

# Gender Features of Euphemism in English and Uzbek Language

Rakhmanova Sarvinoz Alisherovna

Master TerSU  
Termez, Uzbekistan

## Abstract.

**Introduction.** The article deals with the gender features of **Euphemism** in English and Uzbek languages used by male and female members of Uzbek and English society and analyzes lexical-semantic classification of the euphemic agents in each group. Furthermore, it is found beneficial for exploring the role of gender while determining the similarities and differences between the two languages used euphemisms. As we know, A **Euphemism** is an innocuous word or expression used in many different situations in order to say something in a polite way. But Euphemism are used by female and male differently. By the helping of the article, it can be clarified the difference of usage.

**Research methods.** Translation method is found beneficial to identify the alternative variations. Contrasting method is utilized for contrasting two unrelated languages. Comparing method is employed as collating two related languages. The ambiguity of terms, the meaning of terms, the essence of the concept, the excessive length, complex phrases are inconvenient, with an excessive number of foreign terms. The creation of a glossary of terminology in various fields in response to the above problems is an urgent task of modern translation.

**Results and discussions.** it is very important for a translator or linguist to work with a specialist in the field from the beginning to the end of the acquiring process. There are good reasons for this. A translator may face the challenges of translation is to find a common thread between them when it comes to words with no correspondents in the target language, idioms and figure of speech, cultural references, humor and sarcasm. To explain specific euphemism terms and understand the situations in which they are used, the translator must have not only linguistic knowledge, but also an understanding of this specific area.

**Conclusion.** Analysing of the specific terms about Euphemism is not so easy as it seems, it requires to understand the basic knowledge of Euphemism, the user's gender and his or her role in society, as well as knowing exactly what purpose he or she is using it for.

**Key words.** euphemism, gender, language, sociolinguistics, culture,

**Euphemism** – is a mild or indirect word or expression substituted for one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing.<sup>1</sup> The term of Euphemism comes from Greek ‘euphemos’ and it means “uttering sounds of good omen”, “fair – sounding” or “auspicious” the first part of word eu-, meaning ‘good’. The second part is ‘phemos’, a Greek word for ‘speech’. The English word “euphemism” is found for the first time in a book written in 1656 by Thomas Blount, Glossographia [Burchfield 1985; 13]. This new branch of Linguistics are studied among many linguists:

Rawson, Allan & Burridge, Kate Burridge, Enright, K. Linfoot – Ham, J. K. Chambers, R. Fasold, Chi Ren, Hao Yu, and Uzbek and Russian linguists are also paying their attentions to this branch of linguistics,, they are A. A. Реформатский, К. К. Шахжури, В. П. Дарбакова, Н. Г. Михайловская, С. П. Вайнштейн, И. В. Арнольд, Н. Ц. Басчаева, Ш. Ч. Сат, G. G. Musaboyev, S. Otayev, S. Shikorov, N. Ismatullayev, Sh. Gulyamova and others.

According to Allan & Burridge, Euphemism are alternative to dispreferred expressions, and are used in order to avoid possible loss of face. The dispreferred expression may be taboo, fearsome, distasteful, or for some other reasons have too many negative connotations to felicitously execute speaker's communicative

<sup>1</sup> The New Oxford Dictionary of English, 1998, p.634

intention on given occasion.<sup>2</sup> Hugh Rawson also affirmed “ Euphemism are embedded so deeply in our language that few of us, even those who pride themselves on being plain spoken, even get through a day without using them” [ Rawson, 1981, p.3]

A euphemism is a polite expression used in place of words or phrases that might be considered harsh or unpleasant. There are many different uses in the euphemisms. They can help honestly advocated recommended useful resource you hold away from being overly blunt and proceed to be in a tone of politeness. People will in many instance apprehend the which overall performance of euphemism , even though you are no longer coming superb out with it.

The use of euphemisms is a known driver of language change. It has been proposed that women use euphemisms more than men. Although there have been several studies investigating gender differences in language, the claim about euphemism usage has not been tested comprehensively through time.

The concept of “Gender “ appeared to the modern linguistics later than other fields exactly in the second half of of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. **Gender** is the range of characteristics pertaining to femininity and masculinity and differentiating between them. Depending on the context, this may include sex – based social structures ( i.e gender roles) and gender identity.<sup>3</sup> We all know regardless of gender, the speaker uses language features that are common to all. G. Grays and J. Lich noted that politeness is more common in the phenomenon of euphemism.

