

The Term of Asymmetry and its Interpretation in the Morphology of the Uzbek Language

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ABSTRACT

The concept of asymmetry and the theoretical views related to it have been interpreted differently in science. In the ancient Greek language this term was interpreted as “asymmetry” – not symmetry, the violation or absence of symmetry, and it is understood as a deviation from the uniformity of the relationship between the language units, which shows one of the main features of the structure and use of natural language. The article contains the opinions and comments depending on the scientific views of linguists such as A. Meye, F. Boas, E. Sepir, S. Newman, V. A. Bogorodisky, Sh. Balli, N. M. Mahmudov. Symmetry or asymmetry, first of all, is formed in the mind of a person. With this aspect it is closely connected with the science of logics. The asymmetry of the relations between the units having form and content can be found in many cases. The form, which is in the main and central position in the language system, is always in action and changes in speech moments and speech situations. Such action and change of signs in the language related to the moment and situation of speech is considered one of the important internal factors in determining the development of the language. Therefore, it is proved that time always becomes a part of form and content.

Keywords: Asymmetry, form and content, homonymy, synonymy, polysemy polyfunctionality, language and linguistic sign, kernel and periphery, asymmetric dualism.

INTRODUCTION

Each term has its peculiarity, the essence of the term asymmetry is applied according to volume or appearance (geometric shapes). Diachrony proves that asymmetry affects not only form but also content. Because, the disproportion, which initially belongs to the form (image), later affects the numbers, then the phones and semas, and is formed during the life and has a certain appearance in the mind. Therefore, this term is often used for visual objects and in art. In literary works, asymmetry is one of the important means of formation or composition, and in language it can be seen in the relation between a certain form and meaning. Therefore, we understand the asymmetry in the virtual and visual world. Thus, the dual nature of the language sign should be characterized by the asymmetric feature between the signified and the sign.

The term asymmetry comes from the ancient Greek “asymmetry” (ασυμμετρία – “disproportion”, μετρη – “to measure”) – it is known that it is not symmetry, a violation or absence of symmetry. In language, it is understood as the relationship between language units – order and rule in the structure and use, which show one of the main features of the structure and use of natural language and deviation from uniformity.

LITERATURE REVIEW AND METHODOLOGY

The well-known linguist A. Maye came to the following conclusion based on his research on Germanic languages: "The next main task" is not to study the achieved changes, but must study the “driving principles” and “progressive tendencies” of these changes” (1982: 94).

The founders of the descriptivism, F. Boas, E. Sepir, and S. Newman, researched the units of morphemics based on the terms of process, change, and focused on the formation of secondary forms from primary forms (1972: 240).

Professor V. A. Bogorodisky wrote about the level of language content: “Giving place of genetic meaning to real

meanings is of great economy and importance for thinking. If the real meaning of the word were always drawn to genetic meanings in our minds, this situation would be an extreme obstacle (stop) for thinking, and at the same time for culture as well" (1953: 153).

Thus, disproportion (asymmetry) is the name of an important law that naturally applied in every language, which reflects the different connection, tight relationship of form and content, the processes of change, transformation, and mutual transition of form and content. Since synchrony is the legal successor of diachrony, the homonymy, synonymy, polysemy, and polyfunctionality in each synchronic stage have their own interpretations and reasons. Because of these processes and phenomena, the language fully manifests the ability of a ready (mobile) system meeting the needs of society. The famous French linguist S. Balli gave the following opinion about this feature of language: "The signs (symbols, signs) wrapped in their circles would have served as a very limited resource for meeting many needs of the language. But owing to the inter-categorical exchange, thought becomes freer, the expression becomes richer and has different glosses (shade)" (1955: 143).

In Uzbek linguistics, Prof. N. M. Mahmudov is the first scholar who widely, deeply and scientifically investigated the relation of form and content in the sentence, the phenomenon of asymmetric dualism between them. In his doctoral dissertation devoted to this topic, the scholar notes that attention has been paid not only to the formal, but also to the content side of the sentence, and shows that a new tendency – semantic syntax has appeared in the syntactic theory, which takes into account all the formal-semantic features of syntactic units (1984: 6).

RESULTS

Symmetry or asymmetry, first of all, is formed in the mind of a person. With this aspect, it is closely connected with the science of logics. The concept formed in the mind is expressed by a certain form. A language sign and its meaning depend on the asymmetry of a linguistic unity. Therefore, the language signs are

embodied in the mind in different forms and contents. Moreover, it forms different asymmetry.

