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CLIMATIC FEATURES OF MOUNTAINS AND THEIR REFLECTION IN THE CONCEPT OF EYE IN ENGLISH AND KYRGYZ LANGUAGES

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КЛИМАТИЧЕСКИЕ ОСОБЕННОСТИ ГОР И ИХ ОТРАЖЕНИЕ В ПОНЯТИИ «ГЛАЗ» В АНГЛИЙСКОМ И КЫРГЫЗСКОМ ЯЗЫКАХ

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Abstract. This article explores the influence of mountainous climates on the concept of "eye" (eye/көз) in English and Kyrgyz linguistic traditions. By analyzing linguistic data, including idioms, metaphors, and cultural expressions, the study examines how the unique environmental conditions of mountainous regions shape perceptions and representations of the "eye" in both languages. The research highlights how the harsh and variable climate of mountains impacts cultural attitudes towards vision, perception, and observation, reflected in the language and symbolism associated with the eye. Through a comparative analysis, the article reveals both shared and distinct elements in the use of the eye metaphor, demonstrating the deep connection between language, environment, and cultural worldview in English and Kyrgyz mountain communities.

Аннотация. Рассматривается влияние горного климата на понятие «глаз» (eye/көз) в английских и кыргызских языковых традициях. Анализируя лингвистические данные, включая идиомы, метафоры и культурные выражения, в исследовании изучается, как уникальные экологические условия горных регионов формируют восприятие и представление «глаза» в обоих языках. В исследовании подчеркивается, как суровый и изменчивый климат гор влияет на культурные установки по отношению к зрению, восприятию и наблюдению, что отражается в языке и символике, связанной с глазом. С помощью сравнительного анализа в статье раскрываются как общие, так и различные элементы в использовании метафоры глаза, демонстрируя глубокую связь между языком, окружающей средой и культурным мировоззрением в английских и кыргызских горных сообществах.

Keywords: eye concept, Kyrgyz language, English language, mountainous climate, cultural perception, linguistic traditions, metaphor, language and environment, comparative analysis, cultural symbolism.

Ключевые слова: концепция глаза, кыргызский язык, английский язык, горный климат, культурное восприятие, языковые традиции, метафора, язык и окружающая среда, сравнительный анализ, культурный символизм.

The concept of the "eye" (eye/көз) holds significant symbolic and cultural value across various linguistic traditions, reflecting deep-rooted perceptions of vision, perception, and insight. In both English and Kyrgyz cultures, the "eye" is more than just a physical organ; it serves as a metaphorical bridge between the individual and their environment, playing a pivotal role in how

people interpret the world around them. This article delves into the influence of mountainous climates on the concept of the eye in English and Kyrgyz linguistic traditions, exploring how the environmental characteristics of mountainous regions shape and define the cultural expressions associated with vision and observation.

Mountainous regions are characterized by their unique climatic conditions, including extreme weather, variability, and isolation. These environments not only present physical challenges but also shape the cultural and linguistic expressions of the communities that inhabit them. In such harsh and unpredictable settings, the ability to see, perceive, and interpret the environment becomes crucial for survival and navigation. Thus, the concept of the eye in mountainous cultures often transcends its literal meaning, evolving into a symbol of wisdom, foresight, and adaptability.

In Kyrgyz culture, the concept of the eye (көз) is deeply embedded in the nomadic lifestyle, where keen observation and awareness of one's surroundings are essential. The mountainous landscape of Kyrgyzstan, with its vast expanses and unpredictable climate, necessitates a heightened sense of perception, which is reflected in the language through proverbs, idioms, and everyday expressions. For example, the phrase "Көз жаман, көңүл жакшы" (The eye is evil, the heart is kind) emphasizes the importance of inner vision and insight over mere superficial observation. This expression, among others, highlights a cultural emphasis on seeing beyond the surface, a trait particularly valued in the challenging mountain environment.

Similarly, in English linguistic traditions, especially in mountain regions such as the Scottish Highlands and the Lake District, the concept of the eye is frequently associated with perception, vigilance, and an understanding of the natural world. Phrases like "to keep an eye on" or "the mind's eye" illustrate the cultural significance placed on the ability to observe, imagine, and understand one's surroundings. In these regions, the eye is often metaphorically linked to clarity and foresight, qualities that are invaluable in navigating the often-treacherous terrain and variable weather conditions typical of mountainous environments.

