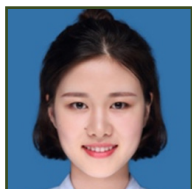


Conceptualization of qi in Chinese idioms from the perspective of Cultural Linguistics



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This study investigates the metaphorical and metonymic meanings of qi in Chinese idioms, and the underlying cognitive and cultural factors influencing those meanings from the perspective of Cultural Linguistics. To this end, we conduct a systematic analysis of the idiomatic expressions involving the term qi in Mandarin Chinese. We found two major conceptual metaphors: CLIMATE IS QI and BREATHING IS QI. Stemming from BREATHING IS QI; Six metonymies are identified: QI FOR LIFE, PHYSICAL HEALTH, EMOTION, SPIRIT, APPEARANCE, and FATE. We then elaborate on the cultural conceptualizations of qi from three perspectives: cultural schemas, cultural categories, and cultural metaphors. The finding reveals how the metaphorical and metonymic conceptualizations of qi are deeply rooted in and profoundly shaped by Chinese culture, illustrating the intricate interplay between language, culture, and cognition in the understanding of qi.

Biography:

Yawen ZHONG is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Intercultural Linguistics at Eötvös Loránd University's Faculty of Humanities. In addition to her doctoral studies, she serves as an English instructor at the School of Foreign Languages, Chongqing University of Posts and Telecommunications, China. Her teaching portfolio includes courses on English Speaking and Cultural Studies. Her primary academic interests lie in the realms of Intercultural and Cognitive Linguistics. She has published several papers in academic journals and actively participated in various academic conferences both domestically and internationally.