COMPARATIVE CONSTRUCTIONS IN YAKUT AND ALTAI (COMPARATIVE-CONTRASTIVE AND COMPONENT ANALYSIS)\textsuperscript{1}

INTRODUCTION

The problem of studying main structural-semantic types of comparative construction in Yakut and Altai is important as this layer of the related languages has not been studied adequately. The phenomenon is unique for every language vocabulary. Scientific relevance of the study resides in revealing common and specific parameters of the analyzed comparative constructions in Yakut and Altai determined by common typological characteristics and systematic-structural features of the compared languages. The aim of the investigation is to analyze the main types of comparative constructions in Yakut and Altai from the comparative-contrastive and component aspect.

The hypothesis of the study suggests that the common parameters of these constructions are the functioning of nominal comparative constructions of the synthetic and analytic type in them as well as manifestation of synthetic and analytic-synthetic structures in the domain of verbal comparative constructions, which is determined by postpositive agglutinative nature of the language system. In the article we are going to ground that the indicators of comparison of the considered constructions don’t agree in the plane of expression except for the ablative case form and the syntactic indicator formed from the auxiliary verb $\text{буол} - / \text{бол} -$.

The value of the work ranges from theoretic aspects of comparative linguistics to practical aspects of foreign language learning and even machine translation. Such in-depth language investigations attain more and more ponderability in our age of global communication. The scientific advancement of linguistics allows to elaborate more and more sophisticated theories which incorporate the studies of various language and speech peculiarities formerly lacking attention. The following

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work represents one of the steps on this way. In particular, to the author's mind, comparative-contrastive and component analysis is one of the promising directions in the modern linguistics.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

With the general research method being the inductive-deductive one, theoretical conclusions are drawn from the analysis of comparative constructions of the synthetic, analytic, and analytic-synthetic types of the languages under consideration. A contrastive analysis of comparative constructions of the Turkic languages Yakut and Altai was made on a wide range of language material, for example: later on in the article – (Ojunskij 1975, p. 17; Sofronov 1965, p. 358; Kulun 1985, p. 94; RAD 1964, p. 236). The comparative contrastive analysis reveals similar and different parameters of the discussed constructions determined by common typological characteristics and systematic structural features of the compared languages. Comparative constructions are characterized by active functioning of the analytical means курсдук, whereas the Altai languages show the dominance of structures with the synthetic indicator -доыл.

The method of component analysis involves deconstruction of comparative constructions into smallest meaningful units codified in lexicographic sources. To decipher functional actualizations it is necessary to study the structure of knowledge behind the comparative construction.

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

The paper considers the main structural semantic types of comparative constructions in Yakut and Altai in comparative-contrastive aspect. The comparative contrastive analysis reveals similar and different parameters of the discussed constructions determined by common typological characteristics and systematic structural features of the compared languages.

Simile is a figure of speech “through which we reveal the secret of creation, mysteries of word” (Balzer 2001). It is linguistically expressed as a model of various comparative constructions involving the object/subject of comparison (what is compared), the model for comparison (with what is something compared), a common criterion for comparison, an indicator of comparison. The importance of this problem is determined by perspectives of this field of comparative studies, in particular, in the field of comparative construction of Yakut and Altai.

Simile, comparative and other constructions are covered in various aspects: structural-semantic, comparative, cognitive, translation, etc. in Russian, English, German and other languages. For example such different and overlapping viewpoints and accents as on lingvocognitive approach (Razuvaeva 2017), linguistic

In particular in turkology, comparison has been structurally-semantically described in Azerbaijani (Abdullayev 1974), Tatar (Povarsov 1965), Uzbek (Mukaramov 1971), Kazakh (Konyrov 1985), Khakass (Kyrzhinakova 2010), Tuvan (Cheremisina, Shamina 1996; Shamina 2014), Shor (Antonova 2012), Yakut (Efremov 2013) and other languages. It is also studied in comparative aspect, e.g. in Uzbek (Zufarova 1971).

