VERB PHRASES WITH PARTICIPLE IN TAJIK AND THEIR ENGLISH EQUIVALENTS

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ГЛАГОЛЬНЫЕ СЛОВОСОЧЕТАНИЯ С ПРИЧАСТИЕМ НА ТАДЖИКСКОМ ЯЗЫКЕ И ИХ АНГЛИЙСКИЕ ЭКВИВАЛЕНТЫ

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Abstract. The article presents a contrastive analysis of verb phrases (VPs) containing participles in Tajik and their corresponding translations in English. Focusing on examples drawn from "Reminiscences" by Sadriddin Aini, the author of the article carries out the structural configurations and semantic functions of Tajik participle marker *-a* (e.g., *karda, rafta*) and, to a lesser extent, the participle marker *-anda (kunanda)* within VPs, comparing them with their renditions in English. The methodology involves identifying participial constructions in the Tajik source text and analyzing their structural and semantic equivalents in a published English translation. The analysis highlights the challenges and strategies involved in translating these complex verbal structures, emphasizing the importance of context in achieving semantic equivalence. The given article contributes to contrastive linguistics between Tajik and English and offers insights for translation practice.

Аннотация. В данной статье представлен сопоставительный анализ глагольных словосочетаний, содержащих причастия, на таджикском языке и их соответствующих переводов на английский язык. Сосредоточившись на примерах из «Воспоминаний» Садриддина Айни, автор статьи исследует структурные конфигурации и семантические функции таджикских причастий на *-а* (например, *карда, рафта*) и в меньшей степени причастий на *-анда* (*кунанда*) в глагольных словосочетаниях, сравнивая их с их переводами на английский язык. Методология включает в себя выявление причастных конструкций в таджикском исходном тексте и анализ их структурных и семантических эквивалентов в опубликованном английском переводе. Анализ выявляет проблемы и стратегии, связанные с переводом этих сложных глагольных структур, подчеркивая важность контекста в достижении семантической эквивалентности. Статья вносит вклад в сопоставительную лингвистику таджикского и английского языков и представляет интерес для переводческой практики.

Keywords: participle, verb phrase, Tajik language, English language, contrastive analysis, contrastive linguistics, literary translation, analytical verbs.

Ключевые слова: причастие, глагольная группа глагольные словосочетания, таджикский язык, английский язык, сопоставительный анализ, контрастивная лингвистика, художественный перевод, аналитические глаголы.

1. Introduction

1.1. Background: The Role of Participles in Verb Phrases

Participles, as non-finite verb forms, play a crucial role in the syntax of many languages, enabling the construction of complex verb phrases (VPs) that express nuanced temporal, aspectual, and voice distinctions. They function predicatively within VPs (often with auxiliaries) and attributively or adverbially as modifiers. Analyzing participial VPs provides insight into a language's grammatical structure and expressive capabilities [1, p. 21; 2, p. 116].

1.2. Participles in English

English grammar typically distinguishes between the participle I (ending in *-ing)* and the participle II (often ending in *-ed, -en,* or irregular forms). The participle I is fundamental to progressive aspects (e.g., *is writing*), while the participle II is essential for perfect aspects (e.g., *has written*) and the passive voice (e.g., *was written*) [3]. Both can also function adjectivally (e.g., *a writing desk, a written report*).

1.3. Participles in Tajik

Tajik, a Southwestern Iranian language, utilizes participles extensively. The most prominent is the participle, typically formed with the suffix *-a* or *-ta (-da)* added to the past stem (e.g., *rafta 'gone', karda 'done/made', gufta 'said'*). It is a cornerstone of perfect tense/aspect formation, often combining with auxiliary verbs like *ast (is)* or forms of *budan (to be)* and *shudan (to become)* [4; 5; 6; 7]. The participle, often ending in

-anda (e.g., *kunanda 'doing/doer', ravanda 'going/goer'),* functions primarily adjectivally or nominally but can appear in certain verbal constructions.

2. Methods

2.1. Corpus Selection

"Reminiscences" by Sadriddin Aini was chosen as the primary corpus due to its status as a classic of modern Tajik literature, its rich narrative style, and its extensive use of varied grammatical structures, including participial VPs. Comparing a canonical literary work allows for the examination of translation strategies in a context where preserving stylistic and semantic nuances is paramount.

2.2. Data Collection

Verb phrases containing Tajik participles forming by dint of *(-a, -ta)* and the participles deriving by means of *(-anda)* were manually identified within selected passages of the Tajik source text. The corresponding sentences and VPs in the English translation were then located. Examples were chosen to illustrate different structural types and functions (perfective, passive, adjectival, adverbial).

