

**TRENDS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LANGUAGE SITUATION
IN AKTOBE REGION (ON THE MATERIAL OF THE LANGUAGE
SKILLS LEVEL AMONG POPULATION)**

Biray N.¹, Kurmanova B.Zh.², *Utegenova A.³

¹Doctor PhD, Professor, Pamukkale University, Denizli, Turkey,
e-mail: nbiray@pau.edu.tr

²Doctor of Pedagogical Sciences, Associate Professor, K. Zhubanov ARU,
Aktobe, Kazakhstan, e-mail: baktigul_2001@mail.ru

³PhD Student, K. Zhubanov ARU, Aktobe, Kazakhstan,
e-mail: assel_de_nur88@mail.ru

Abstract. The article deals with issues related to the national composition of the population of Aktobe Region, including the proportion of different nationality representatives, the choice of the native language by the people of the region and the level of proficiency in it, the proficiency level in Kazakh, Russian, English, and which of them plays a predominant role.

The purpose of the work is to examine in detail the linguistic situation in the western part of the Republic of Aktobe region, in particular in connection with the peculiarities of its geographical location, ethnic and linguistic diversity, as well as recent trends in the linguistic situation and dynamic criteria.

The scientific significance of the work lies in the study of the trends in the development of the language proficiency level, reflecting the nature and characteristics of the language situation in Aktobe Region. The possibility of using the results of the analysis in the implementation of language policy, drawing up strategic plans can be noted as the practical significance of the research.

The research was carried out using methods of collecting and analyzing of statistical data. The results of the National Population Censuses of the Republic of Kazakhstan in 1999 and 2009, reported by the Statistics Agency, were taken as the research material.

The value of the study is to determine the nature of the language situation in Aktobe Region, the level of language proficiency of its population.

The data obtained as a result of the study leads to the conclusion that increased interest in the state language is a natural process associated with a number of factors, including the growing number of Kazakhs in the population, the increasing number of schools with the Kazakh language of instruction.

Keywords: language situation, language processes, National Population Census, social linguistics, language policy, statistical data, sociolinguistic research, linguistic principles.

Basic provisions

Experience shows that the increasing processes of globalization and integration in the context of bilingualism and multilingualism raise problems such as the preservation of languages, changes in their status, and the narrowing of the communicative system. Linguistic realities also testify to the intensification of positive ethno-linguistic processes opposite to them. As in most CIS countries, the process of globalization of socio-cultural transformations in the Republic of Kazakhstan stimulates processes of ethnic identification and ethno-preservation motives.

A detailed consideration of the language situation in our country, especially the language situation in the western part of the republic due to its geographical location and ethno-linguistic diversity, current trends and dynamic dimensions is important when planning language policy in the future.

Introduction

In examining the linguistic situation of each region and identifying its characteristics and problems, attention is paid to many problems of sociolinguistic research. It begins by showing the uniqueness and peculiarities of the region, then the national composition of the population of the region, their share in the total population, the level of choice and knowledge of their native language, the level of knowledge of the Kazakh, Russian and English languages of the region, which population has a priority language use, the results of language development in the region, the need to learn Kazakh, Russian and English languages and problems of development of these languages in modern times, the question of the expectations of the population from the language policy and language planning, the issues of the state language, such as negative stereotypes and negative concepts in the sphere of use, the reasons that prevent learning languages, their opinion on the need, what types of work and methods should be used by local authorities in implementing language policy to increase interest in learning the state language should be taken into account [1]. In this regard, as the results of recent studies show, on the one hand, there is a process of classification in the use of Russian and Kazakh; on the other hand, there is an increase in the volume of communication, which expands its public services in each language. This demonstrates the sustainability of bilingualism in the republic.

Sociolinguists, focusing on the latest achievements of linguistics and sociolinguistics, relied mainly on the works of Soviet-era correspondents, written in the 1920s-30s, as well as on the works of American sociolinguists, which entered into scientific circulation on the basis of the publications of A. D. Schweitzer.

In particular, he has repeatedly emphasized that the field of sociolinguistic research includes the study of the influence of social factors on the functional use of language in the process of speech communication, the analysis of the influence of these factors on the structure of language, and their manifestation in the language structure. Also studied not only the connection of language with objective social factors, for example, various elements of the social structure, but also the expression of subjective social factors, such as social attitudes and social values, in language and speech [2, p. 69].

Y. D. Desheriev proposed a functional-typological classification of the languages of the peoples of the Soviet Union, reflecting the place and role of each native speaker and other peoples. As one of the official languages of the United Nations, Russian has served as a language of inter-ethnic communication in virtually all spheres of life, and during the Soviet Union it performed the maximum amount of government services. After the Russian language, the main languages of the Union states performed most of the social activities. However, these languages were not the language of interethnic and international communication, the correspondence

of the Union republics with central institutions was not carried out, and they did not perform the language function in all areas of science and technology, as the Russian language [3, p. 126].

