



FOREIGN ABBREVIATIONS IN UZBEK: ADAPTATION, INFLUENCE, AND LINGUISTIC EVOLUTION

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Annotation

This study delves into the adaptation and assimilation of foreign abbreviations into the Uzbek language, triggered by factors such as novel terminologies, conceptual specializations, and communicative effectiveness. Highlighting the dynamics of globalization, the article explores how these abbreviations enrich the Uzbek language while adhering to the principle of speech economy. The author categorizes various types of assimilated abbreviations and emphasizes their pivotal role in streamlining communication. Concluding that this linguistic transformation is irreversible and driven by evolving sociocultural trends, the author encourages further exploration of this under-studied topic.

Keywords: linguistic adaptation, foreign abbreviations, Uzbek language, speech economy, lexical borrowings, linguistic sacralization, neogenesis features.

Introduction:

Neology, perceived as a novel direction in the progression of linguistic science, did not promptly secure its scientific framework. Presently, scholars in the disciplines of linguistics report a deficiency in the precise definition of the fundamental principles of neology. Through extensive studies, it has been established that abbreviation is one of the most dynamic mechanisms of neologization in contemporary literary and scientific Uzbek language. An abbreviation, exemplifying a distinct process of word formation, specifically compression derivation, possesses a considerable historical lineage.

The term “abbreviation” is a broad concept, encompassing composite and truncated words, which are further divided into more specialized categories. The word “abbreviation” originates from Latin and Italian roots. However, the referential scope of this term extends from a wide coverage of compressive forms (including acronymic abbreviations and composite words) to a narrower scope, limited to acronyms only. In the context of this article, the term “abbreviation” is adopted in its most extensive interpretation. In this comprehensive context, an abbreviation



represents words that are formed from syllables, initial sounds, or the initial letters of words.

Presently, abbreviations are characterized by a complex system and classification. The growth of the abbreviation system is signified by their inclination towards polysemy and homonymy, as well as the existence of emotional and expressive connotations and the expansion of the nominative functions of abbreviations.

Methodology:

Delve into the topic of the inception and evolution of abbreviation as a method of word formation. At the commencement of the 20th century, a prevailing notion was that abbreviations were diminishing in the language; it was deemed a scholarly obligation to denounce abbreviations, relegating them to the class of “inferior words that clutter the language and hold no future”. Contrarily, the prolonged and sustained utilization of abbreviations indicates a different scenario. Discussing the historical trajectory of abbreviation as a standalone mechanism in linguistics, it should be noted that with the progression of word formation overall, there has been an upsurge in abbreviations that are generated not from phrases, but from individual words and even morphological relations. This escalation suggests a marked activation of foreign abbreviations in contemporary Uzbek. Intriguingly, many scholars posit that the influx of foreign language abbreviations assimilating into Uzbek could lead to the integration of native language designations into the foreign language code. However, it should be underscored that towards the close of the 20th and onset of the 21st century, the functionality of abbreviations increased, with active utilization observed in advertising, media, and frequently in literary works. The following types of abbreviations are acknowledged: alphabetic - words created from the initial letters of phrases; alpha-sound - words partly derived from the initial letters, and partly from initial sounds; sound abbreviations in the form of acronyms. Additionally, abbreviations encompass compound words, graphical abbreviations, and hybrid abbreviations. Today, abbreviation is presented as a linguistic strategy for condensing existing words and phrases. Based on functionality and scope, foreign language abbreviations can be classified as follows:

1. Designations related to state structure and administrative systems.
2. Names of diverse structures and institutions.
3. Titles of political parties and various public organizations.
4. Economic terminologies.
5. Medical terminologies.



6. Nomenclatures of information and technical systems.
7. Names of various media outlets.
8. Abbreviations for abstract concepts.
9. Abbreviations that incorporate an element of collectiveness in their semantics.
10. Nomenclatures based on occupation, place of residence.
11. Abbreviations derived from proper names. [1]

A marked escalation in the quantity of abbreviations can be observed not only in foreign languages but also in the conventional Uzbek language. Let's explore the roles of foreign language abbreviations in the contemporary Uzbek language. Depending on their operational sphere, innovative abbreviations can undertake a nominative, compressive, expressive, characterological, and informative function. It should be highlighted that the nominative-compressive function, coupled with the expressive function, dominates in the media language. However, current studies have revealed that the nominative function of foreign language abbreviations in media categorizes them as secondary indicators, which is why this function is often supplanted by an expressive one. In the language of literature, a characterological function is employed. For the realm of marketing, the informative function of abbreviations is more prevalent. Therefore, foreign language abbreviations tend to sanctify a particular sphere of activity, along with this, foreign language abbreviations inherently possess semantic-stylistic independence in the Uzbek language.

