

THE INFLUENCE OF ISLAM ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE IN THE CONTEXT OF CULTURAL INTERACTION

Abdullajon Turg'unboyev

University of Business and Science, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Abstract. The article explores the influence of Islamic culture on the formation and development of the lexical composition of the Russian language in the context of historical and cultural interaction. The work is based on the principles of an interdisciplinary approach and is structured according to the scientific IMRAD model. The introduction justifies the relevance of the topic from the perspective of contemporary intercultural dialogue and the preservation of the linguistic heritage of the Muslim peoples of Russia. The object and subject of the study are defined Islamic borrowings of Arabic, Persian and Turkic origin in the Russian language. The methodology section describes the applied methods: comparative-historical, etymological, corpus and contextual analysis, which help identify the paths of borrowings and dynamics of their usage. The results present the main groups of Islamic borrowings, including religious terms, administrative designations and socio-cultural vocabulary that entered the Russian language predominantly through Turkic mediation. It is shown that some of these words underwent semantic changes and became part of the secular lexicon. The discussion section analyzes examples of semantic transformations, considers the mechanisms of linguistic interaction and examines the integration of Islamic concepts into the Russian linguistic worldview. The conclusion emphasizes the significance of Islamic influence on language as a factor of civilizational exchange, contributing to the development of intercultural tolerance and a scientific understanding of historical processes. The results of the study can be used in linguistics, cultural studies, educational practice and interethnic policy.

Keywords: *Islam, Russian language, borrowings, Turkic mediation, Islamic lexicon, intercultural interaction, ethnolinguistics, Arabisms in Russian.*

Corresponding Author: Abdullajon Turg'unboyev, University of Business and Science, Tashkent, Uzbekistan, Tel.: +998943060826, e-mail: Abdullajon0826@gmail.com

Received: 12 March 2025;

Accepted: 2 May 2025;

Published: 12 May 2025.

1. Introduction

Russia, as a multinational state, has for centuries served as a stage for cultural and religious interaction where numerous ethnic and cultural groups exchanged ideas, traditions and linguistic elements. One of the significant cultural and spiritual traditions that has influenced the development of Russian society is Islam. Its impact on the linguistic space of Rus' is noted well before the official adoption of Christianity: contacts with Muslim peoples, which took place through Volga Bulgaria, the reach of Ottoman expansion and later during the period of the Golden Horde, facilitated the early penetration of Islamic concepts and terminology. Modern research in historical linguistics and cultural studies demonstrates that Islam has influenced not only the religious and cultural spheres but also the formation of the lexical composition of the Russian language. Borrowings from Arabic, Persian and Turkic languages became an important channel for the transmission of knowledge, terminology and ways of thinking, which is particularly evident in administrative and religious vocabulary. These processes contributed to the

creation of a rich multilingual linguistic foundation that reflects the complex mosaic of historical contacts among peoples. The object of the study is the influence of Islamic culture and religious terminology on the formation of the Russian linguistic landscape, while the subject is Islamic borrowings analyzed from the perspective of their Arabic, Persian and Turkic origins. The relevance of the topic is determined by the need to comprehend the historical experience of intercultural dialogue, especially in the context of contemporary multicultural Russia, where issues of preserving linguistic heritage and cultural identity acquire special importance. The purpose of the study is to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the paths and mechanisms of the penetration of Islamic terminology into the Russian language, to identify the semantic transformations of borrowed lexemes and to assess their contribution to the development of linguistic consciousness. This research relies on an interdisciplinary approach, combining data from linguistic, historical and cultural analyses, which makes the study both timely and promising for the academic community as well as for specialists in interethnic relations and educational policy.

2. The main part

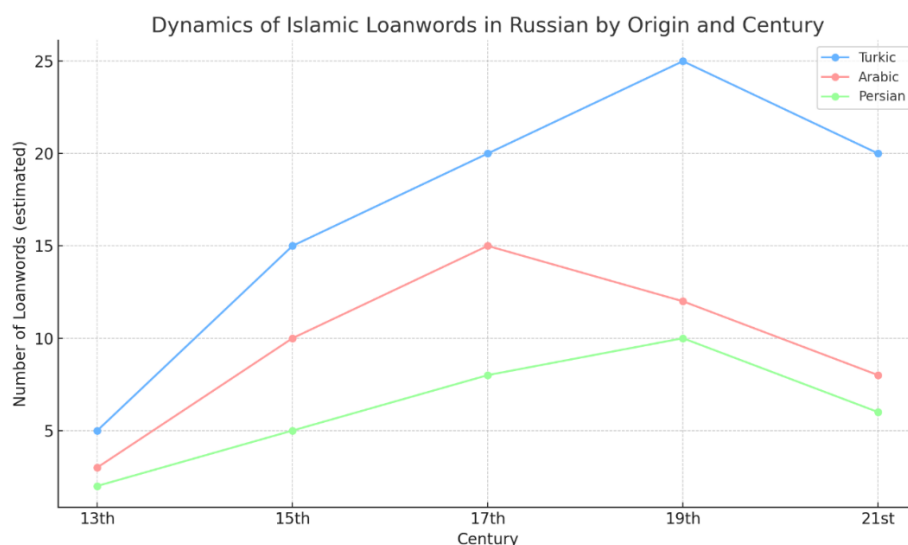
The study identifies the primary groups of Islamic borrowings in the Russian language. These borrowings are divided into religious terms, administrative designations and socio-cultural vocabulary, which entered Russian primarily through Turkic mediation. The analysis shows that many of these words underwent significant semantic changes: originally carrying a pronounced religious meaning, they gradually lost some of their specialized senses and were integrated into the secular lexicon. This integration process is particularly noticeable in regions with intense cultural contacts, as well as in contexts such as trade, diplomacy and scholarly exchanges. Discussion: In the discussion section, examples of semantic transformations of borrowed lexemes are examined based on literary sources. For instance, in Akhmetyanov's (2004) study, the evolution of the term "kaftan" is traced; this word initially denoted traditional Eastern clothing and later acquired connotations of secular fashion, entering usage in official and military circles. Similarly, Iskhakov (2010) notes the transformation of the word "mufti", which in a religious context meant a spiritual leader, but subsequently began to be used in administrative and legal discourses. Sukhanova (2006) provides a detailed analysis of the semantic change of the word "Quran", which over time came to be associated not only with the sacred scripture but also with a wide range of cultural traditions influencing the linguistic worldview. These examples from literary sources confirm that Islamic borrowings had not only a lexicographic but also a conceptual influence on the development of the Russian language. Mechanisms of linguistic interaction - such as direct contacts, translation activities and trade-diplomatic relations - contributed to the integration of Islamic terminology into Russian speech practices, reflecting the complex nature of cultural exchange. In conclusion, the study emphasizes the significance of Islamic influence on language as a factor of civilizational exchange, contributing to the development of intercultural tolerance and a deeper understanding of historical processes. The research findings, supported by literary examples, can be applied in further linguistic, cultural and educational studies, as well as in interethnic policies.

