



# Linguistic Means And Methods Of Forming The Names Of Official Positions In Russian And Uzbek

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**Abstract:** This article explores the linguistic means and word-formation methods used to create names of official positions and titles in Russian and Uzbek languages. It analyzes morphological, lexical, and semantic features that determine how each language expresses hierarchy, gender, and administrative structure. The study compares the etymological roots, word-formation patterns, and socio-cultural factors influencing the development of occupational titles. The findings reveal that while Russian and Uzbek share certain universal features of official terminology due to historical contact and mutual borrowing, they also display significant structural and cultural differences that reflect each society's administrative and linguistic traditions.

**Keywords:** Official titles, word formation, Russian language, Uzbek language, morphology, derivation, semantics, sociolinguistics, borrowing.

**Introduction:** Language is not only a means of communication but also a reflection of a nation's culture, values, and social organization. One of the areas where this interconnection is especially visible is in the naming of official positions and titles. The terminology used to denote professions, ranks, and administrative posts reveals a great deal about the linguistic creativity and socio-political history of a people.

In both Russian and Uzbek, the vocabulary of official and professional titles has evolved under the influence of historical, cultural, and political factors. The Russian language developed its system of administrative and military titles through the processes of internal derivation and borrowing, especially from Old Church

Slavonic, French, and German. The Uzbek language, belonging to the Turkic family, developed its terminology through agglutinative morphology, Persian-Arabic influence, and later, significant borrowing from Russian during the Soviet era.

This paper examines the linguistic means (lexical, morphological, and syntactic) and methods of word formation (derivation, compounding, affixation, and borrowing) used in forming official titles in Russian and Uzbek. It also discusses the sociolinguistic implications of these naming conventions.

### Theoretical Background

In linguistics, naming or nomination refers to the process by which new words or expressions are created to identify people, objects, or phenomena. Names of positions (titles) form part of terminological vocabulary, which must be precise, stable, and widely accepted in administrative communication.

According to word-formation theory, there are several main linguistic means of creating such names:

1. Derivation – forming a new word by adding affixes (e.g., director → deputy director).
2. Composition – combining two or more roots (e.g., vice-president).
3. Conversion – changing the grammatical category of a word without changing its form (e.g., to chair → chairperson).
4. Borrowing – adopting a foreign word and adapting it to the native phonetic and grammatical system.

These processes function differently in languages with different morphological types. Russian, a fusional language, relies heavily on derivational affixes and endings. Uzbek, an agglutinative language, forms titles by attaching suffixes and auxiliary words in a more regular and transparent way.

### Word Formation in Russian Official Titles

The Russian system of professional and administrative names is deeply influenced by its historical and bureaucratic traditions.

### Morphological Means

In Russian, official titles are often formed through derivation using specific suffixes and prefixes. Common suffixes include:

- -тель / -атель → руководитель (leader), воспитатель (educator)
- -щик / -ник → строитель (builder), работник (worker), служащий (employee)
- -ец / -ист / -олог → учёный, журналист, психолог

These suffixes indicate a person associated with a certain activity or profession. Prefixes such as зам- (deputy) and вице- (vice-) specify hierarchical position: замдиректора, вице-премьер.

### Lexical and Semantic Features

Many Russian titles include a semantic marker of hierarchy or authority. For instance:

- начальник отдела (head of department)
- генеральный директор (general director)
- старший преподаватель (senior lecturer)

The adjectives (старший, младший, главный, генеральный) serve as semantic modifiers expressing rank or responsibility.

### Borrowings and Internationalisms

During the 18th–20th centuries, Russian borrowed a large number of administrative terms from French, German, and English, especially in the spheres of military, diplomacy, and technology:

- министр (Fr. ministre)
- инженер (Ger. Ingenieur)
- секретарь (Fr. secrétaire)
- директор (Lat. director through French)

These borrowed titles became fully integrated into the Russian system and are now productive bases for further derivation (замминистр, гендиректор, главсекретарь).

### Word Formation in Uzbek Official Titles

The Uzbek language, belonging to the Turkic group, uses agglutinative morphology, meaning that grammatical and derivational functions are expressed through a sequence of clearly separable suffixes.

