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PERSIAN-TAJIK WORD-FORMING AFFIXES OF THE AGENT NOUN IN THE UZBEK LANGUAGE

(on the example of suffixes -kor, -gar, -gor*)

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Abstract

In the process of a long contact of Uzbek and Tajik has penetrated a lot of words with their word-forming elements. One of the problems of mutual influence and mutual enrichment of contracting languages is a borrowing of word-forming affixes. In works on modern Uzbek literary language, it is said that the suffix -kor with variant forms -kar, -gar and -gor was initially adopted through Tajik as a part of words of Arab and Persian origin. Later it began to form new words both from proper Uzbek, and borrowed bases.

Although -gar, -gâr and -kâr are synonymous, they are not, however, identical. The words formed with -gar mainly describe a person in connection with his work. Suffixes -gâr, -kâr are much more commonly used to form words expressing basic character traits, many of them easily becoming adjectives. Although there is some difference, there is a close connection between these suffixes, so that parallel forms often arise.

The article considers the use of suffixes -kor, -gar, -gor of Persian-Tajik origin in Uzbek language and their semantic features.

Keywords: affixation, word-formation of agent nouns, word-formation type, word-formation meaning, productivity / non-productivity; high productivity / low productivity; the possibility of word-formation, derivative word, derivative borrowing.

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Introduction.

For many centuries, the Tajik and Uzbek languages, along with words, borrowed from each other word-building elements, which influenced the development of the word-formation system in both languages. The article considers the use of suffixes *-kor*, *-gar*, *-gor* of Persian-Tajik origin in Uzbek language and their semantic features.

Literature Review:

In works on modern Uzbek literary language, it is stated that the suffix *-kor* with variant forms *-kar*, *-gar* and *-gor* was initially adopted through Tajik as a part of words of Arab and Persian origin [8:109]. Later it began to form new words from both proper Uzbek and borrowed bases. But in modern Uzbek literary language only *-kor* is a word-forming one, and its variants do not participate in new formations. Even some borrowed Tajik words with suffixes *-gar*, *-gor* are used in Uzbek with *-kor*: *hiylagar* → *hiylakor* ‘cunning’, *fusungar* → *fusunkor* ‘charming’, *xizmatgor* → *xizmatkor* ‘servant’, *madadgor* → *madadkor* 1) ‘protector’, ‘defender’, 2) ‘helper’, ‘support’ [12:68-69].

In studies on word formation, textbooks and manuals of the Uzbek language, there are different opinions about the suffix *-kor* and its functions. In some works, it is considered as a suffix of nouns and in others as an adjective. In later works, it is noted as a suffix of both nouns (names of persons) and adjectives [12:70, 117].

Analysis:

At present, the basic unit of word-formation is naturally recognized as a word-formation type – “a formal-semantic scheme of construction of derivative words of a particular part of speech, abstracted from their specific properties. Derivative words composing a word-formation type are characterized by the commonality of three main features: 1) have derivatives

belonging to the same part of speech; 2) have the same formal indicator; 3) express the same semantic relations to their derivatives, i.e. have the same word-formation meaning” [6:31]. In the book by A. Khojiev “The system of word-formation of the Uzbek language” the words formed with the suffix *-kor* are classified according to the word-formation type as follows:

1. The word is joined to the word-formation stem (hereafter – the stem) denoting crops and expresses the meaning of a person engaged in the cultivation of these plants: *sholikor* ‘rice grower’, *polizkor* ‘melon grower’, *lubkor* ‘bast grower’, *tamakikor* ‘tobacco grower’, etc.
2. Attaching to bases denoting some action, deed or activity, it expresses a person engaged in that which is expressed by the base: *qasoskor* ‘avenger’, *xaloskor* ‘liberator’, *tajribakor* ‘experimenter’, etc.

The suffix *-kor* is also an adjective-forming affix and words formed with it, characterise a person (very seldom an object) by the action or attribute that characterises him: *riyokor* ‘hypocrite’, ‘hypocritical’, *gunohkor* ‘sinner’, ‘guilty’, ‘sinful’ [12:70, 115]; expresses the meaning ‘having more of that which is named in the derivative base or a strong degree of the feature’: *shijoatkor* ‘brave’, ‘bold’, *tadbirkor* ‘entrepreneur’ [12:116].

