



## Article

# Structural-Semantic Features of Locative Case Forms in the Karakalpak Language and Their Equivalents in the English Language

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**Abstract:** The study looks at the structural-semantic characteristics of locative case forms in both Karakalpak and English. There is a substantial knowledge vacuum in examining the ancillary meanings of these locative indicators, even though Karakalpak case ends and English prepositions (such as at, in, and on) have fundamental similarities. This study finds patterns of locative affixation in Karakalpak and compares them with English prepositions using comparative structural and semantic analysis. The results show that whereas both languages convey peripheral meanings like tools, mental states, and part-whole relationships differently, they share spatial-temporal functions. This study advances our knowledge of cross-linguistic case expressions, which has ramifications for translation studies and Turkic language instruction.

**Keywords:** case, preposition, structure, semantics, morphological forms

## 1. Introduction

In modern Karakalpak, the locations of objects or actions are expressed by special locative case endings *-da/de*, and *-ta/te*. The nouns in these forms indicate the objects are either in a static condition or doing some activity in the place. In English, the location of objects or actions is primarily conveyed by the prepositions “at”, “in” and “on” which are considered as prototypical prepositions for the locative case endings of Karakalpak nouns, for example: *mektepte* –at school, *diywalda* –on the wall, *bólmede* –in the room. However, it is not the only meaning of the locative case suffixes as there are peripheral meanings of language units besides prototypical one in every language of the world. The aim of this research paper is to identify all the meanings of the locative case in Karakalpak and their English equivalents.

## 2. Materials and Methods

The structural analysis of words and word combinations plays a crucial role to make a sound judgement in terms of both form and meaning of the Karakalpak locative case and English prepositions. The Karakalpak case suffixes strictly comply with the general Turkic languages sound harmony rules. According to this law, both the type of syllables and

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sounds play a part in adding case markers to nouns. In the case of locative case, the *-ta/te* is added to voiceless consonants, as well as to words borrowed from the Russian language, ending in sounds *b, v, g, d* [6, 139]. In all other cases, the suffix *-da/de* is added. As a source for this investigation we used the prose texts of the prominent writers in modern English and Karakalpak literature. Comparative, structural-semantic and descriptive methods are used to analyze the forms and meanings of the locative case in Karakalpak and their equivalents in English.

### 3. Results and Discussion

The structural features of the locative case markers *-da/de* can be analysed as follows. All the vowels, voiced consonants and sonorous sounds take the affix *-da/de*.

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| 1) vowels: <i>a, ı, o, u, á, e, i, ó, ú</i>        | } + <i>da/de</i> |
| 2) voiced consonants: <i>ğ, j, z</i>               |                  |
| 3) sonorous consonants: <i>l, m, n, ń, r, w, y</i> |                  |

It should be noted that the syllables in Karakalpak can be broad and narrowed. Broad syllables contain back vowels (*a, ı, o, u*), whereas narrowed syllables consist of front vowels (*á, e, i, ó, ú*) [8, 41]. Consequently, the affix *-da* is added to broad syllables, whereas narrowed syllables take the affix *-de*.

#### I. The suffixation rule for *-da/de*

- 1) vowels: *a, ı, o, u, á, e, i, ó, ú* + *da/de*

a) broad syllable: *a, ı, o, u* + *da*: *qalada, qońsıda, kinoda, kenguruda*

b) narrowed syllable: *á, e, i, ó, ú* + *de*: *kemedede, bólmede, dáride, kelide*

Note: Nouns ending in vowels *á, ó, ú* are practically not found in modern Karakalpak.

- 2) voiced consonant: *ğ, j, z* + *da/de*

a) broad syllable: *ğ, j, z* + *da*: *bağda, bagajda, jazda, atızda, duzda, bozda*.

b) narrowed syllable: *j, z* + *de*: *wájde, Voronejde, háwijde, gezde, dálizde, sózde*

- 3) sonorous consonants: *l, m, n, ń, r, w, y* + *da/de*

a) broad syllable: *l, m, n, ń, r, w, y* + *da*: *kámbagalda, bayramda, watanda, tańda, balalarda, Bozatawda, Qıtayda, awılda, qolımda, murında, qayıńda, qırda, qılıwda, qıyda, stolda, albomda, rayonda, ońda, televizorda, toyda, ulda, qumda, mazmunda, muńda, garniturda, suwda*.

