

# Neologisms in Uzbek Language

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**Abstract:** The causes of new words and neologisms in the Uzbek language are examined in this article. New lexical items are a result of sociocultural shifts, globalization, and technological innovation. The study focuses on word construction techniques, borrowings, and the impact of mass media on language development.

**Keywords:** Neologism, new words, language development, modern vocabulary, borrowings, language change.

**Introduction:** Language is a dynamic, ever-evolving system that continuously changes to meet the demands of its speakers. Languages are under growing pressure to update and expand their lexicons in the current world of rapid social change, globalization, and technological innovation. This is particularly true for Uzbek, a Turkic language that is spoken by more than 35 million people, mostly in Uzbekistan and its environs.

Neologisms, or recently created words or expressions, are language tools that enable cultures characterize new concepts, convey emerging realities, and keep up with advancements in science and technology. A variety of internal and external causes, including as historical developments, sociopolitical shifts, cultural interaction, and media influence, have an impact on the production of neologisms in the Uzbek language. The modern Uzbek lexicon has also been shaped by the switch from the Cyrillic to the Latin script and attempts to rid the language of excessive borrowings throughout time.

The purpose of this study is to investigate the processes by which new words and neologisms are created in the Uzbek language and to examine the linguistic, social, and cultural factors that influence these processes. The importance of media, education, youth culture, and technological advancement—all of which act as both

accelerators for lexical innovation and conduits for the spread of neologisms—will receive special focus. The study will also look at the many kinds of neologisms in Uzbek, such as borrowings, compound words, affixations, and semantic shifts, and consider how these changes may affect the language's standards and future growth.

By examining these facets, the study aims to contribute to larger conversations on language development, identity, and adaptation in a globalized society in addition to recording the progress of contemporary Uzbek vocabulary.

Language is a dynamic and living representation of a country's culture, identity, worldview, and past experiences; it is more than just a means of communication. Languages change together with society. One of the most visible and essential signs of this linguistic evolution is the continuous emergence of new words and expressions — commonly referred to as neologisms.

Due to globalization, digital communication, scientific growth, and the increasing interconnectivity of cultures, lexical innovation has advanced dramatically in the twenty-first century. The Uzbek language is undergoing a remarkable process of metamorphosis within this global linguistic landscape, marked by the fast development of its vocabulary to meet the

demands of a modernizing culture.

Arabic, Persian, Russian, and more lately English have all had an impact on Uzbek, a Turkic language with rich literary traditions and profound historical roots. The Uzbek language has been consistently expanded and changed throughout the course of several historical eras, including the Silk Road era, the Soviet government, and the post-independence era. Within the Uzbekistan has started a journey of national resurrection and linguistic self-assertion in the post-Soviet era, especially since gaining independence in 1991. This has included the switch from Cyrillic to Latin script, the revival of the language's Turkic origins, and a proactive reevaluation of lexical purity against pragmatism.

The emergence of neologisms in the Uzbek language is not only a normal occurrence in this dynamic socio-linguistic setting, but it also reflects the country's goals, advancements in technology, and cultural changes. Technological innovations, novel social occurrences, and cultural trends are all continually being referred to by new terminology. One example of how language changes in response to a world that is changing quickly is the invention of terms pertaining to information technology, social media, environmental science, finance, and urban development.

Neologisms in Uzbek are shaped by a number of important variables.

Word-formation mechanisms including compounding, affixation, and semantic extension are important internal processes. Lexical borrowing has becoming more prevalent on the outside, especially from English, Russian, and Turkish. It frequently fills in lexical gaps or provides more effective ways to express oneself. Furthermore, the proliferation and normalization of neologisms in ordinary speech are greatly aided by the influence of popular culture, youth slang, digital platforms, and mass media. [4: 265]

The goal of this study is to investigate the process of neologism creation in the Uzbek language from a variety of angles. The study will examine the linguistic processes that lead to the production of new words, examine the origins and incentives of lexical innovation, and assess the technological and societal factors that influence this process. It will also examine how neologism usage affects education, language

policy, and the formation of linguistic identity in modern-day Uzbekistan.