In Kazakh, structural elements of comparison have been studied as they are the key to understand comparison as a linguistic phenomenon of a special kind with specific structure and distinctive semantics, with the status of word combination and sentence (Konyrov 1985). Forty ways of comparison have been revealed and described in the Kazakh language, with each of them having a unique place in the system of comparative knowledge.

The Tuva language has shown various means of expressing comparison. Also, an attempt has been made to relate certain linguistic forms of comparison with specific meaning and to outline systematic relations between certain forms of comparison and the expressed comparative meaning (Shamina 2014).

In Khakass, more than ten ways to express comparison at various levels have been found and described: lexical (7 ways), morphological (3), and syntactical (1) (Kyrzhinakova 2010).

Comparative constructions of the Yakut language were dealt with in the monograph by Y. I. Vasyliev (1986), those of the Altai language were studied in the doctorate research by L. N. Tybikova (1989).
In Yakut, word-formative, morphological means to express comparison as well as comparative constructions expressed by categorematic words, the postposition курсук and other syntactic words (дылы (диэбикэ дылы), кэриэтэ, са а (са ачча), тэнэ, буюлан, дыныллаах, айылаах) have been described. In Altai, comparative constructions with synthetic (affix) and analytic (syntactic) indicators of comparison have been studied.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A preliminary analysis of comparative constructions in the compared languages shows that, in general, these constructions are formally characterized by their own means of expression.

A common means of expressing comparative relation in these languages is, first of all, the indicator of the ablative case. However, the comparative case is used to express these relations in Yakut much more commonly (Vasiliev 1986, p. 43).

Nominal comparative constructions (further, CC) of Yakut and Altai are classified into two types according to the indicator of comparison: synthetic and analytic. In synthetic CC, the indicator of comparison is represented by affix, means whether in analytic CC it is represented by syntactic words, postpositions. Verbal CC are poly-predicative sentences the parts of which are related through synthetic and analytic-synthetic (postpositive) means.

In Yakut, the forms of the ablative, comparative, instrumental cases as well as the affix -лыы functionally close to the case forms act as indicators of nominal CC of the synthetic type (Ubryatova 1976, p. 199; Vasiliev 1986, p. 49). In Altai, the CC of the synthetic type demonstrates three indicators of comparison =дый / =дий, =ча=че and the indicator of the ablative case =наң / =нең. They play an important role in expressing comparative relations (Tybikova 1989, p. 7).

Indicators of comparison in nominal CC of the analytic type are represented by syntactic words.

Nominal Comparative Constructions

1. Synthetic type
1) The Yakut language. Constructions with the ablative case. They indicate an object “in some respect is inferior to another one” (Boethlingk 1990, p. 576), e.g.: Манна баар эр дыонтоң барылырыттан кини кыра уурухтаах, хатыңыр, молтох корууңзээх ‘Here he is of all men short (lit. with small bones), thin, weak looking’ (Vasiliev 1986, p. 39).

In Altai, such constructions express numerical comparison, i.e. numerical opposition “more-less” of a quantity, feature (Szczęk, Wysockański 2004; Tybikova 1989, p. 7–8) that can be loaded by figurative meaning depending on the context: Чыккан айдаң чыгыныладу, Тийген күңнен кеп-кеенүү, Ондый бала бойбой кайтыны ‘Fairer than the risen moon, More beautiful than the beams of the morning sun, – There was such a girl’ (Vasiliev 1986, p. 39).
The functional Yakut equivalent of the above mentioned Altai construction is the construction with the indicator of the comparative case that describes figurative comparative relation: **Сибэккитээ эр тэтэркэй имнээх** (Szczęk, Wysoczański 2004; Sofronov 1965, p. 197) ‘Her cheeks are rosier than the flower’.

This phenomenon verifies an idea according to which the Yakut comparative case is, in some respect, replaced by the ablative case from the domain of comparative constructions (Vasiliev 1986, p. 43). Where as in the Turkic languages the affix of the ablative case “is one of the leading means expressing comparison” (Konyrov 1985, p. 41).