The asymmetry of relations between units with a certain form and content can be found in many cases. In this, essence is in the leading position. A semantic unit that is removed or disconnected from the essence is asymmetrical to the original essence. For example, the word “bosh” (head). The beginning part – the beginning in relation to the body, the beginning in relation to life, the beginning in relation to the word...

Human head (part of the body, head), *boshi joyida* (one's head in its place) (to have a head), *boshli yoki boshsiz, boshqa* (with a head or without a head, other) (one's head is not together), *boshboshdoq* (reckless) (one's heads and thoughts are different), *boshchi, boshliq* (head, chief) (a person who stands at the head of a certain team, a person who leads), *boshla, boshlash, boshlanish* (to start, to begin) (conduct a certain activity from the beginning, i.e. start), *boshqar, boshqaruv* (to direct, to manage, to control, to govern) (to control the heads, unite the heads and direct to one activity); *ishning boshi* (the beginning of the work) (the basis for starting), *so'z boshi* (foreword, preface) (the beginning part of the thought to base the idea), *yurtboshi* (the head of the country) (the person elected to lead the people in the country), *boshpana* (a shelter) (a place designed to keep the head safe, a home to live)... These numerous examples show that the specific semantic area of the word *bosh* (head) has expanded and faced to various asymmetry.

DISCUSSION

The language sign and its meaning depend on the asymmetry of the linguistic sign and its meaning on the asymmetry of the linguistic unit. Because, one sema is not always expressed by one sign. If we pay attention to the sema of the word *kir*, *kiris* averb in imperative mood, in the meaning of enter, moving in, coming in, another meaning is an adjective (in the meaning of dirty). But this process does not continue only this way, that is there will be a change in the meaning. We do not only wash the dirt, but also,

we understand the washed clothes by the word kir. This case makes special asymmetry to the word kir.

In linguistics asymmetry is not formed only in terms of lexicon, it may also be in phonemes, morphemes, in syntactic units and even in the form of a text.

The problem of asymmetry in the relations between the units of the level of form and the units of the level of content is found in the works of S. Karsevsky. In justifying this relation, the scholar expresses the idea of the asymmetric dualism of the linguistic sign, the essence of the idea: both sides of the linguistic unit (defined by the sign and the sign), that is, the relation between them will definitely break down. That means, the sound form of the word will change little by little and slowly. Also, content of the word will change slowly, though it is very fast. This original compatibility or symmetry will break down little by little, and asymmetry will take place. It turns the linguistic sign into a means of universal communication (1965: 85).

Thus, the state of symmetry is not stable and it slowly passes to the state of asymmetry. Such a change in the form does not occur at the same time.

As it is in other language levels, there is also a complex relationship between form and content at the morphemic level. Therefore, in morphemic level different forms of irrationalism (F. de Saussure) or asymmetry (S. O. Karsevskiy) are found: "If the language mechanism were completely rational, it would be possible to study as a "thing in itself" (1977: 165). Of course, the essence of the language is rich and multi-aspected to any pattern, standard and rule. Any rules and generalizations reflect the most typical connections. Such connections are explained by the process of symmetric dualism, which is applied in the language system and has its own legal basis.

First, the main function of the language is to serve as a means of communication between all members of the linguistic community, and on the other hand, it serves as a means of self-expression for each representative of this community. No matter how much language is socialized, it cannot be transformed into the forms of our mental life, individual social concepts. In this respect, the semiological values of the language, as its formal

form, are necessarily virtual, and therefore the level of perception is general. Therefore, language remains independent in the communication of individuals. In this case, language signs should always be relevant to a new, specific situation. Because the semiotics formed in the speech process may be strange to another speech.

Language units are different. If the units were motionless and each of them performed only one function, language would be just a collection of symbols. But its units are so dynamic that it is impossible to imagine the language without them meaning anything outside of specific situations. It follows that the character of a linguistic sign must be both permanent and dynamic at the same time. A sign that is taken to adapt to a particular situation can change only partially, and the sign must remain the same because of the motionless of another part. Even in this case, asymmetrical units begin to appear.

For example, in morphemes, the area of semantic "coverage" gradually expands from quantitative to qualitative, defined mental images are constantly enriched and developed by the growing experience of mankind, resulting in constant shifts in the language system.

