ABSTRACT
of the thesis for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
«Gender opposition in language», performed by Zhumasheva Kamshat
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General description of the work. The dissertation work is devoted to the study of gender oppositions in language and areas of study, their categorization, representation in the lexical and lexicographic system of the language, modeling through conceptual metaphors, as well as experimental research of the oppositional nature of gender metaphors in the associative experience of native speakers.

The modern language, which is increasingly characterized by the role of establishing relationships in the paradigm of "human – consciousness – society – culture", has been of increasing interest in linguistic research since the second half of the twentieth century. Anthropocentric principles of research determined the priority of social factors related to the linguistic personality (native speakers), which predetermined the development of scientific concepts in the field of gender linguistics. Scientific research is being developed to explain the system characteristics, essence, composition, functions and patterns of interrelation of gender linguistic categories, which form experimental and practical experience in this branch of linguistics.

A native speaker is primarily a representative of a certain gender group, therefore, values and conceptual information are reflected in the language system from the standpoint of the gender picture of the personality's world. In this regard, the linguistic reflection of oppositional phenomena in the gender picture of the world (conceptosphere) is of research interest; the paradigm of the study "a native speaker – his or her gender picture of the world – categories of worldview – linguistic reflection or representation" is being formed, which is able to determine the factors and elements of the study of the phenomenon of gender oppositions that are represented in the language system.

Gender oppositions as one of the types of gender categories have not yet been widely studied. Consideration of gender oppositions as a separate category in language requires the attention of researchers to such concepts and knowledge format as category and language category. The concept of a category as reflecting the relationship between reality and cognition, as well as groups of linguistic phenomena and units, or a set and system of such act as a language category; then gender oppositions as a category should be based on these concepts in terms of determining their essence and place in the language. Unlike linguistic categories, gender categories are characterized by the socio-linguistic nature of the entity and, based on this gender phenomenon, explain linguistic facts. These factors allow us to recognize the expansion of a number of language categories and conceptual foundations of language, hence the development of the content and methodology of their research.

In general, the categories of *opposition* and *gender opposition* in the status of the object of linguistic research should be defined as their description at the deep content, conceptual, cognitive and functional levels. Thus, if *gender linguistic*

categories are defined on the basis of common, uniform characteristics reflected in the fields of gender linguistics, then *gender oppositions* in language is a category reflecting the same type of oppositional characteristics, which through the facts of gender–opposed semantics is a system of common parameters. Gender opposition, defined as one of the key categories of gender linguistics, can simultaneously be characterized as a type of linguistic categories. Therefore, *gender opposition* as a linguistic category in the conceptualization of oppositional or opposed content in language connects the cognitive processes of its structure – reflecting the processes of categorization and conceptualization of the facts of gender asymmetry. In this regard, the current research examines gender oppositions through the description of lexical, metaphorical and associative reflection in language.

The study of the representation of gender opposition in language helps to get an answer to the question of the implementation of gender in the language system. Masculine and feminine classifications as two bases of gender functioning are defined in different ways in research - *phenomenon, structures, concepts, categories, ideology, set of characteristics, normative canons.*

In this study, gender oppositions are considered in a complex way, which made it possible to consider masculine and feminine facts at the lexical, semantic, nominative and conceptual levels, as well as to identify their oppositional and asymmetric relationships.

The relevance of research. The actualizing analysis of the category of gender opposition in the language system makes it possible to identify such differences in cognitive and philosophical processes as language cognition, language categorization, language conceptualization for the scientific sphere and the researcher. Secondly, they reveal the features of the processes of asymmetric conceptualization and the processes of reflection at a deep level of the linguistic worldview of native speakers as gender representatives, and these data, in addition to contributing to the development of humanitarian, anthropological knowledge and methodology, focus on updating the system of linguistic categories through clarifying the features of the gender phenomenon. This approach helps to distinguish between a linguistic personality and a gender linguistic personality, as well as to identify characteristic features. Thirdly, the analysis of the gender semantics of asymmetric content through the study of facts in the language system serves as the basis for the classification of characterizing parameters and the definition of methodological principles and means of their study. Fourth, if we take into account the different levels (universal, traditional, modern, collectively conditioned, etc.) and the variable (allowing for a change of gender identity or identification) characteristics of the gender sphere (phenomenon), then it is legitimate to evaluate the gender linguistic personality as an object of continuous scientific attention, which is of interest as a carrier and user of facts and means gender sphere, capable of reflecting and reproducing them, as well as implementing cognitive-linguistic processes.

The aim of the research work is to scientifically substantiate the categorization of gender oppositions in language and prove it from the point of view of associative cognition.

To achieve the intended goal, the study provided for the solution of the following **tasks**:

1. To concretize the content and essence of the concepts of "opposition", "gender opposition", "gender opposition in language", to systematize scientific concepts on the problem of research;

2. To carry out a scientific review and identify the main approaches to the study of gender opposition in linguistics;

3. Describe the categorization of gender oppositions in language, study their metaphorical nature, asymmetric features and marker representation in the nominative system;

4. Analyze the reflection of gender oppositions in the lexicographic system of the language;

5. Describe the modeling of gender oppositions through conceptual metaphors in the lexical system of the language: to identify the characteristics, composition and content of gender oppositions in the structure of gender-labeled metaphorical names;

6. On the basis of an empirical study of the associative experience of a linguistic personality, to prove the linguistic features of gender oppositions and scientifically substantiate this research methodology.