Note: The last vowels which make syllables broad and narrow and the last consonants are written in bold.

The borrowed words such as *parol, rol, rul, spektakl, korabl, ansambl, rubl, patrul, binokl, sentyabr, oktyabr, noyabr, dekabr* take the suffix *-de*, although their last syllable is broad: *parolde, rolde, rulde, spektaklde, Geraklde, rublde, ansamblde, sentyabrde*.

b) narrowed syllable: *l, m, n, ń, r, w, y* + *de*: *biymáhálde, námáhrámde, jáhándede, báhárde, dáwde, belde, gilemde, edende, tereńde, xızmetkerde, belbewde, dúbeleyde, tılde, kiyimde, erinde, gúrrińde, dúńgirde, kiriwde, biyde, kólde, dóńde, tórde, tamashagóyde, gúlde, túnde, dástúrde, úyde*.

Now let's turn to suffixation rules of *-ta/te*.

#### II. The suffixation features of *-ta/te*:

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| 1) voiceless consonants: <i>p, f, k, q, t, sh, s, x, h</i> | } + <i>-ta/te</i> |
| 2) voiced consonants: <i>b, v, g, d</i>                    |                   |



3) voiceless consonants: *p, f, k, q, t, sh, s, x, h + ta/te*

a) broad syllable + *ta*: *kitapta, shkafta, Irakta, sabaqta, saatta, sawashta, abzacta, tasta, monaxta, árwahta, Qayıpta, qosıqta, baxıtta, basqışta, jarısta, topta, filosofta, potolokta, shoqta, otta, yoshta, qosta, jupta, maqluqta, institutta, dushta*

b) narrowed syllable + *te*: *gápte, hákte, ráhátte, máshite, páste, mektepte, shefte, terekte, maqsette, keshte, qápeste, tártipte, tarıfte, etikte, meshitte, ókinishte, Nókiste, shóppte, átshókpte, ótte, kóshte, tóste, túpte, júkte, sútte, kúshte túste.*

The words borrowed from foreign languages ending in *-rk, -nk, -nkt, -kt, -ks, -lt* take the suffix *-te*: *parkte, bankte, punkte, faktte, fakste, pultte.*

2) voiced consonants: *b, v, g, d + ta/te*

a) broad syllable: *b, v, g, d + ta*: *arabta, garderohta, klubta, avtoklavta, Amanovta, ahshlagta, pedagogta, plugta, Orenburgta, paradta, zavodta, sudta, etyudte*

b) narrowed syllable: *b, v, g, d + te*: *gerbte, nervte, Kievte, kollektivte, brifingte, velosipedte, gidte.*

### III. The locative case declension of possessive nouns

As well as simple declension which we have just analysed, there is also possessive declension system of nouns in the Karakalpak language. In this case, the nouns carry out two operations. First, base forms take special possessive affixes. These affixes indicate the owner of the thing and therefore there are different types of affixes for each person and for both singular and plural number.

**Table 1.** The paradigm of possessive affixes

Possessive suffixes	
Person (Singular)	Person (Plural)
<b>First person</b>	<b>First person</b>
- <i>m / ım / im</i>	- <i>mız / miz / ımız / imiz</i>
<b>Second person</b>	<b>Second person</b>
- <i>ń / ın / in</i>	- <i>ńız / ınız / ıńız / iniz</i>
<b>Third person</b>	<b>Third person</b>
- <i>ı / i / sı / si</i>	- <i>ı / i / sı / si</i>

Only the affix *-da/-de* is added to possessive nouns. The affix *-ta/-te* is never used. Because possessive suffixes end in only voiced and sonorous consonants (*-m -ń -ı, -sı, -mız, -ńız*) as is seen in the table above. But in the third-person, an additional element *-n* is added before the suffixes *-da/-de* and they become *-nda/-nde*. This element is called an infix and functions as connecting the last sounds *-ı, -i* in the third-person possessive affixes to the locative case endings *-da/de* [14, 26]. The possessive endings give the meaning of possessive pronouns in English: *my* (- *m / ım / im*), *your* (- *ń / ın / in*), *his/her* (- *ı / i / sı / si*), *our* (- *mız / miz / ımız / imiz*), *your* (- *ńız / ınız / ıńız / iniz*), *their* (- *ı / i / sı / si*). E.g.: *qálemim - my pencil, qálemiń - your pencil, qálemi - his/her pencil.*