Through morphemic analysis, adding a morpheme to one word unit of a language often shows that it does not match with the morpheme of another word, and it is necessary to study the syntagmatic relationship between the morphemes of these two words. In some literature, this case is called word valency. In this respect, morphemes are not attached to all words. The asymmetry related to the state of correlation of morphemes are common in our language. While patterning prevails in the morphological units of the Uzbek language, in the syntactic units this process is more free. However, the state of asymmetry can be found not only at the level of morphemes, but also at the level of syntactic units.

The occurrence of symmetry in two phenomena is proven in the scientific literature: in the difference between the center (kernel) and the periphery and in the difference between the signified and the sign.

In general, the concept of asymmetry and the related theoretical views have been interpreted differently in science. When this term began to be used for natural language – human language, it began to be used with the meaning of one of the main characteristics of the language – the general order, regularity, deviation from uniformity in the structure and operation of natural language. In general linguistics, this term is used for two cases:

1. to show the relationship between the center (kernel) and the periphery in the language system, to determine the interrelationships;
2. the distancing of the connection between the expressed and expressive aspects of language signs, to show the asymmetry in the general situation (2000: 47).

There is always difference between kernel and periphery. They are universal phenomena that occur in different aspects. Kernel is the main phonemes in terms of the structure of the language, fusion (flexion), word formation (derivation), word combinations are the most active language during the certain historical period of the language progress. In this respect any kernel serves as a basis for any language (and Periphery is distancing from patterns). While the centre (kernel) consists of forms and contents particular to a certain group formally and semantically, the periphery is manifested in intermediate forms and meanings between one category and others.

Let 's say, if any personal form among the verb forms belongs to the center, all the impersonal forms show the peripheral aspect, because they unite the features of the verb and other speech parts. This can be seen in nouns too. The kernel for nouns is made by common nouns, belongs to concrete and abstract nouns. Thus, this aspect shows the peripheral sign.

In many languages a simple two-member sentence takes the central place. In terms of functionality center forms are used, therefore, there will be less periphery. It can be said as a result of the observations that from the point of view of social linguistics periphery is the element particular to one part of society,

communication. That's why periphery does not distance from the center and it may not act without center. In the process of the language development some elements spread around from the center (transition) and on the contrary, can be drawn to the center (transition). Special studies should be conducted in order to notice it.

Because of the lack of formation of a certain meaning enough, or existence of another substituting form different disproportions come out. In this case, the form expressing the meaning can have two different forms. These meanings develop evenly or unevenly. It gives a bit difficulty to differentiate the asymmetry observed in the formation of some verbs and expression of meaning in terms of sema. But their usage is always the same. Let's say, expressing the past tense formed by an incomplete verb differentiates the meaning from the past tense affix *di*. Although it differentiates from the forms and the meanings are the same, its sema area differentiates a little. By this feature not only form and kernel, but also semantic periphery can be observed as well. For example, *borgan+di* – *borgan edi* (went). In terms of form the expression of time is different. In the expression of meaning there is a difference too: *borgandi*–gone recently; *borgan edi* –went long before (long time before), there is probability of slowness. *Borgan+mish* –near to the probability of having gone, it is also possible that may not have gone; *borgan emish* –far from the probability of having gone, it is not known that he went (did not go). It is understood from the examples that the sema areas serving to express one meaning though, emphasizing meaning is noticed in the sema of the incomplete verb meaning. This aspect shows asymmetry of periphery sema to the kernel.

Such asymmetry can also be found in analytical forms: in the units *o'qib chiqdi* – *o'qidi* (read) differentiating analytical forms *-ib chiqserves* to make broad meaning towards the verbo'*qidi* (read). The analytical form is enriching the verb not only by form, but also by content. Actually, nuclear sema area in the verbs enriches by analytical forms. *Ayt(ib ko'r)di* – *aytdi*(said, told). In the form *aytdi* (said, told) it is one-time action and the result is not important. In the form *aytib ko'r di* (tried telling) the

probability of expecting the answer is high, return reaction is being checked. In general, the attachment of the complicated (leading) forms to the verb leads to expansion of sema area of verbs and expression of action becomes more clear: in the form *aytdi* the action is general, in the form *aytib ko'rdi* (tried telling) the action is directed to a certain situation and the result is expected.

One of the central units of the language is word. When talking about the word, first of all, it is necessary to consider its two sides: form and content. The fact that studying the word and its composition is very complicated phenomenon has been noted a lot in the literature. The form of the word, its role in the language system, its unique structure: sound, syllable and morpheme structure determine its one aspect, while its expression of meaning (primary meaning, figurative meaning, grammatical meaning) is of important feature.

