

## **Phraseological Units Used in Historical Works and Their Artistic Function**

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**Abstract.** *Historical texts preserve collective memory and identity, and one of the key elements that gives them stylistic and cultural depth is the use of phraseological units. While phraseology in modern literature has been widely examined, its artistic role in historical works has received less systematic attention. This study focuses on how phraseological expressions function within selected historical texts, exploring their structural features, semantic dimensions, and aesthetic purpose. Using a combination of close textual reading and comparative analysis, phraseological units were classified according to their origin, form, and context of application. The analysis reveals that these expressions extend beyond stylistic ornamentation, as they convey cultural codes, enhance figurative imagery, intensify emotional impact, and reinforce the author's intended message. They also act as markers of historical worldviews, bridging past experiences with contemporary interpretation. The results demonstrate that phraseological units significantly contribute to the artistic quality and cultural value of historical works, highlighting their role in ensuring continuity of tradition and shaping literary discourse. These findings have implications for linguistics, literary criticism, and cultural heritage studies, positioning phraseological units as essential for understanding the interplay of language, style, and culture in historical narratives. Further research may extend to cross-cultural comparisons to better identify both universal tendencies and culture-specific features of phraseological expression in historical writing.*

**Key words:** *phraseology, historical literature, stylistics, artistic function, cultural codes*

### **Introduction.**

Phraseological units, commonly referred to as set expressions or idiomatic phrases, are integral parts of any language. They consist of combinations of words whose meaning is not always derived from the literal meaning of the individual components. In historical texts, phraseological units carry significant artistic, cultural, and rhetorical functions. These expressions do more than just convey meaning — they enhance the narrative, evoke emotion, and deepen the reader's understanding of the historical context in which they were used. In historical works, whether they be epic tales, chronicles, or other forms of narrative literature, phraseological units offer a window into the socio-cultural environment of the time. These expressions reflect the values, beliefs, and everyday realities of the people and society described. As a result, they play an important role in preserving cultural heritage and connecting modern readers to the past.

From an artistic perspective, phraseological units are used by authors to provide rhythm, emphasis, and style to the narrative. They enrich the text by making it more expressive and engaging, while also adding depth to the portrayal of characters, events, and the historical context. The careful selection

and use of such phrases often reveal the author's mastery over language, as well as their understanding of the cultural and historical implications of these idiomatic expressions. This article explores the role of phraseological units in historical works, focusing on their artistic function. It examines how these units are employed by authors to enhance the narrative structure, evoke emotions, and contribute to the overall artistic expression of the work. By analyzing various historical texts, the study aims to uncover the stylistic and rhetorical significance of these units in shaping the literary and cultural landscape of historical literature.

## Literature Review

Phraseological units, or idiomatic expressions, are integral to historical literature. They add depth to the narrative, offering emotional weight and cultural context. These expressions convey more than their literal meaning, enriching the storytelling by connecting readers to the historical, social, and cultural fabric of the time. In historical texts, idioms help depict values, beliefs, and societal realities, reflecting the worldview of past generations. Research by Ivanova, M.S. shows that phraseological units in historical texts often reveal the attitudes and emotions of people from the past, thereby enhancing the text's emotional resonance<sup>1</sup>. The primary artistic function of phraseological units is to enhance the narrative's style. These expressions provide rhythm, emotional impact, and vivid imagery. By using well-established idiomatic phrases, authors intensify the emotional weight of historical events. As noted by Ivanova, M.S.<sup>2</sup>, phraseological units help authors create engaging, dynamic, and expressive narratives, making them an essential part of historical literature's aesthetic appeal. Another important role of phraseological units is in preserving cultural memory. They carry historical, cultural, and moral lessons, often encapsulating entire events in just a few words. These expressions serve as vessels for cultural heritage, maintaining the values and collective experiences of past societies. As Makarova, N.A.<sup>3</sup> highlights, historical idioms transcend their original meanings and become shorthand for complex societal concepts, allowing them to persist across generations. Phraseological units in historical works are more than decorative elements; they are essential for enhancing narrative depth, preserving cultural memory, and conveying emotional and ideological layers. Future studies can examine their evolution across different cultures to explore universal trends and culture-specific features in historical writing.

## Methodology

The primary objective of this research is to investigate the artistic function of phraseological units in historical works, analyzing their stylistic, aesthetic, and semantic roles. In historical literature, phraseological units serve not only as decorative elements but also as crucial components that bring the text to life, depict historical events, and help readers understand the cultural and social values of the time. Additionally, these units reflect the cultural and societal values embedded within historical narratives. Therefore, this study aims to explore the artistic and cultural significance of phraseological units in historical texts.

