REVIEW

of the official reviewer for the dissertation work of An Lan on the topic "Linguo-Cognitive and Ethnocultural Analysis of the Concepts "Marriage" and "Family" in Paremiology" submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the specialty 8D02306 – Foreign Philology (Western Languages).

№	Criteria	Eligibility (one of the options must be checked)	Justification of the position of the official reviewer
1.	The topic of the thesis (as of the date of its approval) corresponds to the directions of development of science and/or state programs	1.1 Compliance with priority areas of science development or government programs:	Compliance with priority areas of science development or government programs The dissertation corresponds to the priority directions of modern linguistic science, particularly cognitive linguistics, intercultural communication, ethnolinguistics, and comparative studies. The research is relevant to contemporary scientific priorities related to language, culture, cognition, and digital communication.
		1) The thesis was completed within the framework of a project or target program financed from the state budget (indicate the name and number of the project or program) 2) The thesis was completed within the framework of another state program (indicate the name of the program) 3) The dissertation corresponds to the priority direction of the development of science, approved by the Higher Scientific and Technical Commission under the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan (indicate the direction)	The dissertation research conducted by An Lan fully corresponds to the contemporary directions of development of philological science, cognitive linguistics, intercultural communication, ethnolinguistics, and comparative paremiology. The topic of the dissertation is highly relevant within the framework of modern humanitarian and linguistic research, since it addresses the interaction between language, cognition, culture, and social consciousness through the analysis of proverb systems. The study is particularly important in the context of globalization and

			intensification of intercultural communication, where linguistic and cultural misunderstandings often arise due to differences in conceptual worldviews. By investigating English and Chinese proverbs related to marriage and family, the author contributes to the understanding of how cultural values, social norms, and cognitive patterns are reflected and transmitted through language. The dissertation also corresponds to current scientific priorities connected with digital discourse studies and the application of linguistic research to artificial intelligence technologies, especially in the sphere of metaphor interpretation and intercultural semantic processing.
2.	Importance for science	The work makes/does not make a significant contribution to science, and its importance is well disclosed/not disclosed	The dissertation makes a significant and substantial contribution to modern linguistic science. The research enriches cognitive linguistics, ethnocultural studies, paremiology, and comparative linguistics through a comprehensive and interdisciplinary investigation of the concepts "marriage" and "family" in English and Chinese proverb systems. The scientific significance of the dissertation lies in the author's successful integration of cognitive linguistic methodology with ethnocultural analysis, which allows for a deeper understanding of the mechanisms through which language

			reflects collective cultural experience and national worldview. The dissertation demonstrates that proverbs are not merely fixed folkloric expressions but complex cognitive and cultural structures encoding social values, ethical norms, and culturally specific models of thinking. The work is theoretically valuable because it expands the methodological possibilities of comparative proverb studies and contributes to the further development of linguo-cognitive and intercultural approaches in philology. The practical significance of the dissertation is also evident, as its findings may be applied in language teaching, intercultural communication, translation studies, cultural studies, and AI-based semantic technologies.
3.	The principle of independence	Self-reliance level: 1) High; 2) Medium; 3) Low; 4) No independence	The dissertation demonstrates a high degree of scientific independence and originality. The doctoral student independently carried out the collection, systematization, classification, interpretation, and comparative analysis of extensive linguistic material in English and Chinese. The author independently developed the conceptual framework of the study, selected appropriate research methods, formulated the research objectives, and substantiated the scientific conclusions. The dissertation clearly reflects the doctoral student's ability to conduct

			independent scientific research, critically analyze theoretical sources, synthesize interdisciplinary approaches, and produce original scholarly interpretations. The author's independent contribution is especially visible in the proposed integrated analytical model combining cognitive linguistics and ethnocultural studies, as well as in the analysis of digital proverbs and anti-proverbs functioning in modern communication environments.
4.	The principle of inner unity	4.1 Justification of the relevance of the thesis: 1) Justified; 2) Partially justified; 3) Not justified.	The relevance of the dissertation is convincingly and comprehensively justified. The author demonstrates that the concepts of marriage and family remain central cultural categories in both Eastern and Western societies and that their representation in proverbs reflects historically formed systems of values, social expectations, and cognitive models. The relevance is further strengthened by the growing role of intercultural communication and the emergence of new forms of digital discourse, which transform traditional proverb systems and create new forms of cultural expression.
		4.2 The content of the thesis reflects the topic of the thesis: 1) Reflects; 2) Partially reflects; 3) Does not reflect	The content of the dissertation fully corresponds to the stated topic. All sections and chapters consistently focus on the linguo-cognitive and