A dataset containing 100 to 120 examples of sentences with VPs extracted from "Reminiscences" by Sadriddin Aini was analyzed using probability sampling methods, namely systematic sampling and stratified sampling. In order to construct a comprehensive primary corpus of VPs, the literary work was systematically analyzed, ensuring both complete coverage and representativeness of the language material.

2.3. Analytical Framework

A qualitative contrastive analysis approach was employed [8]. Each pair of Tajik source sentence and English target sentence containing a relevant participial VP was analyzed based on:

Syntactic Structure: to identify the participle, auxiliary verbs (if any), main verb, arguments, and overall VP structure in both languages.

Semantic Function: to determine the tense, aspect, voice, and/or modifying function expressed by the participial construction.

Translation Strategy: to classify the translation technique used (e.g., structural equivalence, transposition/shift, modulation, lexical change, omission/addition) following established translation studies frameworks [9; 10].

3. Results

Tajik and English belong to different branches of the Indo-European family and exhibit significant typological differences, particularly in verbal morphology and syntax. English leans towards analytic structures with a relatively fixed word order and reliance on auxiliaries, while Tajik, despite significant analytic tendencies (especially in the verbal system), retains productive morphological processes for participles and uses them in distinct analytical VPs [11; 12; 13]. Comparing how participial VPs are structured and translated between these languages reveals areas of convergence and divergence, highlighting translation challenges and strategies.

3.1. Tajik Participle Marker -a/-ta in Perfective/Resultative Analytical Constructions

Example 1:

Tajik: Падарам ин ҳикояро борҳо *гуфта буданд* – My father *had told* this story many times [14, p. 100].

The Tajik VP *gufta budand* uses the participle *gufta ('told')* combined with the past tense of the auxiliary *budan ('to be')* to form the pluperfect (past perfect) tense. The English translation achieves direct structural and semantic equivalence using the English past perfect tense (had told). This represents a common pattern of equivalence for the Tajik analytical pluperfect. The same can be said about the other examples below:

Ман ба ту ҳеҷ чиз нагуфта будам. – I didn't tell you anything [14, p. 377].

Усто амак бо ин сухани худ худи Азизхоҷаро девона гуфта буд. – Uncle Usto had called Aziz Khoja himself crazy with this statement [14, p. 68].

Example 2:

Tajik: Вақте ки ман ба он *ҷо расидам,* ӯ аллакай рафта буд – When I arrived there, he had already gone [14, p. 88].

This example contrasts a simple past finite verb *(rasidam)* with a pluperfect formed with the participle *(rafta bud).* The participle *rafta ('gone')* combined with the past auxiliary *bud* indicates an action completed

prior to the main past event. The English translation perfectly mirrors this sequence using the simple past (arrived) and the past perfect (had gone), again showing direct structural mapping facilitated by the participle + auxiliary structure in Tajik.

The same observation applies to the other examples below:

Вақте ки чашми муллоён ба ин пойафзоли ӯ афтод, ӯро ба «дуздӣ» тӯҳмат карданд. – When the mullahs saw his shoes, they accused him of "stealing" [14, p. 261].

Дар Бухоро вақте ки ман ин гапро ба Маҳмудхоҷаи савдогар гуфтам, ӯ ин маъниро рад кард. – In Bukhara, when I told this to the merchant Mahmud Khoja, he denied the meaning [14, p. 266].

3.2. Tajik Past Participle in Adjectival/Adverbial Roles

Example 3:

Tajik: Модарам нони дар танур *пухтаашро* ба мо дод. – My mother gave us *the bread baked* in the tandoor. / My mother gave us t*he bread (which) she had baked* in the tandoor [14, p. 62].

Here, *pukhta-ash-ro ('her baked one' accusative)* uses the past participle *pukhta ('baked')* attributively to modify *non ('bread')*. The suffix *-ash* indicates possession ('her'). English translates this adjectival participle using a reduced relative clause (a post-modifying participle phrase: baked in the tandoor) or potentially a full relative clause. This demonstrates a structural shift from a pre-nominal (though here inflected and slightly separated) or post-nominal participle in Tajik to a mandatory post-nominal participial phrase or clause in English.

The other examples below share this characteristic:

Ман ба меҳмонхона даромада нӯги занҷири ишкелро аз сутун кушода сар додам. – I entered the hotel and untied the end of the chain from the pole [14, p. 98].

Хар ба канори роҳ баромада дар зери як дарахти бед истод. – The donkey went to the side of the road and stopped under a willow tree [14, p. 151].

Ӯ баъзе калимаҳои русии шунидаашро дар як дафтарча бо тарҷимаи тоҷикиаш навишта гирифта барои худ як луғатча сохтааст. – He wrote down some Russian words he heard in a notebook with their Tajik translation, making a dictionary for himself [14, p. 260].

