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PAPER:

"PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS WITH THE COMPONENT 'PART OF THE HUMAN BODY' IN GERMAN AND MACEDONIAN"

Kristina Ilieva¹, Biljana Ivanovska, PhD²

Abstract: The purpose of this paper is a comparative analysis of phraseological expressions containing component part of the human body in Macedonian and German. The corpus is taken from more phraseological dictionaries and the interpretations are given by the authors, relying on the linguistic experience and feeling as native speakers of the Macedonian language. The main emphasis is put on the grammatical structure, the lexical means used to express these phraseological units, and the translation which starts from the meaning of the same. Also, certain specifics regarding the use of the phraseological expressions in both languages are discussed. These phraseological units are different in both structural and stylistically-functional aspect in the language pair German-Macedonian.

Key words: phraseological units, idioms with the component part of the human body, structural and stylistically-functional aspect

1. Introduction

The phraseology is a young scientific discipline that deals with the study of word structures (phraseological expressions, phraseologisms or idioms). Phraseologisms or phraseological expressions are word compounds which in a language are used as a complete and ready for use linguistic elements with a single meaning. Subject of this paper are the phraseological expressions containing a component part of the human body. These expressions can be found under the term somatic phraseological

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expressions or somatisms. Phraseological units containing component part of human body comprise those linguistic elements which in their composition include a lexical unit denoting a body part (head, hand, heart, etc.). They are of varying degrees of representation in the Macedonian language and according to Veljanovska K. (2006: 65-66) the lexeme глава (head) occurs in 100 phraseological units, уста (mouth) in 49, коса (hair) in 7, чело (forehead) in 5 and усни (lips) in 2 units. This list also includes the lexemes such as: eye, hand, mind, mouth, heart, tongue, soul, finger, blood, foot, nose, ear and others. In order to perform a bilingual parallel we limit ourselves only to phraseological units that contain the element anaea (head) as the most frequently used phraseologism. The phraseological expressions are complex units that can be analysed from grammatical, semantic and stylistic aspects of a particular language, while contrastive analysis leads to the identification of the phraseological units in both languages, their content and structure comparison, as well as their distinction from other linguistic units. A comparison of the phraseologisms in the language pair German-Macedonian in this paper, should describe the similarities and differences in the two language systems, as well as their specificities.

The phraseological units that are dealt with in this paper are taken from "Фразеолошкиот речник на македонскиот јазик" (Phaseological dictionary of Macedonian language) in three volumes by Todor Dimitrovski and Shirilov Tashko intended for linguists, Slavists, philologists, translators, teachers and students of Macedonian language, then the "Немачко српско-хрватскиот фразеолошки речник" (German Serbo-Croatian Phraseological dictionary) by Pavica Mrazovich and Ruzica Primorac (1991). The Serbo-Croatian and German phraseological dictionary is intended for German scholars, students and teachers of German language, i.e. all who have studied German language: interpreters, correspondents and people from various professions who read German literary and scientific works, and technical literature. Heskey R. (in: Földes, 1992) writes: "Zweisprachige phraseologische Wörterbücher sind als ein Untertyp des zweisprachigen Wörterbuchs überhaupt anzusehen. Sie kodifizieren jeweils nur bestimmte Teilmengen des Lexikons einer Sprache (der Ausgangssprache), und diese (phraseologischen) Teilmengen sind in je zwei Sprachen prinzipiell nicht

deckungsgleich."³, proving that no language can fully fit into the lexicon of the other, and therefore the representation of the phraseologisms in both languages cannot be identical.

2. Processing of phraseological units

The analysis of this type of phraseological units is done in a way that phraseological units containing the component part of the human body (in this case containing the lexeme глава (head)) are chosen, then their translation equivalents in the target language (Macedonian) are given. At this stage an onomasiological approach is used, where we take those units that are explicitly associated with this part of the human body. We are looking at the characteristics that are meaningfully constitutive. Thus, the received linguistic units are classified according to communication-functional aspects and we begin their semantic analysis. Then, we compare the German and Macedonian phraseological units regarding their communication and content structure. The German phraseological expressions and their meanings, as well as the appropriate Macedonian equivalents are presented in tables. Emphasis is placed on the grammatical structure of the phraseological expressions in both languages in terms of how much their grammatical structure overlaps in both languages, then the possibility of translation of these units and their specifics in the language pair German-Macedonian. Their grammatical structure is analysed and the following division is made: phraseologisms at a sentence or partsentences level and phaseologisms at a certain word group level, such as: composed of a sentence, adjective + noun, noun + noun, adjective + adjective, adverb + adverb, number + noun. In cases where the phraseologisms are not distinguished their grammatical structure is the same, while others are presented in a separate table.

