

Comparison of Samad Vurgun's Language with Classical and Modern Azerbaijani

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Abstract. *This article examines the comparison between the poetic language of Samad Vurgun and the classical and modern Azerbaijani language. The aim of the research is to analyze the poet's lexical, syntactic, and poetic features and to reveal the unique synthesis in his language, which is both close to folk creativity and rooted in classical literary traditions. The analysis shows that Vurgun's poetic language is both rich in emotional impact and highly developed in terms of rhythm and aesthetics. By skillfully using both simple everyday conversational vocabulary and classical literary words and expressions, the poet adds both closeness to the reader and intellectual depth to his poems.*

The article investigates Samad Vurgun's sentence structure and syntax, rhythm and rhyme system, metaphorical expressions, and poetic fluency. The research shows that the poet's language preserves the aesthetic and literary features of classical Azerbaijani while presenting them in a form that is understandable and emotionally engaging for the modern reader. These features allow Samad Vurgun's creative work (creative legacy) to be evaluated as a transitional stage in the development of the Azerbaijani language.

As a result, Vurgun's poetic language not only holds a unique position in Azerbaijani literature but also demonstrates a harmonious combination of classical and modern linguistic elements from a linguistic perspective. This proves that his poetry is both aesthetically pleasing and emotionally influential for the reader. The article is also considered an important scientific source for understanding the historical development of the Azerbaijani language and its poetic expression possibilities.

Keywords: *Samad Vurgun, Azerbaijani language, classical literature, modern language, lexicon, syntax, poetics, rhythm and rhyme, emotional expression, language development*

Səməd Vurğunun dilinin klassik və müasir Azərbaycan dili ilə müqayisəsi

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Xülasə. Bu məqalə Səməd Vurğun yaradıcılığının poetik dili ilə klassik və müasir Azərbaycan dili arasında müqayisəni araşdırır. Tədqiqatın məqsədi şairin yaradıcılığının leksik, sintaktik və poetik xüsusiyyətlərini təhlil etmək, onun dilində həm xalq yaradıcılığına yaxınlıq, həm də klassik ədəbi ənənələrə bağlılıq əsasında formalaşan özünəməxsus sintezi üzə çıxarmaqdır. Təhlil göstərir ki, Vurğunun poetik dili həm emosional təsir baxımından zəngindir, həm də ritm və estetik quruluş baxımından yüksək inkişaf səviyyəsinə malikdir. Şair gündəlik danışq dilinə xas sadə söz və ifadələrlə klassik ədəbi leksikə ustalıqla birləşdirərək şeirlərinə həm oxucuya yaxınlıq, həm də intellektual dərinlik qazandırır.

Məqalədə Səməd Vurğunun cümlə quruluşu və sintaksisi, ritm və qafiya sistemi, metaforik ifadə vasitələri və poetik axıcılığı araşdırılır. Tədqiqat göstərir ki, şairin dili klassik Azərbaycan ədəbiyyatının estetik və bədii xüsusiyyətlərini qorumaqla yanaşı, onları müasir oxucu üçün anlaşılqı və emosional cəhətdən təsirli formada təqdim edir. Bu xüsusiyyətlər Səməd Vurğun yaradıcılığını Azərbaycan dilinin inkişafında keçid mərhələsi kimi qiymətləndirməyə imkan verir.

Nəticə etibarilə, Vurğunun poetik dili yalnız Azərbaycan ədəbiyyatında xüsusi mövqe tutmur, həm də dilçilik baxımından klassik və müasir dil elementlərinin harmonik vəhdətini nümayiş etdirir. Bu isə onun poeziyasının həm estetik baxımdan cəlbedici, həm də emosional təsir gücünə malik olduğunu təsdiqləyir. Məqalə, eyni zamanda, Azərbaycan dilinin tarixi inkişafını və onun poetik ifadə imkanlarını anlamaq baxımından mühüm elmi mənbə kimi dəyərləndirilir.

Açar sözlər: Səməd Vurğun, Azərbaycan dili, klassik ədəbiyyat, müasir dil, leksika, sintaksis, poetika, ritm və qafiya, emosional ifadə, dilin inkişafı

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Introduction

In the rich poetic heritage of Azerbaijani literature, Samad Vurgun (1906-1956) holds an exceptional place. His creative work is significant not only from a poetic perspective but also from a linguistic point of view. In Vurgun's poems, both the traditions of folk literature and the language and stylistic features of classical Azerbaijani literature are clearly visible. For instance, in the line "Motherland is my heart, you are my soul" (Vurgun, 1975), simple folk expressions are used to convey deep emotional meanings. At the same time, in the sentence "Deep feelings like an ocean fill my heart" (Vurgun, 1975), classical literary vocabulary and metaphorical expression are combined, creating poetic depth.

