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MORPHOPHONOLOGICAL ADAPTATION OF SOME ENGLISH LOAN WORDS INTO HAUSA

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Abstract

Apart from communication, language encompasses all fields of human endeavor and their expression to both material and intellectual culture found in a language community at given stages of social development. Language becomes an index which reflects various aspects of different contacts and developments. As a result of wide spread contacts with other languages, language vocabulary is characterized by a greater capacity to assimilate social changes and to capture them through the available processes of lexical augmentation. The aim of this paper is to demonstrate and examine some changes of the morphological and phonological adaptation observed in some English loaned words into Hausa. The study used content analysis of qualitative methodology of translating and adapting foreign Hausa lexicon.

Keywords: Adaptation, Translation, Loaning, Phonology, morphology, Lexicon.

Introduction

Languages all over the world never exist in isolation; there must be social interaction between individual, between groups and society in general, it values interchange. It made trade and spread of religion easier, and during the colonial period, it made colonialism possible and it helps in spreading imperialism today, so also the total support of society's educational standard, industrial development of groups, nations and the universe as an entity.

It is due to migration of people to unknown areas and locations, and meeting people who were not apt in the language of a particular area, made communication very difficult, but with time, they were able to understand each other. This is not surprising as Hausa people had contact with the Arabs as early as the 12th century, while the contact between Hausa people and colonial imperialism started in late 19th century. Yakasai (1993: 30) stated that:

> Hausa land was part and parcel of the British colonial rule up to 1960… colonization brought about contact between English and Hausa languages. The contact meant the importation of new ideas and concepts… the ideas could

> also be concrete or abstracts, those vocabularies relating to science, technology, government, industry, business etc. have to co-opt with the language of the colonized people.

The contact signifies that certain concept from a foreign language can be borrowed to suit the Hausa language, with some modifications i.e. phonology or morphology or both could be selected to some translated text. The modified term could be the adapted loaned or borrowed words.

Morphology is the study of word formation and structure. It studies how words are put together from their smaller parts and the rules governing this process. The elements that are combining to form words are called morphemes. A morpheme is the smallest unit of meaning you can have in a language. According to Prasad (2014: 48) morphology is: "the study of form. It is the identification, analysis and description of the structure of words". It is one of the branches of linguistics that refers to the studies of word formation or word structure. It is a process by which words are formed from morphemes in languages. The process includes: (a) affixation; (b) compounding; and (c) modification that comprises several other morphological process such as: suppletion, vowel change, tone modification, subtraction, conversion, clipping, hypocorism, blends et cetera. Morphemes such as 'happy', 'regard' and 'boy' can stand as independent words; such morphemes are called free morphemes Salami, Osoba and Fakoya *(2002)*. On the other hand, morphemes like un-, dis-, -ed, -hood, etc. cannot stand on their own as independent words, they are always attached to a free morpheme or a free form. Such morphemes are called 'bound' morphemes. Musa (2014: 9).Morpheme such as 'kasuwa' (market) and 'karatu' (reading) can stands as independent words; such morphemes are called free morphemes. On the other hand, morphemes like ɗan-, -ci, ma-, -i, -u, -ka, etc. cannot stand on their own as independent words; they are always attached to a free morpheme or a free form. Such morphemes are called 'bound' morphemes. That is to say morpheme is a smallest unit of word that carries information about meaning or function Grady, Archibald and Katamba (2011: 117). For example in1a./bankii/, b. /fankaa/, c. /canjii/, d. /bookiti/, e. /kootu/, f. /koofii/ et cetera for a. bank, b. fan, c. change, d. bocket, e. court, and f. cup are morphologically influenced. The morphemes/affix/–ii/ in 'bankii, /-ka/ in 'fankaa', /-ii/ in 'canjii', /-i/ in 'bookiti', /-u/ in 'kootu', /-ii/ in 'koofii' are derivational in adapting the words into Hausa lexicon.

