

Verbs of the Transfer and Vibrational Movement in Russian and Tatar Languages¹

Dilyara Sharapova², Gelinya Ch. Gilazetdinova³, Ruzilya R. Salakhova⁴, & Lyudmila Y. Astakhina⁵

Abstract

As is known, lexico-semantic groups of words form individual microsystems in a language at both lexical and grammatical level, as well as in the context of word formation. It is impossible to examine lexico-semantic groups and their lexical description without a comparative analysis of such formations in multi-structural languages. This is the reason why we have chosen such a theme for this work. The subject of this comparative analysis is the multi-structural Russian and Tatar languages. This topic is relevant because of the existence of intercultural barriers faced with when examining verbs of motion in the context of bilingualism that, in our opinion, arises because of insufficient comparative analysis. Comparing of multi-structural languages makes their specificity clear and obvious. In this regard the level of word formation is of particular interest because when it is being examined, the typical feature that underlies the naming of a whole word class comes to surface, and systematic links and relationships connecting the whole language structure become more evident.

Keywords: Verbs of Motion; Oscillatory Motion; Rotational Motion; The Russian Language; The Tatar Language.

1. Introduction

It is known that the study of semantics is a relevant issue in linguistics. Such a study is carried out through identification of individual semantic groups within certain part of speech. Semantic structure of each verb is a complex of semantic

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² Kazan Federal University, Kazan, Russia.

³ Kazan Federal University, Kazan, Russia.

⁴ Kazan Federal University, Kazan, Russia; ruzilya5@mail.ru

⁵ Institute of Russian Languages. V.V. Vinogradov RAS, Moscow, Russia.

components, semes, able to express themselves formally at certain level of the language structure. The following components are the most common parameters of verbal action: the method of movement, the direction of movement, the environment, the distance covered by making the movement, time and its phases, a number of participants, intensity, manner of action etc. In its turn, each of the abovementioned parameters can be divided into segments: for example, manner of action (spacial motion, the position in space and so on).

Verbs of motion have long been attracting attention of numerous linguists. They have been examined from different standpoints and studied in various languages. But the early linguistic works dedicated to verbs of motion contain only a few statements used to illustrate specific differences of the process of word formation. While speaking about the history of verbs of motion study, it should be noted that the scientists had a long debate on how to establish unified criteria for identification of verbs of motion and verbs of displacement.

2. Materials and Methods

The theoretical and methodological basis of the study was the works of domestic and foreign scientists on linguistics, semantics, lexicology, word formation.

The material of the study has been provided through monolingual and bilingual (Russian-Tatar and Tatar-Russian) dictionaries. Explanatory dictionaries of the Russian and Tatar languages served as an additional source. The examples have been taken from the Tatar National Corpus “Tugan Tel” and the National corpus of the Russian language.

3. Results and Discussion

The lexico-semantic group of verbs of motion consists of three main classes: verbs of progressive, oscillatory and rotational motion. Consider two groups of verbs: translational and oscillatory motion.

The basic characteristics of verbs of progressive motion is directedness of movement consisting of various elements: horizontal and vertical movement, upwards and downward, inward – outwards, crossing the space boundary – without crossing the boundary, from one point to another etc. In the Tatar language, verbs of progressive movement are divided into two subclasses based on their lexico-semantic characteristics:

1. Verbs indicating the direction of motion: *baru – idti (to go)*, *kerü – voyti (to come in)*, *töshü – spuskat'sya (to go down)*.
2. Verbs indicating the method of movement: *atlau – shagat' (to walk)*, *yözü – plavat' (to swim)*, *yögerü – bezhat' (to run)*, *agu – tech' (to flow)* (Tatar grammar, 1997).

Verbs indicating the direction of movement include a group of verbs fixing the vector characteristics of **vertical** movement: a) **upwards**: *kütärelü* – *podnimat'sya* (to go up), *menü* – *vzberat'sya* (to climb), *podnimat'sya* (to go up), *zalezat'* to reach to top of something), *vzberat'sya* (to climb), *ürläü* – *podnimat'sya vverkh* (to go up), *nabirat' vysotu* (to go higher); b) **downwards**: *töshü* – *spuskat'sya* (to go down), *opuskat'sya* (to come down), *tübänäyü* – *snizit'sya* (to lower); and those of **horizontal** movement: a) **inward**: *kerü* – *vkhodit'* (to come in), *yezzhat'* (to drive in); b) **outwards**: *çıgu* (*vykhodit'*, *vyezzhat'* – to come out, to drive out); c) **to a subject or an object**: *yakynayu* (*priblizit'sya* – to approach), *kily* (*priyti* – to come); d) **from a subject or an object**: *kitü* (*ukhodit'* – to leave), *yeragayu* (*udalyat'sya* – to walk away) (Yerbulatova et al., 2018; Singh et al., 2018).

