

# Development Trends of Modern Uzbek Dialectology And Language Change Processes

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**Abstract:** This article explores the theoretical foundations of dialectology, language changes, and contemporary research. Dialectology is a significant branch of linguistics that studies the regional and social varieties of a language, namely dialects and vernaculars. Language changes occur under the influence of social, cultural, and economic factors within society. The article also provides detailed information on the development of Uzbek dialectology and its achievements during the independence period.

**Keywords:** Dialectology, language change, Uzbek dialects, regional varieties, linguistics, contemporary research.

**Introduction:** Dialectology is a significant field of linguistics that studies the regional and social varieties of a language, namely dialects and vernaculars. This discipline helps to deepen the understanding of the structure and functions of a language by analyzing its historical development, transformation processes, and speech characteristics in different regions.

Dialectology, which deals with regional differences within a language, plays a crucial role in understanding language change. Modern research has expanded both the theoretical and practical aspects of dialectology, enabling more in-depth exploration of language development and transformation.

The term dialectology originates from Greek and means "knowledge about dialects and vernaculars." It examines regional language variants—specifically dialects—in terms of phonetics, vocabulary, and grammar. The field develops in close connection with linguistics, ethnography, and folklore. Uzbek dialectology investigates the formation, distribution, and characteristics of Uzbek dialects.

The theoretical foundations of dialectology focus on identifying and classifying regional language variants and studying their unique features. Among the major contributions to the theoretical basis of Uzbek dialectology is S. Ashirboyev's textbook "Uzbek Dialectology," which provides detailed information on

the scientific-theoretical foundations of Uzbek dialects, research methods, and classification. It also includes lecture texts, practical training materials, and independent study topics, and is intended for students in Uzbek language and literature departments.

Similarly, T.J. Enazarov's book "Uzbek Dialectology" discusses the theoretical basis for studying Uzbek dialects. The author emphasizes the relevance of researching Uzbek vernaculars from a scientific standpoint. Published in 2012, the work presents detailed information on the specific features of Uzbek dialects and methods for studying them.

In addition, Sh. Bobojonova's teaching manual "Uzbek Dialectology" addresses both the theoretical and practical issues of Uzbek dialects. The material is designed to provide students with knowledge of the theory and practice of dialectology and to help them apply theoretical knowledge in practice. It includes information on the classification and analysis methods used in dialect research.

Overall, the theoretical foundations of dialectology rely on methods for identifying, classifying, and analyzing regional variants of a language. Studies in this field contribute to a deeper understanding of language development, historical changes, and regional peculiarities.

Language change includes phonetic, lexical, and grammatical transformations. Dialectological research

plays a key role in identifying and understanding these changes. Dialects reflect the historical evolution of a language, and studying them allows scholars to track how the language has transformed over time. For example, analyzing different Uzbek dialects makes it possible to determine what types of changes the language has undergone.

Dialectology examines the regional and social varieties of language. It analyzes how language varies across regions and populations, closely interacting with fields such as ethnography and folklore. The dialectal structure of the Uzbek language is complex, stemming from its rich historical development and connections with various ethnic groups. Professor E.D. Polivanov noted in his work "Uzbek Dialectology and the Uzbek Literary Language" that the presence of numerous dialects distinguishes Uzbek from other Turkic languages.

Language change is influenced by social developments. These transformations manifest in vocabulary, grammar, and phonetics. For instance, new technologies or cultural influences may lead to the creation of new words. Dialectology helps identify trends in language development by studying these changes.

Dialectology and language change are closely interconnected, playing an important role in understanding the development of language and its regional features. Research in this field is essential for preserving the richness of a language and passing it on to future generations.

Currently, dialectological research is being conducted using new technologies and methods. For example, advancements in computational linguistics and corpus linguistics are being applied in the collection and analysis of dialectological data. These approaches create new opportunities for identifying and modeling language changes. Furthermore, modern dialectology not only examines regional variations of a language but also takes into account social, cultural, and historical factors.

The modern dialectal layer includes newly formed lexical units that have emerged during the development and transformation of the language. This layer introduces words reflecting modern concepts, technologies, and social phenomena into the vocabulary of the language.

