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LANGUAGE AS THE SOUL OF THE FOLK

M. Heidegger said that language is the «dwelling place of existence» and it matters not how well people speak the language, but how well the language speaks to people [1, p. 428].

Ensuring the interest of foreign students in learning a foreign language is impossible without studying the cultural phenomena and traditions of the country where the language is spoken.

Proverbs and sayings are an important component in the process of linguistic and cultural study of the language. K. Ushynsky wrote: «According to the content of proverbs, they are important for... teaching because in them, as in a mirror, the people's life with all its picturesque features is reflected. They reflected all aspects of people's lives» [6].

Folklore works, including proverbs and sayings, embody the collective life experience, ideals, aspirations, character traits of different peoples. It is like the spiritual message of our distant ancestors to us, their descendants: we must realize their dreams of the victory of Good and Justice, Wisdom and Reason in human life.

Different folks have different customs and cultural traditions, different living conditions, and therefore their works will be different. But they are all people who are characterized by love and suffering, hard work and laziness, loyalty and betrayal, wisdom and stupidity, so in the folklore of different we find a lot of common features, the so-called «traveling plots».

«Traveling plots» are plots of works of oral and written literature that pass from nation to nation. There are common motives in these plots: struggle, relationships.

Proverbs and sayings are widely reflected in the national character. However, most proverbs are universal in the global sense. For almost

every proverb of a nation, similar proverbs can be found among the proverbs of many other nations. I. Franko wrote that «...comparing the relevant proverbs of different folks, we easily come to the conclusion that almost all of them are common to almost all cultural folks and have nothing characteristic of a particular folk. If they reflect wisdom, then, obviously, it is international wisdom...» [7].

Among the folklorists of the 20th century such scholars as P. Popov, M. Rybnikova, A. Bahmet, D. Bondarenko, L. Skrypnyk, M. Pazyak et al. studied paremias.

Proverbs and sayings are short apt expressions that typify various life phenomena in an artistic form. They are the generalized memory of the people, the conclusions of life experience, which gives the right to formulate views on ethics, morality, history and politics. In their sum, proverbs and sayings seem to be a set of rules that a person should follow in everyday life. They seldom state a fact, but rather recommend or reject, approve or condemn, warn or instruct, because the authority of generations lies behind them. M. Gorkyi was fascinated by the wise simplicity of the thoughts formulated in the proverbs, and he wrote: «The streams of the native source of folk poetry break through in our proverbs, where you can see the unusual fullness of the people's mind, which managed to make its tool: history, ridicule, wit, accuracy of picturesque contemplation».

The subject matter of proverbs and sayings is varied. It covers all spheres of life of the folk: reason, nature, work, experience, knowledge, features of character, morality.

By analyzing the meaning of proverbs and sayings, students expand their horizons, practise communication, become participants in the dialogue of cultures since they have the opportunity to compare them with the proverbs of their folk.

A large array of proverbs and sayings is about the peculiarities of human nature. Glorifying diligence, conscience, prudence, fidelity to the word, courage proverbs fight against lazy arrogant people, idiots, liars, and gossips.

There are similar expressions in the Ukrainian language: «If you have you're your business, you can walk» and in Russian: «It is time for work and time for fun» – «Business before pleasure».

«If your temper is not lazy, you will not be poor», «A slacker dies of cold, a glutton of hunger», say Chinese proverbs.

Ukrainian proverb «He who has a clear conscience, sleeps peacefully», Chinese proverb «It is better to sit hungry with a clean conscience than to eat with an unclean one», Turkish proverb «From the cauldron the dirt can be washed away, but not from the conscience», «There is no honour in the beard honor, even the goat has a beard» are an illustration of the understanding of conscience, honour.

Statements about the meaning of what is said by different peoples seem somewhat different: the Ukrainian proverb says: «The word is silver, silence is gold», Russian – «You will not throw a lock on someone else's mouth», Turkish – «May Allah protect from hunger and excess of words», «The human mouth is not a bag, you can't pull it with a rope», the Chinese – «A long tongue is a ladder on which disaster creeps into the house».

Judgments in proverbs are expressed mostly in the form of serious, philosophically generalized formulations:

Ukrainian proverb «Silver-gold pulls a man into the swamp», Turkish – «Life is more precious than gold» argue that wealth should not have power over man.

We observe wisdom and science in the following proverbs: in Ukrainian «Mind is better than education», «Take everything well and avoid evil», Chinese «Human stupidity has a bottom, wisdom is boundless», Turkish «Mind is not in years, but in the head», Russian «Learn when you are young and it will come in handy in old age», «Gold without a mind is a swamp».

It is known that a sense of humor has long been considered one of the most prominent features of the national character. The ability to treat one's difficulties with humor and irony is a sign of optimism and moral health of the people. Ukrainian folk humor can be considered soft and good-natured. This is true when it comes to certain defects in the character, actions or appearance of people in their own environment. Then jokingly, with a smile, they say: «He understands it like a bear understands the stars»; «Chatted like a pig with a goose»; «Black-haired like a red calf»; «Stupid as a hundred pounds of smoke». Even throwing a stinging or rude word, the proverb can delicately soften it: «Don't be the

one who throws the gate», «...the one who climbs into the mud», «...the one who digs carrots», «...that person that bristles up».

The most popular proverbs are those that have wit, irony, sarcasm in the languages of other peoples as well.

In Turkish we read: «There will be no lamb from a pig», «They cut off pig's ears and nose, and it still remained a pig», Chinese «Monkey without a tail is still only a monkey», «Pig sleeps – fat grows, man sleeps – debts grow».

The folklore content of each language is the key to the treasury of the integral essence of its people. A comparative analysis of proverbs and sayings, which is a product of human society, provides an opportunity to get acquainted with the mentality of different folks.

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