Lexico-semantic unit “Man” based on the material of the Nizhnekolymsk old-time dialects of Yakutia

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Abstract. The paper studies the specifics of the linguistic reflection of the image of a person in the Nizhnekolymsk old-time dialects of Yakutia. Despite the available research, the issue of the preservation of the cultural and linguistic diversity of the Arctic remains relevant in our time. It is of great interest in terms of geostrategic location, natural resources and human potential. The purpose is to describe the composition of the lexical-semantic unit “Man” in the Nizhnekolymsk old-time dialects of Yakutia. The source of the material was the four-volume Dictionary of Russian Old-Time Dialects on the Territory of Yakutia by M.F. Druzhina. The method of continuous sampling was used to identify 95 lexical units that form the LSU “Man”. The structure of the unit includes the following lexical and semantic groups: physical, personal and social characteristics of a man. Intra-unit systemic relations are characterized by the presence of a variety of paradigmatic connections: derivational synonyms, inflectional variants, phonemic doublets, antonymic and synonymous pairs, hypo-hyponymic and hyper-hyponymic relations, derivational series. The Nizhnekolymsk dialects are a monument of the Russian old-timers’ culture, which is a result of interethnic and cultural contacts between the newcomers and the local population, as well as the influence of natural conditions. The processes of globalization, integration and industrial development of the Arctic accelerate the assimilation of Russian old-timers from Nizhny Kolyma, which makes the problem of the preservation of their ethnocultural identity relevant.

1 Introduction

The unique character and identity of the Arctic old-timers culture has invariably attracted the attention of researchers. The study of the North-East of Yakutia began in the 19th century with reports, diary entries and observations by M.M. Gedenstrom, F.P. Wrangel, G.L. Meidel and others. The attempts to classify Russian dialects of the Siberian language array are presented already in the first special scientific studies by A.M. Selishchev, P. Ya. Chernykh, A.M. Selishchev studied dialectical groups, sound composition and forms of lexemes in the study “Dialectological review of Siberia”[1].

Then this issue was reflected in the works of the largest dialectologists of Siberia O.I. Blinova, N.T. Bukhareva, V.V. Palagina, V.A. Senkevich, A.I. Fedorov and others. Thus, back in 1982, a researcher A.I. Fedorov in his work “Russian language in Siberia” [2] wrote that the old-timers separated themselves from the visiting Russians, noting linguistic differences and that the scientific study of the semantics of lexical layers is an urgent problem of northern linguistics.

The topic of lexical features in the language of the Nizhnekolymsk old-timers of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), connected with the issues of self-ethnic identification, is covered by philologists N.B. Vakhtin, E.V. Golovko, P. Schweitzer. The researchers note that Russian old-timers, campers and Russians from Ustye, considered themselves to be a kind of isolated ethnic group and note their difference from other peoples.

On the one hand, their ethnic identity keeps the injection of civilization, once brought to these lands by their ancestors: Cossacks, bourgeois or peasants. On the other hand, they inherited the distinctive characteristics of food, clothing, economy, behavior and national character from their local ancestors [3]. A.A. Burykin compiled a lexicographic description of the Russian old-timers’ dialects of Yakutia in areal, functional-stylistic and etymological terms [4].

A.E. Anikin studies the historical and typological features of the linguistic geography of Russian old-time dialects in the course of their contacts with the languages of Siberia and used the obtained data to model ancient linguistic contacts [5]. In addition, he devoted a series of publications to the origin and history of the Russian-Siberian designations of ships and boats, which played a significant role in the development of vast areas of the North and Siberia. [6, 7].

The specificity of the linguistic reflection of the image of a man in the linguistic picture of the world of the descendants of Russian old-timers, compactly living in the North, Siberia and the Far East, including in the Arctic regions of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), has always attracted the attention of Russian researchers. Within the framework of modern anthropological
research, the article by T.A. Berdnikova, Ya.Ya. Gorbunova, G.E. Zhondorova and I.P. Pavlova “The image of a Russian man in the northern picture of the world (based on the Russian old-time dialects of Yakutia)” analyzes a man from the point of view of his appearance, character, attitude to work, his language and relationships with representatives of other nations. [8]

The ethnolinguistic aspect of the study of the vocabulary of Russian old-time dialects of Yakutia is the subject area of A.Yu. Buldakova and I.P. Pavlova. The authors conclude that the linguistic worldview of the descendants of Russian settlers clearly reflects the realities of the particular life of a person in the North [9, 10]. I.P. Pavlova and Ya.Ya. Gorbunova considered the linguocultural features of man nominations, as well as the names of methods and means of hunting in Russian old-timers’ dialects [11].