The object of research: gender opposition as a language category.

The subject of research: features (lexical, semantic, nominative, conceptual) representations of gender oppositions in language.

Theoretical and methodological basis of research work: the concepts of gender linguistics, which consider language as a means of structuring gender, act as a scientific and methodological basis; fundamental works in the field of linguophilosophy, folklore, cognitive linguistics. Scientific works of F.de Saussure, N.S.Trubetskoy, R.O.Yakobson, V.V.Ivanov, V.N.Toporov, T.V.Tsivyan, K.Levi-Strauss, N.M.Shansky, V.M.Kupriyanova, A.K.Zhumabekova, etc., defining the concept of "opposition" as a category structuring the picture of the world and related phenomena related to it; theoretical concepts of A.A. Potebni, M.Zholdasbekov, M.Eskeeva, S.Kondybai, A.Toyshanuly, etc., explaining the gender features of the mythological picture of the world; the works of O.A.Voronina, O.V.Ryabov, E.I.Zamfir, G.A.Adayeva in the field of the theory of gender studies and gender oppositions; the research of J.Scott, A.V.Kirillina, E.S.Gritsenko, S.G.Aivazova, I.S.Kon, E.Roche, N.V.Golovinova, K.A.Pokoyakova, E.S.Zinovieva, Z.I.Rezanova, O.V.Komissarova and other foreign scientists, as well as Kazakhstani researchers K.Zhubanov, B.Khasanuly, G.T.Shokym, Z.K.Sabitova, B.Rayhan, G.Sagidolda, O.L.Sokhatskaya, Zh.D.Suleimenova, A.B.Sarsembayeva, E.T.Burankulova, G.A.Abdimaulen, etc. on the problem of gender, gender linguistics, gender oppositions in language were taken as a basis for theoretical analysis and formulation of scientific concepts.

The works of J.Lakoff and M.Johnson, Y.N.Karaulova, V.G.Gak, Y.D.Apresyan, O.I.Blinova, V.V.Dubichinsky, V.A.Kozyrev, G.Sklyarevskaya, as well as J.A.Mankeeva, B.K.Akberdiyeva, R.B.Khasenov, M.M. Kosybaev,

E.D.Suleimenova, G.B.Mamaeva, M.Amangazieva, A.S.Yusupova and others, considering the linguistic features of gender opposition from the point of view of social linguistics, ethnolinguistics, cognitive linguistics, linguomythology, linguoculturology, lexicography.

Research sources: scientific research on the problem, lexicographic works – dictionary of the Kazakh literary language, explanatory dictionaries; language materials from the national corpus of the Kazakh language; materials of an associative experiment conducted with respondents of different age categories (a total of 912 respondents, of which 345 people participated online, 567 - offline).

Research methods: to achieve the goal and solve the tasks, *general scientific methods* were applied – analysis, comparison, sampling of material, description, classification, grouping, systematization, review and generalization; as well as *special research methods* – component analysis of gender semantics, stratification, categorization, modeling, methods of oppositional and cognitive analysis, linguoculturological analysis, methods of analyzing linguistic units, principles of lexicographic analysis, method of statistical analysis.

Scientific novelty of the research: for the first time, the system of gender opposition in language was investigated as a category of gender linguistics, and according to the results of the dissertation research, the following results were obtained:

– the concept of "gender opposition in language" is clarified and its essential characteristics as a category of gender linguistics are revealed;

- the degree of elaboration of the problem of gender opposition in linguistics is revealed and the main approaches to its study are determined;

- linguistic facts of oppositional and asymmetric relations of masculine (male) and feminine (female) categories of gender oppositions, based on the description of lexical, semantic, nominative and conceptual facts, as well as features of lexicographic reflection, metaphorical modeling and associative cognition, have been subjected to special study;

- the features of modeling gender oppositions through conceptual metaphors in the lexical system of the language are determined, the characteristics, composition and content of gender oppositions in the structure of gender-labeled metaphorical names are revealed;

- on the basis of an empirical study of the associative experience of a linguistic personality, the linguistic features of gender oppositions are proved, as well as the possibilities and effectiveness of the applied research methodology are scientifically substantiated.

Practical significance of the research work: the scientific concepts and conclusions obtained in the course of the research can be successfully applied in the development and educational support of educational courses and programs in social linguistics, cognitive linguistics, modern linguistics, etymology, lexicology, linguomythology, linguoculturology. The research materials will be valuable for compiling linguistic and cultural reference books, dictionaries on gender linguistics, etc. lexicographical works.

The formed methodology for the study of gender oppositions can be taken as a basis as a successfully implemented experience for linguistic research.

Refined scientific concepts, described categories, their composition, structure and functions will make a significant contribution to the development of the scientific metalanguage of gender studies, modern linguistics and linguists.

