



Linguistic Ecological Problems in The Kazakh Language

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ABSTRACT

In this article the authors regarded the certain Kazakh language ecological problems in linguistics, which are considered to be a new branch of science in the Kazakh society. The authors pay much attention to the main issues of linguistic ecology, identifying its purpose and objectives, analyzing some research made in this field on the basis of the Russian and Kazakh linguistics. This article shows the importance of preserving of the linguistic ecology for the Kazakh language.

KEYWORDS : ecology, Linguistic Ecology, language, word, culture, linguistics, ecological linguistics, linguistic environment, linguistic form.

To begin with we are going to regard theoretical aspects of the given problem. Linguistic Ecology studies the culture of languages and words, but its subject may be only one language as the basis of the linguistic ecological problems, its progressing, the dynamics of development, language development, unfavorable conditions of its usage and the reasons inducing circumstances. Linguistic Ecology also researches the enrichment of the certain language, the influence of social experience on the expanding of the language vocabulary. In this regard the preservation of the language environment of the Kazakh language at the moment is the topical issue. Linguistic Ecology as a science, which protects language environment must be developed as one of the fields of linguistics.

Although the propaganda of Linguistic Ecology is on daily mass media it was recognized as a field of study under the linguistic science too late. Related studies are described by professor Nurgeldi Ualyuli in his "Theoretical basis of culture of Kazakh word", professor Anar Salkinbay, professor Dina Alkebay, associate professor Karlygash Dyusupbaeva are active initiators in developing the Linguistic Ecology as a science. The number of scientists, M.Balakyev, E.Zhanpeisov, R.Syzdykova, M.Seraliev, F.S.Orazbayev, Z.Mankeeva, O.Burkit, K.Kuderinova and others, has been working on the issues of Linguistic Ecology referring them to language culture. Basic theoretical conclusions and conceptual assumptions (Books published under collection of "New in foreign linguistics) were also made by following well recognized scientists, V.P. Grigoryeva, S.I. Vinogradova, V.V. Kolesova, Y.N. Karaulov, V.K. Juravlev, V.G. Kostomarov, A.P.Skovorodnikov, E.V.Ivanova, V.F.Vechiporenko from Russian linguistic schools and V.Trampe, A.Phill, P. Phinke, A.Haugen, I.Shtork, M.Dering, P.Mulhousler, M.Helliday and other international scientists contributed much into the constitution and development the Kazakh Linguistic Ecology.

Methods of research.

Along with the comparison, analyzing, differentiation and exposition methods that are commonly used, there are other techniques like relative comparison, distribution study, formal language study, histor-

ical comparison method, language analogy method, language model methods are widely used.

As well there is a technique that plays the assessment role for the word culture, the assessment description is used in the opposed system, like an inverse system methodology:

- opposition in word etiquette subject to its composition structure: polite (accustomed) and rude (not in the customs);
- opposition in the composition structure subject to word richness: colorful meaning of the word – poor meaning of the word;
- opposition in the composition structure subject to the purity of a word – words of wrong use;
- opposition in the composition structure subject to logic behind the use of the word: logic, no logic;

Purpose and tasks of the study:

The main purpose of the study is to research the shared problems of Kazakh linguistic ecology, the changes, development dynamics, language development, circumstances that block the utilization of the language, sources and language enrichment, social practices for relationship development that can be interrelated with the language science.

This purpose can be implemented by fulfilling the following objectives:

- Determine the object of the study of linguistic ecology discipline, work out the problems to be solved;
- There is a need to define terminology of the given field; to identify the main aspects;
- Set the linguistic ecology as an independent discipline, demonstrate the pioneer conditions as part of Kazakh language science theory;

Assumptions and recommendations:

Now the word culture needs to ensure the vitality of the language, its

distribution, constitution of language society, preservation of national traits of the language, and it needs to be a language science branch that fights against the invasion of other languages; therefore linguistic ecology must be a part of language studies. One of the main assignments of the linguistic ecology is to inherit the healthy, clean and safe from external factors.

The goals and objectives of Linguistic Ecology can be deduced by analyzing the definitions given by prominent linguists who research the problems of language ecology.

If we consider the history of Linguistic Ecology, the term "ecology" was introduced by the German scientist Ernst Haeckel in 1866. He studied the relationship of ecology with the environment and organisms. Currently studying ecology is a collection of relations in the sphere of their same habitat.

