

ONTOLOGICAL-CONCEPTUAL METAPHORS

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Abstract

Philosophers have done more research than linguists on the study of metaphors discussed in this article. In fact, he showed that ontology is a completely philosophical approach.

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Before discussing what such a metaphor is, it is appropriate to provide information about the meaning of the lexeme "ontological". "Ontology" is an integral part of philosophy. He reflects on existence, its principles, foundations, structure and laws¹. From the etymology of this word, we are once again convinced of the correctness of the above tariff. In particular, the word "ontology" comes from the Greek words "ontos" "being, presence" and "logos" "science, teaching". Although the word ontology was introduced as a science in the 16th century, ancient Greek philosophers expressed several views on this term in their treatises.

Lakoff and Johnson clearly state that they see the basis of the ontological metaphor in the body. Two cited the human body as an example of a body. They emphasized that human behavior, feelings and thoughts play an important role in the creation of ontological metaphors in their views². They took the word "inflation" as a proof of this idea and gave it as a figurative expression that prices will rise based on it. Lakoff and Johnson's views on ontological metaphor were studied by Russian researcher L. Lunkova in the original text and translated material³. In his work, the researcher made a comparative analysis of the original text and ontological metaphors in the translation options of two novels of the English writer J. Barnes: "The way it was" and "Talking it over". Now if we analyze the examples of Lakoff and Johnson:

Inflation is lowering our standard of living. (Inflyatsiya bizning yashash

¹ <https://savodxon.uz/izoh?ontologiya>

² Lakoff G., Johnson M. Metaphors We Live By – The University of Chicago Press, 1980, p. 25

³ Lunkova L.N. Ontological metaphor in the original and translation of a literary text. August 2022 DOI:10.37724/RSU.2022.61.2.009

darajamizni kamaytiraypti. – J.I.)

At first glance, it seems that there is no figurative migration in this example. However, if we pay attention to why currency devaluation worsens people's lifestyle, we can see that the basis of this statement lies in the high prices and the devaluation of money. So, the consequences of inflation can be said to have created a "hidden artistic migration" in this example.

If there's much **more inflation**, we'll never survive. (Agar inflyatsiya yuqori bo'lsa, biz hech qachon omon qolmaymiz. – J.I.)

This example served to give the same meaning as the first example. The high rate of inflation is the reason for the difficulty of people's living environment. This is an emphasis on the high price and the fact that the people cannot afford to buy even the products necessary for their daily life as a result. So, this example gave information about the difficulty of people's living standards expressed in a figurative sense, without mentioning the height of prices.

Lakoff and Johnson emphasized that ontological metaphor has several purposes. We have given only a few of them below.

1) **Informant.** In this type of purpose, a metaphor serves to communicate a certain state, action, or activity. Let's give an example to make it more clear.

My **fear of insects** is driving my wife crazy. (Meni hashorotlardan qo'rqqo'shim ayolimni aqldan ozdiradi. – J.I.)

From the analyzed example, it can be seen that the man's fear informed the listener and the reader about how he would make his spouse. In fact, the situation of putting another person in the given situation of a human emotion created an artistic movement. This is one of the most common purposes of conceptual metaphor in Western poetics.

We are **working toward peace**. (Biz tinchlik tomon harakat qilyapmiz. – J.I.)

At first glance, this example does not seem to have a metaphor. Because, in the given sentence in English, "toward" performed the main task in creating a metaphor. When this sentence is translated into Uzbek, it is understood that its meaning is not the main one in Uzbek. However, when viewed from the point of view of meaning or general context, "to act" for "peace" has a figurative meaning.

Since the above two examples are given to form an ontological metaphor advanced by Lakoff and Johnson, not only the ordinary reader but also researchers sometimes

find it difficult to define the metaphor. This idea also applies to the analysis of the examples of the remaining purposes.

2) **Grading.** In English, this purpose is formed by the combination of adjectives (so, much, many, a lot of) with abstract nouns. Every English-speaking student knows that such words come before the lexemes of the adjective group and serve to assign them a certain level of function.

You need **much love** to finish your research work. (Sizga ilmiy tadqiqot ishingizni yakunlashga ko'p muhabbat kerak. – J.I.)

The unit "much" indicating the level of a separate phrase is combined with the noun "love" and forms an ontological metaphor. It is difficult to notice that the phrase in this example is metaphorical if it is not approached from a philosophical point of view. In English grammar, it is important to note that, while not denying that the above adjectives come before abstract nouns, they often come with plural countable nouns.

In the work "Kutadgu Bilig" there are stanzas with an ontological metaphor through the concept of "science and ignorance".

Билигсиз қарағу туруп бэлгүлүг,
Йуры, эй билигсиз, билиг ал үлүг. (176)

Bilimsiz shubhasiz aniq ko'rdir,
Kel, ey nodon, bilimdan hissa ol.

Билиг байлық бир чығай булғусиз
Тэгиб оғры тэвлиг аны алғусуз (307)

Bilim qashshoq qilmovchi (bitmas-tuganmas) bir boylikdir,
O'g'ri, ayor qo'l urib uni hech qachon ola olmaydi.

It is known from the above verses that knowledge and ignorance lead a person to good or evil. In the first stanza, a person without knowledge is described as "blind". In the second verse, knowledge is defined as "wealth".

So, in the West, when dividing metaphors into types, attention is also paid to late details involved in its formation. In particular, combining metaphors within one concept and dividing them into several types is a new phenomenon for Eastern poetics. After all, this is confirmed by the above examples.

Bibliography

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