

Естественно, что формы обращения к курсу грамматики родного языка могут быть весьма разнообразны и далеко не ограничиваются приведенными выше. Но бесспорным остается одно: умелое использование грамматического материала родного языка при изучении русского – нужный, эффективный и весьма важный прием в практике обучения второму языку.

#### **Литература:**

1. Аракин В. Д. Типология языков и проблемы методического прогнозирования. – М., 1989.
2. Белошапкина В. А. Современный русский язык. Синтаксис. – М., 1977.
3. Чоңбашев К.С. Сопоставительная грамматика русского и киргизского языков. – Фрунзе, 1980.

**УДК 81-13**

*Ammar Younas*

Eastern Center of Strategic Studies.  
Eastern University named after Mahmud Kashgari Barskani,  
Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan  
*Aigul Kantoro Kyzy*  
Graduate Student, Kyrgyz Turkish Manas University,  
Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

### **LINGUISTIC TYPOLOGY OF TURKISH AND URDU LANGUAGES: AN ETHNOGRAPHIC APPROACH**

*Abstract: It has been argued that Urdu language is influenced by Turkish Language. This paper is an attempt to prove that Urdu and Turkish languages shares common vocabulary borrowed from Persian and Arabic languages.*

*Keywords: Turkic Language, Urdu, Turkish, Comparative Linguistics, Historical Linguistics*

*Аннотация: Утверждалось, что язык урду под влиянием турецкого языка. Данная статья – попытка доказать, что урду и турецкие языки разделяют общий словарь, заимствованный из персидского и арабского языков.*

*Ключевые слова: Тюркский язык, урду, турецкий язык, сравнительное языкознание, историческая лингвистика*

#### **Background**

Besides some shared words, there is no similarity between grammatical and syntactical structures of Urdu and Turkish languages. As Turkish has vowel harmony and agglutination but Urdu has nothing of this kind. The basic sentence structure is same. (Subject-Object-Verb) but all six combinations of SOV are possible in Turkish Language only. Both languages have no grammatical gender but in Turkish, the speaker or reader depends upon context for understanding gender but in Urdu usually the ending of a sentence can be an indication of masculine or feminine gender. Both Languages use second-person pronouns that distinguish between various levels of politeness, social distance, age, courtesy or familiarity towards an addressee. While comparing two languages, Linguists look towards basic core vocabulary (relations, animals, colors, numbers, things of daily usage and household, Pronouns etc). A vivid difference can be seen in core vocabularies of Turkish and Urdu languages. Urdu is a bidirectional language due to its Arabic script. Urdu words are written from right to left but numbers are written from left to right. Turkish is written from left to right.

#### **Building a Case for Comparison of Urdu and Turkish Languages**

Urdu has this property that it readily accepts words from other languages. Also, Urdu is a younger language than Turkish. There is no doubt that Urdu shares words with Turkish language

and these words were present in Turkish before. Urdu took these words from Turkish. But the following 3 points are important.

1: Both languages may have taken these words from a third language.

2: Common words in Urdu and Turkish are often not purely Turkish words.

3: If Turkish and Urdu share words with a third language then the link between Turkish and Urdu must be established.

Geoffrey Lewis wrote in his book “The Turkish Language Reform”, “By the beginning of the eleventh century, most of the ancestors of the present Turks of Turkey had become Muslim. It is evident that their introduction to Islam was due to peoples of Iranian speech, because the basic religious terms in Turkish come not from Arabic but from Persian or other Iranian languages: namaz 'prayer', oruç 'fasting', peygamber 'prophet'. The apparent exceptions, the Arabic hac or ziyaret for 'pilgrimage', are no exception, because those are the words used in Persian too. Once settled within the civilization of Islam, the Turks took into their language as much Persian and Arabic vocabulary as they needed, and more. As the perception that they were Turks was supplanted by an awareness that they were members of the Ümmet-i Muhammed, the Community of Believers, so the tide of Arabic and Persian flowed. It was not just a matter of borrowing foreign words for foreign concepts”. And he also wrote, “Huge though the influx of Persian words was, a bigger invasion came from Arabic, and not only because as the language of the Koran it naturally became the language of religion and theology and because the Persian vocabulary was itself replete with Arabic borrowings, but also because when an Arabic word was borrowed it brought its whole family with it. This calls for a brief explanation, which Arabists may skip”.