At the present time the culture of ecology and spiritual ecology are developing intensively. As argued by Academician Likhachev D.S., preservation of cultural habitat is preserving the natural environment. The same is true for linguistic ecology. This concept appeared to identify an objective image of the development of language, evaluating it from all sides to prevent the looming threats over the language, and to preserve the language as a means of communication and relationships between people. Linguistic Ecology is a new branch of linguistics that crosses social, psychological and philosophical spheres. (Kislitsina 2004). Linguistic Ecology as a new sphere of science examines the language in the habitat of humanity, common laws, setting, the rules for the language and ecology, explores the role of language in solving environmental problems. The first scientist who introduced the term "language ecology" was the American linguist Einar Haugen. In 1970, he raised the question of the relationship between linguistics and social psycholinguistics in his report "Ecology of the language." Ecology of language and its habitat may be defined as an individual science. So society may be considered as a language environment. The language is used by the society in the form of a code. The ecology of the language is characterized both by physiological feature (there is an absolute connection with the language in the subconscious mind of the speaker), and social feature (i.e. the language as a tool that establishes a connection with the community). Ecology of language is connected directly with the people, as to assimilate how to use and how to deliver it to other people. Haugen revealed ecological linguistics' value as the language and the environment, i.e. "The study of the relationship between the human ideas and multilingual society" (Haugen 1972).

Harald Haarmann showed the following characteristics of the language environmental change: demographic, social, political, cultural, psychological, linguistic and interactional. According to his theory, it is impossible to separate these characteristics and treat them individually. They are closely related to each other and constitute a system of linguistic ecology. For the first time the question of the goals and objectives of the language ecology was raised at the International Conference on Applied Linguistics in Greece in 1990.

R.Herre, I.Brokmayer, P.Mylhoysler first developed methodical bases of this science. The language and its constructions (which include also metaphorical) are not only considered as units of communication used within the same language, but they are also regarded in connection with culture and society. The study of the language and its constructions could not be done separately from the culture and society (Harre / Brockmeier/Mihlusler 1999).

Phil Alvin was one of the first who classified terminology of linguistic ecology in different directions. He showed the following categories:

Linguistic ecology (Ekolinguistik) – blending of ecology and linguistics, a general term intended for all destinations;

Ecology of language (тілдердің экологиясы) (Ekologie der Sprache (n)) explores the relationship between languages (to achieve the purposes of maintaining of diversity of languages);

Ecological linguistics (Ökologische Linguistik) -

it is the introduction of ecological terms and notions into the language (eg. The notion of ecosystem);

Linguistic (language) ecology (Sprachtskologie) researches interconnections between languages and their ecological problems (Fill, Alwin 1995).

Currently three aspects of language ecology have been identified:

- Intralingual (considering such phenomena as language culture, stylistics, communication with rhetoric, improper and inaccurate usage of the language, logical expression and other phenomena inherent in speech.
- interlingual (researches the problems of separate ethnic language and the case of language disappearance);
- Translingual (considers the ability to influence the culture of one language on the culture of other languages in the fields of literature, folklore and publicism.

According to A.P.Skovorodnikov, scientists recently have been paying special attention to the ecology of language: "It seems that for today we have all reasons to isolate Linguistic Ecology as a special area of linguistic research. The problems of Linguistic Ecology were described completely enough in a number of works of L.I. Skvortsov in recent years, who was one of the first among domestic Russian linguists has steadily used the terms "ecology of the language" and "linguistic ecology". We may refer to linguistic and ecological sphere the works of many modern Russian linguists, eg. V.P. Grigoryev, S.I. Vinogradov, V.V. Kolesov, Y.N. Karaulov, V.K. Zhuravlev, V.G. Kostomarov and several other authors" (Skovorodnikov 1996).

The term "Linguistic Ecology" was also introduced into the linguistics of the Kazakh language. The language environment of the Kazakh language is considered to be the basis of linguistic ecological research. The main issues it examines are the clarity of speech in the language environment, intervention and domination of one language over the other, the struggle against the manipulation of the mind, animistic space, struggle with the language nihilism, national consciousness and language, problems of language personalities. The ecology of speech struggles against errors and mistakes which are made by carelessness, use of jargons, immense use of foreign and vulgar words.

