



LEXICAL-SEMANTIC REPRESENTATION OF THE CONCEPT OF «SOUL» IN ENGLISH

Aydos Mukhammadiyarov,
a PhD student of Nukus State Pedagogical Institute named after Ajiniyaz

Abstract This article explores the lexical-semantic representation of the concept "soul" in English, employing an anthropocentric approach to analyze its evolution and cultural significance. By examining dictionary definitions, etymological roots, and contemporary usages, the study reveals the complex interplay between language, culture, and worldview. Analysis of English terms such as "soul food," "soulmate," and "soul brother/sister" demonstrates the concept's intertwining with cultural identity, relationships, and social dynamics, while etymological analysis traces the concept's historical development and diverse influences. This investigation underscores the dynamic relationship between language and culture, highlighting how a single word can embody a multitude of meanings and values, reflecting the complex interplay of language, thought, and human experience.

Key words: *soul, lexical semantics, etymology, cultural linguistics, ethnolinguistics, worldview, cultural identity, dictionary analysis, soul food, soulmate, soul brother, soul sister.*

"RUH" KONSEPTINING INGLIZ TILIDAGI LEXIKAL-SEMANTIK KO'RSATKICILARI

Annotatsiya: Ushbu maqola "ruh" konseptining ingliz tilidagi leksik-semantik ko'rsatkichlarini o'rganishga bag'ishlangan bo'lib, uning rivojlanishini va madaniy ahamiyatini antropotsentrik yondashuv orqali tahlil qiladi. Lug'at ta'riflari, etimologik ildizlar va zamonaviy ishlatilishlarni tahlil qilish orqali, tadqiqot til, madaniyat va dunyoqarash o'rtasidagi murakkab o'zaro ta'sirni ochib beradi. "Soul food", "soulmate" va "soul brother/sister" kabi inglizcha atamalarni tahlil qilish, konseptning madaniy identitet, munosabatlar va ijtimoiy dinamika bilan qanday o'zaro bog'liqligini ko'rsatadi, etimologik tahlil esa uning tarixiy rivojlanishini va turli ta'sirlarni izlaydi. Ushbu tadqiqot til va madaniyat o'rtasidagi dinamik munosabatlarni ta'kidlaydi, bir so'zning ko'plab ma'no va qadriyatlarni qanday o'zida mujassamlashtirishini, til, fikr va inson tajribasining murakkab o'zaro ta'sirini aks ettirishini ko'rsatadi.

Kalit so'zlar: ruh, leksik semantika, etimologiya, madaniy lingvistika, etnolinguistika, dunyoqarash, madaniy identitet, lug'at tahlili, soul food, soulmate, soul brother, soul sister.

ЛЕКСИКО-СЕМАНТИЧЕСКОЕ ПРЕДСТАВЛЕНИЕ КОНЦЕПТА «ДУША» В АНГЛИЙСКОМ ЯЗЫКЕ

Аннотация: Статья посвящена лексико-семантическому представлению концепта "душа" в английском языке с использованием антропоцентрического подхода для анализа его эволюции и культурного значения. Исследование, анализируя определения из словарей, этимологические корни и современные употребления, раскрывает сложное взаимодействие языка, культуры и мировоззрения. Анализ английских терминов, таких как "soul food", "soulmate", "soul brother/sister", демонстрирует взаимосвязь концепта с культурной идентичностью, отношениями и социальными динамиками, в то время как этимологический анализ отслеживает историческое развитие концепта и разнообразные влияния. Исследование подчеркивает динамичные отношения между языком и культурой, показывая, как одно слово может воплощать множество значений и ценностей, отражая сложное взаимодействие языка, мышления и человеческого опыта.

Ключевые слова: душа, лексическая семантика, этимология, культурная лингвистика, этнолингвистика, мировоззрение, культурная идентичность, анализ словаря, soul food, soulmate, soul brother, soul sister.

Introduction. Over time, a nation develops and renews its vocabulary, worldview, and mindset as a result of advancements in technical, economic, and social spheres. This process is directly related to what is reflected in their consciousness, that is, what is portrayed in their world picture. According to the well-known 12th-century anthropologist Malinowski, if we want to understand the thoughts in someone's mind, we must first understand their worldview.

Furthermore, the worldview and mindset of any ethnic group can be more thoroughly determined through analyzing its lexical stock, because someone's emotional-expressive thoughts and overall communication in the language interact with influences in the social environment. In turn, this interaction directly affects the formation of an ethnic national worldview. Etymological analysis occupies a primary place in the ethnolinguistics field of language. According to D.U. Ashurova and M.R. Galieva, "ethnolinguistics primarily considers the relationship between language and culture from a historical point of view. It studies how ethnic groups understand and accept linguistic units..."

