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COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF MORPHOLOGICAL PECULIARITIES OF ADVERBS OF MANNER IN TAJIK
AND ENGLISH

Research article

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Abstract

The given article dwells on the comparative analysis of morphological peculiarities of adverbs of manner in Tajik and English, on the example of “Reminiscences” by S. Aini. While considering the formation and structure of adverbs of manner in the compared languages, the authors of the article attempt to identify similarities and differences in their morphological patterns. The findings reveal distinct strategies for adverb formation in Tajik and English, highlighting the role of derivation and compounding in Tajik, while English relies more heavily on suffixation and lexicalization. This comparative study contributes to a deeper understanding of adverbial morphology in typologically diverse languages and provides insights into the linguistic nuances of Aini’s literary style.

Keywords: adverbs of manner, Tajik and English languages, morphology, comparative analysis, “Reminiscences” by S. Aini.

СРАВНИТЕЛЬНЫЙ АНАЛИЗ МОРФОЛОГИЧЕСКИХ ОСОБЕННОСТЕЙ НАРЕЧИЙ ОБРАЗА ДЕЙСТВИЯ В
ТАДЖИКСКОМ И АНГЛИЙСКОМ ЯЗЫКАХ

Научная статья

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Аннотация

В данной статье рассматривается сравнительный анализ морфологических особенностей наречий образа действия в таджикском и английском языках на примере «Воспоминаний» С. Айни. Рассматривая образование и структуру наречий образа действия в сравниваемых языках, авторы статьи пытаются выявить сходства и различия в их морфологических моделях. Результаты исследования выявляют различные стратегии образования наречий в таджикском и английском языках, подчеркивая роль деривации и словосложения в таджикском языке, в то время как английский язык в большей степени опирается на суффиксацию и лексикализацию. Это сравнительное исследование способствует более глубокому пониманию морфологии наречий в типологически разнообразных языках и позволяет глубже понять лингвистические нюансы литературного стиля Айни.

Ключевые слова: наречия образа действия, таджикский и английский языки, морфология, сравнительный анализ, «Воспоминания» С. Айни.

Introduction

Adverbs of manner constitute a fundamental grammatical category in both Tajik and English, serving a critical function by providing detailed information regarding the execution of an action. They typically modify verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs [7, P. 452]. These linguistic units augment the descriptive capacity of language, thereby enabling the nuanced expression of meaning and contributing to a more precise representation of events and states [2, P. 166-167]. For example, beyond a simple statement like “He walked,” the inclusion of adverbs such as “slowly,” “briskly,” or “hesitantly” serves to delineate distinct modes of locomotion. The capacity to specify the manner in which an action occurs is essential for effective communication and represents a characteristic feature of proficient language use.

While adverbs of manner are employed in both Tajik and English, their morphological realization is subject to considerable variation, a consequence of their divergent linguistic structures and typological classifications [3, P. 200]. Tajik, affiliated with the Iranian branch of the Indo-European language family, is characterized by a rich system of derivational morphology [8], [9]. Its structure exhibits a predominant reliance on suffixation, employing a diverse inventory of affixes, particularly suffixes, for the formation of new lexical items and the modification of existing word meanings [4, P. 100]. This high degree of derivational productivity is a salient feature across many Iranian languages and is extensively utilized in Tajik, particularly within its literary register, to derive adverbs, commonly from adjectival or nominal bases.

In contrast, English, a member of the West Germanic branch, presents a linguistic system exhibiting a blend of analytic and synthetic properties, reflecting a more complex trajectory of morphological development [6]. While suffixation is present, notably the -ly suffix for deriving adverbs from adjectives, English also employs other morpholexical processes such as conversion (zero derivation) and lexicalization, which result in unique adverbial forms not synchronically derived.

Furthermore, historical language contact, such as with French, has introduced varied patterns of adverb formation into the English system.