Three main trends can be traced from the linguistic processes of that period:

1) the development of ancient and newly created written languages in connection with the growth of the material and spiritual culture of the peoples of the USSR;

2) widespread use of Russian as the language of inter-ethnic relations;

3) the development of bilingualism, including national-Russian bilingualism.

The analysis of the language situation in Russia and the CIS countries, the causes of language conflicts and their neutralization are reflected in the works of V. M. Alpatov, L. L. Ayupova, A. N. Baskakov, M. N. Guboglo, V. Y. Mikhailchenko, V. N. Neroznak, V. M. Solntsev and others.

Problems related to the study of the linguistic situation are considered at every stage of the development of sociolinguistics. In the last decade, sociolinguistic studies of the linguistic life of various regions have been conducted, and valuable information has been gathered as a result. The linguistic situation of the following republics was studied: in Bashkortostan (L. L. Ayupova, 1998), in Tatarstan (L. K. Bayramova, 2001), in Tuva and Altai (N. V. Ekeev, N. M. Yekeeva, 2000; T.G. Borgoyakova, 2002), in Khakasia (M. A. Kislakova, 1999), in Karakalpakstan (O. D. Nasyrova, 1998), in Kazakhstan (E. D. Suleimenova, 1997; S. V. Dmitrzh, 2000; A. N. Baskakov, 1992; Z. K. Akhmetzhanova, 2005; D. D. Shaybakova, 2006), in North Ossetia (T. T. Kambolov 2002), in the North Caucasus (V. A. Kharchenko, L. L. Khoperskaya, 1999; B.A. Khomyakov, 2000), in Ukraine (V.G. Gorodnyanenko, 2000), in Belarus (J. B. Koryakov, 2002), in Latvia (B. Zeba, 2000).

An urgent task today is to examine in detail the latest trends and dynamics of the language situation in our country, especially the language situation in the western part of our republic due to its geographical location and ethno-linguistic diversity. An urgent task today is to examine in detail the recent trends and dynamic criteria of the language situation in the western part of the republic, especially in connection with the geographical location and ethnic and linguistic heterogeneity of the language situation in the country. Among other things, we are interested not only in correlations reflecting the objective language situation, but also in subjective criteria of a particular language situation, such as the evaluation and perception of language by ethnophores [4].

Research methods and materials

In sociolinguistic analysis, the level of language proficiency is determined by various methods: tests, questions assessing individual skills in a particular language, etc. And we received the final results of the National Census of the Republic of Kazakhstan, presented by the Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Statistics in 1999 and 2009 to analyze the language situation in the Aktobe Region. In the second volume of collections “National census of the population of the Aktobe Region, Republic of Kazakhstan” in 1999 and 2009 are presented indicators on the level of education, marriage status, national composition and knowledge of languages,

religion [5, 6]. Having collected and analyzed the data from these collections, we determined the nature of the linguistic situation in the region.

Results and discussions

The following set of symbols is usually used to describe the language situation in the regions:

- peculiarities of language policy, nature of language legislation, official status of languages (state or officially used, as well as approval of special and other statuses);

- history of the emergence of the specified language situation, external factors influencing the current language situation (for example, the western and northern parts of Kazakhstan are located on the border with Russia, there are close historical economic and cultural relations between the regions, and the Russian and Kazakh languages of citizens of Russia and Kazakhstan its use is also realized through close cross-border language relations). In addition, in the early 1990s, there was an “open” border between Russia and Kazakhstan, with 22,444 thousand Russians and 542 thousand Kazakhs living in 10 regions and one region of Russia bordering Kazakhstan, and 2,540 thousand Kazakhs and 2,935 thousand Russians living in 9 regions of Kazakhstan bordering Russia;

- quantitative composition of languages used in the regions (often different languages prevail in urban and rural diasporas; languages used and studied in everyday life, such as foreign languages, etc., functional languages are shown separately);

- the demographic power of languages, determined by the number of speakers (often the boundaries of a language group do not correspond to the boundaries of an ethnic (national) group);

- functional power of languages, their functional ratio and the number of functionally dominant languages;

- language attitudes (language orientation of speakers, language loyalty, prestige of the language, readiness to learn it, etc.);

linguistic affinity of languages included in a given language situation, their structural and functional state (availability and sustainability of functional styles for use in the respective spheres: availability of terminological systems, written traditions; resource and institutional provision of language functioning, i.e. dictionaries, linguists, teaching aids, availability of trained teaching staff and their training and retraining system, etc.) [7, p. 33].