G.E. Zhondorova reveals the structure of the concept of a person and the specifics of its linguistic representation in Russian dialects used by the old residents of Yakutia [12]. Also she considers such segments of the linguocultural worldview as means of transportation and clothing [13]. A significant contribution to the development of dialectology of Russian old-timers of Indigirka and Kolyma was made by V.G. Bogoraz, M.F. Druzhinin, G.V. Zotov, N.G. Samsonov and A.G. Chikachev. The materials of the Russian old-time dialect of the Russian Ustye are unique and reflect the life of a person in the North. The materials were collected during dialectological expeditions conducted by a local historian writer, connoisseur of the original culture of the Nizhneindigir old-timers A.G. Chikachev [14].

The materials of dialectological and phraseological dictionaries edited by M.F. Druzhinin [15, 16, 17, 18]. They present concepts that are separate for a given language, vividly reflecting the anthropocentricity of the linguistic worldview of the Russian old-time population of Yakutia. The dictionaries of M.F. Druzhinin contain a unique lexicon of the surviving rare dialects of the Russian language in the Arctic region. Accordingly, they served as a source of material for the analysis of the LSU “Man” in our study.

Today the problem of the preservation of the cultural and linguistic diversity of the Arctic is still relevant. It is of great interest in terms of geostrategic location, natural resources and human potential. The vocabulary of Siberian and Far Eastern old-timers’ dialects was formed on the basis of North Russian dialects, modified under the influence of the Yukaghir and Even languages. The pioneers, Russian Cossacks, who were exploring the northern expanses, found themselves in harsh little-explored geographical and climatic conditions, surrounded by foreign-speaking indigenous people. They began to contact the local population, enriching each other with everyday knowledge and skills in the conditions of the northern region.

Despite a large number of anthropocentric studies considering the phenomenon of “Man” and the linguistic image of a man in the picture of the world, the dialectal material of the Russian old-time dialects of Yakutia requires further systematization and description, which determines the relevance of the study. The purpose is to describe the composition of the lexical-semantic unit “Man” in the Nizhnekolymsk old-time dialects of Yakutia. In order to achieve this goal, it is necessary to solve the following tasks:

1. to choose from the dictionary by M.F. Druzhinin names related to LSU “Man”;
2. to classify them into subgroups;
3. to analyze the systemic relationships of this LSU.

Different researchers construct the LSU “Man” in different ways. For example, S.M. Tilloeva [19] analyzes the structure of the LSU “Man” in a comparative aspect based on the material of the Russian, Tajik and Persian languages. She distinguishes two lexico-semantic groups in its composition: “The inner world of a person” and “The external appearance of a person”. E.V. Erofeeva, E.A. Pepelyaeva studies the structure of the lexical-semantic field “Man” in the linguistic consciousness of the native speakers of the Russian language. The most important component of the understanding of a person by Russian speakers is his emotional assessment: the words of this subgroup make up almost a third of the entire vocabulary.

The core of the unit “Man” is formed by the external, gender, age and basic social (profession, family, nationality) characteristics of a person. Thematic and ideographic classification of the LSU “Man” by T.A. Litvinova was developed on the basis of the Voronzeh dialects and includes such microfields as “man as a living being”, “man as a thinking, feeling and volitional being”, “man as a social being” [20]. I.P. Pavlova, Ya. Ya. Gorbunov classified the evaluative nominations of a person according to five parameters: demeanor and speaking, character traits, attitude to work, appearance and physical condition, mental abilities [21].

