

# Viewing Language Phenomena Through An Ecological Approach

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**Abstract:** It is crucial for every native speaker to correctly adhere to language norms and master the rules of speech. Indeed, the unique words and terms of every language arise from the need to express the lifestyle, history, living conditions, and psychology of the people who created that language. Language is in constant development, and this development is inherently linked to human factors. The development (enrichment) of a language can be positively influenced by borrowing words from dialects and other languages, as well as creating new words. However, this process of development can also have a negative impact on the language.

**Keywords:** Uzbek terminology, language ecology, Orkhon-Yenisei inscriptions, sonorant sound, homonym, synonym, antonym, paronym.

**Introduction:** History shows that countless languages have emerged and disappeared in the world. The reason for this is the failure to adhere to the normative rules of language and the neglect of language ecology. Today, the science of linguistics, including Uzbek linguistics, has developed tremendously throughout the world over the past century. In particular, it is necessary to acknowledge the influence of Russian linguistics on the development of Uzbek linguistics. As a result of Uzbekifying numerous terms from Russian linguistics through various methods, the terminology of the Uzbek language has been enriched. In textbooks and manuals on the Uzbek language, scientific articles, and monographs, one can observe that several words are used as terms for a single linguistic phenomenon, while conversely, a single word is used as a term for different phenomena. This cannot be considered a positive situation. For each phenomenon, there should be one term that correctly reflects its essence. In linguistics itself, as a field studying language, some of these problems arise where certain linguistic terms do not accurately reflect the essence of the phenomena they describe, while others are redundant, with multiple terms for a single phenomenon. Addressing this situation is one of the primary tasks of language ecology, a new direction developing in linguistics. A speaker's proficiency is determined by their ability to

select appropriate words from linguistic resources in any given situation. The scope of ecolinguistics (language ecology) also encompasses issues such as the relationship between linguistic and social phenomena, the development of styles and their various manifestations, and language norms. In essence, language development is a process intricately linked with the history of society and people, progressing from clan language to tribal language, from tribal language to the language of a people, and from the language of a people to a national language. During this prolonged process, linguistic phenomena from past centuries differentiate themselves from those of subsequent centuries. Each historical period and event leaves its distinct traces in language. As a result, the modern Uzbek language has significantly distanced itself from its past. It is known that linguistic phenomena that do not meet the requirements of socio-historical development gradually fall out of common language use. They have been replaced by new phenomena that emerged due to contemporary demands. Consequently, as mentioned above, the modern Uzbek language has become distant from its past. These changes can be observed when comparing current language with phenomena reflected in written monuments. In the Orkhon-Yenisei inscriptions, the ancient directional suffix -qaru is preserved today only in words such as tashqarida (outside) and ichkarida

(inside). Later, qarū shortened, and -qa/-ga/-ka also evolved, softening initially to -ğa, then to -ga. The word *teskari* (reverse) was also initially in the form *tersqaru*, but for ease of pronunciation, one sound was dropped, changing it to *teskari*. This, of course, demonstrates the language's tendency towards convenience. Linguistic phenomena (including certain phrases, stories, conversations between several people, and the like), as well as processes that are repeated orally or mechanically and recorded through writing, are present in speech phenomena. In general, if there is a disruption or inappropriate change in any aspect of language, language ecology and language norms come to the rescue. In linguistic sources, according to the participation of voice and noise in the structure of language sounds, they are called vowel sound, consonant sound, sonorant sound, noisy sound, voiced sound, and voiceless sound. These terms (except for the term *sonor*) are calques of the terms "glasniy zvuk, soglasniy zvuk, shumniy zvuk, zvonkiy zvuk, glukhoy zvuk" in Russian linguistics. It was incorrect to translate the original term "glasniy" as "vowel." If we say vowel, it creates the impression that in addition to voice, noise also participates in the composition of this sound. It is preferable to call it "un sound" based on the meaning, not the form (relative adjective) of the term "glasniy." Considering that the lexeme "un" is rarely used in modern literary Uzbek, we decided to call this type of sound "ovoz tovush" (voice sound). The term "soglasniy" is correctly translated as consonant, but this Russian term (and, consequently, its Uzbek equivalent) does not accurately convey the essence of the linguistic phenomenon: "golos" (voice) does not participate in the "shumnie" (voiceless) sound type to which this term applies. In the new classification of language sounds, this term has become redundant. The term "sonor" correctly names the phenomenon; nevertheless, we recommended the term "ovozdor" as its Uzbek equivalent. Russian terms "zvonkiy" and "glukhoy" are also unacceptable: being "zvonkiy" is characteristic of both vowel sounds and voiced sounds, therefore, it does not precisely name the phenomenon; the term "jarangli," which is the Uzbek calque of "zvonkiy," can be evaluated similarly. The term "glukhoy" is inappropriately borrowed into the Uzbek language. An independent approach was taken in Uzbekizing the term, but the result was not positive. To call something "jarangsiz" (voiceless) is not to name a phenomenon, but to deny the existence of a certain feature. Based on the composition of the sound, it is advisable to use the term "ovozli tovush" (voiced sound) instead of "zvonkiy zvuk," and "shovqin tovush" (noisy sound) instead of "glukhoy zvuk." In the new classification of language sounds, the term "shumnie zvuki" and its Uzbek translation "shovqinli tovush" have

