

## ON THE ISSUE BESET WITH SEMANTICO-FUNCTIONAL PECULIARITIES OF THE TAJIK MODAL PARTICLE *SHOYAD* AND ITS ENGLISH EQUIVALENTS

**Ashrapov Bahodurjon Pulotovich,**

*candidate of philological sciences, senior lecturer of the Khujand state university  
named after academician Bobojon Gafurov  
Tajikistan Republic, Khujand*

**Beknazarova Mokhia Kenzhaevna,**

*assistant of the Department of languages of the Samarkand state medical university*

**Annotation.** The given article dwells on comparative analysis of semantico-functional peculiarities of the Tajik modal particle *shoyad* and its English equivalents. The conducted comparative analysis discloses that the Tajik modal particle *shoyad* consistently bears a sense of possibility, uncertainty, or speculation. Thus, the adduced examples and facts reveals the rich and multifaceted feature of modal expression in the compared languages. While *shoyad* serves as a multifunctional modal particle in Tajik, however, a wide range of grammatical means to achieve similar semantico-pragmatic properties are utilized in English.

**Keywords.** Comparative analysis, translation, modal particle *shoyad* morphological peculiarities, modality expression.

## TOJIKCHA MODAL ZARRACHA *SHOYAD* VA INGLIZ TILIDAGI EKVIVALENTLARINING SEMANTIKO-FUNKSIONAL XUSUSIYATLARI MASALASI HAQIDA

**Ashrapov Bahodurjon Pulotovich,**

*filologiya fanlari nomzodi, Akademik Bobojon G'ofurov nomidagi  
Xo'jand davlat universiteti katta o'qituvchisi  
Tojikiston Respublikasi, Xo'jand sh.*

**Beknazarova Moxiya Kenjaevna,**

*Samarqand davlat tibbiyot universiteti tillar kafedrası assistenti*

**Annotatsiya.** Ushbu maqolada tojikcha modal zarracha *shoyad* va uning inglizcha ekvivalentlarining semantik-funksional xususiyatlarining qiyosiy tahliliga to'xtalib o'tiladi. O'tkazilgan qiyosiy tahlil shuni ko'rsatadiki, tojikcha modal zarracha *shoyad* doimiy ravishda ehtimollik, noaniqlik yoki taxmin hissini o'z ichiga oladi. Demak, keltirilayotgan misol va faktlar qiyosiy tillardagi modal ifodaning boy va serqirra xususiyatini ochib beradi. *Shoyad* tojik tilida ko'p funksiyali modal zarra bo'lib xizmat qilsa-da, ingliz tilida o'xshash semantik-pragmatik xususiyatlarga erishish uchun keng grammatik vositalardan foydalaniladi.

**Kalit so'zlar.** Qiyosiy tahlil, tarjima, modal zarracha *shoyad* morfologik o'ziga xosliklar, modallik ifodasi.

## TACİK MODAL PARÇACIK ŞOYAD'IN VE İNGİLİZCE EŞDEĞERLERİNİN SEMANTİK-İŞLEVSEL ÖZELLİKLERİ KONUSUNDA

**Ashrapov Bahodurjon Pulotovich,**

*filoloji bilimleri adayı, Akademik Bobojon Gafurov adına  
Hocand devlet üniversitesi kıdemli öğretmeni  
Tacikistan Cumhuriyeti, Hocend şehri*

**Beknazarova Mokhia Kenjaevna,**  
*Semerkand devlet tıp universitesi Dil bölümü asistanı*

**Özet.** Verilen makale, Tacik modal parçacığı şoyad'ın ve İngilizce eşdeğerlerinin semantik-işlevsel özelliklerinin karşılaştırmalı analizi üzerinde durmaktadır. Yapılan karşılaştırmalı analiz, Tacik modal parçacığı şoyad'ın sürekli olarak bir olasılık, belirsizlik veya spekülasyon duygusu taşıdığını ortaya koymaktadır. Dolayısıyla, sunulan örnekler ve gerçekler, karşılaştırılan dillerdeki modal ifadenin zengin ve çok yönlü özelliğini ortaya koymaktadır. Şoyad'ın, Tacik dilinde çok işlevli bir modal parçacık olarak hizmet ederken, İngilizcede benzer semantik-pragmatik özelliklere ulaşmak için çok çeşitli dilbilgisi araçları kullanılmaktadır.