2 Materials and methods

In our research, we focus on the study of the representation of the image of a man in the linguistic worldview of the Nizhny Kolyma old-time dialects of the republic. As a result of the development and settlement of territories along the bed of the Nizhnyaya Kolyma River by Russian settlers, a special old-time dialect culture arose. It is determined by “the specifics of the natural conditions of existence and interethic cultural contacts” [22].

The main lexicographic source was the four-volume Dictionary of Russian Old-Time Dialects on the Territory of Yakutia by M.F. Druzhinin. Regional Dictionary of the Kolyma Russian Dialect by V.G. Bogoraz and Dictionary of regional vocabulary of the Far North-East of Russia by G.V. Zotov.

In the work the following methods were used statistical, descriptive, comparative, lexico-semantic. By the method of continuous sampling, we identified 99 lexical units that form the LSU “Man”. After the analysis of various approaches to the classification of LSU, we developed a three-component structure of the unit, including the physical, personal and social characteristics of a person.
3 Research and analysis

Physical characteristics of a person – 23

As a rule, in the extreme conditions of the North healthy and strong people survived, for which the following single-root lexemes were used: DYUZHOY, DYUZHIT, DYUZHINA. The word OSILOK is similar in the semantics. The opposite meaning to the word DYUZHOY is expressed by the word form ZADUSHNOY.

The ethnographers and linguists of the 19th century, V.L. Seroshevsy, E.K. Pekarsky, note that such a type of nervous disease as meryak or polar hysteria, accompanied by violent seizures. It was widespread among the inhabitants of the Eastern Siberia. Moreover, women were most often exposed to it. To designate such patients, the following nominations were used: WILD; EMERYACHKA. The adjective EMERYACHNOY is formed from the last word.

To name a sick child, the word-formative variants of VYPOROTOK/VYPOROTOCHEK are used in a figurative sense, which mean ‘premature deer cub’.

The traditional occupations of local population were hunting, fishing and reindeer herding, so it was important to be able to shoot accurately, jump, cover long distances, both on water and on land, and have good eyesight. These qualities are expressed in the following words: METKACH; SAKUNETS; LEGACH; VIDCHIVOY.

The speech characteristics of a man who speaks a lot is reflected in the following nominations: GOVOROK and GOVORUKHA; ALYAS, ALYASNIK. There is also a verb in the dialect. Russian folklore EMELYA also aptly characterizes a talker, an inventor, a dreamer, who, most likely, is a squeeze, a compression of the Russian proverb ‘go on, Emelya - you'll bend my ear!’

SHEPETENKA is used to describe an outwardly attractive person. This diminutive adjective has a neutral variant with SHEPETKOY, and also forms an adverb - SHEPETKO.

DYUZHOY ‘strong, healthy, powerful’
Recently a fisherman drowned, he was a dyuzhoy man
TO DYUZHIT
Fishing is bad in winter, it is cold, we have to dyuzhit
DYUZHINA
but what kind of a dyuzhina his brother has, oh yes noble
OSILOK
He is healthy, strong, he is osilok
ZADUSHNOY ‘frail’
He was kind of sickly, zadushnoy
DIKOY ‘psychopathic’
The guy is sick, he is dikoy, he has a bad memory
EMERYACHKA ‘a woman suffering from emeryak’
I had to see one emeryachka who began to emeryak when she saw a mouse
EMERYACHNOY ‘a person suffering from emeryak’
There is still emeryak, they say it is the Yakut disease
VYPOROTOK / VYPOROTOCHEK
Their son is a kind of vyporotok
Physical state – 10

METKACH ‘accurate shooter’
There are very good hunters, metkach men, they shoot

SKAKUNETS ‘good jumping man’
Previously, good skakunets men were at competitions, they were awarded with prizes
LEGACH
Such a fast flow of the Kolyma for any such a legach men
He is a legach and easy to walk
VIDCHIVOY ‘the name of sharp-sighted men’

GOVOROK / GOVORUKHA
This one is quiet, but his brother is a govorok
She may talk a lot, she is a govorukha
ALYAS
He is alyas, may talk a lot
He will tell everything, he is alyas

