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orcid: <https://orcid.org/0009-0000-0450-8053>

**ALSU ZABBAROVA**

*Khazar University*

*Master Student at Department of English Language and Literature*

*alsuzabbarova01@gmail.com*

## **TRANSLATION FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN GEORGE ORWELL'S "1984" INTO AZERBAIJANI: STRATEGIES, CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS**

### **ABSTRACT**

Figurative expressions play a crucial role in conveying George Orwell's dystopian vision in "1984". Its effective translation into Azerbaijani presents numerous challenges, including cultural gaps, stylistic fidelity, and semantic nuance. This article examines the history of the translation process through the types of figurative expressions found in "1984", and analyzes how they were translated into Azerbaijani. Using a qualitative, comparative analysis of selected examples, the study identifies common techniques such as literal translation, adaptation, calque, equivalent and free translation. Findings reveal that while literal translation is the predominant strategy, it is sometimes insufficient to capture Orwell's intended irony or symbolism.

**Keywords:** Figurative Language, Translation Strategies, George Orwell, Cultural Adaptation, Comparative Analysis.

**ALSU ZABBAROVA**

### **XÜLASƏ**

Bədii təsvir vasitələri Corc Oruellin "1984" əsərindəki distopik baxışın çatdırılmasında mühüm rol oynayır. Əsərin Azərbaycan dilinə düzgün tərcüməsi bir sıra çətinlikləri, o cümlədən mədəni fərqləri, üslubi sadıqlığı və semantik incəlikləri özündə birləşdirir. Bu məqalə "1984"-əsrində işlənmiş bədii ifadə vasitələrinin Azərbaycan dilinə hansı yollar ilə tərcümə olunduğunu və eyni zamanda da tərcümə prosesinin tarixini araşdırır. Seçilmiş nümunələrin keyfiyyətli və müqayisəli təhlili əsasında aparılan araşdırma, müvafiq tərcümə üsullarını, o cümlədən hərfi tərcümə, adaptasiya, kalka, ekvivalent, sərbəst tərcümə növlərini müəyyənləşdirir. Tədqiqatın nəticələri, hərfi tərcümənin əsas yanaşma olduğunu vurğuladığı halda bu üsulun bəzən Oruellin nəzərdə tutduğu ironiya və simvolizmi tam olaraq əks etdirməkdə yetərsiz olduğunu göstərir.

## АЛСУ ЗАББАРОВА

### РЕЗЮМЕ

Художественные средства выражения играют ключевую роль в передаче дистопического видения Джорджа Оруэлла в произведении «1984». Их эффективный перевод на Азербайджанский язык сопряжён с многочисленными трудностями, включая культурные различия, стилистическую точность и семантические нюансы. В данной статье рассматривается история процесса перевода через типы художественных средств выражения, встречающихся в «1984», и анализируется, как они были переведены на Азербайджанский язык. С помощью качественного сравнительного анализа выбранных примеров исследование выявляет распространённые методы перевода, такие как буквальный перевод, адаптация, калька, эквивалент и свободный перевод. Результаты показывают, что хотя буквальный перевод является преобладающей стратегией, он иногда оказывается недостаточным для передачи иронии или символизма, заложенных Оруэллом.

### **Emergence of translation**

Since the beginning of human civilization, people have continuously shared knowledge, influenced one another in exchange, and attempted to perceive one another in the context of group living and collective action. Basically, they have been trying to communicate for a long time. Translation is one of the most important processes that humans have devised and used to enhance this contact.

Translation is an essential tool for communication, not only across large physical distances, which promotes connection between nations and cultures, but also across time, which connects the past and present. Like a hardworking bee constantly transferring information from one language and cultural realm to another, it serves as an essential means of disseminating intellectual, scientific, and artistic accomplishments.

In the creation and evolution of several national languages and literary traditions, translations have been essential. Translated works frequently created new literary and linguistic forms, had a large readership, and came before the development of original works. Translations from ancient languages have greatly influenced the languages and literatures of Western European nations. Translations played a significant role in the formation of Georgian, Russian, and many other literatures with centuries-old histories, as well as in Old Azerbaijani literature.

Translation, as defined by Catford (1965), is the process of replacing text in one language with equivalent text in another. But according to Bassnett (2002), translation is deeply cultural. The system of names for a set of universal concepts is not what language is. Each language has its own style of organizing or expressing the world.

Azerbaijan has long been a center of linguistic and cultural exchange due to its location at the meeting point of Europe and Asia. The growth of the nation's literary and cultural landscape has been greatly influenced by translation. Azerbaijani literature's translation history has been divided into many phases, each of which is characterized by unique linguistic, cultural, and ideological developments.

### **Motivation and concept of figurative expressions**

One of the most crucial elements of artistic expression is the use of figurative expressions. Figurative language is crucial for the writer not in terms of quantity, but as an indication of quality. How the reader understands and interprets them determines their relevance in a literary work. Perrine (1977) offers a broad and narrow definition of figurative language in the context of poetry: "*Figurative language is broadly defined as any way of saying something other than the ordinary way. It is more narrowly definable as a way of saying one thing and meaning another*" [12, p. 116].

Figurative language is frequently used in many different languages. The figurative association or comparison of two items, such as things, events, creatures, birds, plants, flowers, or human characteristics, is often the source of figurative language. By using these comparisons, the author is able to more clearly and forcefully convey their personal viewpoint on the description's subject. Comstock (2022) asserts that figurative language is a rhetorical device that authors employ to improve their narratives by enabling readers to picture ideas and feelings in ways that go beyond literal readings.