Phonology is the study of the sound pattern of language. It is concerned with how sounds are organized in a language. Phonology examines what occurs to speech sounds when they are combined to form a word and how these speech sounds interact with each other. It endeavors to explain what these phonological processes are in terms of formal rules. Phonological recognition or naturalization as one appropriate method of creating or generating terms in Hausa, some English terms which are non-native have been accommodated in the language. What this entice is the pronunciation of such terms in Hausa, just the way the Hausa person can permit him to pronounce the new incoming foreign lexicon. Eke and Ugoji (1999:28) cited saying that: "names of objects that have been with us since independence do not need to be translated by other methods than by process of phonological adaptation". This assertion is also applicable to Hausa translation. Such names include:

2a. /gwamnaa/ *for* governor
b. /kwamishinaa/ *for* commissioner
c. /kansilaa/ *for* councilor
d. /direeba/ *for* driver
e. /mootaa/ *for* motor

Lexicography this is the science and art of dictionary making. It covers all the disciplines which study lexical system such as semantics, lexicology, grammar, stylistics and translation. Whenever languages are used, taught and learned, lexicography plays a crucial role. Zgusta in Shastri (2012:77) write that: "in lexicography, translation is an invaluable tool; similarly, lexicography also acts as a tool for translation. Both are mutually interdependent".

Translation deals with conveying message written in one language to another language. It is common trait to find in the cause of translation certain words that can easily be substituted from English to Hausa. While choose to use borrowed terminologies from Arabic and adapted them to suit Hausa, also the contact signify that certain concept from English language can be borrowed to suit the Hausa language, with some modifications i.e. phonology or morphology or both could be selected to some translated text. The modified terms could be the adapted loaned words. Hausa have two ways for translating English terminologies, those that are new to Hausa lexicon i.e. (i) creation of words and (ii) borrowing of the word. For the creation of words: Hausa uses instances or sentence to translate new English lexicons. For examples:

3a. Socialism – mulkin 'yangurguzu
b. Capitalism – mulkin 'yanjarihujja
c. United Nation – Majalisarɗinkinduniya
d. Campaign – yaƙinnemanzaɓe
e. Teargas – barkonontsohuwa
f. Carpet hover – na'urarsharardarduma
g. Carbohydrate – sa-kuzari, et cetera.

The expression here, are from Hausa instances created and adapted for the translation of these English terminologies. If this way could not be sufficient, then the other way could be applied which is borrowing of the word completely with modification that could fit Hausa pronunciation.

Loaning is one among the techniques of translation which is an act of borrowing from source language (SL) to target language (TL). A special type of borrowing is described as loaning in translation. Loaning is the lifting of words from one language into another with or without phonological and morphological modification. Eke and Ugoji (1999: 4), assert that, "loaning entails the use words that are originally words of the language of the operation". The absent of stated materials/items in target language (Hausa) was the major reason of the loaning or borrowing in the process of translation, with some morphological or phonological changes. For example: the word propaganda borrowed and adapted with phonological changes as 'farfaganda' in Hausa. Sani (2011: 92) stated that:

> Borrowing is basically classified into two broad groups: (i) loanwords and (ii) loan shifts. The former term refers to the phonemic replication of the foreign

> model while the letter refers to the creation of morphemic substitution. Both processes suggest innovation, and when such innovations become accepted, they then become an addition to the vocabulary. The transfer of a foreign phonetic form with its meaning, total or partial, contrasts with purely semantic transfer. The transfer involving both the phonetics and the semantics levels is procedurally homogeneous' whereas those borrowing that involve transfer of meaning and substitution of the native lexical item for the foreign terms are, in contrast, characterized by procedural heterogeneity. This results from the absence of a phonemic element which can facilitate the determination of absolute identity and recoverability.