### Morphological Means

Common Uzbek suffixes used in professional and administrative names include:

- -chi / -чи → indicates profession or activity: o'qituvchi (teacher), haydovchi (driver), ishchi (worker).
- -kor / -гар → denotes a person engaged in a specific trade or function: tadbirkor (entrepreneur), dehqonkor (farmer).
- -shunos → specialist or scholar: tilshunos (linguist), adabiyotshunos (literary critic).
- -soz → maker or fixer: temirsoz (blacksmith).

Titles are often compositional: bo'lim boshlig'i (head of department), katta o'qituvchi (senior teacher), bosh muhandis (chief engineer). These combinations use a noun + adjective or noun + genitive construction to indicate hierarchy.

### Borrowings and Russian Influence

During the Soviet period, Uzbek borrowed extensively from Russian administrative vocabulary, adapting foreign words to Uzbek phonology and morphology:

- direktor, inspektor, sekretar, muallim (teacher – from Arabic but used similarly), prokuror, rektor, professor, dekan.

Many of these words coexist with native or hybrid forms (bo'lim boshlig'i instead of nachalnik otdela). Today, in independent Uzbekistan, there is a trend toward Uzbekization of official terminology—replacing foreign forms with Turkic-based equivalents (rahbar,

maslahatchi, kotib instead of sekretar).

### Sociolinguistic Aspects

In Uzbek, titles often carry social and cultural connotations of respect and hierarchy. Words such as domla (teacher/professor), ustoz (mentor), and rahbar (leader) not only indicate position but also express esteem. The choice between native and borrowed forms can signal formality, modernity, or cultural affiliation.

Comparative Analysis of Russian and Uzbek Naming Systems

Feature	Russian	Uzbek
Morphological type	Fusional	Agglutinative
Main suffixes	-тель, -ник, -щик, -ист	-chi, -kor, -shunos, -soz
Borrowing sources	French, German, Latin, English	Arabic, Persian, Russian
Expression hierarchy	of Prefixes ( <i>вице-, зам-</i> ) + adjectives ( <i>главный, старший</i> )	Lexical modifiers ( <i>bosh, katta, katta bo'lim boshlig'i</i> )
Word formation patterns	Derivation and compounding	Affixation and analytical construction
Cultural connotation	Formal, bureaucratic, hierarchical	Respectful, flexible, culturally nuanced

Both languages organize titles according to hierarchical or functional principles.

- In Russian: президент → премьер → министр → начальник → сотрудник.
- In Uzbek: prezident → bosh vazir → vazir → rahbar → xodim.

The hierarchical parallelism reflects shared administrative models influenced by Soviet governance, though Uzbek now increasingly uses indigenous words to replace Russian calques (xodim for sotrudnik, rahbar for nachalnik).

Semantic classification shows that official titles fall into major categories:

1. Administrative (директор / rahbar)
2. Academic (профессор / professor, o'qituvchi)
3. Military / Law enforcement (polkovnik / polkovnik, kapitan / kapitan)
4. Religious / Cultural (imam / imom, ustoz /

teacher).

### Socio-Cultural Influence and Modern Trends

Language evolves with society. In post-Soviet Uzbekistan, national identity and linguistic independence have led to an active renewal of terminology. Government institutions promote Uzbek-based terminology to replace Russian borrowings. Thus, sekretar becomes kotib, direktor becomes rahbar, and inspektor becomes nazoratchi.

In contrast, Russian, with its global influence, continues to integrate international English-based terms (менеджер, супервайзер, HR-специалист), showing a trend toward internationalization rather than localization.

Both languages adapt to modernization but follow different strategies—Uzbek aims for linguistic decolonization, while Russian tends toward global lexical integration.

### CONCLUSION

The analysis of linguistic means and methods of forming official titles in Russian and Uzbek demonstrates how language structure, culture, and history interact in naming practices.

Russian, as a fusional Indo-European language, uses derivational morphology and international borrowings to create a rich but hierarchical system of titles. Uzbek, as an agglutinative Turkic language, employs suffixation and compositional structures, emphasizing clarity, respect, and cultural identity.

Despite their differences, both languages share the functional goal of precision and efficiency in administrative communication. Their terminological systems reveal not only linguistic creativity but also the social values and historical transformations of each nation.

As globalization and digital communication continue to influence linguistic change, both Russian and Uzbek will keep adapting their naming systems to reflect new professional realities—preserving tradition while embracing innovation.

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