

MAIN PROBLEMS IN THE TRANSLATION OF PARTICIPLE II CONSTRUCTIONS

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Summary

The conducted research shows that participle constructions used in the adverbial function in German are one of the important elements of the verb system and syntactic structure. In particular, participle II forms act not only as an infinitive form of the verb, but also as a functional means that create additional meaning relationships within the sentence. These constructions allow for a more concise and informative presentation of the idea by expressing additional circumstances, causes, conditions, concessions and consequences related to the main action. The research shows that when translating participle II constructions into Azerbaijani, it is not always possible to fully preserve their formal structure. The main reason for this is the differences between the grammatical and syntactic systems of the two languages. Therefore, various transformation methods are used in the translation process. During syntactic transformation, the participle construction is replaced by a broader sentence structure, while during grammatical transformation, various verb forms are used. Lexical and semantic transformations serve to convey the expressed meaning and stylistic nuances in the Azerbaijani language in a natural way. As a result of the research, it was determined that one of the main features of participle II forms is that they express a completed action and the state that has arisen as a result of that action.

Key words: Participle II, adverbial function, participle constructions, syntactic transformation, semantic equivalence, verb conjugation, German-Azerbaijani language comparison.

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1. Introduction

A comparative analysis of the German and Azerbaijani languages shows that various grammatical means are used to express the relationships between actions and states in both languages. However, the structure and features of the use of these means are different.

One of the main issues in the translation of participle constructions is to correctly determine what semantic function they perform in a specific context. The same participle II form can create different semantic relationships in different sentence conditions. Therefore, during translation, it is important to pay attention not only to the grammatical form, but also to the general content, communicative purpose and stylistic features of the text.

Thus, the translation of participle II constructions into Azerbaijani is not a simple process of grammatical replacement, but a complex process of semantic and functional adaptation. The adequacy of the translation depends not on the preservation of the external form of the construction in the source language, but on the correct and natural reflection in Azerbaijani of the meaning, communicative purpose and stylistic features it expresses.

Purpose of Study. The main goal is to analyze the main problems of translation of constructions with participle II in German and Azerbaijani languages.

2. Literature Review

In modern linguistics, the infinitive forms of the verb are considered one of the most complex and multifaceted areas of the grammatical system of various languages. Among these forms, the participle occupies a special place. The participle is a transitive category that combines the properties of both a verb and an adjective and can be used in various syntactic functions (*Dudenredaktion, 2016; Engel, 2009*). The possibilities of using participle forms in German are quite wide and they are not limited to the determinative function. The Participle I and Participle II forms perform the function of an adverbial in a sentence, expressing the circumstances of the action, time, reason, condition, purpose and accompanying situation (*Helbig & Buscha, 2001; Eisenberg, 2013*). This feature not only creates conciseness in the syntactic structure of the German language, but also increases the informativeness of the text (*Weinrich, 1993*). In Azerbaijani, the system of impersonal forms of the verb differs to some extent from German (*Abdullayev, 1985; Hasanov, 1989*).

In Azerbaijani, semantic relations expressed through participle II in German are most often expressed through verb conjunctions, adverbs or subordinate complex sentences. For this reason, not only lexical, but also grammatical and syntactic transformations are carried out during translation from German to Azerbaijani. The main task of the translator is to preserve the semantic integrity and stylistic features of the text (*Catford, 1965; Newmark, 1988; Baker, 2011*).

3. Results and Discussions

Since the adverbial function of participle II constructions in German has not been widely studied as a separate object of research in Azerbaijani linguistics, the main attention is focused on the semantic and syntactic features of its adverbial function. In addition, the study of this issue in terms of the comparative syntax of German and Azerbaijani languages is also of practical importance for translation studies.

In this study, descriptive, comparative-typological, structural-semantic and contextual analysis methods were used, and the analyses conducted on the basis of selected examples from various literary, journalistic and scientific texts in German and Azerbaijani languages allowed us to more fully determine the functional characteristics of participial constructions.

Before addressing the main problems in the translation of Participle II constructions, let us consider the general features of its adverbial function.

