



TRANSLATION OF ANTROPONYMS AND PROBLEMS IN TRANSLATING THE ANTROPONYMS.

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Abstract. This article discusses the translation of antroponyms: people's names from English into Russian language, the article includes the information about lexical transformations used in translation people's name.

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Anthroponyms are names that are used to refer to individual people. The term comes from the Greek words "anthropos," meaning "human," and "onoma," meaning "name." Anthroponyms can include various types of personal names, such as:

1. **Given Names (First Names):** The name given to an individual at birth or during a naming ceremony (e.g., John, Maria).
2. **Surnames (Last Names):** Family names that are passed down through generations (e.g., Smith, Garcia).
3. **Nicknames:** Informal or affectionate names used instead of a person's given name (e.g., Mike for Michael, Liz for Elizabeth).
4. **Patronymics and Matronymics:** Names derived from the father's or mother's name, respectively (e.g., Johnson means "son of John," while Mary's son could be called Mary's son).

Anthroponyms are an important aspect of linguistics, anthropology, and cultural studies, as they can reveal information about cultural identity, familial relationships, and social structures. They also play a significant role in onomastics, the study of names and their origins.

Translating anthroponyms (personal names) can be a complex task, as names often carry cultural, historical, and linguistic significance. Here are several methods for translating anthroponyms:



- 1. Transliteration:** This involves converting the letters of a name from one script to another while keeping the original pronunciation as close as possible. For example, the name "Alexander" may be transliterated into Russian as "Александр."
- 2. Translation of Meaning:** Some names have specific meanings that can be translated. For instance, the name "Grace" could be translated to its equivalent meaning in another language (e.g., "Gracia" in Spanish).
- 3. Cultural Adaptation:** Names may be adapted to fit the cultural context of the target language. For example, the name "John" may be rendered as "Juan" in Spanish-speaking cultures.
- 4. Phonetic Translation:** This method focuses on maintaining the sound of the original name rather than its meaning. For example, "David" can remain "David" in many languages, but it might be pronounced differently.
- 5. Use of Equivalent Names:** Some names have direct equivalents in other languages. For instance, "William" can be translated to "Guillaume" in French or "Guglielmo" in Italian.
- 6. Maintaining Original Form:** In some cases, especially with well-known figures, the original form of the name is retained across languages (e.g., "Shakespeare," "Einstein").
- 7. Contextual Consideration:** The context in which a name is used can influence how it is translated. For example, literary or historical characters may be translated differently depending on established conventions in translations of their works.
- 8. Combining Methods:** Often, a combination of the above methods is used to achieve the best result depending on the specific name and context.

Each method has its own advantages and disadvantages, and the choice of method often depends on factors such as the target audience, cultural significance, and the purpose of the translation.

In rendering names of living people, personal preferences should be taken into account. When Van Cliburn, the Tchaikovsky Contest first prize winner, came back to Moscow after a long absence, he was offended by the papers calling him Ван Клайберн, as he had become accustomed to being called in Russia an Клиберн.

Names of foreign origin, spelt in the Latin alphabet, are usually written in English in their original form: Beaumarchais, Aeschylus, Nietzsche, Dvorak. In Russian they are rendered mostly by their sound form, in transcription: Бомарше, adopted classical names which are then sometimes naturalized: Copernicus Copernic - Коперник, Linnaeus - Линней - Линней.

Oriental names differ from English names in that the former given the family name first and then the person's first name, whereas the latter normally use a person's first name and only then the last (family) name. Thus the name of Mao



Zedong (Мао Цзун) suggests that Mao is the family name and Zedong is the first name. Therefore, the courtesy title word 'Mr/Ms' should be added to the family name not to be mistaken with the first name. Most Chinese personal names use the official Chinese spelling system known as Pinyin. The traditional spellings, however, are used for well-known deceased people such as Chou En-lai, Mao Tsetung, Sun Yat-sen. Some Chinese have westernized their names, putting their given names or the initials for them first: P. Y. Chen, Jack Wang. In general it is recommended following a preferred individual spelling.

As for Russian names, when the first name has a close phonetic equivalent in English, this equivalent is used in translating the name: Alexander Solzhenitsyn rather than Alexandr, the spelling that would result from a transliteration of the Russian letter into the English alphabet. For the last names, the English spelling that most closely approximates the pronunciation in Russian is used. Some proper names are adapted to the translated language by adding or removing feminine endings in Russian names are used only if the woman is not married or if she is known under that name (the ballerina Maya Plissetskaya). Otherwise, in the formal style the masculine forms are used: Raisa Gorbachev, not Raisa Gorbacheva.

Russian names never end in -off, except for common mistranslations such as Rachmaninoff. Instead, the transliterations should end in -ov: Romanov. The names of kings are of special interest, as they are traditional in form:

King Charles - король Карл

King James - король Яков

King George – король Георг

King William - король Вильгельм

King Louis - король Людовик

Newmark, a well-known translation theorist, suggests the following procedure:

“first to translate the word that underlies the source language proper name into the target language, and then to naturalize the translated word back into a new source language proper name - but normally only when the character's name is not yet current amongst an educated target language readership.

Translating the Antroponyms

The function of antroponyms is purely nominative. They help to identify a person. There are two ways of rendering them: **transcription and transliteration**.

Transcription is now universally accepted. Mary - Мэри, Jack - Джек, Hailey - Хейли, etc. Tradition, however, still plays an important role. Some well-known names are rendered according to the tradition. Thus, it is George Bernard Show - Джордж Бернанд Шоу (not Шо). King George is - король Георг, King Charles I - король Карл Первый.

In conclusion, translating antroponyms requires a nuanced approach that balances phonetic accuracy, cultural significance, and contextual relevance. Successful translation involves not only the technical aspects of transliteration but also an understanding of the name's meaning, historical context, and its implications within the target culture.



Translators must consider the audience's familiarity with the original name, the legal or official requirements for name usage, and the potential need for adaptation to fit local customs. Ultimately, effective anthroponym translation enhances communication and fosters cross-cultural understanding while preserving the essence of the original identity. By carefully navigating these factors, translators can ensure that names resonate meaningfully in their new linguistic environments.

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