In some contexts, verbs indicating the method of movement can acquire an element of directedness, unlike verbs indicating the directed motion. In such cases, the mode of motion can be known from the point of view of the environment, the method of movement, the speed and descriptive characteristics. The group of verbs indicating the environment of motion include the following subgroups: a) verbs indicating motion on a solid surface: *atlaw* (*shagat'* – to walk), *ürmäläü* (*polzti* – to crawl), *shuu* – *katat'sya* (to skate, to sled, to ski).

In the Tatar language, progression on the ground is not differentiated by the mode (on foot or in a vehicle) and is expressed by one word: *baru* (*peredvigat'sya* – to be on the go). To say that someone is riding in a vehicle the additional words specifying the vehicle are used: *mashina belän baru* (*yekhat' na mashine* – to ride in a car), *poyezd belän baru* (*yekhat' na poyezde* – to ride a train). It means that in the Tatar language there is no equivalent to the word *yekhat'* (to ride). In the Russian language the mode of motion (on foot or in a vehicle) is lexically differentiated: such meaning is expressed by the verbs *idti* (to walk) and *yekhat'* (to ride) correspondingly.

b) verbs indicating motion in the air: *ochu* – *letat'*, *letet'* (to fly).

In the Russian language, the verb *letet'* (to fly) indicates a human's movement in the air with the help of some technical means as well as birds' flying, and the means of transportation do not necessarily have to be mentioned in such a case, for example, *letet' v Moskvu* (to fly to Moscow). In the Tatar language, a human's movement in the air is not expressed by the word *ochu* (*letat'*, – to fly) that is used only when speaking about birds and flying machines. As for a human's movement in the air, it is indicated by the verb *baru*, i.e. to cross the distance with the help of a flying machine that should be specified. So, in such a case in Tatar it would be incorrect to say *Mäskäügä oçu*, but one has to say *Mäskäügä samolet belän baru* (Gabdrakhmanova et al., 2017; Ajallooeianet al., 2015).

c) verbs indicating motion in liquid: *yözü* – *plyt'*, *plavat'* (to swim), *agu* – *tech'* (to flow), *protekat'* (to stream), *lit'sya* (to pour). *Agyydel tyn gyna aga da aga. Reka Belaya spokoyno techet sebe i techet.* (The White River quietly **flows** and **flows**.)

In the Russian language, verbs of progressive motion are a stable structural-semantic group of imperfective verbs forming the pairs of cognate words (excluding the word pair *idti – khodit'* (to walk) having different roots). These words are opposed to each other in the meaning of unidirectionality – non-unidirectionality of motion, as well as its non-multiplicity – multiplicity. The correlative pairs of verbs of motion are the following: (*to run*) – *begat'* (to have been running), *bresti* (to wander) – *brodit'* (to have been wandering), *vezti* (to carry) – *vozit'* (to have been carrying), *vesti* (to lead) – *vodit'* (to have been leading), *gnat'* (to haunt) – *gonyat'* (to have been haunting), *gnat'sya* (to chase) (Ibragimova, 1982).

First, verbs of unit-directional motion can form inceptive perfective verbs through adding a prefix “*po-*”: *bezhat'* (to run) – *pobezhat'* (to start running), *yekhat'* (to ride) – *poyekhat'* (to start running), *idti* (to walk) – *poyti* (to start walking) etc. On *poshol bystreye, i mne prishlos' bezhat' za nim v svoikh krasnykh bosonozhkakh* (National corpus of the Russian language). (He started walking faster, and I had **to run** after him in my red sandals.) *Serditse yego besheno kolotilos' v grudi i ochen' zakhotelos' pobezhat'*. (His heart pounded wildly and he felt that he wanted **to start running**.)