In line with this, the translator has to borrow words from the source language when the equivalent term is not available in the target language. Also Shastri (2012:79) opined that: "It is important for a translator to ethnologise the borrowed technical terms in such a way that they are culturally acceptable to the target language community". The following are some examples of this strategy, where English words have been naturalized into Hausa:

4a. /reediyoo/	for	radio
b. /ministaa/	"	minister
c. /gwamnaa/	"	governor
d. /ruula/	"	ruler
e. /wayaa/	"	wire

From examples (4a) to (4e) we noticed a complete adaption of all the lexical items as they are in the source language.It is only in example (4c) that alternation of fricative labiodental sound /v/ to nasal/stop bilabial [m] is noticed.Also vowel alternation at final syllable whereby mid back rounded /o/ substituted to low central unrounded [a] is noticed.

Adaptation is when all the procedures have been exploited without the translator being able to arrive at an acceptable translation due to differences in culture, the last resort is perhaps adaptation (Dike 2012:27). In English Hausa translation, when translator not arrive at an acceptable translation because of the differences in culture and environment of Hausa and English or long use of English terminologies for instance those that are in use right from Nigerian colonial era, apply direct borrowing and adaptation of English words with some phonological or morphological modifications that can fit the Hausa sound system. For examples:

5.	a. gwamnati	for	government
	b. gwamnaa	"	governor
	c. ministaa	"	minister
	d. sanataa	"	senator
	e. kaansilaa	"	councillor
	f. kwamishinaa	"	commissioner
	g. kamashoo	"	commission
	h. daaraktaa	"	director

Morphophonological Adaptation of English Loan Words into Hausa

Morphophonology is a branch of linguistics that concern with the rules or alternations intermediate between morphology and phonology. It is also called morphophonemic by most of American linguists. It focuses on sound changes that take place in morphemes when they combine to form words (Matthews (2007). Consonantal alternations as well as vowel alternations have been observed in some adapted English loan words into Hausa as follows:

i.	**/p/**	→	**[f]**
6. a.	pencil		fensirii
b.	primary		furamaree
c.	professor		farfesaa
d.	diploma		difulooma
e.	computer		kwamfyutaa
f.	pepper-soap		farfeesu
g.	spare		safaya
h.	cup		koofii

Example 6a to hshow the alternations of /p/ to [f], wherethe bilabial plosivesound /p/ changes to bilabialfricative sound [f] at word initial position,word medial position as well as word final position in the process of adaptation of English loan words into Hausa respectively.

ii	**/v/**	→	**[m]**
7. a.	government		gwamnati
b.	governor		gwamnaa

Example 7a and b shows the alternation of /v/ to [b],where the labiodental fricative sound /v/ changes to bilabial nasal sound [m] at word medial position before mid central vowel /e/ and after the mid back vowel /o/ in the process of adaptation of English loan words into Hausa.

iii.	**/v/**	→	**[b]**
8. a.	driver		direeba
b.	private		faraabiti

Example 8a and b shows the alternation of /v/ to [b], where the labiodental fricative sound /v/ changes to bilabial stop sound [b] at word medial position before the low central vowel /a/, and after a high front vowel /i/ in the process of adaptation of English loan words into Hausa.

iv.	**/k/**	→	**[ky]**
9. a.	chemist		kyamis
b.	Michel		maakyal

Example 9a and b shows the alternation of /k/ as in chemist and Michel to [ky], where velar sound /k/ changes to palatalized velar [ky] at word initial and final position before and after the mid central vowel /e/ in the process of adaptation of English loan words into Hausa.

v.	**/d/**	→	**[t]**
10. a.	card		kaati

Example 10a shows the alternation of /d/ to [t], where alveolar stop sound/d/ become alveolar plosivesound [t] at word final position before the long low central vowel /aa] in the process of adaptation of English loan words into Hausa.

vi. /d/ ⟶ [k]

11. a. salad — salak

Example 11a shows the alternation of /d/ to [k], where the alveolar sound /d/ changes to velar sound [k] at word final position before the short low central vowel /a/ in the process of adaptation of English loan word into Hausa.

vii. /a/ ⟶ [e]