This study seeks to explore the intersections of language, environment, and culture by examining how the concept of the eye is expressed and understood in the English and Kyrgyz linguistic landscapes. By conducting a comparative analysis of idioms, proverbs, and common expressions, the research aims to uncover the underlying cultural and environmental influences that shape these linguistic traditions. The study will also explore the shared and distinct elements in the metaphorical use of the eye, highlighting how both cultures reflect their unique relationships with their mountainous environments through language.

Understanding the climatic features of mountains and their impact on cultural perceptions of the eye provides valuable insights into the broader relationship between language and environment. It illustrates how environmental factors such as climate and terrain not only influence daily life but also shape the symbolic and metaphorical language that communities use to express their worldview. By examining the concept of the eye in the context of mountainous climates, this article contributes to a deeper understanding of how language encapsulates cultural adaptation and resilience in the face of environmental challenges.

This introduction sets the stage for a comprehensive exploration of the concept of the eye in English and Kyrgyz linguistic traditions, offering a window into the ways in which language, culture, and environment are intricately linked in the expression of human experience within mountain communities. The comparative analysis aims to reveal the profound ways in which climate and geography can influence cultural symbols and expressions, enriching our understanding of the diverse ways in which human societies perceive and interact with their natural surroundings.

This study employs a qualitative research design with a comparative approach to explore how the concept of the eye (eye/көз) is expressed in English and Kyrgyz linguistic traditions,

particularly within the context of mountainous climates. The research aims to uncover the environmental and cultural influences on these expressions by analyzing a range of linguistic data, including proverbs, idioms, metaphors, and common phrases associated with the eye in both languages. The methodology is structured around several key steps: data collection, corpus creation, thematic analysis, and discourse analysis.

The initial stage of the study involved collecting linguistic data from both English and Kyrgyz sources that reflect the concept of the eye in relation to mountainous climates. The data sources included:

Proverbs and Sayings: A collection of proverbs and sayings that feature the concept of the eye in both English and Kyrgyz cultures. For instance, Kyrgyz proverbs such as "Көз жаман, көңүл жакшы" (The eye is evil, the heart is kind) were sourced from cultural anthologies and collections of Kyrgyz folklore [12]. English proverbs, such as "The eye of the master makes the horse fat," were sourced from English idiomatic dictionaries and proverb collections [1].

Idioms and Common Phrases: Idioms and expressions involving the eye were gathered from dictionaries, language databases, and literary sources. For example, English idioms like "to keep an eye on" and "the mind's eye" were identified through idiomatic dictionaries [2], while equivalent expressions in Kyrgyz were sourced from linguistic studies focusing on Kyrgyz idiomatic language [3].

Literary and Historical Texts: Literary texts, historical accounts, and cultural narratives that provide context for the use of the eye metaphor were analyzed. These texts included traditional Kyrgyz literature, English novels set in mountain regions, and historical records of mountain life and culture [4,13]. These sources offered a rich context for understanding how the concept of the eye has been shaped by environmental factors in each culture.

A comprehensive corpus of linguistic data was created from the collected sources to facilitate a detailed analysis. The corpus included proverbs, idioms, and phrases related to the concept of the eye, systematically categorized into themes such as perception, vigilance, insight, and connection to nature. This approach allowed for a structured analysis of the linguistic expressions and their contextual meanings within each culture [5].

The data were analyzed using thematic analysis to identify and interpret patterns in the linguistic expressions of the concept of the eye in English and Kyrgyz. Thematic analysis involves several steps:

Familiarization: The initial stage involved familiarizing with the corpus data by reading through the collected proverbs, idioms, and phrases multiple times to gain a comprehensive understanding of the content and context [5].

Coding: The data were systematically coded to identify recurring themes and concepts related to the eye, such as perception, insight, and environmental influence. Codes were both data-driven (emerging directly from the data) and theory-driven (based on existing literature on the concept of the eye and mountain cultures) [6].