			ethnocultural analysis of English and Chinese proverbs related to marriage and family. The author systematically examines conceptual metaphors, cultural models, ethnocultural values, family hierarchies, gender roles, and cognitive mechanisms reflected in paremiological units. The dissertation maintains thematic consistency throughout the entire research.
		4.3. The purpose and objectives correspond to the topic of the thesis: 1) correspond; 2) partially correspond; 3) do not correspond	The purpose and objectives of the dissertation fully correspond to the topic and are logically interconnected. The objectives are clearly formulated and successfully implemented within the framework of the research. The author consistently solves the stated research tasks through theoretical analysis, corpus-based investigation, comparative interpretation, and cognitive-cultural analysis of the collected material.
		4.4 All sections and provisions of the thesis are logically interconnected: 1) completely interconnected; 2) the interconnection is partial; 3) there is no interconnection	The dissertation possesses a clear, logical, and coherent structure. All chapters are interconnected and consistently develop the central research idea. The theoretical chapter establishes the conceptual and methodological foundations of the research; the second chapter examines the ethnocultural and historical formation of proverb systems; the third chapter presents a detailed

			comparative analysis of English and Chinese proverbs. The conclusions logically summarize the obtained scientific results.
		4.5 The new solutions (principles, methods) proposed by the author are reasoned and evaluated in comparison with the known solutions: 1) there is a critical analysis; 2) partial analysis; 3) the analysis does not represent one's own opinions, but quotes from other authors	The dissertation contains a substantial critical analysis of previous scientific approaches in cognitive linguistics, ethnolinguistics, and paremiology. The author critically evaluates existing theories and convincingly demonstrates the necessity of an integrated linguo-cognitive and ethnocultural approach. The proposed analytical framework is scientifically justified and effectively applied throughout the research. The author successfully compares traditional approaches with new methodological perspectives and substantiates the advantages of the interdisciplinary model employed in the dissertation.
5.	Scientific novelty principle	5.1 Are the scientific results and provisions new? 1) completely new; 2) partially new (25-75% are new); 3) not new (less than 25% are new)	The scientific results and provisions presented in the dissertation are completely new. The author proposes an original integrated approach combining cognitive linguistics and ethnocultural analysis for the study of English and Chinese proverbs related to marriage and family. The novelty of the research also lies in examining marriage and family not as isolated concepts, but as a unified and interconnected cultural-cognitive system reflecting the full cycle of family relations and social values.

		5.2 Are the dissertation findings new? 1) completely new; 2) partially new (25-75% are new); 3) not new (less than 25% are new)	The dissertation findings are completely new and scientifically significant. The author identifies distinctive cognitive models, conceptual metaphors, and ethnocultural value orientations reflected in English and Chinese paremiology. Particular scientific value is represented by the analysis of modern digital proverbs and anti-proverbs, which demonstrates the dynamic transformation of traditional proverb systems in contemporary communication.
		5.3 Technical, technological, economic or management decisions are new and reasonable. 1) completely new; 2) partially new (25-75% are new); 3) not new (less than 25% are new)	The dissertation proposes innovative and reasonable approaches relevant for intercultural semantic analysis and modern linguistic technologies. The research findings may be applied in artificial intelligence systems and large language models for metaphor interpretation, culturally marked language processing, and intercultural semantic analysis.
6.	The validity of the main findings	All main conclusions are/are not based on scientifically significant evidence or well-grounded (for qualitative research and areas of training in the arts and humanities)	The main conclusions and findings of the dissertation are scientifically grounded and sufficiently substantiated by theoretical and empirical material. The author relies on authoritative international and Kazakhstani scientific sources in cognitive linguistics, paremiology, ethnolinguistics, and cultural studies. The validity of the research is ensured

			through the use of comparative analysis, conceptual metaphor analysis, corpus-based verification, and ethnocultural interpretation. The conclusions logically follow from the conducted analysis and are supported by extensive linguistic material.
7.	The main provisions for the defense	It is necessary to answer the following questions for each provision separately: 7.1 Is the provision proven? 1) proven; 2) rather proven; 3) rather not proven; 4) not proven 7.2 Is it trivial? 1) yes; 2) no 7.3 Is it new? 1) yes; 2) no 7.4 Application level: 1) narrow; 2) medium; 3) wide 7.5 Is it proven in the article? 1) yes; 2) no	The main provisions submitted for defense are scientifically proven, theoretically significant, and methodologically justified. The presented conclusions are not trivial and possess clear scientific novelty. The author convincingly demonstrates that English and Chinese proverbs related to marriage and family reflect culturally specific cognitive models and systems of values. The provisions presented for defense are supported by extensive empirical material and are reflected in the doctoral student's scientific publications, including articles published in Scopus-indexed journals. The research results possess both theoretical and practical significance and may be applied in cognitive linguistics, intercultural communication, translation studies, language teaching, and digital linguistic technologies.
8.	The principle of reliability Reliability of sources and information provided	8.1 Choice of methodology - is justified or the methodology is described in sufficient detail 1) yes; 2) no	The methodology of the dissertation is clearly described, scientifically justified, and fully corresponds to the objectives of the research. The author successfully combines cognitive linguistic analysis,