1) The addition of locative case endings to the first-person possessive affixes

First-person: *-m/ım/im (Sg); -mız/miz/ımız/imiz (Pl) + da/de*

Singular

a) broad syllable: *-m/ım + da*: *balamda, qońsımda, paltomda, kitabımda, qosıgımda, tobımda, institutımda*

b) narrowed syllable: *-m/im + de*: *kóshemde, inimde, gápimde, mektebimde, kelinimde, kózimde, júzimde.*

Plural



a) broad syllable: *-miz/ımız + da*: qalamızda, dayımızda, videomızda, sabağımızda, baslıgımızda, rayonımızda, klubımızda.

b) narrowed syllable: *-miz/imiz + de*: ájemizde, terimizde, mápińizde, bilegimizde, birligimizde, sózimizde, gúlimizde.

**Note:** As a rule, the possessive suffixes *-m/miz/muz* are added to nouns ending in vowels, whereas the affixes *-ım/im/ımız/ımız* to nouns ending in consonants.

2) The addition of locative case forms to the second-person possessive affixes

Singular: *-ń/ıń/iń + da/de*

a) broad syllable: *-ń/ıń + da*: ağańda, oqıwshıńda, kreslońda, dúkanıńda, baldızıńda, televizorıńda, jurtıńda

b) narrowed syllable: *-ń/iń + de*: bólmeńde, dárińde, lábińde, kúyewińde, kiyimińde, kózińde, túrińde

Plural: *-ńız/ıńız/ıńız/ińız + da/de*

a) broad syllable: *-ńız/ıńız + da*: anańızda, oqıwshıńızda, depońızda, jumısıńızda, aymağıńızda, aylıgıńızda, balkonıńızda, plenumıńızda

b) narrowed syllable: *-ńız/ińız + de*: kemeńizde, kelińizde, kátińizde, jerińizde, bólimińizde, sózińizde, dástúrińizde

**Note.** The *-ń/ıń/ıńız* are joined to nouns ending in vowels, and the *-ıń/iń/ıńız/ıńız* to nouns ending in consonants.

3) The addition rule of locative case endings to the third-person possessive affixes

As mentioned above, the locative case of possessive nouns in the third-person is formed with the combination of affixes *-n* and *-da/-de*.

Noun + poss. suffix + infix + loc. case affix

bala + sı + n + da = balasında

son + his + - + in = in his son

The third-person possessive affixes are the same for both singular and plural.

Singular/plural: *-ı/i/sı/si + nda/nde*

a) broad syllable: *-sı/ı + nda*: balasında, dayısında, paltosında, japırağında, qosıgında, zavodında, garniturında

b) narrowed syllable: *-si/-i + nde*: kóshesinde, inisinde, háginde, sheleginde, muğalliminde, shóbinde, dástúrinde.

**Note:** The *-ı/i* forms are added to nouns ending in vowels, while *-sı/si* to nouns ending in consonants.

### The semantic features of the locative case

In Karakalpak, the locative case means both place and time. Therefore, in some Turkic languages, the locative case is called as spatial-temporal case: urın-vakit kileshi (tatar) [4, 121], o'rin-payt kelishigi (uzbek) [5, 93]. In English, prepositions *at*, *in*, *on*, *by* are also the main prepositions used to express both time and place, for example: *Oktyabrde -in* October, *saat úshste - at* 3 o'clock, *Nókiste - in* Nukus.

So, in Karakalpak, the nouns in locative case forms have the following meanings:

1. They indicate the location of objects [10, 106]. If the noun answers the question *kimde? nede?* (in/on whom?, in/on/at what?), it acts as an indirect object. For example:

*Mına Sergeyde pul kóp* (M. Nızanov). Sergei has a lot of money. (Lit. There is a lot of money on Sergey)

*Kitaplarda bári jasılğan* (K. Raxmanov). Everything is written in books.



If the noun answers the question *qayaqta? qaerde? qay jerde? qayda?* it functions as a locative adverbial. For example:

*Bizler Qońıratıta bes jıl turdıq, – dedi Rafael (M. Nızanov).*

*We lived in Kungrad for five years, - said Rafael.*

In English, prepositions particularly accompany with verbs of stative meaning such as *be, stand, live, belong, hang, remain, sit, be situated, stay*, etc [15, 675; 9, 778] and answers the question *where?* E.g.: Ann was at Oxford. Ann was sitting on the grass. Ann lives in Oxford Street.