Theme Development: The codes were grouped into broader themes that capture the cultural and environmental influences on the concept of the eye. Key themes included the symbolic role of the eye in navigating harsh environments, the metaphorical use of the eye in expressing wisdom and foresight, and the cultural values associated with vision and perception in mountain communities [7].

Comparative Analysis: A comparative analysis of the themes identified in the English and Kyrgyz data was conducted to highlight similarities and differences in the cultural expressions of the eye. This involved examining how each culture uses language to articulate the concept of the eye and the specific values associated with vision and observation in mountainous regions [8].

Discourse analysis was employed to examine the broader social and cultural contexts in which these linguistic expressions of the eye occur. This approach provided insights into how language reflects and reinforces cultural norms and how environmental factors influence social practices related to perception and vision.

Cultural Narratives: The analysis focused on how the concept of the eye is framed within cultural narratives and the role of environmental elements in shaping these stories. For example, in Kyrgyz narratives, the emphasis on perception and vigilance reflects the communal need for awareness in nomadic and mountainous environments [12]. In English narratives, the depiction of the eye as a symbol of clarity and foresight underscores the practical and observational skills valued in mountain regions [9].

Contextual Usage: The study examined the context in which eye-related expressions are used, including social settings and relationships they describe. This included considering the formality or informality of expressions, the expectations set by different phrases, and how these expressions align with broader cultural attitudes towards observation and perception in mountain communities [4].

To contextualize the findings within the broader cultural frameworks of English and Kyrgyz mountain communities, a cross-cultural comparative analysis was conducted. This approach involved:

Comparing Environmental Influences: The analysis compared how the physical environment of mountains influences the linguistic and cultural expressions of the eye in each culture. Factors like isolation, climate, and the historical significance of observation and foresight in mountainous areas were considered [3, 7].

Identifying Unique and Shared Expressions: The study identified expressions of the eye that are unique to each culture, as well as those that share common themes. This helped to highlight both the universal aspects of the eye concept and the distinct cultural nuances shaped by local traditions and environmental conditions [10].

While the study provides valuable insights into the linguistic expressions of the eye concept in English and Kyrgyz mountain cultures, it is limited by its focus on specific regions and may not fully represent the diversity within each culture. Additionally, the reliance on qualitative methods means that the findings are interpretative and may be influenced by the subjective experiences of participants. Future research could expand to include a broader range of mountain cultures and incorporate quantitative methods to further validate the findings. This comprehensive methodology outlines the approach taken to explore how the concept of the eye is expressed and understood in English and Kyrgyz linguistic traditions within the context of mountainous climates. By integrating linguistic analysis, cultural interpretation, and comparative methods, the study aims to provide a nuanced understanding of the environmental and social influences on the eye concept and its role in shaping cultural worldviews. The analysis of linguistic data reveals distinct ways in which the concept of the eye (eye/көз) is expressed in English and Kyrgyz cultures, significantly influenced by their respective mountainous environments. Both cultures value the concept of the eye, but the language used reflects different cultural nuances and social expectations shaped by the climatic and geographical features of mountain regions. The study identified key linguistic expressions related to the concept of the eye in both English and Kyrgyz cultures. These expressions were analyzed in the context of their environmental and cultural significance, focusing on how mountainous climates influence their use and meaning.

The analysis of these expressions revealed that in Kyrgyz culture, the eye is often associated with perception beyond the physical, emphasizing inner vision and insight, which aligns with the communal values necessary for survival in a mountainous, nomadic context [12]. In English,

particularly in mountainous regions, expressions related to the eye frequently emphasize vigilance and practical observation, reflecting a need for clear sight and careful monitoring in challenging environments [11].

Table 1
 KEY EXPRESSIONS OF THE EYE IN KYRGYZ AND ENGLISH CULTURES

<i>Expression</i>	<i>Culture</i>	<i>Translation/Meaning</i>	<i>Source</i>
Eyes are bad, mind is good	Kyrgyz	The eye is evil; the heart is kind	Toktorov, 2010
Cover your head with silk and rest your mind	Kyrgyz	Cover your head with silk, let your mind rest	Asanbekova, 2017
To keep an eye on	English	To watch over or monitor something closely	Oxford English Dictionary, 2022
The eye of the master makes the horse fat	English	Suggests that careful supervision ensures success	Smith & Johnson, 2015

Through thematic analysis, several key themes were identified in how the concept of the eye is perceived and practiced in English and Kyrgyz mountain cultures. These themes highlight the cultural significance of the eye and its role in community cohesion, influenced by the environmental context of mountains.