**Anahtar kelimeler.** Karşılaştırmalı analiz, çeviri, modal parçacık şoyad'ın morfolojik özellikleri, modalite ifadesi.

## К ВОПРОСУ О СЕМАНТИКО-ФУНКЦИОНАЛЬНЫХ ОСОБЕННОСТЯХ ТАДЖИКСКОЙ МОДАЛЬНОЙ ЧАСТИЦЫ ШОЯД И ЕЕ АНГЛИЙСКИХ ЭКВИВАЛЕНТОВ

**Ашрапов Баходурджон Пулотович,**  
*кандидат филологических наук, старший преподаватель  
Худжандский государственный университета имени академика Бободжона Гафурова  
Республика Таджикистан, г. Худжанд*

**Бекназарова Мохия Кенжаевна,**  
*ассистент кафедры языков Самаркандского государственного  
медицинского университета*

**Аннотация.** В данной статье рассматривается сопоставительный анализ семантико-функциональных особенностей таджикской модальной частицы шояд и ее английских эквивалентов. Проведенный сопоставительный анализ показывает, что таджикская модальная частица шояд неизменно несет смысл возможности, неопределенности или предположения. Таким образом, приведенные примеры и факты раскрывают богатую и многогранную особенность модального выражения в сравниваемых языках. В то время как в таджикском языке шояд выступает в качестве многофункциональной модальной частицы, в английском языке используется широкий спектр грамматических средств для достижения схожих семантико-прагматических свойств.

**Ключевые слова.** сравнительный анализ, перевод, модальная частица шояд, семантико-функциональные особенности, выражение модальности.

**1. Introduction.** Particles are considered to be ones of the auxiliary parts of speech serving to give various shades of meaning to a sentence (Ashrapov, 2022), or its individual members "as a means of expression of the spirit of language creating its freshness, accurateness, concise and deep reflection. In general, they play an important role in the people's spiritual life" (Kosimova, 2003). Particles are classified as a distinct part of speech standing alongside nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs. However, their functional margins are often unclear, and their roles can overlap considerably with those of adverbs, conjunctions, and even interjections. This inherent flexibility and multifaceted nature make particles a particularly intriguing area of linguistic inquiry (Khalilov, 1977; Zhang, 2020).

**The purpose** of the study is to conduct the comparative analysis of semantico-functional peculiarities of the Tajik modal particle *shoyad* and its English equivalents.

### **2. Materials and methods:**

While conducting the comparative analysis, we have resorted to "*Temur Malik – Tajik People's Hero. Muqanna's Rebellion*" translated into English and introduced by Professor Abdusalom Mamadnazarov (2022), and adduced the appropriate examples out of the above-mentioned source in order to bring certain thoughts and proofs. The chosen source depicts different historical events and the history of Tajik literary language (TLL) and is worthy of the comparative analysis of semantico-functional peculiarities of the Tajik modal particle *shoyad*. The relevant is occurred 8 instances in the corpus of our study.

The study canvasses the comparative analysis of semantico-functional peculiarities of the Tajik modal particle *shoyad* and its English equivalents focusing on its dynamic nature, semantical features and the interplay of diverse mechanisms. The relevant approach purposes to comprehensively analyze *shoyad* by comparing its function and usage to equivalent structures in English. The theme explored highlights the observations and considerations on a multi-faceted, data-driven methods.

### 3. Main results:

The conducted comparative analysis of semantico-functional peculiarities of the Tajik modal particle *shoyad* and its English equivalents in "*Temur Malik – Tajik People's Hero. Muqanna's Rebellion*" (2022) reveals a complex interplay of expressive elements that significantly contribute into the narrative's affective depth and pragmatic shades. The following examples adduce the diverse range of the particle *shoyad* presented by Aini, its respective functions, and their corresponding interpretations in English. Each example is followed by a detailed scientific analysis. The relevant study focuses on the Tajik modal particle *shoyad* considering its semantico-functional and morphological features in comparison with its English equivalents. The Tajik modal particle in question roughly equivalent to *perhaps* or *maybe* in English expressing possibility and uncertainty (Mamatov, 2005; Mamadnazarov, 2021).