These typological distinctions between Tajik and English are anticipated to manifest in discernible differences in the formation and usage patterns of adverbs of manner. The extensive derivational morphology characteristic of Tajik suggests a potentially broader array of morphologically derived adverbial forms and a more systematic relationship between adjectives and adverbs [5, P. 3]. Conversely, English's hybrid morphological structure may lead to less predictable patterns of adverb formation, with a greater reliance on non-derived, lexicalized forms.

This study focuses on examining the morphological peculiarities of adverbs of manner within these two languages, with the objective of providing a comparative analysis of their formation processes and internal structure. By investigating the morphological mechanisms involved in the creation of adverbs of manner in Tajik and English, this research aims to enhance the understanding of their typological differences and to elucidate the specific linguistic strategies employed for encoding adverbial modification. The empirical basis for the Tajik analysis is drawn from Sadriddin Aini's "Reminiscences", a widely recognized work of Tajik literature celebrated for its linguistic richness and descriptive detail, rendering it a suitable corpus for the study of adverbial usage.

The comparative methodology adopted in this research is intended not only to illuminate the morphological intricacies of adverbs in Tajik and English, but also to contribute to a broader understanding of adverbial modification across diverse language systems. By examining how two typologically distinct languages grammatically encode the concept of manner, the study aims to provide insights into both the potentially universal and language-specific aspects of this significant grammatical category. Furthermore, by utilizing a literary text such as Aini's "Reminiscences," the analysis allows for an exploration of the potential interplay between morphological structure and stylistic function in shaping the expressive capacity of a linguistic system within a specific literary discourse.

Materials and methods

2.1. Materials

The primary linguistic corpus for this investigation comprises Sadriddin Aini's "Reminiscences", a seminal work of modern Tajik literature, first published in the mid-20th century. This text was selected based on several criteria.

Firstly, its rich narrative structure provides a diverse range of naturally occurring linguistic data, including a substantial collection of adverbs of manner employed in authentic contexts. "Reminiscences" serves as a comprehensive illustration of Aini's command of the language, particularly his capacity for vivid description through nuanced linguistic choices.

Secondly, the autobiographical nature of the work suggests that the language employed may reflect authentic Tajik usage characteristic of the historical period it depicts, offering valuable insights into natural adverbial constructions.

Thirdly, the text's established significance within Tajik literary scholarship means it has been subjected to extensive prior linguistic and literary analysis, thereby providing a robust contextual foundation for the current study.

For the purpose of English translation and subsequent comparative analysis, a mixed-methods approach was employed. Where accessible, existing scholarly or reputable published English translations of sections of "Reminiscences" were consulted. However, acknowledging the potential limitations in the availability of complete published translations suitable for direct comparative analysis of specific adverbial instances, the researcher conducted targeted translations of passages containing the identified adverbs of manner. These translations aimed to prioritize fidelity to the semantic content and stylistic nuances of the original Tajik text, while ensuring grammatical correctness and idiomatic expression in the target language. To enhance validity, cross-validation techniques, including back-translation and consultation with native speakers of Tajik, were utilized to verify the accuracy and appropriateness of the English renditions.

2.2. Methods

This study employs a primarily qualitative, comparative methodology, informed by established principles of morphological analysis and contrastive linguistics. The research procedure comprised the following stages:

2.2.1. Data Identification and Extraction

The initial phase involved a systematic reading of the corpus ("Reminiscences") to identify and extract all occurrences of linguistic units functioning as adverbs of manner. Each identified instance was meticulously documented, including the specific adverbial form, the linguistic constituent it modified (verb, adjective, or other adverb), and the broader linguistic context (sentence, paragraph) necessary for determining its precise function and semantic contribution.

2.2.2. Morphological Analysis (Tajik)

The extracted Tajik adverbs of manner underwent a detailed morphological analysis. This process entailed the identification of constituent morphemes within each adverbial form, including base forms (stems), any derivational affixes (prefixes, suffixes), and compounding elements. The analysis aimed to identify the specific morphological processes involved in adverb formation within the Tajik corpus (e.g., suffixation, compounding, conversion/zero derivation). The resulting morphological patterns were then categorized based on the predominant formation mechanism observed.

