

Stylistics of Adjectives in The Karakalpak Language

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Abstract: This article discusses the stylistics of adjectives in works of Karakalpak literature. It examines the stylistic use of antonyms, synonyms, and adjectives, as well as their function as artistic and expressive devices.

Keywords: Adjectives, synonymous adjectives, stylistics, antonymous adjectives, suffixes.

Introduction: 1. Adjectives as Artistic Devices

Since adjectives express the quality, characteristic, size, appearance, and other features of an object, they perform an important function in language as artistic devices such as epithets, similes, and others. As artistic devices, adjectives are also widely used in figurative meanings. In figurative meanings, adjectives denoting color and shades are especially common.

Examples:

1. "Aq sütiñdi qarıştırıp qanıma,

Háweletip kóterdiñ alaqańında."[1]

In this example, the phrase aq süt ("white milk") includes not only the mother's milk given to her child, but also her upbringing, kindness, affection, and all the advice she gave, all expressed through one phrase.

2. "Tabınar jas áwlad basların iyip,

Altın uyam mádeniyat mektebi!" [2] (B.S.)

Here, the phrase altın uya ("golden nest") does not literally mean a bird's nest made of gold; rather, it metaphorically compares the school of culture, where the younger generation receives education and upbringing, to a golden nest. Gold is a precious and valuable metal that cannot easily be replaced with anything else; therefore, the poet compares such a great institution to gold. Here, two nouns come together, and the first answers the question "what kind?" by explaining the quality or figurative meaning

of the object.

3. "Ay, bilemizgoy, qızıl til menen, prokurordıń basın aylandırıp otırğoy." [2] (Sh.A.)

Here, qızıl til ("red tongue") does not literally refer to a person's red tongue; rather, it means speaking well, flattering someone, and presenting oneself favorably.

4. "Qargıbwadı silkip, julqınadı iyt, Qazıq tislerinen tamdı silekey." [3] (K.K.)

Here, two nouns are combined, with the first describing the second. This example is taken from K. Karimov's book "Qaraqalpaq elim meniń". In order to show the dog's special nature and furious anger, the epithet qazıq tis ("stake-like teeth") is used. We can see that adjectives play a special role in creating such epithets.

5. "Iqlasımdı tartıp jipek burımlar, Qıyqash qas, qıpsha bel, piste murınlar." [3] (K.K.)

In this example, epithets such as jipek burım ("silk braids"), qıyqash qas ("arched eyebrows"), qıpsha bel ("slim waist"), and piste murın ("small pistachio-like nose") are used to portray the extraordinary beauty of a girl. Her braids are soft and pleasant like silk, her eyebrows are attractively curved, her waist is slender and delicate, and her nose is beautifully small like a pistachio. Thus, the image of a beautiful girl is artistically created.

6. "Turaniy zaminge zıya taratıp, Teberik sózleri dıqqattı tartıp." [3]

This example is taken from K. Karimov's poem. Here, the epithet *teberik* ("sacred, blessed") artistically beautifies the word *sózleri* ("words"). The poem is about Suleyman Baqırǵani, one of Yasawi's disciples, and discusses his service in spreading Islamic teachings throughout Central Asia and his greatness as a person. Therefore, both the person and his words are described as *teberik* ("blessed"). With just one word, the poet reveals his character and image.

In these examples, adjectives are used figuratively to describe nouns and create the image of a beautiful girl. As shown above, adjectives perform the function of artistic devices very actively in literary language because they help convey speech vividly, artistically, and expressively to listeners.

Synonymous Adjectives

Many adjectives are synonymous in meaning and serve to express the qualities of objects comprehensively.

1. "Sóyleymiz jigirma toǵız hárip penen,

Tilimiz bek, ajarlı, jalpaq emes." [4]

In these examples, synonyms are given both as individual words and word combinations. In the first example, the words *bek*, *ajarlı*, and *jalpaq emes* function as contextual synonyms. Words with different shades of meaning are skillfully united around one idea. In poetic language, the words are appropriately and artistically chosen.

2. "Áy aǵa, tiliń artıq, sheshen eken,

Kewiliń júyrik, sózge kósem eken." [4]

In this example, the phrase *tiliń artıq* does not literally mean "your tongue is excessive"; rather, it refers to eloquence, intelligence, and oratorical skill. Alongside it, the word *sheshen* ("eloquent") is used, and these two synonymous expressions are combined stylistically to show that the person is wise and thoughtful in speech.

3. "Lábiń pal, awzıń sheker, júziń jarqın,

Kórgenimiz – kóriskenimiz boladı da." [4]

Here, the contextual synonyms *lábiń pal* ("your lips are honey"), *awzıń sheker* ("your mouth is sugar"), and *júziń jarqın* ("your face is bright") are used effectively to reveal the beauty of the character.