Hereby, we decided to dwell on some semantico-functional peculiarities of the modal particle *shoyad* in comparison with its English equivalents based on the following examples. In its turn, the former in question offers an element of doubt, conjecture, or hypothetical thinking into the sentence indicating the proposition being presented is not a confirmed fact, but rather a potential scenario, a hopeful outcome, or a considered possibility as well.

#### Example 1:

**Tajik:** Agar mo dar in jo jumlai "daromadi hukumat"-ro be ezoh guzorem, *shoyad khonandagon gumon kunand*, ki dar on vaqto ham khazina davlati boshad va hukmdoron moli on khazinaro ba masorifi shakhsii khud sarf nakarda, tanho ba korhoi umumii mamlakat sarf mekarda boshand - **English:** The income of the government requires explanation, *to prevent readers from thinking that* in those years, the ruler's officials would deposit this income into a state treasury, where government officials could not use it for their private benefit, but only for the benefit of the common interests of the country (Mamadnazarov, 2022, p.15).

In the first example, the modal particle under study participates as an epistemic modal marker presenting a hypothetical scenario that exists in the realm of possibility. So, in this case, the former in question doesn't express the speaker's personal belief or doubt, but rather presents a potential thought process that readers *might* engage in. It is not resorted to show the possibility, but to prevent the possible misunderstanding, which can occur. The meaning of the sentence will be "*I explain it because readers may misunderstand the point*" (adduced by the author). The shade of meaning of the relevant particle involves the entire clause that follows: "*khonandagon gumon kunand...*" (*readers might think...*). Here, *shoyad* adjusts the proposition casting it as a possible rather than a factual statement.

#### Example 2:

**Tajik:** Aknun, ki Movarounnahr az dast raft, *shoyad Khurosonro* az hujumi dushmani khunkhor nigoh dorem – **English:** Now that Mavarannahr has been lost, we *might be able to defend Khorasan* from the invasion of the bloody enemy (Mamadnazarov, 2022, p.30).

In the above-mentioned sentence, the particle under study is used as an epistemic modal marker expressing a degree of possibility regarding the successful defense of Khorasan. *Shoyad*

indicates that the speaker considers this outcome achievable but not certain. There's a sense of hope intertwined with an acknowledgment of the challenging circumstances. The semantic scope of *shoyad* extends over the entire clause "*Khurosonro...nigoh dorem*" (we will defend Khorasan). Here, this particle modulates the proposition transforming it from a definitive statement into a hopeful aspiration.

**Example 3:**

**Tajik:** Jangovaron, ki yak qaiq tillovu tanga girifta omadani uro muntazir budand, bo didani in yak khaltachai nazarnogir dar taajjub aftodand va dar dili khud guzarondand, ki *shoyad dar daruni in khaltacha almos*, yo sanghoi purqimati digar boshad, ki ba yak khiroqi mamlakat mearzida boshad - **English:** The warriors who were waiting for Temur Malik to bring a whole boat of gold and coins, saw only a little, tiny bag. *They wondered what precious treasure could fit in that small bag*, something like diamonds or precious stones, that would equal in value the budget of a country (Mamadnazarov, 2022, p.54).

In this context, *shoyad* participates as an epistemic modal marker introducing a speculative thought or hypothesis. It indicates that the presence of diamonds (or other precious stones) inside the bag is a possibility being considered, not a confirmed fact. This particle reflects the internal thought process of the warriors, who are trying to make sense of the situation. The semantic scope of *shoyad* involves the entire clause "*dar daruni in khaltacha almos... boshad*" (*inside this small bag are diamonds...*). It casts the proposition as a conjecture rather than a definite assertion.

