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METHODOLOGICAL JOURNAL**<http://mentaljournal-jspu.uz/index.php/mesmj/index>**THE USE OF ARCHAIC LEXIC AND SEMANTIC FEATURES IN THE  
BALOGARDON EPISODE****Iroda Umaraliyeva***PhD researcher**Jizzakh State Pedagogical University**Jizzakh, Uzbekistan***ABOUT ARTICLE**

**Key words:** folk epics, archaic lexicon, semantics, folklore, language development, philological analysis, semantic analysis, historical-diachronic approach, classification, national-cultural color, aesthetic influence.

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**Abstract:** This article analyzes the use of archaic lexicon, its semantic features and historical and cultural significance using the example of the epic “Balogardon” (1986) written down by Fozil Yuldash oğlu. The study sheds light on the formation, development and functional role of archaic words in the literary text. The results show that archaic lexicon, along with increasing the artistic and aesthetic value of the epic, is an important source in studying the historical development of the Uzbek language.

**Introduction.** Today, great attention is paid to the art of folk poetry, which is one of our cultural heritages. Folk epics are considered a “living witness” of the people's psyche, historical memory and spiritual heritage, and their transmission from generation to generation is shown as a factor in preserving national identity. [12, 52-b] Purpose and significance of the article. The purpose of this article is to study the use of archaic lexicon and its semantic features in the context of the epic “Balogardon”. Archaism is one of the types of obsolete words, which are obsolete names of modern things and phenomena. [1, 147-b] Archaic words are used as a stylistic tool in the realistic depiction of historical events and phenomena. Archaisms are also used in literary works, feuilletons, and some articles written in a socio-political style to give speech a touch of irony, sarcasm, mockery, and satire. [6, 51-b] The epic poem “Balogardon”, in turn, is an integral part of Uzbek literature, containing valuable information about archaic lexis, in particular, about the culture, customs, and image of the people. Therefore, the importance of

the article is not only in identifying the specific features of the archaic lexicon, but also in studying the set of words that played an important role in the development and historical progress of the Uzbek language. Archaic lexicon changes its meanings and areas of application in connection with the historical changes of the word, cultural and social contexts. These lexical units often reflect the traditions, customs and values of the Uzbek people. When studying archaic lexicon, it is necessary to take into account not only the meanings of words, but also how they have changed over time, as well as their impact on the modern language. Therefore, this article will highlight various aspects of archaic lexicon, including its significance within the framework of the Balogardon epic.

The Balogardon epic is an important work that represents one of the rich folklore traditions of the Uzbek people, in which such themes as heroism, courage and spirituality are deeply covered. This epic, along with its interesting plot and characters, also occupies a unique place in the historical and cultural context. The Balogardon epic, in turn, is enriched with archaic words and expressions, thereby reflecting important stages in the historical development of the Uzbek language. This article also allows us to study the place of archaic lexicon in modern linguistics and literary studies through the Balogardon epic.

Thus, the article will analyze in detail the history of archaic lexicon, its role within the Balogardon epic, and its place in modern communication.

**Methodology.** In order to effectively implement the scientific goals and objectives set in the research process, a number of methodological approaches were used.

First of all, the text of the epic was studied in detail on the basis of philological analysis. Through this approach, archaic lexical units found in the text were identified, and their place in the language system, formal and substantive features were consistently described. This method served to provide a deeper understanding of the ancient language elements in the text.

Also, using semantic analysis, the meaning of archaic words was considered in a wide range. Their main and additional meanings, functional load within the text, and the subtleties of meaning that arise depending on the context were analyzed. As a result, the role and significance of these units in the literary text were clarified.

In addition, the origin and development of archaic units were studied based on a historical-diachronic approach. The ancient forms of words, phonetic and semantic changes that occurred over time were analyzed, and their stages in language development were highlighted.

Another important method was observation and classification. Archaic lexical units identified using this approach were divided into groups based on certain criteria. In particular,

they were systematized according to their usage features and semantic features, which made it possible to express the research results in a consistent and orderly manner.

The set of methods used ensured the scientific validity of the research and served to comprehensively reveal the linguistic features of the archaic lexicon. The text of the epic poem "Balogardon" and related scientific and theoretical sources were taken as the research material.

