

## Expression of the Manner Sememe in the Linguistic Field of the Uzbek Language

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### ABSTRACT

*This article presents a comprehensive study of the realization of the "manner" (mode of action) seme within the linguistic field of the Uzbek language, examining its semantic-structural characteristics and the mechanisms of its expression through units at various linguistic levels. The research focuses on determining the place of the "manner" meaning within the linguistic system, identifying the differential semes that constitute its semantic content, and revealing the principles governing the actualization of these semes in speech. The "manner" seme is interpreted as a semantic unit expressing the mode, method, or conditions under which an action or state occurs; its manifestation through lexical, morphological, and syntactic means in Uzbek is analyzed using a functional-semantic approach. The article explores the semantic potential of linguistic units expressing the "manner" meaning, their paradigmatic and syntagmatic relationships, and the ways in which these units form the center, near periphery, and far periphery of the linguistic field. It establishes that the core of the "manner" field consists of units specialized for expressing this specific seme, while the peripheral areas contain units that – despite sharing features with other semantic components – convey the "manner" meaning within specific contextual settings.*

**Keywords:** Manner-state seme, linguistic field, functional-semantic field, semantics, seme, semantic category, linguistic unit, lexical means, morphological means, syntactic means, center, peripheral units, context, semantic relation, Uzbek language.

## INTRODUCTION

Language is a complex system representing human thought and the process of comprehending existence, wherein various aspects of reality are manifested through semantic units. In the Uzbek language, the "manner" seme which expresses the way an action or state is realized constitutes one of the significant semantic units. In modern linguistics, the functional-semantic study of linguistic units is gaining increasing importance. Identifying the central and peripheral units of the manner seme and elucidating their mutual semantic relationships based on functional-semantic field theory – allows for a deeper understanding of the essence of this phenomenon.

In Uzbek, the meaning of "manner" is expressed through adverbs, grammatical forms, phrases, and syntactic constructions. Some of these convey the meaning of manner directly, while others manifest it through context. The aim of this study is to determine the characteristics of how the manner seme is expressed within the linguistic field of Uzbek, to systematize its primary means of expression, and to elucidate its functional-semantic properties. The results of the research serve to define the position of the manner seme within the Uzbek language and to provide a systematic description of its linguistic means of expression.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study aims to determine the characteristics of how the "manner" (or mode of action) seme is expressed within the linguistic field in the Uzbek language; its methodological foundation is the theory of the functional-semantic field. The research involved a comprehensive analysis of the semantic content, functional characteristics, and speech usage contexts of linguistic units. Semantic, functional-semantic, componential, and contextual methods were employed during the analysis. Through these methods, the semantic composition and differential features of the "manner" seme, as well as the characteristics of its expression via various linguistic means,

were identified. Furthermore, units expressing "manner" were categorized into the central and peripheral parts of the semantic field, and the semantic relationships between them were analyzed. In linguistics, a "field" is defined as a set of linguistic units (primarily lexical units) united by a common meaning and reflecting conceptual, objective, or functional similarities among the phenomena they designate. The theory of the linguistic field is associated with the names of such international linguists as G. Ipsen, I. Trier, B. Porzig, L. Weisgerber, A. M. Bondarko, and A. M. Kuznetsov. Today, the concept of the semantic field holds significant theoretical and practical importance in modern linguistics, finding wide application in fields such as lexicology, semasiology, terminology, and even translation studies. Linguists such as A. G'ulomov [1: 88], A. Hojiyev [2: 259], R. Rasulov, and I. Qo'chqortoyev have made particularly substantial contributions to this area. Through contextual analysis, the study examined the actualization of the "manner-state" seme within the speech process and explored its semantic nuances. This methodological approach enabled a systematic description of the means used to express the "manner-state" seme in the Uzbek language and allowed for a scientifically grounded determination of its position within the linguistic field.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The research findings indicate that the "manner" (or "mode of action/state") seme constitutes a distinct, unified functional-semantic field in the Uzbek language. This field encompasses various linguistic units that express the method, character, appearance, and course of an action or state. It was determined that the meaning of "manner" is not limited to a single grammatical device but is realized through the interplay of lexical, morphological, and syntactic means.

Based on the analysis, central and peripheral layers of the "manner" field were identified. The central layer consists of units that directly and explicitly express the meaning of manner; specifically, adverbs and certain units functioning as adverbs operate at the core of this field. The peripheral layer comprises

units that express the meaning of manner in conjunction with other semantic components or evoke this meaning under the influence of a specific context.