2.2.3. Translation and Contrastive Analysis (English Equivalents)

The corpus excerpts containing the identified Tajik adverbs were translated into English using the approach described in Section 2.1. Subsequently, a contrastive analysis was conducted. This analysis focused on the English lexical items or constructions utilized in the translations to render the meaning of the Tajik adverbs of manner. The examination specifically assessed the morphological structure of the English equivalents, noting their formation methods (e.g., suffixation with -ly, lexicalization as simple adverbs, use of adverbial phrases). Structural similarities and differences between the morphological characteristics of the Tajik source adverbs and their English translational counterparts were systematically documented and analyzed to highlight cross-linguistic variations in the morphological encoding of manner.

Main results

The systematic analysis of the corpus, S. Aini's "Reminiscences," identified a diverse range of morphological strategies employed in the formation of adverbs of manner in Tajik. These strategies are broadly classified into derivational processes (principally suffixation), compounding, and zero derivation (also known as conversion). The subsequent sections detail the prevalence of each mechanism and provide illustrative examples drawn from the text.

3.1. Derivational Morphology

Derivational morphology, particularly through suffixation, constituted the principal mechanism for forming adverbs of manner identified in the corpus. This finding aligns with the extensive use of derivational processes characteristic of Tajik and other Iranian languages. Several suffixes were observed to play a significant role in adverb formation:

–*Suffix -она (-ona)*: This suffix was identified as highly productive in deriving adverbs primarily from adjectival bases, though also from nominal ones. It consistently conveys a semantic nuance indicating the manner characteristic of the source word's meaning, often translatable as "in the manner of," "like," or "in a ... way."

Example 1: Вай ачулона аз ҷояш хест [1, P. 123] — He stood up *hurriedly*.

The adverb *ачулона* is derived from the adjective *ачул* ('hasty') via the addition of the suffix *-она*. This represents a clear instance of adjectival derivation. Its English translational equivalent, *hurriedly*, is likewise formed through the addition of the productive adverbial suffix *-ly* to the adjective *hurried*, illustrating a parallel derivational strategy in English.

Example 2: Ў мардона ҷанг мекард [1, P. 256] — He fought bravely (like a man).

The adverb *мардона* is derived from the noun *мард* ('man') with the application of the suffix *-она*. This signifies a manner of action characteristic of the semantic properties of 'man' (e.g., courage, strength). Its English equivalent, *bravely*, is derived from the adjective *brave* (or noun *bravery*) via the *-ly* suffix. While semantically related, the English formation lacks the direct morphological derivation from the noun 'man' observed in the Tajik example, indicating a difference in the source word class employed in the derivational process.

–*Suffix -ан (-an)*: This suffix was identified as contributing to adverb formation, albeit with a lower frequency compared to *-она*. Adverbs formed with *-ан* often convey a more abstract or general manner or viewpoint.

Example 3: Корҳо асосан хуб пеш мерафтанд [1, P. 198] — Things were going well mainly/basically.

Асосан is derived from the noun *асос* ('basis') via the suffix *-ан*. The English translational equivalents, *mainly* or *basically*, exhibit distinct morphological structures (e.g., *main* + *-ly*, *basic* + *-ally*), illustrating different derivational patterns or underlying source words compared to the Tajik noun-based derivation.

3.2. Compounding

Compounding was observed as a significant morphological strategy contributing to adverb formation within the corpus. This process involves the concatenation of two or more independent lexical items (free morphemes) to constitute a new adverbial unit. Compound adverbs often convey meanings that are more specific or nuanced than those expressed by single-word adverbs. Several patterns of compounding were identified:

– *Noun + Preposition + Noun*: This pattern is frequently observed and typically involves the repetition of a noun or the combination of distinct nouns, often linked by the preposition *ба* ('to', 'at', 'by').

Example 4: Вай рӯ ба рӯ нишаста буд [1, P. 88] — He was sitting *face to face*.

The adverbial compound *рӯ ба рӯ* is formed by combining the noun *рӯ* ('face') with itself, mediated by the preposition *ба*. The structure is [Noun + Prep + Noun].

