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Abstract

Each text is translated based on its topic. General, specialized, official, legal and commercial texts are among the most used translated texts. A translator who translates legal texts must have sufficient skills in this field and be aware of the legal laws of both countries. Legal translation is one of the most difficult translations possible. The smallest mistake in the translation of legal documents can have irreparable effects. The article is devoted to the study of one of the most difficult problems of word formation in the Russian language, in the solution of which the authors rely on the linguistic tradition and adhere to the positions of the Kazan linguistic school. The object of the research is nouns with a zero suffix with the meaning of an acting person (*nomen agentis*) in Russian. The purpose of the research is to show deep internal connections of some lexemes with a group of words, systemic relationships between various word-formative groups. The study was carried out within the works of historical lexicology and historical word formation and implements two goals: identification of systemic relationships between different word-formation groups; consideration of the history of some words and groups of words in etymological and comparative aspects. The main research methods include: theoretical analysis of scientific literature, the method of language analysis, structural and semantic analysis of language material, comparative and statistical methods. Nouns with a zero suffix with the meaning *nomen agentis* include nouns with the meaning of an active producer of an action, nouns in which a person is defined as an object of action from the outside, nouns with a meaning of positive and negative qualities. *Nomen agentis* can denote both the occasional producer of an action and a person who performs an action frequently or constantly. Consideration of the peculiarities of formations of zero suffixation with the meaning of a person during the XI-XX centuries allows us to assert that the productivity of zero suffixation in the formation of nouns with the meaning of a person decreases. The analysis of linguistic facts makes it possible to present a long and difficult way of development of names with the meaning of an acting person in Russian and Slavic languages.

Keywords: Legal text, legal issues, law, zero suffix, nouns with zero suffix, *nomen agentis*, Derivational type.

Introduction

In the modern Russian literary language, in the process of word formation of nouns, various types of the

morphological way of word production are used. The most productive type of word formation is suffixation, which shows itself in different word-formation types in different ways. For example, when forming nouns with the meaning of action, the most often used are the zero suffix and the suffix *-niye* (*khod* "move", *khozhdeniye* "walk"); when forming nouns with the meaning of a person, the suffixes *-nik*, *-shchik*, *-tel* are mainly used.

Therefore, for the modern Russian literary language, nouns such as *posol* "ambassador", *prorok* "prophet", *otrok* "boy", *pristav* "bailiff", and *chvan* "snob" are unusual in terms of structure. They are similar in their structure and meaning (meaning of the person), but differ:

a) by their word-formative connections and structure, some are associated with the verb, and in this regard, they allocate a zero suffix, others do not have such a connection and are in modern Russian language non-derivative; still others have an unstable connection with verbs: the word *posol* "ambassador" in the meaning of "a confidant of one state in another" is not associated with a verb, but in the meaning of "messenger" has such a connection;

b) in terms of style, a *prorok* "prophet" is a term, from the point of view of evaluation it has a neutral characteristic, a *trus* "coward" is an emotionally evaluative word, a *izverg* "monster" can be used both with a neutral, and with an emotional and assessed connotation;

c) in terms of usage, *izverg* "monster", an *posol* "ambassador", *trus* "coward" are common in the modern literary language, and the *otrok* "boy" and the *pristav* "bailiff" are noted in the dictionaries of the modern language as outdated.

If we turn to the materials of modern Slavic languages, we can find that the method of zero suffixation in the formation of nouns with the meaning of a person, although it does not qualify as productive, still manifests itself to a sufficient extent. Nouns with the meaning of a person with a zero suffix are common in all Slavic languages.

The purpose of the study is to show the deep internal connections of individual lexemes with a group of words, systemic relationships between various derivational groups using the example of nouns with a zero suffix with the meaning of an acting person; to consider the specified word-formation group in the historical plan with the involvement facts of dialects and related Slavic languages.

Methods

The main research methods include: theoretical analysis of scientific literature on the topic, the method of linguistic analysis, structural and semantic analysis of linguistic material, comparative and statistical methods.