"And if it is clogged singer words, alien native spirit

- This song does not need the world ,
- ignorant voice telegram ill hearing "

as Abay Kunanbayev said, there is an urgent need to preserve the clarity of speech. In Linguistic Ecology there is such notion as "intervention of the language". The intervention of other language narrows the language environment of our mother tongue. This fact might be exemplified by the long soviet period during which the Kazakh language had been suffering much changes due to the intervention of the Russian language and great domination of it. One language suffers in its "home" and its "environment" The other language prevails, rules and keeps the first place in the areas of management, information, science and education. This singular fact starts to diminish the potential of intelligence, cognoscibility and information capacity of our national language. If we simply ignore the fact that this language is surrounded by the world community languages, regard this very language in its environment, in its "home" (in its ECO), all the facts mentioned above lower the honor and authority of our native language and humiliate it. Thus the intervention of other language violates the language environment, and begins to destroy it. Therefore, determining the principles, defining the measures to combat the consequences of conquest of the language environment is one of the most important problems of Linguistic Ecology. Free distribution of information without imposing any restrictions is considered to be the position of the liberal, civil society and legal community.

Protection and preservation of the Kazakh language is important urgent task needed to be solved as soon as possible. Not less significant is the problem of rising of status of the Kazakh language as the state language. "Preservation of the national spirit is a duty of honor of any nation. Countries retaining their national spirit would be of great vitality. Both the nation and its spirit are first learnt through the language. Countries retaining their languages are able to provide themselves today and their own future tomorrow. Therefore, speaking about this issue, the most sacred level of consciousness is considered

to be the Language. Raising official status of the language not only in words but in deeds is the matter of obligation of the country, which recognized and proclaimed this language as “a state language” ... speaking of that, for a generation living in the Republic of Kazakhstan the first task is assimilation of a state language as a mother tongue” said about this Ph.D. F.Sh. Orazbayeva. Then, if we have a look at the history of the Kazakh society with respect to language, we can observe that during the historical period of the Soviet Union the Kazakh society has been divided into Kazakh-speaking and Russian-speaking Kazakhs. This phenomenon mainly has developed after Kazakhstan gained its independence. To identify the root of these problems it is necessary to trace the start of some events. This is mainly due to the way of consolidation of the Kazakhs, the influence of the development of literature in the formation of national spirit. It is also associated with the development of Kazakh literary language, the ways of the language development and correspondingly increasing culture of speech, how to solve the problem of preserving the purity of the culture - all these topics are researched by new field of linguistics that is Linguistic Ecology. In his studies concerning linguistic ecological aspects of speech culture N. Ualiulu said: “Linguistic Ecology must be able to show a portrait of objective language development. It should give a signal to the public about the danger approaching to their native language, to provide assistance to individuals and societies living in the language environment, as well as to protect them.” He was the first Kazakh linguist who determined the precise goals and objectives of the Linguistic Ecology of the Kazakh language (Yaliulu 2007).

According to the scientists we may refer the following points to the problems of linguistic culture cognition subject: much use of jargons in the speech of younger generation, much use of technical terms in speech during scientific and technological revolutions, underestimating philology and humanities because of the adaptation of the current society to technology, poor calculating abilities and linguistic nihilism. Then it results in reducing of data in colloquial speech, decreasing the level of epistolary culture, mistakes in media speech, poor rhetorical courtesy.

The Linguistic Ecology is a field of linguistics that studies the human environment and society in terms of the following problems:

- Devastation of the vocabulary, termination of usage of semantically valuable words and collocations;
- Termination of usage of some obsolete words and concepts (rehabilitating);
- Tarnishing of the semantics of speech;
- “Loanwords syndrome”;
- Unity within the meaning of names and the loss of aesthetic intelligibility;
- Stamps in the speech;
- Euphemisms, linguistic deceit;
- Intervention of the language;
- “Stationery language”;
- Vulgarization of language;
- Linguistic cynicism;
- Criminalization of language.

Moreover, Skovorodnikov A.P. proposes to research the language degradation and rehabilitation like a subject of the language ecology (Skovorodnikov 1996). The main aim of linguistics is to raise the culture of literary language. This is considered to be the primary goal of every member of the language society. The developing of the culture of literary language may be provided by teaching this language in the kindergartens, schools and special courses for adult students.

“Linguistic Ecology” regards the problems of raising the quality of language used in society including culture of teachers’ speech. In the present times we have great opportunities to use the experience of the worldwide culture of various languages and at the same time this facts affects in pollution of our own language. The Linguistic Ecology, the subject of new linguistics has the aim to struggle with such kind of pollution. The Linguistic Ecology of the present Kazakh language deals with identification of such unpleasant phenomena as negative influence of one language culture on the other, the extreme pollution of the language, jargonism and vulgarization .