In German, Participle II (Perfektpartizip) is one of the infinitive forms of the verb, mainly expressing a completed or completed action. Although this form is mostly used in the construction of complex tenses (Perfect, Plusquamperfekt) and passive constructions, it has wider functions from a syntactic point of view. One of them is the adverbial (adverbial) function.

Participle II used in the adverbial function provides additional semantic information about the main message. It can indicate the reason for which the action occurred, under what conditions it was carried out, in what situation it was carried out, or against what background the result it occurred. These constructions are widespread in the written style of the German language, especially in scientific, journalistic and legal texts (*Eisenberg, 2013; Weinrich, 1993*).

One of the most widespread adverbial functions of Participle II is to express a causal relationship. In such cases, the participle indicates the reason for which the main action occurred (*Helbig & Buscha, 2001*). For example: *Enttäuscht verließ er das Büro. /O, məyus olduğu üçün ofisdən çıxdı./*

Here, the participle “enttäuscht” comes first in the sentence, emphasizing that the subject left the office because he was “disappointed/məyus olması”.

Er verließ das Büro enttäuscht. /O, məyus halda ofisdən çıxdı./

Here, “enttäuscht” expresses the emotional state of the subject and the effect of that state on the main action.

From the given example, it can be concluded that participial constructions can be understood more correctly and clearly depending on the writing style and at the same time the context.

In Azerbaijani, most of these constructions are expressed with the “–dığ14 üçün” model (Abdullayev, 1985; Hasanov, 1989).

Adverbial constructions formed with Participle II can be viewed syntactically as a shortened form of subordinate clauses (Eisenberg, 2013; Helbig & Buscha, 2001). For example: *Von der langen Reise erschöpft, legte sich der Student sofort schlafen.*

In this sentence, *erschöpft* is the Participle II form and expresses the reason for the main action. *Uzun səfərdən yorulduğu üçün tələbə dərhal yatdı.*

Here, the participle construction in German is expressed in Azerbaijani by a causal clause. This example shows that the translation of Participle II constructions should be based on functional equivalence, not formal equivalence (Newmark, 1988; Baker, 2011).

The sentence “*Von der langen Reise erschöpft, legte sich der Student sofort schlafen.*” is a simple sentence in German constructed with the Participle II construction, that is, there are no two independent predicative centers here and the action is directed at only one subject. To convert it into a complex sentence without a subordinate clause, the causal meaning in the participle construction can be expressed in a separate sentence.

As a complex sentence without a subordinate clause:

Der Student war von der langen Reise erschöpft, und er legte sich sofort schlafen. /Tələbə uzun səfərdən yorulmuşdu və o, dərhal yatmağa getdi./

However, it should be noted that in this variant the causal relationship is weakened, because “və” (und) only creates a connection of sequence or addition.

To maintain the causal relationship more precisely, we can also give the subordinate clause in the form of a complex sentence:

Der Student legte sich sofort schlafen, weil er von der langen Reise erschöpft war. /Tələbə uzun səfərdən yorulduğu üçün dərhal yatmağa getdi./

If we want to preserve the causal tone in a complex sentence without a subordinate clause, then we use the conjunction “deshalb”.

Der Student war von der langen Reise erschöpft, deshalb legte er sich sofort schlafen. /Tələbə uzun səfərdən yorulmuşdu, buna görə də o, dərhal yatmağa getdi./

Participle II in some syntactic positions expresses the condition under which the main action can take place. This function is especially widely observed in scientific, official and journalistic styles. In such constructions, the situation expressed in the form of Participle II acts as a prerequisite for the occurrence of the event in the main clause (Dudenredaktion, 2016; Helbig & Buscha, 2001).

For example: *Richtig angewendet, liefert die Methode zuverlässige Ergebnisse. /Metod düzgün tətbiq olunarsa, etibarlı nəticələr verir./*

In this example, the Participle II construction “*richtig angewendet*” creates a conditional relationship and presents the correct application of the method as a necessary condition for achieving the main result.

