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А. Бахридинова (Худжанд, Республика Таджикистан)

Сравнительный анализ морфологических особенностей некоторых лексических единиц, обозначающих агрессию, в таджикском и английском языках

Аннотация: В данной статье рассматривается сопоставительный анализ морфологических особенностей некоторых лексических единиц, обозначающих агрессию, в таджикском и английском языках. Исследование основано на текстологическом анализе основополагающего исторического романа Садриддина Айни «Темур Малик – народный герой таджиков. Восстание Муканны», представляющего богатый корпус агрессивной лексики в военно-историческом контексте. Анализ показывает, что, хотя оба языка используют сочетание исконных корней и заимствованных аффиксов для выражения агрессивной семантики, в сопоставляемых языках наблюдается более высокая склонность к деривационной сложности с использованием словообразовательных элементов. Автор статьи приходит к выводу, что морфологическая реализация агрессии находится под сильным влиянием типологических особенностей каждого языка.

Ключевые слова: контрастивная лингвистика, морфология, лексика агрессии, таджикский и английский языки, деривация

A. Bahridinova (Khujand, Tajikistan Republic)

Comparative Analysis of Morphological Peculiarities of Some Lexical Units Denoting Aggression in Tajik and English

Abstract: The given article dwells on the comparative analysis of morphological features of certain lexical units denoting aggression in Tajik and English. The study is grounded in the textual analysis of seminal historical novel by Sadriddin Ayni entitled as “Temur Malik – Tajik People’s Hero. Muqanna’s Rebellion” which provides a rich corpus of aggressive lexicon within a historical-military context. The analysis reveals that while both languages utilize a combination of native roots and borrowed affixes to express aggressive semantics demonstrating a higher propensity for derivational complexity using the word-building elements in the comparative languages. The author of the article comes to the conclusion that the morphological realization of aggression is deeply influenced by the typological characteristics of each language.

Key words: contrastive linguistics, morphology, aggression lexicon, Tajik and English languages, derivation

1. INTRODUCTION

The linguistic expression of human emotions, particularly aggression, is a universal phenomenon, yet its lexical and grammatical realization varies significantly across languages. Aggression, as a complex socio-psychological concept encompassing hostility, violence, and conflict, is encoded in vocabulary through a network of nouns, verbs, and adjectives. A comparative analysis of such lexicon not only enriches emotional linguistics but also sheds light on the structural and cognitive peculiarities of the languages under scrutiny.

Into the bargain, Associate Prof. S.P. Azimova while writing her article underscores that "aggression, as a human phenomenon, has attracted scholarly attention since ancient times and remains a subject of active scientific and practical research. Despite extensive investigation, numerous complexities and unresolved issues persist in understanding this domain. A critical area of inquiry involves the aggressive state of individuals within various fields of activity. More specifically, aggression in communication has recently emerged as a significant focus within linguistics. However, conceptualizing this phenomenon within modern linguistic theory presents challenges due to a lack of terminological uniformity. Divergent terms, including speech aggression, linguistic aggression, verbal aggression, and communicative aggression, are employed to describe related or overlapping aspects. Additionally, contemporary linguistic studies concerned with aggressive communication frequently utilize concepts denoted by terms such as hatred, hostility, violent language, and verbal extremism" [1: 141].

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS

A psychological dictionary provides the following definition: verbal aggression (агрессияи шифоҳӣ) – a form of aggressive behavior wherein negative emotions are expressed through tone of voice, other nonverbal components, and threatening statements [2: 13]. A stylistic dictionary offers the following definition: speech aggression is the use of linguistic means to express resentment, hostility, [employing] a particular manner of speaking, [and] insulting someone's pride / dignity [10: 78–87]. A purposeful communicative act aimed at inducing a negative psychological state in the listener [5; 7]. From a socio-psychological viewpoint, V.I. Zhelvis examines verbal aggression as a psychologically grounded act [4: 34].

Other researchers (Makteeva, Mikhalskaya, Enin) note that aggression can serve as a means of expressing emotions and relieving emotional tension. L.V. Enina offers the following definition for speech aggression: speech aggression is an area of communicative ethics motivated by the speaker's aggressive state [3: 105].

This study aims to conduct a systematic comparative morphological analysis of words denoting aggression in Tajik and English, using Ayni's novels as a primary source.

The corpus of our study employs a qualitative research design based on descriptive and contrastive linguistic analysis. The core methodology involves a detailed textual analysis of selected literary works to identify, extract, and classify relevant lexical units.

