

## Language and Society: A Classification of Sociolinguistic Factors

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### ABSTRACT

The structural organization of language is the materialization of the social. Lexical, grammatical, ideological, cognitive and functional act in the language as specific manifestations of the social. In this regard, a correct understanding of the social essence of the language is of decisive importance a) for the knowledge of the laws of historical development, functioning and interaction of different languages; b) to understand the influence of society and the individual on the language; c) to understand the role of language in the life of society and the individual; d) to understand the role of language in the development of human society in the past, present and future.

**KEYWORDS:** social essence of language, sociolinguistics, social factors, relationship between social and infrastructural in language, language situation, language policy

The problem of the relationship between the social and infrastructural in language is one of the most important in modern linguistics, since it is impossible to eliminate the influence of social "human" factors on the language. The social factor is a systematically organized social action of a different structure in a certain area of human activity. The social factor in the process of speech activity generates and determines the specific manifestation of the sociality of the language.

The social factor has its own structure. The main elements of the structure of the social factor are: 1) the subject of action; 2) object of influence; 3) the environment to which the subject of the action belongs; 4) the environment to which the object of action belongs; 5) means of action of the subject; 6) goals and objectives of the subject's action.

The main social factors of the functioning and development of the language include: social factors due to socio-economic formations; mass communication and education system; different interpretation of natural phenomena and public life by representatives of religious ideology; the interaction of languages; social factors of scientific and cognitive significance; ideological content; aesthetic plan; moral and ethical understanding of the phenomena of social life; socio-professional differentiation of the language.

The internal laws of language are neither a gift from God nor a creation of nature. They are formed historically in the process of long-term functioning and development of the language within the framework of people's speech activity. Speech activity is a kind of social activity. Outside of this activity, the internal laws of language cannot be formed. The internal laws of the language are the main force that organizes the language, its structure, in particular, it is the force that ensures the functioning of the language in accordance with the needs of its speakers. It is for this reason that from the very beginning the processes of formation and development of phonological, morphological, syntactic,

lexico-semantic, stylistic subsystems are socialized. All levels of the language of the internal structure of the language are formed and developed in the conditions of the interaction of social factors and the internal laws of the language.

Vocabulary is subject to the strongest influence of social factors. This is reflected in different layers of vocabulary in different ways. The primacy of various kinds of social factors over infrastructural patterns of vocabulary development is obvious, in contrast to phonetics, morphology and syntax, where the leading role belongs to infrastructural patterns. However, in some layers of vocabulary, changes can also occur due to the action of infrastructural patterns (cf.: bake - bake - baked, where the decisive role belongs to the constantly operating infrastructural patterns of development of the lexical and morphological systems of a given language). Consequently, social factors and infrastructural patterns of vocabulary development must be considered in their interaction, and not in isolation. *The development of vocabulary should be considered as a reflection of the main stages in the development of society.*

*The influence of social factors in the phonetic system of the language is less noticeable. The interaction of the internal laws of the language and social factors is observed when borrowing phonemes (for example, borrowing the phoneme /f/ from the Greek language. However, it can interfere with the development of the phoneme.*

*The morphological system of the language is formed historically in the process of speech activity of a certain relatively stable society, that is, sociality must also be inherent in the nature of the morphological system of the language. It is influenced mainly by three main factors: (a) social development in a broad sense; b) infrastructural changes; c) foreign language influence.*

*The possibility of a positive influence of society and social factors on syntax has also been proven. This is, for example, the emergence of new phrases. In these processes, a huge role is played by such social factors as a) the multinational composition of teams in production; b) the widespread use of national Russian or any kind of bilingualism; c) high frequency of use of new types of phrases, simple and complex sentences in national languages.*

*Stylistic systems are more dependent on the development of the social functions of languages, various social subjective factors than vocabulary, phonetics, morphology and syntax. The formation of functional styles depends on: a) the volume and genre originality of literature published systematically for a long time; b) the frequency of systematic mass use of this literature for a long time; c) on the pace and boundaries of the development of the social functions of language. In sociolinguistics, it is necessary to distinguish between the concepts of the national language, the language of the people, the literary language. The national language is the language of a certain nation in the aggregate of all its forms of*

existence (territorial and social dialects, generalized types of oral speech - vernacular and koine, literary language). The dominant position in the archisystem of the national language is occupied by the literary language - the highest form of existence of the national language, characterized by: 1) processing and orderliness; 2) normativity and codification; 3) stability and continuity of traditions; 4) developed stylistic differentiation; 5) binding on all members of the team; 6) universality (servicing all spheres of communication); 7) the presence of oral and written varieties.

The world we live in is complex, contradictory and diverse. In addition, as it develops, it is changing very dynamically: the alignment and balance of opposing forces are changing, social priorities are changing, and ethno-cultural values are being reassessed. Along with the political map of the world, its linguistic palette is changing.

The language situation in Western European countries reflects the communicative possibilities of languages, the socio-economic structure of the state, as well as the historical and cultural traditions of the people. In contrast to Western Europe, the situation in the countries of North America has developed under the influence of the socio-functional "distribution" between the colonial languages (English, French, Spanish, Dutch, German, Swedish), on the one hand, and between the languages of the colonists and the languages of the natives, on the other. Modern multilingualism on this continent has evolved over the centuries. A "melting pot" policy was formed on the basis of British imperial-colonial chauvinism and racism. The main channels for its implementation were the school, the media, mass culture, the administrative apparatus, and industrial

communication. Distinctive features of the US language policy are American-centrism, anti-democratism, authoritarianism and chauvinism. The main trend of changes in the language situation in the post-colonial space can be defined by the term "nationalization", which is understood as: 1) the systematic displacement of the former colonial language and its replacement with an autochthonous language; 2) normalization and modernization of autochthonous languages (enrichment of the lexical composition, development of terminology, streamlining of the grammatical system, stylistic differentiation); 3) a purist movement aimed at cleansing the language of borrowings and replenishing the corresponding vocabulary and terminology with the resources of the autochthonous language; 4) democratization of the language by reducing the differences between its written and spoken forms, as well as by reforming writing. Thus, the question of the prospects for the development and expansion of the social functions of autochthonous languages is one of the primary aspects of the language policy of most "developing" countries.

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