

PRAGMATIC FEATURES OF GOAL-ORIENTED PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN THE UZBEK LANGUAGE

Qurbonova Farangiz Mirzayevna

Termiz State University of Engineering and Agrotechnologies

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.20581923>

Abstract. *Phraseological units constitute an essential component of the lexical system of every language, reflecting not only linguistic structures but also cultural values, social norms, and communicative intentions. Among the various semantic groups of phraseological units, goal-oriented expressions occupy a significant place as they represent determination, aspiration, perseverance, and purposeful behavior. This article examines the pragmatic features of goal-oriented phraseological units in the Uzbek language. The study explores their communicative functions, contextual usage, pragmatic meanings, and cultural implications. Through linguistic and pragmatic analysis, the research identifies how phraseological units contribute to effective communication by expressing speakers' intentions, attitudes, evaluations, and social expectations. The findings reveal that Uzbek goal-oriented phraseological units serve not only as expressive linguistic devices but also as important carriers of cultural and pragmatic information.*

Keywords: *phraseological units, pragmatics, Uzbek language, goal-oriented expressions, phraseology, communicative function, linguistic pragmatics, speech behavior, cultural linguistics, semantic analysis.*

Introduction

Language functions not only as a means of communication but also as a mechanism for expressing cultural identity, social values, and cognitive experiences. Within the linguistic system, phraseological units occupy a special position because they represent fixed expressions characterized by semantic integrity, figurativeness, and cultural significance. Unlike free word combinations, phraseological units convey meanings that often extend beyond the literal interpretation of their constituent elements.

The study of phraseological units has attracted considerable attention in modern linguistics due to their ability to preserve historical experiences, cultural traditions, and collective wisdom. As repositories of national mentality, phraseological units provide valuable insights into the worldview of a particular linguistic community. Consequently, they have become important objects of investigation in phraseology, cognitive linguistics, pragmatics, sociolinguistics, and linguocultural studies.

One of the less explored yet highly significant categories of phraseological units is represented by expressions associated with purpose, determination, aspiration, and goal achievement. Human activity is inherently goal-oriented, and languages possess numerous phraseological means for describing efforts directed toward achieving desired objectives. Such expressions reveal how societies conceptualize ambition, perseverance, diligence, and success.

The Uzbek language contains a rich inventory of phraseological units reflecting purposeful action and determination. Expressions such as “bel bog‘lamoq,” “ko‘zini maqsadga tikmoq,” “jon-jahdi bilan harakat qilmoq,” and “maqsad sari intilmoq” are frequently employed to characterize

individuals striving to achieve specific goals. These phraseological units not only describe actions but also convey evaluations, emotions, intentions, and social expectations.

From a pragmatic perspective, phraseological units play an important role in communication because they influence how messages are interpreted within specific contexts. Their pragmatic meanings emerge through interaction between linguistic forms, communicative intentions, and sociocultural norms. Consequently, the study of phraseological units requires not only semantic analysis but also examination of their pragmatic functions.

This article aims to investigate the pragmatic features of goal-oriented phraseological units in the Uzbek language, identify their communicative roles, and explore their contribution to effective interpersonal communication.

Main Part

Theoretical Foundations of Phraseological Pragmatics

Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics concerned with the relationship between language and its users. It examines how meaning is constructed and interpreted within specific communicative situations. Unlike semantics, which focuses on conventional meanings, pragmatics investigates contextual meanings influenced by speaker intentions, social relationships, and cultural expectations.

Phraseological units possess both semantic and pragmatic dimensions. Their pragmatic value often exceeds their lexical meaning because they communicate attitudes, emotions, evaluations, and interpersonal intentions.

For example, when a speaker says:

“U maqsadiga yetish uchun bel bog‘lagan.”

the phraseological unit **“bel bog‘lamoq”** does not merely indicate a decision. It pragmatically conveys determination, confidence, commitment, and readiness for action.

Thus, phraseological units function as powerful communicative tools that enrich discourse and enhance pragmatic effectiveness.

Goal-Oriented Phraseological Units in Uzbek

Goal-oriented phraseological units refer to fixed expressions describing purposefulness, ambition, determination, perseverance, and efforts directed toward achieving objectives.

