

## FOREWORD

The Tatar lexicography has rich traditions which have been carefully preserved, studied and developed in academic circles. New educational aids, reference books, academic works are published, applying new technologies and opportunities provided by Internet resources. They are intended to satisfy the growing needs of communication in the Tatar language. Great attention is given to the description of lexical system, thesaurus and morphology of Modern Tatar, with a focus on compiling monolingual and bilingual Tatar-foreign language dictionaries.

The *Tatar-English, English-Tatar Dictionary* is one of the newest and most original academic editions of bilingual dictionaries. It was developed at the Lexicography Department of G.Ibragimov Institute of Language, Literature and Art, Tatarstan Academy of Sciences by Dr. Aynur Akhatovich Timerkhanov and Associate Professor Gulshat Rafailevna Safiullina. The author of the software for converting the vocabulary from Cyrillic into Latin script is Dr. Mansur Rifkatovich Saykhunov.

The value of the Dictionary is defined by the factors that have contributed to its creation. To start with, it is the fact that the Republic of Tatarstan has widely promoted international projects in the spheres of politics, sci-

ence, education, culture, business, economics and sports. International business cooperation and tourism contribute to the creation of multilingual environment on the territory of the Republic of Tatarstan where along with greater prestige of Tatar the preference is given to English as the language of a global community with its enormous audience of speakers and learners. English provides immense opportunities for exchange of ideas and experience all around the world. Nowadays, a good command of English is essential for every educated person. This fact along with many other activities inspires the creation of bilingual lexicographic aids.

On the one hand, Tatar-English bidirectional dictionaries reflect the current state of the two languages, their interaction, and development. On the other hand, they also introduce cultures and mentality, describe contemporary realities of everyday life which contribute to effective communication and mutual understanding between peoples at the international level.

Furthermore, compiling such dictionaries is also essential for translation purposes as through translation into English and some other widely spoken languages of the world, it is possible to more widely and actively promote our rich spiritual and cultural

heritage, introducing it to other peoples of the world. In that way, we are also able to oppose the globalization process that threatens the world with destroying the beautiful rainbow which is made from the many colors of cultural diversity where each people have their unique shade.

Moreover, the Dictionary serves a good communication and rich information resource for those fellow citizens and their heirs who had to leave their native soil in different times due to ideological or other reasons.

The *Tatar-English, English-Tatar Dictionary* is the result of prolific and scrupulous work of its authors, with much experience as lexicographers and instructors of Modern English language in Universities. Its purpose is to give a more accurate reflection of the basic lexical and phraseological stock of both Tatar and English languages. The vocabulary is carefully selected and translated with more emphasis on the lexemes reflecting the spiritual and cultural values of the peoples who speak these languages. The Dictionary includes approximately 25,000 words and word combinations, about 2,000 idioms and phraseological units.

One of the assets of the Dictionary is that its bidirectional bilingual corpus is presented both in Cyrillic and Latin-based Tatar alphabets in separate books. It will be especially useful for Tatar native speakers living overseas who are not familiar with the Cyrillic script.

The lexical and phraseological basis of the Dictionary is the “Tatar-Russian-English School Dictionary” (Kazan, 2014) and the “English-Tatar Dictionary” (Kazan, 2014). The lex-

emes were also selected on the principles of wide usage, along with frequently used terms, ethnic lexis, word combinations, sayings, proverbs, and loan words adopted by the Tatar language. As a result, the authors have managed to enrich the list of the dictionary entries described.

The Dictionary is built accordingly to the principles of Modern Tatar and English orthography, orthoepy, and dictionary making. Still, the authors have found it necessary to introduce some changes as for the orthography of Tatar words.

The English corpus is based on the British version of the English language, meanwhile many Americanisms are also registered and marked with *Am*.

The stress mark in Tatar words is given in cases when it is not regular, i.e. it does not fall on the last syllable. The stress mark in the English entry is given in phonetic transcription.

The Tatar verb is presented in the form of the infinitive with the suffix *-yrga / -erge* that corresponds to the English infinitive in meaning and usage. Tatar verbs, especially the compounds, are often translated into English with the help of phrasal verbs to differentiate the meaning.

In most cases, the English verb is given with the particle *to*. Conversion, i.e. the use of a word in more than one part of speech, is widely present in both parts of the Dictionary.

The frequently used word combinations are given at the end of the dictionary entries after the square (□) symbol.

Non-equivalent words are translated descriptively or with the explana-

tion given in italics in parentheses. In some cases, there were also used the Latin transliteration of the words denoting the Tatar cultural artifacts.

The authors did their best to present the context of usage and illustrate the meaning of the majority of dictionary entries with examples.

Sayings and proverbs are given in the Dictionary according to the first component alphabetical order and are accompanied by their equivalents or descriptive translations.

All grammar, stylistic and other notes are given in italics according to the list of accepted abbreviations. The List of Abbreviations can be found in the introductory part.

The version of the Dictionary in Latin script is based on the Tatar Latin alphabet approved by the Law of the Republic of Tatarstan “On the use of the Tatar language as the state language of the Republic of Tatarstan” (January 12, 2013, No. 1–LRT). There is a separate chart with the Tatar Cyrillic-to-Tatar Latin transliteration scheme accepted in the Dictionary.

The Dictionary is intended for a wide range of readers. It can serve as a useful practical aid to people who learn Tatar or English or wish to improve their language skills or develop further their knowledge of national cultures under the guidance of an instructor or on their own. It will be also

helpful to teachers and students as well as to people who use the languages for professional purposes including linguists, translators, interpreters, journalists.

The Tatars living overseas and everybody interested in the Tatar language and culture will also find in the Dictionary the necessary information.

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The authors of the Dictionary would be grateful to correspondents for calling attention to occasional misprints and errors, and for suggestions on possible additions. These suggestions will be carefully considered and acted on where we feel in agreement with them.

All remarks and suggestions are welcome and are to be sent to:

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