

Study Of the Newspaper "Kyzil Uzbekistan" As A Source in The History of Spelling Changes in Uzbekistan

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Abstract: This article reveals some issues related to the source study of the newspaper "Kizil O`zbekiston", which began to be published in 1925, one of the unique sources on the history of spelling changes in Uzbekistan in the first half of the 20th century. The article also shows the articles of local intellectuals that were submitted to the newspaper "Kizil O`zbekiston". The above research work cites examples of the incomparable role of the newspaper "Kizil O`zbekiston" as a source.

Keywords: Source, newspaper, magazine, historical source studies, "Kizil U`zbekiston" newspaper, alphabet, spelling, synharmonism, elongations.

Introduction: The role of the source under study in historiography is considered very high. The scientist who gave a theoretical definition of the concept of a historical source is L. Danilevsky. According to the theory of knowledge, any information that can be perceived can be a "source" with empirical data through our senses. In the scientific-empirical sense, any existing object from which knowledge about another object can be obtained not for itself, but through its proximity can be called a source. This concept proposed in the science of history includes the concept of the existence of an object and its suitability for studying another object. In fact, for any researcher engaged in the science of history, such an object is imagined in his mind as "information". The researcher not only recognizes it as his own concept, but also sees its content in practice. Otherwise, the source may not be the object of sensory perception of the researcher.[1] Above, information about the historical source was provided in the introduction to the article. Below, we move on to the main part of the topic and provide the basics on the topic.

Analysis of literature on the topic

The literature used in the study of the history of spelling changes is distinguished by its relevance to the topic, the level of modernity and reliance on historical facts. The main source analyzed in the article - the newspaper "Kizil U'zbekiston" - is a unique press publication that

covered the language and spelling reforms that took place in Uzbekistan at the beginning of the 20th century in real time, through which the attitudes, scientific views and debates of the intellectuals of that time are clearly visible. The articles of such well-known intellectuals as Elbek, Mannon Ramziy, Yakub Amon, Ashurali Zohiriy, Ibrohim Tohiriy, Abdulkhay Tu'ychi, Y. Okhunbobayev, which appeared on the pages of the newspaper, reflect different positions on spelling reforms and show the historical struggle for the formation and normalization of the Uzbek language. In particular, discussions on issues such as synharmonism, elongations, spelling of foreign words, problems in the transition to the Latin alphabet, and spelling rules are of great importance for linguistics and history. Also, in the article by Turobova N. U. "The role of material and written sources in the study of history", the role of written sources, especially press publications, in historical research is theoretically substantiated. This article is important as a theoretical basis and serves as a reliable basis for analyzing the newspaper "Kizil O'zbekiston" as a source.

Research methodology

This research work used the methods of source studies, historicism, systematics and analytical approach to study the history of spelling changes in Uzbekistan in the first half of the 20th century. The research was conducted mainly based on the materials of the newspaper "Kizil Uzbekiston". This newspaper was

chosen as an important historical source reflecting the language policy, spelling, alphabet reforms of the early 20th century and how they were perceived by local intellectuals.

Analysis and results

The spelling changes that occurred in Uzbekistan in the first half of the 20th century were widely covered by various newspapers and magazines. One of these newspapers is the newspaper "Kizil U'zbekiston". This newspaper began to be published in Tashkent in 1924. The newspaper published articles, theses, and information on political, social, cultural, and other areas of life in the Republic of Uzbekistan. It also covered changes in the field of education, including reforms in language and spelling, changes, and the attitude of local leaders and intellectuals to language and spelling.

One of the local Uzbek intellectuals, Elbek (Yunusov Mashriq, 1898–1939), participated in the September 28, 1925, issue 237 of the newspaper "Kizil O'zbekiston" with his article "On the Language and Spelling Issue Again." In the article, Elbek stated that after the Language and Spelling Debates of 1921, everyone had fallen silent again, that our language and spelling had not yet settled down, and that newspapers and magazines were writing in the spelling they knew. [1] By this time, after the formation of the Uzbek SSR, everyone's attention had turned to political issues. Perhaps for this reason, attention to spelling issues had decreased, but starting in 1925, these issues began to be raised again. The next information on the issue of language and spelling begins to appear in 1929. In this, an article by Mannon Ramziy was published in the 13th issue of the newspaper "Kizil U'zbekiston" of this year. In this article, Ramziy announced that a conference on the issue of language and spelling would be convened in Samarkand in the near future and said the following: "The main issues on the agenda of our scientific conference to be convened in the near future are: a) the issue of the Uzbek literary language, b) the issue of terminology, c) the issue of spelling." All of the above issues were reflected in the article, and the section on spelling expressed opinions on the new spelling, that is, various issues after the transition to the Latin alphabet, the issue of synharmonism, the spelling of foreign words, the need to compile spelling dictionaries, the acceptance or non-acceptance of capital letters, the issue of vowels and consonants [2]. Mannon Ramziy (Abdullaev Mannon, 1895 – 1938) was one of the young intellectuals of this period who expressed his views on spelling changes in the press.