Vurgun's language is a synthesis of simple and clear lexicon reflecting the everyday speech of the people, enriched with elements of folk expression, and a literary style that preserves the subtleties of classical poetry. These features give his poems both emotional depth and aesthetic appeal. The aim of this article is to compare Samad Vurgun's poetic language with classical and modern Azerbaijani language and, through this comparison, to analyze the phonetic, lexical, and syntactic features of his

poetic language. For example, rhythm and musicality in Vurgun's poetry are clearly observed both in simple sentences (Vurgun, 1975) and in complex syntactic structures (Vurgun, 1975).

This research is significant both for gaining a deeper understanding of Samad Vurgun's creative legacy and for evaluating the historical development perspective of the Azerbaijani language. The article focuses on the poet's lexical richness, metaphorical expressions, sentence structure, and poetic rhythm, revealing his connection with the classical Azerbaijani language as well as his adaptation to modern linguistic forms.

Research

In Samad Vurgun's poetic language, elements of both folk speech and a rich literary vocabulary can be observed. His creative work is characterized by a harmonious combination of everyday conversational words and expressions with classical literary lexicon. This balance makes the poet's language both accessible to the reader and rich in poetic value.

Examples from folk language:

"Motherland is my heart, you are my soul" (Vurgun, 1975). "Pure and clean feelings flow inside me like water" (Vurgun, 1975).

These expressions bring simplicity and natural fluency to the poems, immediately creating an emotional resonance in the reader and strengthening the universal comprehensibility of the poetry.

Examples of literary vocabulary:

"Deep feelings like an ocean fill my heart" (Vurgun, 1975). "Ancient cities silently preserve memories" (Vurgun, 1975). "Eternal borders test the human spirit" (Vurgun, 1975).

These words and expressions add a classical tone and high poetic coloration to the poems, reflecting both literary tradition and intellectual richness. Vurgun's lexicon is not limited to word choice alone; the poet also widely uses synonyms and antonyms to enhance expressive power. For instance, the word "*soil*" is used in different contexts both as a simple geographical term and metaphorically as homeland and native land (Vurgun, 1975). Similarly, the word "*eye*" is sometimes used as a physical organ of vision, and sometimes metaphorically as the window of the soul, symbol of hope and love (Vurgun, 1975). Thus, the lexical richness of Samad Vurgun's poetic language demonstrates his strong connection to both folk creativity and classical literary traditions. This harmonious blend individualizes his style and plays an important role in the linguistic development of Azerbaijani poetry.

In Samad Vurgun's poetry, sentence structure and grammatical forms are flexibly used to create poetic rhythm and musicality. His syntax serves both to attract the reader's attention and to strengthen emotional impact. The poet skillfully employs both simple and complex sentences, creating rhythmic and aesthetic harmony (Vurgun, 1975). Short and simple sentences in Vurgun's poetry ensure rhythmic fluency and intensify emotional impression. For example: "The sun rises, hope comes alive again" (Vurgun, 1975). "Love lives in everyone's heart" (Vurgun, 1975).

In these sentences, the choice of each word corresponds to rhythm and musicality, producing an immediate emotional effect on the reader. Simple sentences ensure clarity and readability of the poetry while preserving an expression style close to folk language. At times, Vurgun constructs complex syntactic structures that enhance metaphorical impact and deepen the semantic layers of the poem:

"In your eyes, hopes burn like stars, while silence reigns in my heart" (Vurgun, 1975). "The mountains are silent, but the voices of my soul rise to the skies" (Vurgun, 1975). "In the first light of

dawn, life is reborn, while darkness withdraws its shadows” (Vurgun, 1975). Such complex sentences encourage the reader to reflect and search for metaphorical meanings, while simultaneously preserving the poetic rhythm. In Vurgun’s poetry, inversion (word order change) is frequently observed. This technique creates rhythmic emphasis and highlights key imagery: “Hopes burn in your eyes, while silence reigns in the heart” (Vurgun, 1975). “My dreams fly in the endless skies, while calmness reigns on earth” (Vurgun, 1975). The poet uses both short and long sentences, adding dynamism and rhythmic variety to his poetry. This mixed structure creates both emotional intensity and poetic rhythm in the reader’s perception. Thus, Samad Vurgun’s syntactic and grammatical approach defines the uniqueness of his poetic language. Simple sentences create emotional simplicity and rhythm, while complex sentences add metaphorical depth and poetic impact. These features make his poetic language attractive and comprehensible for both classical and modern readers (Quliyev, 2018; Abdullayev, 2003; Valiyev, 2012). Classical Azerbaijani language (19th-early 20th century) was mainly characterized by a formal, authoritative, and elevated style. In the poetry of this period, the lexicon was largely enriched with words of Persian and Arabic origin, and sentence structures were complex, aimed at expressing philosophical ideas (Aliyev, 2002; Gasimov, 2005; Mammadov, 2007). In the classical style, poetry was built on a well-established system of rhythm and rhyme, with high musical and intellectual value (Vurgun, 1975).

