

## Comparative Analysis of Metonymic Expressions in English and Karakalpak Poetry

Sh.Saymanova

Doctoral Student, Karakalpak State University

### Abstract:

In this exploration, we delve into the intricacies of metonymy, a captivating literary device that transcends the boundaries of language and culture. Metonymy, the artful substitution of one word or phrase for another based on their close association, emerges as a powerful tool in the hands of poets. This journey will take us through the realms of both English and Karakalpak poetry, unraveling the nuances and cultural dimensions embedded within this figure of speech.

**Keywords:** poem, metonymy, stylistic device, meaning, description, express.

### Introduction

In the English poetic landscape, the works of renowned poets like John Keats and William Butler Yeats serve as our guiding lights. Through the lens of "Ode to a Nightingale" and "Easter, 1916," we witness how metonymy becomes a vehicle for encapsulating complex emotions, historical contexts, and the diverse cultural fabric of the settings these poets navigate. Shifting our gaze to the Karakalpak language, we explore the poetry of Ibrayim Yusupov, finding metonymy woven into the linguistic tapestry of cultural richness. Lines from his works, as well as those from Owen Sheers, illuminate the profound impact of metonymy on the portrayal of personal experiences and the cultural nuances of the Karakalpak people.

As we embark on this journey, the pages that follow will unravel the layers of meaning encapsulated within metonymy, showcasing its universal applicability and enduring significance in the realm of poetry. Together, we traverse linguistic landscapes, exploring how metonymy breathes life into words, transcending mere linguistic expression to become a bridge between the tangible and the abstract, the known and the unknown.

### Methods:

In the context of exploring metonymy in English and Karakalpak poetry, employing a mix of qualitative and linguistic analyses can offer a comprehensive understanding of how this literary device operates in diverse cultural and linguistic contexts. There are some appropriate methods for the textual analysis, comparative literary analysis, linguistic analysis, historical and cultural contextualization, and reader response analysis. Conduct a meticulous examination of selected



poems, focusing on lines or stanzas where metonymy is employed. Pay attention to the specific words chosen, their contextual meanings, and the overarching themes.

**Identifying Instances:** Systematically identify instances of metonymy within the selected poems, categorizing them based on the type of metonymy (e.g., synecdoche, contiguity-based metonymy) and noting the cultural or contextual significance.

**Cross-Cultural Comparison:** Compare the use of metonymy in English and Karakalpak poems, identifying similarities and differences. Explore how cultural nuances and linguistic structures impact the application of metonymy in each language.

**Theme and Motif Analysis:** Investigate recurring themes or motifs where metonymy is employed across the selected poems. Examine how these thematic elements contribute to the overall narrative or emotional tone.

**Lexical and Semantic Study:** Scrutinize the lexical choices in metonymic expressions, considering how these choices influence the connotations and cultural associations of the words. Explore the semantic shifts and layers of meaning introduced by metonymy.

**Syntactic Structures:** Examine the syntactic structures surrounding metonymic expressions. Analyze how the arrangement of words and phrases contributes to the overall impact and effectiveness of metonymy in conveying complex ideas.

**Historical Research:** Investigate the historical and cultural contexts of the poems, considering societal events, cultural movements, or personal experiences that may have influenced the poets' use of metonymy.

**Authorial Intent Analysis:** Explore the intentions of the poets in using metonymy. Consider whether cultural, political, or personal motivations are reflected in the choice of metonymic expressions.

**Reader Interpretation:** Consider how readers might interpret and engage with metonymic expressions. Explore the potential emotional and intellectual responses elicited by metonymy and how these responses might vary across cultural and linguistic audiences.

By combining these methods, a comprehensive analysis can be conducted, shedding light on the intricate ways in which metonymy operates in English and Karakalpak poetry, and how it contributes to the broader literary and cultural landscapes.

## Analysis:

This article undertakes an analysis of metonymies employed in the poetry of both English and Karakalpak poets. Our focus is to examine the effectiveness with which poets have incorporated metonymic expressions in their works, aiming to convey a more natural and vivid experience to the readers.

In linguistics, various terms are employed to signify specific mechanisms through which utterances are highlighted, rendering them more conspicuous and effective in imparting additional information. These terms include expressive means, stylistic means, stylistic markers, stylistic devices, tropes, figures of speech, and other designations. These terms are



commonly used interchangeably and are contrasted with what we may conventionally refer to as neutral means. Most linguists differentiate between ordinary expressions and those that carry specific meanings that can be labeled as stylistic. These additional meanings exist alongside primary meanings, essentially overlaying them [3, 25]. I.R. Galperin categorizes expressive means and stylistic devices into three groups: phonetic, lexical, and syntactical. Within the realm of phonetic expressive means and stylistic devices, examples encompass onomatopoeia, alliteration, rhyme, and rhythm.

