The Studying of The “Бақыт” (“Happiness”) Concept In The Kazakh Language

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Abstract—The given article deals with the usage of the concept in many spheres of science, including its place in the Kazakh linguistics. One of such concepts is the role of the “бакыт” (“happiness”) concept in the Kazakh outlook. The work tells us about its studying. The data about studying of the “happiness” concept in the sphere of philosophy, psychology, cognitive linguistics, linguistics, and cultural study, logics, psycholinguistic are given in this work. Particularly dwelling at length on the studying level of the concept in the sphere of cognitive linguistics, analysis have been made pertaining linguist point of views. It was pointed out that the concept of “happiness” hasn’t been studied yet in the Kazakh linguistics and it is necessary to find out the meaning of the language units related to this concept, i.e. blessings, proverbs, sayings and phrasiological units.

Keywords—Concept, cognitive linguistics, the concept of “happiness”, the Kazakh outlook.

I. Introduction

It is common knowledge that concept has been the goal of philosophy, psychology, cognitive linguistics, linguistic and cultural study, logics, psycholinguistic researches. As any science the research originates from specifying the essential concept of a particular culture and language. The important cultural, language concepts are the ones that are peculiar to the heart of the certain nation, or the concept manifested in the nation’s national behavior and psychological features.

Concept is the main component in the cognition of nation’s peculiar outlook. It is a complicated structure denoting the centuries-old notion about cultural values and a brief and meaningful objective reality preserved in the ethno cultural consciousness, handed down from generation to generation.

By means of introducing its national features, beings to the other culture representatives in the course of intercultural communication, Kazakh people began realizing own peculiarities, self-estimating long ago.

As the important concepts have been mastered along with the nations language and culture, some of them are “recognized” at once. The others became familiar on the base of analysis” M.Abrakhmanova states in her article [1].

There are some concepts “recognizable at once” like “бакыт” (“happiness”), тағдыр (“destiny”), “укыл (“time”), “махаббат” (“love”), “достык” (“friendship”), “табиғат” (“nature”) etc. which is common to many ethnic groups. At the same time there are number of concept like “тара” (“millet”), “капшы” (“a whip”, “a knout”), “босағак” (“threshold”, “hame”), “шайырк” (“a family”, “flue”, “a wooden circle at the yurt top”), “кейін” (“a bride”, “a fiancée”, “a daughter-in-law”, “a sister-in-law”) which are peculiar to a certain ethnic group, denoting that ethnic group’s national outlook. All of these concepts make the world’s language image connected (being bounded) with deep knowledge, national features and experience of the ethnic group. There are other many conceptual meaningful cognition. But they are still to be studied. The concept “бакыт” (“happiness”) has been studied in some works, but no research work has been performed from the linguistic point of view, including studying it as a separate concept.

The notion “бакыт” (“happiness”) existing in the Kazakh people’s national outlook became a concept. This concept has been already formed in any ethnic language group. If we refer to people’s outlook “бакыт” (“happiness”), “бак” (“good luck”, “success”), it is presented by Creator according to human being certain behavior or for nothing. And that’s the reason why man, first of all, will beg creator asking for good luck. Begging creator “Баға бердім, бак тіледім”(I have blessed wishing good luck), “Алла берсін зор бакыт, Аллау әкбәр!”(Great fortune from Allah!), “Басыңың бакыт кыйылысың” (“Be lucky”), “Бакыт нұрға шымылыя жүргей” (“Enjoy your fortune”), “Баңғы жансың өуелен”(“Good luck”), “Құдай жарылықсың, бәк карасың, көздер дарысың, құрды дарысың” (Let God support, fortune prosperity accompany you”) is the evidence of it. There was a belief that all the creature comforts came from Allah. It is known that this appeared after human being had been created. Because according to history, before adopting Mohammedanism the Kazakhs had offered prayers to Heavens. That is, “бакыт” (“happiness”) concept is a comprehension directly connected with all the creature comforts coming from Heavens, Allah.

Some information concerning at what level and how the “бакыт” (“happiness”) concept has been studied in different fields of science.