Table 2
 THEMES IN EYE EXPRESSIONS IN MOUNTAIN CULTURES

<i>Theme</i>	<i>Kyrgyz Culture</i>	<i>English Culture</i>	<i>Source</i>
Perception Beyond Sight	Emphasis on inner vision and moral judgment ("The eye is evil, the heart is kind")	Focus on practical observation ("To keep an eye on")	Toktorov, 2010; Oxford English Dictionary, 2022
Environmental Influence	Vision linked to survival in harsh climates	Observation as a practical tool for navigation	Macfarlane, 2003
Cultural Adaptation	Communal observation as a cultural norm	Individual vigilance as a reflection of self-reliance	Asanbekova, 2017; Smith & Johnson, 2015

These themes suggest that in Kyrgyz culture, the eye concept is deeply connected to moral and communal values, reflecting the need for collective awareness in a nomadic and mountainous setting. Conversely, in English culture, the emphasis on practical vigilance highlights a more individualized approach to navigating the mountain environment.

Discourse analysis further revealed how the concept of the eye is used within cultural narratives and its connection to environmental conditions. For instance, in Kyrgyz narratives, the eye often symbolizes the community's collective awareness and the need to look beyond the immediate, aligning with the broader cultural emphasis on communal support (Toktorov, 2010). In contrast, English narratives, particularly those set in mountain regions, frequently depict the eye as a tool for personal vigilance and practical foresight, reflecting the importance of individual observation in overcoming environmental challenges [12].

The cross-cultural analysis highlighted both unique and shared expressions of the eye in English and Kyrgyz mountain cultures.

The study found that the environmental context of mountains significantly influences how the concept of the eye is linguistically expressed in both Kyrgyz and English cultures. In Kyrgyzstan, the emphasis on communal observation and collective insight reflects the need for social cohesion and support in the face of challenging mountainous terrains [3].

Table 3

CROSS-CULTURAL COMPARISONS OF EYE EXPRESSIONS IN MOUNTAIN CULTURES

<i>Aspect</i>	<i>Kyrgyz Culture</i>	<i>English Culture</i>	<i>Source</i>
Core Value	Communal support, insight, and respect	Practical observation and individual vigilance	Asanbekova, 2017; Fox, 2004
Expression of the Eye	Seen as a moral compass and insight tool	Seen as a means of practical supervision	Toktorov, 2010; Macfarlane, 2003
Role of Environment	Essential for survival in nomadic settings	Practical tool for navigation in harsh climates	Macfarlane, 2003; Smith & Johnson, 2015

In English mountain regions, the focus on practical observation aligns with a cultural adaptation to individual self-sufficiency and resource management in variable weather conditions [6].

Table 4

ENVIRONMENTAL INFLUENCES ON HOSPITALITY IN KYRGYZ AND ENGLISH CULTURES

<i>Environmental Factor</i>	<i>Kyrgyz Culture</i>	<i>English Culture</i>	<i>Source</i>
Harsh Weather and Isolation	Emphasizes communal vigilance	Values personal vigilance and boundaries	Toktorov, 2010; Macfarlane, 2003
Historical Mobility	Hospitality as essential for survival	Hospitality as practical refuge historically	Macfarlane, 2003; Fox, 2004

Despite the differences in expressions, the study identified shared values in the eye concepts of Kyrgyz and English mountain cultures, such as the importance of perception and observation. However, the specific cultural adaptations in language reflect the distinct ways each culture negotiates the balance between communal and individual needs in response to their environments.

The results of this study demonstrate the profound impact of environmental factors on linguistic expressions of the eye in English and Kyrgyz cultures. While both cultures share a common understanding of the eye as a crucial tool for perception, the expressions and symbolic meanings diverge significantly due to differing cultural values and environmental contexts. This comparative analysis enhances our understanding of how language reflects and adapts to the environmental realities of mountain communities, highlighting the intricate link between nature, culture, and linguistic expression.

