

Problem of possessive constructions in the Yakut language

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Abstract–The definitive constructions (*isafet*) is a very special syntactic structure in the Turkic languages, and the relations between the components kept the same form starting from ancient monuments. In relation to the modern Yakut language possessive definitive phrases with affix in the second component of the combination are the most commonly used, that differ sharply from defining phrases with genitive in the first and affix in the second component of phrases in other Turkic languages. Thuswise, *Isafet III* is completely impossible in the Yakut language, which is formed in the genitive (possessive) case and represents a special form of definition in phrases of possessive nature. Possessive definitive phrases in the Yakut language are quite of widespreadly usage. The formation of phrases with an unformed definition and affix of possessiveness in the second component is a natural phenomenon. In other words, defining constructions are formed in two ways: with a simple juxtaposition of the parts of the construct and with the affix of possessiveness attached to the root of the determined, i.e. second component of the construction. In the Yakut language the absence of genitive case and the wide development of forms of possessive declension determined the identity of the category of possessiveness, both in morphological expression and in the sphere of functioning.

As it is known, direct ownership refers to such relations between objects when one of them is directly related to the other or is its inherent organic part. Thus, the meaning of possessiveness in the Yakut language finds its expression, first of all, in the binomial possessive structure, the first part of which is usually denoted by the subject of possession, and the second, most often with noun, is the object of possession. Such a possessive construction in the Turkic languages is called a possessive combination or a nominal definitive combination; it is the object of study in many articles, monographs and grammars of the Turkic languages. The arrangement of the components of the possessive structure is strictly regular, the permutation of the parts, as a rule, is unacceptable, since it violates the existing syntactical norms of the language and complicates the implementation of communicative functions. A rare violation of this norm is observed mainly in fiction and is associated with the aspect of expression.

Keywords–*possessiveness, possessive constructions, isafet, word forming, component, construction, affix of possessiveness, predicative relations*

I. INTRODUCTION

The semantic connection of construction parts formed using the affix of possessiveness to a third person is closer than the connection of parts of phrases with an unformed attribute. This is especially evident in complex possessive phrases with a chain of definitions. In this case, the definable is concretized by the semantics of the definition immediately before it. The value of the latter, in turn, is specified by the attribute that was prepositively used to it. Thus, as a result of filling out a noun with an affix of belonging to a 3rd person with an accusative case indicator, which was at the end of the identifiable, an attributive relation is transmitted.

II. POSSESSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS IN TURKIC LANGUAGES

The term *izafet* in Turkic literature denotes a nominal definitive phrase, both parts of which are expressed with nouns [1]. Moreover E.I. Ubryatova clearly formulated the meaning of the nominal definitive phrases, she studies the basic syntactic patterns associated with the use of nominal definitive phrases, determined the place of the latter in the composition of the sentence in the Yakut language and gave a full description of simple and complex *isafet* phrases [1]. Researcher of Turkish *isafet* S.S. Maized pointed out that for the formation of *isafet*, it is necessary that one of the two words that come into relationship with each other should be subordinate to the other and depend on it [2].

As it is known, there is a strict linguistic law in the modern Turkic languages, according to which any definition, no matter what part of speech it is expressed, must precede the determination [3]. It follows that definition phrases are combinations related to nouns and consisting of logically related words, of which the previous, determining the next, grammatically and semantically depends on it.

Speaking about category of possessiveness N.A. Baskakov notes that in modern Turkic languages there are two main groups of definitive combinations: determinative definitive combinations - combinations in which neither the definition nor the definition have a morphological expression other than the word order; possessive definitive combinations - combinations in which the relation of definition and determinable, in

addition to word order, is expressed with special affixes of the genitive case (or without them) when determining and affix of affiliation - when defined [4].

The category of possessiveness as a set of forms of expression of attributive relations appears in the second group of definitional combinations - in possessive phrases.

This group of combinations includes two types:

1) definitive combinations in which the definition is framed in the genitive (possessive) case, and the determined - with special affixes of possessiveness;

2) definitive combinations, in which the definition is in the main case, and the determined is framed with the affix of the 3-rd person.

In terms of content isafetas represent a very stable syntactic structure in the Turkic languages, the relations between the components of which remain the same, starting with ancient monuments. The changes relate to the mechanism for expressing the connection between isafet components [5].

