



LANGUAGE EXTINCTION IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBALIZATION

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Abstract. This paper explores the impact of globalization on language extinction and the increasing threat to linguistic diversity. Globalization promotes the widespread use of dominant languages in education, media, technology, and international communication, which leads to the gradual decline of minority languages. The study analyzes key sociolinguistic factors such as language shift, migration, technological development, and language attitudes. It also discusses the cultural and cognitive consequences of language loss, emphasizing that each language represents a unique worldview. Finally, the paper highlights possible strategies for language preservation, including education policies, community participation, and digital tools.

Key words: Globalization; language extinction; language shift; linguistic diversity; minority languages; cultural identity; sociolinguistics; language preservation.

GLOBALIZATSIYA SHAROITIDA TILLARNING YO‘QOLIB BORISHI

ИСЧЕЗНОВЕНИЕ ЯЗЫКОВ В УСЛОВИЯХ ГЛОБАЛИЗАЦИИ

FarDU Ingliz tili va adabiyoti fakulteti 1- kurs talabasi

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Annotatsiya

Ushbu maqola globallashuvning til yo‘qolishiga ta’siri va lingvistik xilma-xillikning kamayib borishini tahlil qiladi. Globallashuv ta’lim, texnologiya, ommaviy axborot vositalari va xalqaro muloqotda dominant tillarning keng tarqalishiga olib keladi, bu esa kichik tillarning asta-sekin yo‘qolishiga sabab bo‘ladi. Tadqiqotda til almashinuvi, migratsiya, texnologik rivojlanish va tilga munosabat kabi omillar tahlil qilinadi.



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Shuningdek, til yo‘qolishining madaniy va kognitiv oqibatlari yoritilib, har bir til o‘ziga xos dunyoqarashni ifodalashi ta’kidlanadi. Maqolada tilni saqlash bo‘yicha ta’lim, jamoatchilik ishtiroki va raqamli texnologiyalar muhim vosita sifatida ko‘rsatiladi.

Аннотация. Данная статья рассматривает влияние глобализации на исчезновение языков и возрастающую угрозу языковому разнообразию. Глобализация способствует широкому использованию доминирующих языков в образовании, средствах массовой информации, технологиях и международной коммуникации, что приводит к постепенному исчезновению малых языков. В работе анализируются основные социолингвистические факторы, такие как языковой сдвиг, миграция, технологическое развитие и отношение к языкам. Также обсуждаются культурные и когнитивные последствия исчезновения языков, подчеркивается, что каждый язык отражает уникальное мировоззрение. В заключение рассматриваются стратегии сохранения языков, включая образовательную политику, участие сообществ и цифровые технологии.

Kalit so‘zlar: Globallashuv; til yo‘qolishi; til almashinuvi; lingvistik xilma-xillik; kichik tillar; madaniy identitet; sotsiolingvistika; tilni saqlash.

Ключевые слова: Глобализация; исчезновение языков; языковой сдвиг; языковое разнообразие; малые языки; культурная идентичность; социолингвистика; сохранение языков.

In today’s world, globalization has become a natural and unavoidable part of life. It connects people across countries, improves communication, and allows ideas to spread quickly. At the same time, it also creates certain challenges. One of the most serious problems is the growing dominance of a few major languages, which puts many smaller languages in danger.

David Crystal points out that languages are disappearing very rapidly, sometimes within



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just a few weeks. He explains that nearly half of the world’s languages are at risk. One important reason for this is that people often choose widely spoken languages for practical benefits. For example, many parents encourage their children to focus on English because it increases their chances of getting a good education or a better job. Over time, this reduces the use of native languages in everyday life.

Language is more than just a communication tool. It is closely connected to identity, culture, and traditions. When a language disappears, it takes with it a unique way of thinking and understanding the world. Linus Agba explains that globalization encourages people to move to cities or even abroad, where they are more likely to use dominant languages. For instance, people from rural areas often stop using their local language after moving to urban environments, especially in workplaces or schools.

From a sociolinguistic point of view, this process is known as language shift. Joshua Fishman explains that it usually happens gradually over generations[3]. At first, people become bilingual, but later the dominant language replaces the original one. A common situation can be seen in immigrant families, where grandparents speak the native language, parents use both languages, and children mainly speak the dominant language. Another factor that speeds up language extinction is technology. Today, most digital content is created in a small number of global languages. Because of this, minority languages have very little presence online. Salikoko Mufwene notes that a language needs regular use to survive. However, if it is not used on the internet or in media, younger generations may stop using it. Social media also plays a role, as many young people prefer to communicate in global languages rather than their native ones.

In addition, attitudes toward language are very important. Suzanne Romaine explains that some people begin to see their own language as less useful or less modern. This belief can make them stop teaching it to their children. For example, in some



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communities, speaking English is associated with success, while local languages are seen as less important.

The consequences of language extinction are serious and long-lasting. Each language contains valuable knowledge about culture, history, and the environment. In many indigenous communities, important ecological knowledge exists only in the local language. If the language disappears, this knowledge may be lost forever. Moreover, different languages shape different ways of thinking, so losing languages reduces intellectual diversity.

There are many real-life examples that show how serious this problem is. In regions such as North America and Australia, many indigenous languages are critically endangered. In some cases, only a few elderly people can still speak the language fluently. Once they pass away, the language often disappears completely. This shows that language extinction is usually irreversible.

Another important aspect is globalization’s connection with education systems. In many countries, schools use only one dominant language as the medium of instruction. Tove Skutnabb-Kangas argues that this can harm minority languages because children are not given the opportunity to learn in their mother tongue. As a result, they may lose both linguistic skills and cultural connection.

Despite these challenges, there are effective ways to protect endangered languages. Joshua Fishman suggests that the most important step is to use the language in daily life, especially at home. If children grow up speaking their native language, it has a much higher chance of survival. In addition, David Crystal emphasizes the importance of education and institutional support.

Modern technology can also be used as a positive tool. Mobile applications, online courses, and digital dictionaries make it easier to learn and practice endangered



languages. In some communities, social media is even being used to revive interest in native languages among young people.

Governments and international organizations also play a key role. Tove Skutnabb-Kangas highlights that language rights should be treated as basic human rights. This means governments should actively support minority languages through policies and education.

In conclusion, language extinction is a serious global issue closely connected to globalization. While globalization creates many opportunities, it also increases the dominance of major languages and reduces linguistic diversity. As Linus Agba suggests, without conscious efforts, many languages may disappear in the near future. Therefore, it is essential to take action through education, policy support, technology, and community involvement.

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