



**Substantivized Words Used as Addressing in English and Tatar Languages**

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**1. ABSTRACT**

The objective of the article is to analyze substantivized words used as addressing in different structured English and Tatar languages in a comparative aspect. The article presents the study of the most important research papers of the world-wide known and famous scholars in the field of Tatar linguistics. The research material was selected from bilingual and monolingual dictionaries of studying languages (Tatar and English). The results of the study are supported by the examples and it is given in the article. The materials of the study may be useful worldwide by educators and researchers involved in professional linguistic research and training. The specific features of the usage of the different forms in multi-structural English and Tatar languages mentioned in this article have an important value for successful cross-cultural communication. The misuse or misunderstanding of an addressing word can put dialogue partners in an awkward situation; even offend them if one keeps ignoring its important function.

**Key words:** addressee, addresser, terms of address, substantivized words, multi-structured languages



## **2. INTRODUCTION**

People use language to communicate because it is an effective way to express their minds, feelings and thoughts. However, to communicate effectively is not as easy as it seems. An effective communication can only be reached if each participant can understand feelings, desires and thoughts of each other. Moreover, in cross-cultural communication it is important to know some special aspects of communicating, some communicative norms and traditions of the dialogue partners. Cultures are similar and different at the same time, and on the one hand this provides an individual with the opportunity to adapt to another culture, on the other hand difficulties of this process come into being when an individual faces other norms and values in a foreign environment (Khabutdinova , Bayanova .2013) Especially it is important to know the use of address terms because usually communication starts with addressing. Address forms are a key to the understanding of social concepts and human relationship in a society. Different degrees of status difference or intimacy need the choosing of different forms of address (Xiaomei,2010). Moreover, every language has its own way in using the address terms since language cannot be separated from the society where the language exists. People who do not belong to the same society will find it difficult to understand the basic rules of how to use the addressing terms of other language.

**3. There is a vast amount of researches on the problem of addressing (Goldin, 1978, 1987, Larina, 2003, Olikova, 1979, Ryzhova, 1982, 1983, 1984, Formanovskaya, 1982, 1987, 2002; Braun, 1988; Brown, Ford, 1961; Brown, Fraser, 1979; Brown, Gilman, 1979; Brown, Levinson, 1987; Ervin-Tripp, 1972, 1976; Max K., and others). The large number of works of native and foreign researchers on the problem of addressing indicates the complexity and multidimensional scope of the phenomenon. However, there is still a need for a detailed study of this phenomenon on the material of different languages. As far as we know no one has studied the use of substantivized words as addressing in different structured English and Tatar languages in a comparative aspect. That is the actuality of the article.**

According to our research, in both English and Tatar languages substantivized words are used as addressing words in the unofficial situation of communication, when



communicators know each other quite well and show a more intimate or immediate and often emotive relationship between addresser and addressee. In both languages their usage depends on communicative intentions of an addresser. As the language material shows in both languages they are a marker of informal communication situations. Being an indicator of communicative relations and of the changes in these relations, substantivized words used as addressing can characterize an addresser whether from positive or from negative side.

## **2. METHODS**

The material under study were selected from different dictionaries of Tatar and English languages, it was the first step of the analysis. During the second stage we classified all the material into categories. Then all the elements were analyzed in terms of their capacity to perform the addressing function.

We should draw our attention to different terms meaning “transmission of words to the class of nouns”. As we know in both English and Tatar languages there parts of speech that can have some characteristics of a noun and be considered as a noun. Some linguists call this phenomenon "transpositional conversion" (A.I. Smirnitskii, K.A. Levkovskaia, U.A.Zhliktenko, N.G.Korletianu, F.A. Ganiev of and others), others call it “transposition” (Sh.Balli, G.G.Sokolova). In the work, we will call "transmission of words to the class of nouns" (Lyons,1968) as substantivization.

