

Oil and the Tatar Language: on Loan-Words in the Oil Industry Lexicon (Etymological Aspect)

¹Danija A. Salimova, ²Ajnur A. Timerkhanov and ³Gulsarija I. Minnebaeva

¹Branch of Kazan (Volga region) Federal University in Elabuga, Russia, Republic of Tatarstan, 423600, Elabuga, Kazanskaja Street, 89

²G. Ibragimov Institute of Language, Literature and Art, Russia, Republic of Tatarstan, 420111, Kazan, Lobachevski Street, 2/31

³Kazan Branch of the Russian Academy of Justice, Russia, Republic of Tatarstan, 420088, Kazan, 2nd Azinskaja Street, 7a

Abstract: The article discusses a comparatively new part of the Tatar vocabulary related to the oil industry. On the basis of a large number of examples from the dictionaries, pieces of literature and Internet resources the authors describe the basic genetic groups of oil industry lexicon, specify characteristics of the donating language. It is concluded that along with enrichment and diversification of the technical terminology in Tatar, the oil industry lexicon has also contributed to the aggravation of the process of rejecting by the Tatar language its own roots. The authors tend to consider it a natural and logical process of language development.

Key words: Loan-Words • Oil Industry Lexicon • Donor Language • Etymological Layers • Language Development • Vocabulary Enrichment • Internationalization of the Language • Language Preservation

INTRODUCTION

Appeal to the pressing issues of application and functioning of a language in a particular discourse is due to the intensive development of the contemporary linguistics. In this context, specification and improving its fundamental theoretical concepts and models are quite natural. Of special significance are individual descriptions of particular linguistic facts and certain language systems subjected to detailed systematic and descriptive study in the last decades [1-6, etc.]. Tatar is exactly among them [7, 8, etc.]. The urgency is also stimulated by the fact that a special space in linguistic research is given to understanding language as a cultural phenomenon and as a specific form of existence of human being and society in the world [9-11, etc.]. This point is conceptually important in terms of investigating the vocabulary. Therefore, there is no doubt as for the relevance of the given research since loan-words in Tatar are the result of both historical and cultural contacts between the Tatars and other

peoples and on the whole of scientific and technical progress of Russia in the 20th-beginning of the 21st century.

For the last decades in a row oil remains the main source of Russia's budget. So the interest being displayed by the science both in the oil industry and the linguistic framing of the sphere, i.e. in the vocabulary related to oil is quite natural [12, 13, etc.]. It's also logically justified since economy and production to a great extent determine the language development as well, especially its lexical system.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The primary focus of the paper is loan-words used within the Tatar oil industry lexicon (abbrev. TOIL). Our goal is as following: 1) to determine the role and place of loan-words in general lexical system of the Tatar language; 2) to identify the main etymological layers of the lexicon; 3) to outline the basic functional contours of

Corresponding Author: Danija A. Salimova, Branch of Kazan (Volga region) Federal University in Elabuga, Russia, Republic of Tatarstan, 423600, Elabuga, Kazanskaja Street, 89.

the given lexicon. So, the loan-words are discussed in terms of identifying and describing their etymology, structural and functional characteristics. The basic data for the analysis came from dictionaries [12-14], the press, websites in Tatar as well as from the works of contemporary Tatar writers describing the life and work of people involved in oil industry.

The starting point for our analysis was the data gained from quick survey that we had conducted during the travels and business trips to such countries as the United States, Germany, Austria, Spain, France, Hungary, Bulgaria, Turkey, Egypt, China. 200 residents (20 from each of 10 different countries) were asked to answer the only question: "What are the five key words that you think describe Russia and Tatarstan?". The respondents from different countries proved to be remarkably consecutive naming "Pushkin", "Putin", "oil", "gas", "vodka" and less regularly "Moscow", "poor", "roads", "good". The results have demonstrated that Russia and oil, Tatarstan and oil are indivisible not just for Russia as a whole, but also for linguistic consciousness of citizens of other states.

