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TAJIK WORDS LABELING PLACE AND LOCATION IN ENGLISH

Abstract. The article is devoted to the issue of Tajik words included in the English language. Such lexical items are commonly used to refer to a place of sale, a meeting place for officials, a government office, and others.

Keywords. Lexical items, borrowings, language, original structure.

It is known that each word in the lexical structure of language is a vivid history of the people's past, a sign of ancestors, or a piece of their present life. The elements of language like their owners are constantly on the move. Moving from one place to another, from one country to another, they adapt to the rules and laws of the borrowing language and gain new meanings.

Such lexical items are commonly used to express a place of exchange of goods, a place of trade, a place of seat of officials, a government office, and so on. This study shows that there are six words of this category used in English.

The word “bazaar” was used in three meanings in the works of Tajik ancestors: “1. A special place for trading, consisting of many avenues and shops; 2. A specific day for shopping, usually once or twice a week; 3. sale, trade, or shopping” [6, vol. 1, p.220].

Linguist A. Bukhorizoda expresses concern about the misinterpretation of the origin of this word in some recognized Tajik books. He defies the view that the word
“bazaar” consists of elements of “bo” meaning food and the suffix -zor, or of element “boz” as an adverb and the present tense form of the verb of “ovardan”, “or”, stressing that “it has nothing to do with actual modern linguistics” [1, p.69-70]. The historical fact is that this word was in use in medieval Persian in the form of “wazar”, originated from the va-ha-čarana of the ancient Iranian language [3, p. 2, p.230]. The components va-ha- čar (na) / va-ha-čarana / va-ha-čarana consist of va-ha derived from the root vah meaning “to give and take”, and -čarana / čarna / čarana meaning “place of movement” derived from the root kar meaning “to move, to go back and forth”. It should be noted that the English word “bazaar” takes its root from the abovementioned word [2, p.87; 111, lj. 1, pp.371-373].

Some of these lexical elements are used in the English language in several parallel and different meanings, for example, “the Seray”.

Seray is one of the most polysemantic Tajik words which is interpreted in explanatory dictionaries like the following: 1. A house, an apartment; 2. A palace, a court, a seat of kings; 3. A caravanserai; 4. a trading post; a cocoon storehouse, chest or drawers storeroom”; 5. a place of tying horses and donkeys ”[6, p. 2, p.215].

Used in language, the word has changed its form into srād and srāy, meaning "palace, house, palace" in medieval Persian. It should be noted that the first form is close to the original form of this word, because this lexical element had the form of * srāda- in the ancient Iranian language.

It should be noted that this word of Iranian origin first transferred to the Turkic languages, and then through them transferred to European languages. The mentioned word is used in two forms in English, seray meaning "caravanserai", and seraglio meaning "palace of the king"; harem, (private room for kings wives)” [8, p. 3, pp.1710-1711].

If we look at the semantic framework of such lexical units in the Tajik language, we will see that most of them have a semantic nature. The following words are among the lexical elements analyzed above.

The word “kat” has two meanings as described in dictionaries: “1. a large bed for sitting and sleeping; 2. the throne ”[6, p. 1, p.600].
There is disagreement among scholars as to the origin of this lexical element: some scholars consider it to be Hindi and compare it with the Sanskrit word khāṭṭvā meaning “a bed, a bed for sleeping” or khaṭṭi “coffin”, prakrit word khaṭṭā and Hindi word khaṭṭ supposed to have originated from drovid language; and the other scholars have suggested that the word is related to the medieval Persian word “gātu” and the Tajik word “goh”. We support the idea that the word is derived from the Avestan “kata” meaning “house, place” [7, vol.4, p.226].

In English, the lexical unit “cot” meaning “travel throne, travel bed” is related with this “kat” [8, p. 4, p.2132].

A. Mamadnazarov points out two similar words in English: cot-1, cot-2. It should be noted that both “cot”s have gained polysemantic nature in the English language expressing the following meanings: cot-1 means: 1. A hut (in poetry); 2. A place, a building for animals, a nest; cot-2 means: 1. a baby bed; 2. travel bed [2, p.199].