## **3. RESULTS**

The method of classification of substantivized adjectives in the role of addressing in Tatar and English languages is essentially the same as that used by Tatar researchers F. A. Ganiev and A. F. Gainutdinova (Gainutdinova,2007; Ganiev,2004) with some modifications:

- the quality of addressee's character: оятсыз (oiyat'siz) (unashamed), юньсез (yun'siz) (fat brained), мактанчык (мактан'tjik) (boastful), ялагай (yAlA'gAi) (smooth-spoken), ялкау (yAl'kAu) (lazy) etc.
- relationship between two people: кадерле (kAder'lem) (dear), сөекле(sэ:ek'lem) (darling), бердәнберм (ber'dænber) (only) etc. These words are mostly used to address significant and loved person in smb' life.
- the level of education and mental ability of the addressee: юләр (yu'lær) (stupid), тиле (tile) (crazy), акыллы (Akil'li) (well-bread) etc.



- the addressee's occupation and position in the society: эшсез (eʃ'sez) (loafer, toady), бай (bai) (rich) etc.

- age factor: нәни (næ'ni) (tiny, itty-bitty), сабий (sa'biy) (bitty, little) etc.

Considerable attention must be paid to the fact that in English substantivized adjectives "darling" and "dear" (and their derivatives) as addressing are the most frequently used. These words are used in an informal situation of communication between married couples, lovers, relatives, friends, parents and children.

In Tatar language substantivized adjectives such as матурым (matu'rim) (pretty, cutie), акыллым (akil'lim) (obedient), кадерлем (kader'lem) (dear) or their derivatives are also often used in the informal situation of communication. The addressee uses these words as addressing to establish positive attitude toward himself and to shorten the communicative distance. These words also show that the addresser considers the addressee a sweetie person. But the degree of acquaintance can be different. Taking into consideration the age factor the addressee can be younger, or communicators may belong to the same age category. But all these factors cannot be taken into consideration when close relatives communicate.

As language material shows Tatar substantivized adjectives are often used with the affixes denoting the category of belongings such as **-ЫМ** (im), **(-ЕМ)** (em), eg.: матурым (matu'rim) (my beautiful), нәнием (næni'em) (my little), баллым (bal'lim) (my sweetie), сөеклем (soek'lem) (my darling) etc., and English substantivized adjectives with the possessive pronoun of my: my dear, my beautiful, my only. In both languages nicknames also can be used as substantivized adjectives in the role of addressing: Таза (ta'za) (thick / fat), Сасы (sa'si) (stinking), Кыек (ky'ek) (crooked) etc. The analysis shows that in English except substantivized adjectives in the function of addressing the personal pronoun "you", indefinite pronouns "all, everybody, somebody" can have the same function.

It is fundamental to note that in Tatar language the personal pronouns, second person singular "син" (sin); personal pronoun, second person plural "сез" (sez) and interrogative pronoun "кем" (kem) can have the same function.

In Tatar language the presence of the forms of addressing as "син" (sin) (you, sing.) and "сез" (sez) (you, pl.) obligates the addresser to be polite: using in your speech the pronoun "сез" (sez) (you, pl.) expresses a greater respect to the addressee than pronoun



“сИН” (sin) (you, sing.). What we know is that the Tatars generally use the polite “сез” (sez) (you, pl.) when addresser is older than addressee, higher in status or strangers. It is also common in official situations, business communication and various public institutions, such as banks, police or consulates. Sometimes “сез” (sez) (you, pl.) is used within the family, when addressing aunts, uncles, grandaunts and so on. We also use “сез” (sez) (you, pl.) when addressing a group of people in Russian. Pronoun “сез” (sez) is used when someone wants to emphasize the politeness and formality of situation or if addressee is unknown or when "сез" (sez) is used in plural form. Pronoun "сез" (sez) (you, pl.) is also used when someone wants to emphasize the politeness and formality of situation or if addressee is unknown. Pronoun "сИН" (sin) (you, sing.) is usually used in the unofficial situation when addressing friends, close relatives such as parents, children, and grandparents, your siblings, colleagues of our age and status, classmates and so on. Avoid saying "сИН" (sin) (you, sing.) to strangers, unless you are talking to a child. In other cases if you address a stranger (even a younger one!) with "сИН" (you, sing.), you sound impolite and bad-mannered. It is also acceptable to refer to your work colleagues using "сИН" (sin) (you, sing.) even if there is a substantial age difference between both of you if you have good relationship. In old times due to the tradition not to call your husband or wife by first name in the role of addressing pronoun “сИН” (you, sing.) was often used. The same pronoun “сИН” (sin) (you, sing.) also is used when you address an unknown addressee and the age of communicators can be symmetric or the addressee may be younger. Such kind of addressing can be considered rough and avuncular.

