

SYNTACTIC MEANS OF EXPRESSION OF IMPERSONALITY IN MARI, GERMAN AND FRENCH

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Abstract

The article is devoted to comparative analysis of impersonal sentences in the languages with different systems: Mari, German and French. Today, great interest in linguistics is caused by research and comparative analysis of the languages of different language families. The Mari language is a representative of the Altaic language family, German and French belong to the Indo-European languages. It is interesting in this research not only to find similarities and differences between different linguistic families of languages, but also within one language family, in particular between German and French. The goal of this work is to reveal features of impersonal sentences, their meanings, similarities and differences in the organization of impersonal sentences in Mari, German and French. To achieve the goal we need to solve certain tasks: to determine the structure, to reveal the essence and meaning of impersonal sentences, their prevalence and the sphere of use in speech. The method of synchronous description of the collected material using distributive analysis and elements of the diachronic method is used to solve these tasks. The comparative method makes it possible to establish similarities and differences in the analyzed languages. The impersonal sentence, due to their expressiveness and brevity, is of particular interest because it is fairly widespread in the literature and is often used in colloquial speech, especially in dialogue. Impersonal sentences express, as a rule, the state of nature, the environment, the mood of a person, his mental and physical state. With the help of such sentence it is easier to formulate the impossibility, inevitability of actions, negation. The analysis shows that the value of impersonal sentences in compared languages is almost similar, however, there are differences in the way of constructing such sentences. The main difference in the structure of the impersonal sentence is the one-compound Mari impersonal sentence and binomiality of German and French impersonal sentence.

Keywords: syntax, Mari language, German language, French language mononuclear sentence, two-member (binomial) sentence, impersonal sentence, principal part, ways and means of expression

1. INTRODUCTION

An impersonal sentence is of particular interest due to its expressiveness and brevity. It is quite widespread in fiction and is often used in the colloquial speech, especially in dialogues. As a rule, impersonal sentences express the state of nature, the environment, the mood of a person, his mental and physical state. It is easier to formulate the impossibility, inevitability of actions, negation, using such a sentence. In the Mari, German and French languages, an impersonal sentence belongs to the category of simple sentences. In our work, we will focus on the structure of an impersonal sentence in the Mari, German and French languages. It is interesting to reveal similarities and differences not only between different language families, but also within a single language family, in particular between German and French. Determination of the features of impersonal sentences, their meanings, similarities and differences in the forming of an impersonal sentence in the Mari, German and French languages is one of the purposes of this study. The tasks of our work include definition of the structure, disclosure of the essence and meaning of impersonal sentences, their prevalence and the sphere of use in the speech. Methods that are applied to fulfill the tasks and aims of the work are synchronous description of the collected material with the use distributive analysis and elements of the diachronic method. A comparative method makes it possible to establish similarities and differences in the analyzed languages. An impersonal sentence is of particular interest due to its expressiveness and brevity. It is quite widespread in fiction and is often used in the colloquial speech, especially in dialogues. As a rule, impersonal sentences express the state of nature, the environment, the mood of a person, his mental and physical state.

2. OPINIONS AND DISCUSSION

In the contemporary Mari language, a simple sentence can consist of one or two parts. One-part sentences were studied by L.P. Vasikova (1987, 1990), V.T. Timofeeva (1987), G.L. Sokolova (2017) and A.L. Kolyago (2017). A Mari impersonal sentence also refers to a group of one-part sentences, since there is no subject in it, the acting person is not mentioned in any way, e.g.: Румбалге. 'It grown dark'. Юалтара. 'It is getting cold'.

The researcher of the Mari language L.P. Vasikova notes that "One basic part of a sentence is used in the organization of the structural scheme of one-part sentences, this part can be one-component (one-word) and two-component (more rarely more than two)" (Vasikova, 1990, p. 76). The researcher observes categorical affiliation of a word, expressed by the basic part and as a result distinguishes three classes of structural schemes of one-part sentences: verbal, nominal, adverbial.

The impersonal sentence refers to the verb class, where the main component is the verb in the 3-rd person singular, e.g.: Касештеш. 'Evening is coming'. Чытырыкта. 'One is shivering'. Пычкемышалтын. 'It was getting dark'. Only impersonal verbs can be used in these examples. In the case of verbs indicating states and processes in the nature and environment, the boundary in the use of such constructions of personal and impersonal verbs is erased, e.g. Садыште тамлын ўпшалтеш. 'It smells tasty in the garden'. Кужун вучалтеш. 'It takes long to wait'.