become redundant. As can be seen from these thoughts, there are also some ambiguities in the use of terms in Uzbek linguistics. Clear descriptions of these cases are necessary. The educational process plays an important role in increasing attention to the state language, its rational use, and ensuring that the speech of students and pupils complies with literary language norms. The lessons of native language and literature teachers in the educational process, and even the provision of recommendations to teachers in other fields on the rational use of the Uzbek language in accordance with language rules, help to eliminate some mistakes and shortcomings in subsequent stages. In textbooks on linguistics, various opinions are given about synonymous series. This linguistic phenomenon is also called a synonymic nest. In our opinion, the term "synonymic row" implies that synonyms lie within the same line. As we can see, there is still much work to be done regarding the use of terms in Uzbek linguistics. Due to the introduction of many terms from Russian or other linguistic traditions, we often encounter multiple terms being used for a single phenomenon in our scientific terminology. In particular, differences are observed in school, secondary specialized, and higher education textbooks. Let's examine some of these below. Antonym - opposite meaning (in school textbooks), (exactly) opposite meaning, oppositional. Antonym - (Greek: anti - opposite, contradictory + onym - name) language units with mutually contradictory, opposite meanings: big-small, tall-short. Synonyms - words with similar meanings. Synonyms (Greek synonymos - same name) are words with the same denotative meaning but different connotative meanings (additional shades of meaning, stylistic coloring) and other characteristics. For example: custom, tradition, usage, practice... Synonyms - (Greek synonymia - having the same name). Words with different forms but similar meanings: food, meal... (syn. Synonym). Synonymous words - two or more words expressing the same general meaning: face, countenance, visage... (syn. synonyms). Homonym - homonymous word, abstract noun - abstract noun, monosemic word - monosemy, polysemic word - polysemy, phone - sound, seme - meaning, affix - affix, phraseology - idioms, prefix - prefix, and others.

In the morphological section of linguistics, there is currently an increase in terminology, sometimes resulting in different naming conventions for the same phenomenon, or confusion of terms due to linguists approaching language phenomena from various perspectives. For example, in the verb category, verb forms indicating the degree of the performer's participation in the process of action and state are expressed in textbooks using different terms: in one

instance as "verb relations," and in another as "verb degrees." Similarly, in the adjective category, textbooks present differing views on the category of degree, with variations in the classification of degrees.

## **CONCLUSION**

In our linguistics, situations like those mentioned above inevitably affect language ecology. In many cases, misinterpretation of language phenomena in speech and text can lead to a disruption of language ecology. Such linguistic phenomena include paronyms, synonyms, homophones, and others. In our speech, failing to select and use the appropriate form of a word from its synonymous series in the context of speech creates awkwardness. For example: "I fell in love with your beautiful face (yuz) " // "I fell in love with your beautiful face (aft)." Although the words "yuz" and "aft" in the example belong to the same synonymous set, failing to use the word that corresponds to the meaning of the sentence and its preceding modifier affects the ecology of the language.

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