**ABSTRACT**

**of the dissertation submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the specialty «6D021000 – Foreign Philology» by Srailova Akmaral Berdalievna**

**on the topic «Communicative-pragmatic aspect of prosodic features in the poetic discourse (based on the materials of modern English and Kazakh poetry)»**

**The relevance of the research topic.** In modern domestic linguistics, research aimed at a comprehensive study of the cognitive, communicative and pragmatic aspects of discourse is actively developing, scientific principles and research methodologies are being formed. Functional and semantic features of language means of different levels, communicative types and pragmatic goals of speech, speech acts are of scientific interest within the framework of discourse theory. However, poetic discourse is characterized by its insufficient study.

The topic of the research is closely connected with the strategic documents aimed at the modernization of the educational space of Kazakhstan and the integration of domestic science into the international arena. In particular, Section 4 of the «Kazakhstan – 2050» Strategy emphasizes that «Knowledge and professional skills are key landmarks of the modern education, training and retraining system», this principle is directly related to the main direction of our research. Since the study of communicative and pragmatic aspects of the prosodic features of poetic discourse contributes to the development of language competence, the improvement of speech culture, as well as the introduction of new scientific findings into the higher education system. Furthermore, the Concept for the Development of Higher Education and Science for 2023–2029, approved by the Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 248 of March 28, 2023, identifies as strategic objectives the integration of domestic science into the global academic space, the improvement of research quality, and the enhancement of the competitiveness of the higher education system. In this regard, a communicative-pragmatic investigation of the prosodic features of poetic discourse based on English and Kazakh poetry determines a new scientific direction in modern linguistics and will contribute to the development of domestic science at the international level.

Overall, a comparative study of the poetic discourse of the unrelated English and Kazakh languages within the framework of intercultural communication is of great importance for identifying the features of national poetic thinking and linguistic representation. The theoretical basis for the study of poetic discourse requires integrative modeling at the intersection of pragmalinguistics, suprasegmental phonetics, and poetic pragmatics. This also makes it possible to describe the pragmatic structure and pragmatic features of poetic discourse. The interaction of prosodic devices in poetic discourse paves the way for a deeper understanding of the artistic, communicative, and pragmatic functions of discourse. It is evident that the study of the prosodic features of poetic discourse in English and Kazakh allows for a more detailed disclosure of its practical dimension. It is well known that the prosodic aspects of poetic discourse, through suprasegmental units such as intonation, pause, tempo, timbre, and rhythm, enhance the expressiveness and pragmatic effect of the content. The use of modern digital technologies to determine the communicative and pragmatic functions of the above-mentioned prosodic means ensures the achievement of objective scientific results. The above factors define **the relevance of the research topic**.

**The object of the research** is the prosody of modern poetic discourse.

**The subject of the research** is the prosodic features of poetic discourse in the English and Kazakh languages.

**The aim of the research** is to study the structural and substantive nature of poetic discourse and the communicative-pragmatic aspect of its prosodic features in the modern English and Kazakh languages.

**Research objectives**:

This study aims to:

- identify the major directions in the linguistic exploration of poetic discourse, as well as its defining features and characteristics, through a critical review of existing research;

- examine the pragmalinguistic dimensions of poetic discourse, with particular attention to their realization in illocutionary speech acts and presuppositions;

- substantiate the role of paralinguistic communicative functions and the application of prosodic devices in shaping poetic discourse;

- analyze the pragmatic functions of hesitations, emotional pauses, and vocalized pauses that emerge in poetic discourse in correlation with the emotional nature of the speaker;

- model the phonetic-phonological and prosodic transcriptions of samples from contemporary English and Kazakh poetic discourse;

- provide a comprehensive account of the prosodic structures, linguistic and stylistic features, as well as national and cultural specificities of poetic discourse in English and Kazakh, thereby identifying both commonalities and differences in its structural-semantic and communicative-pragmatic dimensions.