Examples include:

Phraseological Unit	Literal Meaning	Pragmatic Meaning
Bel bog‘lamoq	To tie one's belt	To make a firm decision
Ko‘zini maqsadga tikmoq	To fix one's eyes on a goal	To focus entirely on an objective
Jon-jahdi bilan harakat qilmoq	To act with all one's energy	To make maximum effort
Maqsad sari intilmoq	To strive toward a goal	To pursue aspirations persistently
Tishini tishiga qo‘yib ishlamoq	To clench one's teeth	To endure hardships patiently
Orzusiga yetmoq	To reach one's dream	To achieve a desired goal
Yuksak marralarni ko‘zlamoq	To aim at high targets	To have ambitious aspirations

These phraseological units are frequently used in educational, professional, literary, and everyday discourse.

Communicative Functions of Goal-Oriented Phraseological Units

Goal-oriented phraseological units perform several important pragmatic functions.

Motivational Function

One of the primary functions is motivation. Speakers employ such expressions to encourage determination and perseverance.

For example:

“Bel bog‘lasang, albatta natijaga erishasan.”

In this context, the phraseological unit functions as an encouragement strategy intended to inspire confidence.

Evaluative Function

These phraseological units frequently express positive evaluation.

Example:

“U yuksak marralarni ko‘zlaydigan inson.”

The expression implicitly praises the individual for possessing ambition and determination.

Persuasive Function

Goal-oriented phraseological units are often used to influence attitudes and behavior.

Example:

“Jon-jahding bilan harakat qilsang, muvaffaqiyat seni kutadi.”

The phraseological expression strengthens the persuasive force of the statement.

Emotional-Expressive Function

Phraseological units enhance emotional intensity and expressive richness.

Compare:

- “U ko‘p ishladi.”
- “U tishini tishiga qo‘yib ishladi.”

The second statement creates a stronger emotional impact and emphasizes endurance.

Contextual Pragmatics

The pragmatic interpretation of phraseological units depends heavily on context.

For instance, the expression **“ko‘zini maqsadga tikmoq”** may indicate:

- determination;
- ambition;
- concentration;
- confidence.

Its exact meaning emerges through interaction between speaker intention and communicative context.

In educational discourse, the expression often carries positive connotations associated with academic achievement.

In professional discourse, it may emphasize career advancement and leadership potential.

Cultural Dimensions of Goal-Oriented Phraseological Units

The Uzbek linguistic worldview places significant value on diligence, perseverance, patience, and responsibility. Consequently, many phraseological units expressing purpose and aspiration reflect these cultural ideals.

Traditional Uzbek culture highly appreciates individuals who demonstrate persistence despite difficulties. Therefore, phraseological expressions frequently portray success as the result of hard work rather than luck.

Expressions such as “**tishini tishiga qo‘yib ishlamoq**” and “**jon-jahdi bilan harakat qilmoq**” emphasize endurance and dedication, which are culturally respected qualities.

This cultural orientation influences the pragmatic interpretation of phraseological units and contributes to their persuasive power within communication.

Pragmatic Effectiveness in Discourse

Goal-oriented phraseological units contribute significantly to discourse effectiveness.

They:

- increase expressiveness;
- enhance emotional influence;
- facilitate persuasion;
- strengthen evaluation;
- promote interpersonal understanding.

As a result, speakers often prefer phraseological units to neutral lexical expressions when discussing achievement, determination, and success.

The pragmatic effectiveness of these expressions explains their widespread use in literature, journalism, education, public speaking, and everyday communication.

Conclusion

The analysis demonstrates that goal-oriented phraseological units represent an important component of the Uzbek phraseological system. Their significance extends beyond lexical meaning because they perform numerous pragmatic functions within communication.

The study reveals that these phraseological units serve motivational, evaluative, persuasive, and expressive purposes. Their pragmatic meanings emerge through interaction between linguistic structure, speaker intention, contextual factors, and cultural values.

Furthermore, Uzbek goal-oriented phraseological units reflect culturally significant concepts such as perseverance, diligence, patience, determination, and aspiration. They function as linguistic manifestations of national mentality and social ideals.

The findings confirm that phraseological units are not merely fixed lexical combinations but complex communicative instruments contributing to effective discourse. Future research may further investigate cognitive, sociolinguistic, and intercultural dimensions of Uzbek phraseological pragmatics and compare them with corresponding phenomena in other languages.

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