

**CONCEPTUAL FIELD OF LABOR ACTIVITY IN  
ENGLISH AND KARAKALPAK PAREMIES****Kutlimuratova Aysuluv Bakhitovna**

Doctoral student of Karakalpak State University

**ARTICLE INFO**Received: 26<sup>th</sup> May 2026Accepted: 28<sup>th</sup> May 2026Online: 30<sup>th</sup> May 2026**KEYWORDS**

*linguoculturology, concept, concept of "labor activity," conceptology, conceptual field, proverbs, paremiology, semantic core*

**ABSTRACT**

*The article analyzes the conceptual field of the concept of "labor activity" in English and Karakalpak proverbs that are typologically and genealogically dissimilar. This concept has universal characteristics in both languages, and the formation of the conceptual field has been determined to have emerged based on the national-cultural perspectives of both peoples. English proverbs emphasize individual achievements in "labor activity" and the value of time, while Karakalpak proverbs reveal the concept's meaning in relation to social development and nature.*

In human culture, labor as a value has been strongly depicted through linguistic units since ancient times. Especially in the paremiological layer, labor activity is formed in close connection with the spiritual and cultural views, economic situation, and social values of the population. Through a comparative analysis of English and Karakalpak proverbs, the semantic-structural basis of proverbs and sayings exhibits universal patterns and is further illustrated in various typological forms.

Issues related to labor activity have been studied in the corpus of several Russian, English, and other languages. In P.G. Idrisova's scientific work "Syntax of Kumyk Proverbs and Sayings," a comprehensive study of the syntactic system of Kumyk proverbs and sayings (one- and two-part sentence models, means of communication, typology of complex sentences) has been conducted [3]. This work comparatively demonstrates the functional-semantic features of the paremia genre with the traditional syntactic devices preserved in the language. The most productive constructions, units connecting components, and semantic roles are included in the map.

T.A. Naymushina, in her work "Proverbs and Sayings in Literary Text," identifies the intertextuality, stylistic function, and compositional role of proverbs and sayings in literary text [7]. In this work, using Russian literary texts as examples, the use of proverbs, their transformation, and their content in character creation are analyzed, and the concept of "paremia within a text" is developed. In the context of a literary text, a functional model of proverbs and sayings is proposed.

N.R. Oynotkinova's work is titled "Altaic Proverbs and Sayings: Poetics and Pragmatics of Genres." A comprehensive description of the poetics (construction, imagery) and pragmatics (communicative function, conversation situation) of the Altai paremiological corpus [8]. The dissertation distinguishes between genre boundaries, compositional-rhythmic

modeling, performance, and presupposition. A typological model of the "poetics-pragmatics" relationship (genre indicators + conversation objectives) has been developed for Altai proverbs.

In Ch.R. Mukatdesova's scientific work "The Concept of 'Labor' in the Tatar and German Languages: Based on Proverbs and Sayings" [6], a comparative analysis of the conceptual structure of the concept of "Labor/Work" based on Tatar and German proverbs is presented. The figurative, value (axiological), and cognitive components of the concept are reconstructed, and national-cultural similarities/differences are formed. Tatar and German proverbs provide a model of the close connection of the semantic fields "labor-respect-order-society."

L.V. Basova in her work "The Concept of TRUD in the Russian Language: Based on Proverbs and Sayings." Systematic analysis of the "TRUD" concept (semantic-axiological core and boundary) in Russian proverbs [1, 17-19]. The lexical units, metaphorical models, and axiological dominants of the author's concept (labor-happiness-honesty-patience) are presented. The paremiological profile of the TRUD concept (core/boundary, stereotypes, values) is the author's personal classification.

In T.V. Gonnova's scientific work, "Socio-Cultural Characteristics of the 'Trud' Concept in Russian Linguistic Consciousness," the differences in word formation (linguistic-cognitive consciousness) of the 'TRUD' concept are determined by the social groups of Russian speakers (age, gender, education) [2, 166-214].

Definitional, component, semantic, and linguocultural analysis methods are used as research methods.

The figurative-value layers of the concept are linked to sociocultural parameters; social stratification reflects how attitudes towards work change. Reconstruct the sociocultural profile of "labor" on an empirical basis (survey/analysis) and show intergroup differences.

1. Many hands make light work - socially responsible, an old formula of work ethics and collective pragmatics in English culture. (Merriam-Webster)

2. No pain, no gain - a contemporary discourse related to puritan/ascetic work ethic with a reward-oriented work ethic.

While the first proverb describes the normalization of social cooperation (the cooperative model), the second proverb transforms individual stability and self-discipline into a motivational formula. This aligns with the axiology of "reward-labor" demonstrated by L.V. Basova and Ch.R. Mukatdesova.

In Karakalpak:

1. "With labor the nation flourishes, with rain the land flourishes" - it is shown that labor is a source of social stability and prosperity;

2. "He who finds the source of labor finds happiness" - connects labor with "mastery/search," a teleological reward model;

3. "Labor leads to pleasure" is derived from the action (labor) result (pleasure) formula.

In Turkic proverbs, labor is often referred to as community ("el"), productivity ("yer/ekish"), and social recognition ("hurmat"), while in English paremiology, it refers to the individual.