			ethnocultural interpretation, comparative analysis, and corpus-based methods.
		8.2 The results of the thesis were obtained using modern methods of scientific research and methods of processing and interpreting data using computer technologies: 1) yes; 2) no	The research is based on modern linguistic methods and corpus technologies. The author uses authoritative linguistic corpora, comparative analytical methods, conceptual metaphor analysis, and digital discourse analysis, which ensures the reliability and scientific validity of the obtained results.
		8.3 Theoretical conclusions, models, identified relationships and patterns have been proven and confirmed by experimental research (for areas of training in pedagogical sciences, the results have been proven on the basis of a pedagogical experiment): 1) yes; 2) no	Theoretical conclusions, models, identified relationships and patterns have been proven and confirmed Yes. The theoretical conclusions and identified cognitive-cultural patterns are convincingly supported by extensive empirical material and comparative analysis of English and Chinese proverbs.
		8.4 Important statements are confirmed / partially confirmed / not confirmed by references to current and reliable scientific literature	Important statements are confirmed by references to current and reliable scientific literature The main theoretical positions and scientific arguments are sufficiently confirmed by references to authoritative and contemporary scientific literature in cognitive linguistics, ethnolinguistics, paremiology, intercultural communication, and cultural studies.

		8.5 Used literature sources are sufficient/not sufficient for a literature review	Used literature sources are sufficient for a literature review The literature review is comprehensive and scientifically relevant. The author uses a sufficient number of international and Kazakhstani scholarly sources, including monographs, scientific articles, dictionaries, corpora, and contemporary linguistic studies.
9	Practical value principle	9.1 The thesis has theoretical value: 1) yes; 2) no	The thesis has theoretical value Yes. The dissertation contributes to the further development of cognitive linguistics, comparative paremiology, ethnocultural studies, and intercultural communication research.
		9.2 The thesis is of practical importance and there is a high probability of applying the results obtained in practice: 1) yes; 2) no	The thesis is of practical importance and there is a high probability of applying the results obtained in practice Yes. The research findings may be applied in higher education, translation studies, intercultural communication, language teaching, linguocultural analysis, and artificial intelligence technologies related to semantic interpretation and metaphor processing.
		9.3 Are the practice suggestions new? 1) completely new; 2) partially new (25-75% are new); 3) not new (less than 25% are new)	The practical recommendations and applications proposed in the dissertation are completely new and scientifically significant, particularly regarding the interpretation of culturally conditioned expressions and digital proverb systems.
10.	The quality of writing and	Academic writing quality: 1) high;	The dissertation is written at a high academic level and demonstrates

	design	2) average; 3) below average; 4) low.	professional scientific writing skills. The structure of the work is logical and coherent, the terminology is used accurately, and the research material is presented clearly and systematically. The dissertation complies with academic and technical requirements established for doctoral research works.
11.	Notes on a thesis		The dissertation is carried out at a high academic and methodological level. Certain aspects of the study, particularly the analysis of digital proverb transformation in contemporary discourse, could be further developed through additional illustrative examples and broader discussion of modern sociocultural changes. Nevertheless, the noted remarks are minor and do not reduce the scientific value, originality, or overall quality of the dissertation.
12.	Scientific level of the doctoral student's articles on the topic of research (in case of defense of the dissertation in the form of a series of articles, the official reviewers comment on the scientific level of each article of the doctoral student on the topic of research)		The doctoral student's scientific publications demonstrate a high academic and research level and adequately reflect the main theoretical and practical results of the dissertation research. The results of the study have been published in international scientific journals, including Scopus-indexed publications and journals recommended by the Committee for Quality Assurance in Science and Higher Education. The published articles are characterized by

			scientific originality, methodological consistency, and relevance to contemporary issues in cognitive linguistics, ethnocultural studies, and comparative paremiology. The publications confirm the approbation, reliability, and scientific significance of the dissertation research results.
13.	Decision of the official reviewer (pursuant to paragraph 28 of the present Model Regulations)		To award An Lan the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the specialty 8D02306 – Foreign Philology (Western Languages).

Official Reviewer:
K. Sagadiyev University of International Business **Ismailova Fariza, PhD**

ЗАВЕРЯЮ
Директор Департамента по человеческим ресурсам и документации
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