

ONOMASTIC CALQUES IN THE FRENCH LANGUAGE

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Abstract

This thesis is based on the linguistic study of calques of the onomastic units from the other languages into French. It is noted in the these that calquing is one of the forms of the transformation of the onomastic units. When this method is used, a counterpart of the lexical unit in the source language is created in the target language.

The article highlights the views of linguists on the calquing in the languages in general. Apart from that, the problems and types of calking are analysed in the these too.

Keywords: transformation, calque, onomastic unit, vocabulary calque, lexical unit, semi-calque.

A calque (French "calque" - copy) or a loan translation is a word or phrase borrowed from another language by literal word-for word (lat. "*verbum pro verbo*") or root-for-root translation. The field of linguistics, lexicology and translation studies deals with the study of calques. Calquess arise as a reaction of native speakers to the sharp increase in the number of direct borrowings of foreign words that enter everyday life and science.

There are some different types of calque as structural or syntactic calque, typographic calque, orthographic calque, paronymous calque or loan word.

In the field of onomastics, the translation of onims from one language to another with a change in form, but keeping their etymology, is one of the types of transformation. G. H. Bayramov states that *calque is used as one of the types of transformation in the sense of copying and imitating of the word. He notes that the calque method does not reveal the meaning of a word in any source language. The reader understands the meaning of words and phrases using this method only when he knows the source language* [1].

Since the aim of our study is the transfer of onomastic units in the French language using the calquing method, the preference is to show examples only in this field: *House of Commons - Chambre des communes*. We read about the Alpe-Maritime department in English: *Alpes – Maritimes department is in the south of France, on the shore of the Mediterranean sea. Department is an administrative territory of France* // *Le département des Alpes – Maritimes se situe dans le sud de la France, au bord de la mer Méditerranée. Le département est un territoire administratif de la France*.

The calquing in its general sense, or linguistic borrowing, as Christiane Loubier defines it, is a "sociolinguistic" reality: "*Process by which users of one language adopt entirely, or partially, a linguistic unit or trait (lexical, semantic, phonetic, syntactic) from another language*" [4].

In linguistics, calque is divided into the following types: vocabulary calques (impression – impression); semantic calques (toqué – crazy); phraseological calques (arrière pensée – backward thinking, avoir lieu – to take place); semi-calques (anticorps - antibodies); false vocabulary calques (lat. aquila, fr. aigle (eagle) – lat. aqua). Vocabulary calques are obtained by translating a foreign word from one language to another with morphemes. Calque is not usually accepted as an acquired word because it is made up of morphemes of its own language [5].

Therefore, the true origin of these words is often unexpected for a person who learns about them for the first time: (es) *Golpe de Estado* < (fr) *coup d'État*; (en) *North Korean* < (fr) *Nord-Coréen*; (en) *South African* < (fr) *Sud-Africain*; (en) *UFO* (Unidentified Flying Object) < (fr) *OVNI* (Objet Volant Non Identifié) etc.

Semantic calques are words that have acquired new, metaphorical meanings under the influence of a foreign word. For example, the word "refined" from the French word *raffiné*; from the word *toqué* (lost) came the words stupid, narrow-minded, mentally abnormal, and insane.

Phraseological calques are formed by literal translation of idiomatic expressions: Fr. *entre chien et loup* (between dog and wolf) "in the dark"; il n'est pas dans son assiette, "he is not at ease" (i.e. he is not at ease, he feels uneasy, etc.), where the word "assiette," whose primary meaning is "plate," means "duty."

Semi-calques are partial calquing of compound words. For example, in the word "workaholic" only the first part of the word, and in the word "antibody" (fr. anticorps) - only the second part are calqued.

The term *false calques* is applied to borrowings resulting from the misinterpreted morphological-semantic structure of a foreign word. For example, the Russian name of the *aquilegia* plant "орлик - bellflower" is considered to be of Latin origin. *Aquilegia*, lat. aquila "eagle" (in fact, the etymology of Latin *aquilegia* is from Latin aqua "water").