A. Mamadnazarov mentions that the English language differs in different regions of its use. He underlines that “British and American English differ not only in pronunciation but also in vocabulary, spelling and grammar” [2, p.957 ].

We suppose that both “cot”s have the same root and have gained different shades of meaning as a result of their long history of use. The proof can be the fact that both “cot”s express the notion of place.

Such examples show that words, as a result of their long history of use, may change their form and meaning, and even gain new meanings. Given this nature of the words of language, M. Sajjadiya writes, “some Persian words and terms having transferred to the Greek language got new meanings, and with those new meanings they transferred to the Arabic and from the Arabic to the Persian language. For example, the Persian word “mugh”, which originally meant “an employee of fire worshippers temple”, transferred into Greek and, in addition to its original meaning, it also took new meanings, “fortune teller”, “dream interpreter” and “the knower of unseen”. Later, facing translation changes from the Greek language into Arabic, the word was introduced into the Arabic language in the form of “majus” fitting into the rules of Arabic orthography generally meaning "a fire-worshiper", "a pagan " or "a Zoroastrian" [4, p.243].
“Devon” is another Tajik polysemantic word expressing the following meanings: 1. a collection of poems of a poet compiled in a book; 2. A ministry; 3. A state or government office [6, p. 1, p.437].

As mentioned, there are many words with the same form in English like in Tajik. The words with the same form with “devon” are some of these lexical elements. It should be noted that one of these two “divans” is derived from the Iranian language, especially the Tajik (Persian) language, expressing the following meanings in English: The Supreme State Council or the room where the Supreme Council convenes, the reception room, boardroom [in government offices »-2, p.258].

According to researchers, the source of this lexical element is the word “atīvān” of medieval Persian, and in English it is also used as “a divan” meaning "a reception room, a boardroom, a small bed or a half-bed". The way of introduction of this word into English is the following: from Tajik (Persian) to Turkish and then to English [8, p. 2, pp.1403-1404].

The word “darbor” (the court) has the following meanings in dictionaries: 1. A royal palace, a court, a boardroom; 2. An office of the king and emir, a cabinet of the kingdom” [6, p. 1, p.410].

The English-speaking people use the word “durbar” to mean “official greeting or official reception” which takes its root from the Tajik (Persian) word “darbor” [8, p. 2, p.1276].

The word “maghoza” means “a place to sell things, a store, a shop” [5, p. 1, p.738]. The “Explanatory Dictionary of the Tajik Language” says that its origin is French [4, p. 1, p.738]. Though the ancient history of this word, which has the same root with the word “khazina” (store, treasure), is unknown, it has been proven that this lexical element has an Iranian (perhaps Modaic) origin and was introduced into several world languages, such as Sami, Greek, and Hindi, during the Achaemenid Empire. [3, vol. 3, pp.258-259].

In English, the word “magazine” expresses two meanings: 1. periodical, publication, newspaper, a warehouse, a storehouse; 2. a store, a shop, a storehouse, a warehouse [8, p. 4, p.2626]. It should be noted that this lexical unit was borrowed
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into English from two languages: 1. from the French language in its first meaning ("periodical, publication, warehouse, storehouse"); 2. from the Italian language in its second meaning ("shop, shop, storehouse, warehouse") [2, p. 501].

As for transit languages, it should be noted that it is just through them that a large group of lexical elements transfer from one language to another in the world. Given this case, the researcher M. Sajjadia says that “the most important thing is that the French language itself has become a means of transiting some Persian and Iranian words into other languages. We see a very interesting example of it in Japanese, in the native American language of the United States, in the black natives of Australia and in the Eskimos of the North Pole”[4, p. 97].

There is no doubt that the word “maghoza” changed its original form being used in Arabic for some time before transiting into the mentioned European languages. In this context, the Chaldean researcher E. Shir states: “It is important to know that the Arabs have retained some of the foreign words with their original structure and some with a little change. However, most of them have been misinterpreted or changed. Therefore, study of the roots of Arabized words has become one of the most difficult and accurate lexical researches” [9, p. 10].

Thus, a word transferred into an unfamiliar language environment becomes part of a new lexical system and begins a new life, which cannot help affecting its form and meaning. The borrowings may gain the features differing from their original language under the influence of certain new socio-political conditions.

References:


