



## EXPRESSIVE INTENSIFICATION OF SUFFIXES IN FRENCH AND UZBEK ARGOTISMS

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**Abstract:** This paper examines the phenomenon of expressive intensification through suffixation in French and Uzbek argot (slang). It explores the ways in which emotional emphasis is conveyed by adding suffixes, providing illustrative examples from both languages. Special attention is paid to the influence of English-based global subcultures and internet language on contemporary slang formation. The goal is to highlight common morphological processes, cultural factors, and the role of borrowed elements in shaping modern slang in French and Uzbek contexts.

**Keywords:** French argot, Uzbek argot, suffixation, expressive intensification, slang, global subcultures

**Annotatsiya:** Bu ishda fransuz va o‘zbek tillarida argot (jargon) tillarida qo‘shimchalar orqali ifodali kuchayish hodisasi ko‘rib chiqiladi. Har ikki tildan ko‘rgazmali misollar keltirib, qo‘shimchalar qo‘shish orqali hissiy urg‘u berish usullarini o‘rganadi. Ingliz tiliga asoslangan global submadaniyatlar va internet tilining zamonaviy jargon shakllanishiga ta'siriga alohida e'tibor qaratilgan. Maqsad - umumiy morfologik jarayonlar, madaniy omillar va fransuz va o'zbek kontekstlarida zamonaviy jaranglarni shakllantirishda o'zlashtirilgan elementlarning rolini ko'rsatish.

**Kalit so‘zlar:** fransuz argoti, o‘zbek argoti, qo‘shimcha, ekspressiv intensifikasiya, jargon, global subkulturalalar

**Аннотация:** В этой статье рассматривается явление экспрессивной интенсификации посредством суффиксации во французском и узбекском аргю (сленге). В ней изучаются способы, которыми эмоциональный акцент передается путем добавления суффиксов, с предоставлением иллюстративных примеров из обоих языков. Особое внимание уделяется влиянию глобальных субкультур на основе английского языка и интернет-языка на формирование современного сленга. Цель состоит в том, чтобы выделить общие морфологические процессы, культурные факторы и роль заимствованных элементов в формировании современного сленга во французском и узбекском контекстах.

**Ключевые слова:** французское аргю, узбекское аргю, суффиксация, экспрессивная интенсификация, сленг, глобальные субкультуры

## Introduction

Slang, or argot, has long been a subject of linguistic fascination due to its dynamic, ever-evolving nature. In both French and Uzbek, argot serves not only as a creative outlet for speakers, but also as a reflection of social identity, group membership, and cultural exchange. One of the most intriguing features of argot is the way suffixation can intensify emotional connotations, thereby reinforcing the expressive force of slang words [Akhmedov 12].

While French argot has been extensively studied within the context of youth language, *banlieue* speech, and the historical tradition of *louchébem*, Uzbek argot is less commonly discussed in international academia. Nevertheless, Uzbek slang, especially among younger generations, exhibits similar patterns of morphological creativity [Shodmonov 58]. Additionally, both French and Uzbek have embraced loanwords from English, particularly in the domains of music, technology, and global youth subcultures, leading to further innovations in suffix usage [Roux 36].

This paper aims to:

1. Compare and contrast the role of suffixation in French and Uzbek argot.
2. Demonstrate how emotional intensity is reinforced via specific morphological processes.
3. Highlight the growing influence of English-based global subcultures on slang formation in both linguistic contexts.

## 1. The Role of Suffixation in Emotional Intensification

### 1.1. French Argot Suffixes

In French slang, suffixes such as *-oche* or *-ard* often carry a derogatory or humorous tinge. For instance, a standard French term like *femme* (woman) can become *femmoche* in certain slang contexts to add an air of humor or exaggeration [Lefebvre 22]. Meanwhile, *-eux* is sometimes used to form affectionate or diminutive variants, though it can also acquire ironic undertones depending on the speaker's intonation.

Historically, French has been open to adaptation of external influences, especially from English [Durand 19]. In youth culture and on social media, loanwords from English are increasingly integrated with native French affixes. For example, *tweet* may become *tweetos* (with a playful slang suffix) to denote an active user on Twitter, adding both familiarity and a humorous or light-hearted tone [Roux 39].