Lewis explained that Turkish is more influenced by Persian than Arabic. The grammatical Structure of Turkish and Persian can be considered similar because Persian also has a small element of agglutination. Secondly, before Islam, Turks were closer to the Persian people which is clear from the ancient Turkish literary writings which show abundant similarities between Turkish and Persian. Secondly, Turks attained religious knowledge not only through Arabic also through Persian because it was language of Sufi saints and scholars. Persian literature more influenced at Turkish Language than Arabic Language.

Now coming to the Urdu language, it has been argued that Urdu is created during war and it is mixture of Persian, Arabic and Turkish Languages because Urdu shares many words with these languages. But as we said before, language formation is a lengthy process which consumes time. The arguments that Urdu was formed by invading Muslim armies by mixing words of Persian, Arabic and Turkish is incomprehensible, historically incorrect and linguistically misleading.

Let's analyze some historical facts which are taken from an article written by Dr Syed Mohammad Anwer.

“Turks started converting to Islam in 920AD with the invasion of Arabs. But Arabs entered in Sub-Continent in 711AD when Muhammad Bin Qasim Invaded Sindh. But Arabs were in touch with Indian Sub-Continent centuries before Islam. On the other hand, Interaction between Persian and Indian people goes back to before Christ (BC). Ottoman Turk Empire was established in 1299 and Lahore was under the rule Mahmud Gaznavi in 1254AD”.

Arabic, Persian and Turkish were brought to India by traders, invaders and preachers. Turkish was the only language which was restricted to invaders whereas Arabic was introduced by traders and Persia India's neighbor so Persian vocabulary also diffused in Indian Languages.

All the invaders, traders and preachers who entered in Indian Sub-Continent mostly adopted the Persian Route. And the language they used was Persian, not Arabic or Turkish (Turkish Chagatai Dialect is an exception used by Mughal family and also rich in Arabic and Persian words). If someone argues that the invaders of the Sub Continent were of Turkish origin then in my personal opinion, people readily adopt the language of traders and preachers than that of invaders. Only a specific group of people have to learn language of kings and emperors because they remain in touch with them but majority of people have to deal with traders. If Turkish was the language of invaders then Persian was the language of Traders and Preachers. A specific group of Turkish speaking people cannot influence a language. It was the populace that was in permanent contact

with Persian speaking traders and Preachers who introduced a lot of new words in Urdu which are misleadingly called as of Turkish origin.

Hence, the words in Urdu language which seem similar to Turkish words are originally Persian words or rarely Arabic.

Mr Purdil Khattak wrote a book “Urdu aur Turki kay Mushtarik Alfaz” (Similar words of Urdu and Turkish) published by Muqtedarah Qaumi Zuban (1987), Islamabad. He has listed 2608 words which are spoken by Turkish and Urdu speakers. According to Dr Syed Mohammad Anwer, from these 2608 words only 24 words are purely Turkish Words. The remaining ones are Arabic or Persian. So the claim is false that Turkish contributed to the formation of Urdu language.

I found a list of Hindi words common with Turkish. One can estimate that approximately all these words are also present in Urdu language. By looking this list, one can think that Urdu is more influenced by Hindi language than Turkish.

Fact about this list is that these words are also present in Arabic, Persian and other languages of Central Asia or It can be said that some of these words are adopted by Hindi from these languages. Just by looking at similar words in two languages, one couldn't say the relativity of those languages.

While talking with native speakers of Tajiki, Dari, Punjabi and Hindi, I have estimated that there are lot of words which are found in all of these languages. To understand this fact, one must not be a linguistics student, It is a logical thing, If a word of Urdu is common with Turkish and the same word is also present in Punjabi, Pashtu, Deri, Tajki, Hindi or any other language of sub-continent or its neighborhood then why linguists feel this need to say that Urdu is directly influenced by a distant language Turkish?”

#### **What has Urdu got to do with Turkish?**

As mentioned before, Urdu gets its name from the Turkish word "Ordu" which means “army”.