**Example 4:**

**Tajik:** Temurmali ham ba tarafi Khorazm rohsipor gardid, ki *shoyad az on jo ba muqobili chingiziyon muborizai nave tashkil namoyad* - **English:** Temur Malik continued travelling towards Khorazm, where he thought he could organize a new army to resist the Mongols (Mamadnazarov, 2022, p.60).

In this instance, *shoyad* is used as a modal marker expressing a future possibility tinged with hope and intention. This particle indicates that Temur Malik's plan to organize a new resistance from that location is not a certainty but a desired outcome that he deems possible, and reflects his strategic thinking and determination in the face of adversity. The semantic scope of *shoyad* encompasses the clause "*az on jo ba muqobili chingiziyon muborizai nave tashkil namoyad*" (*from there... he will organize a new struggle/resistance*). It modifies the proposition casting it as a hopeful aspiration rather than a definite prediction.

**Example 5:**

**Tajik:** U dar holate, ki dilash bo otashi ghazab shulavar shuda bud, ba suyi poytakhti Khorazm, ki dar on vaqto poytakhti Eron, Khuroson va Movarounnahr ham on jo bud, ravon shud, ki *shoyad az on jo baroi dili alammanzili khud tasalloye yobad* - **English:** In this condition, his heart burning with fury, he started moving towards the capital of Khorazm, which in those days also represented the capital of Iran, Khorasan and Mavarannahr. *He hoped that he could find something there to calm down his heart* (Mamadnazarov, 2022, p.61).

Here, *shoyad* is resorted to as a modal marker expressing a desire or hope for a future outcome – finding solace. It indicates that this outcome is not guaranteed but is a possibility that the subject (he) is clinging to, and reflects an emotional state, highlighting the character's vulnerability and longing for relief. The semantic scope of *shoyad* includes the entire clause "*az on jo baroi dili alammanzili khud tasalloye yobad*" (*from there he will find some solace for his anguished heart*). It modifies the proposition, transforming it from a statement of fact into an expression of hope.

Morphologically, the contrast persists: in Tajik, an invariable particle is used, while in English, a combination of a past tense verb and a modal verb to bear a similar meaning. This example underscores how *shoyad* can be used to express not just a neutral possibility but also a deeply felt desire or hope for a particular outcome. The English translation successfully conveys this emotional dimension by making the hope explicit through the verb *hoped*.

**Example 6:**



**Tajik:** Temurmali bo shunidani in hikoyati purvahshoniyat Sulton Muhammad va modari u Turkonhotunro dar qatori chingiziyon guzoshta ba hamai onho yakjoya la'nat va nafrat firistod va ba'd az nigohubin karda ba quvvat ovardani on odam uro hamrohi khud girifta ba roh daromad, ki *shoyad dar yagon joy kore karda tavonad* – **English:** While hearing this savage story, Temur Malik put Sultan Muhammad and his mother Turkankhatun among the Mongols, and sent curses and hatred to all of them. He took care of this man, and as soon as the man recovered, they left on a journey together, *so that somewhere he could do something* (Mamadnazarov, 2022, p.63).

Hence, the relevant modal particle is resorted to as a modal marker expressing a desire or hope intertwined with a sense of agency. In this regard, it indicates that the ability to *do something* is not a certainty but a desired outcome that the subject is actively seeking. This particle reflects a proactive stance, a willingness to find an opportunity to act. In this case, the meaning of *shoyad* is close to the meaning of *I hope that*. The semantic scope of *shoyad* covers the entire clause "*dar yagon joy kore karda tavonad*" (*somewhere he will be able to do something*). It modifies the proposition, casting it as a desired possibility rather than a definite outcome.

#### Example 7:

**Tajik:** Pisari Temurmali yak vaqt az khob bedor shuda did, ki padrash dar joyi khobash nest. Avval "*shoyad u baroi yozidan berun baromada boshad*" gufta, qadre nigaron shud. Vakte ki u ba zudi bargashta naomad, baroi khabargiri berun baromad - **English:** When Temur Malik's son woke up, he saw that his father was not in his bed. First, *he waited for some time to think*. When his father did not return, after a while he came out of the hut, but could not find his father around the hut (Mamadnazarov, 2022, p.75).