So, in the language of monuments of ancient Turkic writing, possessive relations were conveyed in three ways:

1. the first component accepted the affix of the genitive case, while the second did not accept any affix;

2. the first component acted in the form of the main case, the second took the 3rd person affix;

3. the first component appeared in the form of the genitive case, the second - with the affix of belonging to the 3rd person.

The first method, as known, is characteristic of ancient runic monuments. The second and third methods were used in all monuments of ancient Turkic writing, but the use of the third method in runic monuments is limited: as a rule, only nouns denoting a person can be in the form of a genitive case.

In modern Turkic languages the third method is the most frequently used, which is not used in the Yakut language.

So, in Turkology there are three types of isafet:

Type 1 - definition phrases, grammatically designed only with adjunction without indicators.

Type 2 - possessive definitive phrases in which the definition has the form of the main case, and the determined is framed by the corresponding affixes of possessiveness.

Type 3 - possessive definitive phrases, in which the definition is framed in the genitive case, and the determined – in the affix of possessiveness [6].

Speaking about the notion of isafet N.A. Baskakov provides evidence that this term cannot be used to refer to many varieties of phrases in the Turkic languages: «Therefore, we prefer to relate these basic syntactic constructions to the general linguistic term a definitive

phrase differentiating them with determinative definitive phrases "(izafet) and "possessive definitive phrases" (II, III izafets)» [7].

III. POSSESSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS IN THE YAKUT LANGUAGE

In the Yakut language possessive definitive phrases with affix in the second component of the combination are most commonly used, which are very different from defining phrases with genitive in the first and affix in the second component of the phrase. In the Yakut language possessive definitive phrases of the second method (Isafet II) are used in the following cases: 1) definition - proper name, name of the person to whom the object belongs, called defined; 2) the first component of isafet can be expressed with pronouns.

So, as it was noted by Gadzhiev, Serebrennikov in the Yakut language isafet is semantically quite limited and expresses mainly the relation of the defined to the definition on the basis of belonging [8].

In the affix of possessiveness of third person the value of a particular possession prevails as an indicator of the belonging of what is expressed with the second component, to the object expressed with the first component. Therefore, in the Yakut language, the combination of the noun-noun-affix of possessiveness to a third person is an possessive phrase. E.I. Ubryatova claims that «The definition in the isafetic phrase always expresses the specific owner, doer or agent in the Yakut language» [1].

In the Yakut language Isafet III is completely impossible, which is formed in the form of the so-called genitive (possessive) case and represents a special form of definition in collocations of possessive nature.

«This is explained primarily with the fact that in the Yakut language there is no genitive case» [8]. «The disappearance of constructions with a genitive in the Yakut language indicates their antiquity with respect to later constructions without a genitive, which in this language have been preserved as productive constructions» [7]. As E.I. Ubryatova points out that «the affix of the ancient genitive case, which disappeared in the Yakut declension, was preserved only as a designer of the middle parts in a complex phrase» [1].

Possessive definitive phrases in the Turkic languages, including Yakut, are of two types: simple and complex phrases. «A simple isafet phrase consists of two parts: a definition and a definable, which has an affix of possessiveness» [1]. In turn, simple possessive phrases can be divided into two groups, based on what parts of speech its dominant components are expressed with:

1) the dominant component is expressed with nouns;

2) the dominant component is expressed by the derivative form of the verb (participle). E.I. Ubryatova calls the first group of simple phrases with the term of noun izafet or nominal isafet, the second group - the

participative izafet. A complex izafet noun phrase consists of a combination of simple isafet noun phrases. Often there are complex possessive phrases consisting of 3, 4, 5 components, «but in modern literature there are complex isafet phrases consisting of 2-3 simple phrases. A greater number of constituent elements is extremely rare» [1].

From the point of view of the semantic cohesion of components possessive phrases can be divided into decomposable types and indecomposable types. Decomposable possessive phrases can be called definitive, because its first component, having the form of the main case, expresses the subject of possessiveness and fulfills the function of determination, and the second (dominant) component, taking the affix of possessiveness, expresses the object of belonging and performs the function of being determined.

