

LEXICAL ISSUES IN THE TRANSLATION OF UZBEK STORIES: A CASE STUDY OF “ANOR” AND “URUSHNING SO‘NGGI QURBONI”.

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Annotation. This article examines lexical issues in the translation of Uzbek literary texts into English, focusing on Abdulla Qahhor’s short story “Anor” and O‘tkir Hoshimov’s “Urushning so‘nggi qurboni”. The study identifies key lexical challenges such as culture-specific items, idiomatic expressions, polysemy, and emotionally colored vocabulary. Using a qualitative comparative analysis, the research evaluates how these lexical units are rendered in English translations. The findings reveal that translators often employ strategies such as borrowing, adaptation, omission, and descriptive translation to convey meaning. However, these strategies sometimes lead to partial loss of cultural nuance and stylistic richness. The study highlights the importance of balancing semantic accuracy and cultural equivalence in literary translation.

Key words: lexical issues, translation studies, Uzbek literature, cultural equivalence, Abdulla Qahhor, O‘tkir Hoshimov

Аннотация. В данной статье рассматриваются лексические проблемы перевода узбекских художественных текстов на английский язык, уделяя особое внимание рассказу Абдуллы Каххора «Анор» и «Урушнинг сунги қурбони» Уткира Хошимова. Исследование выявляет ключевые лексические проблемы, такие как специфичные для культуры предметы, идиоматические выражения, полисемия и эмоционально окрашенная лексика. С помощью качественного сравнительного анализа исследование оценивает, как эти лексические единицы передаются в английских переводах. Результаты показывают, что переводчики часто используют такие стратегии, как заимствование, адаптация, пропуск и описательный перевод, чтобы передать смысл. Однако эти стратегии иногда приводят к частичной утрате культурных нюансов и стилистического богатства. Исследование подчеркивает важность баланса семантической точности и культурной эквивалентности в художественном переводе.

Ключевые слова: лексические проблемы, переводоведение, узбекская литература, культурная эквивалентность, Абдулла Каххор, Уткир Хошимов.

Annotatsiya. Ushbu maqolada Abdulla Qahhorning “Anor” qissasi va O‘tkir Hoshimovning “Urushning so‘nggi qurboni” qissalariga e‘tibor qaratilib, o‘zbek adabiy matnlarini ingliz tiliga tarjima qilishdagi leksik masalalar ko‘rib chiqiladi. Tadqiqot madaniyatga xos narsalar, idiomatik iboralar, polisemiya va hissiy rangdagi lug‘at kabi asosiy leksik muammolarni aniqlaydi. Sifatli qiyosiy tahlildan foydalanib, tadqiqot ushbu leksik birliklarning ingliz tilidagi tarjimalarida qanday berilishini baholaydi. Topilmalar shuni ko‘rsatadiki, tarjimonlar ko‘pincha ma‘noni etkazish uchun qarz olish, moslashtirish, qoldirmaslik va tavsifiy tarjima kabi strategiyalardan foydalanadilar. Biroq, bu strategiyalar ba‘zan madaniy nuance va stilistik boylikning qisman yo‘qolishiga olib keladi. Tadqiqot badiiy tarjimada semantik aniqlik va madaniy ekvivalentlikni muvozanatlash muhimligini ta‘kidlaydi.

Kalit so‘zlar: leksik masalalar, tarjimashunoslik, o‘zbek adabiyoti, madaniy ekvivalentlik, Abdulla Qahhor, O‘tkir Hoshimov

Introduction. Translation of literary texts is one of the most complex areas within translation studies, as it involves not only linguistic transfer but also the preservation of cultural, stylistic, and emotional elements. Uzbek literature, rich in national identity and cultural

references, presents specific challenges when translated into English. Lexical issues are among the most significant problems in literary translation. These issues arise when words or expressions in the source language do not have direct equivalents in the target language. This is especially evident in culturally bound words, idioms, and emotionally loaded vocabulary.