Over the course of language development, some words come to denote different things: when one meaning becomes obsolete, the other takes on a new, contemporary function. For example, the word "boy" previously meant "nobleman", whereas today it is used in the sense of "financially wealthy." As stated on the

website [ilmiybaza.uz](http://ilmiybaza.uz): "Some words, during the course of language development, come to denote different things. When one meaning becomes outdated, another meaning is used in the modern layer."

Additionally, some words used in dialects can also appear in literary language. For example, the word "pishak" (cat) is used in the Samarkand dialect and is also encountered in literary usage. According to [azkurs.org](http://azkurs.org),

"The collection of dialectal words is referred to as dialectisms... Some words from dialects may also be found in literary language."

Studying the modern dialectal layer is important for understanding the dynamics of language and identifying its paths of development.

Several scholars have conducted significant research in the field of Uzbek dialectology. For instance, scholars such as Fattoh Abdullayev, G'ozzi Olim Yunusov, A.K. Borovkov, and Shonozar Shoabdurahmonov have made notable contributions to the study of Uzbek dialects. Their works have been important in defining the grammatical, lexical, orthographic, and phonological norms of the Uzbek language.

Uzbek dialectology, a significant field that studies the regional and social variants of the Uzbek language, has gone through several developmental stages and possesses a rich history and tradition. During the period of independence, numerous scientific studies have been conducted in this area. On May 20, 2023, an international scientific-theoretical conference titled "Research on Uzbek Folklore and Dialects: Qualification, Methodology, New Approaches" was held at the Alisher Navoi Tashkent State University of the Uzbek Language and Literature. This conference discussed pressing issues in Uzbek dialectology.

The initial studies in Uzbek dialectology date back to the early 20th century. During this period, linguists focused on collecting and classifying Uzbek dialects. For instance, in 1933, E.D. Polivanov, in his work "Uzbek Dialectology and the Uzbek Literary Language", emphasized that the Uzbek language differs from other Turkic languages due to its numerous dialects.

During the Soviet era, Uzbek dialectology developed on a scientific basis. Various regional variants of the Uzbek language were extensively studied, and scientific works were produced. For example, in 1963, B. Jo'rayev's "The Uzbek Literary Language and Dialects" was published. In addition, in 1978, V.V. Reshetov and Sh. Shoabdurahmonov co-authored a book titled "Uzbek Dialectology."

After Uzbekistan gained independence, Uzbek dialectology entered a new stage of development.

During this period, scholarly efforts to study dialectal features of the Uzbek language continued. For instance, in 1990, A. Ishayev published “Uzbek Dialectal Lexicography,” and in 1993, S. Rahimov published “Dictionary of Surkhandarya Uzbek Dialects.” These works focused on the study, systematization, and scientific analysis of regional dialects.

On October 21, 1989, the Uzbek language was granted the status of the state language, further increasing interest in the native language and regional dialects. Following the adoption of this law, numerous academic events were organized in the field of Uzbek linguistics, including dialectology. These events significantly contributed to the scientific study of regional speech.

In the years of independence, several important scholarly works on Uzbek dialectology have been published. For instance, in 2012, T.J. Ernazarov and V.A. Karimjonova co-authored “Uzbek Dialectology,” which comprehensively discusses the phonetic, lexical, morphological, and syntactic features of Uzbek dialects. In 2013, S. Ashirboyev’s book “Uzbek Dialectology” was also published, offering detailed insights into the unique features of Uzbek dialects and their relationship with the literary language.

Research in the field of Uzbek dialectology during the independence period contributes to the preservation and development of the richness of our language and helps us better understand our national culture through the study of regional dialects.

Today, scientific research in the field of Uzbek dialectology continues. In 2022, A. Eshnazarov published an article titled “The Development of Uzbek Dialectology and Related Phenomena.” The article discusses the distinctions between the terms dialect, subdialect, and vernacular, based on the research of dialectologists and their relevance in the literary language.

The development of Uzbek dialectology plays a key role in preserving the richness of our language and passing it on to future generations.

Modern research on dialectology and language change helps deepen our understanding of regional language differences and their development.

The quote you referenced is from Professor E.D. Polivanov’s work “Uzbek Dialectology and the Uzbek Literary Language,” published in 1933. In this work, Polivanov emphasized that the abundance of dialects distinguishes the Uzbek language from other Turkic languages.

New technologies and methods serve to make research in this field more efficient. The advancement of Uzbek dialectology plays an important role in preserving the

richness of our national language and transmitting it to future generations.

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