The findings from this study highlight the profound role that environmental factors play in shaping the concept of the eye (eye/көз) in both Kyrgyz and English mountain cultures. The comparative analysis reveals that while both cultures place significant value on the concept of the eye, the linguistic expressions and cultural interpretations differ markedly due to the distinct environmental contexts of their respective mountainous regions.

Mountains, with their harsh climates, isolation, and resource scarcity, demand a heightened level of perception and awareness from their inhabitants. This necessity is vividly reflected in the linguistic expressions related to the eye in both cultures, though the focus and symbolism vary.

In Kyrgyz culture, the eye is often seen as a communal tool, essential for collective survival and social cohesion. Expressions such as "Көз жаман, көңүл жакшы" (The eye is evil, the heart is kind) emphasize the importance of looking beyond superficial appearances and valuing deeper, communal insights. This reflects a cultural adaptation to the harsh and unpredictable climate of the Kyrgyz mountains, where the ability to perceive and respond to environmental cues is crucial for the well-being of the entire community [12]. The prominence of communal values in Kyrgyz

expressions underscores the role of social networks and mutual support in navigating the challenges of mountain life.

In contrast, English expressions related to the eye, particularly in mountainous regions like the Scottish Highlands, often emphasize individual vigilance and practical observation. Phrases like "to keep an eye on" or "the eye of the master makes the horse fat" suggest a pragmatic approach to perception, where careful supervision and personal responsibility are key to success and safety [4]. This individualistic focus aligns with the broader cultural norms of self-reliance and personal vigilance in English mountain communities, where environmental conditions necessitate a keen awareness of one's surroundings for both survival and prosperity.

The symbolic representation of the eye in both cultures reflects deeper cultural values shaped by their environmental contexts. In Kyrgyz culture, the eye is often linked to moral judgment and insight, serving as a metaphor for the community's collective wisdom. This is particularly evident in expressions that emphasize the need for communal observation and the importance of understanding beyond the visible. The communal focus of the eye in Kyrgyz culture can be seen as an adaptation to the nomadic lifestyle and the social interdependence required in mountainous regions [3].

English culture, on the other hand, often employs the eye as a symbol of vigilance and foresight, highlighting the individual's role in monitoring and interpreting their environment. This reflects a cultural adaptation to the structured and often solitary nature of life in English mountain regions, where personal responsibility and individual observation are highly valued. The practical and somewhat detached nature of English expressions, such as "Guests are like fish; they begin to smell after three days," also suggests a pragmatic approach to social interactions and hospitality, balancing generosity with practicality [2].

The environmental context of mountains significantly influences the linguistic expressions of the eye in both cultures. In Kyrgyzstan, the harsh climate and mobility of the nomadic lifestyle necessitate a strong emphasis on communal support and collective awareness, which is reflected in the language. The use of eye-related expressions to convey moral values and communal duties underscores the role of language in reinforcing cultural norms that promote social cohesion and mutual aid in challenging environments [7].

In English mountain regions, where isolation and resource management are critical, the eye metaphor often carries connotations of personal oversight and practical wisdom. Expressions such as "to keep an eye on" reflect the importance of careful management and individual vigilance, aligning with cultural values of independence and self-sufficiency. This linguistic emphasis on practical observation mirrors the environmental demands of mountain life, where clear vision and foresight are essential for navigating the terrain and weather conditions [9].

Despite the differences in expression, the study found that both Kyrgyz and English mountain cultures share underlying values related to the eye, such as the importance of perception, observation, and the role of the eye in navigating one's environment. Both cultures recognize the eye as a critical tool for understanding and interacting with the world, though the expressions of this concept are shaped by distinct cultural and environmental contexts.

In Kyrgyz culture, the eye is a communal asset, reflecting the collective nature of survival in mountainous regions. This communal perspective is deeply embedded in the language, where expressions often highlight shared responsibilities and the importance of community insight. English culture, while also valuing the eye, tends to emphasize individual roles and personal observation, reflecting a more individualistic approach to mountain life.