Causes for Borrowing a Word: Borrowing terms is recognized by researchers as one of the active ways of enlarging terminological system of specific area of knowledge. The following causes for borrowing are given by linguists: a) linguistic (related to lack of nomination of a new scientific concept or phenomenon in the native language); b) extralinguistic (related to the necessity to develop new knowledge as well as to the issue of internationalization of the terminology aimed at improving the quality of communication); c) socio-psychological (defining the loan-term as more "scientific", "prestigious" compared to its equivalent in the native language); d) aesthetic (showing how "fashionable" this or that lexical unit is).

As long as linguistics has been known as a science, there have always been two diametrically opposite attitudes to loan-words: one has stated that loan-words were logical and highly effective way of enriching the vocabulary of the language. The other has asserted that loan-words cluttered up the language and that it was necessary to give preference to using own lexical potential of the language as much as possible. In linguistics of the 21st century, the century of integration and convergence, both the viewpoints are not devoid of logic. Borrowing contributes to the enrichment

of the recipient language vocabulary. As a rule, words of foreign origin follow the rules of phonetics, grammar and word formation of the recipient language and only in a few cases do they remain as "foreign elements". However, unjustified and frequent use of foreign words clutters up the language. Moreover, it contributes to rejection by native speakers their own historical memory.

Loan-Words Within the Tatar Oil Industry Lexicon: Oil industry is one of the most advanced fields of the Russian economy. That's why oil industry lexicon on the whole and that of the Tatar language in particular makes up a developed system of terms where loans constitute a significant share. The existence of a great number of loans is considered one of the basic properties of terminological systems that emerged as a result of serious advancement in science and technology. The loan-terms in the given lexicon were identified based on the analysis of the terms from bilingual dictionaries in the given area of knowledge. According to the linguistic data analysed, the number of terms borrowed directly from Russian or indirectly via Russian makes up 30% of the investigated lexical corpus. The loan translations (calques) are about 40%. Original vocabulary makes up about 30%.

Foreign Inclusions and Assimilated Words: Within the given lexicon, there can be distinguished foreign inclusions, *i.e.* words and phrases that keep foreign image (spelling and pronunciation) and assimilated words. The exception is the vocabulary of Arabic-Persian origin which was borrowed as a result of direct contacts of the Tatar population with the representatives of the eastern states in the process of commercial, economic, cultural and military relations.

- Foreign inclusions: gabbro (< It. gabbro 'group name of melanocratic intrusive basic rocks'); gargarite (< Eng. gargarite (vogesite containing augite and hornblende)), cement (< Eng. cement < Lat. cement), etc. [15, 16].
- Assimilated words. These words are not only always expressed by graphic and phonetic means of the Tatar language, but also have quite assimilated, non-exotic meaning. They serve as a source for numerous derivatives commonly used in Tatar. For example: borys 'beam', beghe 'crowbar', kajla 'hack', kanau 'ditch', etc. [13].

Priority of loan-terms observed at the initial stage of oil industry lexicon development is neutralized as they've entered the system of the Tatar language. Along with that, there appear Tatar equivalents that substitute some of the loan-words. For example: dekol'matatsiya 'decolmatage'-yudyrtu, drencher 'drencher'-borketkech, impedans 'impedance'-karshylyk, kabotazh 'cabotage'-yoresh, kavern 'cavern'-kouishlyk, klemma 'terminal'-kyskych, kompressiya 'compression'-tyghyzlau, kronshtein 'bracket'-kolaksa, eksikator 'exicator', desiccator'-kiptergech, elivator 'elevator'-kutargech, etc. [13]. This process is considered positive and worth supporting in every possible way.

Loans with Various Source Languages: In historical context, Arabic and Persian loan-words can be regarded as an important factor in the formation and development of the Tatar language vocabulary. They gradually entered Standard Tatar and many of them have lost their "foreignness" for the contemporary Tatar speakers.