Based on the theoretical analysis of the scientific literature on the topic [1, 2, 3, 4], we identified the main works on historical word formation, clarified the terminological and conceptual features of the research metalanguage as a tool for linguistic analysis. The method of continuous sampling made it possible to form an empirical base of research and to compile a voluminous collection of linguistic material. Based on the method of linguistic analysis, we described the main derivational types of nouns with a zero suffix, identified the peculiarities of their functioning in speech. The structural-semantic approach to the facts of language and speech deepened our understanding of the unity of form and content at all levels of their representation [5, 6, 7, 8]. The use of the comparative method made it possible to compare the peculiarities of the functioning of nouns with a zero suffix in texts of different genres and styles [9, 10, 11, 12]. The use of the statistical method has shown the frequency of using nouns with a zero suffix in text sources different in time.

Results and Discussion

More nouns with the meaning of a person with a zero suffix include a meaning of action. This is primarily due to their derivational features and connection with the verb: they are all either associated with the verb, or derived from it.

These nouns differ in the degree of activity of the person. At first, nouns with the meaning of the active producer of the action are distinguished - the *nomen agentis* itself: *zabeg* "fugitive", *provod* "guide", *spas* "lifesaver" and others. Secondly, nouns, in which the person is thought of as an object of action from the outside: *posol* "ambassador", *rasskaz* "narrator", *tolk* "interpreter" and others. The third group is made up of nouns with the meaning of a person, in which the sign of the acting person fades into the background, and sometimes it is totally absent, namely, nouns that do not have the meaning of action. These nouns denote a quality, positive and negative: *boy* "brave, lively man", *provor* "cunning, quick man, sly", *brekh* "liar" and others. *Nomen agentis* can denote both a person who accidentally performed an action, and a person who performs an action often or constantly: *zastup* "intercessor" is one who once interceded for someone or constantly intercepts (this possibility is realized in the context).

The analysis of nouns with the meaning of a person (*nomen agentis*) allows us to find out their long and difficult path of development, the process of forming these nouns into a unique category, which has a number of specific derivational, semantic and stylistic peculiarities.

The category of nouns with the meaning of person earlier consisted of archaic "root" nouns and new formations. At the initial stage of the formation of this category, archaic nouns were polysemantic due to the combination of

the meanings of the action with the meaning of the person and reflected the ancient indivisibility of the name and the verb into independent parts of speech. They served as the generating bases for many verbs of the Russian language. New formations with the meaning of a person could be: a) formed from a verb (*PRIKHOD* - “the one who comes”); b) formed from nouns, arising in a semantic way, when the meaning of an action was transferred to a person (*PRIKHOD*, “action” > *PRIKHOD* - “the one who came, a stranger”).

The process of concretizing the meaning of an action in some cases is carried out through the category of collectiveness. The development of the semantic way of word formation within this type of nouns was facilitated by the language's striving for metaphorization, which showed itself very obviously.

Subsequently, archaic nouns and new formations, based on the similarity of morphological structure (connection with a verb, zero suffix) and semantics (the meaning of a person), were united into a single group, and the further development of nouns went in the direction of consolidating their dependence on verbs.

The word-formative connection of nouns with the meaning of a person with verbs played an important role in stabilizing the meaning of these nouns.

Most of the nouns with a zero suffix have been lost in the language - they are not in the dictionaries of the literary language and in the ancient written texts. Some of them can be restored with indirect data. Such additional proofs of the existence of certain nouns with a zero suffix, not recorded by the monuments of the language, are: a) the presence of a corresponding proper noun, which, before becoming its own, was a common noun; b) the presence of a corresponding name in dialects; c) the presence of a corresponding noun in related languages.

These facts together make it possible to restore the nouns that were part of the category of nouns with the meaning of the person of this word-formation structure.

Despite the deep antiquity of this word-formation type (it is noted in the ancient Indo-European languages, existed in the old Slavic language), it did not lose its productivity in later linguistic periods. In Russian, the category *nomen agentis* is most productive in the Old Russian period.

