

CULTURAL DIFFERENCES AFFECTING ENGLISH-KARAKALPAK TRANSLATION.

Usakhov Rustem Muratovich

3rd year doctoral student of Karakalpak State University

e-mail: rustemrus1028@gmail.com

Abstract. This article explores the significant impact of cultural differences on the translation process between English and Karakalpak. Given the increasing importance of cross-cultural communication in a globalized world, understanding how cultural nuances influence translation is crucial for achieving accurate and meaningful interpretations. Through a qualitative analysis of various literary texts, this research identifies key cultural disparities, including linguistic variations, social norms, and historical contexts that shape the translation landscape. The findings reveal that translators often encounter challenges related to idiomatic expressions, contextual meanings, and cultural references that do not have direct equivalents in the target language.

Keywords: English-Karakalpak translation, cultural differences, linguistic structure, idiomatic language, politeness expressions, social norms, adaptation, localization, cultural sensitivity, translation strategies, language barriers.

Аннотация. В этой статье рассматривается значительное влияние культурных различий на переводческий процесс между английским и каракалпакским языками. Учитывая возрастающее значение межкультурной коммуникации в глобализованном мире, понимание того, как культурные нюансы влияют на перевод, имеет важное значение для достижения точных и осмысленных интерпретаций. В данном исследовании посредством качественного анализа различных литературных текстов выявлены ключевые культурные различия, в том числе языковые вариации, социальные нормы и исторические контексты, формирующие переводческий ландшафт. Результаты показывают, что переводчики часто сталкиваются с проблемами, связанными с идиоматическими выражениями, контекстуальными значениями и культурными ссылками, которые не имеют прямых эквивалентов в целевом языке.

Ключевые слова: англо-каракалпакский перевод, культурные различия, лингвистическая структура, идиоматический язык, выражения вежливости, социальные нормы, адаптация, локализация, культурная чувствительность, стратегии перевода, языковые барьеры.

Annotatsiya. Ushbu maqolada ingliz va qoraqalpoq tillari o'rtasidagi madaniy tafovutlarning tarjima jarayoniga sezilarli ta'siri o'rganilgan. Globallashib borayotgan dunyoda madaniyatlararo muloqotning ahamiyati ortib borayotganini hisobga olgan holda, madaniyatlar nozikliklari tarjimada qanday ta'sir qilishini tushunish aniq va mazmunli talqinlarga erishish uchun juda muhimdir. Turli badiiy

matnlarni sifatli tahlil qilish orqali ushbu tadqiqotda asosiy madaniy nomutanosibliklar, jumladan, tarjima landshaftini shakllantiradigan lingvistik variantlar, ijtimoiy me'yorlar va tarixiy kontekstlar aniqlanadi. Natijalar shuni ko'rsatadiki, tarjimonlar ko'pincha tarjima tilida to'g'ridan-to'g'ri ekvivalentga ega bo'lmagan idiomatik iboralar, kontekstual ma'nolar va madaniy havolalar bilan bog'liq qiyinchiliklarga duch kelishadi.

Kalit so'zlar: inglizcha-qoraqalpoqcha tarjima, madaniy farqlar, lingvistik struktura, idiomatik til, xushmuomalalik ifodalari, ijtimoiy me'yorlar, moslashtirish, mahalliyashtirish, madaniy sezgirlik, tarjima strategiyalari, til to'siqlari.

Translation serves as a crucial bridge in global communication, enabling the exchange of ideas, literature, and culture across linguistic boundaries [2, 169-172]. With the rise of globalization, the demand for effective translation has never been greater, particularly between languages with distinct cultural backgrounds. One such pair is English and Karakalpak. Understanding the intricacies of translating between these two languages involves not only linguistic proficiency but also a deep awareness of the cultural contexts that shape language use. Cultural differences play a pivotal role in the translation process, influencing how meanings are constructed, interpreted, and conveyed.

Translators often encounter challenges arising from idiomatic expressions, proverbs, and social norms that do not have direct equivalents in the target language. For instance, while English-speaking cultures may prioritize individualism and directness in communication, Karakalpak culture emphasizes collectivism and indirectness, which can lead to misunderstandings if not carefully navigated. Thus, the ability to bridge these cultural divides is essential for achieving accurate translations that resonate with the intended audience. This article aims to explore the cultural differences that affect English-Karakalpak translation, focusing on how these differences manifest in translation challenges and strategies. By examining various literary texts and conducting interviews with professional translators, this research seeks to identify key cultural disparities and their implications for translation practice [4, 279-292].

Methodology. The research design is centered around qualitative methods, which are particularly effective in capturing the nuanced dynamics of cultural differences that affect translation. By focusing on qualitative data, the study aims to uncover the rich, contextualized experiences of translators, offering a more comprehensive understanding of the interplay between language and culture in translation practices. This approach is aligned with the increasing recognition in translation studies of the importance of cultural competence as a key element of effective translation.