As far as Kazakh researchers are concerned, this problem was ana-

lyzed by the prominent Kazakh linguist D. Alkebaeva: «The most primary problem in the field of the world culture that is needed to be researched nowadays is Linguistic Ecology. The Linguistic Ecology identifies the dynamic phenomena of a language environment. Linguistic Ecology is considered to be the ecology of a language and word culture. We can refer the following topics to the “Word culture ecology” (usually linguists do not use the term “linguistic ecology”): language status, psychology of language, language environment, its clarity, breaking the stylistic apportionment within the language, problems of culture of speech, verbal culture and monitoring, and others” (Alkebaeva 2007). But if we limit the field of the Linguistic Ecology within the framework of word culture, it would be too specific and narrow. That is why the following linguists in their works: Ivanova E.V. in her article «Aims, objectives and problems of ecology of a language. Pragmatic aspect of communicative linguistics and stylistics» (Ivanova 2007) and Nechyporenko V.F. «Linguistic and philosophical basics of ecolinguistics» (Nechyporenko 1998) stated that the Linguistic Ecology has its own history, object, ideology and terminology, so this science must be considered as separate and substantive branch of linguistics.

Nowadays it is very important to develop communication skills via various electronic devices. The linguists continue to discuss positive and negative influence of network developing. The most important topic of research for today is inability to differentiate between genre and stylistic structure of the language. Moreover the level of language etiquette is being decreased: majuscules are used instead of capital letters, elements of the colloquial and official language are used together in the official letters, lacking of the punctuation marks. All these factors make the comprehension of such letters difficult. It is evident that in the Internet connections the English language takes the predominant place because the majority of the representatives of other languages communicate with each other in English. The emergence of hyper language had raised a great number of problems which must be solved by linguistic ecology.

To the question “What type of language is Kazakh language?” Nurgeldi Ualiulu answered: Kazakh language is our mother tongue:

- ancient Turkic language which preserved its original nature;
- it has its own ancient written culture;
- it has literary language, local languages (dialects), official language and simplified colloquial language;
- it’s a mainstay for demography, powerful national language;
- it is independent and mature language;
- it is the state language which took the independent Kazakh Republic “under its protection”.

So the scientist gives the detailed determination of the Kazakh language and identifies the high level of its development. The main mission of the Linguistic Ecology is to sustain the clarity of a language which functions among a great number of other languages and prevent the intervention of the language. The Kazakh language is considered to be the center of the Kazakh nation that collects cultural and historical events of Kazakhstan, devolving them to next generations, reviving the connections between different generations and being the treasury of the spiritual heritage of the Kazakh nation.

It should be noted that various extralinguistic factors influence the formation of the language environment. The main factor is that the users of the Kazakh language should possess and comprehend not only words and grammar, but all the background of the Kazakh society including its spiritual cognition. “There will be no development of the language until we realize that Kazakh people must speak their own language. There is no use of long discussions, demagogic speeches at conferences and symposiums concerning the status of the Kazakh language. Moreover, some of the Kazakh intellectuals, who are used “to shout” everywhere about their self-devotion to the Kazakh language continue to speak Russian to their children at home”, - said the Kazakh writer Koyshtagyra Salgarauly. He also states that the most important problems for today are the formation of language environment and its protection from the point of view of the language ecology.

Kazakh people usually say about their native language “Kazakh language is our Mother tongue,” “Kazakh language is the language of our

ancestry", "I'm Kazakh" and it sounds with a great proud about their native language. There are many Kazakh people who consider their nation, motherland and mother tongue to be like "three happiness" to them, but there are some people who do not respect their native language. The absence of a proud of their mother tongue shows the demerit of its national consciousness. The Linguistic Ecology of Kazakh language is going to struggle with such phenomenon.

In conclusion we should recognize that a lot of factors influence the Linguistic Ecology of the Kazakh language. The literacy of the Kazakh language and its clarity were affected negatively during many years of the Soviet period by the Russian language because of the absence of the pure language environment. That time little attention was paid to Kazakh language at all: there were practically no detailed linguistic analyses conducted on the basis of the Kazakh language, a little regard was paid to its nature, structure and history. That is why we should develop the level of Linguistic Ecology of the Kazakh language in order to be able to solve all these problems. So the main tasks of the Linguistic Ecology which is developing like an important branch of the Kazakh Linguistics are: to sustain the clarity of a Kazakh language, to save it from the intervention of other languages, to fight with the nihilism of the language and to develop love and respect to the mother tongue.

This topic is still a wide field to be researched further and we, the authors of the article, are going to continue our research in this sphere.

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