

**SOME LEXICAL FEATURES OF TRANSLATING BINOMIAL
PAIRS FROM UZBEK INTO ENGLISH (ON THE MATERIAL OF
“ALEXANDER’S WALL” BY ALISHER NAVOI)**

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Abstract: In this article we have analyzed the degree of translability of binomial pairs and compared the lingua stylistic peculiarities of the original and their correspondence with their translations into the English language. We have also overviewed different types of binomial pairs falling into five categories i.e. rhyming binomials, with alliteration and binomial pairs joining by different linking words. Considering two language’s possibilities of adequacy in lexical, phonological and semantic fields we have broadly applied comparative typological methods in translation. Furthermore, basing on some scholar’s theories, we have made an attempt to find appropriate equivalencies in two languages between irreversible binomials, and reversible ones.

The object of the research which is being translated from Uzbek into English is “Alexander’s Wall” (“Saddi Iskandariy”) by A. Navoi, and the translation is conducted the prosaic adaptation of the epic - poem by I. Makhsumov and M.Hamidova.

Key words: literary translation, binomial pairs, reversible binomials, irreversible binomials, conjunctions, links

INTRODUCTION.

The Divan of Alisher Navoi has already taken a special place in the world literature. Each poem is a result of great poet’s intelligence. Assuming it as the

main object of translating into English, we realized that Navoi was great linguist who could use a variety of language units in one epic poem. Accordingly, this requires from a specialist high creativity and professionalism interpreting the original message into target language. In addition the translator needs to have high command of the both languages.

Especially literary translation of the text requires researching, invention, resourcefulness, empathy, disclosure of creative individuality from the translator.

The difficulty in translation just lies in the fact that both the content and the style are already existent in the original and as a result, one will have to do ones best to reproduce them as they are in quite a different language.

The most particular problems that the translators face in literary translation include- illegible text, missing references, several constructions of grammar, dialect terms and neologisms, archaic and historical words, untranslatability, particular cultural specific references such as realia.

Along with researching above mentioned problems we tried to focus on the translating binomial pairs of epic poem “Alexander’s wall” as they were broadly used by Navoi. As binomial pairs are being language specific, the translator should carefully study lexical, phonological and semantic features of each pairs both in SL and TL.

Now, before investigating binomial pairs, we should look through the definitions of scholar to them. According to Gustaffson, binomials – as a subcategory of collocation- consist of two words from the same category which are joined with a linguistic link. Like collocations, binomials are mostly language specific. Therefore, getting familiar with binomials for any translator is an important task which is usually overlooked. Binomial is a linguistic phenomenon, which despite its presence and pervasiveness in nearly all languages is an insufficiently researched area and has not received the attention it deserves. Binomials, also known as word-pairs, doublets, twin formulae or freezes, are pairs

of coordinated members of the same grammatical category, e.g. man and wife, to have and to hold, dead or alive, for and against, etc.

THE MAIN PART.

Yakov Malkiel defines binomials as “a sequence of two words pertaining to the same form-class, placed on an identical level of syntactic hierarchy, and ordinarily connected by some kind of lexical link”. Gustafsson, further explains that a binomial consists of two members which are in parallel relation to one another. She distinguishes between irreversible binomials, if the order is fixed, and reversible ones, if it is not. Another distinction is made between formulaic and unformulaic binomials, the difference defined as “the former are permanent and fixed combinations in the language while the latter are temporary but fill the semantic and syntactic requirements” [5; 9]. There is other expressions referring to or used in connection with the term of binomials. In linguistic studies words like repetition and intensification may be found. In a general sense, some do not cover all cases of binomials; on the other hand binomials are considered “only one of the several phenomena of intensification”. Even various modifications of word pair also appear paired words, repetitive word pairs or twin formula (the German term in translation). Bhatia defines such constructions as “a sequence of two or more words or phrases belonging to the same grammatical category having some semantic relationship and joined by some syntactic device such as ‘and’ or ‘or’” present-day lexicographic studies have categorized binomials as fixed expressions or multi-word units[2;108]. Nevertheless, it seems that binomials can be placed on a cline of fixedness: from frozen and irreversible pairs to binomials coined on the spur of the moment, which still display common features with other binomial constructions. The word order of a binomial pair is usually fixed.

The role of fixed expressions in language has become an important focus of study in linguistics, particularly in light of the idiom principle proposed by Sinclair, which implied that a large part of the language we produce is pre-

patterned and formulaic. What follows is that language cannot be solely understood as a product of regular grammar rules paired up with creative and spontaneous vocabulary use. The degree of fixedness in language depends on many factors, but it seems that without the knowledge and appropriate employment of fixed expressions, proficiency in a given language cannot be attained in a satisfactory manner. This is why studies into fixed expressions have mostly originated in the field of language acquisition [10; 46]. Proficiency in specific areas of discourse and in the creation of specific genres also relies on the appropriate use of fixed expressions, including binomials.