Gut vorbereitet, besteht jeder Student die Prüfung leichter. /Yaxşı hazırlaşarsa, hər bir tələbə imtahandan daha asan keçər./

Here, the construction “gut verebite” indicates the student's state of preparation and acts as a condition for successfully passing the exam. In Azerbaijani, this attitude is mainly expressed through the conditional form with the suffix “-sa/-sə”. The conditional function of Participle II constructions is also found in legal and official texts. For example: *Sorgfältig gelesen, ist der Vertrag leicht zu verstehen. /Müqavilə diqqətlə oxunarsa, onu başa düşmək asan olar./*

In this sentence, the form “sorgfältig gelesen” indicates a prerequisite for the correct understanding of the contract. Such constructions are widely used in official documents because they allow for concise and objective expression of ideas (Helbig & Buscha, 2001; Weinrich, 1993).

This type of construction, formed with Participle II, corresponds in meaning to the subordinate conditional clauses and can be expressed in the form of a complete sentence as follows.

Wenn der Vertrag sorgfältig gelesen wird, ist er leicht zu verstehen. /Əgər müqavilə diqqətlə oxunularsa, onu başa düşmək asan olar./ və ya Wenn man den Vertrag sorgfältig liest, ist er leicht zu verstehen. /Əgər müqaviləni diqqətlə oxuyarlarsa, onu başa düşmək asan olar./

However, there is a stylistic difference between the two structures. In the first conditional clause, the predicate of the sentence expressing the idea is given in the passive voice, and in the second clause, in the active voice. While the conditional clause formed with the conjunction *Wenn* expresses the content more clearly and analytically, the Participle II construction presents the idea more concisely. Therefore, in scientific and official style, especially in written texts, shortened participial constructions such as “Sorgfältig gelesen, ...” may be preferred.

Thus, the conditional function of Participle II acts as a means of syntactic compression in German and is considered a more concise alternative to subordinate conditional clauses (Eisenberg, 2013; Dudenredaktion, 2016).

The syntactic features of Participle II constructions are of great importance in terms of their semantic analysis and translation into Azerbaijani. Participle II constructions used in the adverbial function are most often located at the beginning of the sentence and are separated from the main clause by a comma. These constructions do not create an independent predicative center, but on the contrary, they form a secondary predicative relationship by entering into a semantic and syntactic relationship with the content of the main clause (Engel, 2009; Zifonun et al., 1997). For example: *Von allen bewundert, blieb der Professor bescheiden.*

In this sentence, “von allen bewundert” is a Participle II construction, “blieb” is the main verb, and “der Professor” is the subject of the sentence. The Participle II form does not carry a separate verb function, but by characterizing the state of the subject, it creates an additional semantic connection with the main action. Thus, a secondary predication is formed in the sentence, which is one of the characteristic features of the principle of syntactic consolidation (syntaktische Verdichtung) of the German language (Eisenberg, 2013; Dudenredaktion, 2016).

In Azerbaijani, such constructions are usually expressed in the form of a subordinate complex sentence. For example: *Hamı tərəfindən hörmət edilsə də, professor təvazökar qaldı. və ya Professor hamının hörmətini qazansa da, təvazökar qaldı.*

As can be seen, the concessional relation, which is concisely expressed in German through the participle II, is given in Azerbaijani through the concessional clause. In this case, a syntactic transformation occurs in the translation process and the participle construction turns into a subordinate complex sentence. Such a transformation is not only grammatical, but also functional in nature, since the main goal is to fully preserve the semantic relation expressed in the original text in the target language (Catford, 1965; Newmark, 1988).

The analysis shows that the participle II mainly expresses the result of a completed action or the state that has arisen as a result of that action. It is this feature that allows it to

express cause, condition, concession and, in certain cases, time relations in the adverb function. From this point of view, the participle II is considered one of the grammatical means with high functional potential in the syntactic system of the German language (*Helbig & Buscha, 2001; Eisenberg, 2013*).

The results of the comparative analysis show that the adverbial constructions expressed by the participle II in German are met in Azerbaijani mainly through cause, condition and concession clauses, and in some cases through verb-binding constructions. This difference arises from the typological characteristics of both languages. While syntactic compactness and the expression of additional predication through participle constructions prevail in German, the same semantic relations in Azerbaijani are realized more through analytical syntactic means, especially through subordinate complex sentences (*Eisenberg, 2013; Abdullayev, 1985; Hasanov, 1989*).