The Yakut construction with -тааҕэр "are mainly used for comparison–opposition to a certain evaluation of the compared object positively or negatively" (Ubryatova 1976, p. 200–201). These comparative construction unlike the ones with the ablative case express not both simple and compound sentences: **Ынах сытынааҕэр сылы сыты булар** (Ojunskij 1975, p. 17) ‘The smell of a horse is more intense than that of a cow’; [...] **төрөппүт орүүн сүөгүлтээҕэр кунаажынк тутаргын истиэн [...]’ [...] having heard that you treat your own child worse than cattle [...]’ (Vasiliev 1986, p. 44); Мин этэрим сити эн эмэр ээҕэр быйдан өшөчөк кулу ‘What I say is an easier way than what you say’ (Grammar 1995, p. 275).

The Yakut constructions with the instrumental case are mainly found in phraseological groups of words: **Буул орого, хадаара дын, этэргинээ булаар** ‘This boy is as stubborn, intractable as his grandfather’ (lit., his grandfather by his grandfather); **Ардахы ааҕастаах уунан кутар** ‘The rain is pouring bucket water’ (about heavy rain) (Vasiliev 1986, p. 47–48).

The Altai equivalent of this affix is the postpositional affix -ла(-ле, with the Kazakh one being affix of the instrumental-connecting case мен(ен) (ibidem, p. 51).

Comparative constructions with the indicator -лыы. The structures with -лыы are intermediate between case and adverbial forms (Ubryatova 1976, p. 199; Vasiliev 1986, p. 48). The constructions of this type form both mono- and poly-predicative structures: **Санаа багадыы, Самыры бүтүнкүлүк, Сагарбат эгина Самыры баттаата ‘My thoughts/Like rain/Crushed me/Made me speechless’** (Sofronov 1965, p. 358); [...] **мүүтүкүрүу/Бүүлүү тутаргы/Бүүлүү тутаргы булуун’ [...] лarch boughs/Swift stream/Like stirring butugas (buttermilk drink)** (Sofronov 1965, p. 329–330); **Уруулдуу удуунуу Уранылыры ууратан ‘Having stopped extensively embroidering (the poem) like in the old times’ (ibidem, p. 252); Ууса ахтутуутуу улуу ийдүү, Хараагаа хаттарбыттын харбылластым ‘(I) panicked like falling into water, fumbled about like being in full darkness’ (ibidem, p. 336).

The comparative constructions with -лыы are translated into Russian by structures with conjunctions as, as if, like, just as, much as, as though (Vasiliev 1986, p. 20–51) which indicates polysemy of the comparative constructions with the affix -лыы.
2). The Altai language. The CC with the synthetic indicator -дый/-дий correlate with the Russian CC with the conjunction like: Школдың оогош балдары ыры нын ишле кара тандый жүрүүлүү 'Primary school children were walking on the ploughed field like black rooks' (Tybikova 1989, p. 7).

In Yakut, such relation of comparison can be represented by constructions with the analytic comparative indicator курсуу 'like': Оҕолор суолустун курсуусуун туюр анын жыркейт 'Little children are running on the road like frisky foals'.

The Altai CC with the indicator -ча/-че are found more rarely. They express comparison of objects only by their size and shape (compare Russian, with the size of). The standard of comparison is represented by a small number of objects mainly of small size: Кадында арактый аласанча акта толу айылдар муру 'Along the Katun' bank there stood some yurts on the field as small as a palm' (ibidem, p. 7).

In Yakut, the same comparative relations are represented by the structures with the postposition сага that expresses quantitative comparison. Therewith, the standard of comparison is not restricted by objects of small size. Compare: Кини ултус сага сирдээх 'He’s got a land as small as a palm' (Kulun 1985, p. 94) and Эрдээс кус сага/Кусаа уот илбистээх/Кыырыкту азыктуу яйыны 'Hooked all that/On the tip of his fierce spear/Burning with bloodthirstiness/Of the size of a medium pot' (ibidem, p. 365).