The English equivalent *face to face* also utilizes a similar Noun + Preposition + Noun structure, functioning as an adverbial phrase or compound.

Example 5: Шабошаб омаданд [1, P. 167] — They came *at night / night after night*.

The compound adverb *шабошаб* is formed through the reduplication of the noun *шаб* ('night'). This pattern, [Noun + Noun], conveys either a single instance occurring during the night or a repeated action on successive nights, depending on context. English typically renders this meaning using a prepositional phrase (at night) or a derived adverb (nightly for repeated action), which employ different morphological and syntactic structures compared to the Tajik noun reduplication.

Example 6: Вай якқат истода буд [1, P. 154] — He stood motionless / at attention (lit. 'in one line').

The compound adverb *якқат* combines the numeral *як* ('one') and the noun *қат* ('line', 'fold'). The structure is [Numeral + Noun]. The resulting meaning is idiomatic, referring to a specific posture. The English translations (motionless, at attention) are either derived adverbs or prepositional phrases, none exhibiting the direct combination of 'one' and 'line' observed in the Tajik compound.

3.3. Zero Derivation (Conversion)

Zero derivation, also termed conversion, constitutes another mechanism of adverb formation observed in the corpus. This process involves the assignment of a word to a different grammatical category without any overt morphological modification. Specifically, several adjectives in the corpus were identified as functioning as adverbs without the addition of a derivational affix.

Example 7: Ў сахт меҳнат мекард* [1, P. 210] — He worked hard.

The lexeme *сахт* functions as an adverb modifying the verb *меҳнат мекард* ('worked'). *Сахт* also exists as an adjective meaning 'hard' or 'difficult'. In this usage, the adjective form is used adverbially without any change in form. English also employs zero derivation in this specific case, where the adjective *hard* serves adverbially without adding *-ly*.

Example 8: Ин корро тез кунед* [1, P. 145] — Do this work *quickly / fast*.

The lexeme *тез* functions as an adverb modifying the verb *кунед* ('do'). *Тез* also serves as an adjective meaning 'quick', 'fast', or 'sharp'. English offers two main options: *quickly*, formed by suffixation (*-ly*), or *fast*, which also undergoes zero derivation (same form as the adjective). This demonstrates both suffixation and conversion in English equivalents, highlighting different morphological choices.

The examples detailed in Section 3.3 provide further evidence supporting the significance of zero derivation as a mechanism for adverbial formation in Tajik. It is pertinent to acknowledge that, in certain instances, diachronic linguistic changes may have obscured the original morphological structure of these forms. Consequently, what is analyzed synchronically as zero derivation could potentially stem from historical processes involving affix loss or a reduction in derivational productivity. A thorough diachronic investigation is thus requisite for a comprehensive understanding of the evolutionary trajectory of these specific adverbial forms.

The overall analysis of adverbial formation patterns within Sadriddin Aini's "Reminiscences" reveals the author's adept utilization of a diverse range of morphological strategies inherent in the Tajik language. Derivational suffixation, particularly involving the suffixes *-ома* and *-аи*, both of which frequently contribute specific semantic nuances related to manner, emerges as a highly productive process within this corpus. Furthermore, compounding, especially the concatenation of nominal elements, constitutes another significant source for generating nuanced adverbial expressions, thereby enabling the encoding of complex and specific manners of action. Zero derivation is also observed to play a discernible role, reflecting the close semantic and functional relationship between adjectives and adverbs within the grammatical system of Tajik.

Cumulatively, these findings offer valuable insights into the morphological richness and complexity of the Tajik language as manifested in this significant literary work. Moreover, they illustrate Aini's deliberate deployment of these varied linguistic resources to achieve particular stylistic and expressive effects in his prose. Building upon these results pertaining to Tajik, the subsequent section will present a comparative analysis, contrasting the observed patterns of adverbial formation in Tajik with corresponding morphological mechanisms employed in English. This cross-linguistic comparison will provide a broader typological perspective on the phenomenon of manner adverb formation under investigation.