Thus, a comparative study of the syntactic and semantic features of Participle II constructions is of great theoretical and practical importance for their adequate translation into Azerbaijani. The main principle in the translation process should be the preservation of functional-semantic equivalence, not formal compatibility.

When translating Participle II constructions into Azerbaijani, it is necessary to pay attention to the transformational features.

In most cases, it is not possible to preserve the formal structure of adverbial constructions constructed with Participle II in German into Azerbaijani. This is due to the typological differences between the syntactic and morphological systems of both languages. While Participle II constructions in German create syntactic compactness, in Azerbaijani more analytical syntactic means are used to express the same semantic relations. For this reason, various transformation methods are used in the translation process.

One of the most widely used methods in the translation of Participle II constructions is syntactic transformation. In this case, a simple participle construction in German is transformed into a subordinate complex sentence in Azerbaijani. Such transformation mainly serves to more clearly express causal, conditional, or concessional relationships.

For example: *Von der Polizei verfolgt, floh der Mann.*

Literal translation: *Polis tərəfindən təqib olunmuş, kişi qaçdı.*

Variant in accordance with the syntactic norms of the Azerbaijani language: *Polis tərəfindən təqib edildiyi üçün kişi qaçdı.*

Adverbial constructions formed with participle II in German are translated into Azerbaijani using various syntactic means depending on their semantic features. The main principle during translation is not formal consistency, but the preservation of the semantic relationship expressed by the construction. Therefore, the same participle II construction can be expressed through reason, concession or other branch clauses depending on the context.

In the sentence “Von der Polizei verfolgt, floh der Mann.” given above, the participle II construction “von der Polizei verfolgt” indicates the reason for the main action (floh). In other words, the reason for the man to flee is that he was being pursued by the police.

This relationship is expressed in Azerbaijani through the reason branch clause:

Polis tərəfindən təqib edildiyi üçün kişi qaçdı.

Here, the part “polis tərəfindən təqib edildiyi üçün” is considered a causal clause because it explains the reason for the action expressed in the main clause.

The same content can also be expressed syntactically through a determinative clause. However, in this case, the function of the participle II construction changes and no longer indicates the reason for the action, but rather a characteristic that characterizes the subject.

For example: *Polis tərəfindən təqib olunmuş kişi qaçdı. /Der Mann, der von der Polizei verfolgt wurde, floh./*

In this example, the part “der von der Polizei verfolgt wurde” performs the function of a determinative clause since it defines the word “der Mann”. Here, the main focus is not on the reason for the escape, but on who the man is.

Thus, although both constructions are based on the same lexical material, their syntactic function and semantic load are different. The use of the Participle II construction in the adverb function creates a causal relationship and is mainly met with a causal clause in Azerbaijani. The determinative clause expresses the attributive function of that construction and provides additional information about the noun.

From this point of view, the most adequate equivalent of the sentence “Von der Polizei verfolgt, floh der Mann” in Azerbaijani is the variant “Polis tərəfindən təqib edildiyi üçün kişi qaçdı”. Although the expression “Polis tərəfindən təqib edilən kişi qaçdı” given with the predicate clause describes the same event, it already has a different syntactic structure and semantic function.

Thus, as a result of syntactic transformation, the semantic relationship in the original text is preserved, and an expression form in accordance with the grammatical norms of the Azerbaijani language is obtained.

One of the widely used methods in the translation of Participle II constructions into Azerbaijani is grammatical transformation. During this transformation, the adverbial construction expressed by Participle II in German is replaced by a verb conjugation or other appropriate verb forms in Azerbaijani. The main purpose of such transformation is to express the semantic relationships expressed in the original text in a grammatically natural and adequate manner in the target language (Newmark, 1988; Baker, 2011).

For example: *Die Aufgabe gelöst, verließ er das Büro. /Tapşırığı həll edib ofisdən çıxdı./*

In this example, the participle II construction “die Aufgabe gelöst” expresses the work completed before the main action. The verb “Verließ” acts as the main predicative center and indicates the subsequent action in the sentence. Thus, there is a sequence (temporality) and result relationship between the participle II construction and the main information: first the task was completed, and then the action of leaving the office occurred.