### **Strategies in translating figurative expressions**

Figurative language is often used in communication and is part of the wealth of language. Figurative language plays a role in providing beautiful and meaningful expressions in communication, as well as providing its own uniqueness to express ideas, moods, admiration, anger, and all reactions felt by a speaker. Figurative Language is an expression in the form of words that are implicitly desired so that it is more difficult to understand and translate the meaning they contain [13, p. 26].

Figurative language translation can provide a number of challenges since these terms are culturally specific and have metaphorical implications, and the target language may not have exact counterparts. In order to preserve both meaning and structure, translators resort to several fundamental translation strategies. The choice of strategy depends on factors like the function of the expression, its cultural specificity, and the target audience's familiarity with the source concept.

Translation techniques are recognized as being universal, and independent of the languages involved in the translation process. "A "strategy "is a generalization about typical courses-of-action exhibited by professional translators they are the standard tools of the trade, the procedures offering a solution to the various types of problems encountered in the translation task" [9, p. 52].

Krings (1986) defines translation strategies as a translator's potentially intentional intents for addressing concrete translation problems within the framework of a particular translation assignment. Additionally, according to Loescher (1991), a translation strategy is a potentially deliberate procedure for addressing a problem that arises when translating a document or any portion of it.

For Jaaskelainen (2005), strategy is a set of abilities and a series of steps that encourage the acquisition, storage, and application of information.

According to Séguinot (1989), translators often employ three primary strategies while translating: completing the translation as soon as possible, correcting little mistakes immediately, and postponing the analysis of stylistic or qualitative issues until the revision phase.

A figure of speech is a type of phrase, like a simile, in which the words function as fixed multi-word units within a text and convey a meaning beyond their literal interpretation. There are different strategies in translation of figurative expressions:

- ***Borrowing***
- ***Calque***
- ***Literal translation***
- ***Equivalent***
- ***Adaptation***

Translation of figurative expressions is a complex task. From numerous studies conducted, it can be concluded that literary devices directly reflect the cultural markers of a people, and during their translation, the translator must employ the most optimal and appropriate strategy to convey the accurate meaning.

#### **Analyzing of “1984”**

Figurative expressions play a crucial role in “1984”, as they contribute to the novel’s thematic depth and emotional impact. Translating such expressions requires careful consideration of linguistic and cultural differences to ensure that the intended meaning and stylistic effects are preserved.

Metaphors are widely used in “1984” to convey abstract concepts and intensify the novel’s oppressive tone. The translation of metaphors requires careful consideration, as direct equivalents may not always be available in the target language:

*"It was a bright cold day in April, and the **clocks were striking thirteen**".*  
(*Soyuq, günəşli aprel günü idi. **Saat on üçü vurdu***)

By using the literal translation approach in this sentence, the translator has maintained the text's uniqueness. It may be concluded that translating this sentence into the target language presented no major difficulties.

Similes serve as an essential stylistic device in “1984”, often intensifying emotions and reinforcing key themes:

*"His heart was thumping like a drum". (Ürəyi təbil kimi şiddətlə döyünürdü)*

The simile in the example highlights the main character's worry or anxiety by comparing his heartbeat to a drum. The best approach is literal translation, which ensures semantic and stylistic accuracy because there is a direct counterpart in Azerbaijani.

Personification, a literary device that attributes human characteristics to non-human entities, is frequently utilized in "1984" to emphasize the pervasive control of the Party and the omnipresence of Big Brother:

*"Beads of moisture stood out all over his pink face". (Çəhrayı sifətində də tər damlaları muncuqlamışdı)*

By giving "moisture beads" the ability to "stand out," as if they were purposefully surfacing, the original text personifies them. This subtle imagery is maintained in the Azerbaijani translation through an equivalent adaptation.

Hyperbolic expressions in "1984" serve to emphasize the emotional intensity of the protagonist's experiences, particularly in relation to fear, oppression, and psychological manipulation:

*"The room was already very full and deafeningly noisy". (Səs-küydən qulaq tutulurdu)*

Although the original word "deafeningly noisy" provides a significantly more dramatic tone, the translation adequately portrays this overpowering impression by maintaining the exaggeration through idiomatic equivalency.

### Conclusion

Finally, by analyzing of the novel "1984", we have reached the end of our research. Throughout the analysis, we encountered many interesting and unique figurative expressions used in both languages. We examined their methods of translation, expressiveness, and suitability in the target language.

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the accuracy and cultural adaptation of literary devices by analyzing the translation of figurative language from George Orwell's "1984" into Azerbaijani. In examining the figurative expressions in "1984", several important conclusions can be drawn. The metaphors, similes, and other figurative expressions used in the text bear national artistic characteristics. Each language and culture retains its own figurative expressions, and these should not be compromised in translation. Translators, therefore, must be mindful of this, respecting the history and cultural heritage of each people, ensuring that the figurative language they hold dear is faithfully represented. To fulfill this duty effectively, various translation methods such as adaptation, literal translation, finding equivalents, and other techniques employed in target language when translating figurative expressions.

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**Rəyçi: PhD Irina Orujova**

**Lecturer at the Department of English Language and Literature, Khazar University**