Today , as a result of the development of a culture of communication among people , they have begun to use synonym words which give the positive meaning , because they know that the use of vulgar words does not coincide with the rules of etiquette. For example, in English language “**toilet**”- **rest room**, **WC** or **bathroom** and in uzbek language it is used as **xalajoy**, **chet**.

Every event in language does not occur directly , there are some factors , causes and units that express it. In English and Uzbek language , the second type of euphemism is lexical means , a group of word that perform a euphemistic function in different speech situations.

Lexical euphemisms are used in euphemistic function because of their meaning corresponding to the speech situation. They are also formed using metonymy , irony and metaphor.

Researcher noted that lexical-semantic classification of euphemisms for female and female sexuality in Uzbek:

1. Euphemisms that represent the moral, emotional and intellectual qualities of women
2. Euphemisms of female age
3. Euphemisms that represent the appearance of women
4. Euphemism related to female body parts
5. Euphemisms that represent women's occupations
6. Euphemism related to women's disease.<sup>4</sup>

We can see the similarity in Uzbek and English about lexical euphemisms related to appearance. The word obesity is not told directly to somebody as fat , we can say ‘ **well-fed or curvy** ‘. (*Although she was a **well-fed woman** , she picked at her food every Sunday evening when Cassandra had prepared her meal*).

In Uzbek this word is used as ‘ to`lishgan ,to`ladan kelgan :*Shu orada qadrdonim Mahmud Sa`diy to`ladan kelgan o`rtabo`y bir yigitni boshlab keldi.*<sup>5</sup>

In our society , there are some euphemisms which express profession of women : instead of cleaner ..... custodian , groundskeeper, warden ,swamper , janitor

In Uzbek texnik xodim, obodonlashtirish xodimi .

A traffic **warden** asked him to move his car.

*Shaxar xali uyg`onmagan bir paytda **obodonlashtirish xodimlari** allaqachon o`z ishlarini boshlab yuborishga ulgurishdi.*<sup>6</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Allan & Burridge, 1991, p. 11

<sup>3</sup> Udry, J. Richard ‘ The Nature of Gender’ Demography. 31 (4): 561-573. November 1994

<sup>4</sup> Gulnamova Shakhnoza Kakhramonovna. Lexical-semantic classification of euphemisms of the feminine gender in the Uzbek language. Academia Open Vol 1 No 1 (2019): June Articles

<sup>5</sup> U.Normatov.Sokin ko`ngil rozlari.2013.

<sup>6</sup> <https://kun.uz/news/2019/12/29>

There are many different character of euphemisms that represent concepts both man and woman. For example : **Gender euphemisms representing physical disabilities:** Blind, sightless, hard of seeing, visually challenged, visually impaired: ‘*Ko`zidan ayrilmoq*’ , ‘*ko`zi ojiz*’, ‘*ko`r bo`lmoq*’ are used for members of both sexes. And also

‘*Bepusht*’ belongs to male and female in uzbek but in English , Neuter for- man , Sterile for- woman. That is to say , euphemism express the art of using language and of course, culture and spirituality of the nation. Euphemisms of age. It is well known that euphemisms that characterize age are a painful spot for all. In fiction we often find words such as blue hair and gray hair referring to an older woman and man with white hair.

*Oralab qolibdi sochlariga oq .  
Sochlarimning qorasini olgin onajon*

In English, the following euphemism is used: **Silver Fox**. Suddenly this drop - dead gorgeous man appeared , a real **silver fox** ( grey-haired man) In the above examples, euphemisms such as blonde hair, gray hair, waist power, light bulging, preparing for the final destination, are applied to older man and women [Connell, 2006; Razakov Sh & Shakhgunova, 2001].

**In conclusion**, in the study of historical language development, the study of semantic change has always been a key subject of interest and a contentious issue to debate. Understanding how the communicative system works within a given community by focusing on the relationship between the choice of words or lexical items and the change in meaning they manifest is aided by focusing on the relationship between the choice of words or lexical items and the change in meaning they manifest.

**Euphemism** needs to be the focus of diverse studies, since it helps maintaining civility through the discussion of taboos as a pressure valve [5].

Uzbek and English euphemisms are characterized by the fact that they simultaneously express the characteristics of men and women – appearance , character, the nature of physiological state.

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