V.T. Timofeeva proposes the division into the following groups of impersonal sentences by meaning and use in speech:

- describing the phenomena of nature, for example: Тымык. Кас рўмбалге Пекул чодыра ўмбаке вола. Ёршеш пычкемышалтеш. 'It is ilence. On the Pekul forest twilight comes down. It's getting dark' (Timofeeva, 1987, p. 59).
- showing the physical or mental state of a person, for example: Эр юалге рок ўмбалне киен, могыр кылмен Чытырыкта. 'Lying in the morning coolness on the ground, I was cold... It is shivering' (Timofeeva, 1987, p. 59).
- describing the place of the action or state, for example: Тул йўлымо годым мемнан окопышто рўп шокшо. 'When the fire burns, it is warm in our trench' (Timofeeva, 1987, p. 59).
- showing modal meaning, for example: Тўняште, кумылын пашам ыштен, ласкан илыме шуеш (literally). 'In the world working with pleasure, It is wanted to live in peace' (Timofeeva, 1987, p. 59).

L.P. Vasikova notes that the impersonal sentence has the most complex structure among simple mononuclear sentences. It is difficult to determine the meaning of such sentences and in this connection it is important to know what the predicate is expressed in this type of sentences, the researcher emphasizes (Vasikova, 1987, p. 63).

In the impersonal sentence of the Mari language, the main member can be expressed:

with verb, for example: Рўмбалге. Тылзе кўшкө күзен. 'It's getting dark. The moon rose high' (Vasikova, 1987, p. 61).

with personal verb in the impersonal meaning, for example: Сыдыште тамлын ўпшалтеш. 'It smells delicious in the garden'(Vasikova, 1987, p. 61).

with participle, for example: Ошалгырак ўпшым кўчыкын түредме. 'Blond hair is cut short '(Vasikova, 1987, p. 61).

with infinitive –ash and impersonal predicative combination of the words such as (лиеш, күлеш, возеш, верештеш, логалеш, перна, түкна.), for example: Маска виан гынат, тудым кучат. Ханымат сенаш лиеш. 'Although a bear is strong , it is caught. And Khan can be defeated.' Вачият имньым пеш сай ончен. Тудланат премийым пуаш возеш. 'And Vachi looked after horses well. A prize should be given to him too' (Vasikova, 1987, p. 61).

with negative verbal participle and auxiliary verb лияш (ок лий), for example: Мўкшым эскерыде ок лий. 'It cannot be watched over bees.' Мыланна калыклан умылтарыде ок лий. 'For us, people, it cannot be explained'(Vasikova, 1987, p. 61).

Despite the fact that the verb is the main member of an impersonal sentence, in the Mari language using of nominal parts of speech as the main member of the impersonal sentence are encountered, such examples are noted by V.T. Timofeeva, for example:

- as adverb with verb чучуш, for example: Яндар южышто Борислан йосын-йосыш чучо.literally 'In the fresh air it was felt heavily-hard' (Vasikova, 1987, p. 61).

- with onomatopoeic words in combination with the verb чучеш, for example: Залыште шокшо. Борисын вуйжылан выж-выж чучаш тўнале. 'It is hot in the hall. laterally 'In the head of Boris it was felt vyzh-vyzh' (Vasikova, 1987, p. 61).

Peculiarities of the French language are that French sentences are binomial and verbal in comparison with the Mari language. The subject and predicate are obligatory members forming the structure of the sentence. In the French sentence, V.G. Gak distinguishes three functions performed by the subject and one of them, according to the scientist, is a structural one which manifests in the fact that the subject is an obligatory component of the nuclear verbal sentence which has a two-part structure (Gak, 2000, p. 385). So the logical subject is absent in the French impersonal sentence, the impersonal pronoun *il* fulfills its role, which is, in fact, an syntactic subject. *Il* takes the same grammatical form, being similar in form to the personal pronoun of the third persons and the singular. Impersonal *il* is not translated into Russian, the verb-predicate takes the form of 3 person and the singular.

V. G. Gak, speaking about the impersonal sentence in French, notes that the "impersonality indicates a complete lack of real or conceivable figure in its primary meaning" (Gak, 2000, p. 311).

The linguist identifies three main types of the impersonal sentences:

- 1) with the intransitive predicate: *Il pleut* (they are usually impersonal verbs);
- 2) with the transitional verbal predicate: *Il arrive un train* (the intransitive verb takes on a special type of transitivity in the impersonal constructions);
- 3) with the nominal predicate: *Il est difficile de comprendre cela* (Gak, 2000, p. 311).

When we talk about the impersonal sentence in French, it immediately raises the question of so-called the impersonal verbs. V. G. Gak believes that the "impersonality is a lexical-grammatical phenomenon: the possibility to use constructions is linked to the lexical selections. In its relation to the impersonality the scientist considers that the verbs are divided into two groups:

- (a) monopersonal, used only in the impersonal form (*il pleut, il neige*);
- b) verbs that are capable of performing in both constructions without significantly changing the value (*arriver, rester, etc.*). The impersonality is the syntactic category in such sentences. (Gak, 2000, p. 311).