12. a. radio — reediyo
b. generator — janareeto
c. agent — ejan

Example 12a, b and c shows the alternation of /a/ to [e], where the low central vowel /a/ changes to mid front vowel [e] at word initial syllable and word medial syllable before /d/, /t/ and /g/ sounds in the process of adaptation of English loan word into Hausa.

viii. /o/ ⟶ [a]

13. a. governor — gwamnaa
b. commission — kamashoo
c. director — daraktaa
d. councilor — kansilaa
e. senator — sanataa
f. professor — farfeesa

Example 13a, b, c, d, e and f shows the alternation of /o/ to [a], where the mid back vowel /o/ changes to low central vowel [a] at word initial syllable and word medial syllable before /v/, /m/ and /f/ sounds in the process of adaptation of English loan word into Hausa.

ix. /e/ ⟶ [a]

14. a. senator — sanataa
b. director — darakta
c. agent — ejan
d. cholera — kwalara
e. generator — janareeto

Example 14a, b, c and e shows the alternation of /e/ to [a], where mid front vowel /e/ changes to low central vowel [a] before the /n/, /k/ and /r/ sounds in the process of adaptation of English loan word into Hausa.

x. /i/ ⟶ [a]

15. a. director — darekta
b. silencer — salansa
c. private — farabiti

Example 15a, b and c shows the alternation of /i/ to [a], where high front vowel /i/ changes to low central vowel [a] before /r/, /l/ and /b/ sounds in the process of adaptation of English loan word into Hausa.

xi. /i/ ⟶ [e]

16. a. Driver direeba

Example 16a shows the alternation of /i/ to [e], where the high front vowel /i/ changes to mid front vowel [e] before /v/ sound in the process of adaptation of English loan word into Hausa.

xii. /e/ ⟶ [i]

17. a. engine injii
b. steering sitiyarii
c. degree digirii
d. cement simintii
e. bucket bookiti

Example 17a, b, c, d, and e shows the alternation of /e/ to [i], where the mid front vowel /e/ changes to high front vowel /i/ before /n/, /r/, /g/, /m/ and /t/ sounds in the process of adaptation of English loan word into Hausa.

vii. /a/ ⟶ [i]

18. a. barrack baariki

Example 18a shows the alternation of /a/ to [i], where the low central vowel /a/ changes to high front vowel /i/ before /k/ sound in the process of adaptation of English loan word into Hausa.

Vowel Insertion: This is the process of adding a vowel (an affix) to the borrowed English terminology in order to be transform into Hausa grammatical expression.
Table below shows vowel insertion of English loan words into Hausa.

Example 19	**English word**	**Hausa adaptation**
a	court	Kootu
b	barrack	Baariki
c	recruit	Kurtu
d	brake	Birkii
e	bank	Bankii
f	change	Canjii
g	cement	simintii
h	college	kwaleejii
i	fan	fanka
j	Cup	koofii

Example 19a and c shows the insertion of short high back vowel /u/ word finally, exampleb shows the insertion of short high front vowel /i/ word finally, examplei shows the insertion of a morphemes /ka/ word finally, whileind, e, f, g, h, and j shows the insertion of long high front

vowel /ii/ word finally in the process of adaptation of English loan word into Hausa respectively.

Conclusion

It is pretty clear in this presentation that Hausa has borrowed words substantially from English and refurbishes such terms into what Hausa community can pronounce, which contribute in the enrichment of Hausa lexicon. Hausa English translation gets the root right from the contact of British colonial rule from 1900 to date. The contacts revealed the information of new ideas and concepts which scholars described as concrete of vocabulary development relating to: government, security, education, science, technology, computer, home materials, food, cloth, business and other affairs. Hausa translators enriches Hausa lexicon from loaning and adapting with some phonological and morphological constructions to their target language (Hausa). The process has been termed as Hausanization (adaptation). These are among the reasons why Hausa language becoming popular worldwide, because it is an open door language that all the new ideas and development brought by civilization the language (Hausa) is accommodating.

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