ISSN NO:2720-4030

Volume 13, December, 2022

# Language Situation in Uzbekistan

# Odilov Yorqinjon Rakhmonalievich,

Leading Researcher Institute of Uzbek Language, Literature and Folklore of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, DSc., professor. e-mail: yorqinjonodilov@gmail.com

#### ABSTRACT

One of the main issues in sociolinguistics is the problem of the language situation. This understanding of the functioning of language(s) is unique to each society. Since the 30s of the last century, the meaning of the terms language situation and linguistic situation, which have been used in the work of foreign linguists who have studied languages in Africa and Asia, have been further clarified with the qualitative improvement of sociolinguistic research.

## **ARTICLE INFO**

Received: 8<sup>th</sup> October 2022
Revised:8<sup>th</sup> November 2022
Accepted:13<sup>th</sup> December 2022

K E Y W O R D S: literary language, socio-political

Enter. One of the main issues in sociolinguistics is the problem of the language situation. This understanding of the functioning of language(s) is unique to each society. Since the 30s of the last century, the meaning of the terms language situation and linguistic situation, which have been used in the work of foreign linguists who have studied languages in Africa and Asia, have been further clarified with the qualitative improvement of sociolinguistic research. For example, V. A. Avorin explained the language situation as a specific type of interaction between languages and their different forms of living [1, 2]. According to A.D. Schweitzer, "a set of language(s) and its forms of life (literary language, functional styles, koyne, regional and social dialects) serving for communication exchange in a certain ethnic group or administrative area is a language situation [2, 481].

The main part. In a certain state (generally, an administrative-political area) the practice of one language in different forms (for example, functional styles, literary language and dialects, literary language and colloquial speech, literary language and professional lexicon) or two or more languages in one state Since it is a situation of language to serve as a means of communication, what causes it arises and is formed? The first cause of the language situation is the presence of people of different ethnic origins in the same area; the second factor is socio-political processes in the state or society; the third factor is demographic reasons, where speakers of different languages move to places with favorable infrastructure.

The concept of language situation is related to the concept of multilingualism. "Multilingualism is the use of several languages in a specific socio-political association, state, and each of them is chosen according to a specific communication situation. The phenomena of monolingualism and multilingualism are interrelated, but not absolute: the predominance of monolingualism in a society does not exclude the multilingualism of other people in that society, and vice versa. Therefore, "individual" and "national" multilingualism are distinguished. When a certain part of the population knows another language along with the state language and can communicate in both languages, national or collective multilingualism occurs. Such multilingualism is the object of investigation of sociolinguistics. A person learning another (or second) language due to a specific need and getting used to communicating in it is "induvidial" multilingualism and is not studied by sociolinguistics [2, 75].

## Periodica Journal of Modern Philosophy, Social Sciences and Humanities

Volume 13 December, 2022

A monolingual situation is rare in today's globalized world. Most sociolinguists consider Iceland to be a monolingual country, because the Icelandic literary language is used in this island-country and there is no dialectal appearance of this language; phonetic, lexical, grammatical and stylistic differences are not noticeable between Icelandic literary language and everyday spoken language. Multilingual situation applies in most countries of the world. For example, in Uzbekistan, the Uzbek language is the state language; Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Tajik, Turkmen, Karakalpak, Russian languages serve as means of communication according to their regional and national characteristics.

29.2 million Uzbeks, 1.7 million Tajiks, 821.2 thousand Kazakhs, 752.7 thousand Karakalpaks, 720.3 thousand Russians, 291.6 thousand Kyrgyz, 206.2 thousand Turkmen, 187.3 thousand Tatars of the permanent population of Uzbekistan , 174,200 Koreans, 67,900 Ukrainians, 41,200 Uzars, 18,500 Belarusians, and 426,400 representatives of other nationalities. In Karakalpakstan, Uzbek and Karakalpak languages are used as state languages, and Russian and Kazakh languages are partially used as languages of inter-ethnic communication. A similar language situation has developed in the neighboring Republics of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan.