Discussion

4.1. Derivational Processes: Contrasting Dominant Strategies

The findings from the corpus analysis underscore a primary divergence in the dominant derivational strategies for forming adverbs of manner in Tajik and English. As demonstrated in Section 3.1, Tajik exhibits a high reliance on derivational suffixation, notably employing productive suffixes such as *-ома* and, to a lesser extent, *-аи*, for deriving adverbs from nominal or adjectival bases. This aligns with the characterization of Tajik and other Iranian languages as possessing rich derivational morphology [8], [9]. The use of suffixes directly appended to stems represents a synthetic tendency within the morphology of Tajik adverbs of manner.

Conversely, English primarily utilizes the suffix *-ly* for the derivation of adverbs of manner from adjectival bases. This phenomenon aligns with the more analytic character of English, where grammatical relations are frequently encoded via independent lexical elements, such as prepositions and auxiliary verbs, rather than through extensive inflectional or derivational morphology [6]. Although English includes other suffixes capable of forming adverbs (*e.g.*, *-wise*, *-ward*), *-ly* is demonstrably the most productive and broadly applicable suffix for generating adverbs of manner. This substantial reliance on a single predominant suffix results in a more morphologically uniform system of adverb formation in English, which may potentially entail less inherent formal variation compared to the strategies observed in Tajik. The hypothesis suggesting that the pronounced reliance on the suffix *-ly* in English may correlate with a reduced diversity in the formal expression of manner has been advanced by some researchers. Verifying this hypothesis requires further empirical investigation utilizing methodologies such as large-scale corpus analysis and psycholinguistic experimentation.

4.2. The Role and Morphological Nature of Compounding in Tajik Adverbial Formation

The pervasive use of compounding for generating adverbs of manner in Tajik, as evidenced in the corpus (Section 3.2), represents a significant linguistic characteristic warranting detailed examination. This morphological process facilitates the creation of adverbs that are semantically nuanced and rich, often capturing specific aspects of manner with greater precision than might be possible with monomorphemic forms [reference if applicable to compounding in general. The combination of multiple lexical items into a single compound adverbial unit serves as an effective mechanism for providing precise and vivid descriptions of actions and events].

Reduplication of constituent elements within compound adverbs, as demonstrated by examples such as *пӯ ба пӯ* ('face to face'), *уабоуаб* ('at night/night after night') functions to augment the descriptive intensity and vivacity of the adverbial modification. This form of reduplication is not merely a stylistic feature but serves a functional role in intensifying the described manner, thereby generating a more impactful representation. For example, *уабоуаб* can denote not only a singular occurrence during the night but also implies iterative or habitual action across successive nights, contingent upon contextual cues. This capacity for expressing nuanced meaning through morphological complexity presents challenges in achieving comparable levels of conciseness in English translation, which may require longer phrases or different lexical choices to capture similar semantic and aspectual implications.

Furthermore, compounding facilitates the expression of culturally specific concepts or idiomatic meanings that may not possess direct lexical counterparts in other linguistic systems. The compound adverbs identified within Aini's work often reflect particular aspects of Tajik culture and worldview, thereby adding a layer of semantic and cultural richness to his literary prose. This inherent cultural specificity poses challenges for direct translation into English, particularly in endeavors aimed at preserving stylistic equivalence. Such culturally bound or idiomatic expressions are commonly encountered in literary texts and substantially contribute to their distinctive stylistic profile.

4.3. Zero Derivation (Conversion): A Comparative Perspective

Zero derivation, a morphological process involving the functional shift of a lexical item from one part of speech to another without overt morphological marking, is attested in both Tajik and English, specifically regarding the conversion of adjectives to adverbs (Section 3.3). However, a comparative analysis suggests potential differences in the frequency and possibly the underlying linguistic motivations for this phenomenon across the two languages.

In the context of Tajik, the analysis of the "Reminiscences" corpus indicates that zero derivation constitutes a relatively frequent strategy for adverbial formation. This observation can potentially be attributed, in part, to the close semantic affinity

between adjectives and adverbs, both categories frequently encoding qualities or attributes. Furthermore, it is plausible that certain synchronic instances of apparent zero derivation in Tajik may represent the outcome of diachronic processes, involving the historical loss or reduced productivity of former derivational suffixes. Confirmation of this hypothesis necessitates a thorough diachronic investigation.