ALYASNIK
He is sly old man, a good alyasnik
TO ALYAS
When you grow old you will to alyas
Due to his age, he may talk a lot and alyas when he is drunk
Mum, he alyased a little when he was drunk
She may talk a lot, she is a govorukha
EMELYA
He always lies, because he is an emelya and a chatter box

SHEPETENKOY ‘beautiful’
A daughter is very shepetenka, little beauty
SHEPETKOY / SHEPETKO
It is expensive to buy this shepetko thing

Speech characteristics – 6

Apperance – 3

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS – 37

In the linguistic consciousness of any people, first of all, the first thing that is reflected is a deviation from a norm. This is confirmed by the large volume and diversification of lexical units that name negative qualities, character traits and antisocial behavior:

1. Immoral behavior, actions: ALKOGOL’/SHICHIK;
2. Immorality: specific words are fixed for the name of a shameless person such as SUKA VOLOGAZHINAYA, SRAMETS;
3. Dishonesty: ALYRA, RUSAK, which are in a relationship of intra-dialectal synonymy; VOROVATOY, VARNAK, to VARNACHIT’, VARNACHNNYY;
4. Sloppiness: ARAKHLEY and relative adjective ARACHELEVATOY; SHULUYKAN/ SHULUYKIN. About a woman - RASPUSTYAKHA or ROKHLEYKA;
5. Laziness, indolence: SHULUYKAN/ SHULUYKIN, GULEVAN, VARNAK;
6. Gambler: AZARCHIVOY;
7. Quarrelsome, scandallousness: YERESLIVOY, SHUBUTNOY, forms the verb to SHUBUTTISA;
8. Pugnaciousness: DIKOY
9. Envy: ZAVIDUSHCHOY
10. Stubbornness, self-will: ARESTAN; playful, disobedient child – VOLNOY

In the old-time linguistic culture, some positive and neutral traits of character or behavior are also noted.

Physical characteristics – 4

Accuracy, beat squirrels in the eye with a pellet

Physical characteristics – 23

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In the old-time linguistic culture, some positive and neutral traits of character or behavior are also noted.
Thus, in the Nizhnekolymsk dialects, one lexeme is recorded that characterizes a hardworking, brave and kind person: TRUDNIK/TRUDNITSA; Khorobroy; Dobroumnoy.

Active, enterprising, energetic people who possessed certain knowledge, skills and abilities were respected. For their designation the following lexical units such as: AHtoritetnoy; Vostroy; Brytkoy; Hlyostkiy; Dobychlivoy; Yazychnoy; Buvalec were used.

Neutral attitude is expressed in the lexeme SMeshnik.

**Akhurdnoy** 'benevolent person'

**Ahtoritetnoy** 'business, authoritative'

**KHOROBROY** The guy was khorobroy, but died in the war

**VOSTROY** 'smart and business'

**Smeshnik** 'joker, funny man'

Our baker knows how to do everything, he bakes delicious bread and a good smeshnik

**Brytkoy** 'fast man'

**His wife is old, but she is real trudnitsa**

**TRUDNIK/ TRUDNITSA** He was trudnik, but his sons are not

**His secretary here, is working, they say he is local ahtoritetnoy**

**Khorobroy** The guy was khorobroy, but died in the war

**Vostroy** 'smart and business'

**Their son is vostroy, knows and traveled a lot**

**Smeshnik** 'joker, funny man'

Our baker knows how to do everything, he bakes delicious bread and a good smeshnik

**Brytkoy** 'fast man'

**His wife is too brytka**

**Their son grow brytkoy**

**Hlyostkiy** She is hlyostkaya, she will finish everything soon

**Buvalec** 'stage'

He was everywhere, he was at war, he is buvalec

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*Personal traits – 22*

**Alkogol'shchik** 'drinking man, drunkard'

They drink because of their hard life

**Suka Vologzhnaya** 'about a woman of pleasure'

**Sramets** 'brat, impudent'

He is a sramets, there is no decency in him, but one shamelessness

**Varnak 3** 'a thief, a bum'

There is a man here, he is a real varnak, he does not work properly

**Varnak 2** 'bully, robber'

What a varnak!

