

# Research on Chinese and Russian Vocabulary Contact in the Border Port Cities of Heilongjiang Province from the Perspective of Sociolinguistics\*

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**Abstract**—The research of language contact is a frontier field in the discipline of sociolinguistics while the Chinese and Russian language contact in border ports is an important topic in this field. Based on the perspective of language contact research in sociolinguistic, this paper relies on the lexical theory knowledge of Chinese and Russian languages, and comprehensively uses Chinese-Russian contrast, synchronic research, and diachronic research methods to explore the contact situation of Chinese-Russian language contact in the border port cities of Heilongjiang Province.

**Keywords**—border port city of Heilongjiang Province; Chinese and Russian language contact; language influence

## I. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the process of world economic integration has accelerated markedly, and countries and regions are using geographical advantages to strengthen mutual cooperation. With the increasingly prominent geographical position in the border areas, the production layout has gradually shifted to the border areas. The current "the Belt and Road" national strategy proposed by President Xi Jinping is steadily propelled, bringing unprecedented opportunities for development and cooperation in border areas. Obviously, border ports have become special nodes for exchanges and cooperation with neighboring countries along the border areas. As one of the provinces with the largest number of ports open to the outside world, Heilongjiang Province has become an important gateway for China's opening to the outside world and a window to the north. The "Belt and Road" involves more than 20 cities and regions along the border ports of Heilongjiang Province, with large coverage area, wide range of cooperation areas, and complex cultural environment, so it is inseparable from the guarantee of language to promote this great cause. This paper attempts to use the linguistic theoretical knowledge of

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Chinese and Russian languages as the basis from the perspective of research on sociolinguistic language contact, and comprehensively use the contrast between Chinese and Russian, synchronic research, and diachronic research to explore the contact situation of Chinese and Russian language contact in the border port cities of Heilongjiang Province.

## II. RUSSIAN SOURCE WORDS EXPAND CHINESE VOCABULARY

In the new era environment, due to the special geographical advantages of the border ports of Heilongjiang Province, the large number of Russian source words have infiltrated, which has had a profound impact on the modern Chinese vocabulary system, especially the introduction of a large number of specialized vocabulary about socialist revolutions, socialist economy and socialist culture. These Russian source words not only brought the refreshing concept of socialism to the people of the border port cities of Heilongjiang Province, but also met the political needs of the Chinese people during the socialist revolution and the early stage of construction. They cover a wide range, but are more widely seen in the fields of politics, military, economics, culture and education, science and technology, life, and justice.

### A. Russian Source Words Applied in the Political Field

They mainly include: "Marxism and Leninism" or "Marxism-Leninism" (марксизм-ленинизм), "Leninism" (ленинизм), "Bolshevik" (большевик), "left-leaning" (левый уклон), "right-leaning" (правый уклон), "the leftist immaturity illness" or "naivety of the leftists" (детская болезнь левизны), "Soviet" (совет), "Minkang group" or "Comintern" (Коминтерн), "Youth League" (комсомол), "Young Pioneers" (пионерский отряд) "worker-peasant alliance" (союзрабочих и крестьян), сть), "democratic centralism" (демократический централизм), "personality

cult" or "individual superstition" (культ личности), "gangsters" (черносотенец), and so on.

#### *B. Russian Source Words Applied in the Military Field*

They mainly include: "Red Army" (Красная Армия), "Red Guards" (Красная гвардия), "the White Army" (Белая гвардия), "White bandits" (белые бандиты), "commissar" or "political commissar" or "Party representative" (комиссар), "instructor" or "political instructor" (политрук), "Katyusha" or "rocket gun" (катюша), etc. The Russian source words in the economic field are: "Gosplan" State Planning Commission (госплан), "five-year plan" (пятилетка), "collectivization" (коллективизация), "cooperation" (кооперация), "tractor" (трактор), "Labor Day" or "workpoints" (трудодень), "private plot" (личный участок), "kolkhoz" or "Collective Farm" (колхоз), "sovkhoz" or "State Farm" (совхоз), "model worker" (герой труда), "advanced" (передовик), "activists" (активист), "stankhanov workers" (стахановец), and so on.

