

ABSTRACT
of the thesis on the topic “Gender conceptosphere in Turkic linguoculture” submitted by Yesbergenova Gulnar Isamadinovna for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) under the educational program “8D02304 – Philology”

Description of the thesis topic. The study focuses on a comprehensive analysis of *the gender conceptosphere* (a system of masculine and feminine concepts) *in the Turkic linguocultural area*. As a theoretical basis, genderology, cognitive linguistics, linguoculturology, ethnolinguistics and the linguistic-mythological paradigm are taken as a fundamental position, including, *the gender linguistic picture of the Turkic world*, the concepts of *father/mother origin* and their cultural and symbolic correlates (“Tengri – Umay” model). In accordance with it, the national and cultural codes of gender conceptual concepts, their means of linguistic expression and conceptual structure are determined, compared and studied using the data of Turkic languages.

The current study on the gender conceptosphere in the Turkic linguocultural area, describes a multi-levelled and hierarchical system of masculine and feminine concepts as an integral model, as well as, aiming at theoretical modeling, analysing empirical data and joining associative experience results. In the theoretical part, the *concepts of gender language / conceptual representation* of the universe are brought to the core of the analysis, and the cultural and symbolic basis of *gender categorization* are connected with the mythological worldview (father / mother origin, “Tengri-Umay” mythologems); it allows to reveal the ontological and axiological (value) layers of gender meanings.

The analytical basis of the work is the structural and typological description of the gender conceptosphere and its modeling on a graphical basis (*by creating drawings, drawings, tables, diagrams*). The study establishes a multi-level structure and conceptual content of the gender conceptosphere (*for example, dominant systems, hyper/macro/micro levels*), identifies the figurative, conceptual, axiological and socio-psychological constituent parts of masculine and feminine concepts; systematizes archetypal, ethical, social, emotional, physical and discursive layers through cluster classification. Thus, the internal organization of gender consciousness is studied in the nature of a linguocultural model based on field connections and hierarchical relationships.

At the stage of empirical validation, the linguocultural model of the Turkic gender conceptosphere was determined by the data of modern linguistic consciousness: in a large-scale associative experiment conducted in Kazakhstan and Turkey (at the stage of experimental research), the age-gender composition of respondents (N=1197) was balanced and the linguistic identity was determined. The results showed ethnically unique features along with common stereotypes for Turkic communities which proved the cultural and pragmatic validity of the model.

The set of research sources is divided into two categories. The first one is lexicographic and paremiological material: lexemes, phraseological units, proverbs and sayings that reflect masculine/feminine semantics. The second is the corpus of associative responses; the joining of these two categories makes it possible to accurately determine the semantic typology, field-cognitive composition, axiological relevance and linguocultural content.

As a result of the methodological approaches of this study, a linguocultural model of the Turkic gender conceptosphere is proposed and its axiological core is determined: the image of “man” is permanently fixed in the value vectors as *courage, responsibility, protection*; and the image of “woman” is permanently fixed in the value vectors as *protection, refuge, prosperity, kindness, discipline*.

The applied state of the linguocultural model establishes a scientific and methodological foundation for enriching the educational process with gender-sensitive content, examination of cultural-social and national-cultural discourse, improvement of gender markers (still not systematized, scientifically substantiated) in lexicographic practice.

The purpose of the study: to develop a linguocultural model of the masculine and feminine gender conceptosphere in Turkic languages, to identify its linguocultural, structural-semantic, axiological and typological characteristics and to empirically identify and substantiate modern conceptual verbalization based on the materials of associative experiments and comparative analysis.

To achieve the purpose, the following **objectives** are set:

- actual postulates of gender theory, theoretical and terminological justification of the concepts of “gender identity” and “gender image of the universe”, “image of the universe” and “conceptual image of the universe”, “language image of the universe” and “gender language image of the universe”, “gender concept” and “gender conceptosphere”, as well as concepts related to masculine/feminine macro - and micro-fields, linguocultural content;

- establishing a gender-mythical language model and studying the manifestations of masculinity and femininity in the model of the mythological universe (in the gender language picture of the Turkic world) based on linguistic and mythological conceptualizing the gender language picture of the universe of the pair relations of the father/mother origin (“Tengri and Umay” mythologeme).