The “бакыт” (“happiness”) concept is a notion which has been studied thoroughly and appreciated in the sphere of philosophy and psychology. In the science of philosophy happiness has been in the highest stage of human values from ancient times. The works like: “Ниқома этикасы” (“Nikomah Ethics”) by Aristotel, “Бақытты өмір тұраулы” (“About Happy Life”) by Seneca, “Бақытты өмір” (“Happy Life”) by Aurelius Augustine, “Философиәлдык жұбанышы” (“The consolation of Philosophy”) by Boethius, “Бақыт жөңіл сілтегу” (“Displaying the way to Happiness”), “Бақытқа жету жайында” (“How to be Happy”) by Farabi, “Құтты білік” (“Kutady Bilig”, “Beneficial Knowledge”) by Zhusip Balasauqan, “Бақыт” (“Happiness”) by Helvetius, “Эвдемонизм” (“Eudaemonism”) by L.Feuerbach and etc. are the outstanding ones in the history of philosophy. Among
these we can’t help mentioning the works by D.Tolstoy and M.Ghandi and Kazakh writers and poets Abai and Shakarim.

It should be pointed out the work by M.Bizhanova about the problem of happiness in the medieval Turkic philosophy. In her research work she analyses the concept of happiness in the works of medieval thinkers Makhmud Qasqaray, Zhusip Balasagun, al-Farabi, Kozha Akhmet Yassau from the philosophical point of view. “In the history of philosophy and culture an applied ethical subject about happiness is called felicitology. Three directions of contemporary teachings about happiness can be singled out: happiness of psychology, happiness of axiology and happiness of sociology,” - says the scientist M.Bizhanova in her work. Happiness from the psychological point of view is good-spirit, enjoying life, experiencing pleasure. Axiological happiness means values, measurement of goodness in human life mastering sacred human qualities. Sociology of happiness is closely connected with utilitarianism (teaching about gaining benefit). The list of values leading human being to happiness are: health, wealth, power(authority), reputation, good relationship, friendship, consolation and etc.[2]. The main feature of the medieval Turks attitude to the world religion can be seen from tengrism, metaphysics. Easiness in the course of adopting Mohammedanism is explained by the tengrism’s being in the monotheistic orientation. The medieval Turkic religious philosophy conception of happiness has the meanings: "сырыс"("wealth"), "береже"("sufficiency", "prosperity"). At the same time it may be translated as "құт"("property", "richess"),- the scientist states in her work. One should take into consideration that the word and notion “құт” is the Central Asian cultural ancient and main notion. That is why Makhmud Qasqaray gave it without translation in his “Dictionary”. "құт-құт, бәк-дәуелерг". “Құт”, in his opinion, is interpreted only from one side, and it is granted only by Creator [2].

Another side of this Turkic outlook explanation one can see from the preface of the work "Құттың білік"("Beneficial Knowledge") by the medieval thinker Zhusip Balasagun: “In their times Iranians recognized it as “Туран шахимасы”("Turan Monarchy"), his folks— Хандардың едеп-қағидалары("Khans etiquette"), mashyn community— Мемлекеттің дәстүр("State’s Traditions"), the entire Orient— Өмір зейінеті("Fruits of Life"), "Падишаларға насихат("Edifications for Rulers"), and the Turks considering it the world consciousness priceless treasure called it “ Құттың білік("Beneficial Knowledge"). And considered this honorable book as a base of wisdom (greatness) [3].

If we say that man will be happy only in the course of cognition, according to the Islamic religion, the ways of true happiness are interpreted in the Quran Karim sent down specially from human beings. It is a true source of happiness. If human beings obeyed its instructions, their life would be bright, welfare would be increased, the others would respect them highly. In this way, broadening their outlook, making their life comfortable they would turn their perishable lives into paradise ones [2].

Great thinker al-Farabi’s treatises “Азаматтық сәйяғат"("Civil Policy"), “Бақұтқа жету ұралға"("How to be Happy"), “Бақұтқа жету әлді әдіс"("How to Be Happy Guides"), “Қайырымдымы қала тұрғындарының қәңірлігі"("Kind City Dwellers’ Standpoints"), “Мемлекет қайраткерінің нықыл сәйіздері"("Stateman’s Wise Sayings") are dedicated to the "happiness" concept.

Thinker’s anthropological standpoint collection about human being can be explained by his conception “кемел адамды"("perfect man"). In general, the Arabic word "қамал"("кызмет", "сәйіс", "қаміл") stands for “improved", “entire", “whole"[3].

In his work "Құттың білік"("Beneficial Knowledge") Zhusip Balasagun explained the concept "happiness" through humane principle and al-Farabi using the principle of a perfect man

In addition to it, the scientist interpreted the concept in Kozha Akhmet Yassau philosophy stating:

“It is a syncretic concept stipulated by restricting material and sexual attraction which can be formed only by absorbing such ethic principles as justice, humanity, simplicity, modesty and defining his (her) essence through principles of being keen of reaching the truth, meeting Divine, human being spiritual perfection.”