The study of formations with the meaning of a person with a zero suffix made it possible to establish a connection between the semantic structure of a noun and the spheres of its functioning. Nouns with the meaning of an acting person are used in monuments of the Slavic-book style, and in business texts, and in annals. But specific nouns tend to belong to certain styles of language. So, nouns with the meaning of evaluation are not typical for business style, and noun terms are found mainly in business ancient texts. As a result of our research, we found out the dependence of the stylistic use of the word on its meaning (*poslukh* in the meaning of “eyewitness” in the church-book style, *poslukh* in the meaning of “witness”, “testifying in court” in business language).

In the language of the 18th century, there were two opposite tendencies, which were reflected in the history of these formations. In relation to the Old Russian language, the number of nouns acting with a zero suffix with the meaning of a person is significantly reduced, when compared with the modern literary language, nouns with a meaning of a person with a zero suffix in the 18th century are still quite active. The reason for the quantitative reduction of nouns with a zero suffix in the vocabulary of the language was the general process of displacing nouns with a zero suffix by nouns with other suffixes. The reason for their preservation in the language of the XVIII century was the emergence of vernacular vocabulary (in which these nouns were productive) in the literary language, which strongly supported the existence of the *nomen agentis* group.

Throughout the long period of development of zero nouns with the meaning of a person, next to them were nouns of a different derivational structure - nouns with different suffixes. A synonymous relationship was established between them. However, the desire to eliminate the reduplication of linguistic means led to the destruction of synonymy. Due to the lack of parallel homonymous forms and a clear grammatical structure, nouns with the suffixes *-nik*, *-tel*, *-ets*, and others turned out to be the winners in this competition.

More nouns with a zero suffix with the meaning of person were lost in the language, some nouns became archaisms. And from the once productive category in the modern Russian literary language, only single nouns have survived. From the point of view of word derivation, they are either simple nouns or nouns that still keep some connection with the motivating word. But this connection is either gradually lost (*posol* — *posylat'* (“ambassador - send”)), or it turns out to be secondary (*tryasti* — *TRUS* — *trusit'* (“to shake — coward — to be coward”)). At the same time, the number of words formed with the help of other suffixes has increased.

Summary

We examined how personal nouns with a zero suffix developed during the XI-XX centuries and found out that the productivity of this type of formation of nouns with the meanings of person decreases. This happened due to word-formation homonymy. Zero word-forming morpheme gradually began to form various word-forming types - nouns with meanings of action, personal nouns, objective nouns, etc. On the other hand, this happened because of word-formation synonymy. Nouns of actions *-nie*, *-tie*, *-stvo*, *-ka*, *-ba* and others, nouns of person *-nik*, *-tel*, *-shchik*, *-ar*, *-ets*, etc. As it was noted by A. Meillet, the theory of Slavic suffixation is based on two principles: the removal of old ways that leave marks, but cease to be productive, and the development of new

suffixes through the agglutination of various elements [13].

Suffix synonymy existed primarily in the Old Russian language, but its features also were in the language even in the Old Slavic period, because even then there were different suffixes that formed nouns with the meaning of a person. This led to their interaction. Synonymy, on the one hand, served as a means of overcoming this homonymy, on the other hand, the opportunity to replace the “zero” suffix with the meanings of the person with existing ones exactly at the moment when the zero suffixation ceased to be an active word-formation means in the language (starting from the 18th century).

Conclusions

The process of forming a group of *nomen agentis* into a specific category was quite long and difficult, the types of nouns concerned with verbs were also varied; Their formation was influenced by various, often opposite tendencies: practically having disappeared from the language, they generated (together with *nomen actionis*) a whole word-formation system of suffix nouns with the meaning of a person, which form the modern word-formation system of the Russian language.

The development of the history of word-formation types is relevant in Russian and foreign linguistics. This problem is as interesting as difficult, because the history of a separate word-formation type is inextricably linked with the history of other word-formation types and reflects the history of the development of the word-formation system of the entire language.

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