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ABSTRACT

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Applicant: **Arif Sedreddin Kazimov**

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Scientific supervisor: Doctor of Philological Sciences, professor
Buludkhan Aziz Khalilov

Official opponents: Doctor of Philological Sciences, professor

Doctor of Philological Sciences, professor

Doctor of Philosophy, assoc. prof.

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Chairman of the Dissertation council:

Corresponding member of ANAS
Abulfaz Aman Guliyev

Scientific secretary of the Dissertation council:

Doctor of Philosophy, assoc. prof.
Iman Zeynalabdin Jafarov

Chairman of the scientific seminar:

Doctor of Philological Sciences, professor
Akif Kazim Imanov

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Nakhchivan State University campus, Nakhchivan city, Azerbaijan Republic
AZ 7012

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INTRODUCTION

The actuality and the current state of research on the topic. The scope of Azerbaijani folk riddles, their linguistic capacity, figuratively speaking, is reminiscent of a magnificent museum. However, the exhibits of this museum are not items protected under special protection, but the living spoken language of our people, common vocabulary, obsolete words and expressions, borrowed words belonging to different languages, dialectal local words and so on. From this point of view, riddles play the role valuable and literary source in terms of studying the history of the language of our people, the laws of its development.

Although there is a lot of research work on the scientific and philological study of riddles in the works of A. Alimov¹, N. Lavonen², K. Meredov³, F. Nadrshina⁴, V. Mitrofanova⁵ and others in world linguistics, as well as Turkology, most of them are related to literary criticism. Only the Kazakh scientist I. Adambayeva's research work on this topic more or less touched upon the linguistic features of the riddles⁶.

¹ Алимов, А. Каракалпакские народные сказки: / Автореферат диссертации кандидата филологических наук / — Нукус, 1979 — 30 с.

² Лавонен, Н.А. Карельская народная загадка / Н.А. Лавонен. — Ленинград: Наука, — 1977.— 135 с.

³ Мередов, К. Тема труда в туркменском народном творчестве: / Автореферат диссертации кандидата филологических наук / — Ашхабад, 1973 — 15 с.

⁴ Надршина, Ф.А. Афористические жанры башкирского фольклора (пословицы, загадки): / Автореферат диссертации кандидата филологических наук / — Уфа, 1971 — 42 с.

⁵ Митрофанова, В.В. Современное состояние русских народных загадок. / В.В. Митрофанова. — Москва: Наука, — 1990.— 326 с.

⁶ Адамбаева, Ж.Д. Литературно-стилистические и языковые особенности казахских загадок: / Автореферат диссертации кандидата филологических наук / Алма-Ата 1996. — с. 25.

G. Akhundova⁷ wrote a monograph on the lexical and syntactic features of Azerbaijani riddles in our linguistics, and E. Aliyeva⁸ wrote a doctoral dissertation on the linguistic analysis of riddles in Azerbaijani and English. In these works, the linguistic features of Azerbaijani riddles were studied, but the phonetic and stylistic aspects of our riddles were left out.

It is known that phonetic and stylistic research serves to reveal specific speech phenomena manifested in the phonetic, lexical and grammatical layers of the language and on this basis to determine the limits of expression in all spheres of language. From this point of view, there is a great need for a systematic study of the linguistic features of Azerbaijani riddles.

Systematic study of the linguistic features of our riddles is of special importance for the Azerbaijani language and linguistics. Linguistically, the study of Azerbaijani riddles covers a number of sections of linguistics, so it is useful to study it, to fully establish the linguistic connections, to determine the regularities of literary language, the essence of norms, and even the boundaries.

There are some stages in the history of the language and the people that for various reasons could not be reflected in written sources. However, such information does not disappear without a trace in the darkness of history, some of them live in the minds of the people, in the examples of folklore, as well as in the language of our riddles. Riddles also have extensive linguistic facts in terms of tracking the development of phonetic, lexical, grammatical and other levels of our language. Linguistic analysis of riddles is very important for the study and discovery of these linguistic facts.