Within the domain of lexical expressive means and stylistic devices, I.R. Galperin identifies several elements. These include the deliberate blending of the stylistic aspects of words, the interaction of various types of lexical meaning, the intensification of a particular feature of an object or phenomenon, and the unique utilization of set expressions [3, 138]. Metonymy represents a specific type of lexical stylistic device wherein a thing or concept is denoted by the name of something intimately linked to that particular thing or concept. Essentially, metonymy involves a "change of name." In literary terms, it serves as a method for substituting an object or idea with something interconnected to it, rather than explicitly stating what is intended

Indeed, metonymy provides writers with a means to convey a word or idea differently by employing a closely associated word or concept. Consequently, it serves as a technique for writers to diversify their expression and evoke a specific effect for the reader [8, 1].

Metonymy stands out as an effective literary device. A clear example can be found in John Keats' "Ode to a Nightingale." Here are a few lines from the poem: [10, 2]

O, for a draught of vintage! that hath been  
Cool'd a long age in the deep-delved earth,  
Tasting of Flora and the country green,  
Dance, and Provençal song, and sunburnt mirth!

In this instance, the speaker alludes to a "draught" or drink of "vintage." In this context, the term "vintage" not only denotes wine but also conveys a sense of its age. While the use of this phrase may be less common in contemporary language compared to Keats' era, it would still be regarded as part of a more elevated and sophisticated mode of expression.

In contemporary usage, if employed, the context becomes particularly significant. This choice of terminology provides insight into the speaker, allowing the reader or listener to glean information about them. Opting for "vintage" instead of "old" suggests intentionality; the speaker may be aiming to evoke the historical resonance of the word or making a deliberate effort to convey a sense of sophistication and intelligence.

Certainly, please provide the lines from the poem "Easter, 1916" by William Butler Yeats that you would like me to analyze or discuss in the context of the mentioned technique [5, 9].

To please a companion  
Around the fire at the club,



Being certain that they and I  
But lived where motley is worn:  
All changed, changed utterly:  
A terrible beauty is born.

In the lines from "Easter, 1916" by William Butler Yeats, the poet skillfully employs both metonymy and metaphor. The reference to the "motley" clothes worn by the men signifies a mixture of different colors, symbolizing cultural diversity. The term "motley" extends beyond the physical attire to encapsulate the diverse people wearing these clothes. During the time Yeats wrote this poem, Dublin was characterized by a multitude of social and cultural distinctions, including differences in religion, wealth, and political allegiances to England and Ireland.

In this context, a relationship is forged between the varied clothing and the intricate lives of the people. The "motley" clothes become a metonymic representation of the complex cultural tapestry of Dublin, and the metaphorical use enhances the reader's understanding of the profound societal implications embedded in the seemingly mundane details of clothing. Yeats masterfully intertwines these literary devices to convey a nuanced portrayal of the multifaceted societal landscape during the period of the poem.

leaving the **crocodile pit of cameras**  
flashing their teeth for more.

Also, in Karakalpak language there are a lot of metonymies used in poems. Look at the poem "A happy man goes" written by Ibrayim Yusupov.

Qolg'a tu'sken an'day jawiz ko'z benen  
Qaraysan' **temir tor** aynadan sirtqa

These lines seem to describe someone with "jawiz ko'z" or coal-black eyes. The use of "temir tor" (iron door) and "aynadan sirtqa" (mirror) suggests a metaphorical or metonymic representation of the person being described. The iron door and mirror could symbolize strength and self-awareness or self-reflection.

It's worth noting that metonymy often involves substituting one word or phrase with another that is closely associated with it. In this case, the use of "temir tor" and "aynadan sirtqa" might be metonymic expressions representing certain characteristics or qualities of the person with coal-black eyes

The use of "temir tor" to mean "iron net" and its comparison to a window in the context of describing the window of a prison adds layers of meaning to the poem. This metonymic use of language serves to convey not just the physical attributes of the window but also the broader connotations associated with imprisonment and confinement [6, 25]. The choice of "aynadan sirtqa" (mirror) also takes on added significance. In the context of describing the window of a prison, the mirror could symbolize reflection, self-awareness, or perhaps the stark reality faced by someone looking out from behind the iron net. The poet's skillful use of metonymy enriches the imagery in the poem, providing readers with a vivid and layered portrayal of the scene.