In the above-adduced sentence, *shoyad* functionates as an epistemic modal marker introducing a possible explanation or hypothesis for the father's absence. It reflects the son's initial thought process as he tries to make sense of the situation, and indicates uncertainty and a tentative conclusion based on limited information. The semantic scope of *shoyad* encompasses the entire clause "*u baroi yozidan berun baromada boshad*" (*he went out to stretch*). It casts the proposition as a conjecture rather than a confirmed fact.

#### Example 8:

**Tajik:** Bar boloi balandiho az teppahoe, ki dar rohash rost meomadand, baromada ba har taraf nazar meandokht, ki *shoyad az gumkardai khud nishonae yobad*. Chun chisero namedid, boz dar rohi khud shitob mekard - **English:** He would climb up the hills and heights on his way, and looked around, *so that he might find his lost father*. As long as he could not see any. thing, he would continue his travelling (Mamadnazarov, 2022, p.76).

In reference to it, *shoyad* is used as an epistemic modal marker expressing a hopeful possibility, a wish, or a desired outcome. At the same time, it indicates that finding a trace of his lost father is not a certainty but a hoped-for event. The function leans more towards expressing a desire or expectation rather than a neutral assessment of probability. The semantic scope of *shoyad* covers the entire clause "*az gumkardai khud nishonae yobad*" (*he will find a trace of his lost one*). This clause is presented as something desired and considered possible, not as a statement of fact.

### 4. Discussion:

#### 4.1 On Semantico-Functional Analysis:

Overall, the adduced examples collectively demonstrate that *shoyad* consistently functionates as a multipurpose epistemological modal particle expressing a range of meanings beset with possibility, uncertainty, speculation, hope, and intention. While it makes parallel broadly with the essential meaning of English *perhaps*, *maybe*, and *possibly*, its precise interpretation is vastly context-dependent.

#### 4.2 Key Semantic and Pragmatic Functions of *shoyad*:

**Expressing Neutral Possibility:** in certain cases, the modal particle *shoyad* simply shows that something is possible, without strongly emphasizing the speaker's belief or doubt (e.g., Example 8, where it expresses the possibility of finding a trace).

*Introducing Speculation or Hypothesis:* hence, the former in question often presents a speculative thought, a conjecture, or a hypothesis based on available information or logical deduction (e.g., Example 3, where it reflects the warriors' speculation about the contents of the bag).

*Conveying Hope, Desire, or Intention:* *shoyad* can express a desired outcome, a hope for the future, or an intention to act in a certain way. Such kind of function often intertwines with the expression of possibility creating a sense of hopeful anticipation or determination (e.g., Examples 2, 4, 5, and 6).

*Reflecting Internal Thought Processes:* in narrative contexts, the particle under study can be resorted to reveal a character's internal thoughts, beliefs, or reasoning processes (e.g., Example 7, where it introduces a possible explanation for the father's absence, although this was not adequately reflected in the initial translation).

*Rhetorical Device:* so, it can be inferred from the examples, that *shoyad* also functionates as a rhetorical device to prevent misunderstanding (Example 1).

## 5. Conclusion:

Adducing the results of the conducted comparative analysis beset with the theme explored one can come to the conclusion the above-mentioned examples and facts reveals the rich and multifaceted feature of modal expression in the compared languages. While *shoyad* serves as a multipurpose modal particle in Tajik, however, a wide range of grammatical means to achieve similar semantico-pragmatic properties are utilized in English. The corpus of our study highlights the challenges of cross-linguistic translation, particularly when dwelling on nuanced notions, like modality. The findings underscore the importance of the consideration of the particle in question, not just the literal meaning of words, but also their pragmatic implications, their role in the determination of narrative perspective, and their contribution to the overall communicative effect. This profound semantico-functional analysis of this particle offers a deeper understanding of the intricacies of modal expression in Tajik and English.