- defining the categories of analysis and the hierarchical model characterizing the gender conceptosphere (super -, hyper -, macro -, micro-concepts; figurative, cognitive, axiological, cultural-social, emotional components);

- formation of semantic and structural typologies of masculine and feminine gender concepts, establishment of semantic and conceptual field structures by lexemes, phraseology, proverbs, description of mutual identities and differences;

- conceptual and cluster classification, linguistic representation of the structure of gender consciousness through graphical modeling methods, modeling the model of the Turkic gender conceptosphere;

– comparative analysis of the data of Turkic languages (Kazakh, Turkish, Kyrgyz, Uzbek, Tatar) on a linguocultural and linguocognitive basis, determination of the linguocultural characteristics of masculine / feminine concepts;

– modeling of the linguocultural model of the gender conceptosphere and identification of common/ethnic stereotypes based on the analysis of the data of associative experiments (responses of linguists) conducted in Kazakhstan and Turkey.

Research object: gender conceptosphere (masculine and feminine) and its linguistic reflection in the Turkic linguocultural system.

Research subject: structural-semantic, linguocultural, axiological and typological characteristics of the Turkic gender conceptosphere (masculine and feminine), their linguocognitive models and cultural codes; categories of conceptual verbalization, expressed in modern linguistic consciousness through associative connections.

Theoretical and methodological background. The research work was carried out by combining the concepts of genderology and “linguistic/conceptual picture of the universe”, cognitive and linguocultural methodology, ethnolinguistic and linguistic and mythological principles (father/mother origin, “Tengri – Umay” mythologems); gender norms, ideals and stereotypes in language, categorization and metaphorical models were analyzed.

In determining the features of cognition associated with father (masculine), mother (feminine) origins in the mythological image of the Turkic world, we conducted a study based on the opinions of scientists as L. Gumilyov, S. Malov, M. Kashkari, K. Zhubanov, R. Syzdyk, M. Zholdasbekov, S. Kaskabasov, M.Orynbekov, S. Kondybay, M. Eskeeva, Zh. Tektigul, etc.

With regard to the theory of gender research and gender linguistics, gender opposition, gender conceptosphere (*gender concept, gender stereotypes*, the works of the following scientists, such as, J. Lackoff, I. Hoffmann, M. Foucault, D. Tannen, D. Cameron, P. Eckert, S. McConnell-Ginet, P. Bourdieu, J. Butler, M. de Certo, M. Bucholz, J. Holmes, M. Talbot, K. Hall, M. Meyerhoff, P. Bourdieu, A.V. Kirilina, O.V. Ryabov, E.I. Goroshko, O.A. Voronina, S.A. Zykova, E.S. Gritsenko, S.A. Pitina, D.V. Minets, etc. and regarding the gender research on Turkic languages, the works of the following scientists, such as, B. Khasanuly, G.T. Shokym, R.R. Zamaletdinova, L.K. Ishkildina, N. Yildiz, B. Sagynbayeva, Sh.Kh. Shahabitdinova, E.S. Khuzina, Z.K. Temirgazina, D.A. Saleeva, B. Raikhan, E.T. Burankulova, K.B. Zhumasheva, A. Baigutova, R.S. Turdalieva, A.Sh. Tajikeeva, G.A. Abdimaulen were taken as a basis.

Scientific concepts on the theory of “conceptosphere” and “concept” took place and became the basis in the research of the following foreign scientists: D.S. Likhachev, Yu.S. Stepanov, Z.D. Popova, I.A. Sternin, V.I. Karasik, G.G. Slyshkin, V.A. Maslova, Yu.S. Kholod, M.V. Nikitin, M.V. Pimenova, M.A. Pashchenko, E.S. Kubryakova, G.U. Arapova, Z.T. Tajibova, etc.