The aim and the objectives of the research. The main purpose is to determine the changes that have taken place in the language of Azerbaijani folk riddles at different times, as well as the dynamics of development of our riddles. To achieve this goal, the following tasks are envisaged:

- to present a general linguistic typology of riddles;

⁷ Axundova, G. İ. Azərbaycan xalq tapmacalarının leksik və sintaktik xüsusiyyətləri. / G.İ Axundova – Bakı: Elm və təhsil, - 2014. - 191s.

⁸ Əliyeva, E. Azərbaycan və ingilis dillərində tapmacaların liqvisitik təhlili: / filologiya üzrə fəlsəfə doktoru dissertasiyası. — Naxçıvan, 2011.— 144 s.

- to present the description phonetic, lexical-semantic, stylistic of riddles;

- systematize the materials of the studied language taking into account the linguistic and conceptual specifics of the riddles

The main purpose and task of the research is to identify similarities and differences of modern literary language with linguistic units existing in the language of Azerbaijani folk riddles that were collected and compiled in different periods by studying its phonetic, lexical and grammatical features, as well as to determine the comparative parallelism with other Turkic languages

The methods of the research. Descriptive and historical-comparative method was used in writing the dissertation.

The main provisions demonstrated for the defense:

1. to use phonological-acoustic and linguistic approach in research by investigating each of the riddles which belong to different historical times.

2. To identify the main factors that contribute to the formation of changing directions of sounds (sound matchings);

3. to analyze and make generalizations by classifying riddles by word groups according to the scope of development.

The scientific novelty of the research. The parallelism of different phonetic phenomena, archaisms, which belong to main features of the phonetic and lexical system of Azerbaijani folk riddles and various innovative approaches are among the scientific innovations of the research.

In the phonetics of our riddles, such events can be explained, on the one hand, by the preservation of Praturkic and ancient Turkic features, and, on the other hand, by the change of primary or root forms of language, the parallel development of language units of different ethnic groups involved in the formation of the nation.

Some tendencies have emerged in the phonetics of Azerbaijani riddles as a result of the long-term interaction of the sound systems of different languages. What has been said about this in the research can also be considered a novelty due to its primacy. The modern Azerbaijani language has historically been formed as a result of the merging of three main dialects (south, west, north-east).

The theoretical and practical importance of the research. The issues raised in the research, along with riddles, can be applied in the study of other examples of folklore, in determining their phonetic (at the level of phonetic events), lexical-semantic, stylistic features. These aspects show the theoretical significance of the research.

The results of the research can be used by a wide range of readers, students of philological faculties of universities. It can also be used in textbooks and teaching aids for high and secondary schools.

The dissertation is important in terms of studying the linguistic features of words developed in the language of Azerbaijani folk riddles. The work also provides valuable material that helps to further improve the historical dialectology and historical grammar of our language, the development of etymological and local dictionaries, as well as the solution of some controversial problems in linguistics.

The approbation and application of the research. The dissertation was written in 2016-2018. The topic of the dissertation was approved by the Scientific Council of the Azerbaijan State Pedagogical University on October 26, 2016, and also registered in the Scientific Council on Philological Problems (February 17, 2016). The work was carried out at the department of "Azerbaijani language and its teaching methods" of the Azerbaijan State Pedagogical University. The results of the research are reflected in the dissertation's 2 published materials and 10 articles published in separate collections. The dissertation was presented at the IX International Scientific Conference on "Actual Problems of Azerbaijan Studies" held at Baku Slavic University (3-4 May 2018).

The name of the organization where the dissertation has been accomplished. The dissertation was completed at the Department of Azerbaijani Language and its Teaching Methods of the Azerbaijan State Pedagogical University of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The volume of each structural part of the dissertation and the general volume with characters. The dissertation consists of the introduction, three chapters, the conclusion, reference list. The introduction consists of 4 pages, the first chapter is 53 pages, the second chapter is 75

pages, the third chapter is 33 pages, the conclusion is 3 pages, and the reference list is 12 pages. The dissertation consists of a total of 184 pages and 221,938 characters.

THE BASIC CONTENT OF THE WORK

The **introductory** part of the dissertation substantiates the relevance of the topic, the degree of development, defines the goals and objectives, research methods, defense provisions, scientific novelty, theoretical and practical significance of the research, approbation and application of the research, the name of the organization where the dissertation is performed, information on the volume of the structural units of the dissertation separately and the total volume of the dissertation.