The issue of form and content is directly connected with the term asymmetry in linguistics. Therefore, the change of units particular to the morpheme composition of the word is also one of the factors causing to change the meaning of the word. As word meaning changes, new forms appear too. On the contrary, as the new forms appear, they start to give new meanings to the word.

For the changes in the word the influence of the lexeme on the morpheme or of the morpheme on the phoneme is an important factor. Transition of the first part in the word into the second part or the second part into the first part; the influence of the first part on the second part or of the second part on the first part; the change in the word as the time passes (diachronically) or uniformity; the emergence of similar or exactly the same unit causes different asymmetry to appear in the composition of the word.

The emergence of such units in the language system causes polysemy, homonymy, antonymy. Although the emergence of such concepts is connected with the historical roots of the language, from today's view point the emergence of new units appears natural.

Asymmetry belongs not only to the form, but also to the content. The reason is that the word also expresses additional meanings in the text besides its primary meaning. This case can occur among the affixes too. A. Gulomov gave a dozen meanings of the affix -sin in his works besides its plural form meaning in the text. This idea can be found in the works of Sh. Rakhmatullaev too. Thus, it is not a secret that the issue of the asymmetry of form and content shows that it is necessary to conduct different research works both diachronically and synchronically in linguistics.

Linguistic units, including morphemic units, change historically-semasiologically, linguosemiotically, and functionally maintaining their common essence, and are subjected to the processes of redistribution and placement. Such processes, re-divisions in the language occur in the language system in different situations and periods ("Scientific heritage of Gulomov" 2005). The expansion or contraction of morpheme units in this way leads to the increase of new morphemes in the language, the formation of lexemes.

Prof. I. K. Kuchkortoev, giving his opinion towards S. O. Karsevsky's views on asymmetric dualism, emphasized these points: "in the language the signifier of the symbol (sign) the signified (sound material) (content) is disconnected with each other in a particular way. The relationship between the signifier and the signified is not an absolute, fixed relationship... The relationship between the signifier and the signified is a free relationship at a certain degree. In other words, both the signifier and the signified have relative independence in language" (1977: 25-26).

It is obvious from the opinion above that form and content are always interrelated in language. But this relationship is not absolute or eternal, but form and content are independent in different cases. This feature of form and content is more reflected in the process of speech. Such expressions in the language show its new possibilities.

In some studies, it is argued that the morpheme does not have an independent meaning. This idea is relative, because there are cases that morphemes are also drawn into ready-made units for expressing meaning in our minds. For example, when we think of

the affix –lar(-s/-es), the plural form is embodied in our mind. It is known from the studies about the language units that in the history of linguistics the word, phrase and sentence models were defined first, and then phoneme and morpheme. Accordingly, language levels and their hierarchical relationships were also described: “In this case, the morpheme, word, and sentence are two-sided units, while the phoneme is interpreted as a one-sided unit... If we carefully consider these units, we can immediately notice that they lack a certain consistency: all these units are the units based on the discretization of the speech flow by expression (by sound). However, the flow of speech is a phenomenon that has a discrete character not only in terms of expression, but also in terms of content” (Kuchkortoev 1977: 37-38).

It is clear that according to the consistency of the division of speech units into parts (units) by the expression, it is necessary to divide the units of the content into certain parts as well (Мартине 1963: 463).

Prof. I. K. Kuchkortoev draws the following conclusion based on his analysis: “If the two-sided units of the language, including the structure of the expression plan (name) of the word, are independent to a certain extent than the structure of the content plan (meaning) is also independent. From this comes the principle conclusion that it is necessary to include the segments (meanings) of the content plan of the language among the main units of the language” (Kuchkortoev 1977: 38).

Changes in the language change with the conditions of a certain space (environment, society) in all the times: “Language exists and develops in the time. The relationship between the signified and the signifier is valid in the time, it occurs in the development (evolution) of the signified and the signifier. Thus, the time coordinate is a permanent component of sound and meaning” (Караулов 1974: 416).

CONCLUSION

The form, which is in the main and central position in the language system, is always in action and changes in speech moments and speech situations. Such an action and change of

signs in the language related to the moment and situation of speech is considered one of the important internal factors in determining the development of the language. Thus, time will always be a part of form and content. In other words, in each period, form and content form their own asymmetries.

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