Opinions and conclusions on the field of ethnolinguistic, linguoculturological and linguoconceptological research in Turkic linguistics were reviewed and observed on the main works of the following authors:

A.Kaidar, Z.K. Akhmetzhanova, Zh.A. Mankeeva, G.N. Smagulova, S.R.Boranbaev, A.O. Timbolova, A.K. Bakytzhanova, K.B. Kuderinova, M.M.Kosybayev, M.T. Kushtaeva, A. Amirbekova, Z.F. Shaihislamova, L.Kh.Samsitova, G.R. Megtesimova, M.E. Adilov, A. Almetova, S.Sansyzbayeva, A.K. Pirniyazova, F.Sh. Nuriyeva, G.M. Ismailova etc.

As the authors of the works that formed the methodological basis of associative research, we rely on the works of V.P. Abramov, Yu.A. Borisova, K.A. Burnaeva, A.V. Konogorova, E.F. Tarasov, Zh.A. Dzhambayeva, N.V.Dmitryuk, D.A. Moldaliev, V.D. Narozhnaya, Zh.I. Moldanova, E.S.Mezentseva, N.A. Sandybaeva, G.I. Abramova, G.T. Mukhametzhanova etc.

Research sources involve lexicographic and paremiological fund: lexemes, phraseology and proverbs reflecting masculine/feminine conceptual semantics (etymological and explanatory dictionaries on Turkic languages, bilingual translation dictionaries, phraseological dictionaries, regional\dialectological dictionaries, collections of proverbs); 2) materials of the associative experiment (experimental study) collected in the bases of Kazakhstan (Astana, Aktobe, Uralsk) and Turkey (Ankara): a total of 1197 respondents (724 Kazakh, 473 Turkish), male/female participants of different ages.

The following methods and techniques were used in the research: *cognitive analysis* – to reveal the structure of the concept, its core and peripheral fields (near, far periphery), cognitive models formed in the Turkic linguistic consciousness; *cognitive modeling* – to represent the structure, semantic field, figurative and hierarchical relationships of the gender conceptosphere in the form of diagrams, pictures; *lexico-semantic analysis* – to systematize language units and their semantic structure, semantic connections between words; *phraseological analysis* – identification of cultural and gender stereotypes through stable expressions; typological analysis-comparison of the structure, semantics, linguistic manifestations of similar/different gender (masculine feminine) concepts in Turkic languages; *component analysis* – analysis and systematization of semantic component parts-components (SEMAS, evaluators, figurative signs) of masculine and feminine concepts; *linguocultural analysis* – to determine the role of masculine and feminine concepts in the Turkic national culture through the study of the relationship between language, culture and gender identity; *comparative analysis* – to compare the linguistic, cultural and semantic structures of masculinized and feminist concepts in two or more languages; *etymological analysis* – to reveal the foundations of a cultural and gender character through the study of the historical development path, semantic change of the main word; *empirical methods* – accumulation of specific language material, corpus analysis, survey, calculation of frequency characteristics of language units; *associative experiment* – determination of the mental structure, cultural and gender markers of the concept by identifying direct and indirect associations of language owners (respondents) related to a specific gender name (word) or concept; modeling the place and structural relationships of the concept of masculinity and feminism in the Turkic linguistic consciousness through

systematization of the received answers, separation of semantic fields and semantic core, statistical processing of results.

Scientific novelty of the research work:

1. The linguistic and mythological basis of the methodology of the study of the Turkic gender conceptosphere has been systematized. The relationship of father/ mother origin with “Tengri – Umay” mythologems was shown as a cultural and symbolic support for gender categorization; this basis was directly reflected in masculine/feminine gender concepts in the national code.

2. Terminological concepts and research categories, such as, gender conceptosphere, masculine and feminine Turkic gender conceptosphere, masculine and feminine gender concepts, structural features and characteristics of masculine/feminine concepts, masculine/feminine semantic essence and masculine/feminine conceptual essence, semantic domains of masculine/feminine concepts, cognitive matrix of masculine/feminine concepts, linguocultural model of the Turkic masculine/feminine Turkic gender conceptosphere research categories were scientifically substantiated.

3. The linguocultural model of the Turkic gender conceptosphere, the level semantic structure of the model (superconcept → hyperconcept → macroconcept → microconcept system) and the constituent parts (cognitive, axiological, emotional, social components) were clarified; all the structures of the model were presented graphically (as pictures).