3. Criteria for definition of phraseologisms

According to Plotnikov A.N. (in: Velkoska S., 2002) There are several criteria for the classification of phraseologisms which include "different lexical structures with meaningful and technical words, constituent terms, sayings, proverbs, quotations and

³ C. Földes (1992): *Deutsche Phraseologie und Sprachsystem und Sprachverwendung*, Edition Praesens, Wien, S. 109.

aphorisms".⁴ Below are some criteria that are important in the analysis of phraseological units.

- 1. Idiomaticality: regarding this criterion phraseological expressions are distinguished based on the degree of idiomaticality, so we distinguish or set apart phraseologisms in which one of the components has a figurative meaning and are called *phraseological joints*; phraseologisms in which the components that function as a whole and have a constant context, but their meaning derives from the figurative meaning of each component are called *phraseological unities*; and phraseological expressions whose meaning is not motivated by the literal meaning of its components are called *phraseological compunds*.
- 2. The permanence of the components in a phraseologism is indicative of the degree of phraseological characteristics.
- 3. Syntactic permanence.
- 4. Permanence of the quantitative composition means that other words cannot be inserted between components of the phraseologism.
- 5. Impossibility for syntactic transformations.

An important criterion is the structurally identical untranslatability of the phraseologisms in other languages. This means that each language expresses the idioms with its linguistic means and their intensity and meaning depends on them. Hence the translation of certain phraseological units given in Macedonian phraseological dictionaries⁵, is only an attempt to find a clear and accurate translations of German idioms using appropriate lexical units and common equivalents.

Of course, regarding the translation, even the most perfect, meaningful translation cannot contain all the meaning of a phraseological expression from the source language precisely because the micro context which is apparent in the speech situation and its

⁴ С. Велковска, (2002): *Белешки за македонската фразеологија*, Институт за македонски јазик "КРСТЕ МИСИРКОВ", Јазикот наш денешен кн.8, Скопје, стр. 10.

⁵ Т. Димитровски, Т. Ширилов (2003): Фразеолошки речник на македонскиот јазик. Том први, втори и трети, Огледало, Скопје 2003.

natural environment. So, phraseological expressions that have multiple meanings in a situation have different meanings, for example "подаде рака" (lend a hand) may have the following meanings: 1. Have a desire for something 2. Offer someone help. Exactly for this phraseologism there are appropriate expressions for both meanings in German (1. Die Hand nach etwas ausstrecken 2. jemandem in die Hände arbeiten), but many other phraseologisms express only one meaning or have a completely new different meanings.

Velkoska S. (2002) writes: "The phraseological expression can be communicated only by *a variant* or *analogy* of the appropriate phraseologism." This confirms the need for non-literal translation and knowledge of both codes, i.e. the two language systems and their possibilities.

4. Phraseologisms with the component глава - (DE: Kopf/EN: head)

The head is a part of the human body crucial for its decisions, procedures, psychomotor movements, opinions and more. The head can have the meaning of a leader, for example "глава на семејството"(the head of the family), a smart man, but through decapitation it may symbolize life, sacrifice, death and so on.

Table 1.

Бела глава (an old, experienced white-	die besten Köpfe
headed man) (adjective + noun)	ein heller Kopf
значење: стар човек, мудар, искусен, умен	
(meaning: old man, wise, experienced,	
clever)	
букова, дабова, дебела, дрвена глава	einen harten Kopf haben
(nitwit; stubborn as a mule; dummy)	
(adjective + noun)	

⁶ С. Велковска (2002): "Преведување на фразеологизми", "Белешки на македонската фразеологија". Институт за македонски јазик "Крсте Мисирков", Јазикот наш денешен кн.8. Скопје 2002, стр.83.