Chapter I is entitled "**Phonetic features of Azerbaijani riddles (on the level of phonetic events)**". This chapter consists of three sections. In each of them, individual issues of the problem are filtered from a scientific point of view. The first section, entitled "1.1. Phonetic features observed in the substitution of vowels in the language of Azerbaijani riddles", discusses the issues of substitution of different types of vowels. In this section, the following opinion of the Turkologist AM Sherbak is given: "*Unlike Indo-European languages, all vowels in Turkish languages are interchangeable*"⁹. The attitude of F. Jalilov, one of the Azerbaijani linguists, to this idea is also reflected here"¹⁰. Of course, it is impossible to agree with this approximate opinion of A.M. Sherbak, because it is impossible to replace all vowels in the Azerbaijani language, each vowel has its own characteristics. The first section groups the possible vowel transitions (substitutions) in our national riddles, which reflect the living spoken language, and the direction of those transitions. Also, typological self-justifying vowel substitutions in riddles are grouped as follows:

1. Replacement of open vowels with closed vowels in the

⁹Щербак, А.М. Сравнительная фонетика тюркских языков / А.М.Щербак. – Ленинград: Наука,– 1970. – с. 17.

¹⁰Cəlilov, F. Azərbaycan dilinin morfonologiyası / F.Cəlilov.— Bakı: Maarif, — 1988.— s. 53.

- language of Azerbaijani riddles;
2. Replacement of closed vowels with open vowels;
 3. Replacement of thick vowels with thin vowels;
 4. Replacement of thin vowels with thick vowels;
 5. Replacing non-lip sounds with lip sounds.

In the paragraph “1.1.1 Phonemic replacement of open vowels with closed vowels in the language of Azerbaijani riddles” (a > ı; ı > i; a > i; ə > i; ə > ü; o > u; o > ı) when talking about the phonetic features of the replacement of open vowels with closed vowels, the reasons for the formation of vowel substitutions are given, as well as examples of riddles for each . At the same time, the comparison of vowel substitutions in Azerbaijani with other Turkic languages is reflected. The manifestation of these vowel substitutions in the oral and written eternal examples of our language has been interpreted on the basis of concrete artistic materials. On the other hand, in the words belonging to dialects of the Azerbaijani language, the development of these vowel substitutions was also touched upon. To substantiate our opinion, let's pay attention to the examples of replacing open vowels with closed vowels in the language of our national riddles:

a>ı substitution: In the language of our riddles, the substitution of the sound “a” for the sound “ı” is often pronounced, mainly in the middle and at the end of words. Substitution occurs when words ending in a vowel are followed by suffixes beginning with the sound “y”.

Thus, under the influence of the “y” sound, the open vowel (a) is replaced by the closed vowel (ı). Examples of riddles suitable for this substitution:

Palıd ağacının parası,
İçinin taraşı,
Onu *tanımıyan*
Şeytan balası (saz)
Beş-beş anası,
Beş-beş balası,

Onu *tapbıyan*
Çəpəl balası (fingers)

Bizim evdə bir kişi var, balalarını başına yığıb zırhazır *ağlıyır* (samovar)¹¹

It is known that many phonetic features of medieval Azerbaijani dialects are reflected in written monuments. Interestingly, some phonetic features of the Azerbaijani dialects are more seen in medieval poetry. This is due, on the one hand, to the demands of weight and rhyme, and, on the other hand, to the use of dialectal forms.

The replacement of the vowel “a” with the vowel “ı” is also found in the works of İ. Nəsimi. For example:

Qismət Nəsimi *olmiyacaq* yarə kim erer,
Zəval irmiyə bu dil mülkinə,
Rəfiq *olmiyacaq* şeytanə mən¹².

We can see traces of the replacement of the sound “a” with the sound “ı” in other Turkish languages as well.

Thus, in the first syllable of the word in the Azerbaijani language, the sound “a” corresponds to the sound “ı” in the Yakut, Tuva and Chuvash languages.

For example, in the Tuvan language *tırt*, *çıt*, “*yat*”, *xırın* “*qarın*”, *kilin* “*qalın*”, in the Yakut language *sıt* “*yat*”, *ıy* “*ay*”, *ıl* “*al*”, in the Chuvash language *pıl* “*bal*”, *tımar* “*dammār*” etc¹³.