In Amir khusro's famous book “Ghurratul Kamal”, he talked about Masood Saad Salman who said to be first Urdu poet. He is believed to have composed three poetic anthologies in Turkish, Persian and Hindvi. It can thus be concluded that the origin of Urdu language can be easily traced to Turkish. Urdu and Hindi are the two dominant languages of India and Pakistan. They share common grammar and syntax. But Urdu is more influenced by Arabic, Persian and Turkish than Hindi.

In fact, when it comes to lexical linkages, Urdu and Turkish commonly share two types of words:

- a) Words of Arabic and Persian common to both Urdu and Turkish.
- b) Words directly borrowed from Turkish.

#### **Words of Arabic and Persian common to both Urdu and Turkish.**

Due to cultural and religious similarities majority of words are borrowed from Arabic and Persian languages. Ottoman Turkish was somehow a mixture of Persian and Arabic languages.

Contemporary Turkish includes Ottoman Turkish loanwords—mostly of Arabic and French, but also Persian, Greek, and Italian origin—which were replaced with their Turkish counterparts suggested by the Turkish Language Association (Turkish: *Türk Dil Kurumu*, TDK) as a part of the cultural reforms - in the broader framework of Atatürk's Reforms - following the foundation of Republic of Turkey.

The TDK, established by Atatürk in 1932 in order to conduct research on the Turkish language, also undertook the initiative to replace Arabic and Persian loanwords with their Turkish counterparts. The Association succeeded in removing several hundred Arabic words from the language. While most of the words introduced into the language in this process were newly derived from existing Turkish verbal roots, TDK also suggested using old Turkish words which had not been used in the language for centuries.

Urdu language, at its start was a clear copy of Persian language. Rulers of Sub Continent were speakers of Persian and public started speaking Persian to praise their kings. Secondly, the very first

poets and writers of Urdu language were originally poets of Persian language so they imported a large number of Persian words in Urdu language.

### **Modern Turkish and Modern Urdu**

TDK has replaced Arabic words from Turkish language with their Turkish equivalents which were present in Old Turkish and these words are not present in Urdu. Most of the original Persian words are still widely used in modern Turkish. In fact, there are over 1,500 Persian words in Turkish. However, for many of the Persian words (unlike Arabic words, there is no TDK-prescribed equivalent. TDK did not put as much effort into replacing Persian words as it did for Arabic words' largely because the Persian words were better assimilated into the language, Arabic language and culture is general perceived by Turks to be more "foreign" than Persian language and culture. In fact, Ottoman Turkish effectively used Persian spelling for Turkish words; however this shared spelling differs significantly from the system used for Arabic words.

We can conclude following from above discussion that:

1: At the time of formation of Urdu Language, Turkish language (Old Turkish) was using original Turkish words which are once again being added by TDK or Turkish Language was itself adopting words from Arabic and Persian. It proves that if Turkish Language has taken part in formation of Urdu Language then Urdu must have a majority of Original Turkish words rather than Arabic words. Fact is, when Urdu language was passing through the process of evolution, Turkish people were using Pure Turkish words which were never present in Urdu or adopting Arabic and Persian words.

2: Word of Persian origin, present in both Turkish and Urdu Languages are due to direct contacts of Turkish people and people of Sub Continent with Persian people. Turkish language shares very less vocabulary with Persian language than Urdu language. Urdu has taken approximately 60% of its words from Persian Language.

3: Pure Turkish words in Urdu language are less than 200 (I have collected 81 pure Turkic words in Urdu Dictionary). On the other hand, grammars of both languages are totally different. Thus it cannot be argued that Turkish language has taken part in the formation of Urdu language or Urdu Language is directly influenced by Turkish language.

### **Bibliography**

- 1: Loanwords of Turkish in Urdu and Dr Sabir, Dawn.com, By Rauf Parekh. November 15, 2010
- 2: Influence of Turkish on Urdu, Dawn.com, By Miandad Rahoojo November 29, 2011
- 3: Language: Urdu and the borrowed words. In paper Magazine By Dr Syed Mohammed Anwer .November 13, 2011
- 4: The Turkish Language Reforms by Geoffrey Lewis Published by Oxford University Press
- 5: Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, List of replaced loanwords in Turkish
- 6: A Lexical approach to the Study of Turkic Languages and Shared Commonalties Shared by Turkish and Urdu. [www.turkishweeklly.net](http://www.turkishweeklly.net)