## References:

1. Aini, Sadridin. Temur Malik – Tajik People's Hero. Muqanna's Rebellion. Translation into English and introduction by Professor Abdusalom Mamadnazarov. – Dushanbe: R-graph, 2022. – 156 p.
2. Alimdjanova, Dilbar Negmatovna, Umida Muxammadjonovna Burgutova, and Gulirano Vahobjonovna Berdieva. "Psychological and pedagogical problems of activating the learning process." *Involta Scientific Journal* 2.1 (2023): 158-160.
3. Алимджанова, Дилбар, et al. "Авторские педагогические технологии при обучении иностранному языку (Российские)." *Conference Proceedings: Fostering Your Research Spirit*. 2024.
4. Ashrapov B.P. The Level of Usage of Particles in the historical work entitled as "Tuhfat-ul-khoni" by Muhammadvafoi Karminagi // *Филологический аспект*. – 2022. – No. 3(83). – P. 136-141. – EDN XETGHI.
5. Ashrapov B.P. Comparative analysis of semantical peculiarities of the Tajik modal particle - *diya* and its English equivalents // *Mezhdunarodny'j nauchno-issledovatel'skij zhurnal [International Research Journal]*. - 2025. - №2 (152). - URL: <https://research-journal.org/archive/2-152-2025-february/10.60797/IRJ.2025.152.76> (accessed: 18.02.2025). - DOI: 10.60797/IRJ.2025.152.76
6. Begmatova, D., and D. Alimjanova. Author's pedagogical technologies in medical universities. *Science and innovation* 3.B9 (2024): 14-17.
7. Doniyor B. The importance of the fundamental principles of ibn sina's teachings for solving modern water-related environmental ISSUES // *Western European Journal of Modern Experiments and Scientific Methods*. – 2024. – T. 2. – №. 10. – C. 51-54.

8. Косимова М.Н. История таджикского литературного языка (IX-X вв.). - Душанбе, 2003. - Т.1. - 490 с.
9. Мамадназаров А. Фарҳанги англисӣ-тоҷикӣ. Душанбе: Эр-граф, 2021. 1016 с.
10. Mamatov, J. Tajik-English Dictionary / J. Mamatov, S. J. Harell, K. Kehoe, K. Khodjibaev. - Dunvody Press, 2005. - 741 p.
11. Negmatovna, A. D. (2021). Improving the pedagogical conditions for the introduction of copyright technologies (on the example of the subject of pedagogy). *World Bulletin of Social Sciences*, 4(11), 17-22.
12. Negmatovna, A. D., Vakhobzhonovich, D. B., Muhammadjonovna, B. U., & Vakhobjonovna, B. G. (2024). Environmental education for schools students.
13. Халилов А. Ҳиссаҷаҳо дар забони адабии ҳозираи тоҷик. – Душанбе: Дониш, 1977. 144 с.
14. Zhang, D. (2020). Towards a discourse semantic characterisation of the modal particles in Khorchin Mongolian: A case study of an interaction. *Journal of Pragmatics*, 158, 13-32.
15. Айтмуратова Перхан Генжебаевна, & Файзуллаев Фарход Убайдуллаевич. (2025). Терминология современной медицины. *Ta'lim Innovatsiyasi Va Integratsiyasi*, 37(1), 5-9. <https://scientific-jl.org/tal/article/view/9281>
16. Yorova S. K., Khakberdiyeva V. J. K. Doctor and patient //Scientific progress. – 2021. – Т. 2. – №. 1. – С. 1478-1480.
17. Karimovna, Y. S. (2024). Medical Staff Professional Communication Process. *Gospodarka i Innowacje.*, 44, 227-230.
18. Beknazarova M.K. (2025). Rimning ilk shoir va adiblari. *tadqiqotlar.uz*, 53(4), 136-138. <https://scientific-jl.org/tad/article/view/9329>
19. Beknazarova M.K. (2025). Dorivor o'simliklar dunyosi va ular bilan bog'liq afsonalar. *Ta'lim Innovatsiyasi Va Integratsiyasi*, 37(1), 30-34. <https://scientific-jl.org/tal/article/view/9286>