



## Words of Turkish Origin in English

Farida Ismailova

Azerbaijan University of Languages, Azerbaijan

Received: 11 Mar 2023; Received in revised form: 13 Apr 2023; Accepted: 19 Apr 2023; Available online: 25 Apr 2023

©2023 The Author(s). Published by Infogain Publication. This is an open access article under the CC BY license

(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

**Abstract**—This paper presents and describes the process of borrowing of Turkic origin words into English. The languages of the world have been enriched at the expense of each other for millennia. Every day, new words are created in the languages of the world, and these words typically spread new concepts or refined concepts to neighboring or related languages. There is a very ancient history of borrowing words of Turkish origin into different languages. In English it was happened as a result of Mongol-Tatar invasions of Europe, these words began to enter in the form of terms. Basically, the words used by Byron in his oriental poems are described, the stylistic features of these words are revealed. Using the words of Turkic origin, Byron portrayed the oriental flavor, replenished the English vocabulary. In general, some Turkic words borrowed into English entered the Great Oxford Dictionary and are still used in everyday life.

**Keywords**— borrowings, Turkish origin, English, terminology, language

Being the result of a long historical interaction of languages, borrowing as a process and borrowing as a result of this process are of considerable interest for the history of the language, within which not only the causes of borrowings, but also their source languages are covered in detail. Also noteworthy are the ways, forms and types of borrowings, as well as the transformations that a borrowed word undergoes in a new language environment for it. Borrowings are interesting, first of all, by the effect they have on the system structure of the vocabulary of a particular language, as well as by their special status in the language that borrowed them, if a number of genetic characteristics are preserved.

In the word stock of any language there are not only native words, but also numerous borrowings from other languages. There are more of them in one language, in another less, but they are always there. In principle, borrowing is a positive process for a language. In this way, the vocabulary is enriched, new elements for word formation appear, vocabulary, belonging to the exact terminology forms. The number of borrowings in English is quite high compared to other languages. It has been calculated that borrowings in the English language account for about 75 percent of the vocabulary, and the rest is native English words. The reason for such “absorption” of

foreign vocabulary by the English language lies in the historical development of this language. Numerous foreign conquests of the British Isles, the development of trade, the influence of the culture of continental countries - all this contributed to the emergence and consolidation of borrowings in the English language. In English, we can find words borrowed from Old French, Latin, Greek, Scandinavian and other languages. The most numerous is the group of borrowings in English from Old French. French language to the islands was brought by the Normans after their Conquest of England.

One of the most relevant historical and modern lexicological problems of the English language aimed at acquisition problem to increase the vocabulary throughout the history of its development.

However, despite the wide flow of foreign words, the English language has not only been able to subject them to its sound order and grammar, but also to the rules of its lexical system. Borrowing is both a sociological and a linguistic problem. Words, taken from different languages are transferred from one language to another, and often their external appearance changes and undergoes external modification. External factors determine the mere pronunciation of the word, the separate investigation of the objective events that occur in the language, the subjective

and diachronic aspect is important from the point of view of sociological linguistics, and helps to regulate the subjective events.

The first reason for borrowing is related to the fact that a language cannot provide itself with own resources. Every day, new words are created in the world's languages and these words typically spread new concepts or refined concepts to neighboring or related languages. Those languages, in turn, have different attitudes to new concepts. The languages of the world have been enriched at the expense of each other for millennia.

After a certain period of time, borrowings make their internal and external appearance changes, so that it is impossible to determine their origin.

In the languages of a number of peoples, national units have rapidly become archaic, instead amount of borrowed words begin to be used. As a result, these words gained the right to citizenship. Along with all these objective factors, there are also subjective factors of borrowing, in order to learn them, it is important to get acquainted with the history of the countries. Historically, borrowed words from Eastern languages to Western languages and vice versa was observed. There is a very ancient history of borrowing words of Turkish origin into different languages. In English it was happened as a result of Mongol-Tatar invasions of Europe, these words began to enter in the form of terms. Along with all these objective factors, there are also subjective factors of borrowing, in order to learn them, it is important to get acquainted with the history of the countries.

The words khan, horde, koumiss, etc. can be cited as an example in Modern English Dictionary. According to the opinion of foreign linguists modern English has borrowings from about fifty languages. The Ottoman Empire was great with its way of life, household, culture, social, economic situation and could influence a vast territory, including Europe. During that period, the English language had also borrowed military terms such as ottoman, yataghan, janissary, dolman, caique, uhlan, bey, aga (agha), etc.

The historical collisions that brought dramatic and heavy consequences for the Ottoman Empire, the common connection of the English and Turkish languages, and the word borrowing process, were no longer held at the level of military terms, but at the level of trade and household terms. One of the reasons for the borrowing was the expansion of trade relations with many countries of the world. The English language included words of Turkish origin: coffee, kiosk, bazaar, bergamot, bagnio, hammam, pilau, serai, sherbet, yogurt, etc.

The close economic and cultural relations with the peoples of the countries dependent on British politics and economy have not passed without a trace for the English language. Many words from the languages of these peoples have passed into English: bosh, turkey, bey, aga, vizier, vilayet, turk, uhlan, pasha, turban, para, pal, horde, Hurrah, jackal, oda, Osmanli, ottoman, para, Azrael, genie, gazelle, etc.

Most of the new words had a terminological feature before. However, they soon became common language and were already used in literary works.

For example: caviare, odalogue, nizam, janissary, douane, batman, dervish, etc

Borrowings from Turkic language are widespread due to the importance of the concept they express. At the same time, as in borrowings from all languages, there are words of Turkish origin that have not been fully assimilated. These types of words are poorly distributed in the national lexicon and have only a terminological character. Using them in literary works, they do not create derivative words, among them: bashi-bazouk, divan.