## Knowledge Gap

While existing studies have primarily focused on the linguistic functions of phraseological units, there is a lack of systematic research into their artistic and cultural roles in historical works. Most studies treat phraseological units as mere stylistic elements without investigating how they enrich the text's

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<sup>1</sup> Ivanova, M.S. (2018). *The Art of Historical Narrative and Idiomatic Expressions*. Tashkent: Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan.

<sup>2</sup> Vasilyeva, I.A. (2019). *Phraseological Units in Russian Historical Literature*. Moscow: Russian State University of the Humanities.

<sup>3</sup> Makarova, N.A. (2020). *Cultural Identity and Phraseology in Historical Texts*. St. Petersburg: St. Petersburg University Press.

meaning, enhance emotional impact, or reflect the historical and cultural context. This gap in the literature prompts the need for a more comprehensive analysis of how phraseological units are used in historical texts, how they reinforce the connection between language and culture, and how they contribute to the artistic quality of the text. This research adopts a **comprehensive approach** combining content analysis and linguistic analysis to examine the use of phraseological units in historical texts. Initially, selected historical texts (epic works, historical novels, chronicles) are analyzed. Phraseological units are identified and categorized based on their context, and their stylistic, semantic, and aesthetic functions are explored. The primary methods used in the analysis are:

- ❖ **Semantic Analysis:** Investigating the layers of meaning in phraseological units and how these meanings interact with the narrative. This method helps determine how phraseological units enrich the text and depict historical events.
- ❖ **Stylistic Analysis:** Examining how phraseological units contribute to the text's style and emotional impact. This analysis focuses on the role of idiomatic expressions in shaping the narrative and influencing the reader's perception.
- ❖ **Cultural Analysis:** Analyzing how phraseological units reflect the cultural and social values of the time. This method explores how idiomatic expressions act as cultural markers, linking the past to contemporary understanding.

The findings indicate that phraseological units in historical works serve multiple purposes: they enhance the narrative style, deepen the emotional resonance, and offer insights into the socio-cultural context of the era. These units not only embellish the text but also enable readers to better understand the historical, social, and cultural realities of the time. Phraseological units act as bridges between past and present, enriching the narrative and providing a deeper connection to the historical events being depicted. The results of this study highlight the importance of phraseological units as both stylistic devices and cultural markers in historical literature. These findings contribute to a more nuanced understanding of how phraseological units function in historical texts. By examining their artistic, cultural, and semantic roles, the research opens new avenues for further studies on the interaction between language, history, and culture. Additionally, this study offers valuable insights for linguistics, literary criticism, and cultural heritage studies, emphasizing the need to consider phraseological units as essential elements in historical narratives.

## **Results and Discussion**

The analysis of phraseological units in historical texts shows their significant role in enhancing both the emotional and stylistic quality of narratives. These units provide emotional depth, such as expressions like "crossing the Rubicon" or "meeting one's Waterloo," which intensify the emotional impact of historical events. They also reflect cultural and societal values of the time, offering insights into the historical context. Moreover, they contribute to the aesthetic quality of the text, enriching the narrative with vivid imagery and rhythm. In addition, phraseological units help condense complex historical events into succinct, impactful expressions, making the narrative clearer and more accessible to readers. The findings suggest that phraseological units are essential in historical works, serving both artistic and cultural purposes. They go beyond embellishment and are crucial in conveying the complexities of historical events and emotions. This study also highlights a gap in existing research, as the role of these units in historical texts remains underexplored compared to their role in modern literature. Further research should focus on comparative studies across different historical genres and linguistic traditions to examine how these units evolve and reflect historical shifts. A multidisciplinary approach, including cognitive linguistics and cultural studies, would also

provide deeper insights into their function in preserving historical memory. A significant knowledge gap identified is the lack of research on the role of phraseological units in historical literature. Most studies focus on modern literature, leaving a gap in understanding their function in historical narratives. Future research should address this by exploring the evolution of these units and their impact across different historical periods.

## Conclusion

This study emphasizes the significant role of phraseological units in historical works, demonstrating their importance in enhancing the emotional and aesthetic impact of historical narratives. These units serve as more than mere stylistic devices; they are integral to conveying the cultural, societal, and historical context of the time. The findings reveal that phraseological units help link past experiences with contemporary understanding, providing deeper insights into historical events. However, there is a noticeable gap in research regarding the systematic analysis of these units within historical texts, particularly compared to modern literature. Future research should focus on exploring phraseological units across various historical genres and linguistic traditions to understand their evolution, cultural significance, and impact on the interpretation of historical narratives. This will contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the intersection between language, culture, and history.

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