#### *C. Russian Source Words Applied in the Field of Life*

They mainly include: "subdistrict office" or "street communities" (контора квартального комитета), "block" (квартальный участок or квартал), "Blagi" (платье), "vodka" (водка), "kvass" (Квас), "ukleba" (хлеб), "Samovar" or "Tea" (самовар), and so on. The Russian source words in the field of law mainly include: "reform through labour" (трудоустройство), "reeducation through labour" (трудоустройство), "reformatory school" or "Working and Studying Group" (трудоустройство), and so on.

Today in the 21st century, these Russian source words have become an important part of modern Chinese. They have also become the basic word category of Chinese, such as "Marxism-Leninism", "Young Pioneers", "Labor Model", "Advanced", "reform through labor", "reeducation through labor", "Satellite", "subdistrict office", etc. and still maintain a very strong vitality. People often use these Russian common words in their work, but few of them realize that these words are Russian source words, so they have been fully integrated into Chinese culture and language, reflecting strong integration and value.

### III. RUSSIAN SOURCE WORDS INCREASE THE RUSSIAN SOURCE MORPHEMES IN CHINESE

Chinese is composed of different morphemes, and foreign words are not imagined by people. Instead, they are "recreated" based on the existing foreign words by using Chinese language materials. This is very similar to the creation of Chinese intrinsic words. The morphemes of foreign words are "taken" from foreign languages, and have been transformed into a special source of morphemes for Chinese words. After some foreign words have a foothold in Chinese, they are not completely static in the form of exogenous words, as whole words or some components of the word, and participate in the new Chinese word-making activities as morphemes. This is the exogenous morphemes in Chinese. The morphemes in Chinese corresponding to this

can be called "inherent morphemes". In the Chinese and Russian language contact, Russian source words bring some Russian morphemes to Chinese. Moreover, these morphemes actively participate in word formation in modern Chinese, and become positive energy-type morphemes, which form much new vocabulary in Chinese.

#### *A. The Monosyllabic Non-word Russian Source Morpheme Part*

The single syllable of the Russian source word participates in the new word creation activity in Chinese as a monosyllabic non-word Russian morpheme. The monosyllabic non-word Russian morphemes in Chinese mainly include "bu", "su" and "su". "Bu" is originated from the Russian source word "Bolshevik" (большевик), as a monosyllabic non-speech Russian source morpheme in Chinese, and derived "bu party", "Russian communist party", "Sulian communist party", "Buli" (Refers to the Bolshevik salute), "old bu" (referring to the old Bolsheviks), "big bu" (referring to the Bolsheviks or the proletariat, corresponding to "small bu", which refers to the small Bourgeois, namely the petty bourgeoisie), and so on. "Su" is derived from the Russian source word "Soviet" (совет). In Chinese, it is a monosyllabic non-word Russian morpheme, and it derived new words such as "Soviet Russia", "soviet area", "the Soviet Union", "province Su" (referring to the province Soviet), "city Soviet", "county Su", "district Su", "Su currency" or "Su ticket" (referring to money in the Soviet area). "Su" is derived from the Russian sources word "the Soviet Union" (Советский Союз). In Chinese, it is a monosyllabic non-word Russian morpheme, and it derived new words such as "Imitate Su", "Su style", "Study in su", "Chinese-Soviet", "the Soviet Communist Party, the "Soviet Army", and the "Joint Communist Party".

#### *B. The Polysyllabic Simple Type Word Russian Source Morpheme*

Some Russian source words, with the whole word as the polyphonic syllable word Russian source morpheme, participate in new word creation activities in Chinese. The polysyllabic simple type word Russian source morphemes in Chinese mainly include "Bolshevik", "lieba", "gaz" and so on. After the introduction of Russian word "Bolshevik" (большевик) in Chinese, it actively participates in Chinese word creation with the whole word as a multisyllable simple type word Russian source morpheme, and derives a number of new words, such as "Bolshevism", "Bolshevist", "Bolshevism", "Bolshevik Party", "Bolsheviz", "anti-Bolshevik", "anti-Bolshevik group" (namely "AB group"), "non-Bolshevik", "female Bolshevik", "old Bolshevik", "Little Bolshevik", "Bolshevik outside the party", "Bolshevik style" and so on. The Russian source word "lieba" (хлеб) has become a well-known word in the border port cities of Heilongjiang Province. As a two-syllable simple type word Russian source morpheme, it derived many new words in Heilongjiang dialect as a whole word, such as "Black Lieba", "white Lieba", "salt Lieba", "Sweet Leba", "big lieba", "middle Lieba", "Small Lieba", "Jam Lieba" and so on. There are even very interesting Russian-Chinese hybrid words "Lieba bread" and "Lieba loaf". The Russian word