OHOHOU O: TROBOSEOR MUSCOTEMO HODOW	
значење: тврдоглав, инаетлив човек	
(meaning: stubborn, headstrong man)	
врти во главата нешто/ врти глава од	den Kopf schütteln
некого (to contemplate about something;	den Kopf über jemanden schütteln
face away (from someone or something)	den Kopi aber jemanden bonditem
значење: мисли нешто, има некаква	
намера/	
одбегнува некого	
(meaning: think about something, have an	
intention / to avoid someone)	
главата не го боли за некого, нешто (to	keinen Kopf für etwas haben
·	Remen Ropi lui etwas naben
give somebody/something the cold	
shoulder)	
значење: не се интересира за некого,	
нешто	
нешто	
(meaning: to show no interest in something,	
someone)	
1. главата си ја дава (self-sacrifice)	den Kopf für jemanden lassen müssen
значење: си го жртвува животот	
(meaning: to sacrifice one's life)	
(es.mig. to desimos one o mo)	
2. плаќа со главата (to pay for	
something with one's life; be put to	
death)	
значење: загине, убиен е	
·	
(meaning: to die, to be killed)	

главата си ја сече (to be completely convinced that something is true; to swear on your life that something is true) значење: наполно е уверен во нешто, гарантира со животот дека е така (meaning: fully believes in something)	dafür setze ich meinen Kopf ein
го удира в глава (to	einen dicken Kopf haben
go to someone's head)	
значење: матна глава од пијалак, го фаќа пијанство	
(meaning: to be dizzy from alcohol	
consumption)	
горе главата (to keep your chin up)	Kopf hoch!
(adverb + noun)	·
	den Kopf oben behalten
значење: извици за давање надеж,	
охрабрување, храбро напред	
(meaning:	
an expression of encouragement to someon	
e who has to bear some emotional burdens)	
губи глава (to lose one's life) (verb + noun)	den Kopf verlieren
значење: гине	
(meaning: to be killed, to die)	
дури стои глава на рамена (as long as	solange ich den Kopf noch auf den
being alive)	Schultern trage
значење: дури е жив, во (текот на) животот	

(meaning: while being alive, in life)		
спаси (жива, цела, читава) глава (to	den Kopf aus der Schlinge ziehen	
save one's neck/skin/bacon)		
значење: се спасува, си го спасува		
животот		
(meaning:		
to prevent something bad from happening to		
someone)		
има своја глава (to use one's own head;	deinen eigenen Kopf haben	
think for oneself)		
значење: има свое, сопствено мислење		
(meaning: to have an opinion)		
има во главата (to have something	den Kopf zu etwas haben	
between one's ears)		
значење: има ум, паметен е		
(meaning: to be smart)		
ја врза главата (to be out of one's head)	jemandem den Kopf verdrehen	
значење: се опи		
(meaning: to get drunk)		
ја дига главата/носот високо (to hold	den Kopf hoch tragen	
one's head high)		
значење: станува многу горделив		
(meaning: to behave proudly)		

си ја клава главата на коцка (to stick	den Kopf in die Schlinge legen
one's neck out; tempt fate; risk one's life)	
значење: се изложува на смртна опасност	
(meaning: to make oneself vulnerable; to	
take a risk.)	
ја пика главата в песок како ној (to bury one's head in the sand) значење: не сака да знае за опасноста	den Kopf in den Sand stecken
(meaning:	
to ignore or hide from obvious signs of danger	
)	
му бучи главата (to have a lot on one's mind)	jemandem raucht der Kopf
значење: има многу работа, обврски,	
грижи не знае што попрво да почне	
(meaning: to have many things to worry abo	
ut; to be preoccupied)	
му ја истри/испра главата/умот (to	den Kopf zwischen die Ohren setzen
brainwash somebody)	2. jemanden den Kopf waschen
1. остро критикува некого, наведува на	
поинакво мислење (persuade completely,	
often through coercion)	
2. прекорува, некого кара (to criticize)	
му ја полни главата со нешто (to	seinen Kopf aufsetzen
brainwash somebody; put a flea into sb's	
ear; put ideas into sb's head)	

jemandem brummt der Kopf
den Kopf nicht beisammen haben
einen offenen Kopf haben
nicht wissen, wo einem der Kopf steht
Ich bin nicht auf den Kopf gefallen

живее: живе, живее (meaning: to live or be alive) преврти (свртува, става) сè на глава. (to turn something upside down) поставува сè наопаку (meaning: turn something inside out, to throw things all about in a thorough search for someone or something) своја глава е (to use one's own head/judgment; stand one's ground; to think for oneself) Корf und Kragen 1.etwas steht auf dem Kopf 2.alles auf dem Kopf stellen seinen Kopf durchsetzen
преврти (свртува, става) сè на глава. (to turn something upside down) поставува сè наопаку (meaning: turn something inside out, to throw things all about in a thorough search for someone or something) своја глава е (to use one's own head/judgment; stand one's ground ; to
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about in a thorough search for someone or something) своја глава e (to use one's own head/judgment; stand one's ground ; to
something) своја глава e (to use one's own head/judgment; stand one's ground ; to
своја глава e (to use one's own head/judgment; stand one's ground ; to
head/judgment; stand one's ground ; to
значење: постапува исклучиво според
својата воља, самоволен е
(meaning: acts only according to one's will)
удира со глава в ѕид (to bang/knock sich den Kopf an der Mauer einrennen
one's head against a brick wall)
значење: се обидува да стори нешто
неможно (meaning: to try to do something
impossible)