4. The structural typology of the Turkic gender conceptosphere was formed on the example of Kazakh, Turkish, Kyrgyz, Uzbek, Tatar languages. The structural typology of the Turkic gender conceptosphere (single-level, multi-level, segmental (sectoral) structural concepts) was described through scientific concepts and the constituent components were substantiated;

5. Semantic typology and field-cognitive structure are formed. The semantic typology of masculine/feminine concepts was developed and their field structure by lexeme – phraseology – paremia was captured in the conceptual cognitive matrix; the internal organization of gender consciousness was visualized by cluster modeling.

6. A reasoned description of the axiological core of gender concepts has been developed. Axiological (value) domains, such as, «ерлік» - courage, «жауапкершілік» - responsibility, «қорған болу» - protection for for the «Ер» (Man) image; and «қорған» protection, «пана» - refuge, «береке» - prosperity, «мейірім» - mercy, «тәртіп» - order for the “Әйел” (woman) image were substantiated and differentiated using language data.

7. Empirical validation (dual country corpus). The Turkic gender linguocultural model, represented by the results of the associative experiment (N=1197; KZ/TR) in Kazakhstan and Turkey, was tested; the data clearly showed common stereotypes and national-cultural differences; in addition, the linguistic picture of the gender picture of the traditional and modern universe and the gender linguocultural system were structured and described.

The theoretical significance of the research work. This study makes a systematic contribution to the linguoculture and cognitive linguistics of Turkic

languages: the terminological and conceptual structure characterizing the gender conceptsphere is presented scientifically substantiated, verified in research practice, and the principle-dimensional basis of analysis is established.

The linguistic and mythological scheme “Tengri – Umay” is considered as the core of the framework explaining the cultural and symbolic coding of gender roles, forming a theoretical bridge connecting the archetypal level and the conceptual discursive level. Through this framework, mechanisms for the formation of gender semantic and gender conceptual values, norms and assessment patterns in the national code are determined in combination with linguistic data.

A unified terminological apparatus (gender conceptsphere, masculine/feminine concept, semantic domain, cognitive matrix, level model, etc.) is used in the function as a criterion-dimensional tool, providing replication (repeated verification) of comparative analysis.

The results of the study provide an integrative model for gender linguistics, sociolinguistics, linguoculturology and linguoconceptology and Turkic languages; the description of the gender conceptsphere by formal structural principles (hierarchical levels, field organization) will clarify the theories of the linguistic/conceptual picture of the universe and compare the national and Universal layers.

Practical significance of the research work. The results of the study provide a set of applied tools for educational, lexicography, translation and discourse-expert practice. Based on the matrix of the level model and axiological domains, it is possible to design gender training modules on Turkic linguoculture, to teach paremiological and phraseological materials, and texts from the value of principle, as well as to form the skills of “the value of reading”.

The main provisions submitted for defense:

1. The linguistic and mythological core of the Turkic gender conceptsphere is determined by the masculine –feminine binary “Tengri-Umay” and is a stable cultural and symbolic regulator of gender concepts in the national code; the linguomythology is the basis for the methodological concept of the study of the gender conceptsphere.

2. The conceptual and terminological framework of gender analysis (gender conceptsphere; masculine/feminine concept; semantic domain; cognitive matrix; linguocultural model; conceptological level structure and components) is taken as a unit of sequential analysis and used as a criterion-dimensional tool aimed at measuring and visualizing comparative characteristics.

3. The level model of the gender conceptsphere (super → hyper → Macro → Micro) is an alternative structure to the Turkic linguistic and cultural area; each level is inextricably linked with cognitive, axiological, emotional, social components and is organized according to the conceptual and semantic principle “core-peripheral field”.

4. According to the data of the Turkic languages, the proposed structural typology (single-level, multi-level, segmental) is recognized as a complete set of

typical forms of organization and is determined by figurative, semantic, pragmatic criteria.

5. The semantic typology of masculine/feminine concepts forms a single field-cognitive structure in the chain “lexeme → phraseology → paremia”; the cluster configuration is fixed as a gender worldview model (heuristic model) characterizing the internal organization of gender consciousness.

