

The Usage of Profession Names Derived From The German Borrowing Meister In Official–Administrative Documents

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Abstract: In our article, we will first talk about borrowings in Uzbek, about which scientists have conducted scientific research on the term borrowings, as well as about the names of professions in German that play a significant role in the vocabulary of the Uzbek language, mainly using the word *meister*, as well as their etymology in German, Russian, and lexical meanings in Uzbek, and then in our article the main goal was to identify the formal names of professions in Uzbek, formed with the help of *meister* borrowing. – we have reviewed the semantic, phonetic and graphical analysis in departmental documents.

Keywords: Borrowings, Uzbek language, Russian language, German language, *Meister*, official departmental document, names of professions, semantics, graphics, phonetics.

Introduction: In Uzbekistan, several scholars have conducted research on loanwords existing in the Uzbek language. For instance, Jumaniyazova D. has studied the differential analysis of Sanskrit borrowings in the lexical composition of Uzbek, Mahmudov R. has examined borrowings in Ogahiy's historical works, while Xudayqulov A. E. has focused on the use of English loanwords in official–administrative documents. In this article, however, we analyze the German loanword *Meister* and the profession names derived from it, as well as their usage in official–administrative documents in Uzbek. Having examined the lexical composition of the Uzbek language, we divided German loanwords into the categories of nouns, adjectives, and verbs; nouns, in turn, were classified into simple and compound forms. Within this classification, we found *master* as a simple noun and *balletmeister*, *grossmeister*, *kapellmeister*, *concertmeister* as compound nouns. These derived nouns show the following structures: *balletmeister* – noun + noun, *grossmeister* – adjective + noun, *kapellmeister* – noun + noun, *concertmeister* – noun + noun. Let us now analyze their usage in official–administrative documents in Uzbek.

In the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan PQ-68 dated 21.02.2025 "On preparation

for and holding of the national holiday Navruz 2025," we encounter a German loanword belonging to the field of art: "...to prepare these festivities and performances at a high artistic level together with local experienced scriptwriters and directors, composers and songwriters, *balletmeisters*, stage artists, talented young performers, and representatives of folk art." [1] In German, *Ballettmeister* has only one meaning – a teacher of ballet. In L. P. Krysin's explanatory dictionary, *balletmeister* is a compound noun formed from the French word *ballet* and the German *Meister* ("master," "craftsman"). In Russian, however, it has two meanings: (1) a ballet choreographer; (2) a person participating as a *balletmeister* in a musical stage performance. [11] The first edition (1981) of the Explanatory Dictionary of the Uzbek Language defines *balletmeister* (a borrowing from German via Russian) as one who stages the dances of a ballet or stage performance. [6] In the 2006 edition, it is defined as "(from German: ballet master) – a person who choreographs dances in ballets, operas, operettas, and other stage performances." [7] The 2023 edition repeats the same definition. The National Encyclopedia of Uzbekistan explains *balletmeister* as derived from the German *Ballettmeister* ("ballet master"), meaning the author and choreographer of dances in ballets,

choreographic performances, operas, operettas, and dramatic plays. [8] In Central Asia, Kazakhstan, and Azerbaijan, those staging dances for national musical dramas are also called balletmeisters. The balletmeister designs the entire choreographic form of a ballet according to the libretto, rhythm, and melody of the music and teaches it to the dancers. In ballet, the balletmeister is the chief creator, while in other genres, they play an auxiliary role.

In the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 706 dated 29.12.2023 "On amendments to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of 19.06.2018 No. 458 'On approval of the improved system of remuneration and material incentives for employees of state cultural institutions and state archives'," we read: "...stage-director, stage-balletmeister, stage-designer, conductor, artistic director of a dance ensemble" [3] — which refers to a type of balletmeister position. The original German semantic meaning has not been transferred into Uzbek. Phonetically and graphically, the word has undergone notable changes: in German Ballett contains double "l" and "t," but in Uzbek both letters are reduced; in Meister, the digraph ei is pronounced [ai], yielding [maister] in German, but in Uzbek orthography ey is used, producing [meyster] instead of [maister].

The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 272 dated 08.05.2024 "On amendments and additions to certain government decisions and recognition of some as void in connection with the establishment of the Ministry of Sports of the Republic of Uzbekistan" contains the following:

"...According to the Presidential Decree of the Republic of Uzbekistan PQ-414 dated 03.11.2022 'On measures to further improve the training of personnel and research system in the field of physical culture and sports,' athletes holding the honorary title of Merited Athlete of Uzbekistan, international-level Uzbek sports masters or international grossmeisters, national sports masters or Uzbek grossmeisters, as well as athletes who have won first place in national championships in Olympic, Paralympic, Asian and Para-Asian Games sports over the past year, shall be exempt from professional (creative) entrance exams and shall receive the maximum score." [4] Grossmeister is borrowed from the German Großmeister. According to the Duden Universal Dictionary, it originates from Middle High German grossmeister and has the following meanings: (1) supreme leader of knights; (2) head of the secret brotherhood of Freemasons; (3) the highest, lifetime title in chess; (4) colloquial – an expert, a master in a given field. [10] As this shows, grossmeister has existed in German since the era of knighthood. While M. Vasmer's Etymological

Dictionary of Russian does not mention it, L. P. Krysin notes that the Russian гроссмейстер derives from German Großmeister, denoting the highest chess and draughts title and its holder, as well as a historical ecclesiastical title in the medieval Catholic Church. [11] In the 1981 edition of the Explanatory Dictionary of Uzbek, grossmeister (borrowed via Russian from German) is defined as the highest title awarded to chess masters and its holder. [6] The 2006 and 2023 editions define it directly from German Großmeister ("great master") as the highest title in chess and draughts. [7,8] Thus, the titular semantics of grossmeister transferred from German into both Uzbek and Russian. In terms of phonetics and orthography, the German digraph ei (pronounced [ai]) was borrowed literally, but in Uzbek and Russian it appears as ey instead of ai, producing the form grossmeyster. The Uzbek language does not have an equivalent native word for this concept.