Secondly, the prefixes *vy-*, *do-*, *pere-*, *ot-* help to form spatial verbs *vybezhat'* (to run out), *dobezhat'* (to run to), *perebezhat'* (to run across), *otbezhat'* (to run away). These prefixes also form the aspect pairs, for example, *perebezhat'* (to run across) – *perebegat'* (to have been running across). *Tam bez kontsa pytalis' perebezhat' dorogu bol'shiye i lokhmatyye sobaki* (There the big and shaggy dogs endlessly tried to run across the road.) *Nam prishlos' perebegat' iz pod"yezda v pod"yezd, iz doma v dom* (National corpus of the Russian language). (We had **to have been running from** one entrance to another, from one house to another).

Verbs of oscillatory motion are a subclass of verbs of the method of movement. These verbs indicate movement on the same place or in very limited enclosed space. The oscillatory motion consists of separate quanta, and a quantum of oscillation is a move from one extreme point of the movement to another where its direction changes to the opposite one (Galimova et al., 2018).

Verbs of oscillatory motion as such (i.e. of swinginig) indicate the independent motion that is the cyclic movement of a subject's body from the centre of equilibrium to one side and then to the other. In the Russian language, the group of verbs representing oscillatory motion as such is formed by reflexive correlative verbs: *kolebat'sya* (to have been swaying) – *kolebnut'sya* (to sway), *kachat'sya* (to have been swinging) – *kachnut'sya* (to swing), *shatat'sya* (to have been staggering) – *shatnut'sya* (to stagger), *kolykhat'sya* (to have been waving) – *kolykhnut'sya* (to wave), *boltat'sya* (to have been hanging around) – *boltnut'sya* (to hang around), *motat'sya* (to have been flailing) – *motnut'sya* (to flail). The group of verbs of oscillatory motion in the Russian language can be divided into two types. First, these are verbs of chaotic motion: *shevelit'sya* (to move), *trogat'sya* (to start off), *metat'sya*

(to rush about), *rvat'sya* (to rush). *Yemu kazalos', yesli on ne budet shevelit'sya, nevedomye obitateli zametyat yego, tak i budut shurshat' ryadom.* (It seemed to him that if he did not **move**, those unknown inhabitants would notice him and would continue whispering around him.)

Secondly, the following verbs of monotonous motion are divided into two subgroups:

- 1) frequent rhythmic motions: *tryastis'* (to tremble), *drozhat'* (to shiver), *vzdragivat'* (to shudder), *vibrirovat'* (to vibrate), *sotryasat'sya* (to shake), *drygat'* (to twitch), *mertsat'* (to twinkle) etc. *Ostal'nyye reshili kuda-nibud' zayti, chtoby ne drozhat' na vetru, otkryli pervuyu popavshuyusya dver' i uslyshali "Katiushu".* (The rest of them decided to go somewhere not **to shiver** in the wind, opened the first door they found and heard somebody singing “Katiusha”.)
- 2) unrhythmic side-to-side motion or motion from top to bottom with irregular amplitude of oscillation: *kachat'sya* (to swing), *shatat'sya* (stagger), *reyat'* (to soar), *raskachivat'sya* (to wiggle), *razmakhivat'sya* (to swing one's arm) etc. *Neskladno razmakhivayas', on sbival, a ne srezal travu.* (He awkwardly **swung his arm** and beat the grass down instead of cutting it.)

Therefore, in the Russian language perfective and imperfective verbs are opposed to each other according to their semantic characteristics: “from side to side/one way”, “repeatedly/semelfactively”, “within space limited by the amplitude of movement/within space limited by one phase of movement”, “sustained motion/a one-time activity”. At the core of this group lies the verb *kachat'sya* (to swing) having the widest semantic combinability. *Strela krana s visyashchimi na ney operatorami kachalas' vverkh-vniz.* (The crane arm with the operators hanging on it was **swinging up and down**.)

Unfortunately, in the Tatar language verbs of oscillatory motion, like the other subclasses of verbs of motion have not been sufficiently reflected in monographic works. According to our information, in the Tatar language there are just about a dozens of verbs of oscillatory motion (13), while in the Russian language we found more than twenty verbs of this type (24). In the Tatar language, verbs of oscillatory motion are the following: *selkenü, kaltırau, seltäü, açılpu, kıymıldau, kagu, dereldäü, teträü, tirbälü, tirbänü, atınu, çaykalu, açılferdäü*. Let us examine some of them.

