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## BIRD NAMES REALLY MATTER: FEATURES OF ORNITHONYMES IN LANGUAGE

**Abstract:** *The study of ornithonyms is being extensively studied by linguists. Ornithonyms in Uzbek and English have a polysemantic character. This article discusses the use of two types of bird names in phrases and proverbs: 1) Swallow and 2) Nightingale. The use of these birds in Uzbek is presented as a small linguistic study of their use in proverbs and sentences. The results show that the ornithonyms in two languages, firstly created over centuries, next, constitute a well-shaped system. Many bird terms reflect features of appearance. In dialects, different names for the same birds may occur, as observed in the sources.*

**Key words:** *bird names, phrases, adverbs, swallow, nightingale, lexemes, language.*

**Language:** *English*

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### Introduction

The study of ornithonyms [16] is being extensively studied by linguists. In recent years, several monographs and commentaries on this topic have been created. The linguistic richness of a person can also be measured by the richness of its lexicon, the sensitive layer of phraseology.

There is no consensus among ornithologists on the number of birds in the fauna of Uzbekistan. However, “A systematic list of birds in Uzbekistan and the status of encounters” has been compiled. It contains information on more than 460 species of birds [13]. Over the years, many subspecies of sparrows have been classified as species. There is also new information about bird species that have not been seen in Uzbekistan before. They are also included in the fauna [14].

### THE MAIN PART. USE OF SWALLOW AND NIGHTINGALE LEXEMES.

This article provides a linguistic analysis of two species of bird names. 1) swallow and 2) nightingale. The use of these birds in Uzbek is given as a small linguistic study of their use in proverbs and phrases.

**THE SWALLOW.** In the etymological dictionary of the Uzbek language, the swallow lexeme is described as a thin and long, very fast-flying, black-and-white sparrow. In the ancient Turkic language, a noun with the same meaning was pronounced as follows: **қарғығач** [*qarghighoch*] or **қарлығач** [*qarlighoch*] [15]

There are different forms of the *swallow* lexeme in Turkish: **Қарлығач** – [*qarlighoch*], **қарлуғач** – [*qarlugoch*], **қардығач** – [*qardirghoch*], **қарлығач** – [*qarlighoch*]. The word “**қарлығач** – [*qarlighoch*]” also means *bat* [bird name] in the definitive dictionary. Based on a comparative analysis of the above information, the phonetic change of the word in the Uzbek language can be described as follows. The abovementioned forms of *swallow* have replacing consonants that belong to different dialects of the Turkish language.

Ornithonyms in Uzbek and English have a polysemantic character. For example, in the Uzbek dictionary, the first meaning of the word swallow is a small black-and-white bird that belongs to the family Sparrows, has thin and long wings, can fly very fast and far, and feeds almost on insects. Swallow species have also been reported [17]. For example, *the Barn*

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*Swallow, Bank Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Tree Swallow*, and others. Also, swallows benefit nature by eating blood-sucking insects.

The second meaning of the word swallow is figurative, and is also used in such senses as the sign of the appearance or occurrence of something, the initiator, the forerunner:

1) The meaning of good news. "Rustam sent *his swallow*, and it would be nice if he *flows* after it". In this example, a young man named Rustam is on a journey. He sent a letter by post saying he was returning home, according to which he would return home soon. He and his letter are compared to a real **swallow**.

2) The meaning of a new promising generation:

a) "Young people are *the swallows* of a bright future!"

b) "This young poetess is one of *the swallows* of modern Uzbek literature."

In the next example, it has been described youth people as *swallow* birds. The reason is that *a swallow* is a positive bird.

In English, the lexeme swallow has several meanings. The first meaning is a verb form which means to move your throat to make food or drink go down.

Another meaning is a small bird with a tail with two points. [1,2. Cambridge dictionary: swallow].

It also occurs in the *swallow lexeme* in the same sense, meaning to swallow one's emotions. For example: "In a matter such as this, you should swallow your pride and ask the physician for help". In this sentence, the *swallow lexeme* is used to mean forgetting your pride. (Reverso Context Dictionary).

There is one proverb in *Oxford Dictionary*: "One *swallow* doesn't make a summer", meaning: do not take things too seriously in May, because a situation or condition can change, and goodness will surely happen.

There is a similar proverb in the Uzbek language. But it used the *crow ornithonym*, instead of *swallow*. The above proverb says: "Summer does not come with one swallow", while the Uzbek proverb says: "Winter does not come with one crow". Besides, many Uzbek poets and writers focus on the lexeme of the swallow in their works, as well as in folklore.

**NIGHTINGALE**. As mentioned above, world people have many proverbs that are very similar in content. Folk proverbs are important in the spiritual and aesthetic upbringing of people. At the same time, human consciousness can be further developed through proverbs. Proverbs about the Motherland that lead people to think cleverly. In particular, the ornithonym *nightingale* is widely used in Uzbek folk proverbs. For example, in the proverbs "No man

without a homeland, as well as no *nightingale* without a song (singing)", or "A mankind loves his homeland, as well as the nightingale, loves its meadow", here the *nightingale ornithonym* is used [6].

The nightingale is a small, brown bird that sings very well. This bird is rare that belongs to the blackbird family of sparrows. These birds also have a positive sense. In the above-mentioned proverbs, the Motherland is likened to *a meadow* and a man to a *singing nightingale*. When we say *meadow*, we think of a *nightingale singing* therein. As the proverb shows, the Uzbek people liken their homeland to such a beautiful place. Yes, many proverbs lead to wisdom, helping to cultivate perception and intellect.

There are also proverbs and phrases in languages where the *nightingale lexeme* is used. This dwarf bird, which the English call nightingale, also means a bird that sings at night. In many countries, the nightingale is recognized as a national symbol. There are also many legends about such birds.

We have considered above Uzbek folk proverbs and some phrases using nightingale and swallow lexemes. Here are some examples of proverbs that use the nightingale lexeme associated with the homeland: "Even if the nightingale is in a gold cage, she still dreams of returning to the forest (Armenian proverb), or "They put the nightingale into a golden cage, yet it still craved for its home (Turkish proverb). When we compared these proverbs, we were convinced that they were compatible in terms of description in both languages.

The educational and didactic possibilities of the proverb genre of folk oral creation are very diverse. Proverbs in English and Uzbek inspire a love for figurative words in folk art, give aesthetic pleasure. These small works, which are an expression of the national artistic methods of fine art, will feed the spiritual needs of the rising generation. Proverbs, phrases, and other figurative words call for goodness and evoke love for the mother tongue, the Motherland, which is the most precious thing for a person. We have given only examples from proverbs that use the lexemes of the nightingale and swallow. There are also many proverbs and sayings related to the names of birds. Their theme is varied and has an educational value to students.

## Conclusion

To conclude, the comprehensive study of the modern Uzbek language plays an important role in the continuation of national values. Proverbs and phrases related to bird names in different languages also serve to express concepts such as humanity and nature. The use of original and figurative meanings in the use of ornithonyms allows for wider use of linguistic aspects.

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