



SEMANTIC CLASSIFICATION OF THE NOMENCLATURE OF TRADE OBJECTS, PROPERTY, AND CAPITAL IN DARI COMMERCIAL TERMINOLOGY

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A B S T R A C T	KEY WORDS
This article explores the semantic classification of lexical units related to trade and commercial activities in the Dari language, specifically the names of trade objects, property, and capital. The “Commercial Law” of Afghanistan (Qânun-e tejârat) was selected as the research object, where the units are systematized according to their nominative-functional roles. Descriptive methods, component analysis, and lexical-semantic field analysis were employed during the research. The results indicate that the concepts of property and capital in Dari commercial lexis form a broad socio-legal system encompassing not only physical items but also intangible assets. The study concludes that the commercial terminology of the Dari language is a legally stable and logically structured terminological system.	Dari language, commercial terminology, trade objects, property, capital, semantic classification, Qânun-e tejârat, terminological system.

INTRODUCTION

In studying the vocabulary of any field, particularly lexical units related to trade and commercial activity, their classification into specific thematic groups constitutes a necessary methodological stage. The lexicon of trade is structurally complex: it does not consist solely of verbs denoting the acts of selling or purchasing, but includes various units naming persons, organizations, property, goods, capital, transactions, settlements, and legal consequences. The text of the Dari “قانون تجارت” (Qânun-e tejârat) represents a specialized legal-economic source with a high density of terminology; the units contained in it function not in isolation, but within an integrated commercial-legal system.

Economic terminology and its semantic fields have been extensively studied in world and Uzbek linguistics. While E.T. Shirinova examined banking and financial terminology by classifying it into thematic groups, E.A. Timchishena analyzed the semantic field of verbs of buying and selling in modern Chinese [3, 20; 2, 51]. N.M. Karpukhina emphasizes the interaction between extralinguistic factors and the internal resources of language in the formation of the terminology of commodity-money circulation [3, 63]. From a historical perspective, M. Kholmuradova identified nearly 50 trade-related terms in the lexicon of Qutadgʻu bilig, including names of goods, money, and accounting

operations [5, 14]. However, the systematic semantic classification of names denoting trade objects, property, and capital in modern Dari commercial terminology has not yet been fully examined as a separate object of research.

The aim of the present study is to semantically classify one of the central components of the Dari trade lexicon – namely, the names of trade objects, property, and capital – on the basis of the text of “قانون تجارت”. To achieve this aim, the following tasks are set:

- to establish the criteria for identifying the relevant lexical units;
- to systematize lexemes denoting trade objects and items of commerce;
- to determine the legal-semantic distinctions between types of property and forms of capital;
- to elucidate the place of intangible assets in commercial terminology.

This classification serves as an important theoretical and practical basis for revealing the economic-legal landscape of the Dari commercial lexicon.

LITERATURE REVIEW AND METHODOLOGY

The theory of the lexical-semantic field (LSF) occupies a central place in the study of economic terminology and trade lexicon as one of its constituent components. An LSF is a set of words united around a particular central concept or theme and sharing a common meaning or association [6, 122]. Scholars such as Timchishena have demonstrated, on the basis of modern Chinese, the hierarchical structure of the LSF and the organization of its units through nucleus–periphery relations [2, 7; 2, 20]. In Uzbek linguistics, E.T. Shirinova, while studying banking and financial terminology, classified field-specific units into such thematic groups as “the financial system,” “banking,” “securities,” “accounting,” and “insurance” [3, 48; 47]. In her view, a terminological system is characterized by systematic organization, continuous enrichment, and the presence of interrelated paradigmatic relations such as synonymy, antonymy, and hyponymy [3, 19–21].

Analyzing the terminology of commodity-money circulation, N.M. Karpukhina emphasizes that “extralinguistic factors” – that is, economic and political changes in society – interact with the internal resources of language in the formation of economic terms [4, 27]. From a historical perspective, M. Kholmuradova systematized 32 semantic groups in the lexicon of *Qutadg‘u bilig*, including trade-related terms such as *tawar* “goods/property,” *satïy* “trade,” *sart* “merchant,” and *yarmaq* “money” [5, 45].

Sh. Iskandarova and other scholars note that the classification of lexical units into semantic fields is based on a common unifying “archiseme” [9, 21]. Belyakova, in turn, has shown that the professional orientation of economic texts is determined by their terminological density, which provides a methodological basis for the study of specialized legal-economic sources [9, 48].