1. Cause-and-effect model: Eng. No pain, no gain - "Without hardship, there will be no success"; Qq. Work leads to joy. Each proverb symbolizes the reward for hard work based on

reason. The English version focuses on individual discipline, while the Karakalpak version, as a shared value, directs work towards halal results.

2. Society and cooperation: Eng. Many hands make light work - "Many hands make work easier"; Qq. Through labor, the land flourishes; through rain, the land flourishes. In both cultures, labor involving the majority is considered more productive and a source of abundance. English proverbs describe practical results (ease of work), while Karakalpak proverbs describe socio-cultural outcomes (the prosperity of the nation).

3. The concept of reward and happiness: Eng. Hard work never goes unrewarded. Qq. He who finds the essence of labor finds happiness itself. English proverbs express Puritan cultural values, while in Karakalpak proverbs, labor and happiness are intertwined, viewed as the foundation of human achievement.

4. Laziness and Criticism: Eng. An idle hand is the devil's workshop; Qq. If you work tirelessly, your stomach won't beg. In both cultures, laziness is associated with bad results. The English version has a religious-spiritual connotation, while the Karakalpak version directly expresses material scarcity (hunger/satisfaction).

5. Discipline and Patience: Ing. Rome wasn't built in a day Qq. A hardworking man is not lazy, a world without labor is not visible. The English proverb symbolizes historical and metaphorical endurance, while the Karakalpak proverb reveals that work is a necessity in life

6. Productivity and its connection with nature: Eng. As you sow, so shall you reap - "You reap what you sow." Qq. You reap what you sow. In the English version and its Karakalpak equivalent, the agricultural metaphor is depicted in relation to universal cause-and-effect laws. In these two proverbs, productivity is directly linked to labor and pleasure.

Thus, based on theoretical data and practically analyzed examples, a conceptual core has been identified (Basova, Mukatdesova, Karimova, and Gonnova), in which the lexical unit "labor" is considered, and units such as labor, blessing/honor/pleasure are reconstructed into its core semantics as similar cause-and-effect constructions in various languages and cultures.

The "Labor Activity" concept map was developed based on "Labor - Reward - Community - Order." This map shows the semantic core and the boundary.

Thus, the conceptual field map "labor - reward - community - discipline" is clearly reflected in this system of proverbs and sayings.

#### Literature:

1. Basova, L. V. The Concept of Labor in the Russian Language (Based on Proverbs and Sayings): abstract of dissertation for the degree of Candidate of Philological Sciences: 10.02.01. - Tyumen: Tyumen State University, 2004. - Pp. 17-19 [PDF] URL: [elib.utmn.ru](http://elib.utmn.ru) (accessed: 08.10.2025). ([elib.utmn.ru](http://elib.utmn.ru))
2. Gonnova, T. V. Sociocultural Characteristics of the Concept of "Labor" in Russian Linguistic Consciousness: Dis. ... Cand. Philol. Sciences: 10.02.19. Volgograd, 2003. - pp. 166-214 URL: [Dissercat / studmed](#) (accessed: 08.10.2025). (Dissertation)
3. Idrisova, P. G. Syntax of Kumyk Proverbs and Sayings: Dis. ... Cand. Philol. Sciences: 10.02.02. Makhachkala, 2015. -URL: [Dissercat](#) (accessed: 08.10.2025). (Man and Science)
4. Karimova, R. X. The Concept of "trud/len" in the Paremiology of Non-Friendly Languages (on the Examples of German, English, Russian, Bashkir, and Tatar Languages): abstract of

- diss. ... Cand. Philol. Sciences: 10.02.20. Ufa, 2004. [PDF] URL: [cheloveknauka.com / freereferats](http://cheloveknauka.com/freereferats) (accessed: 08.10.2025). (Man and Science)
5. Kudayberganova B. B. "The Role of Proverbs and Sayings in Karakalpak Folklore." 2023. (CyberLeninka)
6. Mukatdesova, Ch. R. The Concept of "Labor" in Tatar and German: Based on Proverbs and Sayings: Dis. ... Cand. Philol. Sci. - Kazan: KFU, 2012. [PDF] URL: [DSpace KFU](https://dspace.kpfu.ru) (accessed: 08.10.2025). ([dspace.kpfu.ru](https://dspace.kpfu.ru))
7. Naymushina, T. A. Proverbs and Sayings in Literary Text: Dis. ... Cand. Philol. Sciences: 10.02.01. Leningrad, 1984. - 207 p. URL: [Dissercat / dslib](http://Dissercat/dslib). (Reference: 08.10.2025) (Dissertation)
8. Oynotkinova, N. R. Altai Proverbs and Sayings: Poetics and Pragmatics of Genres: abstract. dis. ... Doctor of Philological Sciences: 10.01.09. Kazan, 2012. URL: [DSpace KFU](https://dspace.kpfu.ru) (accessed: 08.10.2025). ([dspace.kpfu.ru](https://dspace.kpfu.ru))
9. Uzakbergenova D. "Comparative Analysis of English and Karakalpak Proverbs..." 'Labor'. ERUS, 2023. ([rus.uz](http://rus.uz))

