

A Morphological Study of Technological and Administrative Loanwords in Hausa: An Overview

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Abstract

This paper examines the Hausa language borrowing from other languages, particularly from English. Hausa language is always accommodates borrowing from different languages, such as Arabic, English and so on, meanwhile, the borrowing of Hausa language from English it depends most on new technological innovations, government administrative and academic activities, instead of Hausa to create new words, rather it borrows from the original language. Therefore, the paper discusses the phonological and morphological processes of Hausa borrowing from English language with regards to the technological administrative and academic activities. Primary and secondary sources were used in collecting the data, largely through verbal interview from the native speakers of Hausa. Finally, we discovered that most of the technological words in the language are more of borrowing from English language.

Introduction

Bloom field (1933:61) affirms that ‘Every speech community learns from their neighbours in one way or the other’. Objects, both natural and manufactured, pass from one community to another. Similarly patterns of action, technical procedure, like practices, religious rites and features may be transmitted.

As a result of such transmission, words may be borrowed into a language, for instance an English speaker either bilingual or with some knowledge of Hausa may want to introduce a Hausa object which is not known into his English counterpart, in the process he may wish to say it by its Hausa name, so also other speaker of English may use that same Hausa word.

As more English speakers use it, it may become English lexicon. Thus a Hausa word is borrowed. It's usually the case, that the borrowed words may take the phonetic shape of the phonemes of the borrowed language. What is your source of these expositions above?

The language of the people, which is looked upon a center of culture, is likely to be the source of linguistics borrowing. For instance, Hausa borrowed many words from English mostly in the sphere of technology and administration, such direct linguistic borrowing result from the fact that using ready-made words from the source language may be easier than translating the borrowed word in to the target language. Furthermore, English borrowing into Hausa may be due to the fact that English is considered as the prestigious language. Since it is associated with the culture that imitated by the other speech communities in the world. Thus, there is no reason other than need filling for Hausa to borrow words.

Relevance of Language borrowing

Linguistic borrowing is particularly important because it entails using the ready-made words from other source language, which in fact an easier than translating the borrowed words in to the target language.

Bawa (1986:52) "English loan words in Hausa have an effect on Hausa people too, because everywhere among Hausa speakers you hear either the use of Anglo-Hausaexpression or some loan words, some people use it intentionally, just to show up their knowledge of English, while some use it unintentional, especially those that are not nativeof Hausa". Finally language borrowing it helps to enrich the vocabulary development of a language,

and it defend language from endangerment.

Influence of English Loanwords on Hausa

Ikara (1975:16). The contact of English and Hausa demonstrate quite un-ambiguously, how English as a language has transmitted in some ways, different form of western culture to Hausa, society and consequently been instrumental in the continuing change and reconstruction of the Hausa language.

As observed many English words have been introduced in to the daily life of Nigerian natives especially the Hausa people. Such new features as “kaftin” captain, “sito” store and “bokiti” bucket, there are some extension of meaning of English loanwords such as, “bariki” barracks, extended to include red House, and sometimes even in the European station as whole but today however, this means the army barracks, a rest House and a modern town, there are some words like “buga waya” , literally means to hit the wire, meaning both to telegraph and pass a message, on the other hand, there are some occasions where a native coined a word, but applied on one of his own existing words to the British introduction, an example: jirgi , which in Hausa means “boat ”, but it also means “train”, when in east Africa, the Nigerian soldiers went a step further and called an Aeroplane by the very appropriate name of “jirgin sama”, sky boat. fromkin(1998)

Bukar (1999) in Ramatu (2002) however, recognizes that some of the English loanwords were already replacing their existing Hausa or Arabic equivalent, for example of such words like “masinja” messenger in place of Hausa “manzo” another words like Scale, Tea, had already supersedes Arabic “mizani” and “shayi”. He also observed what he described as modern Hausa colloquialism this involves English loanwords such as, “yi kwana” corner turn of the point, “kira dina” dinner give a feast. He points out that borrowing an English

word with its original spelling phonetically and hence orthographically adapting it to Hausa equivalent for the English conception in the same way that native speakers might conceivably do or even of borrowing another word for it from Arabic language.

Categorization of Loanwords

Hockett (1963:39) categorizes loanwords according to kinds, and states that whenever there is the need filling, motives plays a part, the borrower confronted with some new objects or practice for which he needs new words. Under these conditions it does not always happen that the borrower imports the words that already used by the donor, in fact three rather distinct things may happen respectively to loanwords, loan shift and loan blends.

Loanwords: the borrower may adopt the donor's word along with the object or practice. The new form in the speech is then a loanword. He further stated that the acquisition of a loanwords constitute in itself a lexical change, and perhaps entails semantic change. A shape change is sometimes involved at least in a sense that a shape therefore „uninhibited“ by any form may have been brought into use e.g. our acquisition of $\partial I \partial \text{gro} / \partial I \partial \text{grow}$ entailed a shape of change. Dikwa (2001)

Loan shift: When confronted with a new shape or practice for which words are needed, the „borrower may not accept the donor's word along with the new cultural items, insteadhe may somehow adapt materials already in his own language. The practice adaptation, however, may be in one way or another based on the pattern of the donor's verbal behaviour. In any case, a new idiom arises, and since it arises, under the impact of another linguistic system, is loan shift.

If the model is a form with two different ranges of usage, a form matches only one of which is matched by a form of the borrowing languages, the borrower may extend his native form

of the range of usage of the model if the model in the donor language is a composite form out of native raw materials. The result is loan translation. Loan shift involves lexical and semantic change, and some cases may lead to minor grammatical change. The latter is affected if the lateral following of a foreign model in the creation of new idiom gives rise to some type of construction previously alien to the borrowing language.