As has already been noted before, the Altai CC with the standard of comparison being the ablative case (-наң/-нең) express quantitative comparison, relation of quantitative opposition “more-less” of some quality, feature: Көс жылыңаң ару, саруңун авымак, сый жөңөктуу ийде кошор кутук суу 'Purer than a tear drop, softer than butter, soothing and giving strength well water' (Tybikova 1989, p. 8).

In Yakut, such constructions are found with the ablative and comparative cases: Хайда ды сир уулуттауу ыраас, туштагар да мүнүлүкс, күүү-күүдү бүрөр дойдул олбөт менэ уута 'Purer than water of any other land, sweeter than anything (on earth), giving strength and power, the elixir of life – water of my homeland'.

2. Analytical type of nominal comparative constructions

1) The Yakut language. The construction with the indicator курсуу: Токсун-ның уй тулгар кызыктуу курсуу Мугс дөлхөр хараңынаan (Kulun 1985, p. 89) 'By an icy, limpid/Like a full moon evening in January, eye' (ibidem, p. 360).

The construction with дылы: Кини […] ордо дылы кунустөрүп ттүйүн буучылыктын сытар 'He […] like a child even by day having fallen asleep, is lying snoring' (Vasiliev 1986, p. 81).

The construction with күрүү: Сахам намының уккүүтө Сахам сүүн күрүү 'My Yakut smooth dance/Is like my land Yakutia' (ibidem, p. 85).

The construction with Алаас сыныбы бүлдүүчү сага/Түмүр халат хомулуу/Хам анының кээспит 'The jacket on him being as wide as a half of a glade, is skintight' (ibidem, p. 359).
The construction with тээн: Сэлэргэн сибэгчи тэнэ нарын, хүн тэнэ күндэ ’My beloved is as tender as a flower, as valuable as the sun’ (ibidem, p. 90).

The construction with бузлсан: Мэн түүлбэр эн тангар бузлсан кийрбиться ’Into my dream you came as (lit. having become) a goddess’ (ibidem, p. 92).

The construction with бзынылах: хуцу бзынылах ор ‘a child looking like a man’ (ibidem, p. 93).

The construction with айылаах: Дыахтар тырыбынан бузуңу суңуктукуйан хаалыкка айылаах ’The woman’s shining face as if faded away’ (ibidem, p. 92).

2) The Altai language. The analytical types of the nominal CC includes constructions with the indicator of comparison as special particles and semi-categorematic words with comparative semantics. These are чылан (<чыла=ш), ошкош, немейдий (the most common), кире, көрбө, болун, аайлту, etc. (less common).

CC with чылан, ошкош are comparative proper constructions. They are relevant to the CC with the synthetic indicator -дий/-дий. The standard of comparison combined with чылан functions as the adverbial modifier: Ообогёнин жанын келген сүүн Аня, торт зо кучкаш чылан. Арсы-бери сунат ’Being happy about her husband’s comeback, Anya is running hither and thither just as a restless little bird’ (Tybikova 1989, p. 8); кароошоошак ’as white as snow’ (compare, кароошак ’as white as snow’ (RAD 1964, p. 236). In Yakut, these constructions are represented by structures with the postposition кундук: Аня, жайтэ кэлэн иэриин корон, чынынаа оротун кундук утары суурэн тырыктыңыяда ’Anya, having noticed mother approaching her, rushed towards her like a nestling moving little legs’; Хаар кундук манаш/хаар манаш (as white as snow).

Altai CC with comparative semantics are formed with the indicators түнөй ’similar, alike’ and semi-categorematic copulas with a close comparative semantics бүүдүште, жүүндеш ’look like by face, figure’, кеберлү ’similar to’ (compare to the Russian adjective similar). The auxiliary word түнөй keeps its lexical and categorial meaning to some extent and is considered as adjective approximating postpositions: Тууралынан көрбө, ол чын ла японский дипломатка түнөй ’If viewed from aside, he really looks like a Japanese diplomat (ibidem, p. 9). In the Yakut language, the phrases of this type are represented by sentences with the predicate маарыннаа ’resemble, look like’: Туураттан кароош, кини, кыйрык, дыоппозион дипломатыгар маарынныр. The indicator жүүндеш is formed from иыз ’face’, бүүдүште – from бүүдү ’appearance’, кеберлү – from кебер ’look, form’. In CC with these indicators characterized by lexical meaning comparison is made by resemblance only (resemble in face, figure): Яраныңа яраш көзүүлө, Алп-Манашка жүүндеш болды ’Beauty added to beauty, looked like Alpyn-Manash’; Кулгатары кызыл кызыган темирге бүүдүште ’The ears looked like hot iron’ (ibidem).