The phenomenon of replacing the sound “a” with the sound “ı” is often found in the pronunciation of the southern, north-eastern and western dialects of the Azerbaijani language.

In the paragraph "1.2 Phonetic events observed in the substitution of consonant sounds in the language of Azerbaijani

¹¹ Xuluflu, V. Tapmacalar / V.Xuluflu.— Bakı: Azərbaycanı öyrənən cəmiyyətin nəşriyyatı, — 1928.— s.26; 35

¹² Nəsimi,İ. Seçilmiş əsərləri / İ.Nəsimi.— Bakı: Azərnəşr, — 1968.— s. 537

¹³ Şirəliyev, M. Azərbaycan dialektologiyasının əsasları / M.Şirəliyev.— Bakı: Azərtədrisnəşr,— 1968.— s. 50

riddles" of the first chapter the phonetic specific features observed in the substitution of consonant sounds in the language of our riddles are investigated. It should be noted that the consonant sound substitutions found in the language of our riddles do not differ much from modern literary languages and dialects in terms of quantity and quality.

It is known that in the modern Azerbaijani language, all clinking consonants are deafened in a certain phono tactic positions. Only sonor consonants are left out of this event. In the language of Azerbaijani riddles, the phenomenon of deafness, which manifests itself at the beginning, middle and end of a word, operates at the level of phonetic law. In the language of Azerbaijani riddles, these substitutions cover these directions: b>p; v>f; z>s; ç>c; k>k'; q>k; ğ>k.

It should be noted that the source of the phenomenon of deafness in the Azerbaijani language belongs to the Praturk period. F. Jalilov's opinion on this deserves attention: "*Grammatically, the sign of some deaf consonants in the ancient Turkish runic alphabet is derived from the corresponding clinking consonant sign*¹⁴. In our opinion, this indicates that the sign of the process of deafness has existed since the creation of the alphabet.

While deafness before the word manifests itself in all Turkic languages, as in the language of Azerbaijani riddles, deafness at the beginning of the word acts as a distinguishing feature of Turkic languages. Deafness at the beginning of the word has left its mark on the Azerbaijani language in its written sources, including the language of riddles.

The second section of Chapter I consists of two sub-sections. The subsection "1.2.3. The phenomena of narrowing and contraction" examines the phenomena of narrowing and contraction in the language of our riddles. It should not be considered accidental that we present the above-mentioned events under one section. Because in the language of Azerbaijani riddles, the phenomenon of

¹⁴ Cəlilov, F. Azərbaycan dilinin morfonologiyası / F.Cəlilov.— Bakı: Maarif, — 1988.— s. 53.

evolution occurs precisely with the elimination of the narrowing phase in vowels. In contrast to the contraction in the subsection, the groove is involved in a more extensive analysis, and the complete and incomplete types are studied on the basis of riddle examples.

The section "1.2.4.. Phonetic events and laws in the Azerbaijani language" of the chapter examines the phonetic features manifested in the language of Azerbaijani riddles. As we know, the phonetic phenomena inherent in colloquial language (cohesion, prosthesis, elezia, dissimilation, metathesis) are more common in the language of our riddles. In the subsections, each phonetic event and their types are studied in detail on the basis of examples of riddles.

From what has been said in Chapter I, it can be concluded that the language of Azerbaijani riddles is of a mixed type, where elements of both the dialect and the vernacular are preserved. Therefore, in connection with the specifics of functional language, the existence of multifaceted and rich phonetic phenomena and regularities in our riddles, which are the product of the vernacular, is at an optimal and productive level.

The second chapter of the research is called "**Lexical-semantic features of Azerbaijani riddles**". This chapter consists of five subsections. The first subsection "2.1 Borrowings used in the language of Azerbaijani folk riddles" examines the lexical derivations in the language of our riddles. It deals with lexical acquisitions that have entered the modern Azerbaijani language, including our riddles, at different times and on the basis of different relationships. It should be noted that the borrowed words entered our language in two ways: the source language (directly) or through other languages (indirectly).