**The theoretical and methodological background** of the research is based on the scientific results of the following works:

- general theory discourse: M. Foucault, T. van Dijk, N. Fairclough, D. Shiffrin, E. Benveniste, Yu. Habermas; V. I. Karasik, N. D. Arutyunova, Ts. Todorov, M. M. Bakhtin, M. Makarov; D. Alkebaeva, G. N. Smagulova, K. K. Sadirova, Sh. A. Nurmysheva, G. K. Kenjetaeva, T. O. Yesembekov, B. A. Akhatova, N. S. Iskakova;

- theory of poetic discourse: R. O. Jacobson, C. Todorov, P. Ricker, M. M. Bakhtin, Yu. M. Lotman, J. Derrida, P. de Man, J. Caller, T. Eagleton, M. Short, J. Leach, P. Verdonk, K. Green, E. Simpson, Yu. S. Kristeva, N. V. Mongileva, Z. A. Akhmetov, E. S. Ismailov, R. S. Syzdykova, S. Orazalin, Z. M. Bazarbayeva;

- on communicative pragmatics: J. Austin, J. Searle, P. Grice, R. Stolneker, J. Leach, C. W. Morris, T. V. Bulygina, Yu. S. Stepanov, I. P. Susov, L. A. Novikov, E. S. Aznaurova, N. M. Uali, K. O. Yesenova, Z. Sh. Ernazarova, D. A. Alkebaeva;

- poetic prosody: Z. M. Bazarbayeva, P. Elbow, R. Cureton, D. Crystal, A. Zh. Amanbaeva, Yu. V. Kazarin, E. B. Karnevskaya, S. M. Rogozhina, J. K. Kaliyev, K. K. Zhubanov, J. A. Aralbaev, A. Junisbek, A. M. Jalalova.

**Research methods.** Typological, comparative-comparative, experimental-phonetic, auditory, phonological, acoustic, intonation, prosodic research methods were used during the research.

The following **provisions** are submitted for defense:

- Poetic discourse is defined as a complex semantic and communicative structure oriented toward an aesthetic purpose, based on the linguistic creative interaction between the addresser and the addressee, and characterized by artistic-expressive and pragmatic features. The main characteristics of poetic discourse include its structural features such as rhyme and rhythm, sound harmony, stanzaic division, as well as semantic complexity, hidden meaning, the use of syntactic stylistic devices, and the distinctive rendering of the author’s emotional state. The structural features of poetic discourse, clearly reflected at its phonetic and syntactic levels, characterize it as a complex and multilayered system in emotional, symbolic, and aesthetic dimensions.

- The pragmalinguistic image and prosodic structure of poetic discourse make it possible to uncover its deeper semantic and pragmalinguistic levels. The multilayered pragmatic content, which is regarded as the main structural component of poetic discourse, is based on the author’s speech intention and is realized through speech acts in the reader’s perception. In poetic discourse, the addresser aims to influence the addressee through illocutionary acts, which reflect various communicative purposes of speech, such as command, wish, request, persuasion, and confession. Presupposition in poetic discourse is realized through the shared background knowledge and intercultural concepts of the addresser and the addressee. Presuppositional structures are recognized as a primary means of conveying implicit meaning and allusions in poetic discourse. The potential of the author’s intention, the reflection of emotional states, the formation of the communicative tone of the text, and the impact on the reader have been proven as pragmatic functions of prosodic units in poetic discourse. Prosodic devices such as stress, intonation, pause, tempo, and rhythm help determine the communicative content of the text and enhance its pragmatic effect. As a result, the pragmalinguistic nature and paralinguistic-prosodic components of poetic discourse form a unified communicative-poetic space.

- In poetic discourse, hesitation and vocalized pauses constitute the pragmatic character of the discourse. They are perceived as a means of enhancing the emotional expressiveness of the text and conveying the author’s inner state at the prosodic level. Pauses and prosodic variations strengthen the pragmatic potential of specific poetic content, that is, they intensify the cognitive and emotional perception of the listener/reader. Hesitation markers, depending on their meaning, perform a metapragmatic function, expressing doubt, uncertainty, or the complexity of decision-making within the text. Prosodic pauses enhance the semantic expressiveness of the text and emphasize the significance of particular moments. The prosodic structure of such poetic discourse, with its specific phonetic realization, serves the purpose of clarifying the author’s intention or influencing the listener. Thus, hesitation and vocalized pauses represent important suprasegmental devices that complement the pragmatic potential of poetic discourse.

