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THE DEVELOPMENT OF “FACT-CHECKING” SKILLS AMONG EDUCATORS AS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR OF FORMING THE LREARNER’S ANALYTICAL AND CRITICAL ATTITUDE TO INFORMATION

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ABSTRACT

This article reveals the concept of “fact-checking”, content - essence and its social significance. Moreover, by developing the skills of “fact-checking” in pedagogues, issues related to the formation of an analytical and critical attitude to any form of information in students are explained theoretically.

KEYWORDS

“Fact-checking”, pedagogue, learner, information, information attack, information - psychological security, cyber threat, fake news, democracy, ensuring information security.

INTRODUCTION

To date, the formation of an analytical and critical attitude of students to information, protection from the influence of harmful information and the interrelationship of the national mentality, improvement of pedagogical mechanisms of protection of future specialists from the influence of harmful information on the basis of national education, spiritual and preventive technologies for the development of “fact-checking” skills among them the

issue of development is considered as one of the most urgent issues of our national education system

Formation of analytical and critical attitude to information in the global educational environment of future specialists, especially future foreign language teachers, is one of the important pedagogical problems. In the world, the phrase “Information attack” was first mentioned in 1976 in Thomas Rohn’s

report “Weapons system and information war” designed for the Boeing company [1]. Information attack has become the main factor at the basis of the global spiritual and cultural crises that are happening in the world today and covering all spheres of society’s life and intensifying the processes of globalization. Therefore, based on the requirements of the need to ensure the security of information received from the global Internet, in 2020, the specialty “Information Security Management” was opened in 2020 at the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan [2]. , information is becoming a field of historical competition on the world stage, and a form of active struggle called “information war” is emerging, which can be overcome only by developing people’s “fact-checking” skills.

The strategy of information wars is always aimed at creating the necessary public opinion for the opposing side. Mass media have always covered diplomatic steps and military actions and delivered them to the population. But the concept of “fake news” entered Uzbek language recently. This concept was introduced by Donald Trump in 2016. Fake news is mostly used to discredit political opponents. False news affects the mental state of the recipient, their abundance in most cases makes it difficult for the reader to distinguish the truth from a lie and serves to form a false public opinion. In the General Assembly of most countries in the modern world, democracy is listed as the only valid form of government. Democracy is a political order in which decisions are made by the participants on a collective basis. One of the important conditions for the functioning and operation of democratic mechanisms is the free circulation and delivery of socially important information that serves to shape public opinion. But in recent years, a phenomenon

called fake news has entered and caused the interest of many people.

Fake news is the falsification of certain information or the dissemination of false news through social networks and traditional mass media for the purpose of misleading people, misleading them, and obtaining financial or political benefits.

Fakes are always created on the basis of contradictions. All the wars, religious and national conflicts, and internal political conflicts that are happening in the world are based on false news and are the impetus for their origin. For example, during the color revolutions, the opposition and third political parties spread fake news through the internet and mass media in order to show the “real face” of the current government. Conflicts in Ukraine, conflicts in Syria, war in Iraq are the result of fake news. Compilers of Collins English Dictionary found fake news as the most used word in 2017.

“The leader of the free world mocks them and accuses them of trying to influence the election, but today fake news has become real news, because it was declared the word of the year according to the Collins version,” the site’s dictionary says. Collins describes fake news as “false, sometimes sensational information distributed as news”. Since 2016, the use of this phrase has increased by 365% in the world press[3].

It is worth noting that today there is a lot of wrong information not only in the news published on the Internet and social networks, but also in the news on official news sites. Lies, fabrications, and fake information have a negative impact on the audience’s mind, and lead to the derailment of various relationships between people, existing procedures,

values, and traditions in society. Therefore, in the current conditions, the issue of fake, false, fabricated information, i.e. “fake news” has become one of the topical topics of modern journalism.

Until 2000, the concept of fake was mainly applied to visual information. To date, the following types of fakes can be distinguished:

- fake photos processed by computer programs;
- videos re-edited on the basis of existing videos;
- false text messages;
- pages opened on behalf of other people in social networks.

The main purpose of spreading fake news is to attract attention, to convince the audience of false news, to create distrust in the society towards the current government, and to cause confusion in the country.

People tend to believe fake news. Such a conclusion was shown by the research conducted by scientists (Knight Foundation) in 2018 [4]. Most of the 3,000 respondents noted that their attention is first attracted by catchy headlines and they are interested in emotional content, and the source of information is in the last place. For this reason, lies spread much faster than the truth. Jalaliddin Ishakov, a lawyer with 20 years of experience, talks about why Uzbekistan is unable to protect itself from the global fake empire, does not think critically to expose their lies and methods.

Jalaliddin Ishakov said that solving the problem by legal means in Uzbekistan - holding the authors of fake news to account is not always possible. The reason for this is that there are no mechanisms for sorting channels spreading slander in the legal framework.

Obviously, the interest of consumers in such content leads to more false information being thrown into the information field. Some people want to promote their publication or internet channel, while others do custom work. For this reason, if the issue of the first does not pose much danger, the second may have a specific goal, for example, to unbalance the situation in the country. Therefore, it is dangerous to leave everything without checking.

In the world practice, there are trends in this process of modern teaching technologies, in particular, the development of “fact-checking” skills of future foreign language teachers, the effective use of information-intellectual situations as a complex socio-cultural and didactic phenomenon on educational activity and effectiveness. Today, advanced educational institutions recognize that media culture is a universal component of life, its pedagogical value, freedom and voluntariness are recognized and special attention is paid to the fact that an effective pedagogical environment aimed at developing this process is considered as a means of increasing the possibilities of practical orientation and quality assurance.

In our country, systematic reforms have been carried out regarding the formation of educational content aimed at teaching foreign languages based on the integration of science and production. In the Action Strategy for the further development of the Republic of Uzbekistan, pedagogues are assigned the task of “participating in the implementation of measures aimed at ensuring information security, preventing attacks and threats in the information field” [5]. Thus, in the creation of methods of combating informational threats in our country, the issues of using the higher education system and forming an analytical and critical attitude to information in future specialists are of great

importance. As the information attack primarily targets young people, especially students, it is necessary to sharply eliminate the factors of this attack that form negative political views from a pedagogical and psychological point of view. “After all, what a sharp competition, ideological, ideological struggle is going on in the world, around us! In such a complicated situation, does a real intellectual have the right to sit idly by and be an audience?” [6]. It can be seen from the above comments of the President Sh. Mirziyoev that in today’s education system, forming the analytical and critical attitude of students to information is one of the most urgent tasks before our pedagogues.

Based on the above, today’s “training of teachers of the new era, development of the science of pedagogy” should be defined as an urgent task requires development and implementation.

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