In the following issues of the newspaper, Elbek again wrote an article, giving his thoughts on language and

spelling. In the article, Elbek expressed a broader opinion about cho'zgi (vowels). He first talked about the 3 vowels in the old Uzbek script. "We will have to dwell on the issue of cho'zgi at length. The most controversial and noisy place in our spelling issue is undoubtedly cho'zgi. In our old books, only 3 cho'zgi were used, and these 3 letters, of course, could not correspond to the Turkish language. It was impossible to open our mouths about the shortcomings of these three cho'zgi for the Uzbek language, which lost its existence under the Islamic tradition and Persian luxury. We were even grateful for the use of these 3 cho'zgi. As we said above, thanks to the revolution, we began to feel free to openly look at this issue and examine it, and we suddenly added 3 vowels to the 3 vowels." Regarding the introduction of 9 vowels after 3 vowels: "Although the inability of 6 vowels to adequately respond to the Uzbek language was not noticeable before, it began to be clearly felt in recent times, especially before the transition to the new alphabet. However, since the controversy over the vowels at that time, that is, before the transition to the alphabet, was not over 9, but over 6, it was difficult to open a word about this until the transition to the new alphabet. He argued that "at a time when the noise of the letter-altering writers had not yet subsided, the move from 6 to 9, while preserving only these 6 vowels, was a great success." [3] Elbek continued to publish articles on spelling in subsequent issues of the newspaper, including an article on the issue of vowels in issue 23, [4] and an article on labial tones in issue 24. [5]

Continuing his articles on language, spelling and terminology in the newspaper "Kizil O'zbekiston", Y. Yoldash expressed his views on the issue of synharmonism and foreign words. Uzbek intellectuals were divided into two schools of thought on synharmonism, the first of which was in favor of adhering to the full law of synharmonism, while the second was in favor of departing from the law of synharmonism in exceptional cases. He cites Batu as a prominent representative of the exceptions. Yoldash also provided information about labial tones and vowels in his article, and in turn cited examples from Y. Amon's article on spelling published in an issue of the newspaper "Kizil O'zbekiston" in 1927. [6] In one of the later issues of the newspaper, Yaqub Amon expressed his views on language and spelling problems. [7]

Continuing the debates and discussions on language and spelling issues in the press, Ashurali Zohiri expressed his views on language and spelling in the 72nd issue of the newspaper "Kizil U'zbekiston" in 1929. In it, Zohiri said that if foreign words are used in their own way, they will later harm our national

language. He also mentioned the issues of literary language, terms, and spelling in his article.[8] Ashurali Zohiri continued his article in the next issue of the newspaper, giving his thoughts on lip tone, vowels, the issue of synharmonism, capital letters, and other issues.[9] Continuing the next language and spelling debate, Ibrahim Tohiri expressed his thoughts on the fact that proper work has not been done and is not being done in the Central Asian peoples regarding spelling, and he cited the following: "Scientists like Melioransky have a number of tables in their laboratories that have examined and compiled languages. However, they do not cover all the details of our language. There is nothing about this in the state orthography of Central Asia. There is not even a simple tool to separate very clearly audible sounds like "o – ə, a – ə" and show their situations. However, a linguist can make this himself from a master. There is no such thing. After such a situation, there is not much sense in talking about phonetics-phonetics without understanding the issue well. We need to work on our phonetics. After working, we need to study it thoroughly. Only then can we talk about phonetics "You can give your students something concrete by just saying something. Otherwise, it's pointless to suffer through explaining something to a student without understanding it yourself." [10] Ibrahim Tohiri continued his article in the next issue of the newspaper "Kizil U`zbekiston" and said that we need to come to a common opinion about the law of synharmonism in our language. At the same time, he gives the following example: "When we implement synharmonism, it is not appropriate to write one word ninety-nine different ways in a dictionary, like Comrade Batu's, or one hundred percent synharmonism like Comrade Alavi's. Then let's not talk about synharmonism, mingharmonism, let's not make Chinese writing for workers and peasants," the article says. [11]

