



## Linguistic analysis of the term “fraud” in the criminal code

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### ABSTRACT

This article discusses the linguistic and etymological analysis of the term “fraud”, which is relevant in the investigative bodies and the judicial system, as well as its legal meaning.

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#### *Keywords:*

fraud,

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abuse of trust.

## Jinoyat kodeksidagi "firibgarlik" atamasining tilshunoslik tahlili

#### *Kalit so'zlar:*

firibgarlik,

qonun,

o'zganing mol-mulki,

xiyonat,

ishonchni suiiste'mol qilish.

### ANNOTATSIYA

Ushbu maqolada tergov organlari va sud tizimida muhim ahamiyatga ega bo'lgan "firibgarlik" atamasining lingvistik va etimologik tahlili hamda uning huquqiy mazmun-mohiyati yoritiladi.

## Лингвистический анализ термина "мошенничество" в уголовном кодексе

#### *Ключевые слова:*

мошенничество,

обман,

право,

### АННОТАЦИЯ

В данной статье рассматривается лингвистический и этимологический анализ термина "мошенничество",

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чужое имущество,  
вероломство,  
злоупотребление  
доверием.

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имеющего актуальность в следственных органах и судебной  
системе, а также его юридическое значение.

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The language of law has unique features, with specific requirements and criteria for expressing legal concepts. When choosing terms, the focus is primarily on the lexical meaning and grammatical aspects of the words. Terms used in official documents related to criminal law must accurately match the function or meaning of the article in the Criminal Code. Variations in spelling or wording of legal terms are completely unacceptable. Therefore, it is essential to consider these factors when standardizing legal terminology.

The scientific novelty of this research lies in the linguistic and etymological analysis of the term “fraud” as used in Article “Fraud” of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The study also examines translations of the term “fraud” into other languages—particularly Russian—its origin, the expansion of its meaning over time, and its equivalents and usage in Turkic languages. Before comparing the translation of the term “fraud” into Karakalpak, it is essential to conduct an in-depth etymological analysis of this term.

#### **ANALYSIS AND RESULTS**

Today, the term “fraud” from the Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan is one of the most commonly used articles in official documents, including in the Prosecutor’s Office, the Internal Affairs system, and the courts.

Linguistically, the term “fraud” means “obtaining another person’s property rights through deception or abuse of trust.” In legal terms, deception refers to the deliberate provision of false information by the offender, the concealment of facts that must be disclosed to the property owner or other parties, or intentional actions aimed at misleading them [2, p. 307].

The word “fraudster” has a long linguistic history. In Russian, the equivalent term is *мошенничество* (“moshennichestvo”). In Old Slavic, the word *мошна* (“moshna”) referred to a “purse” or “bag for money” [3]. Initially, fraudsters were called “pickpockets,” but over time the meaning expanded to include “deceiving or tricking someone for personal gain.” Linguistic research confirms that words often broaden in meaning in this way.

In Uzbek, the word *firibgar* is equivalent in meaning to the Russian *мошенник*, and both are associated with the same type of criminal liability in the Criminal Code. In Karakalpak, the word is translated as *алдаўшы* (“aldawshı”), while in official legal documents—such as in the courts or prosecutor’s offices—it is rendered as *алдаўшылық* (“aldawshılıq”) for Article 168 (“Fraud”).

Before introducing words into legal terminology, it is essential to determine whether the term fully and accurately conveys its intended meaning and legal function. For example, the word *мошенник* is a legal term in Russia and refers to someone who engages in fraud. If we translate it simply as *обманщик* (deceiver), why is *обманщик* not used as the legal term instead?

The word *обманщик* has synonyms such as *мошенник* (fraudster), *плут* (trickster), *жулик* (swindler), *лжец* (liar), *пройдоха* (rogue), *аферист* (con artist),

шарлатан (charlatan), выжига, and шелун. However, обманщик itself is not a legal term, whereas мошенник is. In Karakalpak, мошенник is translated as алдаўықшы (a person who deceives).

In legal documents, Article 168 (“Fraud”) is translated into Karakalpak as алдаўшылық and is consistently used in this way. Karakalpak also has various synonyms for this concept in colloquial language, such as жалатай, өтирикши, суўатақ, and суўқуйды. Among these, жалатай has a stronger expressive meaning, referring to someone who is an extreme liar and deceiver. However, in formal contexts, the standardized term алдаўшылық is used.

The etymology of обманщик shows that it derives from the verb обмануть (to deceive), which itself comes from the noun обман (deception). The root consists of the prefix об- and the old Slavic root manoti (мануть), meaning “to gesture,” “to lure,” or “to lie,” which ultimately produced the word обманщик.

When deciding whether a word should become a legal term, factors such as the degree of social danger, the motivating element of the word, and its semantic precision must be considered. For example, the historical root of мошенник (“purse thief”) and its derivation from мошна logically and linguistically justify its use as a legal term.

Translations of “обманщик” in Turkic languages:

Turkish – aldatcı

Kyrgyz – алдамчы

Tatar – алдакчы

Uyghur – лапчи

Bashkir – алдаксы

Kazakh – өтирикши, жәдигөй

Yakut – албын

Uzbek – ёлғончи

Karakalpak – өтирикши

Azerbaijani – яланчы

Turkmen – aldavgy

Chuvash – хаяр

Kumyk – азгъанлы

Nogai – алдатчы

As seen above, the word обманщик appears in different forms across Turkic languages. Future research will aim to provide a more detailed scientific analysis of its usage in these languages.

## CONCLUSION

Accurate translation of criminal law terminology and texts is one of the most pressing issues today. Standardizing frequently used terms in the prosecution and court systems and eliminating inconsistencies in official documents is of great importance. Legal documents stand out for their precision, concreteness, and reliance on facts and evidence, distinguishing them from other types of texts.

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