Some of the Turkish words that entered the English language are currently used in everyday speech:

kiosk, bergamot , kismet, pasha , bosh, imam , koumiss - kumis, kourbash , khan, yataghan , bey, turban ,coffee, Turkoman, Turkmen, horde, janissary, caique, caftan, yogurt, uhlan, Uighur.

A person who does not know Turkish can never say that the words that English has borrowed from the Turkish language are the Turkish origin. In this sense, the degree to which a given word is assimilated in this language and whether it is included in the lexical fund of the English language plays a key role.

There are also cases where the word is pronounced in the target language as it is in its native language. The words of Turkish origin that entered the English language underwent phonetic assimilation as well as graphic changes. That is, the written forms of Turkish words changed according to the spelling rules of the English language. For example: chibouk, kulan, bairam, uigur, pasha, kumis -koumiss.

There are many Turkish words that have entered the English language, but their spelling has not been fixed. As an example, the word "chibouk", which Byron used for the first time in English. Byron used the word stick as chibouque in both "The Bride of Abydos" and "Corsair". In Byron's poems "Gavur" and "Don Juan" many words of Turkish origin were used:

Bismillah, Eblis, Emir, fakir, gazelle, guitar, haram (harem), henna, houri, Koran, Mameluke, Mecca, minaret, muezzin, mufti, Muslim, Ramadan, Sultan, tambour,

Bulbul, caravan, firman, padishah, pictachio, seray, shawl, spahi, peri, Stamboul, saffron, Afrit, jackal, Emir, Osmanli, bey, caravan, sanjak, etc.

Most of the words of Turkish origin in the English language have been so assimilated that many new words have been created as a result of adding various suffixes to their roots: vizier - vizierate, derwish - dervishism, khan-khanate, janizary-janizaries.

Words of Turkic origin in English mainly consist of nouns: various clothing, rank, administrative division names, etc. Sometimes words that have passed from Turkish to English in the form of nouns became adjectives by adding the suffix "ed": a turban- turbaned, a calpac- calpaced.

In English, there are two words of Turkic origin that denote a woman, and their variant without a suffix means a man in the same language. One of them is khedive (Khediv's wife) based on the Turkish example.

There is an opinion that this word was transferred from Turkish to English in this way. Vizieress (female vizier) became a feminine word by adopting a suffix after passing to the English language. It is a pity that the words that were transferred from Turkish to English could not compete in the English language, but they remained for a certain period. The British listed them in the Great Oxford Dictionary because some traveler or writer used those words in their work, or because they were used colloquially for a while.

The second part includes the words that have established their place in the English language: coffee, yogurt, turban, Turk, turkey, bosh, horde, kourbash, pasha, bey, khan, batman, vizier, effendi, kiosk, kismet, ottoman, etc.

Among the Turkish words used by Byron, there are words that are not included in the vocabulary of the English language: chocador- chukhadar- one of the attendants of a noble prince, kishlar- girls. The word calpac is used in modern English as a triangular head covering by Turks and Tatars, as well as an Eastern hat. Byron explains this word in the notes of the poem "Gavur": The calpac is the solid cap or center part of the head dress: the shawl is wound around it, and forms the turban. This word deli - deli is used in Azerbaijani folk literature in the sense of brave, hero. Byron used this word in the sense of a brave soldier. Wul-wule- valvela, the cry of Turkish women.

The word "Calpac" has gradually become one of the most used words in English and obeys the structural rules of this language. The Turkish word yataghan is used in two ways in English: in the sense of a big curved dagger and a weapon carried only by Turks, this word was found in English for the first time in the form of ataghan in the poem "Gavur": "And silver-sheathed ataghan". The word

turban is also mentioned in the same poem: "More near-each turban I can scan".

Among the words of Turkish origin included in the vocabulary of the English language, there are active words from the point of word formation, which also participate productively in the creation of new concepts.

Although there are few such words, for example, the word coffee, which has been in the English household for a long time, is more important. Due to the combination of this word with other English words, a new word and a new concept were created: white coffee - milk coffee, coffee bean, coffee berry - coffee grain, coffee cup - small cup for coffee, coffee grinder, coffee pot, etc.

The words Turk and Turkey also contributed to the word creation of the English language at least a little: Turkey red, Turkish delight, turkey.

The study of words of Turkish origin that entered the English language shows that some of them were active in terms of dynamics, lexical-semantic development and word formation, and also played a role in the formation of new phraseological units. Considering that the scope of these units is mainly the colloquial language and the language of various social institutions, we can say that they played a role in enriching the fund of English phraseology. Since the colloquial language is a living, ever-developing, enriching language, the possibility of forming stable word combinations with the participation of Turkish words is not exceptional: under the kourbash - under the compulsion, to say turkey - business conversation, saying nice words, without hints, straight- to speak frankly.

## CONCLUSION

To summarize the above mentioned we can say that borrowings do not ham any language, but enrich its vocabulary and help the development of word formation.

## REFERENCES

- [1] Ayto, J. (2007). A century of new words. Oxford: Oxford University Press
- [2] Allan Metcalf, Predicting New Words. Houghton Mifflin, 2002
- [3] Durkin, Philip(2014). Borrowed Words. Oxford: Oxford University Press <http://www.oed.com>
- [4] Gespersen O. Growth and structure of the English language . Oxford-1945
- [5] Selections from Byron.- Moscow: Progress Publishers,1973
- [6] Speake, J. (1997). The Oxford dictionary of foreign words and phrases. Oxford: Oxford University Press.11.