A multilingual situation is demographically equal and demographically unequal according to the amount of language-speaking population in the area where such a language situation applies [3, 81-83]. In a demographically equal language situation, the number of people speaking certain languages will be proportional to each other, or the quantitative difference will not be large. For example, French and Flemish (Dutch) languages are used in the Netherlands. 39.1% of the population speak French, 50.7% speak Flemish. Rounding this amount, the proportion takes the form of 40x50, and this is the demographic equivalent language situation in sociolinguistics. Uneven demographic language situation is observed in Spain. 70.6% of the population speak Spanish, 18.3% speak Catalan, 8.1% speak Galician, and 2.4% speak Basque. If these figures are rounded up, they will look like this: Spanish and Catalan - 71% x 18%, Spanish and Galician - 71% x 8%. So, a demographic imbalanced language situation applies here. Uzbekistan is also a region with a multilingual situation. Demographic disparity lies in the fact that the number of speakers of Uzbek is greater than the number of speakers of languages such as Russian, Tajik, and Kazakh. According to information, 22-25 million people communicate in Uzbek. The multilingual situation can also be distinguished according to the legal status of the languages and the level of this status. In this regard, languages are divided into state language (or languages), official language (or languages), language of international communication and local languages. Such language situations apply where one of the existing languages is given the status of the state language, the other is given the status of an official language, in another case, one language receives the status of the state language or official language, and the other language(s) acts as the language of local or international communication. Of course, this status of languages is unique in each country.

If the language situation in Uzbekistan is evaluated from this point of view, the Uzbek language has the status of the state language and must be practiced throughout the republic. Karakalpak language as the state language of the Republic of Karakalpakstan must be practiced in the territory of this republic (700 thousand people speak Karakalpak there) [5, 22]. Although the Uzbek and Karakalpak languages are considered state languages, they are different in terms of influence. For example, this language is recognized and practiced as one of the local languages outside Karakalpakstan. Tajik, Kazakh, Turkmen languages, which are used according to regional and national affiliation, are used as local languages, and Russian as the language of international communication.

The same aspect of the language situation is related to the state's national language policy, such a policy is implemented by the state and its authorized structures with vertical influence, and the status given to the language(s) is strengthened by the constitution, special laws and regulations. It should not be forgotten that not all the local languages in a particular country can be given the status of the state language, because the purpose of granting the status of the state language will be lost: the language with such a status will now become a symbol of the state. After all, the status of the state language unites nations and peoples under one language. Its next tasks are to facilitate work and speed up information exchange. Depending on the impartiality of the implemented language policy, conditions are created or not created for the practice and development of languages without legal status.

## Periodica Journal of Modern Philosophy, Social Sciences and Humanities

Volume 13 December, 2022

The multilingual situation can be evaluated as "close relative", "distant relative" and "unrelated multilingualism" according to the genetic closeness and non-closeness of the languages that create such a language situation. In this case, the interaction of languages belonging to one group of the same language family is called "closely related language multilingualism", the interaction of languages belonging to different groups of the same language family is "distantly related language multilingualism", the interaction of languages belonging to different language families is "unrelated language multilingualism". brings about Compare: 1. The interaction of Czech and Slovak in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, Ukrainian and Russian in Ukraine, Latvian and Latgal in Lithuania has formed "multilingualism of closely related languages". 2. The use of Uzbek and Tajik languages in Uzbekistan and Tajik and Uzbek languages in Tajikistan has created "multilingualism of non-related languages". The "multilingualism of unrelated languages" in Uzbekistan is similar to the multilingualism of Kazakh and Russian in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz and Russian in Kyrgyzstan, Turkmen and Russian in Turkmenistan.

