

THE CONVERGENT EVALUTION OF THE KAZAKH LANGUAGE DURING THE GLOBALIZATION PROCESS

Gulnara Omarbekova

Assoc. Prof., Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan, gulnara.omarbekova@nu.edu.kz

Abstract

Objective of the proposal is to study the processes of convergent evolution of the Kazakh language in the age of globalization: the assimilation and simplification.

Subject of research is the convergent processes in the structure of modern Kazakh language.

Methods of the study are complex. It includes the use of different approaches (multidisciplinary, multi-level, and cognitive), anthropocentric and contrastive principles, and a number of methods (structural - semantic, comparative, conceptual, method of word-formation analysis, stylistic, discursive). The use of these approaches is due to the need to involve other disciplines in analyzing the changes that have occurred in the structure of the Kazakh language; namely, factors within cultural studies, intercultural communication as well as considering such processes as globalization, cultural expansion, language expansion, glocalization; sociolinguistics, and socio-linguistic contact studies, i.e., studies of language contacts, and social situation, and the functional distribution of languages. The cognitive approach is aimed at the study of language as an ontological object, combining into a single whole language system (in a static state) and speech (as a dynamic phenomenon). The multilevel approach involves the identification and description of the convergent processes (assimilation and simplification) at different levels of the language system (phonetic, lexical, word formation, grammatical and stylistic). The anthropocentric principle promotes the study of language as a form of human consciousness and thinking, and is used as the main instrument of its spiritual and material activities. The contrastive principle helps to identify similarities and differences in the structure of language (Kazakh), likely undergoing another language, but at the same time striving to preserve its identity and, thus, changing in a special way (glocalization). Structural – semantic and comparative methods contribute to analysis the system and the structure of the Kazakh language, to the description of the changes in it. The conceptual analysis allows us to consider from the cognitive point of view figurative tools and comparisons. The word-formation analysis helps to identify new words formed by the convergence and to describe new ways of word formation.

Results: During the study of the convergent transformation of Kazakh language under the influence of English, the following scientific results are obtained. The theoretical aspects of the process of convergence and divergence of the contact languages are studied. The contrastive-comparative analysis of lexical and grammatical systems of the Kazakh and English languages is maintained. Some changes in the lexical-semantic and grammatical systems of the Kazakh language because of partial rapprochement with the English are identified. The assimilation of the lexical-semantic system of the both languages is manifested in similarities in the vocabulary (i.e., there is a large number of borrowings, new phrases, idioms, and figurative meanings from the English language). The simplification of the grammatical structure of Kazakh language is conducted in the formation of new words by analogical word-formation models of the English language (semantic, word formational, phrasal calques, changes in the structure of the sentence).

Conclusions: The theoretical study of the convergent development of languages contributes to the functioning of languages, having features in development. Universal and single foundation in the development of languages is intensified in the era of globalization. In addition, this is due to the influence on languages: performing both intra and external features and with English becoming the lingua franca because of the expansion of the language. The convergent rapprochement of Kazakh and English languages is happening due to the transformation of the relevant characteristics of the rules from one language to another, thereby likening converged and simplification of language.

Keywords: convergence, the Kazakh language, assimilation