In the sub-paragraph "Derivations of Arabic origin used in the language of riddles" describes the phonetic changes of derivations of Arabic origin having a special weight in the Azerbaijani language and which differ from the point of development, etymological essence, the original version. It is known that this was due to the adoption of Islam in Azerbaijan, the recitation of the Qur'an only in Arabic, and finally the focus on science and culture based on Islam, and the hegemonic position of the Arabic language. As a result, the

interaction between the Arabic and Azerbaijani languages has strengthened. The second line of influence of the Arabic language was through the Persian language. The semi-paragraph examines the lexical-semantic features of about 20 words of Arabic origin, which are most often used in the language of our national riddles.

The semi-paragraph "Lexical derivations of Persian origin used in the language of riddles" touches on the specifics of the development of words of Persian origin. The sub-paragraph also addresses the controversial views in our linguistics regarding the history of the use of Persian words in our language. Because, according to researchers dealing with the problems of Persian origin in the Azerbaijani language, the foundation of the Persian language in the Caucasus was laid directly in the XII - XIV centuries, i.e. after the Arabic language gradually lost its prestige. Thus, starting from the XIII-XIV centuries, both in Central Asia and the Caucasus, the Arabic language was suppressed and replaced by Persian. At the same time, the Persian language, on the one hand, influenced other languages, on the other hand, allowed the spread of Arabic words. In addition to commenting on these considerations, the semi-paragraph provides a comparative analysis of the development of about 30 words of Persian origin in the language of our riddles. In the other half-paragraphs of the chapter, the issues of the use of words belonging to other nations in the language of our riddles are touched upon.

As Turkologist F. Agasioglu said , *“the dictionary of the language always keeps its door open for the words of the neighboring people. However, only words that are needed can pass through this open door”*¹⁵.

Lexical acquisitions can be grouped differently in our language according to the scope and area of distribution. The analysis of the lexical-semantic meaning, etymological nuances of the derived words used in the examples of riddles and the points of their development in the dialects of the Azerbaijani language helps to

¹⁵ Ağasıoğlu, F. Azər xalqı (seçmə yazılar) / F.Ağasıoğlu. — II nəşr. — Bakı: Ağrıdağ, — 2014. — s. 217.

reveal a wide range of linguistic facts.

The section "2.1.1 obsolete (archaic) words developed in the language of riddles" of the chapter examines the specific features of the scope of development of archaic words. It is known that archaic words form an important part of the lexicon of Azerbaijani riddles. Some of the archaic words in the language of riddles were first used in Azerbaijani written monuments, and then became archaic for our literary language. Some of these words still remain in the examples of folklore, including the language of our riddles. In our opinion, the use of a certain word in written monuments indicates the antiquity of that word, and the fact that it is used in the language of our riddles indicates that this word has historically belonged to the Azerbaijani language. In this subsection, archaic words were selected based on examples of riddles, points of development, lexical-semantic layers in the language of ancient Turkish dictionaries and written monuments were studied.

The paragraph of the chapter "2.1.2. Dialect words developed in the language of riddles" deals with dialect words developed in the language of Azerbaijani riddles. It should be noted that the Azerbaijani spoken language consists of a system of dialects. Azerbaijani riddles based on a simple colloquial language have a number of features that differ from the literary language formed on the basis of the national language in terms of both phonetics and vocabulary. It is these features that are less pronounced in writing and more pronounced. Akhundov's point of view is like this: "... *each language is based on a specific dialect according to its pronunciation rules. The definition of a dialect that has such an important social function depends more on the role of the dialect in social, economic, political and cultural life than on linguistic conditions*"¹⁶.

From this point of view, the dialects and dialect words that are relevant to the interpretation and explanation of the language of our riddles have been purposefully selected in this section, and the

¹⁶ Axundov, A. Azərbaycan dilinin fonetikasi / A.Axundov. — Bakı: Maarif, — 1984.— s. 15-16.

specifics of their meanings have been specially studied.

For example:

Mırıq – dişsiz, dişi tökülmüş.

O nədi ki, əyri ayaq, çəpbel qulaq

Dodağı mırıq, ağzı cırıq (dovşan)¹⁷.

The word "mirig" is used in different meanings in Azerbaijani dialects. 1. Scar (Gazakh, Tovuz, Shamkir); 2. Toothless (Ganja) - Yazığın dodağı bərk yaralanmış, mırıq olajax. (Gazakh.)¹⁸.