3. MAIN RESULTS

The analysis of the selected corpus yielded a rich set of data. The aggression-denoting words were categorized into nouns, verbs, and adjectives. Below are 10 representative

Tajik sentences from Ayni's works with their English translations and a detailed morphological breakdown. The analysis focuses on the words in bold.

Example 1:

Сарбозони халифа ба деҳа **ҳуҷум оварданд** – The Caliph's soldiers **launched an attack** on the village [6: 45].

Based on the above-mentioned example one can assert that a simple (non-derived) noun of Arabic origin. It is a primary lexical unit for *attack / assault* and does not break down into smaller meaningful morphemes in the Tajik system. It functions as a direct object. In English, it can be analyzed as a simple noun, or as a verb-to-noun conversion (zero-derivation). The verbal sense is primary. This showcases English's reliance on conversion, a process less productive in Tajik for this semantic field.

Example 2:

Темур Малик ба душман **ҳамла кард** – Temur Malik **attacked** the enemy [6: 112].

Hence, we can confidently express our own opinion that this is a complex predicate (compound verb). The noun *ҳамла (hamla – attack, of Arabic origin)* is combined with the light verb *кардан (kardan – to do).* The semantic core is carried by the noun, while the verb provides grammatical structure. A single, synthetic verb. In English, a simplex verb is used where in Tajik uses an analytic construction. This is a key typological difference.

Example 3:

Муқаннаъ дар зидди истилогарони араб **муқовимат мекунад** – Muqanna' **resists** the Arab invaders [6: P.88].

Proceeding from the assumption of the above-adduced example it is clear that an Arabic-derived noun (resistance). Morphologically, it can be broken down in Arabic, but for Tajik, it is borrowed as a single, unanalyzed lexical unit. It forms another compound verb: *муқовимат кардан / мекунад (muqovimat kardan / mekunad).* A simple verb. Unlike Tajik, English does not require a light verb here, using a synthetic lexical verb instead.

Example 4:

Ӯ бо **хашм ва ғазаб** ҷавоб дод – He responded with **rage and fury** [6: 156].

Both are simple, non-derived nouns of Arabic origin denoting intense anger. They represent basic-level terms for the emotion of aggression. So, rage is of Latin origin, and fury is of Latin origin (via French). This shows both languages have enriched this semantic field through borrowing.

Example 5:

Ин суханҳо дар дили вай **кина** пайдо кард – These words bred **hatred** in his heart [6: 20].

A simple, native Persian-Tajik noun for *hatred, grudge.* It is not derived from a verb in modern Tajik. A derived noun. Formed from the verb hate + the suffix -red (an archaic noun-forming suffix of Old English origin meaning "condition"). This is an example of native English derivation.

Example 6:

Лашкари мошин ба пойтахти душман **таҷовуз** хоҳад кард – Our mighty army will **invade** the enemy's capital [6: 134].

On the basis of this sentence, we can say that an Arabic-derived noun meaning "aggression, invasion" used in the compound verb *таҷовуз кардан (tajovuz kardan – to invade).* A simple verb of Latin origin. Again, English uses a synthetic verb versus Tajik's analytic compound.

Example 7:

Онҳо қалъаро **хароб** карданд – They **destroyed** the fortress [6: 17]

An adjective of Arabic origin meaning *ruined.* In the construction хароб кардан (kharob kardan), it functions as the core of a compound verb meaning *to destroy.* A simple verb of Latin origin. English does not use an adjective + light verb construction here.

Example 8:

Душман **шикаст** хӯрд ва гурехт – The enemy was **defeated** and fled [6: 98].

A Persian-Tajik noun meaning *break, defeat* used in the compound verb шикаст хӯрдан (shikast khurdan – to be defeated, lit. "to eat a defeat"). A verb derived via conversion from the past participle of defeat. The English construction is a simple passive voice.

Example 9:

Ҷанговарони ӯ **ҷонсупорона** меҷанганд – His warriors fight **self-sacrificingly** [6: 119].

Here, it is formed from the compound noun ҷонсупор (jonsupor – life-giver, i. e., one who sacrifices), to which the suffix -она (-ona) is added. The suffix -она is highly productive in forming adverbs from nouns and adjectives. A derived adverb. Formed from the compound adjective self-sacrificing + the suffix -ly. Both languages use suffixation, but the suffixes themselves (-она vs. -ly) and the base (noun-based in Tajik, adjective-based in English) differ.

Example 10:

Вазирони фориғбача **дову дағал** буданд – The corrupt viziers were **deceitful and aggressive** [6: 25].

A fixed, rhyming compound adjective. *Дағал (dag'al)* on its own means *rough, coarse, aggressive.* The compound дову дағал intensifies the meaning, implying cunning and brutal aggression. A coordinative phrase of two separate adjectives. English does not have a single, fixed compound equivalent, requiring a phrasal translation.