The preposition *at* indicates locations as a single point or treats a place as a dimensionless location. It does not give any information about inside or outside of the place. For instance, when somebody says '*He is at the bus-stop/at the station/at the end of the road*', we view the place as a mere point. The preposition *at* is also applied to buildings of an institutional-functional character [15, 676]. He is at school. Ann works at a publishing house.

Through the preposition *in* is understood mainly the inner side of the place, so it is used for places with three dimensions [12, 291]: *in a box, in a room*. *In* is also used for two-dimensional (open area) spaces. Such places include large areas, geographical territories: *in the world, in a/the village, in a/the park, in Asia, in London*, etc.

*On* applies to one and two dimensional spaces. For example, *a table, ceiling, wall, window, door* and other objects are objects with an upper, lower and two sides, which are considered objects of two side. In this case, the objects touching the upper, lower and side surfaces are described with the preposition *on*: *on the table, on the wall, on the ceiling, on my back, on the door, on the window*, etc.

2. Nouns with the meaning of time is used in the locative case and indicate that the action is performed at a specific time, and answers the questions *when?, at what time?* and functions as an adverbial modifier of time [10, 106]. For example:

*Báhárde barlıq aǵash japıraq jayadı (Ó. Ayjanov).*

*In spring all trees put out leaves.*

If the words *kúnlik, háptelik, aylıq, and jıllıq* are used in the past tense in the locative form, they mean *before*. But these words must be used with numerals in order to express this meaning. The English equivalent is the word *ago*.

*Úsh kúnlikte balıqshılar ushın tutınıw zatları keldi (Ó. Ayjanov).*

*Three days ago some household goods arrived for fishermen.*

Some abstract nouns and adjectives mean time when they are in locative case form, and answers the question *when?*: *túsimde, ońımda, tınıshlıqta, paraxatshılıqta, ómirimde, balalıqta, jaslıqta, urısta, dawda, jawda, ıssıda, suwıqta*. In English, such abstract nouns are expressed in the sense of time by the prepositions *at, in* [11, 167; 11, 210]: *at/in peace – tınıshlıqta, at war – urısta, in childhood – balalıqta, in my youth – jaslıǵımda*.

*Usı ıssıda qayaqqa barasız? – dedi Páriyda tańlanıp (T. Qayıpbergenov).* *Where are you going in this heat? – said Parida in surprise.*

When the words *gez, waqıt, dáwir, zaman, shaq, kún, jıl* (time, period, moment, day, year) are used in plural in locative forms, they express time periods. They are synonymous to the third person possessive forms without locative case affixes. And these forms normally accompany with the demonstrative pronouns in the singular *ol/ sol/ usı*. In English, the plural form of the demonstrative pronouns (those) is applied:

*sol zamanları = sol zamanlarda* – in those years/ times

*ol waqıtları = ol waqıtlarda* – in those times

*usı kúnleri = usı kúnlerde* – these days.



3. The locative case forms indicates the repetition of an action when they are added to the nouns denoting time *kún, hápte, jıl* (day, week, year) [7, 58]. The word *every* is used for repeated actions in English.

*Kúnde azanda shınıǵıw islep, bir ay ishinde burınǵıday júretuǵın boldım*  
(Á. Atajanov).

*Every day in the morning I did exercise and in a month I was able to walk again.*

The prepositions *at, in, on, by* in the English language are also used to express temporal meanings and they differ from each other with respect to nouns they can combine. The preposition “*at*” indicates the exact time, and are used before the word *clock*, holiday names and with the word “*time*”: *at ten oclock, at 6.30 p.m, at noon, at night, at Christmas, at Easter, at breakfast time, at the/this time.*

The preposition *on* is used before the names of days, dates and with the word *day*: *on Monday, on the following day, on May (the) first, on Christmas Day.*

The preposition *in* is used before the names of months, years, seasons and time periods as in: *in the evening, in August, in 1979, in summer, in the eighteenth century.*

4. When the words denoting time (*jıl, ay, hápte, kún, saat, minut*) are used in the locative case forms preceded by numerals, they indicate the finishing time period of an action. In English, the preposition *in* is used to express longer periods [9, 40; 13, 299]. For example:

*Reje boyınsha kúnine 25 verst jol júrip, Xiywaǵa 70 kúnde jetip barıwımız kerek edi* (M. Nızanov).