The poet focuses on the connection between the signs of objects, for example:

“Piyada oqiwg;a qatnar **kishkenem**,  
Og’an da mashina al” dep buyirmas.

The use of specific words like "kishkene" (little) to describe a child and "u'lken" (big) to depict individuals devoted to serving their motherland illustrates the poet's skill in employing metonymy and metaphor to convey nuanced meanings [6,27].

In the first set of lines:

Kim – mug’allim, kimi – **na’ha’n**, “u’p” bolip,  
Zamaninda jurt sorag’an ag’alar.

Here, "kishkene" not only means "little" but, in the context of a child's description, it encapsulates the innocence and smallness of the child, emphasizing the carefree nature of childhood [6,30].

In the second set of lines:

Miyrimli, kishipeyil, **u’lken** boldin’  
Jasampaz, jani suliw ko’rkem boldin’.

The use of "u'lken" to describe those who devoted their lives to serving their motherland adds a layer of meaning. It goes beyond just physical size and denotes individuals who are substantial, significant, and prominent in their commitment to their homeland [6,30]:

Otirispada eske tu’ssen’ na’g’abil,  
Ismin’ tirilmese misali bir gu’l,  
**Jaqsın’** ilinbese tilge sol gezde,  
Tu’sine engenin’de shorship tu’ser bir –  
Bir dos, bir dushpanin’ qalmasa izde, -  
Demek, su’rmegenin’ jartiwli o’mir.

The choice of words like "kishkene" and "u'lken" allows the poet to convey not only physical attributes but also deeper qualities and characteristics associated with childhood and a life dedicated to service. This effective use of metonymy and metaphor enhances the richness of the imagery and the poet's message. If there are more lines you'd like to explore or discuss, feel free to share them.

### Conclusion:

In conclusion, the exploration of metonymy in poetry, particularly in the works examined in English and Karakalpak languages, has revealed the versatile and powerful nature of this literary device. From the subtle substitution of words to the intricate interplay of associations, metonymy has been demonstrated as a tool that transcends mere linguistic expression, delving into the realms of culture, emotion, and societal nuances.

The analysis of English poetry, exemplified by John Keats' "Ode to a Nightingale" and William Butler Yeats' "Easter, 1916," showcases how metonymy is adeptly employed to encapsulate complex themes, historical contexts, and cultural diversity. The subtle shifts in language not



only add layers of meaning but also serve as a bridge between the tangible and the abstract, enriching the reader's experience.

Turning to the Karakalpak language, the exploration of Ibrayim Yusupov's poem and the lines from the works of Ibrayim Yusupov and Owen Sheers in Karakalpak exemplify the cultural and contextual significance of metonymy. Whether describing the diverse cultural landscape of Dublin or portraying the personal experiences of individuals, metonymy in the Karakalpak language becomes a vehicle for encapsulating multifaceted layers of meaning, connecting the tangible and intangible aspects of human experience.

These analyses underscore the universal applicability of metonymy as a literary device that transcends linguistic boundaries. Its ability to convey complex ideas, evoke emotions, and bridge the realms of the concrete and the abstract demonstrates the enduring relevance and artistic prowess of metonymy in the realm of poetry. As poets continue to weave the tapestry of language and meaning, metonymy stands as a vibrant thread, contributing to the richness and depth of poetic expression across diverse cultural and linguistic landscapes.

## References

1. Chatman, Seymour. (1967). Stylistics: Quantitative and Qualitative. - In: "Style", vol. 1, 1967, No. 1
2. Flanagan M. (2019) What Is Poetry, and How Is It Different?, <https://www.thoughtco.com>
3. Galperin I.R. (1981) Stylistics. Moscow.
4. Halliday, Michael A. (April 1990). New ways of Meaning: the challenge to applied linguistics (Speech)
5. William Butler Yeats, "Easter, 1916" by, The Cuala Press, 1920
6. Yusupova B., "I.Yusupov shig'armalari tilinde kelbetliktin' stillik xizmetleri"
7. Yusupov I. "Tan'lamali shig'armalari" II tom. No'kis: -"Bilim". 2018, 106-bet
8. <https://literarydevices.net>
9. <https://www.litcharts.com>
10. <https://poemanalysis.com/figurative-language/metonymy>