Theoretical significance of the research work: the main results and theoretical provisions of the dissertation research at their level will make a scientific contribution to the development of the theory and methodology of gender linguistics, to the formation of scientific and methodological foundations for the study of gender oppositions in language, to the scientific substantiation of the representation of linguistic features of gender oppositions, gender semantics and oppositional relations conditioned by the content of factors of the Kazakh language.

Theoretical provisions on cognitive categorization and metaphorical modeling of asymmetric relations of Kazakh-speaking gender linguistic personalities are formulated.

The structure of the work. The dissertation research is presented in the following structure and consists of an introduction, two sections, six paragraphs, conclusions for each section, conclusion, list of references, appendix. The scientific and theoretical provisions of the study were reflected in 28 tables, 3 graphs-figures. The sampling of factual material was carried out from 13 lexicographic sources and the corpus of an associative experiment based on the answers of 912 respondents.

The findings for the final research defense:

1. The category of opposition characterizes its essence through the concepts of "gender opposition" and "gender opposition in language", and also forms an integral linguistic category in unity with them. Gender opposition as the main category of gender linguistics research contributes to the description of gender oppositions identified through masculine and feminine categories structured in the language system.

2. The study of gender oppositions was initiated by philosophical concepts, and in the last decade of the twentieth century, gender oppositions became the object of scientific research in connection with the development of gender theory in the humanities, including linguistics. The gender opposition, based on gender linguistic categories in general, defined its intersubject characteristics from the positions of gender linguistics, psycholinguistics, linguocognitivistics and linguoculturology.

3. The reflection (representation) of oppositional relations in the conceptual content and composition of linguistic facts and linguistic systems requires the definition of linguistic features of this category and clarifies the systemic nature of the research problem.

4. The category of gender opposition is actualized at the studied semantically and conceptually significant language levels and branches (lexicalization, lexicography, metaphorization, association). The analysis of oppositional relations of the gender phenomenon as an asymmetric category

determines the cognitive-mythological, linguistic, social and cognitive bases of categorization through the facts of language.

5. Oppositional relations and facts in language contain gender-marked, gender-unmarked and national-cultural types of semantics, which are reflected in the conceptual, associative, metaphorical modeling of the worldview of gender linguistic personalities. Gender-marked metaphors based on the comparison and convergence of various conceptual spheres reveal the content and asymmetric characteristics of masculine-feminine oppositions.

6. Through an associative experimental study of the worldview of a gender linguistic personality, cognitive-social and linguoculturological features of gender opposition are determined – the researcher identifies the actual asymmetric semantics and oppositional conceptual models in the masculine-feminine system.

7. The study of the representation of gender oppositions in language based on the following scientific and methodological basis allows us to obtain effective, comprehensive and integrative results - determination of the index of gender characteristics and gender parameters, modeling of characteristics of a gender linguistic personality help to identify the oppositional correlation between asymmetric facts of gender semantics and conceptual metaphors.

Approbation and publication of research results. 6 articles have been published on key research positions.

Articles published in the journals of the Scopus scientific database:

1. Representation of Gender Metaphor in Lexicography as a Reflection of Culture // *International Journal of Society, Culture and Language,* No. 3/2022. pp. 151-162. Percentile 83%, Q1.

2. Images of men and women in the mirror of gender metaphors // *Eurasian Journal of Applied Linguistics,* V. 8, No. 2/2022. pp. 272-282. The percentile is 85%, Q1.

Articles published in scientific journals recommended by the Committee for Quality Assurance in Education and Science of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan:

1. Lexicographic representation of the binary opposition "Yerkek-Aiyel" ("Male-Female") // "Bulletin of the Kazakh National University named after Abylai Khan", Philology Series, No. 1 (64) 2022.pp. 45-57.

2. Representation of gender opposition in Proverbs through metaphors // "Bulletin of Toraigyrov University", Philology Series, No. 2, 2022.pp. 31-41.

3. Gender metaphor-a tool for assessing valuable indicators in the linguistic picture of the World // "Bulletin of Karaganda University", Philology Series, No. 2 (106) 2022. pp. 67-74.

Articles published in the proceedings of international scientific conferences:

1. Manifestation of gender contradiction in mythology // Proceedings of the I International turkological Congress on the topic "Researches and directions", Karabyuk, Turkey, May, 2022. pp. 195-201.

The dissertation research was carried out in accordance with the State Programs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, namely:

1) The State program for the implementation of language policy in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2020-2025 (Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated December 31, 2019 No. 1045);

2) The State Program for the Development of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2022-2025 (5.3.5 Historical and cultural heritage and spiritual values of Kazakhstan. 5.3.6 Commonality of history and culture, literature and language, customs and values. Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated December 27, 2019 No. 988);

3) The program "Seven Facets of the Great Steppe" (1. Space and time in the history of the nation. 5. A thousand years of Steppe folklore and music. 21.11.2018).

4) 5. Scientific foundations of the development of science "Mangilik el", approved by the VNTC under the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan (fundamental and applied research in the field of education, humanities in the XXI century. 27.04.2016).

5) Decree of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated December 6, 2016 No. 384 "On approval of the concept of family and gender policy in the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2030".