ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS IN ARABIC LANGUAGE IN COMPARISON WITH RUSSIAN AND ENGLISH

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Abstract

The paper is devoted to abbreviations and acronyms in Arabic language in comparison with Russian and English.

The current interest in the problem lies in specific of languages instrumentalities for composing abbreviations and acronyms in each language. This specific is raised from graphical differences of Arabic and European languages.

The research methodology rested on the comparative approach to analysis, followed functional and cultural equivalent principles in the course of exploring the essence of multilingual lexical items. The study go in line with the needs of experts and specialists who work within the above settings to adequately understand and use language tools for processing information coming from the Arab world and for its translating into Russian and English. The research materials included parallel texts in Arabic, Russian and English, and bilingual dictionaries for the mentioned languages. The above explains the current importance of the research. The research goal is twofold; first it aims to characterize abbreviations and acronyms in Arabic. Second, it tries to give methods of translating those abbreviations and acronyms into Russian and English. The research combined theoretical and empirical studies. Literature review focused on the latest developments regarding Arabic Vocabulary and its Historical Process. Empirical studies included analysis of transformations offered in texts and dictionaries in search for functional equivalents of abbreviations and acronyms. The research findings can be of use for translators who work in multilingual environments, incorporating the Arabic, English and Russian languages also for teachers of Arabic. The research findings made it possible to characterize the major layers of Arabic vocabulary and identify some ways that reflect graphical specifics of Arabic, English and Russian.

Keywords: abbreviations, acronyms, Arabic, Russian, English

INTRODUCTION

Abbreviation as a method of word-formation is widely used in European languages inclusively Russian. This word-formation differs by non-affixed ways and a combination of abbreviated elements of words combined into one combination.

There are so many examples:

SURF - Speed Up Robust Features

SIFT Scale Invariant Feature Transform

Some abbreviations include another abbreviation, for instance:

ORB - Oriented FAST and Rotated BRIEF where FAST - Features from accelerated segment test and BRIEF - Binary Robust Independent Elementary Features.

In the Russian language

RNSS - Russian language national school.

1 ABBREVIATION IN ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN

Word-formative formants for abbreviation in European languages may present in:

1) non-morphemic word truncation

2) fixed order of components.

Ways of formation of the abbreviation can be divided

1) abbreviation initial

This type of abbreviation could be divided into two groups that differ in pronunciation:

- phonetic. In such cases, during pronunciation, we spell letters in one word. Ex. radar /'reɪdɑ(r)/ radio detection and ranging (English).

Vuz (Russian) – (HEI higher educational institution).

-alphabetic. In such cases, during pronunciation we spell out each letter. Ex.: PC – personal computer. PiCi)

2) syllabic abbreviation – a combination of elements that presents parts of abbreviated words.

Kolkhoz - kollektivnoe - (collective) - hozayzstvo (farm) (collective farm) (Russian)

3) syllabic-word abbreviation - a combination of a word and an abbreviated element:

kvarplata - in Russian consists of two elements: first is part of the abbreviated word – kvartira (kvar) that means apartment and second whole word «plata» that means payment.

4) mixed abbreviation - combining abbreviated elements of different types:

zavuch (Russian) - Director of Studies

5) telescopic abbreviation - combining the beginning of one word and the end of another. For instance: bionics - biology + technique. Abbreviation expresses a word-formation meaning, called connective or syntagmatic

2. ABBREVIATION IN ARABIC

Abbreviations and acronyms cause some difficulties in Arabic for several reasons.

First, there are no capital letters in Arabic script. Secondly, the principle of writing is based not on syllabic divisions, in contrast to, for example, the Russian language, but on a constant one. Thirdly, most often in the paradigm of the Arabic language, the word-forming element is the prefix "mim" that joins the beginning of a word. It follows that most words begin with the prefix "mim".

In spite of this, historically the Arabic language has developed its own abbreviations. Some of them later became independent units of the graphic system.

For example, the diacritic mark "shadda".

Various abbreviations were used in medieval texts for faster reading of the text. However, depending on the subject of the text, the same abbreviation had different meanings.

There are four types of abbreviations in Arabic:

- abbreviation by cutting a part of a word

- abbreviation by abbreviation of the middle part of the word
- abbreviation by leaving one letter of the word.
- abbreviation by symbolization of graphemes.

Close to the abbreviations of linguistic pollution, i.e. words-hybrides, as

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم – basmala - بسم

In modern written speech you can find the following abbreviations: seasons designation; units of the metric system; monetary units; geographical names; various words and combinations frequently used in texts of certain genres; frequency text abbreviations, such as: etc. إلخ.... Names of news agencies are also often abbreviated.

It should be noted that in the abbreviation's graphemes, which serve as an indicator of longitude in Arabic, can transmit vowel sounds in borrowed foreign abbreviations and abbreviations.

بي.بي.سي.

BBC

Abbreviations may include, to some extent, adjectives or masks used in word combinations, which have undergone a process of substantiveization and began to denote the entire word combination.

Arabs use the word الخارجية (al-harija) means الوزارة الشؤون الخارجية (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

3. CONCLUSION

We can make some conclusions

- abbreviation more widely presented in European languages than in Arabic
- In the process of translating, we have to pay attention to abbreviations. For example, in Russian language Mid (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) we can translate by one word in Arabic.
- the graphical features of the written language can influence the spoken language, as we see in European languages and Arabic.

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