**To varnachit** 'to mischief'

Poachers varnachit, they set no nets or traps

**Varnachny** He wars varnachny clothes and act like a varnak

*Amoral behaviour, actions – 7*

*Social characteristics of a person – 35*

In the lower Kolyma dialects, the variants of the general Russian vocabulary are highlighted, which presents an extensive network of relative terms: PRAVDED, PRAKBABUSHKA, TYATEN'KA, MATI, DOCHI/DOCHER', DEVAKHA, DITYATECHKA, RODNYY, SRODNYY

In the names of the children, the species word is recorded. Special names exist for an illegitimate child: lexems ZAUGOL'NIK/ZAUGOL'NICA form a pair by gender: DEVCHOHI REBONOK.

In the territorial dialects of the Russian language, there are also examples of words referring to a married woman: BABA, and also MOLODAYKA / MOLODICA / MOLODUSHKA. The synonymous row is used to refer to a young wife. The term 'unmarried girl' is expressed in phrase V DEVCHONKAKH, V DEVKAKH.

There is one combination to indicate age MOLODOY LYUD, expressing a collective concept opposite to the older generation.

Separately, we can highlight the category of words related to unrelated relationships, connections, contacts. Friends, buddies are called the word DRUZHNIKI. Several lexical units can be distinguished to designate love relationships: EKONOM / EKONOMKA;
IZMENSHCHITSA. The name ZVATY used as the name of a guest, an invited person.

In the subgroup "Social status", the expression TEMNOYE BOGACHESTVO. In addition, the cohyponyms denoting a well-to-do, wealthy person are noted: TEMNOY BOGACH; SKOTISTYY; ZHIVOTNYY.

The following subgroup of words represents the names of a person in a traditional occupation or profession: SOBIRATEL'; CHUMSHA; SIDYACHI CHUKCHI; DOHUTRSHA (derivation level of the general Russian word); DOL'SHCHIK (detailed name when carrying out any fishery); DROVORUB (differs from the general Russian lexeme in the form the verb component); MASLYANSCHIK (the inner form of the word is not entirely clear due to the brevity of the context); SHITNIK; BRYUCHNIK. The last two words are in genus-specific relations. The general name of the tailor is the hyperonym. SHITNIK, and the lexeme that names the trouser-sewing master HOOKER is a hyponym.

PRAVDED
In general, our praveds were exiled from Yakutia
Our praveds and pravabashkas lived here at Kolyma
PRAKHBARUSHKA
His prakhbabushka and mother are buried here
TYATEN'KA 'daddy'
Our tyaten'ka was very strict
MATI 'a mother'
Mati is mati, she understands everything
Their son does not remember his mati
DOCHI / DOCHER'
My dochi was born at Kamchatka
When my dochi will go to study, I will be ok
A king had a docher'
DEVAKHA 'a girl, a daughter'
Devakhas only love and have fun
DITYATECHKA 'a baby'
Oh my beautiful dityatechka
ZAUGOL'NIK / ZAUGOL'NICA 'an illegitimate child'
Zaugolnik is a baby born by devka, he is a bastard
DEVOCHIY REBONOK
This baby does not have a father, he is devochiy rebonok
RODNY 'relative'
My rodnoy dad lives by my side
SRODNY 'cousin-brother or cousin-sister'
My cousin-sister came to Chersky but she did not visit me
VOSPITAL'NIK 'foster child, pupil'
We had a son, He was a pupil.

BABA 'a wife, married woman'
Their son has a good baba. He lived with baba not so long and died.
My baba betrayed me and went away with other man.
A girl got married and now she is a baba
MOLODAYKA / MOLODICA / MOLODUSHKA 'young married woman'
A young married woman was called molodayka. Old people stay at home and molodushkas sew pants
V DEVCHONKAKH, V DEVKAKH 'about not married girl'

Married status – 6

MOLODOY LYUD 'young people, young generation'
We built a house for molodoy lyud.
Molodoy lyud do not stay in our village for a long time.
Age – 1

DRUZHNIKI 'friends, comrades'
They are good druzhnik
EKONOM / EKONOMKA 'a lover'
Is he her husband or a an econom?
IZMENSHCHITSA
She was his izmenshchitisa
ZVATY 'invited person'
Zvaty did not come at all
Relationship between people – 5