The methodological foundation of the present study is formed by the principles of the systemic-functional analysis of language units. The research materials were extracted from the text of Afghanistan’s “قانون تجارت” (*Qânun-e tejârat* Commercial Code) by means of purposive sampling. In this process, the *Qânun-e tejârat* was used as the primary corpus, while dictionaries served as auxiliary lexicographic sources.

The following methods were employed in the course of the study:

1. Descriptive method: used to elucidate the linguistic and legal characteristics of the names of trade objects and property in Dari [2, 6; 5, 216].

2. Componential analysis: applied to identify the integral and differential senses in the semantic structure of terms and to classify them into subgroups [2, 5, 11; 5, 26].
3. Lexical-semantic (field-based) analysis: used to systematize the names of trade objects, property, and capital within a single LSF [2, 20].
4. Quantitative (statistical) analysis: applied to determine the proportion and degree of usage of particular thematic groups in the legal text [5, 21].

Five main criteria were established for identifying the terms:

the direct or indirect relation of the unit to commercial activity;

the unit's performance of a nominative function in the text by naming a specific subject, object, transaction, or form of capital;

the functional-legal role of the unit in the text, for example, *qabūlī* "acceptance";

the status of the unit as an independent lexeme or a terminological phrase, including *izafet* constructions such as *amvāl-e manqūl* "movable property";

the distinction between occasional usage and a stable professional-terminological unit.

On the basis of these criteria, the Dari trade lexicon was initially divided into seven major thematic groups. This article provides a detailed semantic classification of the second of these groups the names of trade objects, property, and capital.

RESULTS

As a result of the analysis of Afghanistan's "قانون تجارت" (*Qānun-e tejārat*), the names of trade objects, property, and capital in Dari were classified as an integrated system into four main subgroups.

The first subgroup includes material objects that constitute the direct subject matter of commercial relations. The central units in this group are جنس (*jens* - goods/commodity) and امته (*amte'a* - goods/merchandise). The term *jens* usually denotes a particular type of commodity, whereas *amte'a* refers to goods or merchandise in the plural sense. In addition, such phrases as محصولات ارضیه (*mahsūlāt-e arziya* - agricultural products/land products) and محصولات حیوانیه (*mahsūlāt-e haywāniya* - animal/livestock products), which denote agricultural and livestock products, also constitute an important part of this subgroup.

In Dari commercial terminology, names of property are differentiated according to their legal status. The most frequently used oppositional pair consists of اموال منقول (*amvāl-e manqūl* - movable property) and اموال غیر منقول (*amvāl-e ġayr-e manqūl* - immovable property). The results of the study show that *amvāl-e manqūl* serves as one of the principal objects of commercial transactions, including sale, lease, and transportation. Terms expressing the legal-functional aspects of property, such as منافع (*manāfe'* - benefits/usufructuary interests) and حق استعمال (*haqq-e este'māl* - right of use), also belong to this subgroup.

Within the system of units naming the economic basis of commercial companies, سرمایه (*sarmāya* - capital) occupies a central position. In the legal text, capital is divided according to its form into سرمایه نقدی (*sarmāya-ye naqdī* - cash/monetary capital) and سرمایه غیر نقدی (*sarmāya-ye ġayr-e naqdī* - non-cash/property capital). In the terminology of joint-stock companies, سهم (*sahm* - share/stock) and its plural form اسهام (*as'hām* - shares/stocks) are actively used both as names of a portion of capital and as designations of legal documents.

The study also shows that the layer of terms denoting intangible values is stable in the Dari commercial lexicon. These include the following:

عنوان تجارت (onvân-e tejârat - trade name/commercial name): the legal identification of an entity;
 مارک تجارتی (mârk-e tejâratî - trademark): a means of distinguishing goods;
 اعتبار تجارتی (e'tebâr-e tejâratî - commercial reputation/creditworthiness): the reliable position of an entity in the market;
 حق اختراع (haqq-e extirâ' — patent right/right of invention): the legal expression of intellectual property.

Overall, alongside single-word terms, izafet-based terminological phrases, for example اموال منقول مادی (amvâl-e manqûl-e mâddî - tangible movable property), were found to be highly active among the analyzed units. This confirms that the Dari trade lexicon constitutes a legally stabilized terminological system.

DISCUSSION

The results of the study show that the names of trade objects, property, and capital in Dari are not merely lexical units, but conceptual foundations that reflect Afghanistan's economic and legal system. These results confirm N.M. Karpukhina's view that extralinguistic factors, namely legislation and market relations, play a decisive role in the formation of economic terminology [4, 27].