"gaz" (газ) (refers to the gas) is also a very positive word in Heilongjiang region. As a two-syllable simple type word Russian morpheme, it derived many new words in Northeast dialect as a whole word, such as "gaz cans", "gaz guns", "gaz fee", "gaz meter", "gaz tube" and so on. In addition, in the 1950s and 1960s, the Soviet Union-made "gaz" brand car was popular in the Chinese automobile manufacturing industry and the Chinese automobile market for many years. Therefore, the Russian source word "gaz" has also entered the Chinese standard language, and derived some new words as a two-syllable simple type word Russian source morpheme, such as "big gaz", "Little gaz", "gaz Car" and so on.

### *C. The Polyphonic Syllable Synthetic Word Russian Source Morpheme*

Some Russian source words, participate in the new word creation activities in Chinese with the whole word as the polysyllabic synthetic word Russian source morpheme. The polyphonic syllables synthetic word Russian source morphemes in Chinese include "Soviet", "eliminating illiteracy", "wall newspaper", "work points", "labor model", "reform through labor", "reeducation through labor" and so on. After the introduction of Russian word "Soviet" (Советский Союз) to Chinese, it actively participated in the word creation as a two-syllable synthetic word Russian source morpheme, and derived new words such as "Soviet people", "Soviet union hot", "de-Sovietization" "the former Soviet Union", "Sovietism", "pro-Soviet", and "anti-Soviet". After the Russian source word "eliminating illiteracy" (ликвидация безграмотности) was introduced into Chinese, it actively participated in the words creation or words combination by using the whole word as a two-syllable synthetic word Russian morpheme, and derived a large number of new words, such as "literacy classes", "literacy team" and so on. After the Russian source word "wall newspaper" (стенгазета) was introduced into Chinese, it participate in word formation by using the whole word as a two-syllable synthetic word Russian morpheme, bringing us a set of new words: "wall newspaper column", "wall newspaper draft", "wall newspaper exhibition", "wall newspaper board" and so on. After the introduction of Russian source word "workpoints" (трудодень) into Chinese, the whole word was used as a two-syllable synthetic word Russian morpheme to actively participate in the words creation in Chinese, and derived a large number of new words, such as "the workpoints system", "workpints notebook", "workpoints book", "workpoints volume" and so on. Since the introduction of the Russian source word "model worker" (герой труда) into Chinese, the whole word was used as a two-syllable synthetic word Russian morpheme to actively participate in the words creation in modern Chinese, and derived a large number of new words: "old model worker", "small model worker", "laid-off model worker" and so on. After the Russian word "reform through labor" (трудовое перевоспитание) was introduced into Chinese, the whole word was used as a two-syllable synthetic word Russian morpheme to actively participate in word creation in modern Chinese, and it derived a large number of new words, such as "offender under labor reform",

"female offender under labor reform", "labor reform prisoners", "labor reform criminals", "labor reform personnel", "labor reform old fox" and so on. Among the Russian source words, there are many words developed into Russian source morpheme in Chinese, and most of them have strong ability to form words, which fully demonstrates that the influence of Russian source words on Chinese vocabulary system is extremely profound. Their influence has been deeply rooted in the bottom or core layer of the Chinese vocabulary system, because "morpheme is the lowest unit of language, which is the smallest combination of sound and meaning as well as the most stable language component, and all language use is combined, derived, and operated based on it."

## IV. CONCLUSION

In summary, the fact that the Chinese and Russian vocabulary contact in the border port cities of Heilongjiang Province from the perspective of sociolinguistics indicates that the influence of Russian source words on the Chinese vocabulary system is extremely profound, and they have affected the bottom or core of the Chinese vocabulary system layer, which not only expands the Chinese vocabulary and adds a large number of Russian cultural words, but also adds some Russian source morphemes.

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