Research:

Evaluate the factors instigating the intensification of linguistic borrowings:

1. The requirement for a term for a novel phenomenon.
2. Conceptual specialization.
3. Fidelity and appealing resonance of a foreign word.
4. Communicative relevance of the word. [2]

Currently, the boundaries segregating the cultural legacy, business interactions, commercial transactions, and political alliances of specific peoples and nations are indistinct. This elucidates the proliferation of new words and speech constructs in the Uzbek lexicon. English and Russian occupy a leading position in the creation of new nuanced words in the traditional Uzbek language. There is a noticeable dominant surge in foreign language abbreviations, which are deployed both in ordinary daily conversations and business correspondence.



The investigation unveiled a broad spectrum of utilization of foreign language abbreviations, spanning from political to colloquial, and from economic to other fields of knowledge. Discussing the core underlying cause for the emergence of numerous foreign language abbreviations, one should revisit the law of speech economy, which is prominently leveraged by foreign languages. The law of speech economy, a fundamental principle of language evolution, posits that the speaker and writer always seek to conserve their efforts. Delving into the antecedents and causes of this law's inception, one should consider the foundational principles of psycholinguistics, philosophy of language, and human psychology overall. It is judicious to refer to the external factors triggering the emergence of abbreviations: the ideology and structure of society as a whole, the forms of production organization, their strengths and relationships, as well as the socio-aesthetic factors of scientific knowledge.

Modern scholars assert that the primary cause for lexical borrowings is the need to designate, with the aid of a borrowed word, a newly emerged distinct type of objects or concepts. However, the aforementioned rise in the number of abbreviations and their actively escalating functional growth implies that this law maintains its relevance in contemporary linguistics. Nonetheless, the growth of foreign language abbreviations in everyday and business Uzbek is accounted for not only by the law of speech economy but also by the sacralization function of foreign language abbreviations.

Thus, abbreviations serve not only to simplify complex names and definitions but also to enrich the language of recipients with new words and linguistic turns in a unique manner. Often, abbreviated words, the most frequently utilized and deeply rooted in Russian speech, can attain such independence that their original full forms are forgotten, and the abbreviation is accepted as a given. Among the most striking linguistic characteristics of recent years, due to social processes, is a marked increase in the productivity of the method of abbreviation in word formation, which researchers interpret as the second abbreviation explosion. Abbreviations are employed in various domains of language usage. They can be found in numerous literary works; differentonyms are given abbreviated forms: names, names of collectives, organizations, countries, parties, individual regions, departments, etc.; borrowed abbreviated units are widely found in specialized sublanguages of various sciences and, notably, in the media.

Let's examine the classification of abbreviations that are most assimilated into traditional Uzbek language:

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1. Borrowed foreign abbreviations that do not have Uzbek equivalents.
2. Borrowed foreign-language abbreviations, contrary to the above, that possess a Russian-language equivalent by transliteration of the original abbreviations.
3. Borrowed foreign-language abbreviations that have Uzbek equivalents, written not in transliteration, but in Uzbek translation of the original abbreviations.
4. Borrowed foreign abbreviations, inscribed not only in Latin, but also in other scripts, their distinguishing feature being that they represent two distinct words in the original language.
5. Borrowed foreign abbreviations exhibiting high word-building activity. [3]

It's worth mentioning that during the transition from a foreign language, which is considered the donor of foreign language abbreviations, to Uzbek, the recipient language, the abbreviation undergoes a process of adaptation to the new linguistic environment. After analyzing the previous classification and the process of adaptation of foreign abbreviations into the traditional Russian language, we can tentatively conclude that as foreign abbreviations are assimilated, we can identify the following distinct groups of abbreviations based on their level of mastery. It's interesting to note that foreign-language abbreviations that are completely undeveloped in the recipient language are referred to as barbarisms, while borrowings that have been mastered graphically and morphologically, but not lexically, are known as exoticisms. This evidence will allow us to elaborate on the aforementioned classification of foreign language abbreviations most integrated into the traditional Uzbek language:

1. Foreign language abbreviations mastered graphically and lexically.

This is the stage of mastering foreign abbreviations, in which the graphically mastered abbreviation is subject to the rules of the lexical-semantic system of the Uzbek language. For example, PDA (Personal Digital Assistant) translates to “cho’ntak personal kompyuteri”, IP (Internet Protocol) becomes “asosiy tarmoq protokoli”, GIOMS (Gouncilof Industrial Organizations - American Federation of Labor) is translated as “Sanoat uyushmalari kongressi”, etc.

2. Foreign language abbreviations mastered graphically, lexically, and morphologically.

This group includes derived abbreviations, i.e., those foreign abbreviations that are integrated into a specific word-formation paradigm as a producer. For instance, UEFA becomes “Yevropa futbol assotsiatsiyalari birlashmasi”, originated from French – Union European de Football – Associations; SPA, translated as “suv yordamida davolash”, is derived from Latin Sanitas pro Aqua.



3. Foreign language abbreviations fully mastered.

These are borrowed abbreviations that have completely undergone the adaptation process in the recipient language at all levels: graphic, lexical, derivational, and grammatical. For example, IT has been fully integrated into phrases like “IT technology”, “IT business”, “IT company”, “IT industry”, “IT specialist”; VIP is used in “VIP agency”, “VIP guest”, “VIP room”, “VIP clientele”, “VIP person”, “VIP field”, “VIP tourist”, “VIP department”.