It was determined that the groups *sarmâya* "capital" and *amvâl* "property," identified in the present study, constitute the nuclear part of the Dari commercial lexicon. This finding fully corresponds to E.A. Timchishena's theory of the hierarchical structure of the semantic field and nucleus-periphery relations [2, 7, 20]. For example, while the units *jens* "commodity" and *amte'a* "goods/merchandise" form the nucleus, more narrowly specialized terms such as *mahsûlât-e arziya* "agricultural/land products" belong to the periphery.

The recognition of such units as *haqq-e extirâ'* "patent/right of invention" and *mârk-e tejâratî* "trademark" as capital within the layer of *amvâl-e manqûl-e ġayr-e mâddî* "intangible movable property" in Dari is of considerable scholarly significance. This represents a distinctive conceptual manifestation in Dari of the group of "intangible assets" identified by E.T. Shirinova in Uzbek banking and financial terminology [3, 28]. The present study shows that, in the Dari commercial lexicon, the concept of "property" extends beyond the limits of physical objects and rises to the level of legal-economic rights.

The stability of such units as *jens*, *mâl*, and *sarmâya*, identified through the analysis, complements M. Kholmuradova's conclusions concerning terms such as *tawar* and *satîy* in *Qutadg'u bilig* [5, 35]. In other words, while the trade lexicon has preserved its fundamental terminological base over the centuries, it has also continued to develop through concepts associated with modern economic relations, for example *sahm* "share/stock."

The study found that Dari commercial terms frequently occur in the form of izafet constructions, for example *sarmâya-ye ġayr-e naqdî* "non-cash/property capital." This phenomenon can be explained by the professional orientation and terminological density of economic texts, as noted by Belyakova. The predominance of constructions with specifying components over single-word terms indicates the strength of differential semes in Dari commercial terminology, which in turn serves to ensure semantic precision in legal texts.

The present study is primarily limited to the text of the Commercial Code. In future research, it would be appropriate to examine the stylistic variation of these terms in Dari economic discourse, particularly in the lexicon of newspapers and journals. In addition, a comparative-typological study of the names

of trade objects in Dari and Uzbek would help determine the degree of terminological correspondence between the two languages.

The semantic classification of the names of trade objects, property, and capital has demonstrated that the Dari commercial system constitutes a complex linguistic layer that is legally stabilized and characterized by internal logical coherence.

CONCLUSION

The results of the study conducted on the basis of Afghanistan's "قانون تجارت" (*Qânun-e tejârat*) show that the names of trade objects, property, and capital in Dari possess a stable linguistic system and an internal logical-legal interconnection. The analysis of the semantic nature and functional features of this lexical layer made it possible to arrive at the following scholarly conclusions.

It was established that, according to their nominative-functional role, the names of trade objects, property, and capital in Dari commercial terminology are divided into four main groups: goods and objects of commerce; types of property; capital and shares; and intangible assets. This confirms that the Dari commercial lexicon is a thematically stratified and legally stabilized system.

The study showed that, in the Dari trade lexicon, the concept of "property" (*mâl/amvâl*) extends beyond its traditional material meaning and reaches the level of legal-economic value. This is confirmed by the recognition of such units as *haqq-e extirâ* "patent/right of invention" and *mârk-e tejâratî* "trademark" as capital within the layer of *amvâl-e manqûl-e ġayr-e mâddî* "intangible movable property."

It was determined that izafet-based terminological constructions, for example *sarmâya-ye ġayr-e naqdî* "non-cash/property capital" and *amvâl-e manqûl-e mâddî* "tangible movable property," are among the most productive means of term formation in Dari commercial terminology. Such constructions serve to express the differential features of a concept precisely and to ensure semantic clarity, or monosemy, in legal texts.

Alongside the preservation of fundamental terms such as *jens*, *tawar*, and *sarmâya*, associated with the ancient Turkic lexical stratum, the stabilization of new concepts such as *sahm* "share/stock" and *e'tebâr-e tejâratî* "commercial credit/creditworthiness" has also been observed in the Dari trade lexicon as a result of the requirements of the modern market economy.

In conclusion, the semantic classification developed in this study is of significant importance for revealing the economic-legal landscape of Dari commercial terminology. The results may be used in the future as a theoretical and practical basis for compiling Dari–Uzbek and Uzbek–Dari economic dictionaries, as well as for conducting comparative research on terminological correspondence between the two languages.

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