
Foreign Words in Legal Texts and Modern Tatar Colloquial Speech in the General Laws

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Abstract

In order to maintain the strength and authenticity of the official language of the country as one of the elements of the national identity, the legislative, executive and judicial bodies of the country and organizations, companies and government institutions and all the companies whose names are required to be included in the general laws and regulations are obliged to use It is forbidden to use foreign words in reports and correspondence, speeches, official interviews, and also to use these words on all domestic products, including government and non-government sectors, that are offered inside the country. However, foreign words are used in conversations. The article is concerned with the specifics of the use of foreign vocabulary in the modern Tatar colloquial speech. Having existed for a long time in the midst of various languages, the Tatar language borrowed lexical units of neighboring peoples, the most part of those units being utilized in colloquial speech. At present, foreignisms, borrowed from Russian and through it from other European languages, take a special place in the speech of the Tatars. The research paper presents the functions of foreign lexis in colloquial speech according to the analysis of 548 audio tracks by means of a complex of scientific methods. The analyzed materials include fragments of oral speech of the representatives of the Tatar ethnos both from the countryside and cities, being of different social status, age and level of education. The analysis revealed that the Tatar colloquial speech is strongly influenced by the Russian language. One the one hand, foreign linguistic units are less widespread in the speech of the older generation, but on the other hand, the speech of the younger generation reveals the scope of their penetration into the Tatar language. It was also stated that the modern Tatar colloquial speech experiences the tendencies of forming speech innovations which are the result of mixture of the means of Russian and Tatar. They can interact both on the level of a separate word or on the level of a phrase or a sentence. Alongside with native Tatar words and expressions, the elements of Russian colloquial speech penetrate into Tatar and function in adapted or non-adapted form.

Key words: foreign words, legal texts, the tatar language, colloquial speech, lexis, borrowings, Foreignism.

Introduction

Modern linguistics witnesses intense interest in studying natural speech. This is due to a number of factors, the practical focus of studying colloquial speech being one of them. Successful communication is not limited to mastering only the standard language, for many aspects of speech communication are revealed in the process of speaking through linguistic and extra linguistic peculiar properties. Informal speech being the primary form of a language, it is the first to reflect the main tendencies of development and changes of the language; afterwards the most adoptable forms and variants penetrate into the literary language.

It is generally accepted that no culture, including a language, cannot exist in an enclosed space without contacts with

other cultures. Nations inhabiting the Volga region historically live in an environment of cultural and linguistic interaction resulting in identical themes and motives of folklore, as well as myths, legends, fairy tales and songs [1: 248]. A great number of common linguistic units are present in the sprachraum. Language contact is one of the most important ways of the evolution of any language. In many respects it is contingent on the social and economic conditions of living of the native speakers of the languages in contact.

In recent times in the Tatar linguistics, many research papers present studies of language contacts and bilingualism, the most challenging of them, according to our reckoning, being the scientific effort by such authors as A.Kh. Ashrapova, R.R. Zamaletdinov [2]; A.Sh.Yusupova, G.R. Mugtasimova [3]; V.V. Aniferova, Z.N. Kirillova [4]; G.R. Galiullina, Kh. Kh. Kuzmina, G.K. Khadieva [5], L.K. Bayramova [6], Z.A. Iskhakova [7] and others.

The influence of other languages is mostly reflected in oral speech. It is part of social being of people, a precondition of human society's existence. In modern conditions, the Tatar language, and its colloquial speech in particular, experiences the strong influence of the Russian language, through which it accepts a great number of European vocabulary, mainly English and American units, functioning on a large scale in oral speech.

This research paper is aimed at studying the functioning of foreign lexis in the modern Tatar oral speech. The emphasis is upon foreignisms. The term is understood as «lexical units preserving their foreign shape and being used on a quite regular basis» [8: 258]. The Tatar colloquial speech is abundant with unique foreignisms, which were borrowed from Russian and are the result of bilingualism.

Methods

The results of the present study are based upon 548 audio tracks, the records of Middle and West dialects of the Tatar language, as well as phonograms of oral speech of the representatives of the Tatar ethnos both from the countryside and cities, being of different social status, age and level of education. The gathered materials are quite heterogeneous due to the diversity of circumstances of the reordered acts of communication.

The analysis of the factual materials included a complex of methods and techniques specific for branches of linguistics. For gathering factual material the methods of observation and language experiment were used. Studying and generalization of the data were conducted through the method of description. Continuous sampling method was used to collect the language means from oral speech. For comparing and aligning intra- and extra-linguistic phenomena, for interpreting the results and defining the speech phenomena under examination contrastive and comparative method was applied. Studying the material implied the methods of synchronic analysis. Social and linguistic analysis was used to define the extent of penetration of the foreign language vocabulary into the literary language.

