

INTERPRETATION OF THE CONCEPT OF DIMINUTIVENESS

Samarkand State Medical University

Assistant of Department of Languages

Nasimova Sohiba Yaxyayevna

Annotation: It is known that in world linguistics, the categories that form the emotional form of nouns, in particular, diminutive forms, are one of the relatively understudied issues. Although this area is one of the complex and multifaceted areas of linguistics, requiring an analysis of the meaning expressed in it, emotional-aesthetic loading, and speech connotations, research on this issue has not yet been developed sufficiently deeply and systematically.

Key words: research, diminutive, linguistics, scholar, phenomenon, scientists, feature.

Nevertheless, the initial scientific research conducted in this area attracted the attention of a number of linguists and was studied as an important topic within the framework of their scientific activities. In particular, such famous scientists as K.S. Aksakov, A.A. Potebnya, A.A. Shakhmatov, V.V. Vinogradov paid special attention in their scientific research to the study of the form-synonymous, semantic features of diminutive forms, their emotional-expressive capabilities, and stylistic functions. These scholars analyzed the phenomenon of diminutives from different perspectives, trying to determine their place in the language system and their communicative functions. In this regard, the works of these scholars serve as an important theoretical source in determining the place and significance of the diminutive category in linguistics.

Until the 1970s, the number of scientific works devoted to the problem of emotionality in linguistics was extremely small. The features of emotional expressive means, in particular, their expression through grammatical units, remained beyond the attention of many researchers. However, some progressive scientists raised this issue very early. In particular, M.V. Lomonosov paid special attention to diminutive suffixes in his famous work “Russian Grammar” (“Российская грамматика”), published in 1788. He classified these suffixes as “enlarging” and “diminutive”, devoting an entire chapter to them. This approach by Lomonosov is of particular importance as one of the first scientific attempts to illuminate not only the grammatical, but also the emotional-expressive functions of linguistic means. This served as an important theoretical basis for subsequent scientific studies of diminutive suffixes and their emotional load.

The recording of diminutive units within the framework of linguistic analysis began historically long ago. One of the first important sources in this regard is the “Russian Grammar” created by G.V. Ludolf. G.V. Ludolf (1655–1712), known as a German philologist, orientalist and translator, was the first scholar to systematically describe the grammar of the Russian language and publish this grammar in Latin. He not only described the grammatical structure of the Russian language in general, but also paid special attention to the functional and pragmatic features of diminutive units.

In his research, Ludolf emphasizes the widespread use of diminutives in the Russian language, their ability to serve not only as an expression of affection or compliments, but also as a sign of speech culture and politeness in social communication. In the examples he gives, for example, the formation of the form дружок from the word друг expresses affection for a person, while in other cases the use of diminutive forms of personal names, for example, Ivashka instead of Ivan,

Petrushka instead of Petr, is common among Russians, which indicates the emotional-aesthetic and social functions of these linguistic units. Thus, G.V. Ludolf was one of the first researchers to foresee the socio-pragmatic significance of diminutive forms in his time and to scientifically record this phenomenon.

As we can see, the most regular model in this lexical-semantic group is the one with the suffix -k(a) and its variants, followed by the model with the suffix -ik, and then the one with the suffixes -ok/-ek. The formants -иц (skin) and -ц (knee) are represented by single cases. Some somaticisms form two diminutive-affectionate forms; as a rule, these are diminutives with the suffixes -ок and -ик: волосок / волосик (hair / hairs); глазок / глазик; носок / носик. The names of some female body parts form whole series of diminutives with the help of the suffixes -к(a), -ёнк(a) / -онк(a), -еньк(a), -ушк(a): головка, головёнка, головушка; ручка, рученька, ручонка.

To conclude that, the competition between the suffixes -k(a) and -ushk(a) was noted by scholars as early as the mid-20th century. Thus, comparing different word-formation types with a common derivational function in terms of the dynamics of their productivity, A. G. Cherkasova (with reference to the 1953 Grammar of the Russian Language) notes: "The production of diminutive names from feminine noun stems using the suffixes -k(a) and -ushk(a) has been preserved and remains productive. Only words with the suffix -ushk(a) are "characteristic of colloquial speech and vernacular" [17, p. 54].

LIST OF LITERATURES

1. Zemskaya E. A. [Types of Semantic Relations of Word-Formation Motivation]. In: Wiener Slavistischer Almanach, 1984, bd. 13, pp. 337–349.
2. Lomonosov M. V. Rossijskaya grammatika [Russian Grammar]. St. Petersburg, Akademiya nauk Publ., 1788. 214 p.
3. Lopatin V. V. [Metaphorical Motivation in Russian Word Formation]. In: Aktual'nye problem slovoobrazovaniya. T. 143 [Actual Problems of Word Formation. Vol. 143]. Tashkent, 1975, pp. 53–57
4. Yorova, S. A. Y. O. R. A., & Nasimova, S. O. H. I. B. A. (2019). The ways of teaching languages at medical institutions.
5. Tolibjonova, Z. B., & Nasimova, S. Y. (2025). Language diversification in ancient period. *American Journal of Language, Literacy and Learning in STEM Education*, 3(1), 343-345.
6. Kurbanova, Z. O., & Nasimova, S. Y. (2024). Exploring Co-Teaching in Language Classrooms: Benefits, Challenges, and Student Impact. *American Journal of Language, Literacy and Learning in STEM Education*, 2(11), 138-141.