3.3. Tajik Participle Marker -anda

Example 4:

Tajik: Дар кӯча бачаҳои бозикунанда бисёр буданд – There were many children playing in the street [14, p. 95].

The Tajik present participle *bozīkunanda ('playing', from bozū kardan 'to play')* functions attributively, modifying *bachaho ('children')*. The English translation uses the English participle I (playing) in a post-nominal modifying phrase, achieving direct semantic and functional equivalence, though the position shifts (Tajik pre-nominal vs. English post-nominal).

The other examples below confirm this as well:

Кораш, ки ба назари ман хеле дилгиркунанда менамуд, ӯро ҳеҷ дилгир намекард, аз сафед шудани рӯз то торикии бегоҳӣ аз болои кори худ намечунбид. – His work, which seemed very boring to me, did not bother him at all; he did not move from his work from dawn until dusk [14, p. 62].

Усто амак бо ҳамон вазъияти ҳамлакунанда аз ҷояш хест ва такрор кард. – Uncle Usto stood up with the same attacking posture and repeated [14, p. 66].

Деҳқонони дар он ҷо киштукоркунанда тамоман бе ҳайвоноти кори буда ва фақат бо каланду бел заминҳои маита (мурда)-ро кор карда гашта буданд. – The farmers there were completely without draft animals and were working the dead land with only a pickaxe and a shovel [14, p. 88].

4. Discussion

4.1. Interpretation of Results

The results confirm that Tajik extensively utilizes participles combined with auxiliaries *(budan, shudan)* to create analytical verb forms expressing perfective aspect, pluperfect tense, and passive voice. English achieves similar semantic functions through its own system of auxiliaries *(have, be)* combined with past participles. While semantic equivalence is often achievable, the structural realization differs, reflecting the distinct grammatical systems [13; 15].

4.2. Syntactic Asymmetries

A key asymmetry lies in the formation and function of participles. The Tajik participle marker *-a/-ta* is highly productive in forming perfective analytical tenses. English uses its participle II similarly with *have*, but

relies on the participle I with *be* for progressive aspects, a category often expressed differently in Tajik (e.g., using constructions like *karda istodaast – is doing)*. Furthermore, the placement of adjectival participles often differs (pre-nominal tendency in basic Tajik forms vs. post-nominal phrases/clauses in English).

4.3. Semantic Equivalence and Challenges

While core tense/aspect/voice meanings are often transferable, nuances can pose challenges. The specific aspectual value of a Tajik perfect form (e.g., resultative vs. experiential) might require careful selection of the English equivalent (simple past, present perfect) based on the broader context. Translating the sometimes-subtle difference between perfect constructions with *budan* vs. simple past finite verbs requires sensitivity to narrative flow.

4.4. Role of Context in Translation

As seen in the examples, context is crucial. The decision whether to translate a Tajik perfect formed with a participle *(karda ast)* as an English present perfect *(has done)* or simple past *(did)* depends heavily on the discourse context and the specific nuance intended (resultative state vs. completed past action). Similarly, the choice among different English participial phrases for an adverbial Tajik participle depends on the desired emphasis (temporal sequence, cause, manner).

4.5. Implications for Translation Theory and Practice

This analysis underscores the importance of understanding source language grammar beyond simple lexical equivalence. Translators working between Tajik and English must be adept at recognizing the function of participial constructions within the VP and finding the most appropriate structural and semantic equivalent in the target language. This often involves structural shifts and careful consideration of aspectual and temporal nuances. For contrastive linguistics, it highlights how related concepts (perfectivity, passivity) are grammaticalized differently.

4.6. Limitations and Future Research

This study is based on a limited corpus from one author and one specific translation. Further research could expand the corpus to include diverse genres and authors, compare different English translations of the same text, and investigate less common participial forms or more complex analytical constructions in greater detail. A quantitative analysis could also reveal the frequency of different translation strategies. Investigating the translation of participles in the opposite direction (English to Tajik) would also be valuable.

5. Conclusion

The contrastive analysis of verb phrases with participles in "Reminiscences" by Sadriddin Aini reveals both similarities and significant differences between Tajik and English. Tajik employs its morphologically derived participle II extensively within analytical constructions (with auxiliaries like *budan, shudan*) to express perfective aspect, past perfect tense, and passive voice. While English uses its participle II in analogous structures (perfect tenses, passive voice), the specific formation rules and the interplay with other parts of the verbal system differ. Adjectival and adverbial uses also show structural divergences, often requiring translation shifts (e.g., Tajik pre-nominal/inflected participle to English post-nominal phrase/clause). Achieving accurate and natural-sounding translation necessitates a deep understanding of both grammatical systems and careful attention to context to convey the intended semantic nuances. This study contributes to the field of Tajik-English contrastive analysis and highlights key areas for consideration in literary translation practice.

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