Uzbek linguists consider this suffix as a base (also a participle) of the verb *koridan* ‘to sow’, ‘to plant’ in Tajik [8:110; 12:69]. For example, in the words *g'allakor* ‘farmer’, ‘grain farmer’ (producing grain), *paxtakor* ‘cotton farmer’, *sabzavotkor* ‘vegetable grower’ the meaning of the verb *koridan* is really reflected (i.e. the words with the meaning ‘sowing something’ or ‘sown by something’ are formed with this suffix, but along with the above mentioned words in such words as *binokor* ‘builder’, *san'atkor* ‘art worker’, *tashabbuskor* ‘initiator’, ‘proactive’, *xiyonatkor* ‘traitor’, another word-formation meaning is observed. This is explained by affix

homonymy as a result of accidental coincidence of linguistic units in the course of language development.

Studies on Classical Persian (considering the fact that the language of classical Persian-Tajik literature was a common literary language of Persians and Tajiks, and the literature created through it is their common heritage, by the term “Classical Persian” is meant “Classical Persian-Tajik”) the genesis of the suffix -gar, -gâr, going back to Prairanic *-kara-, *-kâra- ‘doing’ (‘agent noun’ [9: 19]) (kar-: kâr- ‘to do’) [4:212]. Moreover, the suffix -kâr is considered as a variant of -gar, -gâr with a newly reconstituted deaf -k and is more productive than -gar in modern Persian, Dari (Farsi-Kabuli of Afghanistan) and Tajik [4:212-213]. In sources of Middle Iranian language epoch these suffixes are described as -gar (early -kar) and -gâr (early -kâr) separately [3: 72]. The suffix -gar/-kar formed personal names (adjectives and nouns) from the names: âmârgar < hamârkar ‘financial official’; pêrôzgar ‘victorious, victorious’; çêlângar ‘one who makes swords’ (compare: in modern Uzbek *chilangar* ‘locksmith’); zarr(i)gar ‘goldsmith’. The suffix -gâr/-kâr formed names mainly from personal names, as well as from verbal bases: ziyângâr ‘harmful’; hammôzgar ‘teacher’; vinângâr (early vinâskâr) ‘offender, sinner’; from pronoun: x(v)êškâr ‘obedient, executive’ [3:72].

Results and Discussions:

The above suffixes are etymologically the same, but their degree of productivity in derivation is different. For example, the suffix -kar is found in the Old and Middle Persian languages. In the New Persian language epoch (since 9th - 10th cc.) formation of new words with its participation is not registered (this denies an opinion of the Uzbek linguists, that in the Uzbek language “the agent noun or the representative of a particular profession, for example, *miskar* ‘coppersmith’ (*mis*

‘copper’) is formed from bases of words ending with a dull consonant” [8:109]. There is also a certain difference in the use of these suffixes.

Although -gar, -gâr and -kâr are synonymous, they are not, however, identical. The words formed with -gar mainly describe a person in connection with his work. Suffixes -gâr, -kâr are much more commonly used to form words expressing basic character traits, many of them easily becoming adjectives. Although there is some difference, there is a close connection between these suffixes, so that parallel forms often arise.

In the further development of the modern Persian, Dari and Tajik languages the agent nouns (personal names) are formed more often with the suffix -kâr. This may be explained by its homonymy with the word *kâr* ‘work’. In the translation dictionaries of the above languages the word *kâr* ‘work’ is also recorded as the second component of a compound word with the meaning of doing smth. and the examples are *gonâhkâr* a) ‘sinner’; b) ‘sinful’, *jenâyatkâr* ‘criminal’, *xedmatkâr* ‘servant’ [5:287; 2:571] (the use of these words in Uzbek draws attention). The sources present the scheme of the origin of the word ‘sinner’ as follows: *gonâhkâr* < Classical Pers. *gunâhgâr* < Middle Pers. *vinângâr*, early. *vinâsgâr* (wn’sk’l, in Manichaean texts wn’hg’r) [3:72; 4:213]. So there is every reason to consider the word *gonâhkâr* as a reconstituted version (from *gunâhgâr*). It should be noted that in the above languages, words are also formed with -kâr, the present tense base of the verb *kâştan* – *kâridan* ‘to sow’ (the semi-affixal method of word formation; semi-affixes not being affixes, practically fulfil in a word their function, but unlike affixes, have a concrete lexical meaning), which results in an accidental coincidence of forms. It is clear to native speakers that a) *kâr* ‘work’ (hereafter – -kor I), b) -kâr suffix (hereafter – -kor II), c) -kâr semi-affix (hereafter – -kor III), i.e. the present