With the phraseologism "auf seinem Kopf bestehen/mit dem Kopf durch die Wand wollen⁷" (сака да помине со главата низ ѕид, со главата ѕид не се пробива, не е можно ништо да се стори (bang/knock one's head against a brick wall, run one's head

⁷ F. Severin Berger & E. Tschachler-Roth (2003): *Das Blaue vom Himmel*, Herbig, München, S.188.

into a brick wall, nothing can be done)) is expressed stubbornness and/or persistence, while the Macedonian equivalent may contain negation in order to express the impossible/unreal action.

The Macedonian phraseologism in the following example indicates a man who hardly understands and the German idiom means a man who cares a lot, or a troubled mind: einen schweren Kopf haben / тешка глава (a nitwit) (adjective + noun).

Structurally identical translation of the idiom *einen schweren Kopf haben*, would be "да се има тешка глава"(to have a heavy head), thus losing the degree of phraseological characteristics according to the syntactic inalterability and permanence of the quantitative composition and other criteria by Plotnikov, and this only reaffirms the criteria for untranslatability of the phraseologisms. From the lexicography we can see a difference in terms of used lexemes regarding the number of them (2 versus 4 lexemes). A similar example of this would be the phraseological unit "букова глава"(nitwit; dummy) = "einen harten Kopf haben". This shows the different grammatical structure of phraseologisms in both language systems.

The following table with German phraseologisms, according to the both abovementioned dictionaries, remains without a Macedonian equivalent, while not excluding the possibility, however, the meaning to exist in reality, or in other dictionaries.

Table 2.

Die Köpfe zusammenstecken	да си шепоти, да оговара (to whisper; to gossip)
seinen Kopf hinhalten	презема на себе туѓа кривица (to take the blame)
ein Kopf an Kopf rennen	трка на еднакво силни или способни партнери (a race of equally strong or capable participants)
den Kopf hängen lassen	да се биде разочаран, очаен (to be disappointed/desperate)
den Kopf zusammennehmen	да се прибери некој (to bring to one's senses)

sich nicht auf dem Kopf hauen	не потклекнува на порази, останува исправен
lassen	(not to succumb to defeat, to remain upright)
auf seinen Kopf schwören	да си верува само на својот памет, на своето
	искуство, и да се биде доволен сам на себе (to
	believe in yourself, in your experience, and to be
	happy with yourself)
	/
den Kopf machen	да се биде налутен (to be angry)
jemandem den Kopf warm/heiß	да налутиш некого/да разгневиш некого (to
machen	make someone angry/mad)

Particular attention attract those idioms whose semantic meaning is related to the *head* as part of the human body, but are represented by another part of the body (eg .: 1, 2 / οδρα3 (cheek), πυψε (face)) or completely different words (eg. 3):

Table 3.

1.einen roten Kopf bekommen	му поцрвенеа <i>образите (to turn red)</i>
2.jemandem etwas an den Kopf werfen	да му плеснеш некому нешто в лице (to throw something into someone's face)
3.er ist wie auf dem Kopf geschlagen	тој е како удрен со влажен чорап ⁸ (not to be right in one's mind)

5. Conclusion

Somatic phraseological expressions occupy a big part of the phraseological structure of a language. The use of the somatic phraseological expressions, as well as of the phraseological expressions in general, is greatly complicated in the analyzed language pair. Structurally identical translation is rarely practiced when it comes not only to somatic phraseologisms, but for all phraseological expressions in general. These types

⁸ An example from the Macedonian spoken language.

of phraseological expressions are alive and prevailing in both language systems. They are susceptible to changes and renewal. Regarding their use they belong to different styles, from the conversational to the neutral layer of the lexicon.

The idea is to create a parallel in phraseology, which will increase the correct use of phraseological units and will develop our understandings of foreign cultures of expression. The pupil, student and even professor, should always have accurate knowledge of the use of the particular phraseologism and with the help of a dictionary or textbook in their native language can understand the exact meaning of the phraseological unit in a given context. All this confirms the need for a comparative Macedonian-German phraseological dictionary, in order to avoid errors in interpretation or translation in the language pair German-Macedonian.

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