V. G. Gak distinguishes the primary and the secondary functions of the impersonal sentences in the French syntax. They describe the process without subject in their primary function, i.e. the phenomena of nature, the state of the environment. The monopersonal verbs are used in this function: *il pleut, il neige*, constructions with *être* and *faire*, where objects refer to the phenomenon: *Il fait du vent; Il fait beau; Il nuit* were close (Gak,

2000, p. 311).

Speaking in its secondary function the impersonal sentences are as synonyms of the personal sentences with the same verbs: *Un train est arrivé → Il est arrivé un train* (Gak, 2000, p. 311).

The peculiarity of the impersonal constructions and sentences V.G. Gak considers them "strong lexicalization", because of a large percentage of them are the same verbs: *il y a, il reste, il faut, il existe, il arrive* and some others (Gak, 2000, p. 312).

The peculiarity of the German language, in comparison with Mari is that the German sentence is a two-member and verbal sentence, as well as the French sentence. These signs are required in the sentences, they reflect as K. Krushelnytskaya considers "the trend towards the unification of the main members of the sentences (Krushelnytskaya, 1961, p. 177) Binomiality of the sentence in the German language is required not only in the cases where it is caused by the content of the sentence, but also when it is in contradiction with the content. In the German language, the impersonal sentence is formally a two-member sentence.

The impersonal pronoun *es* is a grammatical substitute word of the subject.

Several types of impersonal sentences are distinguished in the work of E.N. Gulyga and M.D. Natanzon (Gulyga, Natanzon, 1999). Some have been expressed among them:

1. The sentences in which the possessor of the marker expressed in the predicate is not only named, but it cannot be imagined, for example: *Es regnet. Es ist kalt. Es kam zu erbitterten Kämpfen. Plötzlich war es totenstill in der weiter Halle.* 'It is raining. It is cold. There was the fierce war. Suddenly it became deadly quiet in the next room' (Gulyga, Natanzon, 1999, p. 38).

2. Sentences in which the possessor of the condition is expressed by the name in the accusative or dative case, like as: *es friert mich* 'I am cold', *es geht mir gut* 'I'm fine', etc.

Such type of sentence can also be attributed to two-member one, since the formal subject is on the first place in the construction (Gulyga, Natanzon, 1999, p. 39).

3. Sentences in which the speaker deliberately excludes the possessor of the marker, focusing all his attention to the action or some other moments, for example: *Es zwitscherte im Garten. In wildem Galopp ging es die schnurgerade Wendenstraße hinunter.* 'They are chirping in the garden. In a wild canter the road was led straight down' (Gulyga, Natanzon, 1999, p. 39).

Sentences with impersonal or one-member passive construction occupy a special place among such ones in which the pronoun *es* is used only if it comes first, for example: *Es wurde mit der Landung der Truppen gerechnet.* It was applied with the landing of troops. *Gelesen wurde nach Überkunft.* 'It was read out at a discount' (Gulyga, Natanzon, 1999, p. 39).

V.G. Admoni notes the cases of using impersonal sentences and distinguishes among them:

a) the manifestation of element, season, etc., for example: *Es regnet. Es ist Frühling.* 'It's raining. Spring.' (Admoni, 1973, p. 124);

b) the external or internal state of the person (with facultative *es* under the influence of topological factors), for example: *Es friert mich. Mich friert.* 'I'm cold' (Admoni, 1973, p. 124);

c) the semantics of the action or state on the basis of a verbal passive construction without a real subject (with optional *es*, if the first place is occupied by adverbial modifier in the sentence), for example: *Es wird gearbeitet. Hier wird nicht geraucht.* Working. Do not smoke here' (Admoni, 1973, p. 124).

E.I. Shendels notes that according to the stylistic purposes the impersonal pronoun *es* can be used with verbs in the personal meaning for depersonification, for example: *Meine Augen sind trocken, aber es weint in mir.* 'My eyes are dry, but it is crying all inside me' (Shendels, 1988, p. 225).

3. CONCLUSION

Thus, according to the above it is possible to say that in the comparative languages the impersonal sentences are practically similar in their meanings, however there are peculiarities in the method of construction such sentences. In the structure of the impersonal sentence the main peculiarity is the mononuclear of Mari and the two-part of French and German sentences. The practice of formulating the impersonal sentence without the subject, i.e. without the pronoun *il* in French and *es* in German, refers to the interference of the native, i.e. the Mari language, which should be sought to master both the student and the teacher of French and German in the Mari-speaking audience.

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