevant for contemporary humanities.

Object of the research. Linguistic units representing the concept «kök» in the Kazakh language.

Subject of the research. The linguocultural nature of the concept «kök», its cultural-historical and symbolic meanings, conceptual structure, semantic and cognitive features.

Purpose of the research. To examine the lexical-semantic, cognitive, and pragmatic characteristics of the concept «kök», to identify its historical and cultural content, to determine its conceptual meaning and role in the national worldview. Achieving this purpose includes the following research tasks:

1. To consider the linguistic aspects of the concept, its relation to culture, and approaches to studying color concepts as linguocultural phenomena.
2. To analyse the semantic transformation of the word «kök» and its role within the cultural context; to describe its semantic, cultural, and symbolic features.
3. To examine the semantic system of the concept «kök» within the geographical and cultural space in relation to historical development.
4. To determine the historical, cultural, and etymological origins of «kök» based on Old Turkic sources and cross-linguistic correspondences; to identify its semantic and associative fields.
5. To analyse the representation of «kök» in poetic discourse and define its conceptual significance in literary texts; to examine metaphorical, figurative, and symbolic functions.
6. To investigate the functioning of «kök» in the onomastic domain and identify its semantic, symbolic, and cognitive-cultural features.
7. To study the mytholinguistic nature of «kök» and reveal its ancient symbolic and mythological functions.
8. To identify the conceptual field of «kök» in stable expressions and proverbs of the Kazakh language.

Sources of the research. Materials of Kazakh folklore, ancient and medieval written monuments, literary works of Kazakh authors, phraseological units and proverbs; data from these sources reflect the symbolic meaning, associative features, and figurative characteristics of «kök», revealing its spiritual and cultural content.

Theoretical and methodological basis. The study is grounded in the anthropocentric paradigm of linguistics and draws upon works of national and international scholars in cognitive linguistics, ethnolinguistics, linguoculturology, and conceptology. It incorporates works by A. Baitursynuly, K. Zhubanov, Sh. Ualikhanov, A. Margulan, A. Kaidar, I. Kenesbayev, S. Kaskabasov, N. Uali, R. Syzdyk, Zh. Mankeeva, A.B. Salkynbay, among others; as well as studies by L.N. Gumilyov, N.A. Baskakov, A.N. Kononov, V.V. Radlov, S.A. Askoldov-Alekseev, D.S. Likhachev, E.S. Kubryakova, A. Wierzbicka, and others. Lexicographic sources include M. Kashgari's dictionary, the Old Turkic Dictionary, the Historical Dictionary of the Kazakh Language, and works by E.V. Sevortyan, V.V. Radlov, and other authors.

Methods of research. The study employs theoretical analysis, interpretation, etymological, cognitive, conceptual, lexical-semantic, discursive, semiotic, ethnolinguistic, and mytholinguistic analyses, as well as corpus-based, historical-semantic, comparative-historical, and linguocultural methods. Data from qazcorpus.kz and sozdikqor.kz are used.

Theoretical significance. The findings contribute to the development of lexicology, cognitive linguistics, ethnolinguistics, linguoculturology, and conceptology. Determining the linguocultural content and semantic structure of the concept «kök» clarifies the mechanisms of conceptualization and metaphorization of color terms. The study identifies features of the Turkic linguistic worldview, symbolic thinking, and national cultural codes.

Practical significance. The results may be applied in compiling ethnolinguistic and etymological dictionaries, in teaching such disciplines as «Cognitive Linguistics», «Ethnolinguistics», «Linguoculturology», «Semasiology», «Lexicology», as well as in developing textbooks and educational materials.

Main scientific results:

1. For the first time, the concept «kök» has been comprehensively described as a linguocultural phenomenon; its historical development, contemporary conceptual content, and cultural transformation have been identified.

2. The conceptual space of «kök» in Old Turkic and medieval sources has been determined, along with its cultural and linguistic connections.

3. Based on poetic discourse, onomastic and linguistic data, the representational functions of the concept have been identified; its mytholinguistic nature has been examined.

4. The role of «kök» in Turkic and Kazakh mythology has been revealed, including its relation to the sky cult and Tengri, and its protective and sacred functions.

5. The cognitive content of the concept has been determined, including its place in the national worldview, symbolic-associative field, and spiritual significance.

6. The ethnocultural features of the concept and its relation to the cultural and spiritual heritage of the Kazakh people have been identified.

7. The conceptual field of «kök» in stable expressions and proverbs has been defined.

The results of the research have been published in Scopus-indexed journals.

1. Zhansaya Pansat, Nurila Khalikova. Semantic Features of Color in Emotional, Expressive Words: The Concept of “Blue” in the Kazakh Language. *International Journal of Society, Culture and Language*, Volume 11, 2, July 2023, P. 85-93. ISSN 2329-2210. <https://doi.org/10.22034/ijscsl.2023.556420.2676>

Publications on the topic of the dissertation in journals recommended by the Committee for Quality Assurance in the Sphere of Science and Higher Education of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan (KKSН):

1. Pansat Zh.M., Mamayeva G.B., Alkaya E. Mytholinguistic Features of the Words «Kök Tengri», «kök böri», «kök türik» // *Turkic Studies Journal*. – 2023. – Vol. 5. – №3. – pp. 146–160. – ISSN 2664-5157 (print), 2708-7360 (online). DOI: <http://doi.org/10.32523/2664-5157-2023-3-146-160>

2. Pansat Zh.M., Isaeva Zh.I., Mamayeva G.B. Cognitive Semantics of the Concept «kök» in the Formation of Emotional Concepts // *Bulletin of Yasawi*

University. – 2023. – №3 (129). – pp. 135–146. ISSN: 2306-7365 (p), 2664-0686 (e). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.47526/2023-3/2664-0686.10>

3. Pansat Zh.M., Khalikova N.S. Linguocultural Features of the Concept «kök» in the Kazakh Language // Bulletin of L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University. Philology Series. №3 (144)/2023, pp. 34–45. ISSN: 2616-678X, 2663-1288 (e). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.32523/2616-678X-2023-144-3-34-45>

4. Alkaya E., Pansat Zh.M. Etymological Foundations of the Word «kök» in the Kazakh Language // Bulletin of Abai KazNPU. Philological Sciences Series, №2(84), 2023, pp. 5–12. ISSN: 2959-5657

Publications in the materials of international scientific and practical conferences:

1. Pansat Zh.M. The Meaning of the Lexeme «kök» in Cosmogonic Myths // Akmet Baitursynuly Readings – 2021. Proceedings of the International Scientific-Theoretical Conference «Y. Altynsarin and Kazakh Enlightenment». – Nur-Sultan: L.N. Gumilyov ENU, 2022. – pp. 143–147. – ISBN 978-601-337-646.

2. Pansat Zh.M., Mamayeva G.B., Alkaya E. Cognitive Meaning of the Word «kök» in the Culture of the Kazakh People // Philological Sciences Journal, 2023, Vol. 1, №1, pp. 40–55. ISSN: 2959-3212 (p).

3. Alkaya E., Pansat Zh.M. Cognitive Value of the Concept «kök» in the Kazakh Language // Proceedings of the International Scientific-Practical Conference «Atyngnan aynalayyn, Qarqaraly». – Karaganda: Arko Printing House, 2023. – pp. 122–125. ISBN: 978-601-7493-84-4.

Structure of the dissertation. The dissertation consists of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, and a list of references.