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**THE AXIOLOGICAL VALUES OF PERSONAL NAMES IN THE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE: AN ANALYSIS BASED ON ETHNIC, RELIGIOUS,
SOCIAL, AND GENDER ASPECTS**

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Abstract: *Personal names are not merely linguistic markers; they hold significant cultural, psychological, and social value. This thesis explores the axiological values embedded in English personal names, emphasizing their ethnic, religious, social, and gender-based implications. By analyzing the historical evolution and cultural significance of names, this research highlights how naming conventions shape identity, societal expectations, and opportunities. The thesis employs a comparative and interdisciplinary approach to demonstrate the impact of linguistic, sociological, and psychological factors on name perception and usage.*

Keywords: *Personal names, axiology, ethnicity, religion, social identity, gender, English language*

Introduction

A name is more than an identifier; it represents an individual's cultural heritage, societal positioning, and personal identity. In English-speaking societies, names often reflect religious traditions, ethnic backgrounds, and social status while reinforcing gender expectations. The way names are chosen, adapted, and perceived impacts a person's opportunities and self-perception. Understanding the axiological significance of names helps in decoding their role in identity formation and social interactions.

This thesis examines how naming conventions shape personal and collective identity through a multi-dimensional analysis. It compares English naming practices with those of other cultures, particularly Uzbek, to explore cross-cultural perspectives on names and their meanings.

Personal names often indicate ethnic identity and cultural heritage. English personal names have been shaped by various linguistic and cultural groups, including Anglo-Saxon, Celtic, Norman, and immigrant communities.[4,46] The phenomenon of name assimilation among diasporic populations and the implications of anglicizing names for social integration are significant aspects of this thesis.

Religious traditions also play a crucial role in naming conventions. Biblical, Christian, Islamic, and other religious influences have shaped English names, reflecting spiritual values that have adapted to secularization trends in modern society.[2,28]

Names can signify social status, class distinctions, and prestige. Historical and contemporary naming trends show how names are used among different social strata,





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from aristocratic to working-class families. Globalization and social mobility continue to influence name selection in English-speaking societies.

Gender identity is often reinforced through naming practices. Traditional gender binaries in English names have evolved with the rise of unisex and non-binary names. Feminist and LGBTQ+ movements have contributed to these shifts, influencing naming trends and gender-neutral naming conventions.[5,61]

Furthermore, digital communication, globalization, and social movements are reshaping naming practices. There is an increasing preference for unique, hybrid, and multicultural names, which significantly impact identity formation in a rapidly evolving world.

Conclusion

Personal names in the English language serve as rich indicators of cultural values and social transformations. By analyzing names through ethnic, religious, social, and gender perspectives, this thesis demonstrates how naming conventions shape personal identity, societal expectations, and life opportunities. Future research should explore the intersectionality of these factors and their influence on personal and professional identities in English-speaking communities.

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