The study established the connection of the "manner" seme with semantic components such as "method of action execution," "state," "character," "appearance," and "course of action." Although these components are closely related, they differ from one another in their functional characteristics and the extent to which they manifest in speech. Therefore, the field of manner and state does not appear as internally uniform; rather, it manifests as a complex system composed of several semantically interconnected micro-components.

The analysis results also demonstrated the significant role of context in the formation of the "manner" (or "mode of action") semantic category. Although certain linguistic units may not lexically convey a sense of manner directly, they actualize this meaning when interacting with specific verbs or states within a sentence. This indicates that the boundaries of the "manner" semantic field are not rigid but rather fluid, shifting according to context and the speech situation.

Furthermore, it was determined that the "manner" semantic category exhibits specific semantic overlaps with other categories namely state, time, cause, purpose, and quantity/degree. Such overlaps serve as crucial criteria for defining the position of peripheral units within the field. Consequently, it is appropriate to study the "manner" semantic category not merely within the confines of a single grammatical form, but rather based on the shared functional-semantic characteristics of units belonging to various linguistic levels.

Overall, the research findings indicate that in the Uzbek language, the "manner" semantic category constitutes a functional-semantic field characterized by a multi-level, hierarchical, and dynamic nature. Units that directly express the meaning of manner occupy the core of this field, while units conveying a secondary or contextual sense of manner are situated in the periphery. These results serve as an important theoretical basis for determining the role of the meaning of manner and state

within the semantic system of the Uzbek language and for systematically describing the means of its expression.

In the developmental process of any language, its lexicon constitutes the most changeable, dynamic, and rapidly evolving stratum. Therefore, when studying a specific area of a language, it is crucial to recognize the significant scientific importance of researching its lexical composition. The Uzbek language possesses a vast number of lexemes denoting manner or state; the primary ones among these include adverbs of manner, adjectives denoting state, adverbials of manner, onomatopoeic words related to state, phrases, and phraseological units.

Adverbs of manner indicate the way an action is performed and answer questions such as "how?", "in what manner?", or "by what means?": examples include *tez* (quickly), *sekin* (slowly), *piyoda/yayov* (on foot), *bekorga* (in vain), *to'satdan/qo'qqisdan* (suddenly), *astoydil* (earnestly), *do'stona* (friendly), *qahramonlarcha* (heroically), *ochiqdan-ochiq* (openly), *yuzmayuz* (face-to-face), and *zo'rg'a* (barely/with difficulty). For instance: "The train departing from Moscow is drawing ever closer to the east" (from a newspaper); "When wandering the valleys on foot, I felt a wondrous sensation" (H.O.).

Additionally, adjectives such as *silliq* (smooth), *g'adir-budir* (rough/uneven), *g'ijim* (crumpled), *tekis* (flat/even), *siyrak* (sparse), *zich* (dense), *qalin* (thick), *yupa* (thin), *omonat* (precarious/fragile), *puxta* (sturdy/solid), *g'uj* (clustered/dense), *shovul* (rustling/dense foliage), *tanho* (solitary), *gavjum* (crowded), *ochiq* (open), and *berk* (closed) also serve to express various states [3: 192].

The syntactic functions of adjectives denoting state are as follows:

1. **Functioning as a predicate:** *Maktabningtomieskivateshikedi* (The school roof was old and full of holes);
2. **Functioning as an adverbial modifier:** Carrie heard this, then stepped backward somewhat awkwardly and went outside (T. Dreiser);
3. **Functioning as an attributive modifier:** There seemed to be many people there: well-dressed men, aged forty and older,

were conversing about something behind a brass railing. (T. Dreiser).

By their very nature, adverbial participles of manner constitute an intermediate category between adverbs and verbs. They resemble adverbs in that they express the manner, state, or an additional characteristic of an action's execution. Although the concept of the adverbial participle entered linguistics in the 17th century [4: 48], issues regarding the nature and properties of this form have not yet been fully resolved. The verb, meanwhile, retains semantic components related to the action's tense, duration, or process of execution.

In the Uzbek language, the adverbial participle of manner is expressed through several markers: *-(i)b*, *-a/y*; *-gancha/kancha/qancha*; and *-gudek/kudek/qudek*. All of these indicate the duration, mode, state, or – in the case of *-gancha* the limit of an action. Syntactically, they function as adverbials and sometimes as predicates, while retaining the meaning of action or state. Thus, they embody both adverbial and verbal characteristics: *Madinashoshilibkiribkeldi* (Madina entered hurriedly); *Ishningboshiboshlanguncha* (Until the beginning of the work). Research has been conducted on the lexical-semantic and structural characteristics of dialectal idioms expressing manner alongside those belonging to the standard language within certain Uzbek dialects, as well as the relationship between these dialectal expressions and the standard language [5: 20]. When used in speech, idioms denoting manner vividly reveal a person's inner state, while in the text of a literary work, they render a character more lifelike. Examples include *yuzing-ko'zingdemay* (dialectal variant: *beting-raying demay*) and *qo'li-qo'ligategmay* (dialectal variant: *qo'lioyog'igategmay*).