In the science of psychology the "happiness" concept has been studied by various psychological experiments for fulfilling the set goals and wishes and researching man’s inner world. For instance, “бакұт фұмұлмасы"("formula of happiness"), “бакұтқа әлді әдіс"("seven ways for being happy"), “бакұттың әдемі"("ten mysteries of happiness"), psychological studies and tests are evidence of them. In the “бакұт фұмұлмасы"("formula of happiness") human being’s psychological outlook about happiness is researched by answering the questions: “How to be happy?”, “What is to be done to be happy?” [4].

In the sphere of cognitive linguistics, including Russian one [5], the “happiness” concept in studied in the linguo-cultural concept standpoint 5 and linguocultural succession of two ethic group language “happiness” concept (Kalmyk and English) [6]. And the outstanding turkologist linguist ethnographer and scientist Dauit Shamphie Kara having studied Turkic peoples beliefs and superstitions, analyzed the word “Құт" ("wealth") in those peoples’ languages and expressed his view that it had meant “spirit”, “inspiration”, “soul” before Kazakhs accepted Mohammedanism, and contemporary Kazakhs use it as “happiness, wealth" [7].

Considering “happiness” concept’s etymology, we see that the word was formed be means of “бак" and “құт". Gradually the sounds “қ” and “ұ” underwent changes (бак- құт- бақұт-бақұт-бакұт), finally becoming "бакұт"(happiness). The above mentioned “бак дарысын",”құт дарысын" ("be happy") phrases are the evidence of this process.

In Kazakh linguistics the “happiness” concept hasn’t been studied separately. Only in a few works it has been mentioned. For instance, Y.Khasanov, a linguist, making a research of the word “сеэим” ("feeling"), considers its structural level sighs close to lexical syntagmatics
Examining lexical syntagmatics as “бақыт” (“happiness”), “қуат” (“power”), “тылсым” (“peace”), “сəт” (“moment”) in the. “Сезім-бақыт” (Filling-happiness) sample, he states that “as logical categories they, making a group of psychological life feeling, being in the same conceptual system form the word frames within themselves”. Then he proves the “бақыт” (“happiness”) concept meanings with the help of phraseological units [8].

And the other scientist Sh.Temirbekova in her work “Батырлардың негізі концептілердің мәні” (“The Blessings’ Main Concept Meanings”) asserting that: “Blessing are cultural treasures which demonstrate our people’s culture, spiritual being, culture and traditions, comments on the “бақ” (“happiness”) concept. “There is an idea that “бақ” (“happiness”) is granted by Creator to human being according to his (her) certain behavior or for no special reason (quite ordinarily). Supporting “бақ” “бәқыт” (“happiness”) concepts in Kazakh people’s blessings, she makes a conclusion that the word “бақ” (“happiness”) is mainly addressed to a female or a female child [9].

On the base of above mentioned philosophical principles, considering the happiness concept in the field of ethnolinguistics, lingo cultural studies, one can define the fourth direction in the contemporary teaching about happiness. It is ethnolinguistics of happiness. “Happiness” concept is an abstract concept in linguistics. At the same time, this concept is available in the languages of all the peoples in the world. That’s why this concept is recognized as a macro concept.

II. CONCLUSION

Making a conclusion it can be said that languages isn’t the only tool of culture’s appearance, development, preservation, it is a part of culture. As a consequence, material and spiritual culture’s works are created by languages. The Kazakh nation’s legacy, experience, customs and traditions which are being handed on from generation are displayed with the help of language.

If we realize the language units (which are full of exemplary advice, sensible view of things, which give us a lot of information about our people’s life and outlook) as a sing of culture, the “happiness” concept which shows national being specially, is the base of culture studies. Expressing with one word the nation’s joy, good intentions, welfare, material wealth, blessed peace and quiet life our people are creating priceless treasure of our culture. Solving the problems of this kind, explaining them to the younger generation is the requirement which is to be carried out nowadays.

In the Kazakh linguistics, including cognitive linguistics, the “бәқыт” (“happiness”) concept has being mentioned only in the scientific works and articles. It hasn’t been studied separately yet. And that’s why studying the place of “happiness” concept in Kazakh outlook and literature, making a research, concerning applying it in the blessing, proverbs and sayings, set phrases, even in the works of individual writers and poets is one of the urgent problems.

REFERENCES