#### **4. DISCUSSION**

It should be mentioned that the use of the pronouns “сИН” (sin) (you, sing.) and / “сез” (sez) (you, pl.) apart from the other addressing words in Tatar language reveals ill-breeding, rudeness and low level of addresser’s education. Also the addresser can use these forms intentionally, wishing to humiliate or to hurt the addressee. Sometimes the pragmatics of the use of these pronouns has negative character. As for the interrogative pronoun “кем” (kem) (“who”, usually has the meaning of “you” in addressing) it can rarely be met in Tatar language in the function of addressing. The sender uses this form while addressing an unknown addressee with the purpose to draw his attention and if the sender doesn’t know his name or he has forgotten it. Such form of addressing is



more often met in colloquial language especially in the speech of the old people. The language is considered as a socio-historic phenomenon reflecting social events and the structure of the society (Solnyshkina,2017). In English asymmetry of “you (sing.)/you(pl.)” began the process of disappearing in early XIX century. The absence of plurality of pronoun “you” (or similar forms in other European languages) was explained by Lyons John through the spectacle of history. First, it happens because of spreading the ideas of equality and democracy in western society and secondly, because of increasing the importance of the idea of equality of humans. If to analyze the pragmatics of the use of pronoun "you" as addressing it obviously has unfriendly and negative character and is used in an unofficial situation. In English indefinite pronouns “everybody, all, everyone” emphasizes the plurality in a greater degree and are used when addressing the group of people or the crowd. They express neither abhorrence nor politeness nor friendly relationship and have neutral character. In Tatar language there are substantivized adverbs used as addressing words. These substantivized adverbs characterize an addressee by his behavior and actions. Through these words an addresser shows his like or dislikes of addressees actions. The past form of substantivized adverbs in the role of addressing is the most frequently used: тилергән (tilergen) (crazy), ашкынган (ashkingan) (spoiled), акайган (akaigan) (furious), etc. According to our research in English language no substantivized adverbs used as addressing words were found. It can be assumed that it is used very rarely or is not used at all.

Consequently, in multi-structural English and Tatar languages there are some features and similarities of the use of different substantivized parts of speech in the function of addressing. The analysis of the resources has shown that in both English and Tatar languages substantivized adjectives are used to name the addressee through his personal characteristics. Being the indicator of communicators’ relations and also changes of these relations, they can characterize the addressee both positively and negatively. In both languages the use of substantivized adjectives is the indicator of the unofficial character of communication process, and in the official situations they are not used. Both in English and Tatar languages the substantivized personal pronoun, second person is used. In English the isolated use of pronoun “you” in the function of addressing often has unfriendly character. In Tatar language personal pronoun “син”



(sin) also often indicates the lack of educatedness, rudeness of the addressee, but at the same time is the marker of close relations. In both languages these pronouns are used in the unofficial situation of communication, and more often are met in colloquial speech. In English pronouns “everybody, all, everyone” are used without any emotions to the addressee, and have neutral character. More often they are used when addressing an unknown addressee in an unofficial situation. Interrogative pronoun “кем” in Tatar language in the function of addressing is met but quite rarely. Such form of addressing also has neutral character.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

Knowing the specific features of the usage of the different addressing forms mentioned in this article has an important value for successful cross-cultural communication. It allows to understand the behavior of a dialogue partner adequately and to build your own utterance in accordance with communicative norms and traditions of this dialogue partner. Moreover, knowing such specific features provides a positive effect in foreign language learning and “promotes the formation of social and intercultural competencies, significantly enlarges students’ scope and forms a multi-faceted language personality, orientating in the modern linguistic space” (Nizamieva,2016), what is the main goal of foreign language teachers.

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