

WEDDING CEREMONIES IN UZBEK AND ENGLISH CULTURE**Akhmedova Sarvinoz Hikmatovna***PhD of English Linguistics Department, Docent, Bukhara State University**s.h.axmedova@buxdu.uz***Sharipova Mashhura Tolibovna***Student of the group 11-5ING-25, Bukhara State University*

Abstract: *This article compares the wedding ceremonies of Uzbek and English cultures by examining their pre-wedding customs.*

Key words: *wedding, bride, groom, clothes, pre-wedding, marriage, traditional rituals, engagement, cultural comparison.*

Weddings are important social events in every culture. It reflects people's values, traditions and beliefs. Weddings can vary widely from one society to another, although purpose of marriage is universal. Uzbek and English traditions combine family involvement, symbolic rituals. But they differ in customs, length and cultural significance.

Wedding plays a significant role in almost every culture because it marks one of the most meaningful transitions in a person's life. It symbolizes the formal union of two persons, showing their love promise to support each other. Moreover, it brings families and communities together. Through customs and rituals, a wedding can help to preserve cultural heritage that is passes it on to the next generation. Besides this, weddings create lasting memories and emotional connections for couple and their families. Monger said: "Weddings are not just as one-off parties, but as cultural rituals that reflect deeply held beliefs, values and social structures".

Uzbek weddings are rich in traditions and colorful rituals. They usually last three days and emphasize family, religion and hospitality. In Uzbekistan, firstly, matchmakers formally propose the marriage to the bride's family. Then religious prayers are recited and the engagement is officially recognized. It is called engagement ceremony. In religious ceremony, an imam conducts the formal marriage ritual. After that bride greets the groom's family with respect and performs symbolic gestures. The next day a large celebration with hundreds of guests, music, dancing and traditional dishes like kebab, shashlik and sweets(Present of Wedding Traditions in Uzbekistan).

In English culture, traditionally, the groom proposes to the bride often with a ring. Families may formally meet to celebrate the engagement, although this is less formal today. On wedding day the bride usually wears a white or ivory gown symbolizing purity. The groom also wears a suit, morning coat or tuxedo. In English culture weddings may take place in a church, civil registry office or other approved

venue. English weddings emphasize personal choice, public declaration and celebration with family and close friends (Bailey, J. 2003).

Similarities between Uzbek and English weddings:

- a) Both cultures treat weddings as a public declaration of union. Families, friends are invited to witness and celebrate couple's commitment.
- b) Pre-wedding events are common. For example, engagement ceremony.
- c) Special attire: brides and grooms wear distinctive and formal clothing.
- d) Gift giving: guests in both cultures give gifts or money to support couple as they start their married life.
- e) Family and Community involvement: both weddings emphasize family blessings and support.

Differences between Uzbek and English weddings:

1. Wedding duration: English weddings usually last one day. But Uzbek weddings often last three days.
2. Wedding size: weddings in England are typically small (about 50-100 guests). In Uzbekistan (approximately 300-500 guests).
3. Music: English weddings often have a dj or a live band. Wedding ceremony of Uzbek have live singers and national music.
4. Expenses: English weddings tend to be expensive but smaller. In Uzbekistan, people cost a lot due to large guest lists and many ceremonies.

Conclusion. Wedding is symbolic, social, cultural, legal and emotional events. It unites people, preserves traditions and strengthens personal bonds. Through their rituals, weddings highlight universal human desire for love and connection. English and Uzbek weddings differ in their traditions, size, duration and style. Despite these differences, both cultures value love, family, happiness which shows that every wedding is a meaningful and joyful event.

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