Probably, the word " mırıq" was once related to the word "yirtig". It is now used in connection with the fall and decay of the front teeth, moving away from the previous meaning. In the riddle, the appearance of a rabbit is exaggerated.

It should be noted that in the example, the phrase " dodağı mırıq" is incorrect. Probably the idea of " dişləri mırıq" has been distorted due to the carelessness of the collector or speaker.

In the subsection the development of about 30 dialects and dialect words has been investigated based on examples of Azerbaijani riddles.

The fourth paragraph of the chapter is entitled "2.1.3. Imitative words developed in the language of riddles". Earlier in Turkology it was thought that imitation words, unlike parts of speech, are a lexical-grammatical category with no phonetic, morphological and semantic-syntactic features. However, like many other authors, M. Adilov in his work "Imitative words in the Azerbaijani language" denied this opinion: "... *the idea that these words are an independent part of speech has already been established in Turkology and does not cause any objections*"¹⁹.

In the dissertation, sound imitation, descriptive and figurative

¹⁷ Seyidov, N. Tapmacalar / N.Seyidov.— Bakı: Şərq-Qərb,— 2004.— s. 77

¹⁸ Azərbaycan dilinin dialektoloji lüğəti (A-Z) / — Bakı: Şərq-Qərb, — 2007.— s. 356.

¹⁹ Adilov, M. Azərbaycan dilində təqlidi sözlər / M.Adilov. — Bakı: ADU, — 1979.— s. 65.

words, which are only an important part of imitation words in the language of Azerbaijani riddles, are studied on the basis of artistic examples.

The study discusses the important components of imitation words.

The language of riddles has a number of differences, with a wide range of imitation words. It should be noted that, unlike words formed by sound imitation, figurative words rarely form verbs. This is because both auxiliary verbs and lexical suffixes that make up a verb, as a rule, cannot join figurative words. Because figurative words, as a rule, form phraseological combinations with the verbs they combine.

İşim-ışım ışıldar,
İlan kimi xışıldar,
İlan deyil yarpaqdı
*Yatdığı yer torpaqdı (kələm)*²⁰.

The expressions used in the example, "*ışım-ışım ışıldamaq*" are figurative word imitations.

In contrast to figurative word imitations, descriptive imitations reflect the instantaneousness of events, in other words, the fact that they occur in a short period of time:

Taxçadan düşdü, tap elədi,
*Gülsənəm onu hap elədi (rats and cats)*²¹

From this example of the riddle, it is clear that as soon as the mouse fell out of the nest, the cat suddenly "swallowed" ("*hap elədi*"), which happened in a short time.

The subsection examines in detail the forms of sound imitation developed in the language of riddles.

"2.1.4. In the language of riddles, the section "Manifestation of" hidden "(implicit) speech" refers to the "hidden" (implied) speech about the daily life of ancient people, labor processes, natural phenomena surrounding it, as well as material means. This paragraph also reflects the allusive speech used in the same sense in our

²⁰ Seyidov, N. Tapmacalar / N.Seyidov. — Bakı: Şərq-Qərb, — 2004.— s. 34

²¹ Tapmacalar / — Bakı: Şərq-Qərb, — 2004.— s. 77

national riddles, as well as in other Turkish folk riddles.

The third chapter of the research is called "**Stylistic features of Azerbaijani riddles**". This chapter consists of three sections and fourteen sub-sections. The first paragraph "3.1 Manifestation of the imagery of Azerbaijani riddles at the phonetic level" discusses the features of the manifestation of the imagery of Azerbaijani riddles at the phonetic level. It should be noted that although the lexical and syntactic features of the riddles were studied by G. Akhundova, the phonetic-stylistic possibilities of our riddles were not studied²².

This section is also organically related to the research work carried out in the field of literary criticism.

The manifestation of figurativeness at the phonetic level in the language of our riddles mainly covers the following means of expression; assonance, alliteration, lexical-morphological repetitions, etc.

One of the means of phonetic-stylistic expression is assonance.

"3.1.1. The section "Assonance" shows two important aspects of assonance in linguistic literature, which has a special place among the poetic categories: repetition of the same vowel, or succession of vowels of the same sex (law of harmony).