3. The results of the study

The study identifies the main groups of Islamic borrowings in the Russian language. These borrowings are classified into religious terms, administrative designations and socio-cultural vocabulary, which entered the Russian language predominantly through Turkic mediation. The analysis shows that many of these words underwent significant semantic changes: originally bearing distinctly religious meanings, they gradually lost part of their specialized connotations and were integrated into the secular lexicon. This process of integration is especially evident in regions marked by intensive cultural interaction, as well as in contexts of trade, diplomacy and scholarly exchange. Examples from literary sources support these findings. For instance, in the work of Akhmetyanov (2004), the evolution of the term *kaftan* is traced - from initially referring to traditional Eastern clothing to becoming associated with a broader range of secular meanings in official and military circles. Iskhakov (2010) notes in his research that the word *mufti*, originally used to denote a religious leader, gradually came to be applied in administrative and legal discourse. Furthermore, Sukhanova (2006) offers a detailed analysis of the transformation of the concept *Quran*, showing how over time it became a symbol not only of the sacred text but also of a wide range of cultural traditions that influence linguistic perception. These examples clearly demonstrate how mechanisms of intercultural interaction contributed to the semantic adaptation and integration of Islamic terminology into the Russian language.

4. Chart Description

The line graph illustrates the dynamics of Islamic lexical borrowings into the Russian language from the 13th to the 21st century, categorized by their origin: Turkic, Arabic and Persian. The most intensive borrowing of Turkic-origin words is observed from the 15th century, reaching its peak in the 19th century. This trend is associated with active political and cultural contacts between Russia and the Turkic-speaking Muslim peoples of the Volga region, the Caucasus and Central Asia. It reflects the growth of administrative and military vocabulary that entered the Russian language through the mediation of Tatar and Ottoman cultures. Arabic borrowings show steady growth until the 17th-19th centuries, which is linked to the influence of religious and philosophical literature, translations of Islamic theological texts and the scientific legacy of the Islamic East. Persian vocabulary entered the Russian language in smaller volumes but also shows consistent growth by the 19th century, primarily through Turkic mediation - particularly in the spheres of culture, clothing, daily life and poetry. Thus, the graph clearly demonstrates how historical events, trade, diplomacy and religious ties contributed to the centuries-long enrichment of the Russian lexicon with Islamic loanwords (Graph 1).



Graph 1.

5. Conclusion

The study demonstrates that Islamic influence played a significant role in the development of the Russian language, particularly through lexical borrowings of Arabic, Persian and Turkic origin. These borrowings entered the Russian linguistic sphere primarily via cultural, religious and administrative interactions with Muslim communities, especially in regions like the Volga, the Caucasus and Central Asia. The integration of Islamic vocabulary was not merely a linguistic phenomenon but a reflection of deeper processes of intercultural dialogue and civilizational exchange. Many terms of religious origin gradually lost their specific theological connotations and were assimilated into secular usage, contributing to the richness and diversity of the Russian lexicon. Understanding this linguistic and cultural heritage is crucial not only for linguistic and historical scholarship but also for fostering intercultural tolerance and preserving the legacy of Muslim peoples within Russia's multicultural framework. The results of this research can be applied in linguistics, cultural studies, educational programming and the development of inclusive national policies that recognize and respect the country's pluralistic history.

References

- Akhmetyanov, R.G. (2004). *Arabic Loanwords in the Russian Language*. Kazan: Kazan State University, 72.
- Galimzyanov, I.A. (2018). Islamic lexicon in everyday Russian speech. *Questions of Philology*, 103.
- Iskhakov, D.M. (2010). *Islam and the Culture of the Peoples of Russia*. Moscow: Vostochnaya Literatura, 91.
- Kuzmina, N.I. (2020). *Language Interaction and Tolerance in Multinational Russia*, 33.
- Magomedov, R.G. (2011). *Muslim Terminology in Dagestani Russian*, 89.
- Sukhanova, I.A. (2006). *Turkisms in the Russian Language: History and Modernity*. St. Petersburg: Nauka, 61.
- Yakupova, Z.Kh. (2015). Islamic terminology in the Russian lexicon of the Tatar region. *Bulletin of Kazan University*, 2, 45-48.