



LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL FEATURES OF THE CONCEPT OF SPACE/MÀKÀN IN ENGLISH AND KARAKALPAK LANGUAGES

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<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14810211>

Abstract. This article examines the linguistic and cultural features of the concept of space in English and Karakalpak languages. The grammatical and lexical means of expressing spatial relations, as well as the influence of culture on the perception of space, are analyzed. Particular attention is paid to the metaphorical use of spatial terms and the differences in the worldview of speakers of these languages.

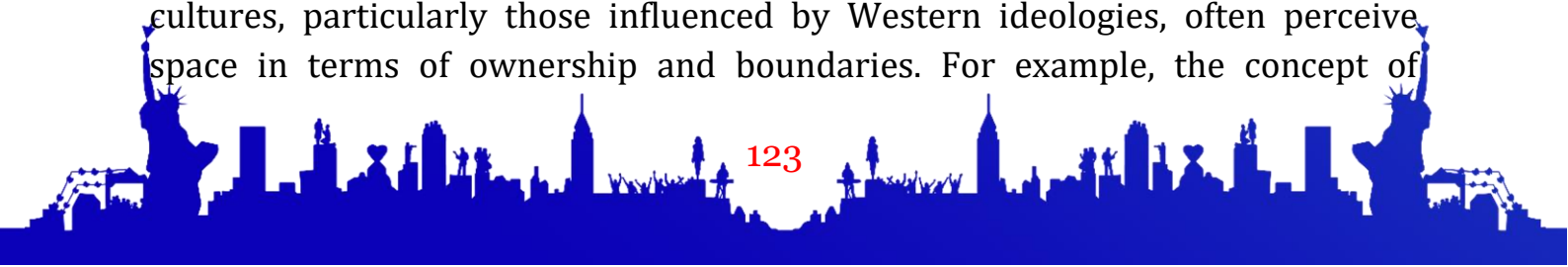
Keywords: space, English, Karakalpak, cultural features, spatial metaphors.

The concept of space is fundamental in human cognition and communication, influencing language and culture in profound ways. While all languages possess ways to describe spatial relationships, the linguistic and cultural features of space can vary significantly across languages. In this article, the concept of space will be examined in both English and Karakalpak languages, with a focus on linguistic structures, cultural perceptions, and the influence of worldview [8, 253-267].

First and foremost, English and Karakalpak exhibit different approaches to the linguistic representation of space. In English, prepositions play a crucial role in expressing spatial relationships. For example, words such as "in," "on," and "at" provide specific locational contexts. On the other hand, Karakalpak language, which belongs to the Turkic language family, relies more on postpositions and case suffixes to convey spatial meanings. For instance, the locative case suffix "-da/-de" is commonly used to indicate location.

Moreover, English often utilizes phrasal verbs to describe spatial movement, such as "go up," "come down," or "move forward," which combine a verb with a preposition or adverb to create a new meaning. In contrast, Karakalpak tends to use verb affixes to express such movement, which reflects the agglutinative nature of the language.

In addition to linguistic differences, cultural perspectives on space also differ between English and Karakalpak-speaking communities. English-speaking cultures, particularly those influenced by Western ideologies, often perceive space in terms of ownership and boundaries. For example, the concept of





personal space is highly emphasized in English-speaking societies, where individuals value their privacy and personal boundaries [5, 128-129].

Conversely, Karakalpak culture, shaped by its nomadic and collectivist traditions, tends to have a more fluid perception of space. Shared spaces and communal living are more prominent, and there is often a greater emphasis on social interaction within a given space. This cultural difference is reflected in the language, where expressions related to space frequently emphasize collectivity and relational aspects.

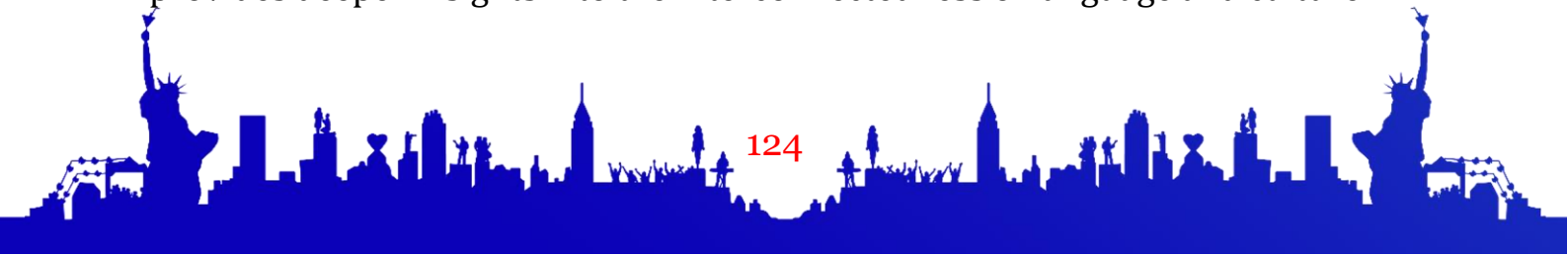
Another important aspect to consider is the use of spatial metaphors in both languages. In English, space is commonly used metaphorically to represent abstract concepts such as time and relationships. Expressions like "a distant memory," "a close friend," or "a long-term plan" illustrate how spatial terms are mapped onto non-physical domains.

Similarly, Karakalpak also employs spatial metaphors, but they are often deeply rooted in the natural environment and nomadic heritage of the region. Expressions such as "jaqin jurek" (close heart) or "alıs jol" (distant road) not only convey spatial relations but also imply emotional and social connotations.

Furthermore, the differing worldviews of English and Karakalpak speakers have shaped their respective spatial expressions. The English worldview, influenced by industrialization and urbanization, tends to prioritize precise spatial measurements and clear distinctions between public and private spaces. As a result, spatial terms in English are often used with a high degree of specificity.

On the other hand, the Karakalpak worldview, shaped by pastoral and agrarian lifestyles, adopts a more holistic approach to space. There is a greater integration of natural elements in spatial descriptions, and the boundaries between different types of spaces are more flexible. This perspective is reflected in the language through the frequent use of nature-related spatial terms.

Conclusion. To sum up, the concept of space in English and Karakalpak languages exhibits significant linguistic and cultural differences. While English relies heavily on prepositions and precise spatial terms, Karakalpak employs postpositions and agglutinative structures. Additionally, cultural perceptions of space in each language are influenced by historical and social factors, shaping the way people interact with and describe their surroundings. Understanding these differences not only enhances cross-cultural communication but also provides deeper insights into the interconnectedness of language and culture.





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