Loan blends: A loan blend is a new idiom developed in the borrowing situation, in which both the loanword and the loan shift mechanism are involved. The borrower imports part of the models and replaces part of it by something already in his language. He further made mention of pronunciation and grammatical borrowings respectively together with three kinds of loan mention above.

Pronunciation borrowing: If a speaker imitates someone else's pronunciation of a word, which is already familiar to borrowing idiolects, we may speak of pronunciation borrowing. Usually the donor and borrowing idiolects are mutually intelligible and the motive is prestige.

A style of pronunciation can be imitated, usually for prestige reason, without specific reference to a particular word. Pronunciation borrowing of this sort can operate across language boundaries.

Grammatical borrowing: This has to do with grammatical change brought by indirectly borrowing-via set of related loanwords „grammatical change“ is „change in the grammatical core“. The grammatical core among, include other things, phone call and collectible call „function“ and some factors are separate words. If a factor in one language should be borrowed into another as loan words retaining its factors status, then we might naturally expect the immediate consequence to be grammatical changes in the borrowing

language-albeit a minor one. Meanwhile, loanwords are divided into three distinct groups according to Modu and Dikwa: (1988)

General loan: these are those items that have been completely naturalized into the language lexicon. They are the word commonly used by everybody in the borrower idiolects.

Specialized loan: these are the loanwords associated with specific profession and are very much limited in use.

Idiolect loan: these are loans that are only present in the speech for an individual who want to mark him linguistically from the rest of the speech community. Ibrahim and David (2004).

Data Presentation and Analysis

In the process of loan adaptation certain changes take place, thus loan of whatever kind may be analyzed and describe in terms of the extent to which they are naturalized. Seven types of loan adaptation were identified as follows:

Adaptation by Agglutination

Adaptive by agglutination is the combination within a single word of two or more ordinary distinct segment

Table one (a)
Technological

Loanword	Root term	Source language	Meaning
Lantarki	Electric power	English	Electric power
Tocilan	Touch light	English	Touch light

Lasifika	Loud speaker	English	Loud speaker
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(b) Administrative

Loanwords	Root term	Source language	Meaning
Fayil	File	English	File
Gwamnati	Government	English	Government
Sakatare	Secretary	English	Secretary

Adaptation by apocoptation

Adaptive by apocoptation is dropping of a phoneme or group of phonemes at the word final.

Table two (a)

Technological

Loanword	Root term	Source language	Meaning
Atan bom	Atomic bomb	English	Atomic bomb
Batir	Battery	English	Battery
Garmaho	Gramophone	English	Gramophone

(b) Administrative

Loanword	Root term	Source language	Meaning
Gwamna	Governor	English	Governor
Oditor	Oditor	English	Oditor
Ofis	Office	English	Office

Adaptation by Syncopation

Adaptive by syncopation this is another process of which a segment or group of segments is

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or are dropped at medial position of a word:

Table three

Technological

Loanwords	Root term	Source language	Meaning
Bilanda	Blender	English	Blender
Hita	Heater	English	Heater
Firji	Fridge	English	Fridge

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(b) Administrative

Loanword	Root term	Source language	Meaning
Kwamishina	Commissioner	English	Commissioner
Janar	General	English	General
Firzin	Prison	English	Prison

Adaptation by Epenthesis

Epenthesis is a process of introduction of new segment or group of segment at the medial position of a word.

Table four (a)

Technological

Loanword	Root term	Source language	Meaning
Tarakta	Tractor	English	Tractor
Tangaraho	Telegraph	English	Telegraph
Taransifoma	Transformer	English	Transformer

(b) Administrative

Loanword	Root term	Source language	Meaning
Adibayiza	Adviser	English	Adviser
Sakatara	Secretary	English	Secretary
Ciyaman	Chairman	English	chairman

Adaptation by Aphaeresis

Aphaeresis is a process of dropping segment at the initial position of a word.

Table five (a) Technological

Loanword	Root term	Source language	Meaning
Lantarki	Electric power	English	Electric power
Injiniya	Engineer	English	Engineer
Eyakondishin	Air condition	English	Air condition

(b) Administrative

Loanword	Root term	Source language	Meaning
Kansila	Councilor	English	Councilor
Gwamna	Governor	English	Governor
Fireside	President	English	President

Adaptation by Synthesis

Synthesis refers to the addition of segment at the final position of a word.

Table six (a) Technological

Loanword	Root term	Source language	Meaning
Fanka	Fan	English	Fan
Maleji	Mileage	English	Mileage
Filogi	Plug	English	Plug

(b) Administrative

Loanword	Root term	Source language	Meaning
Tebur	Table	English	Table
Gwamnati	Government	English	Government
Ci joji	Chief judge	English	Chief judge

Adaptation by Inflection

Inflection deals with the grammatical function of word i.e. singular to plural or plural to singular.

Table seven (a) Technological

Loanword	Root term	Source language	Meaning
Injiniyoyi	Engineer	English	Engineer
Fankoki	Fan	English	Fan
Kamfanoni	Company	English	Company

(b) Administrative

Loanword	Root term	Source language	Meaning
Gwamnoni	Governor	English	Governor
Ciyamomi	Chairman	English	Chairman
Sakatarori	Secretary	English	Secretary

In consideration to the findings above, we can realize that both the technological and administrative words that are borrowed from English are as result of new innovations and western administrative imitation by the African countries.

Conclusion

The paper discusses the influence of English on Hausa language, the categories of loanwords and most importantly the two major aspects of borrowing, such as technological and administrative aspects, similarly, two Linguistics levels were involved in the analysis i.e. phonology and morphology.

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