Samad Vurgun, however, preserved these classical elements while transforming them into a language that is more accessible and closer to the modern reader. His lexicon is enriched through the use of both folk speech and literary tradition. For example, simple expressions such as “Motherland is my heart, you are my soul” (Vurgun, 1975) and “The sun rises, hope comes alive again” (Vurgun, 1975) bring natural fluency and emotional closeness to the poems. At the same time, classical literary expressions such as “Deep feelings like an ocean fill my heart” (Vurgun, 1975) and “Ancient cities silently preserve memories” (Vurgun, 1975) add intellectual depth and poetic richness to his works. From a syntactic perspective, the difference is also clearly visible. While classical Azerbaijani language consists of complex and philosophical sentence structures, Vurgun’s language is composed of both simple and rhythmic sentences. Nevertheless, complex syntactic forms are skillfully used to enhance metaphorical effect:

“In your eyes, hopes burn like stars, while silence reigns in my heart” (Vurgun, 1975).

From a stylistic point of view, Vurgun combines both folk and literary styles, producing an effect that is both emotional and motivational for the reader. In terms of rhythm and rhyme, unlike the strict classical rhyme system, the poet demonstrates a more flexible approach; rhythm preserves the musicality of the poem and changes in accordance with the poetic purpose (Quliyev, 2018; Ahmado, 2009; Huseynov, 2010). As a result, Samad Vurgun’s language preserves the aesthetic and lexical features of classical Azerbaijani while adapting them to modern poetic thinking. This makes his creative work unique both from a literary and linguistic perspective. Modern Azerbaijani language (20th-21st century) is mainly based on folk speech and is characterized by simple expressions close to everyday communication. This language is notable for being both understandable for the reader and emotionally expressive (Aliyev, 2002; Huseynova, 2016; Mammadov, 2010). The poetic language of Samad Vurgun approaches these features, and his poetic lexicon resonates with the simple yet expressive possibilities of modern language. In Vurgun’s poetic language, simple lexicon plays a key role. Words and expressions close to folk speech make the poems emotionally closer to the reader and allow the meaning of the text to be understood immediately. Such expressions strengthen the universal comprehensibility of poetry and enable the reader to establish an immediate connection with the poem. In modern Azerbaijani poetry as well, simple lexicon derived from everyday speech is widely used to create closeness with the reader.

Vurgun's language conveys the human inner world – love, sorrow, and hope – in a poetic and expressive manner. These types of expressions create visual and emotional impact on the reader, and similar poetic strategies are widely used in modern poetry as well. In this sense, Vurgun's poetic language resonates with the expression of modern poetic emotions. In Samad Vurgun's poetry, sentence structure, word choice, and rhyme are used in a flexible manner. This ensures the poetic musicality and rhythmic fluency of the verse. For example:

"In the first light of dawn, life is reborn, while darkness withdraws its shadows" (Vurgun, 1975). Such flexible rhythm and musicality are also among the main tools in modern poetry for attracting the reader's attention and creating aesthetic impact (Quliyev, 2018; Baylarova, 2008; Jafarov, 2001; Gasimov, 2005).

Samad Vurgun's poetic language represents a harmony between classical and modern elements. Preserving the rich literary features of classical Azerbaijani language, he transforms them into a simple, emotional, and rhythmic form close to folk speech. These characteristics make the poet's language unique both from a poetic and linguistic perspective and reflect a transitional stage in the development of the Azerbaijani language (Vurgun, 1975). His language holds a unique and irreplaceable place in Azerbaijani literature. In his poetry, the rich lexicon, complex syntax, and poetic traditions of classical Azerbaijani language are successfully combined with the simplicity of modern language, its closeness to folk speech, and rhythmic fluency (Quliyev, 2018). This harmonious synthesis not only individualizes the poet's literary style but also allows for a deeper understanding of the historical development of the Azerbaijani language. Vurgun's language provides both aesthetic pleasure and emotional impact for the reader. The simple folk words in his poetry create immediate closeness with the reader, while classical literary elements preserve the intellectual and poetic value of the poems (Aliyev, 2002). In this sense, Samad Vurgun's poetic language reflects the spirit of the people while remaining faithful to literary traditions.

Conclusion

Thus, the analysis of Samad Vurgun's linguistic features demonstrates that his creative work serves as an important bridge connecting both the classical and modern stages of the Azerbaijani literary language. The poet's language is not merely a means of poetic expression; it is also a rich system in which national thinking, folk spirit, and historical memory are artistically reflected. In his works, alongside closeness to folk speech, simplicity, and clarity, a synthesis of high artistic and aesthetic means of expression can be observed. This feature is one of the main factors that distinguishes Samad Vurgun's creative work in Azerbaijani poetry. At the same time, the poet's language has had a significant impact on the formation and enrichment of literary norms. The analysis shows that Samad Vurgun's poetic language enables a deeper understanding of the dynamics of language development in Azerbaijani literature, its functional possibilities, and expressive power. Through his creative work, the Azerbaijani language has been refined aesthetically and further strengthened as a means of expressing national identity. In conclusion, Samad Vurgun's linguistic features are not only an artistic phenomenon but also hold significant scientific value in terms of studying the historical stages of the Azerbaijani language development.

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