Comparative relations of the type considered above are given in Yakut by the constructions with the predicate expressed by the verb маарыннаа- ’resemble’
as well as the analytic structure with the indicator курдук: Кини Алып-Манашика маарынычыр этү; Кулгаахтара кытарбыт тымир курдукчарта 'He resembled Alyp-Manash'.

Verbal comparative constructions

1. Synthetic.

1) The Yakut language. Synthetic structures with the indicator of the ablative case are mainly found in nominal constructions. Y. I. Vasiliev (1986) marks as comparative compound sentences of the synthetic type only constructions with the indicator of the comparative case and the form ending with -лыы.

Structures with the indicator of the comparative case. These constructions express simile if a generalized view of an object or event is used as a standard of comparison: Эн ҥоргэхэнмиккӳнээзэт ыыр ҥоргүү эс сат ҥордүк 'Comparing to the way you received education, dog’s barking is better' (ibidem, p. 45).

Structures with the indicator -лыы: Айма ҕыйбыт абатын ҕыммыттыы, Сымна астык сыыя, сыыгыны сыпыптэ [The Lena river] as if compassion- ing on her [woman’s] sorrow, was humbly running, hissing (Sofronov 1965, p. 327).

2) The Altai language. Synthetic structures with the subordinate predicate expressed by a participle with -ган, provided by the indicator дый: Оны ҥбак -пырынан ӈет, ӝкэ ӈыз Ӳркэ чыркэ ӈыр Ӳркэ Ӳркэ Ӳркэ ӈыр 'As if something stuck in the throat, it was difficult for him to speak every word' Tybikova 1989, p. 15). In Yakut, such relation can be expressed by a combination of two sentences, with one being closed with the particle курдук 'as if': Куомэйсэ луух ҽрэ туран хаалбыт курдук. Кыайан санырбат.'As if something stuck in the throat. [He] Cannot speak'.


1) The Yakut language. The structures with the postposition курдук are most common, they can function as compound sentences: Уу тыяна атыыр ыүрэ ҥуу сырысыбытын курдук буолла 'Such a splash of water was heard in the pond, as if a herd of horses had run on it' (Ojunskij 1975, p. 127).

The construction with дымы (comparative parallelism): Мин эпинээр ҽрэ, мнэх кыныыңтар 'He is angry with me as if I said that' (Sofronov 1965, p. 82).

The construction with кэрэти: Сибээкки куйаас көч сыалдыisSelected оссо ӈордүк сиырдымын ӈуурээн кэрэти, кылы орэ эйлэээт кэрээнин ололхэ оссо ӈордүк кэрэтинээр, түпэр 'Like a flower blooms more on a hot sunny day, as a girl becomes more beautiful in a good peaceful marriage' (ibidem, p. 86).

The construction with саззы (comparative-identifying relation): Эн оңороруп саззы оңорор сэбүү 'I’ll probably make the same as you do' (colloquial).

Constructions with тээн: Бийини кини ӈуллуури эн тээн ӈуллуури 'We’ll work as much as he does' (ibidem, p. 91).

2) The Altai language. A mono-subject poly-predicative construction with чылап: Айу, кандый да чымыл ӱркээнен чылап, таманыръ огра атына эделе, бир келэк Ӳйгэ көрүунбей кэлээ 'The bear waved its paws, as if scaring off some
flies, disappeared for some time’ (Tybikova 1989, p. 15–16). In Yakut, such a phrase is expressed by a mono-subject poly-predicate construction with курдүү: Ээ, хангык эрэ сахсырғалары үрегүүр курдүү, баппагынын ханымда, бири көмө кини хараар костубүт бүүл арытча (translated the same).