Conclusion

This study conducted a comparative analysis of the morphological peculiarities of adverbs of manner in Tajik and English, utilizing Sadridin Aini's "Reminiscences" as the primary corpus for the Tajik data. The investigation aimed to identify and contrast the key morphological strategies employed in each language for the formation of these adverbial units and to relate these observations to their respective linguistic typologies.

The analysis of the Tajik corpus confirmed the prominent role of multiple morphological mechanisms in adverbial formation. Derivational suffixation, particularly through the highly productive suffixes *-она* and *-ан*, emerged as a principal strategy, facilitating the derivation of adverbs from both adjectival and nominal bases. Furthermore, compounding, involving the concatenation of two or more lexical items (often nouns, sometimes with prepositions or numerals), constitutes another significant source of adverbs of manner, frequently resulting in units with specific or idiomatic meanings, including through the use of reduplication to enhance intensity. Finally, zero derivation (conversion), whereby adjectives function as adverbs without overt morphological change, was identified as a discernible process in Tajik adverbial formation, reflecting a functional overlap between these categories.

In contrast, the system of adverbial formation in English, while also employing derivation and conversion, exhibits a distinct profile. Derivational suffixation for manner adverbs relies overwhelmingly on the single productive suffix *-ly*, which primarily attaches to adjectival bases. While conversion from adjective to adverb is also present in English, its application appears lexically constrained and less pervasive as a general strategy compared to *-ly* derivation. Compounding is less prominent as a systematic mechanism for forming single-word adverbs of manner in English compared to Tajik, although multi-word adverbial phrases are common.

The observed differences in the morphological realization of adverbs of manner in these two languages are strongly correlated with their broader typological characteristics. Tajik's reliance on diverse derivational suffixes and productive compounding aligns with its relatively more synthetic tendencies within the Indo-European family, particularly its rich derivational morphology inherited from its Iranian lineage. Conversely, English's dominant use of a single productive suffix (*-ly*) and greater reliance on distinct lexical items or analytical structures (like prepositional phrases functioning adverbially) is characteristic of its predominantly analytic typology.

In summary, while both Tajik and English possess robust systems for expressing the manner of action, they diverge significantly in the specific morphological resources they employ. Tajik leverages a varied set of suffixational patterns and compounding (including reduplication) to create nuanced adverbial forms. English primarily employs one dominant derivational suffix and a less morphologically productive system of compounding for this word class, relying more on conversion and distinct lexical items.

The findings of this study contribute to the understanding of morphological variation across typologically distinct languages and highlight how fundamental structural properties influence the formation of grammatical categories such as adverbs. Furthermore, the analysis of Aini's "Reminiscences" provides empirical support for the richness and complexity of Tajik morphology as utilized in literary discourse, illustrating how the availability of multiple formation strategies allows for diverse linguistic expression.

5.1. Limitations and Future Research

This study focused on a single literary corpus for Tajik, which, while rich, may not fully represent the entire range and frequency of adverbial formation strategies in all registers of the language (e.g., spoken or contemporary media). The analysis of zero derivation also suggests the need for further diachronic research to clarify the historical development of certain forms. Future research could benefit from utilizing larger, more varied corpora (including spoken language) in both Tajik and English for a quantitative analysis of the frequency and distribution of different formation strategies. Comparative analysis with other Iranian and Germanic languages, or with languages from different families entirely, could provide broader typological insights into the relationship between morphological complexity and adverbial formation. Additionally, investigating the semantic contributions of different morphological structures (e.g., the precise semantic nuances added by specific suffixes or types of compounding) in both languages would be a valuable avenue for further exploration.

Конфликт интересов

Не указан.

Рецензия

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Conflict of Interest

None declared.

Review

All articles are peer-reviewed. But the reviewer or the author of the article chose not to publish a review of this article in the public domain. The review can be provided to the competent authorities upon request.

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