It is well known that morphological means constitute the most important grammatical level for expressing meaning within the language system. Units belonging to the morphological level particularly affixal forms play a leading role in expressing the functional-semantic meaning of "manner." In the Uzbek language, adverb-forming suffixes such as *-lab*, *-ona*, *-lay*, *-simon*, *-li*, *-cha*, *-an*, *-larcha*, *-chasiga*, *-ligicha/layin*, *-chan*, -

*day/dek*, *-(i)ngira*, and *-(i)msira* indicate the manner in which an action is performed and expand the semantic potential of the verb. The primary ones among these are analyzed below.

The *-lab* suffix and its semantic function. A review of the views held by various linguists regarding this suffix (as well as *-cha* and *-larcha*) reveals differing approaches to their grammatical status. Specifically, while Academician Azim Hojiyev classified them as adverb-forming suffixes in one instance [7: 95], in another work, he asserted that they are not word-forming elements at all [8: 59]. A look at the *Explanatory Dictionary of the Uzbek Language* reveals the presence of approximately 40 words formed using the *-lab* morpheme. Azim Hojiyev also maintains that such newly formed words should be included in the explanatory dictionary. The suffix *-cha* derives new words from various parts of speech, including verbs (*yugurgancha*), nouns (*yaxshilikcha*), adjectives (*yangicha*), pronouns (*o'zicha*, *shuncha*), and adverbs (*hozircha*). When forming adverbs of manner, the base is primarily an adjective or a verb in the participle form (*-gan*); examples include *yangicha*, *yashirinch*, *istagancha*, and *shoshilgancha*.

The suffix *-li* and its semantic function. In the Uzbek language, *-li* is a multifunctional suffix; it primarily derives adjectives from nouns and, morphologically, conveys meanings such as excess or intensity (e.g., *kuchli* strong/powerful, *mazmunli* meaningful, *gavdali* sturdy/well-built), possession (e.g., *rasmli* illustrated, *tajribali* experienced), and suitability (e.g., *o'tirishli* suitable for sitting, *yeyishli* edible), alongside the semantic notion of manner.

Adverbial modifiers of manner also denote the external appearance, movement, or state associated with the performance of an action. Such modifiers are formed primarily through the combination of adjectives (derived with *-li*) or participles (in the locative case) with words denoting state, situation, manner, or appearance; through combinations of nouns or pronouns with words like *ichida* (in/within), *taxlitda* (in the manner of/imitating), or *tarzda* (in the style of); and through combinations involving adverbs and converbs: *Do'stimtashvishliqiyo fadakiribkeldi* (My friend entered with a worried look) (S. Ayni)

[9: 176]. When the meaning of manner is conveyed through this suffix, positive or negative human states become clearly perceptible: *chiroyligapirmoq* (to speak beautifully) vs. *tashvishligapirmoq* (to speak anxiously/with worry).

The suffix *-ona* and its semantic potential. The suffix *-ona* attaches to certain nouns and adjectives to form adverbs: *mardona* (bravely/manfully), *do'stona* (in a friendly manner), *fidokorona* (selflessly), *g'olibona* (victoriously), *shoirona* (poetically), *kamtarona* (modestly), *faqirona* (humbly/meagerly), *xolisona* (impartially/objectively), etc. Words formed with this suffix express the manner in which an action or state is performed, an emotional attitude, and a subjective assessment. It is primarily used in words of Tajik origin: Farhod bravely overcomes these obstacles and secures the Cup of Jamshid, the Ring of Solomon, and the treasure of Alexander [10: 15].

The suffix *-an* and its semantic capabilities. In the Uzbek language, the suffix *-an* primarily derives adverbs from nouns and indicates the manner in which an action is performed that is, its mode: *majburan* (compulsorily), *tamoman* (completely), *tasodifan* (accidentally), *taxminan* (approximately), *shaklan* (formally/in terms of form), *qat'iyan* (firmly/categorically), *ruhan* (spiritually). Linguistic studies highlight that this suffix emerged as a result of the lexical and grammatical interactions between Uzbek and other languages, and that it appears within Arabic and Tajik loanwords. Semantically, it serves to express various meanings: *shaklan* (regarding appearance/form), *rasman* (officially), *ma'nan* (regarding meaning/spirit), *qisman* (partially/to a certain extent), *ruhan* (regarding the mental or spiritual state), and others.