Results and Discussion

The modern Tatar colloquial speech makes a large use of units from Russian and a number of other European languages. Actually they are widespread in the speech of all social groups and are subject to various phonetic and grammar changes. The use of non-adapted variants of foreign lexis is witnessed in the speech of representatives of the bilingual environment and having a higher educational attainment. In the speech of countryside inhabitants and the middle layer of urbanites there is a prevailing tendency to adapt such lexis to pronunciation standards of Tatar: *byrach* for *vrach*, *ouchyryt* for *ochered'*, *nichava* for *nichego*, *voupshym/oupshym/gypchim* for *voobshche*, *loutchy* for *louchshe*, *abazatelne* for *obyazatel'no*, and so on.

Among the most widespread peculiar features is the substitution in the speech of the Tatar words with the Russian equivalents: ***Kak hallar?***; *Min zur nagruzka belan eshlim*; *Bir, pozhalujsta / pazhalysty*; ***lyuboj sorauga ačavap birəm***; *bygen nastroeniem yuk*; ***svezhij ipi al əle*** and others. Quite often there is concomitant use of palatalized variants of Russian and European borrowings: *agranom – agranum – əgrənym*; *otkrytka – ətkritkə*, *kartinka – kərtinkə* and others.

As our analysis revealed, at present time the use of Russian words and expressions occurs even in the speech of the countryside inhabitants whose crucial language is Tatar, being their mother-tongue. The reasons for this interfering into the Tatar colloquial speech lie deeper than the linguistic abilities and are directly connected with psychological and sociocultural factors.

On the basis of the analysis of the most widespread foreign units we made an attempt to define the functions that they fulfill in speech.

In essence, such units fulfill the nominative function. In case of the gap of naming of a phenomenon or a thing in the mother-tongue, as well as in case of the existing naming being too long or demanding extra explanation, an active bilingual person, proficient in two languages, makes use of the Russian lexical unit, the most convenient for communication. For example: *Үзеңнең zaryadniguy qaja soñ sineñ, əni?* / *Кызым, eshtə onyтыр қалдырғанмын*

zaryadnigymny (females, age: 20 and 52); *Əjdə minem gitara bar, ime, ber strunasy juq tol'ko* (male, age: 25); *Sotovyjyunny birep tor əle, yzəmneke əjdə qalzan* (female, age: 18); *Apajnyu davleniese ujnuy əle bu arada* (female, age: 48) and so on.

There is a large group of lexis functioning in the colloquial speech, which is used as part of speaking etiquette and expresses consent or denying. As noted by Z.A. Iskhakova, «Russian lexis, often used in dialogues, is of expressive character and enriches the speech with liveliness. In some cases, it is safe to assume that the use of some Russian lexical interspersing is bound with the existing opinion that certain notions are expressed in Russian in a more exact and concise way than in Tatar» [9: 142]. Such words, according to the definition of the author, are called «interspersing, reflecting the foreign-language expressiveness».

In modern Tatar speech we often witness the use of forms of greetings and farewell borrowed from Russian, namely: *privet: – Ilzija, privet. – Sələm, Ləjlysh. Bu jallarda nishlədeñ?* (females, age: 20 and 22); *poka, pokalar: Jarar, poka; Poka, irtəgəgə qədər; Pokalar sezgə* and others.

Over the last decades, in the Tatar colloquial speech the frequency of performance of the word *davaj* (Tatar equivalent - *əjdə*, in certain cases, depending on the context - *yarar*) have been growing. In Russian this word, fulfilling the function of a modal particle, designates determination or incentive [10: 52]. In the Tatar oral speech, the word *davaj* is used in forms of farewell: *Bəlki berər charasy tabylır. / Ooo, əjbət bulyriy, davaj, irtəgəgə qədər.* (females, age: 19 and 20); *Ladno togda, davaj, kitem min. / Ladno, alajsa, davaj.* (female, age: 32 and 50); *Jaryj, davaj, poka. / Jaryj, rəhmət* (female, age: 23, male, age: 25); *Jarar atu, jəštəsh, isənlektə / Jarar, pokalar* (male, age: 45) and others.

The most widespread in the speech are such constructions, as: *davaj, poka!; davaj, irtəgəgə qədər; davaj, kergələp tor; davaj, kyreshkəncel!; davaj, sau bul; davajte sau bulygyz* and others.

It is to be noted that in the dialogical speech the word *davaj* is mostly used in the meaning of incentive and reinforcement: *Davaj, irtəgə kinoza barabyz; Jarar, alajsa, kitem min. / Davaj; Hokkejza baru – minem ber hyjal ul, dustym. Minem əle ber tapqyr da barzan yuk. Alla bojyrsa, baryrza kirək. / Davaj-davaj, jaña sezon bashlanğach, Alla bojyrsa, baryrbyz; Min siña jul uñajynnan kerep chyzarmyn əle. / Əjbət bulyriy* (bulyr ide), *davaj* and so on.