Moreover, one of the other characteristic features binomials, which make its acquisition a thorny area for both second language learners and translators, is that they occur almost exclusively in a specific order. The first thing to notice about binomials is that the two main word or better to say conjuncts come from the same word class. The link which joins the two conjuncts mostly is ‘and’, less frequently ‘or’, ‘to’, ‘by’, ‘neither’ and rarely ‘against’, ‘but’, ‘after’ or even sometimes without any lexical link. There are different constraints in translation of binomials and different experts have studied binomials and find a rationale behind binomials and conjunctions. Therefore, it is the translator’s task to find the best strategy for translating binomials.

Here are some of the most common binomials, split into five categories:

1. Binomial pairs joined by ‘and’.
2. Binomial pairs joined by ‘or’.
3. Binomial pairs with alliteration.
4. Rhyming binomial pairs.
5. Binomial pairs joined by other words.

Even if the above-mentioned rules were universal, it would not be surprising that different languages align the conjuncts differently; for, the same notion in two languages is represented by different words with different phonological features. There are some similarities and dissimilarities between Uzbek and English in

forming binomials. In English the words or phrases belonging to the same grammatical category having some semantic relationship are joined by above mentioned ways, while in Uzbek most of them are joined by dash and sometimes with the help of the word ‘ёки’(or) and with some case suffixes. For instance, ‘peace and quiet’- ‘тинч-тотув’, ‘now or never’-‘hozir ёки hech qachon’, ‘one to one’-‘birga-bir’, ‘tit for tat’-‘qonga-qon, jonga-jon’, ‘little by little’-‘oz-ozdan’

Navoi broadly used binomials in his divan of “Hamsa”. There are pairs of adverbs, pairs of nouns as well as pairs of adjectives and pairs of verbs used in “Alexander’s Wall” which translator should find the equivalence of those binomials so that to give naturalness to the text. We can divide the binomials used in “Alexander’s Wall” into following categories when translated:

1. Binomials which fully correspond in meaning, function and form. According to Parts of Speech they are subdivided into groups which contains noun, adjectival and adverbial pairs:

a) Noun pairs are: майда-чуйда(лар)-odds and ends

Уйин-кулги- fun and games;

Йигитлик чоғи- уйин-кулги, роҳат қилиш даври, қарилик эса- меҳнат ва тоат-убодат давридир[1;661].

Youthful is the time to have fun and games while ripe age is the time to work and worship.

қонун-қоидалар- rules and regulations;

асбоб-ускуналар- hammer and nails;

Беҳисоб кемаларни сув устига суриб, уларнинг ичига қанчадан-қанча керакли асбоб-ускуналарни солиб, неча йиллаб сув ичида кезиб юрди[1;579].

He set sail countless ships those carrying more and more necessary hammer and nails and sailed several years in water.

Оқибат-натижа-cause and effect;

Ҳеч кимга бу сирни, яъни менинг келганиму бунинг сабаби ва оқибат-натижасини фош этмасанг экан [1;764].

I wish you didn't reveal anybody the cause and effect of my coming

жон-дили (билан)-body and soul ;

Бир жиҳатдан, ҳоқон унинг қолишини истар, истаргина эмас жон-дилидан илтижа қилар эди [1; 675].

On the other hand, khan wanted him to stay and even begged him with his body and soul.

фойда-зарар, кирим-чиқим-profit and loss;

.. уч йиллик ҳирож шу пайтгача Доронинг кирим-чиқим дафтарига кирмаган ва тушиши лозим бўлган хазинага бориб тушмаган [1;582].

...a three-year tax was neither sent to the treasure nor registered in Darius's profit and loss book.

ғала-ғовур, шовқин-сурон-hustle and bustle ;

Лашкар денгизи шундай тўлқинланиб кетдики, унинг ғала-ғовури осмон авжидан ҳам ошди [1;593].

Troops moved like a wave in the sea, their hustle and bustle grew to the heaven.

Эр-хотин-husband and wife;

b) Adjectival pairs are: қисқа ва мазмунли-short and sweet;

Соғ-саломат-safe and sound;

Тинч-тотув-peace and quiet;

Бу мамлакат халқлари тинчлик-омонликдан маҳрум бўлиб қоладилар [1; 589].

The people of this country lose their peace and quiet life.

Узоқ-яқин-far and wide;

ўликми ё тирик-dead or alive;

Озми-кўп-more or less;

Шу асосда, нимаики бўлса кўпми-озми ҳаммасини арз қилдилар [1;621].

They appealed everything more or less what they had been going to.

c) Adverbial pairs: у ер-бу ерда-here and there;

бот-бот-over and over

Дам-бадам-now and again;

Унинг ғазаб ва изтироби дам-бадам ошиб, ерга ҳам, кўкка ҳам таъна ва ҳақорат ёздирди [1; 593].

He enraged now and again and outraged both the sky and the earth.

Оз-оздан-little by little;

тепага-пастга, - up and down;

уёқдан-буёққа- to and fro.