4. DISCUSSION

The results of the analysis reveal profound and systematic differences in the morphological expression of aggression between Tajik and English, largely attributable to their typological profiles.

4.1. PREDOMINANCE OF COMPOUND VERBS IN TAJIK VS. SIMPLE VERBS IN ENGLISH

The most striking finding is the overwhelming reliance of Tajik on complex predicates or compound verbs (Light Verb Constructions – LVCs) for expressing aggressive actions. As seen in examples 2, 3, 6, 7, and 8, actions like "attacking," "resisting," "invading," "destroying," and "being defeated" are rendered as Noun / Adjective + Кардан / Хӯрдан / Шудан (kardan / khurdan / shudan). It is confirmed that the light verb construction is one of the most characteristic features of modern Tajik syntax, allowing for great flexibility in incorporating nouns, especially those of Arabic origin, into the verbal system.

In contrast, English consistently employs single, synthetic verbs (attack, resist, invade, destroy, defeat). This aligns with the analytic tendency of English to use phrasal verbs (e. g., fight back, lash out) for nuanced meaning, but for core aggressive actions, simplex verbs are standard. This difference highlights a fundamental typological contrast: Tajik often separates the semantic content (the noun) from the grammatical function (the light verb), while English fuses them into a single lexical item.

4.2. DERIVATIONAL PATTERNS AND AFFIXATION

Both languages use derivation, but with different affixes and productivity.

Tajik Derivational Morphology: Tajik demonstrates a robust system for forming adverbs and nouns. The adverbial suffix -она (-ona), as in ҷонсупорона (jonsuporona), is highly productive and has a direct but morphologically different counterpart in English's -ly. Furthermore, Tajik uses native suffixes like -гар (-gar, meaning "doer") to form agentive nouns, which can be applied to aggression (e. g., ҷанггар janggar – warrior, from ҷанг jang – war). This kind of native, synthetic noun formation is less productive for this semantic field in modern English.

English Derivational Morphology: English relies heavily on Latinate affixes to form nouns of action and result. For instance, from the verb destroy, we get destruction; from aggress, we get aggression. Suffixes like -ion, -ment, and -ence are central. The suffix -ion is one of the most productive in English for forming abstract nouns from verbs of Latinate origin, often denoting the act or state of the verb [8; 9]. Tajik, having borrowed many Arabic nouns directly (e. g., ҳуҷум, муқовимат, таҷовуз), often does not need to derive them from native verbs.

4.3. LEXICAL BORROWING AND CORE VOCABULARY

Both languages have layered lexicons. Tajik's aggression lexicon is a mix of native Persian-Tajik words (кина kina, шикаст shikast, ҷанг jang) and a significant number of Arabic borrowings (ҳуҷум hujum, ғазаб ghazab, таҷовуз tajovuz). Similarly, English uses native Germanic words (fight, wrath, break) alongside Latinate / French borrowings (assault, fury, destroy, invade). The key difference lies in how these borrowings are integrated. Arabic nouns in Tajik are seamlessly incorporated into the native grammatical structure via light verbs, whereas Latinate verbs in English are used as-is.

4.4. THE ROLE OF COMPOSITION

Example 10 (дову дағал dovu dag'al) illustrates another morphological strategy: compounding. Tajik, like Persian, has a rich tradition of forming " rhyming binomials" or "fixed compounds" for expressive and intensified meaning. English also uses compounds (e. g., bloodthirsty, warmonger), but the specific pattern seen in Tajik is unique and has no direct morphological equivalent, requiring a phrasal translation. This reflects a broader cultural-linguistic preference for certain rhetorical and poetic forms.

5. CONCLUSION

This comparative morphological analysis has demonstrated that the semantic field of aggression is realized through distinctly different morphological apparatuses in Tajik and English. The findings strongly support the initial hypothesis that typological differences are a primary determining factor.

This study contributes to a deeper understanding of Tajik morphology in a contrastive context and enriches the field of emotional linguistics. The implications extend to translation theory, language pedagogy, and lexicography. For translators, recognizing the Tajik preference for LVCs is crucial for producing natural-sounding English. For language learners, understanding these fundamental structural differences can aid in overcoming interference.

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Сведения об авторе:

Азиза Бахридинова,
докторант
факультет иностранных языков
Худжандский государственный университет
имени академика Бободжона Гафурова

Aziza Bahridinova,
Doctoral Student
Faculty of Foreign Languages
Khujand State University
named after academician Bobojon Gafurov
sanoat1979@mail.ru