SOBIRATEL 'purchaser, receiver'
Sobirateli came from the city and made blanks
CHUMSHA 'chum worker at a reindeer herding camp'
Chumsha is the mistress of the chum, she cooks food, feeds and even sews
SIDYACHI CHUKCHI 'Chukchi engaged in sea fishing, in contrast to the Chukchi reindeer herders'
Reindeer Chukchi are engaged in reindeer husbandry and Sidyachi Chukchi are engaged in fishing
DOL'SHCHIK 'share worker'
We fish together, each shareholder takes his share
DROVORUB 'woodcutter'
That oldman worked as a drovorub for many years
MASLYANSHCHIK
Their son has been working on a steamer as a maslyanshchik for the second year

Profession and occupation – 6

TEMNOYE BOGACHESTVO
I would not drink with tenmoye bogachestvo
TEMNY BOGACH 'very rich, well-to-do fisherman, hunter'
He constantly fishes, hunts for the pess, he has a lot of furs
ZHIVOTNYY 'rich in furs'
He is zhivotny man rich man, having many furs

Social status – 5

4 Conclusion

We analyzed the image of a person in the linguistic worldview of the Russian old-timers of Nizhnyaya Kolyma and identified three LSUs included in the “Man” unit: physical characteristics, personal traits, and social relations. The most voluminous and differentiated sample was made up of the lexemes of the last group, which name a man in terms of his family ties, marital status, age, relationships, social status, as well as occupation and profession. The group “Personal traits” is the second in terms of the number of lexemes and contains four subgroups: feelings, emotional states; character traits, personality traits; immoral behavior, actions; experience, knowledge. The smallest number of lexemes is included in the “Physical characteristics” group, which includes a person’s nominations for physical condition, physical abilities, speech and appearance. As for intra-field systemic relations, we can note the presence of various paradigmatic connections, such as:
1. word-formation synonymy – DOCHI / DOCHER', YPYOROTOK / VYPYOROTCHUK, MOLODAYKA / MOLODITSA / MOLODUSHKA, SHEPETKOY / SHEPETEN'KOY, V DEVKAKH / V DEVCHONKAKH. Single-root adjectives SHEPETKOY / SHEPETEN'KOY differ in stylistic coloration. The second word has a diminutive connotation;

2. inflectional variants –TRUDNIK / TRUDNITSA, EKONOM / EKONOMKA, GOVOROK / GOVORUKHA, ZAUGOL'NIK / ZAUGOL'NITSA;

3. phonemic doubles – SHULYUKAN / SHULYUKIN;

4. cophyonyms forming an antonymic pair – TRUDNIK / GULEVAN, DYUZHoy / ZADUSHNOY;

5. cophyonyms forming a synonymous pair – GOVOROK / ALEYASNIK;

6. hyponymous relationship – physical ability METKACH, SAKUNEC, LEGACH, VIDCHIVOY; rich man TEMNOY BOGACH, SKOTISTYY, ZHIVOTNYY;

7. hyper-hyponymous relationship – SHITNIK / BRYUCHNIK;

8. derivation series – VARNAK / TO VARNACHIT' / VARNACHNYY; SHEPETKOY / SHEPETEN'KOY / SHEPETKO; ALEYAS/ALYASNIK / TO ALYASNICHT'; ARAKHLEY / ARAKHLEVAT'Y; DYUZHoy / TO DYUZHIT' / DYUZHINA; EMERYACHKA / EMERYACHNOY. It is necessary to note that in the proposed structure of the unit we started from the idea of the triune essence of man as a biological, spiritual and social being. The main body of vocabulary is of general Russian origin. Separate culturally-marked words reflecting local specifics have been recorded. For example, CHUMSHA, the mistress of the chum (chum is a cone-shaped traditional dwelling of the northern peoples made of reindeer skins) or EMERYACHKA (derived from the borrowed Yakut word 'menetik', meaning a nervous person). The considered fragment of the dialectal worldview of the Nizhnekolymsk old-timers of Yakutia, characterizing a person, can serve to identify the general and the particular aspects in a comparative analysis of Russian dialects of other regions.

References


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