The masculine word *dièse* in French is derived from the same root as the feminine *δίεσις* "diesa" in the ancient Greek language. Lat. *intonatio* can be translated by both calque ("adjustment"; in + tone) and morphological transfer ("intonation"; foreign transliterated root "intonation-" + local inflection "-tion").

There is a phenomenon called the "*phonetic calque*" in linguistics too. Let's analyze some anthroponyms calqued from other languages in French. If we try to understand the nature of the transfer of an anthroponym from one language to another which maintains the order of phonemes in the source language, we cannot fail to explain the phenomenon by the phonetic calque, because it is the only one that corresponds to this phenomenon and explains it properly.

When the translator ignores the signified and is satisfied with the acoustic image of the anthroponym in the source language, he will end up calquing it into the target language. This explains why "Michael Angelo" remained Michael Angelo in some translations from English to French, just as "Michel Ange" sometimes does not change when transferring from French to Arabic.

From Léonardo Da Vinci to Leonardo Da Vinci, we follow a straight path, the explanation of which is clear: it is translation. Just like Michael Angelo who becomes Michelangelo, Leonardo Da Vinci was simply translated.

On the other hand, from Ibn Sina to Avicenna, the passage is a little more complicated, because we wonder where and how we managed to form the second anthroponym, which uses an acoustic image completely different from that of the Arabic anthroponym. It is quite simply a "latinization", in other words, an adaptation of the Arabic anthroponym into the Latin language, with characters and pronunciation inspired by Latin, which gives us "Avicenna" that is explained according to Joseph Patrick Byrne as follows:

'Avicenna is a Latin corruption of the Arabic patronym ibn Sīnā, meaning "Son of Sina" [3].

In linguistics, as we have already seen, we refer to the phonetic calque by the expression phonetic borrowing. So the choice of the word calque is based on the desire to show that it is a question of copying, the word takes its origin from the verb to calque, which means to reproduce exactly the same drawing.

The phonetic calque is therefore a process of acoustic imitation in the target language of a phoneme which belongs to the source language.

We are not saying that it never works, on the contrary as in many cases, the phonetic calque of the proper name would be the only solution, however we cannot apply it in all cases, even less in certain ancient anthroponyms, which already have an equivalent in the source language.

The prophets of the Bible are the same ones of the Quran and the Torah, yet they are not called the same way. "Jesu" in Latin, "Yeshua" in Hebrew, and "Issa" in Arabic, are tangible proof that the proper name, without a doubt, evolves and changes, from one era to another but also from one language to the other, because it is endowed with a flexibility that the limitations set by certain linguists will in no way be able to control.

The alternative lies in considering each anthroponym as unique in its kind, and analyzing it separately, instead of putting it in the same pool as the other proper nouns, if certain anthroponyms remain fixed, others undergo a completely innovative modification in the target language, to the point of believing they are facing two different proper names, in case of comparing the source anthroponym with its translation into the target language.

We call this approach the cognitive effort, that is to say the work of etymological and documentary research, which aims to free the translator from literality in general, and specially from the phonetic calque.

In the translation technique, calque should be distinguished from morphological transfer, when a foreign word is transliterated and then adapted to the morphology of the native language (for ease of description and pronunciation).

According to N.M. Khudiyev, the main principle is the compatibility of the lexical-grammatical features of the root and suffix of the new words in the target language with calqued language. Thus, words expressing new concepts in one language and grammatically and semantically corresponding to those in another language are created through translation [2].

Conclusion

This brief introduction shows the extent to which proper noun modification poses a problem: although the concept is widespread in linguistic analyzes of the proper noun, it remains a matter of debate both in terms of its general validity and definition.

While the field of proper noun studies has been marked and many so-called modified proper nouns have been described, the division of names into two usage groups (standard and modified) remains fundamentally relevant, with all the boundary problems it creates and indicates that there is only one stage in the re-appropriation of the above-mentioned proper name, that is, whether there is another stage to be passed after.

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