ANALYSIS OF PERSIAN-TAJIK LEXEMES RELATED TO THE CONCEPT OF "TIME"

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Abstract. *This article discusses the role of the concept of time in language and its linguistic expressions. It explores the significance of language in social life and the factors influencing its development, as well as how the concept of time is linguistically expressed and how this concept varies in different linguistic and cultural contexts. While the concept of time is universal, each language possesses its own metaphorical expressions, highlighting the uniqueness of each language. The presented research analyzes how time is studied in language, its lexical richness, and the tools used to express both static and dynamic states.*

Keywords: *Language, concept of time, linguistic expression, linguistic research, metaphor, culture, lexicology, Tajik language, grammatical categories.*

Language has been the most important evidence of human spirit from ancient times to the present day, serving as the main means of communication between people, the exchange of spiritual wealth, and a major factor in the development of civilizations. As long as human society exists, it retains such virtues. Language, in turn, requires time. It influences and is influenced by time. The concept of time is considered important for every linguoculture because "time is the foundation underlying the existence of the world and our knowledge and interpretation of the world" (Maslova, 2001: 71). The "Philosophical Encyclopedic Dictionary" published in Russia provides the following definition of the concept of time: Time is the attribute of the continuity of existence and the sequence of all material systems and processes, the general form of existence of matter in the process of change (FES, 1989: 101). Time does not arise spontaneously without material changes, and there is no system or process of matter that remains unchanged or without modification (FES, 1989: 101).

The concept of time is actively expressed in each language through its own metaphorical phrases. This indicates the intellectual appeal in the linguistic expression of time. It is known that although the concept of time is universally recognized, its expression differs across different linguistic and cultural contexts, making it distinct from other linguistic-cultural concepts.

Perfect language possesses the power to influence people, change them, and revitalize, develop, and elevate them. Throughout history, the Tajik language has served similar functions for its speakers, becoming one of the important sources for studying the life of the people.

Tajik linguistics as a field encompasses various historical stages. According to this, linguistics, lexicology, grammar, the language and style of literary works, and other important linguistic issues have been studied, analyzed, and discussed in each period.

Throughout history, the Uzbek and Tajik peoples (as studied through their languages) have faced the greatest challenges, including foreign invasions and internal enemies supporting

foreign forces. The people, particularly the dedicated intellectuals, took responsibility for defending national interests and maintaining the ability to act. In such a way, the national language emerges victorious from this struggle, remaining pure and strong.

Tajik linguistics has a very ancient history. The study and promotion of ancient texts such as the Avesta cannot be accomplished without interpretative work. However, since those times, no linguistic works have survived to the present day. Tajik linguists were aware of the achievements of linguistics in India and Ancient Greece, otherwise, they would not have contributed so significantly to Arabic linguistics (e.g., Sibawayh, Ahfati Akbar, and others' works). From the 10th century onwards, Tajik and Persian linguists began working on language development, including dictionary creation, within a bilingual or trilingual environment. During this period, dictionaries such as Arabic-Tajik, Tajik-Turkic, and descriptive and explanatory dictionaries were created.

In countries like Iran, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, and others, the Persian language has flourished in Asia for a long time, especially in these three countries where notable speakers emerged, creating priceless works. The founder of Persian literature, Rudaki, hailed from present-day Tajikistan, while Firdausi, Saadi, and Hafez came from modern-day Iran. Nizami Ganjavi was from present-day Azerbaijan, and the famous Persian poet Mawlavi (Rumi) hailed from Balkh, Afghanistan.

It is important to emphasize that Persian was able to gain widespread recognition as a lingua franca not only because of the power of rulers but also due to its rich cultural and historical context. After the spread of Islam, though there were no unified governments across Iran, different rulers and kings governed various regions. However, the Persian language and the ancient culture of Iran connected the people across these regions.

Let's now look at the rich lexemes in this language. The term "hol" in linguistics refers to an expression of current, past, or conditional situations regarding time, place, cause, goal, quantity, degree (volume), or the nature of an action. The present tense form of verbs, adjectives, and other elements is often used to convey such meanings. Various examples are given for each type of expression in the original text, demonstrating how time, place, and other elements are conveyed in Tajik grammar.

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