As the demonstrated above examples show, despite the existence of equivalents, the Tatar speech makes an active use of foreign lexis. Its functional activity cannot be explained only by the respondents' restricted knowledge of their mother-tongue, by the circumstances of communication or by the absence of convenient communicative and informative equivalents in the mother-tongue. By no means all of the cases can be explained by these factors, quite the opposite, they attest that in the Tatar language the lexical interference is common for the Tatar language speakers, it is systemic in language and speech. In our opinion, in the Tatar-Russian bilingual environment lexical interference is the indicator of both interpenetrations of the languages and deviation from the standard language, which gradually changes the language. It is also an indicator of versatility of the limits between these two languages in the active bilingual environment.

One of the particular features of the Tatar colloquial speech is the use of words and expressions of the European languages. As it occurs in many other languages, in Tatar the most active are the English loan words. This feature penetrated from Russian, but in the Tatar language community it is of specific character. From the 90-s of the XX-th century up to the modern days the frequency of using the English loan words has been gradually growing in the speech of young people: *YUtube* (*youtube*) *video qarap utyra idem; Komp'yuterda nider eshli; sin instagramza* (*Instagram*) *nərsə eler kijdüy? Vebkañny qush, həzər skajp* *asha shaltyratam* and so on. In everyday colloquial speech are frequently used such lexical units, as *boss, tusovka, tok-shoou, shooumen, teleshoou, baksy* and others; *kinder* (*kinder*), *danslau* (*to dance*), *respekt* (*respect*), *diskətyk, sorri* (*sorry*) and so on.

Most of lexical interspersing penetrating the oral speech do not keep their basic meaning, but acquire figurative meaning: *dzhoker, bebi, blyuz, butsy* and others. Notably these secondary, reconceived meanings become actual in the colloquial speech, as the basic, direct meanings are expressed by existing native lexical units. For example, the word *supermen* penetrated into Tatar in the meaning of «a character of detective stories or comics with extraordinary powers which make him invincible». With increasing frequency this word is used as a sarcastic designation of a person - «superhuman, convinced in his superiority over others». In recent times such words as *superbala, supermalaj* are also used in oral Tatar speech.

Undoubtedly, most of the units, functioning in the colloquial speech, are foreignisms, and their use in the speech can be explained by the trends in the Russian and Tatar languages as well as by striving to enhance the emotiveness and expressivity of the speech. These are the examples of students' dialogues: *İmtihan soraularyn VKza qıbarermen jəme. Okej; Sin anuy instasyn kyrdeñme? / Jooq, nərsə anda? / Eto vashchee! Super!* Alongside with English interspersings Russian ones are also used: *VK, eto vashshee.*

Thus, the Tatar colloquial speech is exposed to a profound influence of the Russian language. The interspersings are less widespread in the speech of the older generation, but the speech of the younger generation reveals the scope of

their penetration into the Tatar language.

Summary

The modern Tatar language individual is existing in the environment of active bilingualism, and lexical units of Tatar and Russian form a unique collection in his speech. In the process of speaking this collection is used in a conscious or unconscious way for designating the phenomena of external reality or with emotional and expressive purpose. Despite the presence of the equivalents in the Tatar language, foreign lexis is actively used. Its functional activity cannot be explained only by the respondents' restricted knowledge of their mother-tongue, by the circumstances of communication or by the absence of convenient communicative and informative equivalents in the mother-tongue. By no means all of the cases can be explained by these factors, quite the opposite, they attest that in the Tatar language the lexical interference is common for the Tatar language speakers, it is systemic in language and speech. Our conclusion consists in reckoning that in the Tatar-Russian bilingual environment lexical interference is the indicator of both interpenetrations of the languages and deviation from the standard language, which gradually brings changes into the language. It is also an indicator of versatility of the limits between these two languages in the active bilingual environment.

Our studies revealed the fact that the Tatar colloquial speech is strongly influenced by the Russian language. On the one hand, the interspersing is less widespread in the speech of the older generation, but on the other hand, the speech of the younger generation reveals the scope of loan words penetration into the Tatar language.

Conclusions

The conducted research revealed that the modern Tatar colloquial speech experiences the tendencies of forming speech innovations which are the result of mixture of the means of Russian and Tatar. They can interact both on the level of a separate word or on the level of a phrase or a sentence. Alongside with native Tatar words and expressions, the elements of Russian colloquial speech penetrate into Tatar and function in some adapted or non-adapted form.

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