In 1931, an article was published in the newspaper "Kizil Uzbekiston" under the authorship of Abdulhai Toychi. The article gave his views on the V plenum of the Central Committee of the New Alphabet held in Tashkent, the international significance of the new alphabet, the fact that the New Alphabet, based on Stalin's information, is a powerful weapon of the cultural revolution, the social significance of the old Arabic alphabet, and the class struggle for the new alphabet. [12] The newspaper also published the content of the plenums on the new Latin alphabet. For example, in issue 130 of the newspaper "Kizil U`zbekiston" in 1931, it was reported that more than 100 newspapers and magazines were being published in the new alphabet throughout the Union, that 52% of the peoples who had switched to the new alphabet

were peoples who had no writing before, the speech of the chairman of the All-Union Central Committee for the New Alphabet Umar Aliyev, and other news about the new alphabet throughout the Union. [13] In this regard, the newspaper "Kizil U`zbekiston" regularly covered not only articles by national intellectuals on spelling, but also meetings of newspaper editors on language and spelling.

In an article published in a periodical, Ibrahim Tohiri's thoughts on the issue of orthography in the new Latin alphabet begin as follows: "It is now obvious to anyone that the new alphabet has brought about a great revolution in Uzbek orthography, and not only in its orthography, but in its entire cultural structure. This can be clearly seen from the achievements made in eradicating illiteracy in the short period after the adoption of the new alphabet. However, it is also obvious to everyone that the new Uzbek orthography is still very far from being perfected. When the rules of orthography were developed on the basis of the new alphabet after the decree on the adoption of the new alphabet was issued, this new orthography could not escape the historical influence of the old Arabic alphabet." Because the addition of a tail under some letters was still ongoing. At the same time, he spoke about the laws of synharmonism, about "own" words and "foreign" words, that is, he opposed the use of foreign words, and mentioned that the decisions of the Language and Spelling Conference in Samarkand were still flawed, among other issues. [14].

The newspaper criticized the domls, mullahs, and old mullahs who were the supporters of the old Arabic spelling. Among them were Soviet workers, communists, and even responsible workers. For example, the chairman of the Tashkent City Soviet, Comrade Ibrohimov, said, "Criticize however you want, I am illiterate in Latin." [15].

Comrade Akhunboboyev gave the newspaper another article, where he spoke about the practical work of the new Latin alphabet and Stalin's thoughts, and criticized Batu, Mannoziy Ramziy and Kasimov, who had previously expressed their views on spelling. Because they agreed on adapting the Latin alphabet to the Uzbek national language and preserving the rules of synharmonism. He also criticized some district administrations that still work in the Arabic alphabet [16].

Conclusion And Suggestions

In conclusion, it should be said that in the first half of the 20th century, changes in the language and spelling of Uzbekistan were covered in the newspaper "Kizil O`zbekiston". The newspaper contains articles not only on spelling issues, but also on socio-political, cultural, agricultural and other areas. It follows that, considering

the incomparable place of the newspaper "Kizil O'zbekiston" as a source in the history of Uzbekistan, I recommend its wide use to researchers of this period. It is necessary to teach history students at the undergraduate level to use the newspaper's texts during practical training. It is necessary to establish a full electronic version of all issues of the newspaper "Kizil O'zbekiston" stored in local and republican libraries. It is necessary to fully digitize the issues of the newspaper "Kizil O'zbekiston" and place them on an open electronic platform for modern scientific research. It serves as a valuable scientific resource for historians, linguists and cultural scientists. It is necessary to give undergraduate and graduate students studying the history of Uzbekistan the skills of working with texts from the newspaper "Kizil U'zbekiston" in practical classes, and to teach them to analyze them as a historical source. Based on the historical experience of language and spelling policy, recommendations can be developed for improving current language policy. Because past mistakes and successes can serve as an example for modern reforms. A special scientific catalog or monograph should be prepared based on newspaper materials and made available to the general public with a deep analysis of the stages of the history of language policy in Uzbekistan.

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