In our work, we focused on the lexical-semantic peculiarities of the "Soul/Ruwx" concept from an anthropocentric perspective, with the aim of identifying the paradigms of the concept and developing its conceptual map. To achieve this, we examined the definitions of the "Soul/Ruwx" concept in several English and Karakalpak dictionaries.

Looking at the etymology of the "Soul" concept, in the Concise Etymological Dictionary of the English Language, the word "soul" is based on the Old English words *sáwol*, *sáwel*, and in the Old High German language of the 4th century BC, on the words *sêula*, *sêla*. Missionaries translated it into Greek in the form *psychē* (ψυχή- "life, spirit, consciousness"). This lexical chain is also seen in the Concise Etymological Dictionary of the English Language.

Furthermore, in the "Concise Etymological Dictionary of the English Language," the lexical unit "soul" is defined as being related to "body," "psychology," "psychical," and "metempsychosis, transmigration of souls," and definitions are provided for them. In Chamber's Etymological Dictionary, 26 definitions related to the word "soul" are presented.

Soul-*sol*, *it. that part of man which thinks, feels, desires* (адамның ойлап, сезип жақсы көретугын бөлеги). *The scat of life and intellectual life* (интеллектуал өмир ҳам өмирдің түрі); *essence: internal power, energy or grandeur of mind* (энергия, ишки күш, ойдың үлкенлиги); *a human being, a person* (адам баласы, адам). *M.E. saute-A,S. smvol; Ger. seele, Goth. saivala, j Souled, sold adj. full of soul or feeling.*

Here, it is not difficult to see the etymological evolution in the forms saute, smvol, seele, saiwala, Souled, sold, and interestingly, the primary definition is related to the word "kewil" (soul/heart) in Karakalpak. Furthermore, in the Concise Oxford Dictionary, the word "soul" is shown with the word "sol". The lexemes "sol," "sole," and "soul" are related concepts. In the definition of the word "sol," it is shown as a Roman god in Roman mythology, the personification of the sun, and the enemy of Helios, the son of Titan, in Greek mythology.

Therefore, if we reason based on the definitions, the formation of "soul" as a lexical unit dates back to Old German, Greek, and Gothic languages, and it also has a mythological phenomenon: it is explained as a god in the Roman mythological context. Look at the table below:

Тиллик курам	Форма	Тиллик дәўир
Хәзирги инглис	«Soul»	Хәзирги инглис тили
Ески инглис	<i>sāwol, sāwel</i> (руўхый барлық, өмир)	Ески инглистили
Ески фриз	<i>sēle, sēl</i> ("salvation", or "solemn oath") (ашлық яки қатал ант)	Ески фриз тили
Гот	<i>saiwala</i>	Гот тили
Жоқарғы ески немис	<i>sēula, sēla</i>	Жоқарғы ески немис тили
Ески саксон	<i>sēola</i>	Ески саксон тили
Ески норвег	<i>sāla</i>	Ески норвег тили
Хәзирги	голландша <i>ziel</i> , немисше <i>Seele</i>	Заманагөй гооланд ҳам немис тиллери

Concepts are of great importance in depicting a particular national worldview, and depending on how they are presented in dictionaries and data, they can also reflect the entire being of an ethnic group (its traditions, inner world, imagination, consciousness, and thoughts).

Let's examine the lexical basis of the "Soul/Ruwx" concept through the definitions in the Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English:

-Soul-/səʊl/; NAME soul/ noun

1. *Spirit of a person [c] the spiritual part of a person, believed to exist after death:* He believed his immortal soul was in peril. The howling wind sounded like the wing of lost souls (=the spirits of dead people who are in not in heaven).

2. *Inner character [c] a person's inner character, containing their true thoughts and feelings:* There was a feeling of restlessness deep in her soul.

3. *Spiritual/Moral/Artistic Qualities [sing] the spiritual and moral qualities of humans in general. Synonym-psyche:* the dark side of human soul.

4. *[U, C] strong and good human feeling, especially that gives a work of art its quality or enables sb to recognize and enjoy that quality:* it was a very polished performance, but it lacked soul.

5. *[sing] the ...of sth a perfect example of a good quality.* He is the soul of discretion.

6. *[C] (becoming old-fashioned) a person of a particular type.* she's lost all her money, poor sou. You are a brave soul.

7. *[C] (especially in negative sentences) a person:* There wasn't a soul in sight (=nobody was in sight). Don't tell a soul (=Don't tell anyone) (literary) a village of 300 souls (=with 300 living there).

8. Music (also **soul music-руўх музыкасы**) *[U] a type of music that expresses strong emotions, made popular by African American musicians:* a soul singer.