We've identified the following Arabic and Persian loans that have contributed to the TOIL: almaz 'diamond' (< Arab. elmaas 'diamond' < Anc. Gr. Ádamas 'indestructible' [17]; maghdan 'ore, metal' (< Arab. ma'din 'metal' [18: 350]; meydan 'area' (< Arab. meydaan 'area'): gazly meydan 'gas-bearing area'; neft 'oil' (< Tur. neft, < Pers. naft); noor 'light', ray' (< Arab. nur 'light', ray'): alpha-nur 'alpha-ray'; senaghat 'industry' (< Arab. sana'at 'industry'): boraulau senaghat 'drilling industry', neft'-gaz chygharu senaghat 'oil and gas industry'.

The layer of borrowed vocabulary within the TOIL has genetically been heterogeneous. It is obvious that a significant part of it is made up of the words that came from Western European languages. In this respect, one should emphasize the role of Russian as the main mediator in the process of term borrowing, as in most cases borrowings enter the Tatar language in phonetic-graphic form peculiar to Russian.

The analysis of numerous cases of borrowing indicate that the greatest influence on the composition of the TOIL has been and is still being made by English. This is due to a number of factors (history of starting oil extraction; leading role of the English-speaking countries in international politics, economics, etc.). But the most evident fact is that English has been increasingly used in various fields of communication, thereby establishing globally its status as a lingua franca. So this cannot but influence the way other languages in the world have been developing and therefore various terminology in these languages.

We've identified the following words of English origin used within the TOIL: ammonal 'ammonal', bazal't 'basalt, bitum 'bitumen', kreking 'cracking', paker 'packer', plounzher 'plunger', tanker 'tanker', etc.

The following lexical units are borrowed from German, with Russian usually serving as a mediator: bremsberg 'brake [rope] incline', vahta 'guard, guards', groont 'basis, soil', shpindel 'spindle', shourf 'shaft', etc.

There are also a number of French borrowings used within the TOIL: amortizator 'shock absorber', balansir 'balancer', barbotazh 'barbotage, bubbling', drenazh 'drainage', rezervuar 'réservoir', tamponazh 'plugging', etc.

The Dutch loans that came into the TOIL via Russian are as following: kabel 'cable', machta 'mast', trap 'trap', tros 'wire rope, cable', etc.

There are few borrowings from: a) Italian: granit 'granite', brekchiya 'breccia', brutto 'brutto', fontan 'fontain; oil-gusher';

- Polish: vint 'screw; rotor';
- Spanish: karbonado 'black carbon' (carbonado < Lat. carbo 'coal'); the term forming element servo- 'auxiliary; self-regulating': servokuchergech 'servodrive', servozhajlanma 'servomechanism'.

English, German and French are the most active donor languages traditionally performing also a role of intermediaries for borrowing the words of Latin and Greek origin. For example, such lexemes as colonna 'column', fond 'fund', rezhim 'regime', model' 'model', fil'tr 'filter', rezervuar 'reservoir', etc. are Latinisms that came via French into Russian and then into Tatar. Tsirkulyatsiya 'circulation', perforatsiya 'perforation' found their way into many languages thanks to intermediary "mission" of English. The neft 'oil' is a Greek word which most evidently came into Tatar from Persian via Turkish.

It is worth noting that in this case we are talking about the formation of an international vocabulary, which is determined by the needs for developing the science, along with it becoming standard vocabulary for literary languages of the world including for the Tatar language. This is explained by the fact that due to certain historical conditions the lexical systems of the Greek and Latin languages proved to be an effective basis for the creation of terminological systems in various branches of knowledge including the oil industry lexicon. Using Greco-Latin roots as terminoelements in creation of new terms is an effective way to expand and improve terminological base of the world languages, contributing

significantly to facilitation of communication and information exchange by specialists from different countries.