Об-ҳавонинг ноқулайлиги у ён-бу ёнга юриши ва ҳаракат қилишига монеъ бўлгач, одамлар дам олиб, роҳатланишининг пайидан бўлишади [1;633].

People seek for the place to have a rest and relax if bad weather prevents from moving to and fro.

қадам-бақадам- step by step;

Искандарнинг заройиб ишлари ҳаддан зиёда кўп. Масалан, яъжужлар қаршисига девор ўрнатди, дунёнинг ҳамма ерларини қадам-бақадам ўлчаб чиқди [1;579].

Iskandar did a lot of deeds. For example, he got to build high wall against the attacks of barbarians and achieved to calculate the ground's length by measuring it step by step.

бетма-бет- one to one;

...шаҳардан чиқиб, бетма-бет жанг қиламан [1; 627].

I shall go out the town and fight with him one to one.

d) Verbal pairs: иззат-хурматламоқ-to bow and scrape;

Базмга олимларни чорлаб, уларга кўп мукофотлар берди ва таҳсинлар ўқиди, уларнинг ҳаммасини лутф-эҳсонидан баҳраманд қилди ва иззат-хурмат билан бошларини кўтарди [1;641].

He invited the scholars to the feast so that to grant them with gifts and praised them with bow and scrape.

едириб-ичирмоқ (меҳмон қилмоқ маъносида)- to wine and dine;

2. Binomials which partially correspond either in form or meaning.

Some binomials in Uzbek don't have English corresponding equivalence in form. Even though, the structure is different, the meaning and the function is the same. There are some examples taken from the epic poem:

Қариндош-уруғ- relatives;

Маллунинг қариндош-уруғлари икки-уч кун йиғи-сиғи қилгач, кўз ёши тўкиши ҳам тўхтади.

Mallu' relatives stopped keeping mourning after a few days his funerals

Ота-она- parents;

Авлод-аждод- ancestors;

Опа-сингил, опа-ука, ака-сингил- siblings;

Кийим-кечак- clothes;

Зеб-зийнат-garnishes;

Мол-мулк- property;

Минг-минглаб- thousands

Икки-уч – a few

There are some binomial pairs which of those translations don't correspond if they are translated word for word. One should find the equivalence of those binomials which give the close meaning in target language according to their frequency. For instance: suit and tie- *костюм-шим*(костюм-галстук эмас);

When comparing two languages' possibilities in binomial pairs one is confronted by a number of similarities. Both languages have synonymous and antonymous pairs, reversible and irreversible binomials and rhyming binomials. Synonymous pairs such as 'rules and regulations'- '*қонун-қоидалар*', antonymous pairs such as 'dead or alive'- '*ўликми-тирикми*', repetitive pairs 'more and more'- '*кўндан-кўн*', rhyming binomials 'hustle and bustle'- '*шошиб-пишиб*' manifest our sentences.

"In the typical newspaper headline *Cold and snow grip the nation* it is proper to set off the segment "cold and snow" as a binomial, if one agrees so to

label the sequence of two words pertaining to the same form-class, placed on an identical level of syntactic hierarchy, and ordinarily connected by some kind of lexical link. There is nothing unchangeable or formulaic about this particular binomial: Speakers are at liberty to invert the succession of its members (snow and cold . . .) and may with impunity replace either snow or cold by some semantically related word (say, “wind or ice”). However, in a binomial such as “odds and ends” the situation is different: The succession of its constituents has hardened to such an extent that an inversion of the two kernels--*ends and odds--would be barely understandable to listeners caught by surprise. “Odds and ends”, then, represents the special case of an irreversible binomial” [10; 65].

Most Uzbek binomials also irreversible or we can say they are fixed expressions. The reason what makes binomials irreversible is that there is strict rules to form Uzbek binomials:

1. Using dash between pairs: “*идиш-товоқ*”- pots and pans;
2. Adding suffixes to the second part: “*МИНГ-МИНГЛАБ*”-thousands, “*оздан*”-little by little;
3. Using less notional or less general word in the second part, “*майда-чуйда*”-“odds and ends”.

CONCLUSION.

If we inverse their places there would appear confusions to understand the full meaning and misusing the grammar according to linguistic norms. For instance, the binomials “*идиш-товоқ*” is used for all types of “dishes” (*plate, cup, spoon, fork, pot*) and renders to plurality in Uzbek. *Товоқ ва идиш* is used when speaker doesn’t mean all the types of dishes, but only two types of *for shallow container of pottery*. And in this situation they are not binomials.

As we have mentioned above, in some binomials in Uzbek there are used meaningless word in the second part in order to give a rhyming sound to the first part. As a rule notional word must be put in the first part. Otherwise, we can spoil

the meaning by using incorrect grammar rules. In “*майда-чуйда*”, *майда* means small, minor, limited size. The word “*чуйда*” doesn’t exist in Uzbek as an independent word. It can be only used with the word “*майда*” as binomial pairs. In Uzbek this type of formation mostly occurs in rhyming binomial pairs in order to exaggerate the sentence expressed.

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