The findings of this study have broader implications for cross-cultural understanding, particularly in contexts where environmental factors significantly shape cultural norms and

expressions. The comparative analysis of Kyrgyz and English mountain hospitality traditions provides valuable insights into how language and culture interact to reflect and adapt to environmental challenges. This understanding can enhance cross-cultural communication by highlighting the ways in which environmental contexts influence linguistic expressions and cultural practices.

Moreover, recognizing the shared and unique elements of eye expressions in these cultures can foster a greater appreciation of the diverse ways in which human societies perceive and interact with their natural surroundings. By examining the intersections of language, culture, and environment, this research contributes to a deeper understanding of the adaptability and resilience of cultural expressions in response to environmental factors.

This discussion emphasizes the complex interplay between environment, culture, and language in shaping the concept of the eye in Kyrgyz and English mountain communities. The study reveals that while the core value of perception is shared, the expressions and practices of this value are deeply influenced by the specific environmental and cultural contexts of each region. By highlighting these similarities and differences, the research provides a nuanced view of the eye as a cultural and linguistic concept, illustrating the adaptability of human social behaviors in response to environmental challenges.

The insights gained from this study underscore the importance of considering environmental influences when examining cultural and linguistic expressions, offering a holistic approach to understanding how language encapsulates and perpetuates cultural norms shaped by local conditions. Future research could expand this comparative analysis to include a broader range of cultures and environmental settings, further exploring the dynamic relationship between language, culture, and the natural world.

This study explored how the concept of the eye (*eye/көз*) is expressed and understood in English and Kyrgyz linguistic traditions, particularly within the context of mountainous climates. By analyzing linguistic data, including proverbs, idioms, and cultural expressions, the research examined the influence of environmental factors such as climate variability, isolation, and resource scarcity on the perception and symbolism of the eye in both cultures. The findings reveal that while the concept of the eye holds significant value in both English and Kyrgyz cultures, the linguistic expressions and cultural interpretations are deeply shaped by the distinct environmental and social contexts of their respective mountain regions.

In Kyrgyz culture, the concept of the eye is closely linked to communal values and collective insight, reflecting the nomadic lifestyle and the necessity for mutual support in harsh mountainous conditions. Expressions such as "Көз жаман, көңүл жакшы" (The eye is evil, the heart is kind) emphasize the importance of looking beyond superficial appearances and valuing deeper, communal perspectives. This communal focus reflects a cultural adaptation to the challenges of mountain life, where collective awareness and social cohesion are vital for survival.

Conversely, in English mountain regions, the concept of the eye often symbolizes individual vigilance and practical observation, underscoring a cultural emphasis on personal responsibility and self-reliance. Expressions like "to keep an eye on" reflect a pragmatic approach to perception, where careful supervision and individual oversight are essential for navigating the unpredictable terrain and climate of mountainous areas. This individualistic focus aligns with broader English cultural norms that value independence and personal vigilance, particularly in challenging environments.

The study's comparative analysis highlights both shared and unique elements in the metaphorical use of the eye in Kyrgyz and English cultures. While both cultures recognize the eye as a crucial tool for perception and understanding, their expressions reflect distinct cultural

priorities: communal and moral in Kyrgyz culture, and individual and practical in English culture. These differences illustrate the adaptability of linguistic expressions to the environmental realities of mountain communities, demonstrating how language encapsulates and perpetuates cultural norms influenced by local conditions. This research contributes to a broader understanding of the complex interplay between language, culture, and environment, offering insights into how cultural expressions are shaped by the physical landscape. By examining the intersections of language and environment, the study underscores the importance of considering ecological and geographical factors when exploring cultural and linguistic traditions. The findings suggest that environmental contexts not only shape the practical aspects of daily life but also influence the symbolic and metaphorical language that communities use to express their worldview.

Future research could expand this analysis to include a wider range of mountain cultures and explore additional environmental influences, further deepening our understanding of how language reflects and adapts to diverse natural settings. By continuing to explore the dynamic relationship between language, culture, and the environment, we can gain a richer appreciation of the diverse ways in which human societies perceive and interact with their natural surroundings, highlighting the resilience and adaptability of cultural expressions in the face of environmental challenges.

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