Assonance, which has a poetic and stylistic quality, has given the language of our riddles a special freshness, delicate taste, rhythm, as well as elements of harmonious melody because the language of our riddles is characterized as more the language of poetic poetry. In this sense, the language of our riddles, as a characteristic feature of phonetic imagery, plays the role of the most optimal object of research for assonance.

As noted by M. Huseynov, *"the system of rhythmic shades of assonance and alliteration is an important factor in the wonder of poetic language. Rhythmic sound charm is one of the main sources of beauty of form and content, as well as giving aesthetic beauty to*

²² Ахундова, Г. И. Лексические и синтаксические особенности азербайджанские народные загадки / Г.И.Ахундова. — Баку: Elm və təhsil, — 2014.— с. 195

the structural structure of the text of the poem (here - A.K.)”²³. From this point of view, both important aspects of assonance in the language of Azerbaijani riddles attract attention.

For example:

Üçü bizə yağdı,
Üçü cənnət bağdı.
Üçü yağar gətirər,
Üçü vurub dağıdar (ilin fəsiləri, 12 ay)²⁴

In the example, the repetition of the same vowel "ü" 4 times at the beginning of the word, 5 times inside the word strengthened the poetic language of the riddle, brought fluidity and meekness to the meaning. Russian folklorist V.V. Mitrofanova once assessed the role of assonance in the riddle as follows: *“Sometimes a riddle has such repetitions that the inner meaning of the word is clarified through that repetition”*²⁵.

The section "3.1.2. Alliteration" of the research explores the stylistic possibilities and shades of meaning of alliteration. Here we talk about the means of creating rhythm in the language of our riddles. It is clear that the main purpose of the riddles is to test the logical thinking and intellect of the person ahead. In this regard, it is enough to list the important features of any being. Our puzzles are characterized not only by the measurement of intellectual level, but also by the style of figurative expression. According to the examples, it can be said that the word structure of Azerbaijani riddles is accompanied by a strong alliteration. Thus, harmony in riddles is created both by the formal similarity of the parts obtained from the internal division, and by alliteration. Alliteration is the direct cause of harmony in the internal division.

One of the factors that form the basis for the formation of harmony in our riddles with prose is the similarity of the first sounds

²³ Hüseynov, M. Dil və poeziya / M.Hüseynov. – Bakı: Elm, – 2008.– s. 17

²⁴ Təpəcilər / – Bakı: Şərq-Qərb, – 2007.– s. 43

²⁵ Митрофанова, В. Современные состояния русских народных загадок / В.Митрофанова. – Москва: Наука,– 1990.– . 23

in the internal division of the verse. For example: *Qara qul//qapılar gəzər. Qara köpək//qapıda yatar. Çəpər üstə//çal xoruz etc.*

In this type of puzzle, alliteration manifests itself more in parallel constructions. This section analyzes the rich and colorful forms of alliteration in riddles. These forms are important not only in terms of imagery, but also play a special role in preventing serious changes in the text, to transfer it to the future in its original form.

The third section of the chapter is called "3.1.3. Lexical-morphological repetitions". It deals with lexical-morphological repetitions, which is one of the phonetic-stylistic categories. Note that repetition is specific to all layers of language, from all phonetic levels to syntax. Therefore, in linguistics, repetition has a characteristic feature as a general linguistic phenomenon. In the language of riddles, repetition is manifested with special activity. In this regard, some researchers have considered repetition as a leading feature of riddles as a stylistic figure.

In our opinion, Lexical-morphological repetitions in constructions like *isim-ışım işildamaq, par-par parıldamaq, zar-zar zarıldamaq* not only give the language intensity and expressiveness, but also create an alliterative rhythm.

The importance and role of lexical-morphological repetitions in the language of our riddles are described in detail in the subsection. The paragraphs "3.2. Manifestation of imagery at the lexical level of Azerbaijani riddles" and "3.3. Manifestation of imagery at the grammatical level in riddles" discuss the stylistic features of Azerbaijani riddles that have a lexical-grammatical essence.