*According to the plan, we were supposed to cover 25 miles a day and reach Khiva in 70 days.*

5. It indicates the tools and methods of an action and answers the questions *ne menen? qalay? (how?)* [6, 135; 2, 44]. E.g.:

*Biz Moskvaǵa poezdda bardıq, qaytarsın samolyotta keldik.*

*We went to Moscow by bus, and returned by plane.*

*Motociklde kelgen qáne?* (A. Aqnazarov).

*Where is the one that came on a motorbike?*

In English, the prepositions *by, with, in* and *on* can give the idea of ‘*by means of*’: *by bus/train/car/boat* [11, 145-335]. E.g.:

*They set up a business with the help of a bank loan.*

The preposition *by* can be exchanged with the prepositions *in*, or *on*. In that case, the prepositions are usually followed by articles. *On* is used for big transport, while *in* is used for smaller transport: *in a car/taxi, on the bus.*

Languages and types of writing are also used to express means or tools. E.g.:

*Bul mektepte barlıq sabaqlar inglis tilinde ótiledi.*

*At this school, all the lessons are conducted in English.*

6. The locative case is used to show the mental state of a person and answers the questions *qalay? qayıtip? (how?)*. They function in a sentence as an adverbial modifier: *azapta qalıw, ráhátte jasaw, qıynshılıqta jasaw, ómiri qorlıqta ótiw.*

In English, the expressions that indicate people’s mental states apply the preposition *in* [11, 211]: *live in agony, in poverty, in trouble, in friendship, in happiness, in joy, in sorrow, be in love, be in a hurry, be in danger, live in luxury.*

*Birinshi kúnniń aqshamı azapta attı* (Á. Atajanov).

*The evening of the first day was spent in agony.*

7. The part-whole relations are expressed in locative forms in Karakalpak. Normally, the words denoting the whole take the endings and the word *bar* (there is/are or have) is



used as predicate. To explain this meaning in English, the word *consist of* and other expressions can be used. E.g.:

*Bir háptede jeti kún bar. A week consists of seven days.*

8. The locative case conveys the meaning of the expression “on the subject of”. In this case, normally the word “*temada*” (*on the topic*) is used. In English “subject matter” is expressed by the prepositions ‘about, on’ [1, 152]. E.g.:

*Keshe gána «Qis» degen temada sabaq óttik (T. Qayıpbergenov).*

*Just yesterday we had a lesson on the topic «Winter».*

9. The locative case forms indicate what kind of clothes a person is wearing. In English, this meaning is expressed by the preposition *in* [9, 39]. E.g.:

*Jigitler úshew eken. Birewi formada, leytenant. Qalğan ekewi ápiwayı kiyimde edi. (A. Aqnazarov).*

*They were three guys. One was in uniform, Lieutenant. The other two were in ordinary clothes.*

10. The shape, appearance and colour of an object is used in locative case. In English, it corresponds to the preposition *in*. E.g.:

*Dáryanıń suwı kók reńde, tınıq suwdağı júzip júrgen balıqlar altınday jarqırap anıq kórinip turadı (J. Ábdireymov).*

*The water of the river is blue (in blue colour), and the fish swimming in the still water are clearly visible as they are shining like gold.*

11. The locative case affix is added to the participles *-ğan/-gen* and to the words in infinitive forms to express time [3, 43]. It is similar to conjunctions *when, while* in English. E.g.:

*Xojelige kelgende qız apasınıń úyi bar ekenligin ayttı hám mirát etti (G. Esemuratova).*

*When we arrived in Khojeli, she said there was her sister's house and invited me there.*

#### 4. Conclusion

So the exact equivalents of the locative case suffix *-da* are the prepositions *at, in, on* in the English language. Because these prepositions can express the meanings of the suffix *-da* without any grammatical means. In addition, both the affix *-da* and the prepositions *at, in, on* can also express time along with location. Therefore, spatial-temporal meanings are prototypical meanings of *-da* and prepositions *at/ in/ on*. As well as denoting time and location they may also give different peripheral meanings associated with instruments of an action, possessions, part-whole relations, colours, clothes, people's mental states, experiences, and many other relations.

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