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The Concept of Love in English-Speaking, German-Speaking and Russian-Speaking Linguacultures

Language is the most valuable source of formation and manifestation of the mentality of the people; through it, the culture is preserved and transmitted to other generations. The concept is one of the basic notions of linguoculturology, which is implemented in the verbal sign and in the language as a whole [1]. In other words, through the analysis of key concepts it is possible to know the linguistic picture of the world. One of these emotional concepts is love, as a basic feeling that manifests itself in any culture.

The subject of the study is English, German and Russian proverbs, sayings and quotations of famous classics containing the concept of love. In the Russian language, love is denoted by the word *любовь*, in German – *Liebe*. All three words are from PIE root **leubh-* [2].

After analyzing proverbs, sayings and quotations from the point of view of the attitude of English, Russian and German linguacultures to this concept, we notice that basically the concept of love coincides in the minds of different ethnic groups, although there are some differences. For example, a similarity of perception was observed in the following sayings:

1.1 *Любовь слепа* [3]; *Love is blind* [4]; *Liebe macht blind* [5].

They are very similar in the meaning of "love blinds". For the first time in world literature, this idea is found in an ancient Greek philosopher Platon's work "Laws": "Love blinds, because the lover becomes blind to the object of his love" [6]. It can be said that this phrase was borrowed from Greek into all three languages.

1.2 *Любовь сильнее смерти* [3]; *Love is as strong as death* [4]; *Liebe ist stärker als der Tod* [5].

In all three linguacultures love is compared with death. Previously, this phrase is found in the book "Solomon's Song of Songs." "Fortis est ut mors dilectio." – Love is as strong as death [7]. It can also be assumed that this expression was borrowed and slightly changed in cultures.

1.3 *Милые бранятся – только тешатся* [3]; *Lovers' tiffs are harmless* [4]; *Zwist unter Liebesleuten hat nicht viel zu bedeuten* [5].

The idea of "quarrels only increase love" is also presented in three languages. A similar expression first occurs in the Comedy Terence "The Lady of Andros" and is as follows: "amantium irae amoris integratio est", which means "lovers' quarrels are the renewal of love" [7].

Striking examples of differences in relation to the concept of love can be seen in the following quotes:

2. «Любовь, отравя наших дней, Беги с толпой обманчивых мечтаний...» (A.S. Pushkin); «Являясь для больного душою сильным ядом, для здорового любовь – как огонь железу, которое хочет быть сталью...» (M. Gorkiy).

"My love is as a fever longing still, For that which longer nurseth the disease..." (W. Shakespeare).

"Was aus Liebe getan wird, geschieht immer jenseits von Gut und Böse." (F. Nietzsche).

Love has negative connotation in Russian linguaculture and is comparable with poison. In English, love also has a negative connotation, but softened: the feeling of love is compared to the disease. In the German language, the negative connotation of love is due to the fact that for the sake of love, people do not only good, but bad things.

So, after reading a large number of poems devoted to the beautiful and mysterious feeling of love, selecting proverbs and sayings, we can conclude that the theme of love is always relevant and excites people regardless of their nations. However, despite the large number of very similar associations with

love in English, Russian and German linguacultures due to borrowing ideas from other languages, there are some differences.

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