The hetero-subject poly-predicate construction with түнөүө: Бүтүнг алыңда кар кыңың түрганы, жыяллуу кнутын уй кепшин түрганын түнөүө болду 'That snow was crunching under feet was like a heifer chewing’ (ibidem, p. 17). In Yakut, such relation is expressed by a compound sentence with the subject subordinate clause where the main clause is a standard for comparison with the analytic indicator курдүү: Хаар хакчырғырыңын түнөүө күзүү күрдүү 'That snow was crunching under feet was like a heifer chewing’.

The mono-subject poly-predicate construction with болуп: Темитей бу солун јүруктарды очобысты өзө тапкан ла көрүп ийден кыкы болуп, колын жаныны түрүп, кийыңыр учурлу буолан, колтын көрүп, кычык арыктаах, халы кылып, адыктуу ручулары кым да ининэ көрүү кини буолан, ил ардыккөлүн дийет адалыктаах, халынымыктаах.

CONCLUSIONS

The comparative analysis of Yakut and Altai comparative constructions shows that they have typologically common synthetic and analytic indicators of comparison. However, formally such indicators are mainly unique for each compared language, excluding the ablative case form and the analytic structure буолан (Altai – болуп) which is determined by non-contact development of the given languages. Verbal comparative constructions are represented by poly-predicate sentences whose clauses are combined with synthetic and analytic-synthetic means. Yakut comparative constructions are characterized by active functioning of the indicator курдүү, whereas the Altai language demonstrates the dominance of the structure with the synthetic indicator -дыйы.

In the plane of content these indicators are polysemantic, thus they express comparative semantics depending on the nature of the lexical-grammatical contents of the sentence composition and the context. This phenomenon is determined by specifics of Turkic languages that, in contrast to inflected languages (e.g. Russian), shows the principle of grammar economy. Yakut comparative constructions are characterized by active functioning of the indicator курдүү, whereas the Altai language demonstrates the dominance of the structure with the synthetic indicator -дыйы.

Certainly, typological investigation of comparative constructions in related and non-related languages is of great interest for further research.
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CONSTRUCȚII COMPARATIVE ÎN IACUTĂ ȘI ALTAICĂ
(ANALIZA CONTRASTIV-COMPARATIVĂ ȘI A COMPONENTELOR)
(Rezumat)

Principalele tipuri de construcții comparative din limbile iacută și altaică sunt analizate din perspectivă comparativ-contrastivă. A fost efectuată o analiză comparativă și a componentelor construcțiilor comparative din limbile iacută și altaică aparținând familiei de limbi turce. Analiza a identificat parametri comuni și diferenții pentru construcțiile analizate, determinați de trăsături tipologice comune și de caracteristici structurale sistematice. Parametrii comuni ai acestor construcții includ construcțiile comparative nominale funcționale de tip sintetic și analitic, precum și manifestarea structurilor sintetice și analitice-sintetice în domeniul construcțiilor comparative verbale, fapt motivat de natura sistemului aglutinant postpus al limbilor respective. Indicatorii comparativi din construcțiile discutate nu se suprapun în planul expresiei, cu excepția cazului ablativ și a indicatorului sintactic format cu verbul auxiliar буол-/бол-. În planul expresiei, acești indicatori sunt polisemantici, deoarece exprimă un semantism sau altul, în funcție de natura structurii lexicale și gramaticale a frazei și de context. Construcțiile comparative din iacută sunt caracterizate de funcționarea activă a instrumentului analitic курдук, în timp ce în limba altaică predomină structura cu indicatorul comparativ sintetic -дый.

Cuvinte-cheie: construcție comparativă, indicator comparativ, tip sintetic, tip analitic, construcții verbale și nominale, limba iacută, limba altaică.

Keywords: comparative construction, comparative indicator, synthetic type, analytic type, nominal and verbal constructions, the Yakut language, the Altai language.

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