Kazakhstan also has an impartial language policy. Multilingualism, a product of pragmatic language policy, indicates the extent and status of bilingualism. We will explain the language situation in the neighboring republic and the bilinism of the Kazakh-Russian languages based on the information of the Kazakh linguist A. Suyunbaeva: several languages are used in Kazakhstan, such as Kazakh, Russian, Uzbek, English. 48.7% of the population knows the Kazakh language as the state language. This language performs social functions in important areas across the country. Nevertheless, the Kazakh language lags behind the Russian language in terms of communicative function. Along with the Kazakh language, the Russian language is officially used in state organizations, local self-government bodies, and is listed in the constitution as an official language used in inter-ethnic relations. Regardless of nationality, 95-97% of the population can speak Russian, that is, 92.8% of Kazakhs, 99.7% of Ukrainians, 99.6% of Germans, 99.0% of Tatars, and 97.3% of Azerbaijanis speak Russian fluently. Administrative activities, professional education and professional communication are carried out in Russian. Even if English is understood as the language of international communication, as in Uzbekistan, it has not received the status of an official language, it is used in international relations where the Russian language is not used [4, 103-104].

Now let's take a look at Uzbek-Russian bilingualism in Uzbekistan. As scientists rightly point out, there is almost no linguistic culture suitable for one state - one language. Since the majority of the population of Uzbekistan speaks the Uzbek language, a legal privilege has been given to the use of this language, and the same privilege applies throughout the country. The Russian language is used mainly in the capital, partly in regional, city and district centers. Although this language has not received a special legal status, there is no official restriction on its validity. It is officially on the same status as languages such as English, Tajik, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, as well as the possibility to use Russian in business and address government agencies. Obviously, the share of the state language in Uzbek-Russian bilingualism in Uzbekistan is high.

Before us is the task of preserving the managerial role of the state language in the bilingualism of the state language - English, and the state language - Russian, and consistently increasing it. On the other hand, no one can guarantee that the situation that happened with the German language will not happen with the Uzbek language. Because at the same time, the desire of language owners (especially young people) to acquire foreign languages according to specific motivation is progressive; and striving to acquire the state language or mother tongue is regressive. The fact that the most active layer of the society acquires a second language for a specific purpose is especially noteworthy, because young people who acquire a foreign language cannot satisfy their needs in the state language, and motivation for acquiring one of the foreign languages is created. In our opinion, it is necessary to be motivated to master the national language.

**Summary.** 1. The language situation is one of the core concepts of language policy and it is manifested at least in the environment of bilingualism. 2. In the language situation, there is always a struggle between languages, and measures taken by the state, state and public organizations ensure the active use of one of the languages. 3. Uzbekistan is also characterized by a multilingual situation, and this situation is reflected in the use of Uzbek, Karakalpak, Tajik, Kazakh and Russian languages. Currently, in such a language situation, the Uzbek language has taken an important place as the state language. 4. The reason for the stability of the

#### Periodica Journal of Modern Philosophy, Social Sciences and Humanities

Volume 13 December, 2022

language situation in Uzbekistan is that an impartial language policy is being conducted. 5. Measures taken by competent bodies in the field of state language and international language bilingualism are very important in the development of the state language, and in this, motivation for mastering the state language should also appear.

#### **References:**

- 1. Avorin V.A. Problem study of the functional side of the language (questions about the subject of sociolinguistics). L.: Nauka, 1975. S.2.
- 2. Linguistic encyclopedic dictionary. Pod editor V.N. Yartsevoi. M.: SE, 1990. P.481.
- 3. Nikolsky L.B. Synchronous sociolinguistics. M.: Nauka, 1976. P.81-83.
- 4. Suyunbaeva A.J. Language situation as a factor in the functioning of language for special purposes // Scientific dialogue, 2016. No. 5 (53). S.103-104.
- 5. Kurbanniyazov G. Linguistic situation in Karakalpakstan. Philol. science. dr. diss. Fergana, 2021.