The suffix *-larcha* and its semantic capabilities. The affix *-larcha* is considered the most active adverb-forming suffix in modern Uzbek; semantically, adverbs formed with it differ little from those formed with the suffix *-cha*. However, *-larcha* primarily derives adverbs from nouns and adjectives examples include *bolalarcha* (childlike), *aybdorlarcha* (like a guilty person), *do'stlarcha* (friendly/like a friend), *otalarcha* (fatherly), *keksalarcha* (like an elderly person), *vahshiylarcha* (savagely), and *yovuzlarcha* (wickedly). When this affix is attached to an

adjective, the resulting word acquires a noun-like quality: *telbalarcha* (like a madman), *mardlarcha* (like a brave person).

The suffix *-chasiga* and its semantic capabilities. This suffix attaches to nouns denoting persons to form adverbs indicating that an action or state is performed in a manner characteristic of the person or object implied by the root for example, *dehqonchasiga* (in the manner of a farmer), *chapanichasiga* (in the manner of a *chapani* a rough, straightforward person), or *tentakchasiga* (in the manner of a fool). Semantically, this suffix expresses the association of the action's manner with a specific person more fully than the suffixes *-cha* or *-larcha*. Additionally, *-chasiga* sometimes derives adverbs from nouns and adjectives: *Qashqadaryochasiga* (in the Qashqadaryo style), *yigitchasiga* (in a youthful/manly manner), *harbiychasiga* (in a military manner) from nouns; and *ochiqchasiga* (openly), *yashirinchasiga* (secretly) from adjectives. When the suffix *-larcha* attaches to words that do not denote concrete objects and likens an action to a specific quality, it becomes synonymous with the suffix *-ona*: for instance, *Biz mardlarcha (mardona) kurashdik* (We fought bravely/manfully) and *qahramonlarcha (qahramonona) mehnatqildik* (We worked heroically).

The suffixes *-ligicha* and *-layin* are adverbial affixes indicating the manner in which an action is performed: "Could it be that, without saying a word, he would leave [me] behind, alive, in this cold grave?" (O. Yoqubov). In some instances, these suffixes can be used interchangeably: "The little girl ate the fruit while it was still raw (*xomligicha/xomlayin*)."

The suffix *-chang* and its semantic potential. This affix primarily attaches to certain nouns denoting clothing, indicating that a person is wearing that specific garment or performing an activity while dressed in it (e.g., *ko'ylakchang* wearing a shirt; *mahsichang* wearing soft leather boots). The text clarifies the person's social status or activity. For example: "The young man entered the courtyard wearing only a shirt (*ko'ylakchang*) and warmly welcomed the guests." "Children wearing caps (*shapkachang*) were running joyfully, playing in the snow on the street." "As soon as the teacher entered the classroom, he began the new lesson while wearing a vest (*kamzulchang*)."

Postpositions typically connect to a head word, imparting various semantic nuances such as cause, direction, topic, comparison, or limit. Some postpositions are capable of expressing multiple meanings depending on the context. For instance, the postposition *bilan* can convey meanings such as manner, accompaniment, time, cause, instrument, or lack of hindrance. When used to denote a state or manner, it indicates how an action is performed. For example: 1) Hotam, who was closely observing his friend's state, smiled softly (Mirmuhsin). 2) Muhayyo looked with admiration at this simple, guileless child whose inner self matched his outward appearance (A.Q.) [12: 256-257]. 3) I will likely never forget my mother's eyes gazing at me with affection.

#### CONCLUSION

The research results demonstrate that the "manner" (or "mode of action") seme in the Uzbek language constitutes a complex functional-semantic field expressed through lexical, morphological, and syntactic means. This seme serves to convey the manner, method, course, external appearance, and character of an action or state. The central part of the manner field is formed by adverbs of manner and units functioning as adverbs, while the peripheral part comprises adjectives of manner, converbs, phraseological units, word combinations, and contextual means. Furthermore, the role of affixes such as *-lab*, *-cha*, *-larcha*, *-chasiga*, *-ona*, *-an*, *-li*, *-ligicha/-layin*, and *-chang* in shaping the meaning of manner was determined.

The study also substantiated the importance of context in actualizing the manner seme. Consequently, the manner seme is characterized as a hierarchical and dynamic functional-semantic field consisting of core and peripheral layers. These conclusions serve as a significant theoretical foundation for the systematic study of the semantic and functional characteristics of the meaning of manner in the Uzbek language.

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