History and development of archaic lexicon. A linguistic unit with a touch of antiquity is called archaism (Greek *arshaios* - "ancient"). Its type in lexemes is called lexical archaism. Lexical archaism, by its nature, consists of two groups:

a) The lexeme as a whole is an archaism. This can be called archaism-lexema: *sas*- (Gafur Ghulom, "First arrow"), *yit*- (Gafur Ghulom, "We want peace"), *zamla*- (Gafur Ghulom, "To the cotton brothers of Azerbaijan"), etc.

b) Not a lexeme, but one of its sememes is an archaism. This can be called an archaism-semema: *tik*- (in the sense of "plant" - Gafur Ghulam, "To the Harvest Girls"), as in [4, p. 95].

Archaic lexicon is a set of words that were formed in the early stages of language development and underwent changes in subsequent periods. The emergence of this lexicon is mainly associated with social and cultural changes. In the early periods, people created the words necessary to express their thoughts, share their experiences, and interact with the environment. Among them, words related to nature, life, wars, and livelihoods are most common. The development of archaic lexicon occurs as a result of the interaction of language and culture, and along with the emergence of new words and expressions, the meanings of old words can also change.

The history of archaic lexicon in epics. In Uzbek literature, epics, in particular the epic "Balogardon", as a continuous historical and cultural heritage, play an important role in the preservation and development of archaic lexicon. Archaic words and expressions used in epics contain information about the worldview, customs and lifestyle of people living at that time. This lexicon is often associated with heroes and their actions, social relations and other attributes in the text of epics. The history of archaic lexicon in epics allows us to determine which words and expressions were widespread in which period, and is also an important source for studying the development of the Uzbek language.

The role of archaic lexicon in the Uzbek language. In the Uzbek language, archaic lexicon occupies an important place in the general structure and development of the language. It reflects the uniqueness of the language, its culture and historical heritage. Archaic words and expressions are important not only in literature, but also in everyday life. They serve as a means of conveying the experience, customs and worldview of older generations to new generations.

M. Juraev emphasizes that ancient mythological ideas, totemistic, animistic, manistic, and cosmogonic beliefs are preserved in the archaic lexical layer of fairy tales and epics, and that it is this layer that is important in shedding light on the genesis of epic images. [9]

By studying the place of archaic lexicon in the Uzbek language, its significance in its historical context and cultural heritage, one can understand the changing nature and dynamics of language development.

All this shows the importance of archaic lexicon not only for the language, but also for the nation and its culture. It is also an important issue how archaic lexicon will be preserved and developed in the future, how it will respond to modern changes and social requirements.

Analysis of archaic lexicon in the epic "Balogardon". Observation and classification - the division of archaic lexical units into types. The epic "Balogardon" is distinguished by its rich archaic lexicon. Archaic words in the epic mainly have a historical and cultural context, and their meanings are associated with the past. The following archaic units are often found in the epic:

- Sina-son-peaceful, peaceful
- Ko'tohlik-shortcoming
- Bel-dara
- Durunki-song, act
- Ul-son
- O'kul-tutingan
- Turob-turtib
- G'o'la- thick, fat
- Xatichak-tilkhat
- Qavosotiga-haibatiga
- Ang-not understanding anything
- Girdin-around
- Ochkaza-narrow path in the desert
- Samo-sado, echo.
- Avonda-in its own way [11, 13-89-b]

The word "horde", in ancient times, meant the residence of a ruler or khan, and plays an important role in the context of the epic. In the sentence "Honoring his son as his son, he did not give his concubines a cup of wine, but seized the golden cup and handed it over, saying "I am a fool"", archaisms also serve to illuminate the customs and culture of the heroes.

These words, in turn, are associated with many images and plots of the epic and reflect the culture of their time.

Semantic features of archaic lexicon. The semantic features of archaic lexicon in the Balogardon epic increase its aesthetic and emotional load. Archaic words often help to express the events being depicted more deeply and meaningfully. They not only have traditional meanings, but also change in a certain context and give rise to new meanings. For example, the word "homeland" is important not only in a geopolitical sense, but also in terms of personal emotions and patriotism. Archaic vocabulary also harmonizes with the musical and rhythmic structure of the epic, which makes it even more attractive in the process of reading and listening.