6. The axiological core of the gender assessment system has a stable character in the domain matrix: «ерлік» - courage, «жауапкершілік» - responsibility, «қорған болу» - protection prevail in the «Ер» (Man) register; and «қорған» protection, «пана» - refuge, «береке» - prosperity, «мейірім» - mercy, «тәртіп» - order prevail in the “Әйел” (woman) register; these domains function as a stable code that programs and reflects cultural-social, national-cultural discursive norms. In lexicography, systematic marking of dictionary articles with gender and axiological features, as well as the introduction of semantic domains and level characteristics-increases the explanatory potential (“strength”) of definitions (given in dictionaries) and facilitates user orientation in conceptual fields.

7. The structure and composition, system organization and language tools and discourse of the gender conceptosphere in the modern Turkic linguocultural area are determined in a scientifically substantiated (validated) form only by empirical (associative/survey) experiments conducted with modern linguists.

Research approval and publication:

Overall, 6 articles were published according to the topic of the dissertation, including, 2 articles in journals indexed on the Scopus scientific database, 1 article in publications recommended by the Committee for Quality Assurance in the Field of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan, 3 articles in the proceedings of international conferences.

Scientific articles published in journals indexed on the Scopus scientific database:

1. Linguo-Cultural Image of a Woman in the Turkic Gender Conceptosphere // Eurasian Journal of Applied Linguistics. Vol. 9, №2, 2023. – pp. 237-245 Percentile 81, Q1.

<https://ejal.info/menascript/index.php/ejal/article/view/578/176>

2. Gender Stereotypes in Turkic Languages: Features of Phraseological Modeling // Oriental Studies. V. 9, №5, 2023. – pp. 1367–1381. Percentile 54, Q2. <https://doi.org/10.22162/2619-0990-2023-69-5-1367-1381>

Scientific articles published in publications recommended for publication of the results of the Committee for Quality Assurance in the Field of Science and Higher Education of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan:

1. Intellectual Representation of Gender Concept ‘Ayel’ In Turkic Paremiological Picture of The World // Bulletin of Yassawi University. – 2025. – №2 (136). – pp. 155–166. <https://doi.org/10.47526/2025-2/2664-0686.200>

Scientific articles published the proceedings of international conferences:

1. Linguistic and cultural aspect of gender concepts in the Turkic worldview // The collection of International scientific-practical conference on topic “Yangi renessans istiqbolida filologik-pedagogik tadqiqotlarning nazariy va amaliy ahamiyati” (September 20). Tashkent, 2024. – pp. 15-26. (Certificate).

2. Linguocultural aspect of the masculine gender conceptosphere // Proceedings of the 11th International Scientific Conference “Theoretical Hypotheses and Empirical results” (September 3-4). Oslo, 2025. – pp. 55-61. <https://ojs.publisher.agency/index.php/THIR/article/view/6787> (Certificate).

3. Gender semantic features of the feminist conceptosphere in Turkic languages // Proceedings of the 11th International Scientific Conference “Modern scientific technology” (September 11-12). Stockholm, 2025. – pp. 97-102. <https://ojs.publisher.agency/index.php/MSC/article/view/6785> (Certificate).

The structure and scope of the research.

The dissertation consists of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, a list of references and a glossary. The total volume of scientific research is 168 pages.

The dissertation research work is prepared in accordance with the directions of development of relevant areas of linguistics as **gender linguistics, cognitive linguistics, linguoculturology**, and with **State Programs of the Republic of Kazakhstan**:

1) The Concept of development of the language policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2023-2029 (Resolution of the Government of the RK dated October 16, 2023 No. 914);

2) The Concept of Higher education and Science development in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2023-2029 (Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated March 28, 2023 No. 248);

3) Historical and cultural heritage // The Concept of Cultural policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2023-2029 (Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated March 28, 2023 No. 250);

4) Concept of family and gender policies in the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2030 (Decree of the President of the RK dated December 6, 2016 No. 384).

PhD candidate’s contribution in the preparation of each research publication. The entire volume of the dissertation, the choice of the research method and the solution of the tasks for the purpose of the study, the preparation of publications on the study was carried out by the author independently. Assignment of tasks on the topic of the study and discussion of the obtained results were carried out jointly with scientific consultants.