- For the purpose of modeling the phonetic-phonological and prosodic characteristics of poetic discourse in English and Kazakh, special auditory (perceptual) and instrumental-phonetic experiments were conducted during the research. The analysis included the transcription of poetic discourse based on its syntagmatic structure, intonation waves, pauses, stresses, and tonal variations. Within the framework of phonetic-phonological modeling, rhythmic groups of each poetic line and the corresponding intonemes, depending on the type of utterance, were identified. It was established that imperative constructions, frequently found in English poetic discourse, are characterized by high intonation and intensive stress, whereas Kazakh poetic discourse predominantly features an even tone with smooth descending and ascending rhythms, marked by a more leveled character. In prosodic transcription, syntagmatic units and voice dynamics were visually represented through conventional symbols. To determine the structure of prosodic discourse, poems in English and Kazakh were analyzed using the computer program Praat, which allowed the identification of stanza and syntagm duration, rhythm, pitch frequency, and intensity. Both major and minor forms of poetry in English and Kazakh, constructed on rhythm, harmony, rhyme similarity, and syllabic harmony, in addition to semantic and syntactic features, also demonstrate distinctive intonational and prosodic characteristics. While in English vowel length serves a phonemic function that differentiates meaning, in Kazakh vowel length does not function as a semantic differentiator; it is often used only for expressive or prosodic purposes. In some cases, the rules of rhyme in English and Kazakh do not coincide, which is conditioned by the syllabo-tonic nature of English verse and the syllabic basis of Kazakh poetry.

The prosodic features of poetic discourse in English and Kazakh are shaped in accordance with the phonetic-phonological system and the national poetic traditions of each language. From the perspective of typological similarities, it has been demonstrated that in English poetic discourse the stress-rhythm system, alliteration, and assonance play a significant role in the formation of sound aesthetics, whereas in Kazakh poetry the main stylistic features are reflected in syllabic rhythm, the law of synharmonism (vowel harmony), rhyme harmony, and the traditional meters of the simple verse (kara olen). Although rhythmic structures and elements of sound imagery are noted among typological similarities, they differ in their pragmatic functions: in English they serve as means of expressing emphasis, irony, and precise transmission of emotions, while in Kazakh they act as a means of reflecting the national worldview, creating artistic effect, and describing the epic space. While English texts tend to demonstrate reflexive intonation, Kazakh poetry is marked by a broad, expressive, and resonant tone. As a result of the comparative analysis of English and Kazakh poetry in terms of linguistic structures, it was revealed that English poetry frequently employs semantic subtext, irony, and syntactic variations, whereas Kazakh poetry is dominated by systems of symbols, metaphorical imagery, and spatial-epic features of narration, which reflect the uniqueness of the national-cultural and worldview-specific characteristics of the respective languages. The study has shown that in both languages prosodic devices are aimed not only at shaping the poetic form but also play an important role in the formation of pragmatic meaning and emotional nuances.

**Scientific novelty of the research.** For the first time in domestic linguistics, poetic discourse has been examined comparatively across two unrelated languages – English and Kazakh. The prosodic nature of contemporary English and Kazakh poetic discourse has been investigated within a communicative-pragmatic framework, using experimental and auditory-applied methods.

**Theoretical significance of the research.** The findings contribute to the advancement of discourse theory, pragmatics, poetic discourse studies, and prosody.

**Practical significance of the research.** The results may be applied in higher education institutions for teaching specialized courses such as «Theory and Methodology of Poetic Discourse», «Poetic Discourse in Modern Kazakh and English Languages», among others, as well as in the preparation of educational manuals and teaching materials.

**The material of the research.** The empirical basis of the study consists of poetic works by Wendy Cope, recipient of the Order of the British Empire, from the collections «If I Don’t Know» (2001) and «Two Cures for Love» (2008), as well as poetic works by Näzikén Alpamysqyzy, Honored Worker of the Republic of Kazakhstan and laureate of the International Literary Prize «Alash», from the collections «Küren Sheten» (2005) and «Jarkyrap aspanymda kün turğanda» (2011).

**Approbation of the research results**

The main findings and conclusions of the dissertation have been published in 9 scientific articles in domestic and international journals, as well as in the proceedings of international theoretical and practical conferences. Among them: 2 articles in peer-reviewed international journals indexed in the Scopus database, 3 articles in journals included in the List of Publications recommended by the Committee for Quality Assurance in Science and Higher Education of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and 4 articles in the proceedings of international conferences, 1 article in a collective monograph.