Selkenü – to move, to come into motion under some influence without making any progress. Movement indicated by this verb does not necessarily have to be regular, it can also be semelfactive or repeated, chaotic; when speaking about pendulum motion, this verb first of all expresses the existence of such movement, not its being oscillatory. *Akhyrda bötenläy terelgän, bashy selkenmäs bulgan. V kontse*

*kontsov on popravilsya, golova perestala tryastis'. (After all, he recovered, and his head stopped **shaking**).*

The special verb indicating swinging is **atnu** – ‘to swing, to execute oscillatory side-to-side motion, to have pendulum motion’ with movement being necessarily regular and repeated (cyclic motions with certain rhythm) (Sibgaeva et al., 2017). This verb is made up with the stem *amy* – *бpocaмь* and the reflexive affix - *ын*. Compare: *Yash'lär tagan atyngan, könozyn äçyrlap-biyep künel achu gadäte bulgan. Molodezh' kachalas' na kachelyakh, byl obychay tselyy den' razvlekat'sya s pesnyami i tantsami (The young people swung on the swings, it was the custom to have fun all day long, singing and dancing.)*

The verb **tibräny** indicates oscillatory motion with numerous iterations. *Ul da tibränä-tibränä... tibränä-tibränä... Ona kak-to stranno drozhit... Vse drozhit, drozhit... (And the large white moon was followed by the only one nimble star... It was strangely **shivering**... Again and again...)*

Of all the Tatar verbs of motion, this one most intensively expresses orderliness, rhythmicity of oscillatory motion with numerous iterations.

So, it can be said that in both the Russian and Tatar languages there is a large repertoire of linguistic means expressing different types of oscillatory motion. The Russian verbs indicating oscillatory motion as such are differentiated through the aspect opposition. In the Tatar language, verbs indicating oscillatory motion as such are differentiated according to their semantic characteristics.

The establishment of universal categorization criteria for verbs of oscillatory motion and comparative study of their semantics are crucial for both obtaining the complete picture of how the complex concept of movement is reflected in the language and for revealing national specificity of such reflecting.

4. Results

In summary, the semantic structure of the Tatar verbs of motion in the most cases is coincident with that of the Russian language. In both languages indication of a subject's movement in space between two points, both horizontal and vertical, is necessary and is represented through antonymous linguistic means, such as *kerü* (*vkhodit'* – to come in, *v'yezzhat'* – to drive in), *kilep kerü* (*voyti* – to come in), *kaytyp kerü* (*vernüt'sya* – to come back), *baryp kerü* (*zayti* – to enter) and *chygu* (*vykhodit'* – to come out, *vyvezhat'* – to drive out), *kerep chygu* (*zaskochit'* – to jump in), *alyp chygu* (*vyvesti* – to show out), *atlap chygu* (*pereshagnut'* – to step over) etc.

It should be noted that there are also complex interrelationships between the verbs of these languages. For example, two Tatar verbs of motion correspond with one Russian verb: *baru, kaytu* – *khodyt'* (*to walk*); two Russian verbs correspond with one Tatar verb: *idti* (*to walk*) and *yekhat'* (*to ride*) – *baru*. The Explanatory Dictionary of Tatar languages gives 14 shades of meaning for the verb *baru* and 6 shades of

meaning for the verb *kaytu* (The explanatory dictionary of Tatar language, 2015). In the Russian Semantic Dictionary completed by N.D. Shvedova there are 7 shades of meaning for the verb *khodit'* (to walk) (Russian semantic dictionary, 2007). Attention should also be paid to the meaning of the verbs *idti* (to walk) and *yekhat'* (to ride). If we say *idti* (to walk), it means that someone is going on foot, while the verb *yekhat'* (to ride) indicates that the subject is riding in a vehicle.

5. Summary

Verbs of motion represent one of the most important lexico-semantic groups showing the worldview as it is since motion is the form of existence of matter. The examples given above clearly show that in both languages verbs of motion form the largest group of verbs. This is due to the fact that these verbs are frequently used in the speech and as lexical means indicate important processes of the reality connected with philosophical concepts of time and space, and have some special structural-semantic, morphological-syntactic and functional characteristics.

6. Conclusions

In this article, we attempted to study the language semantics and to reveal certain peculiarities of the languages being compared, which are usually overlooked when you examine only one language. The results obtained can help to reveal the mechanism of lexico-semantic interference, thus making it possible to specify some concepts that should be considered when developing and improving the teaching techniques for the Tatar and Russian languages.

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