tense base of verb *kâštan* – *kâridan* and their use in derived words. For example, in the meaning of ‘work’ the 2-component of a compound word: شاه کار *šâhkâr* 1) ‘generous’, 2) ‘art’; ‘skillful work’ (compound word – composition); as a suffix: فداکار *fedâkâr* ‘selflessly brave’ (derived word – affixation); as semi-affix: پخته کار *paxtakâr* ‘cotton-grower’ (compositoid – semi-affixation).

In Uzbek linguistics, a number of studies have been carried out on affixal word-formation of the Uzbek language [1, 7, 11]. Suffix *-kor* is well studied within the system of word-formation of nouns and adjectives. In studies of the 80s, it is considered a productive suffix [10:259, 8:110], in subsequent years its low usage is pointed out [12:117]. But in all works, derivatives with the omoaffixes *-kor* I, *-kor* II, *-kor* III are given in the same series and studied together. For example, A.N. Kholmuradov notes that *-kor* is the most productive of the other loanword suffixes, because it can be used with Arabic bases (madadkor 1) ‘protector’, ‘defender’, 2) ‘helper’, The suffixes can be used in Arabic (*madadkor* 1. ‘protector’, ‘helper’, ‘support’), Tajik (*bastakor* ‘composer’), Turkic (*lalmikor* ‘a peasant engaged in rain-fed farming’), Russian (*lubkor*, *lubkor xo’jalik* ‘a household engaged in arboriculture’) [8: 110, 111]. Obviously, in the first two examples *-kor* II and in the last two examples *-kor* III. The author further writes that the suffix *-kor* influenced the development of the Uzbek language in the XV century and was especially organically used in works of A. Navoi, e.g. *badkor* ‘a scoundrel’, ‘a villain’, ‘a fiend’, *zarkor* ‘a goldsmith’, *lolakor* ‘a tulip grower’, *nag’makor* ‘a musician’, *sitamkor* ‘a bully’, ‘a tyrant’, *hasadkor* ‘a jealous’, ‘one who experiences or incurs jealousy’ etc. [8:111]. Here too, the affix homonymy is observed: *badkor* – *-kor* I, *zarkor* – *-kor* II, *lolakor* – *-kor* III, *nag’makor* – *-kor* II, *sitamkor* – *-kor* II, etc.

The above presented word-formation types of derivative words with the suffix *-kor* are noted by Uzbek linguists, who explain the absence of word-formation meanings of some derivatives by borrowing. For example, the adjectives *ehtiyotkor* ‘cautious’, ‘thrifty’, *tadbirkor* ‘entrepreneur’ denote persons characterised by the activity expressed in the stem, while the word *gunohkor* ‘guilty’ lacks this meaning. And also the same type is not observed in the meanings of the words *fusunkor* ‘enchanted’ and *maftunkor* ‘enchanted’ [12:115].

Conclusion.

Thus, the analysis of the material leads to the following conclusions:

1. The suffix *-kor* with variant forms *-kar*, *-gar*, *-gor* of Persian-Tajik origin ascends to Prairanic **-kara-*, **-kâra-* ‘doing’; ‘agent noun’ (*kar-*: *kâr-* ‘to do’).
2. In modern Uzbek literary language the suffixes *-gar*, *-gor* are non-productive, and *-kor* is low-productive. This is explained by high productivity of the suffix *-chi* of Turkic origin in their word-formation meanings.
3. Uzbek borrows words from Tajik as well, which are formed with the participation of the lexeme *kâr* ‘work’ and the semi-affix *-kâr* (present tense verb stem *kâštan* – *kâridan* ‘to sow’). This gives rise to the affix homonymy, which previously was not considered in studies.
4. Determination of semantics and functions of suffixes *-kor* I, *-kor* II and *-kor* III helps to identify the word-formation meanings of derivatives of the Uzbek language formed with their participation.

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