This study intends to further linguistic studies on neologisms and language change by examining how the Uzbek language adapts to the needs of the contemporary era. Additionally, it highlights the significance of recording and comprehending linguistic innovation as a cultural and social process that captures the essence of a country undergoing change, in addition to being a linguistic reality. [5: 142]

A neologism is a recently created word, phrase, or expression that conveys a novel concept or phenomenon but may not yet be widely used. Neologisms frequently arise in reaction to advancements in science, technology, society, or culture. They demonstrate flexibility in any living language, inventiveness and linguistic vigor. [2: 458]

Neologisms are particularly crucial in the Uzbek language for completing vocabulary gaps that develop when society deals with novel situations. These could include cutting-edge technologies, worldwide cultural trends, or novel approaches to communication and governance. We can learn more about the language techniques Uzbek speakers employ to interpret and adjust to a changing world by comprehending how neologisms work and are created.

There are a lot of new terms that need transliterations or equivalents in Uzbek due to the quick development of information and communication technology. Words like "smartphone," "internet," "software," and "AI" (artificial intelligence) have either been directly adopted or modified into Uzbek neologisms (such as "aqlli telefon" for "smartphone").

Linguistic innovation is also necessary for scientific advancements in biology, physics, engineering, and medicine. [1: 98] When it comes to providing Uzbek counterparts for new scientific concepts, local linguistic authorities and media sources frequently take the lead. Increased exposure to foreign languages, especially English and Russian, is a result of global interconnection. Lexical borrowing has become widespread as a result. Many English phrases, such as "marketing," "blogger," and "startup," have been incorporated into Uzbek and are frequently used with little to no modification. In order to minimize needless foreign influence, linguists and institutions are

simultaneously working to develop native neologisms; this trend reflects the conflict between language purity and usefulness.

The quick dissemination and normalization of neologisms is largely due to the media and internet communication platforms. In addition to introducing new communication patterns, social media sites like Telegram, Instagram, and TikTok have given rise to a vast array of internet-based vocabulary that swiftly permeates daily speech, particularly among young people. [3: 579]

Words such as “like bosish” (to like), “follow qilish” (to follow), and “post joylash” (to post) are examples of hybrid neologisms — where foreign verbs are integrated into Uzbek grammar. Changes in the political and cultural landscape of Uzbekistan — especially after independence in 1991 — have created a need for new terminology to reflect national identity, democracy, modernization, and reforms. New words such as “mustaqillik” (independence), “taraqqiyot” (development), and “rivojlanish strategiyasi” (development strategy) gained significance and widespread usage in public discourse.

In addition to the factors mentioned above, it is important to emphasize that the formation of neologisms in the Uzbek language is closely connected with the processes of language standardization and language policy. In recent decades, particular attention has been paid to strengthening the national language and promoting its use in official, educational, and scientific domains. This has led to the conscious creation of new lexical units that correspond to modern realities while preserving the structural norms of the Uzbek language. [7: 85]

Furthermore, the role of education and academic institutions in regulating and disseminating neologisms cannot be underestimated. Universities, research centers, and linguistic committees actively participate in developing appropriate equivalents for foreign terms and introducing them into academic and public usage. This process ensures that newly formed words are not only linguistically accurate but also culturally acceptable. [8: 149]

Another important aspect is the influence of generational differences on the perception and usage of neologisms. Younger speakers tend to adopt

innovative and borrowed forms more rapidly, while older generations often prefer traditional lexical units. This creates a dynamic interaction within the language system, contributing to both linguistic diversity and gradual normalization of new vocabulary. [6: 247]

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, the study of neologisms in the Uzbek language demonstrates that lexical innovation is a natural and inevitable process reflecting the ongoing transformation of society. The emergence of new words is closely linked to technological advancement, globalization, sociocultural changes, and the increasing influence of mass media and digital communication. These factors collectively contribute to the expansion and enrichment of the Uzbek lexicon.

The analysis shows that neologisms in Uzbek are formed through both internal linguistic mechanisms, such as affixation and compounding, and external influences, particularly lexical borrowing from English and Russian. While borrowings help to fill lexical gaps and facilitate communication in a global context, they also raise important questions about language purity and preservation of national identity.

Moreover, the research highlights the significant role of media, education, and youth culture in the dissemination and normalization of new lexical items. The interaction between these elements accelerates the integration of neologisms into everyday speech and professional discourse.

Overall, the Uzbek language demonstrates a high degree of adaptability and resilience. Its ability to incorporate new concepts while maintaining its structural and cultural integrity confirms its vitality as a living language. Further research in this field will contribute to a deeper understanding of language development and support the effective regulation of lexical innovation.

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