By contrast, kapellmeister is not attested in Uzbek official-administrative documents.

In the Presidential Decree PQ-112 dated 02.02.2022 "On additional measures for the further development of culture and art," the following appears: "...salaries of directors, deputy directors, teachers, and concertmeisters shall be increased by 10% from January 1, 2025. These funds shall be allocated to strengthen the material-technical base of children's music and art schools, provide material incentives to all categories of staff, and cover expenses for sending students, teachers, and concertmeisters to republican and international competitions, festivals, and creative workshops." [2] Here, concertmeister is a compound noun borrowed from German into Uzbek within the domain of art. Following F. Kluge's Etymological Dictionary of the German Language, Konzert emerged in the early 17th century, introduced by Viadana in his *Concerti di chiesa* (church concerts), and subsequently employed by Prätorius in 1619. H. H. Eggebrecht in his *Studien zur musikalischen Terminologie* (1955) notes that Italian concertare derives from Latin conserere ("to unite, to join"), developing new semantic layers. In the 16th century, Italian concerto denoted ensemble music. Meister, from Latin magister ("teacher, chief"), derives ultimately from magnus ("great") with a double comparative suffix. It entered German twice, forming Old High German meistar, Old Saxon mestar, and Old English maester. Across Europe, Italian maestro, French maître, and English master/mister served as honorifics and professional titles. This word denoted school leaders and scholars, later becoming an academic title equal to "doctor" until the 15th century, and in some regions still retaining that rank. [9] The Duden Universal Dictionary defines Konzertmeister as a masculine noun,

meaning “the concertmaster of an orchestra, the lead violinist who coordinates fingerings and bowings, performs solo parts, and occasionally substitutes for the conductor.” [10] Neither Vasmer’s Etymological Dictionary of Russian nor Krysin’s explanatory dictionary of foreign words in Russian mentions this word. In the 1981 Uzbek explanatory dictionary, concertmeister is absent. The 2006 and 2023 editions define concertmeister as borrowed from German *Konzertmeister*: (1) the leader of an orchestra’s performers, first violinist, or first violist; (2) a pianist who accompanies and rehearses singers. [7,8] Thus, concertmeister entered Uzbek directly from German, preserving its semantics as “master of the concert,” but underwent phonetic adaptation: the German *z* in *Konzert* was pronounced [ts], which Uzbek adopted as *s* (*konsert*), while the diphthong *ei* in *Meister* ([ai]) was rendered [ey], yielding *konsertmeyster*. Morphologically, it is a compound noun. As it denotes a specific art profession, there is no native lexical equivalent in Uzbek.

In the Cabinet of Ministers Resolution No. 313 dated 04.09.2002 “On approval of the list of positions of civil and experimental aviation personnel of the Republic of Uzbekistan,” one reads: “...all categories of masters (chief master, control master) for aircraft maintenance, operation, and repair” [5]. Here, master derives from German *Meister*. According to F. Kluge, *Meister* comes from Latin *magister* (“teacher, chief”), based on *magnus* (“great”), and entered German twice, giving Old High German *meistar*, Old Saxon *mestar*, and Old English *maester*. Throughout Europe, it developed into Italian *maestro*, French *maître*, and English *master*, serving as an academic and professional title equivalent to “doctor” until the 15th century. [9] The Duden Universal Dictionary explains *Meister* as Middle High German *meister*, Old High German *meistar*, from Latin *magister*, with meanings: (1) a craftsman completing his training with a master’s exam and supervising production; (2) a master of an art or craft; (3) a great artist in fine arts and music; (4) a highly respected leader or teacher in any field; (5) a champion in sports; (6) an honorific address for a man. Additionally, *Meister* combined with other nouns denotes mastery, e.g., *Meisterkoch* (master chef), *Meisterschuss* (master shot). [10]

Vasmer’s Etymological Dictionary of Russian notes *master* (*мастер*) as borrowed from German, meaning craftsman, with related forms such as *подмастерье* (apprentice), and older Russian *мастер* as “order leader.” It suggests a possible borrowing via Greek *magistros* or Polish *majster*, but rules out direct borrowing from English *master*. [12] Krysin’s dictionary of foreign words does not list *master*. [11]

In the 1981 Uzbek explanatory dictionary, *master* is recorded as a borrowing from German via Russian, meaning (1) a workshop, shift, or section supervisor; (2) a title for distinguished athletes and chess players. [6] The 2006 and 2023 editions define *master* as from German *Meister*, which itself came via English *master* from Greek *mastoras* (“craftsman”), meaning “usta, master.” [7,8] Based on the sources, however, *master* traces back to Latin *magister*, and despite entries in Russian dictionaries, it is unrelated to Greek. Its semantics remained stable across German, Russian, and Uzbek. Phonetically, the diphthong *ei* ([ai]) was simplified to [e] or [ey], producing *master*. In Uzbek, *master* has several semantic fields: (1) craftsman or skilled artisan; (2) sports master or coach; (3) industrial supervisor; (4) eminent artist or mentor; (5) colloquial – repairman. Its Uzbek equivalents are *usta*, *boshliq*, *ustoz*.

Conclusion

In conclusion, all of these words share the same loan base, the German *Meister*, signifying mastery in a given field. The simple noun *master* also appears in English, since German and English belong to the same language family. In English, however, when combined with class (*masterclass*), it forms not a profession name but a term for a type of training session. This compound was borrowed into Uzbek as an English loanword.

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