By their origin, the following terms used within the TOIL go back to ancient Greek stems: gips ‘gypsum’, gorizont ‘horizon; level’, zona ‘zone’, sistema ‘system’, etc.

Of Latin origin are also the following loans used within the given discourse in Tatar: absorbtisija ‘absorption’, vibrator ‘vibrator’, detonator ‘detonator’, akkumliator ‘accumulator’, korrozija ‘corrosion’, elevator ‘elevator’.

Some bilingual dictionaries of industrial terminology offer a descriptive translation of a number of loan-words in Tatar, e.g. virazh ‘toes biru syeqchasy’ (colour liquid) [13] ‘toning’. However, they hardly ever occur in these forms in Tatar texts.

Parallel Use of Tatar and Russian Oil Terms: The TOIL can’t be viewed in isolation from general oil industry terminology and from that of Russian in particular, as they are closely linked not only on the basis of a significant common semantics but also in the sense of their vector of further development. Russian borrowings are most numerous and very diverse in terms of semantics. They express different concepts. Within the given discourse in Tatar they are most frequently used to indicate: names of tools, appliances, equipment and their parts, e.g.: keleshche ‘pincers, pliers’, shoerep ‘screw’, vyshka ‘derrick, tower’, etc.; names of substances, e.g.: deget ‘tar’, sumala ‘tar’, seler ‘diesel fuel’, etc.

Another important point is an active parallel use along with such Tatar terms as gazchy ‘gas worker’, boraulauchy ‘drillman’, neft’che ‘oilman’ of their Russian variants gazovik, burovik, neftjanik which are more typical of the spoken language. The examples of their use (that fall outside the article) in pieces of popular contemporary Tatar literature eloquently demonstrate that the Russian variants of the given terms are more common in modern speech as well as in belles-lettres.

The Russian borrowings that haven’t changed their phonetic form include such units as tjagach ‘tractor’, rudnik ‘mine’, zakleypka ‘rivet’, zapal ‘fuse’, zapas ‘reserve’, zolotnik ‘valve’, vezdekhod ‘cross-country vehicle’, vyshka ‘derrick’, burovoj ‘boring’, etc.

The process of formation of TOIL is synchronous with that of the Russian language but it is also distinguished by phonetic and syntactic word-formation features, which are unique to Tatar. This very fact makes our analysis of loan-words in TOIL conditional, because Grecisms, Latinisms and other European “word-aliens”

have made their way to Tatar via Russian and the statement that Tatar receives a particular lexeme from English or French will not be fair. However, the coverage of the given topic in this perspective makes it possible to state the following. Thanks to new borrowings in oil industry lexicon, the Tatar language has become: a) more “technological”; b) more international; c) undoubtedly richer. At the same time, we have to admit that the advancement of oil industry and active introduction of new oil vocabulary into our speech have all made language more vulnerable in terms of preservation of native origins and roots that spread out in the infinite stream of neolexemes which are so active and frequent in the speech of present-day workers and engineers. Their primary goal is not preservation of Tatar but extraction of a larger volume of production. Putting it figuratively, the more we work in this field (extract oil and sell it), the more internationalisms make their way to the orbit of our mother tongue and unfortunately, this results in more problems with the Tatar vocabulary itself. In the age of globalization, universalization and integration, this process is irreversible. Therefore, we should pay special attention to the issues of preserving the language both from social and scientific-industrial, historical-cultural points of view. It’s time we expanded the range of issues, directed the beam of interests into a new vector, which combines traditional understanding of the specifics of language systems and new scientific knowledge about the language as a cultural code of nations [19: 96].

CONCLUSION

With all of this, one cannot but admit that namely the TOIL, even though not all together made up of loan-words quite typical of Tatar, is regarded systematic and ordered, without the risk of being threatened by more dangerous problem a tendency of flourishing of Russian (Tatar) newspeak of the early 21st century. We should do our best to preserve the language but not struggling against foreign words, otherwise it would just prevent the language from a valid development.