4. "Eliń jalǵız júrip shólge keldiń,

Haq kewil, bawrayı keń elge keldiń." [4]

In these examples, the synonyms *haq kewil* ("pure-hearted") and *bawrayı keń* ("broad-hearted, generous") are used with poetic mastery. Through these synonyms, broad and deep meanings are expressed, increasing the artistic quality of the poem.

5. "Qoliń Qorasańda, Buxarda putıń,

Sonıńday más, qaqay adam usaysań." [4]

Contextual synonyms are used in this example. In ordinary speech, the meanings of *más* and *qaqay* differ somewhat, but in the text of oral poetic contests they are used synonymously. Both carry negative connotations. These words enrich and enliven the poetic lines and complement one another artistically.

Adjectives are widely used in fiction and journalistic style to create contrast and antithesis. In such antonymic relations, adjectives sometimes become substantivized and allow thoughts to be expressed concisely and compactly.

ANTONYMOUS ADJECTIVES

Adjectives are widely used in fiction and journalistic style for contrast and antithesis. In such antonymic relations, adjectives sometimes become substantivized and help express ideas briefly and effectively.

1. "Jaqsı shayırga ólim joq,

Jaman shayırga júrim joq." [5]

(Sh. Seytov, Nádiyrabegim ápsanası)

Here, the words *jaqsı* ("good") and *jaman* ("bad") are used antithetically. The poet contrasts true poets with pseudo-poets. The opposition is based not on personal morality but on creative talent.

2. "Aqıllı oylanaman degenshe,

Aqmaq dáryadan ótedi." [6]

This is a Karakalpak proverb in which *aqıllı* ("wise") and *aqmaq* ("foolish") are contrasted antithetically.

3. "Essiz shadlıq penen xazarlı qayǵı,

Sol sheksiz súwretti shegaralaydı." [5]

Here, the words *shadlıq* ("joy") and *qayǵı* ("sorrow") function as antonyms.

USE OF THE COMPARATIVE AND SUPERLATIVE DEGREES OF ADJECTIVES

The comparative degree compares the quality of one object with another and is formed from qualitative adjectives by means of the suffixes:

- -ıraq / -irek
- -law / -lew
- -ğış / -gish

Adjectives formed with these suffixes are close in meaning and function synonymously:

- ağıraq — aqlaw — aqshıl
- qızılıraq — qızillaw — qızğıltım, etc.

However, in actual language usage these forms possess stylistic differences; therefore, not all are equally productive. For example, compared with qızillaw, aqlaw, and kóklew, the forms qızılıraq, ağıraq, and kógirek are more widely used because some forms are homonymous with verbs:

- aqlaw (“whiter”)
- aqlaw (“to whitewash a wall”).

In colloquial speech, comparative suffixes are sometimes attached even to Russian words to create vivid imagery or characterize someone.

Examples:

1. “Óytkeni, hár kim jaylawğa tezirek kóship, jaqsıraq, otı mol jerdi alıp qalğısı keldi.” [2](Sh.A.)

Here, the suffix -ıraq is added to jaqsı (“good”) to compare one place with another and show the desire to obtain a better, more fertile land.

2. “Dizeñdi awırtıp belin sızlatıp,

Jegen bir zağarañ paldan jaqsıraq.” [7]

In these poetic lines, the adjective jaqsı with the suffix -ıraq expresses comparison, emphasizing that bread earned through hard work is sweeter than honey.

The superlative degree expresses that a quality exists in a very high, excessive, or intense degree. It is formed: a) by combining adjectives with intensifying adverbs such as eñ (“most”), dim (“very”), júdá (“extremely”), oğırı (“strongly”);

b) by reduplication and intensive forms of adjectives.

Examples:

1. “Túr álpeti dim ashıwlı kórinde.” [2]

This example is from the novel Ájel dastığı. Here, the word dim (“very”) is used to show Boston’s strong anger after witnessing events.

2. “Túnergen jumır taslar dim biyik, adam olardıñ qasındam qurttaqanday-aq bolıp kórinde.”[2]

This example, also from Ájel dastığı, describes the rocks around Boston as extremely high, while people appear tiny like insects beside them.

3. “Boı kishkene, biraq oğırı iri dawıslı Súyindik iri dawıslı edi.”

In this example, although the person is short in height, his voice is described as extremely loud. The phrase exaggerates his voice to explain why everyone was astonished when he shouted.

Adjectives are effectively used in literary works to create portraits of characters and provide characterization.

“Rústem kibi aybatlı,

Seymuriqtay simbatlı,

Arbadan keñ kókiregi,

Aristan juwan bilegi.”

(“Majestic like Rustem, Graceful like Simurgh, With a chest broader than a cart, And arms thick like a lion’s.”)

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, adjectives contribute greatly to the imagery and artistic quality of literary language. They are used figuratively to describe nouns and create vivid character images. As shown in the examples above, adjectives actively function as artistic devices in literary works because they help speakers convey thoughts vividly and artistically to listeners. Synonymous and antonymous adjectives are widely used to ensure that information is delivered clearly and expressively. Comparative and superlative forms further strengthen figurative description and emotional impact.

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