



## MORPHOLOGICAL STRUCTURES OF THE UZBEK LANGUAGE AND THEIR COMPARISON WITH OTHER TURKIC LANGUAGES

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**Abstract:** The Uzbek language belongs to the Turkic language family, and its morphological system shows both similarities and differences with other Turkic languages. Morphology is an important branch of linguistics that analyzes the structure of words, their changes, and their grammatical meanings. This article examines the morphological structures of the Uzbek language and the word-formation processes carried out through them. In addition, the morphological features of Uzbek are compared with other Turkic languages such as Turkish, Kazakh, Tatar, and Kyrgyz. Similarities and differences in morphological structures, including affixation, methods of verb and noun formation, plural forms, and relationships among grammatical categories, are discussed. By identifying morphological contrasts in Turkic languages, the article contributes to a deeper understanding of linguistic connections between these languages. The analysis concludes with observations on the similarities and differences between the morphological system of Uzbek and those of other Turkic languages, as well as suggestions on how these differences should be addressed in linguistic research.

**Keywords:** Uzbek language, Turkic languages, morphology, affixation, word formation, morphological system, plural, grammatical categories, verb, comparison.

The Uzbek language belongs to the southern Kazakh branch of the Turkic language family and shares a number of common morphological features with other Turkic languages. Morphology is a field of linguistics focused on studying word-formation processes, changes in morphemes, and the grammatical system of words. The morphological structures of Uzbek, its grammatical system, and its word-formation processes represent characteristic features of Turkic languages. At the same time, when compared with other Turkic languages, Uzbek exhibits certain similarities as well as differences.

In the morphological system of Uzbek, affixes (affixation), word-formation methods, and similarities and differences in verb and noun formation occupy an important place. This article scientifically analyzes the morphological system of Uzbek and its comparison with other Turkic languages. Uzbek is an agglutinative language in which words are formed by means of morphemes. Morphemes are the smallest meaningful units of words and constitute the fundamental elements of the language. In Uzbek, words are mostly formed through affixes. This process is called affixation and is a widely used word-formation method in Uzbek.

Through affixation, various grammatical categories such as nouns, verbs, adjectives, and others are formed in Uzbek. For example, by adding the suffix *-xon* to the noun *kitob* (book), the word *kitobxon* (reader) is created.

**Affixation** is the main method of word formation in the Uzbek language. Several types of affixes are used to change the morphological form of a word:

**Verb formation:**

In Uzbek, verbs mainly change through suffixes expressing person, number, tense, aspect, and mood. For example, when the suffix *-gan* is added to the verb *yoz* (to write), the form *yozgan* (past participle / past tense form) is produced.

**Plural suffix:**

The word *kitob* (book) is used in the plural form as *kitoblar* (books), which changes the grammatical meaning of the word.

In Uzbek, grammatical categories such as number, person, tense, case, and plurality are expressed by means of suffixes.

**Person and number:**

Personal and number suffixes are used to distinguish grammatical meanings.

**Case suffixes:**

In Uzbek, nouns and adjectives are formed with the help of case suffixes. For example, *kitobda* (in the book – locative case) and *kitobni* (the book – accusative case).

The morphological structures of the Uzbek language are compared with those of other Turkic languages because these languages belong to the same language family. However, there are certain morphological differences among them. The differences between Uzbek and Turkish mainly appear in affixation and verb systems. For instance, in Turkish the past tense of verbs is expressed by the suffix *-di*, whereas in Uzbek it is expressed by the suffix *-gan*. Moreover, while Turkish consistently uses the plural suffix *-lar*, Uzbek employs plural forms such as *-lar* according to phonetic harmony.

The Kazakh language also has a word-formation system based on affixation. However, in Kazakh, the plural suffix *-der* is added to the word *söz* (word), whereas in Uzbek the form *so'zlar* is used. In Kazakh, special morphemes are applied to distinguish grammatical gender, while in Uzbek grammatical gender does not exist.

The Tatar language is also agglutinative in its morphological structure, but some affixes differ. For example, in Tatar the word *kitap* (book) takes the plural form *kitaplar*, which is similar to Uzbek *kitoblar*. In Tatar, case suffixes are used more extensively, for example *kitapta* (in the book) and *kitaplarım* (my books).

In Kyrgyz, affixation is also widely used in word formation. The plural suffix appears as *-lar* or *-ler*, which is very close to Uzbek. However, in Kyrgyz, morphological structures may involve certain syntactic variations. For example, the word *kitap* becomes *kitaplar*, but in some contexts additional suffixes are used and lexical bases may differ.

**Conclusion:**

In conclusion, although the morphological structures of Uzbek and other Turkic languages are largely similar, there are several important differences among them. Morphology plays a central role in shaping language, and in Turkic languages this process is mainly realized through affixation, word formation, and the use of grammatical categories. The morphological system of Uzbek shows both similarities and differences when compared with other Turkic languages, which are related to the dynamic development of languages, their social context, and historical processes.

The Uzbek system of word formation through affixation enables the expression of grammatical meanings by means of plural, case, person, and tense suffixes. When compared with other Turkic languages, some differences can be observed in these suffixes and grammatical systems. For example, certain tenses and verb forms used in Turkish are formed

differently in Uzbek; in Kazakh, grammatical gender is distinguished, while in Tatar plural and case suffixes are more frequently used.

Morphological analysis is of great importance in identifying differences among Turkic languages and comparing them on this basis. This is significant not only for linguists but also for the development of linguistic technologies such as automatic translation, natural language processing systems, and lexical databases. In addition, morphological analysis helps identify semantic similarities and differences among Turkic languages, contributing to a better understanding of their social and cultural specificities.

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