### 1.2. Uzbek Argot Suffixes

Uzbek slang frequently utilizes suffixes that stem from the agglutinative nature of the language [Karimov 76]. Common suffixes such as *-cha*, *-gina*, or *-lik* can intensify the emotive force of a base word. For example, the word *gap* (“talk” or “matter”) may be slangily expanded to *gapcha* to imply a quick, witty remark—often with a slightly mocking or playful nuance [Akhmedov 15].

Additionally, the suffix *-voy* can sometimes be appended to nouns or borrowed terms to create an affectionate or ironic effect, similar to diminutives in other languages. As global trends

filter into Uzbek youth culture, loanwords from English or Russian (itself a mediator of Western slang) may undergo agglutinative suffixation to reflect new realities. An internet-derived word like *blog* could become *blogcha* in a casual or humorous context [Shodmonov 60].

## 2. Influence of English-Based Global Subcultures

### 2.1. Borrowed Argotisms and Hybrid Forms

Both French and Uzbek slang continue to incorporate a range of lexemes from English, especially those associated with global music, fashion, and internet subcultures [Durand 20]. Words like *rap*, *fan*, or *swag* are not only borrowed but also adapted morphologically to fit local phonological and grammatical rules. In French, the suffix *-iser* can transform an English base into a French-style verb (e.g., *checker* from “check”), whereas in Uzbek, an English loanword might receive several affixes to denote person, number, or emotive shading [Karimov 78].

These hybrid forms highlight the creative interplay between local linguistic traditions and global influences, resulting in new forms of argot that speak to the experiences of younger generations. The process of suffixation, whether in French or Uzbek, serves as a vehicle for emotional intensification, identity expression, and group solidarity [Roux 41].

### 2.2. The Internet and the Acceleration of Linguistic Change

Social media platforms, online gaming communities, and streaming services have accelerated linguistic innovation in both France and Uzbekistan. Slang terms can spread rapidly across borders, leading to shared vocabularies and suffixation patterns. This phenomenon is particularly noticeable when slang items originating in English become common currency among French and Uzbek internet users, who then adapt these items with native suffixes for humor or emphasis [Lefebvre 25].

Consequently, suffixation becomes a site of negotiation between tradition and modernity, bridging cultural gaps and fostering new forms of linguistic creativity. For example, a term like *like* (as in a social media “like”) might evolve into *likcha* in Uzbek, signifying a small or trivial endorsement, or it might become *likos* in French slang, implying a casual or fleeting approval [Shodmonov 63].

### 2.3. Comparative Table of Examples

To illustrate the morphological processes of expressive intensification, **Table 1** provides a few representative slang terms in both French and Uzbek. Each entry shows the standard word, its slang/argot form (with the suffix), and the corresponding emotional or stylistic nuance.

**Table 1. Examples of Suffixation in French and Uzbek Argot**

Language	Standard Word	Slang / Argot Form	Suffix	Emotional Connotation
French	femme (woman)	femmoche	-oche	Humorous, slightly derogatory
French	tweet (to tweet)	tweetos	-os	Playful, casual, internet-based slang
French	like (social media)	likos	-os	Informal, fleeting approval
Uzbek	gap (talk/matter)	gapcha	-cha	Quick remark, mocking or playful nuance

Language	Standard Word	Slang / Argot Form	Suffix	Emotional Connotation
Uzbek	blog (internet)	blogcha	-cha	Humorous, casual, internet-based usage
Uzbek	fan (English loan)	fanvoy	-voy	Ironical or affectionate nuance

### Conclusion

The study of expressive intensification through suffixation in French and Uzbek argot reveals both parallels and unique features of these two linguistic spheres. French argot employs a variety of historically rooted suffixes that gain additional nuance under the influence of English and internet culture. Uzbek slang, grounded in an agglutinative language structure, similarly demonstrates creativity by adapting borrowed terms through local suffixation processes.

As global subcultures become increasingly interconnected, the role of suffixation in intensifying emotional expressions will likely grow more complex. Future research could focus on a larger corpus of argotisms, analyze sociolinguistic variables (e.g., age, region, and social class), and investigate potential new suffixes arising in the wake of evolving global communication patterns. Ultimately, the study of suffixation in argot underscores the dynamic nature of language and the powerful ways in which speakers manipulate linguistic resources to express identity, emotion, and belonging.

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