This study focuses on two prominent Uzbek literary works: Abdulla Qahhor's "*Anor*" and O'tkir Hoshimov's "*Urushning so'nggi qurboni*". Both stories reflect Uzbek culture, traditions, and worldview, making them ideal for analyzing lexical translation challenges.

The aim of this research is to identify and analyze lexical problems encountered in the translation of these stories and to evaluate the effectiveness of translation strategies used to overcome these difficulties.

Methods. This study employs a qualitative comparative analysis method. The original Uzbek texts and their English translations are compared at the lexical level.

The research methodology includes the following steps:

- Identification of lexical units in the source texts that present translation difficulties
- Classification of lexical issues into categories (culture-specific words, idioms, polysemous words, emotionally colored vocabulary)
- Comparative analysis of original and translated versions
- Evaluation of translation strategies used

The main methods used in this research are:

- Textual analysis
- Comparative method
- Contextual interpretation

Examples from both stories are selected and analyzed to demonstrate typical lexical challenges.

Results. The analysis revealed several major types of lexical issues in the translation of the selected stories.

1. Culture-specific lexical items. One of the most frequent challenges is the translation of culturally specific words that have no direct equivalents in English.

For example, in "*Anor*", words related to Uzbek daily life and traditions (e.g., *mahalla*, *tandir*, *somsa*) are deeply embedded in cultural context. Translators often use:

- **Borrowing** (e.g., *mahalla* → *mahalla*)
- **Descriptive translation** (e.g., *tandir* → *traditional clay oven*)

However, such strategies may not fully convey the cultural connotations.

2. Idiomatic expressions. Idioms are another major source of lexical difficulty.

In both stories, idiomatic expressions reflect Uzbek mentality and worldview. For instance:

- Uzbek idioms expressing emotions or social relationships often lack direct equivalents in English

- Literal translation may distort meaning

Translators typically use:

- Functional equivalents
- Paraphrasing

Despite this, some stylistic and emotional nuances are inevitably lost.

3. Polysemy and contextual meaning. Many Uzbek words are polysemous, meaning their interpretation depends on context.

For example, a word in "*Urushning so'nggi qurboni*" may carry both literal and metaphorical meanings related to war, loss, or sacrifice.

Translators must carefully select the appropriate meaning, but:

- Misinterpretation may occur
- Some semantic layers may be omitted

4. Emotionally colored vocabulary. Both stories contain emotionally charged words that contribute to the narrative tone.

In “*Anor*”, emotional tension is conveyed through simple but expressive vocabulary. In “*Urushning so‘nggi qurboni*”, war-related vocabulary carries strong emotional weight.

Translation challenges include:

- Preserving emotional intensity
- Maintaining stylistic simplicity

In many cases, translators simplify expressions, which reduces emotional impact.

Discussion. The findings indicate that lexical issues in the translation of Uzbek literary texts are closely connected to cultural and contextual factors.

One of the main challenges is achieving **cultural equivalence**. While borrowing preserves authenticity, it may reduce comprehensibility for target readers. On the other hand, adaptation improves readability but risks losing cultural specificity.

Another important issue is the preservation of **stylistic features**. Uzbek literary language often relies on subtle emotional expression, which can be difficult to reproduce in English.

The study also shows that no single translation strategy is sufficient. Effective translation requires a combination of approaches depending on context.

Furthermore, the translator’s competence plays a crucial role. A deep understanding of both source and target cultures is essential for resolving lexical problems.

Conclusion. This study has analyzed lexical issues in the translation of two Uzbek literary works, “*Anor*” and “*Urushning so‘nggi qurboni*”. The research identified key challenges related to culture-specific vocabulary, idiomatic expressions, polysemy, and emotional language.

The findings demonstrate that while various translation strategies are used, achieving full equivalence remains difficult. Lexical choices significantly affect the preservation of meaning, style, and cultural identity.

The study concludes that successful literary translation requires a balance between linguistic accuracy and cultural adaptation. Future research may focus on other levels of translation, such as grammatical and stylistic issues, to provide a more comprehensive understanding of Uzbek-English literary translation.

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