"3.2.1. Phraseological units" section examines the richness of phraseological units observed in the language of our national riddles. Basically, in our riddles in the form of poems, we often come across the development of phraseological units within the verse. The paragraph gives more examples of this style of riddle:

*Qutu qutu içində
Qutu İsfahan içində,
İsfahana bir od düşdü,
Biz də onun içində (Mirror)*

“3.2.3. The paragraph “Analogy” examines the working points of metaphors, one of the most widely used types of metaphors in the language of Azerbaijani riddles. Thus, in the language of our riddles, allusions differ not only in number and intensity, but also in semantics and poetic character. In the language of our riddles, the source of allusions is based directly on a comparative description of man and nature. From this point of view, the paragraph contains examples of metaphors that reflect the comparison of nature with man or man with nature.

“3.2.4. The paragraph "Metaphor" deals with the essence of the stylistic shades of metaphors, which attract attention with their diversity and have a specific style. Because most riddles consist of thought-provoking questions in the form of metaphors. To find the answer to a riddle, we must first uncover the intended metaphorical idea. The simplest types of metaphors have emerged in the language of Azerbaijani riddles on the basis of complete external similarity. The section discusses metaphors such as stylistic figures based on riddle examples.

The main conclusions according to the content of the dissertation are the following:

1. The language of Azerbaijani riddles has a complex structure, where elements of both the dialect and the vernacular are preserved. However, due to the specifics of functional language, specific lexical and syntactic layers also play an important role in riddles. At the same time, our riddles are rich in various phonetic phenomena. Some of these events (deafness, lip balm, thinning, etc.) cause a change in quality, while others (noise, sound) result in a change in quantity.

2. The reason for the occurrence of phonetic events in the language of our riddles is also different, only the existence of trends such as the principle of saving (discharge, solidification, replacement, etc.) allows the emergence of a number of phonetic events.

3. Most of the phonetic phenomena existing in the language of Azerbaijani riddles, in turn, cover phonetic phenomena that contradict each other, for example: adaptation-differentiation, compaction-thickening, thickening-thinning, etc. Observations show

that in the language of our riddles, some phonetic phenomena are more common and some less common.

4. The observation of the phenomenon of labialization and delabialization at the end of a word in the language of riddles is historically connected with the fact that the phonetic composition of suffixes has a phonological meaning and a number of external factors.

5. The language of Azerbaijani riddles is of mixed type; elements of both dialect and colloquial language are preserved in them. There are words in the language of our riddles that either do not exist in the literary language, or create lexical-synonyms with the words in the literary language, or are used in new shades of meaning different from the words in the literary language.

6. One of the main features of our riddles is their widespread use of metaphorical expression. Although metaphor, one of the various means of figurative representation of reality, is used in other forms of Azerbaijani folklore, it prevails in riddles. Riddles consist mainly of thought-provoking questions in the form of metaphors.

7. A certain part of the lexical layer of Azerbaijani riddles consists of toponyms and anthroponyms, the use of which is also due to rhythmic structure, rhyme, alliteration, etc.

8. One of the peculiarities of Azerbaijani riddles is that if in the literary language this or that thing is called by a certain word, its separate parts do not have a special name, in riddles, on the contrary, there is the name of the smallest part of that thing and there are words expressing their meaning.

9. The syntactic structure of Azerbaijani folk riddles is characterized by its closeness to the norms of the vernacular, as well. Riddles usually consist of simple and complex sentences, but there are also incomplete sentences with missing components. The most characteristic feature of riddle syntax is elimination.

10. Phonetic phenomena and regularities and stylistic nuances developed in the language of riddles are closely related to other layers of language, including phonosemantics and morphology.

11. There are many elliptical constructions that serve to make the riddles concrete, laconic, expressive.

12. Different types of syntactic repetitions are typical for Azerbaijani riddles, which gives them additional emotional, expressive and stylistic shades. Puzzles use a wide range of non-specific sentences (standard expressions, phrases), the frequent occurrence of which is due to genre features.

13. Although the main purpose of the riddle is to test intelligence, their language is also characterized by figurative expression. The figurative expression of riddles stems from a long-standing general creative trend.

14. The study of riddles on a linguistic basis proves once again that they are a very reliable source for our linguistic history.

The following works of the author were published in connection with the dissertation.

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ABSTRACT

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Applicant: **Arif Sedreddin Kazimov**

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