- Linguostylistic characteristics of repetitions in a literary text and its importance in English language // IV International Scientific and Practical Conference «Social and Economic Aspects of Education in Modern Society». Warsaw, Poland. – 2018. – Vol. 3. – pp.24-26.

- Poetic discourse and its main features // Scientific Journal Society No 2(13), 2019 (RSCI). Proceedings of the 7th International Scientific Conference « Society: Scientific and Educational Potential for Development (Ideas, Resources, Solutions)». – Cheboksary, Russia, May 31, 2019. – pp. 87–91.

- Development of the internal form of phraseological unit of the media // Journal of Language Research and Teaching Practice. – 2020. – Vol. 3. – pp.73-82

- Structural features and semantic formation of poetic discourse // Proceedings of the 2nd International Scientific Conference «European Research Materials» (April 6-7, 2023). Amsterdam, Netherlands. – 2023. – No 2 – pp. 263-268.

- Linguostylistic specifics of the pragmatical and symbolic realization of the English poetic discourse // Xlinguae, Volume 14, Issue 2, April 2021, pp. 215-226. DOI:10.18355/XL.2021.14.02.16 Citescore (2021): 2.5, Arts and Humanities: Language and Linguistics: 87.

- The representation of nonverbal communication methods in the poetic discourse // Bulletin of Abylai Khan Kazakh University of International Relations and World Languages. Series: Philological Sciences. – 2024. – No 1 (72). – pp. 232-245.

- Poetic subcorpus: prosodic marking // Bulletin of L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University. Series: Philology. – 2024. – 1(146) – pp. 49-57.

- Rhyme in contemporary poetic discourse: communicative-pragmatic characteristics // Bulletin of Ablai Khan Kazakh University of International Relations and World Languages. Series: Philological Sciences. – 2024. – No 3 (74). – pp. 290-303

- Prosodic Characteristics of Poetic Text in the Kazakh Language // Xlinguae, Volume 18, Issue 1, January 2025, pp.96-111. DOI:10.18355/XL.2025.18.01.08 Citescore (2024): 1.7, Arts and Humanities: Language and Linguistics: 77.

- Rhyme in the contemporary poetic discourse: communicative-pragmatic characteristics / A. B. Srailova. – Text: direct // Linguocultural influence in different types of discourse: on the 20th anniversary of the scientific school of M.R. Zheltukhina: collective monograph / Ed. E. V. Dobronichenko. – Volgograd: «Prin Terra-Design», 2024. – pp.122-135.

**Structure of the research.** The dissertation consists of the introduction, three chapters, conclusion, bibliography, and appendix.

In the **introduction**, the relevance of the research topic, the object and subject of the study, its aims and objectives, theoretical and methodological foundations, research methods, statements for defense, scientific novelty, theoretical and practical significance, references, and the degree of public presentation of the research are described.

The **first chapter** analyzes the theoretical foundations of poetic discourse, its place in linguistics, and the main approaches to the linguistic study of discourse. It examines the main features of poetic discourse in English and Kazakh, its structural characteristics, as well as the artistic and communicative nature of poetic discourse. From a pragmalinguistic perspective, the ways of expressing the author’s intention through presupposition, locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary acts in poetic discourse are discussed.

The **second chapter** describes the function of verbal and paralinguistic means of communication in poetic discourse in conveying the author’s intention. The pragmatic and expressive potential of prosodic means such as intonation, stress, rhythm, pause, timbre, voice pitch, and tempo in poetic discourse is analyzed. In addition, the emotional-cognitive impact of hesitation phenomena and vocalized pauses in poetic discourse and their role in the listener’s perception are identified.

The **third chapter** models and systematically describes the prosodic structure of poetic discourse in English and Kazakh based on the methods of phonetic-phonological and prosodic transcription. In the course of the experimental-phonetic study, the features and functions of such prosodic units as intonation, rhythm, tempo, and pitch in specific poetic texts were analyzed. A comparative analysis of the national-cultural specifics and prosodic characteristics of poetic discourse in the two languages was carried out, revealing both similarities and differences.

The **conclusion** presents the results and findings of the research.