The process of assimilating foreign abbreviations into the Uzbek language occurs specifically during an adaptation period, warranting a detailed examination of some unique characteristics. In the prior classification of fully assimilated foreign language abbreviations, we highlighted the example of “VIP”: “VIP agency”, “VIP guest”, “VIP room”, “VIP clientele”, “VIP person”, “VIP field”, “VIP tourist”, “VIP problem”, “VIP department”. Through this example, a key feature in the development of foreign abbreviations in the Uzbek language is discernible. The term “VIP”, in its original language, is deciphered as “very important person” - “juda muhim shaxs”, denoting an individual of notable respect and authority within a specific societal segment or group. Consequently, as this English abbreviation is assimilated into Uzbek, punning phrases such as “VIP-shaxs” are generated, even though the original abbreviation already includes the term “person” (shaxs).

One of the defining traits of using foreign abbreviations in the Uzbek language is the emergence of new affixal words, formulated on the basis of foreign abbreviations and traditional Uzbek words. This phenomenon occurs due to the actualization of the semantics of the word. Another unique characteristic in the development of foreign language abbreviations is their adaptability to the recipient language, attributed to the fact that foreign abbreviations are primarily transliterated.

The reasons behind the extensive development and proliferation of foreign abbreviations in the Uzbek language warrant acknowledgment. Firstly, the employment of abbreviations considerably conserves time for both the speaker and the listener, and for the author, adhering to the principle of linguistic economy. Secondly, in specific sectors, both foreign and traditional abbreviations aid in reducing the volume of content or publication. Thirdly, as previously discovered and mentioned, foreign language abbreviations perform a nominative-expressive function in linguistics. The English abbreviation “OK”, utilized to convey agreement or approval, is considered the most ubiquitous, not only in Uzbek but



also in numerous global languages, earning its status as the most popular word worldwide.

Results

Foreign abbreviations not only hold the characteristic of conserving word production processes, but also contribute to creating semantic bidimensionality of words due to paronymic attraction. However, a consensus among scholars stipulates that it is improper to equate borrowed words with foreign words. According to researcher L.P. Krysin, the critical indicator of a bona fide and integral borrowing of a specific word is its phonetic evolution. [4] Thus, each borrowed foreign language abbreviation, recorded in the Uzbek dictionary as a word of foreign origin, can be deemed a fully assimilated word within the Uzbek language.

The investigation highlighted that the utilization of abbreviations in both spoken and written communication often engenders difficulties. These primarily encompass correct pronunciation, in conjunction with determining gender, modifying cases, tense, and numbers. In one way or another, foreign language abbreviations frequently draw criticism. As previously mentioned, the primary rationale for the accelerated development of abbreviations is their efficacy as a mechanism for conserving linguistic resources.

Discussion

Taking into account the rising surge in the number of abbreviations, we can deduce that when leveraged appropriately and accurately, abbreviations have the potential to streamline dialogue, rendering it succinct. Conversely, improper and excessive application of abbreviations can trigger an undesired response (potentially a misunderstanding) from the listener or reader. It is crucial to mention that the speech and written etiquette utilized in a business correspondence or dialogue should also be respected when using abbreviations. For instance, respect towards the recipient and maintaining the style of discourse necessitate the full spelling of abbreviations. Foreign language abbreviations, upon assimilation in the host language, are seamlessly integrated into everyday and business styles, forming new words and derivational paradigms. Therefore, the phonetic manifestation of foreign abbreviations often undergoes modifications in compliance with the laws of the Uzbek language. Nonetheless, if the abbreviation maintains a foreign phonetic quality, it typically modifies its spelling to adapt to the new linguistic environment.



Conclusion

It is important to recognize that when new terms emerge via the implementation of foreign language abbreviations, this process aligns with the model of word formation of the recipient language. The word formation phenomenon, facilitated by the use of foreign abbreviations, represents the terminal phase of foreign abbreviation development within the Uzbek language. Regardless, it must be understood that the rapid adaptation process of foreign vocabulary and abbreviations does not necessarily provide a basis for borrowing. Numerous foreign words, despite undergoing phonetic, graphic, and lexical adaptation, have remained on the periphery of Uzbek-speaking dialogue. Such words are frequently used within specific circles and microsystems, with “soundcheck” and “tribute” serving as examples of such foreign borrowings.

Consequently, we can infer that due to their functionality and, in the words of E.G. Vodolazkin, [5] “propensity towards sacralization”, foreign abbreviations will remain integral, particularly given the modern realities of Internet spaces, the media, and other sources which firmly establish them within the culture of Uzbek linguistics. The process of mastering foreign language abbreviations and its features in neogenesis are boundless, as their specific manifestations within the traditional Uzbek language undergo continual modification. Thus, it is advisable to acknowledge that this topic remains inexhaustible and open for future exploration.

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