In indecomposable possessive phrases both components are expressed with significant parts of speech and act as a compound word, while the second term is formed with the affix of the 3-rd person.

Possessive definitive phrases are quite widespread in the Yakut language. The formation of phrases with an unformed definition and affix of possessiveness in the second term is a natural phenomenon. In other words, defining constructions are formed in two ways: a) with a simple juxtaposition of parts of the construction; b) by means of affix of affiliation, attached to the base of the determined, i.e. second part of the design.

The first components of the possessive structures of the second method can be in 1 and 2 persons - the pronoun, and in the 3 person- noun.

IV. NOUN POSSESSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS

In phrases with a definition expressed with noun the form of which coincides with the form of the main case, first of all, constructions with an attribute - a proper name and an attribute - a common noun are highlighted. Proper nouns are the names of objects and are a kind of names, with the help of which this or that object is as if distinguished from other definitions. In the role of the first component - in the role of the attributive component of phrases can also be related terms. A complex possessive combination «is a peculiar chain of phrases, with each part associated with the previous and subsequent specific syntactic definitions» [1]. At the same time, the affix of the ancient genitive case *-yn* appears in the 3rd person. E.I. Ubryatova pointed out that this affix was used only instead of the affix of possessiveness to a third person. In the event that instead of the affix of possessiveness to a third person with the second part of the first phrase, which is part of a complex isafet, there are affixes of 1 and 2 persons units and plural, then affix replacement does not occur [1].

A phrase with a definition expressed with a common name is formed quite often. The attributive common name serves as the name of a particular object. Words representing the names of professions,

age designations of people, some social terms, and nations can serve as expressors of the subject of possession.

So, in a possessive noun phrase, where the second component is the noun, made up with the affix of possessiveness, the first parts (subjects of possession) and the person, and animal, and objects of inanimate nature act on equal terms. This confirms the position that any noun is able to accept the affix of possessiveness, but not all nouns, designed as an affix of possessiveness are used in colloquial speech, joining the phrase.

Obviously, any common noun in some cases acts as the name of a single, specific object, in others - as a designation of a generalized meaning. The correlation of a common name with a single object in this case is achieved by clarifying its semantics with an indicative pronoun. In contrast to common nouns, proper names in the Yakut language serve to name only specific objects. This reinforces the assertion that proper names have only a naming function, and common nouns can indicate a certain general concept.

As the first (dependent) component in a possessive nominal definitional combination, personal pronouns can serve usually pointing to a particular person, without conveying its specific characteristics. If at the same time the first parts of the possessive structure expressed with a personal pronoun can be omitted, then the meaning of the sentence is not violated, because the belonging of the subject to the subject of possession is simultaneously expressed with the affix of possessiveness, which in contrast to the pronoun also indicates a number. Cases of omission of the first word of the possessive combination are quite frequent, since personal pronouns are usually used in cases where there is a need to emphasize the belonging of the subject to the doer.

V. CONCLUSION

So, in the modern Yakut language the possessive combination of nouns can be of two types:

1. An possessive combination in which the first component appears in an unformed version, and the second is formed with affix of possessiveness of the 3rd person singular.
2. An possessive phrase in which the first component is expressed with the affix of possessiveness of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd person, the second – by the affix of possessiveness of the 3rd person.

The possessive combination reflects the relations between the subjects of possession. Moreover, the affix of possessiveness indicates that subject of possession is an organic part of the subject of possession. At the same time, if the affix of possessiveness does not play a significant role in understanding the meaning of a statement, the value of direct partship weakens. Affixes of possessiveness express not only the concept of ownership in its legal sense, but also a number of other relations based on the organic connection of one

subject with other objects or persons. These connections can be divided into four groups:

1. Subject-matter relations in which possessive phrase expresses the relationship between objects. It can be a component (inseparable) part of something.

2. Personal-object relations in which a possessive noun phrase expresses real belonging, the so-called proprietary, in which a certain item belongs to a specific person. In such combinations, the first part can be words expressing kinship and close relationships, as well as a specific person's name:

3. Object-personal relations, also realized through the affix of possessiveness to a third person. The second part is the words that indicate the occupation of people, profession and position.

4. Personal-personal relationships. Depending on the context, kinship or close relations between people, words denoting a nation or degree of kinship are expressed.

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