Modern Tatar, its oil lexicon, in particular, is the focus and mouthpiece of people's life, its spirit and mood and looking inside the deeper structure of the vocabulary of language makes it possible to tell the tendencies that will dominate in the language in the coming decades. Interdisciplinary approach combining in itself a stern look of a stylist-linguist, of an energetic production worker-an oilman, of a sociologist and historian-such is the angle of analysis of neolexemes in the Tatar language.

Abbreviations

Anc. Gr.	-	Ancient Greek
Arab.	-	Arabic
Eng.	-	English
Ger.	-	German
It.	-	Italian
Pers.	-	Persian
TOIL	-	the Tatar oil industry lexicon
Tur.	-	Turkish

REFERENCES

- Vergaro, C., 2002. Dear Sirs, what would you do if you were in our position? Discourse strategies in Italian and English money chasing letters. *Journal of Pragmatics*, 34: 1211-1233.
- Jones, R., 2007. Loan-words in Indonesian and Malay. Leiden: KITLV Press, pp: 357.
- Alex, B., A. Dubey and F. Keller, 2007. Using Foreign Inclusion Detection to Improve Parsing Performance In Proceedings of the Joint Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing and Computational Natural Language Learning 2007, Prague. Pp: 151-160.
- Apresjan, Ju. D., 2009. Research in semantics and lexicography. *Paradigmatika. V. I.* Moscow: Shkola «Jazyki slavjanskih kul'tur», pp: 568.
- Kuprienko, S.V., 2012. Modern linguistics and cross-cultural communication. Odessa, pp: 119.
- Stuart, D., N. Tsujimura and J. Tu, 2012. Toward a Taxonomy of Loanword Prosody. *Catalan Journal of Linguistics*, 11: 13-39.
- Ahunzjanov, Je. M., 1968. Russian loans in Tatar. Publication of Kazan University, pp: 366.
- Abdullin, E.M., 2007. English loanwords layer of modern Tatar literary language: Ph.D. thesis. Kazan State University. Date Views 20.12.2013 www.dissercat.com/content/angliiskii.
- Vezhbickaja, A., 1999. Semantic universals and the description of languages. Moscow: Languages of Russian culture, pp: 263-305.
- Vorob'ev, V.V., 2006. Cultural linguistics. Moscow: Publishing House Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, pp: 330.
- Geng, X., 2009. An Analysis of the Cultural Phenomena in English and its Translation. *Asian Social Science*, 5(12): 141-144. Date Views 25.12.2013 www.ccsenet.org/journal.html.
- RTSNP, 1996. Russian-Tatar dictionary for workers in oil industry. Kazan, pp: 134.
- RTNS, 2004. Russian-Tatar dictionary of oil industry vocabulary. Kazan, pp: 415.
- TTAS, 1977-1981. Tatar Explanatory Dictionary. Kazan, pp: 1-3.
- SISV, 2000. Dictionary of Foreign Words and Phrases. Moscow, pp: 784.
- ITSIS, 2008. Illustrated Explanatory Dictionary of Foreign Words. Moscow: Eksmo, pp: 864.
- BRE, 1999. Big Russian Encyclopedia. Date Views 30.09.2013 www.dic.academic.ru/dic.nsf/enc3p/75674
- BARS, 2010. Large Arabic-Russian dictionary: 250000 words and combinations of words. Moscow: "Dom slavianskoj knigi", pp: 640.
- Salimova, D.A. and A.A. Timerkhanov, 2012. The Issues of Bi- and Polylingualism in the Context of Language Education in the Republic of Tatarstan. *Humanities and Education*, 3(11): 92-96.
- Minnebaeva, G.I., 2012. Oil industry lexicon in contemporary Tatar, Ph.D. thesis, G. Ibragimov Institute of Language, Literature and Art, Kazan.