The role of archaic vocabulary in communication. The archaic vocabulary in the Balogardon epic plays a very important role in communication. These words not only determine the uniqueness of the epic, but also reflect our cultural heritage in the process of communication. The use of archaic vocabulary evokes a sense of connection with the past in the person reading or listening to the epic. This, in turn, makes the epic more interesting and enlightening. Archaic vocabulary also plays an important role in the development of the modern Uzbek language, as it helps to discuss various issues in the language and preserve traditional values.

The Balogardon epic reflects its time and culture through the richness of archaic vocabulary and its semantic features, which is of great importance in the development of Uzbek literature.

**Results and discussion.** In the course of the research, the use and semantic features of archaic lexis were systematically analyzed based on the text of the epic poem "Balogardon". The results obtained were summarized in the following main areas:

3.1 Functional distribution of archaic lexis. It was found that archaic lexical units are widely used in the text of the epic poem, and they mainly perform the following functions:

- reflect historical reality
- create a national-cultural color
- determine the social status of the characters

As Hajiyev noted, archaic lexis serve to create a historical flavor in a literary text.[1] In this regard, the ancient units found in the epic poem "Balogardon" enhance the epic spirit.

Archaic words were observed to be actively used, especially in the speech of the characters and in the descriptive scenes, which increases the historical reliability of the text.

3.2 Types and percentages of archaic lexicon. As a result of the analysis, archaic units were divided into the following groups:

1. Lexical archaisms - make up the largest share in the text.
2. Semantic archaisms - the use of existing words in a historical sense.
3. Morphological archaisms - the preservation of ancient forms and suffixes.

Observations have shown that lexical archaisms predominate, which indicates the proximity of the epic language to the ancient layer.

3.3 Identification of semantic features Semantic analysis of archaic lexicon revealed the following features:

- Polysemy – the presence of several semantic layers in a word;
- Contextual expansion – the expansion of meaning within the text;
- Symbolic meaning – the presence of mythological and figurative interpretations.

For example, the word “homeland” denotes not only a territory, but also social unity and spiritual connection.

3.4 Contextual use of archaic units. The results of the analysis showed that archaic words are used more often in the following contexts:

- ☒ in military and heroic images
- ☒ in the expression of social relations
- ☒ in the description of nature and space

This confirms that the semantic load of archaic lexicon is directly related to the context.

3.5 Poetic and stylistic results. The following results of archaic lexicon in poetic terms were identified:

- ☒ the level of figurativeness of the text increases;
- ☒ the rhythmic and melodic structure is strengthened;
- ☒ the aesthetic effect is enhanced.

Also, archaic units are repeatedly used in formulaic expressions, ensuring the correspondence of the epic to the oral performance tradition.

3.6 Historical and cultural results. Through archaic lexicon:

- ancient worldviews and customs are reflected;
- information about the social system and way of life is obtained;
- stages of historical development of the language are determined.

These results show that archaic lexicon has not only linguistic, but also cultural-historical significance.

**Conclusion.** This article analyzes in detail the role and semantic features of archaic lexicon on the example of the epic poem "Balogardon". Archaic lexicon, as a unique and historically significant set of words, is of great importance not only in the development of the Uzbek language, but also in the preservation of our national culture and traditions. Studying the meanings of archaic words and their place in the modern language, as shown by the epic poem "Balogardon", helps to shed light on the dynamics of the language and cultural changes.

Archaic lexicon, as words that are not used in the modern language, but are important in their meanings and expressions in the historical context, will continue to enrich the Uzbek language. It is necessary to recognize the important role of archaic lexicon in educating the younger generation, studying literary works, and preserving our cultural heritage. In the future, these words may find their reflection not only in scientific research, but also in literature and art.

The analysis of archaic lexis on the example of the epic poem "Balogardon" serves to create new theoretical foundations for Uzbek linguistics and literature. Understanding the semantic properties of archaic words and their role in communication allows researchers and linguists to think broadly about the role of archaic lexis. Thus, the article is expected to be useful not only theoretically, but also practically, as it will stimulate the use of archaic lexis in educational and research processes in the future.

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