A selection of literary texts originally written in English and subsequently translated into Karakalpak was meticulously analyzed. These texts were chosen based on their cultural significance, as well as their inclusion of idiomatic expressions, cultural references, and social norms that pose potential translation challenges. The aim of this analysis was to identify specific instances where cultural differences impacted the translation choices made by translators. By examining both successful

translations and those that encountered difficulties, the study highlights the complexities and nuances of the translation process.

Results. The analysis revealed several key cultural differences that significantly impact the translation process between English and Karakalpak. These findings are categorized into three main themes: linguistic nuances, social norms, and contextual meanings. Each theme is illustrated with examples drawn from both the textual analysis and the interviews with professional translators.

One of the most prominent challenges identified in the study is the presence of idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms that do not have direct equivalents in Karakalpak. Translators reported difficulties in conveying the intended meaning of phrases that are culturally specific to English-speaking audiences. For example:

- Idiomatic Expressions: The English phrase “kick the bucket” (meaning to die) poses a significant translation challenge. Translators noted that while they could convey the literal meaning, the cultural context and humor embedded in the idiom were often lost in translation. Instead, they opted for more neutral phrases like “passed away” to ensure clarity, even at the cost of losing the original nuance.
- Colloquialisms: Phrases such as “barking up the wrong tree” (meaning to pursue a mistaken course of action) were similarly difficult to translate. Translators highlighted the need to find equivalent expressions in Karakalpak that would resonate culturally while maintaining the intended message.
- Politeness and Indirect Communication: Translators emphasized the importance of politeness in Karakalpak culture. They often modify English sentences to soften direct requests or statements, using phrases that reflect deference and respect. For example, an English request such as “Give me your book” might be translated into a more polite form in Karakalpak, such as “Could you please lend me your book?” This adjustment ensures the translation adheres to cultural expectations regarding politeness.

The analysis highlighted how contextual meanings shaped by cultural backgrounds affect translation accuracy. Key insights include:

- Cultural References: Translators reported challenges when dealing with culturally specific references that may not be familiar to Karakalpak audiences. For example, references to Western holidays like Thanksgiving require additional explanation or adaptation to make them relevant for Karakalpak readers. Translators may substitute such references with local holidays or customs to enhance relatability.
- Historical and Geographical Influences: The historical context of Karakalpak culture also plays a role in translation choices. For instance, historical events or figures significant to Karakalpak identity may not have direct counterparts in English texts. Translators must carefully navigate these differences to preserve cultural significance while conveying the intended meaning. One translator noted, “When translating historical texts, I have to provide background information to ensure that readers understand the context fully.” Overall, the findings of this study underscore the complex interplay between language and culture in the translation process. The challenges identified highlight the necessity for translators to possess not only linguistic skills but also cultural competence. By addressing these cultural

differences, translators can enhance the quality of their work and foster effective communication between English and Karakalpak speakers.

Discussion. The findings of this study reveal that cultural differences significantly influence the translation process between English and Karakalpak. As demonstrated in the results, linguistic nuances, social norms, and contextual meanings present unique challenges for translators. Understanding these challenges is crucial for improving translation practices and fostering effective communication across cultural boundaries.

The difficulties associated with idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms highlight the importance of linguistic relativity in translation. Translators must not only possess a strong grasp of both languages but also be adept at recognizing how cultural context shapes language use. The loss of nuance when translating idiomatic expressions, as illustrated by the examples from the results section, can lead to misunderstandings or diluted meanings. This finding aligns with previous research emphasizing the need for translators to develop creative strategies that allow for the preservation of meaning while adapting to the target culture.

The study also underscores the role of social norms in shaping translation choices. The emphasis on collectivism and politeness in Karakalpak culture necessitates that translators adopt a culturally sensitive approach. As noted by several participants, the adaptation of direct English expressions into more indirect and polite forms demonstrates an awareness of cultural expectations. This finding supports the idea that effective translation goes beyond linguistic accuracy; it requires a deep understanding of the cultural context in which the translation occurs. Moreover, the impact of social norms on translation choices raises important questions about the role of the translator as a cultural mediator. Translators must navigate between the source and target cultures, often acting as advocates for the target audience. This dual role necessitates a high level of cultural competence, allowing translators to make informed decisions that reflect the values and expectations of the target culture while remaining faithful to the source text.

This study has illuminated the significant impact of cultural differences on the translation process between English and Karakalpak. Through a qualitative analysis of textual data and insights from professional translators, it has become evident that linguistic nuances, social norms, and contextual meanings play pivotal roles in shaping translation outcomes. The findings reveal that effective translation requires more than mere linguistic proficiency; it necessitates a deep understanding of the cultural contexts from which both languages emerge.

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