In Azerbaijani, this semantic relationship is expressed through the verb conjugation with the suffix “-ıb/-ib”. The verb conjugation shows their sequence by connecting the action that occurred before with the main action. From this point of view, the expression “Tapşırığı həll edib ofisdən çıxdı” fully reflects the functional-semantic content of the participle II construction in German.

It should be noted that although both actions occur in the past tense, they do not occur in the same time period, but sequentially. First, the process of completing the task is completed, and then the action of leaving the office occurs. It is precisely this sequence that is one of the main semantic features of the participle II construction and must be taken into account when translating.

This example shows that grammatical transformation is not only the replacement of one grammatical form with another, but also a functional transformation process that ensures the preservation of time, sequence and result relations expressed in the source language in the target language. Therefore, in the translation of participle II constructions into Azerbaijani, the correct determination of time relations and their expression with appropriate grammatical means is one of the main conditions for adequate translation (Catford, 1965; Newmark, 1988).

One of the transformation methods applied in the translation of Participle II constructions into Azerbaijani is lexical transformation. In this case, the semantic meaning expressed by the Participle II form is expressed in the target language through a separate lexical unit or a word used in the adverbial function. The purpose of such transformation is to convey the emotional, psychological or evaluative tone existing in the source language in a way that is consistent with the expressive capabilities of the Azerbaijani language.

For example: *Überrascht sah er mich an. /Təccüblə mənə baxdı./*

In this example, although the form “überrascht” is a participle II formed from the verb “überraschen”, it already acts as an adverbial unit in the sentence expressing the situation that has arisen as a result of the verb. In other words, the participle II here indicates how and in what emotional state the main action (sah ... an) was performed.

In Azerbaijani, this semantic meaning is given through the adverbial expression “surprised”. Thus, the emotional state expressed by the participle II in German is met through the lexical unit used in the adverbial function in the target language.

It should be noted that the sentence “Überrascht sah er mich an” can be transformed into a broader structure from a syntactic point of view. For example: *Weil er überrascht war, sah er mich an. və ya Er war überrascht und sah mich an.*

However, such transformations change the syntactic compactness and stylistic features of the original participle construction. Therefore, in order to preserve the emotional-expressive shade, especially in the translation of artistic and journalistic texts, lexical transformation is considered more appropriate, such as he looked at me with surprise.

Thus, the main goal during lexical transformation is not to reflect the grammatical structure of the participle II form, but to reflect the semantic content and emotional shade it expresses in a natural and stylistically adequate way in the Azerbaijani language.

4. Conclusions

As a result, it can be noted that the main issue in the translation of participle constructions is not to preserve their formal structure as it is, but to correctly meet the meaning relationships and functional features they express in the target language. While participle constructions in German allow the idea to be presented in a more concise and dense form, in Azerbaijani these meaning relationships are expressed by various grammatical and syntactic means. Therefore, during translation, the main attention should be paid not to formal compatibility between the two languages, but to semantic and functional compatibility.

The conducted research shows that the translation of participle II constructions used in the adverbial function in German into Azerbaijani is a complex process that requires consideration of the morphological, syntactic and semantic features of both languages. The adequate translation of these constructions is not limited to the comparison of grammatical forms. During translation, the meaning relationship expressed by the participle construction, the function it performs within the sentence, and the general stylistic features of the text should be taken into account.

As a result of the research, it was determined that in the German language, participle constructions serve to express additional predication and various semantic relations in a concise manner. In the Azerbaijani language, these relations are mostly expressed through verb conjugation forms, adverbial phrases and subordinate complex sentences. These structural differences necessitate the application of various transformation methods such as syntactic expansion, grammatical adaptation and lexical changes in the translation process.

Thus, the main goal in the translation of participle II constructions is not to mechanically preserve the grammatical form in the source language, but to naturally and adequately express the communicative purpose, semantic load and stylistic features of that form in the Azerbaijani language. This approach allows for ensuring functional compatibility between the German and Azerbaijani languages and for the translation to be carried out fully in terms of content.

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