9. **IDM good for the soul** (humorous) good for you, even if it seems unpleasant: "Want a ride? 'No, thanks. Walking is good for the soul -more at bare v. body, god, heart, life, sell.

10. **Soul-destroying** adj. (of a job or task) very dull and boring, because it has to be repeated many times or because there will never be any improvement.

11. **Soul food** noun. *[U] the type of food that was traditionally eaten by black people in the southern US.*

12. **Soulful**/səʊfl/; adj. expressing deep feelings, especially feelings of sadness or love: soulful eyes-a soulful song **-soulfully** adj. **soul-ful-ness** noun. *[U]*

13. **Soul-less** adj. 1 (of things and places) lacking any attractive or interesting qualities that make people feel happy syn: depressing: They live in soulless concrete blocks (Олар пайыссыз бетон блокларда жасайды). 2. (of a person) lacking the ability to feel emotions.

14. **Soul-mate** noun. A person that you have a special friendship with because you understand each other's feelings and interests.

Soul music = soul (8)

15. **Soul-searching** noun. [U] he careful examination of your thoughts and feelings, for example in order to reach the correct decision or solution to sth.

As can be seen, this dictionary shows 8 definitional rows for the lexical unit "soul": first, spirit; second, inner character or inner world; third, human virtue; fourth, human feeling, intuition; fifth, symbol, sign, emblem; sixth, person, individual; seventh, nobody; and eighth, meanings such as soul, spirit. The idiomatic phrase "Good for the soul" is used to describe a person's condition; fundamentally, "soul" in this phrase also means person. It is also reflected as adjectives in the forms soul-destroying, soul food, soulful, soulless, soul-searching.

Looking at the basis of the unit "soul food," it embodies a certain culture of black people; along with culture, this combination has ethnolinguistic and psycholinguistic characteristics, because the definitional row itself clearly originates from a specific place and group of people. The language unit "soulmate" is formed as a compound noun at the root of soul + mate (spirit + friend). According to the etymological description of the word, it first entered circulation as a compound in the city of Coleridge in 1822, but in Middle English, soul-felaue meant "fellow member of a religious order." The unit "Felaue" has undergone synchronization in modern English in the form of fellow (friend, row). Soul-destroying and soul-searching are described with the compound character of the language, serving as compound adjectives, however, the identifiers soulful and soulless transform the basic noun "soul" with the suffixes -ful, -less.

If we look at the "Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary," we find 10 different definitions for the word "soul."

- the spiritual part of a person that some people believe continues to exist in some form after their body has died, or the part of a person that is not physical and experiences deep feelings and emotions.

Thus, here too, as in the previous Oxford dictionary, the definitional form emerged with a religious perspective. We can associate this factor with the diachronic principle, because in that era, the state was governed by religious rules and regulations. The lexical explanation "inner character," like in the previous dictionary, is formed here under one definition, that is, the row "the part of a person that is not physical and experiences deep feelings and emotions" is explained in connection with the inner world of a person. In the Cambridge dictionary, it is given together with its religious and psychological denotations. As for the lexeme soulmate, the following differential feeling can be observed.

- someone, usually your romantic or sexual partner, who you have a special relationship with, and who you know and love very much.

So, here, two dictionaries show two meanings: the previous one refers to a friendly relationship, while the latter undergoes a semantic change, referring to a person in a sexual relationship. Looking at the "Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary," it also shows compounds related to black people, such as soul brother, soul sister, which directly means a black (African-American) boy and a black girl.

In conclusion, according to the definitions of the concept "soul" across various dictionaries and historical periods, a complex and evolving understanding of this term emerges. The etymological roots, tracing back to Old English, Germanic, and even mythological sources, reveal a historical emphasis on the spiritual and vital essence of a person. This core meaning has been shaped and reshaped by cultural and social forces, leading to a diverse range of contemporary usages.

Specifically, the analysis of "soul food," "soulmate," and "soul brother/sister" demonstrates the ways in which the concept of "soul" has become intertwined with cultural identity, relationships, and social dynamics. The shift in meaning of "soulmate" from a religious connection to a romantic partnership reflects broader societal changes. Similarly, the use of "soul" to denote ethnic affiliation highlights the power of language to construct and reinforce social categories.

Ultimately, this exploration of the lexical-semantic representation of "soul" in English underscores the dynamic relationship between language and culture. By examining the ways in which a single word can embody a multitude of meanings, associations, and values, we gain a deeper appreciation for the complex interplay of language, thought, and human experience. Further research could investigate the metaphorical representations of the soul, or compare its lexical representation in other languages, building on the foundation established in this study.

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