The vast majority of the above-mentioned attributes are given importance in the part of the National Census that differentiates the national composition of the population and the level of language proficiency. Below we have analyzed the statistical indicators of the National Census data depending on the linguistic situation. We can observe the following pattern based on statistical data collected over a two-year period. Table 1 shows a slight decrease in the number of Kazakhs who speak Kazakh in the Aktobe Region, according to the results of the 2009 national census. Table 1 shows a slight decrease in the number of Kazakhs who speak Kazakh in the Aktobe region, according to the results of the 2009 National

Census. According to the 1999 census, 99.5% of Kazakhs, 68% of Russians, 27% of Ukrainians, 32% of Germans, 76% of Tatars, and 49% of other ethnic groups spoke Kazakh; this figure changed in 2009. In particular, among those who speak Kazakh, oral comprehension is 98%, free reading is 95%, and including free writing is 91%. And 43% of the Russian population can speak orally, 12% can read fluently, and 9% can write fluently. 40% of Ukrainians understand orally, 10% show they can read fluently, 8% can write fluently, 82% of Tatars understand orally, 47% can write fluently, and 40% can write fluently. As for the German population, 43% showed that they understand Kazakh orally, 14% showed that they can read, and 11% showed that they can write fluently. According to the indicators of representatives of other ethnic groups in the region, 55% understand Kazakh orally, 12% read fluently, and 23% write fluently.

Table 1. Level of the Kazakh language proficiency of residents of Aktobe Region

Ethnic groups	Level of the Kazakh language proficiency					
	1999		2009			
	Total number of representatives of this nation	People mastered Kazakh	Total number of representatives of this nation	Who understand orally	Who read fluently	Including: who write freely
Kazakhs	482285	480227	448448	439977	426500	407757
Russians	114416	33123	85881	36793	10553	7747
Ukrainians	46848	12739	22336	9019	2364	1740
Tatars	11675	8902	8186	6736	3895	3258
Germans	10721	3435	4441	1931	612	478
Other ethnic groups	16613	8182	10485	5775	1242	2367

The following table shows the level of Russian language proficiency of the population of Aktobe Region using the comparative results of the two-year national population censuses. Based on the data in Table 2, according to the results of the national census of 1999, 69% of Kazakhs in Aktobe Region speak Russian, and about 100% of Russians and Ukrainians speak Russian. The same pattern can be seen in the census of Tatars, Germans, and other ethnic groups. According to the results of the 2009 national census, Kazakhs who have an oral understanding of the Russian language are 92%, who can read freely is 82%, and who can write freely is 75%. Russians and Ukrainians have very similar indicators, 98% can understand verbally; 96-97% respectively can read fluently, 94-95% showed that they can write fluently. 98% of Tatars and Germans can understand orally, 95% of Tatars can read fluently, 91% can write fluently. While 97% of Germans can read Russian fluently, 95% can write fluently. As for representatives of other ethnic groups, 97% showed that they could understand orally, 93% could read fluently, and 90% could write fluently in Russian.

Table 2. Level of the Russian language proficiency of residents of Aktobe Region

Ethnic groups	Level of the Russian language proficiency					
	1999		2009			
	Total number of representatives of this nation	People mastered Russian	Total number of representatives of this nation	Who understand orally	Who read fluently	Including: who write freely
Kazakhs	482285	327266	448448	415353	366248	338811
Russians	114416	114415	85881	84067	82501	80679
Ukrainians	46848	46837	22336	22011	21710	21281
Tatars	11675	11449	8186	8036	7756	7491
Germans	10721	10713	4441	4374	4300	4203
Other ethnic groups	16613	16514	10485	10213	9726	9407

As for English proficiency in the region, we see the following picture in Table 3, based on the census data. In comparison with the results of the national census of 1999, the indicator for 2009 has slightly changed. In particular, according to the results of the 1999 census, only 0.3% of Kazakhs knew English, while in 2009 just 20% of Kazakhs understood it orally, fluent readers were 13%, and 9.6% were fluent writers. As for the Russians, according to the 1999 census only 0.00007% knew English, but in 2009 this figure has changed, 18% understood orally, 10.5% read fluently, and 7.5% were found to be fluent in writing. According to the results of the 1999 census, English had been learned by only 0.35% of Ukrainians, and according to the results of the 2009 census, 11% could understand orally, 6.4% could read fluently, and 4.6% could write fluently. In 1999 only 0.7% of Tatars mastered English but in 2009 this figure increased significantly: 18% can understand verbally, 11% can read freely, and 8% can write freely. As for Germans and representatives of other nationalities, only 0.2-0.3% of them knew English, but in 2009, this indicator changed, and 12.5% of Germans and 17% of other ethnic groups could speak English. 7% of the representatives of the German nationality, 17% of the other ethnic groups are those who can read freely, 5% of the Germans, 8% of the representatives of the other nationalities are those who can write freely.

Table 3. Level of the Russian language proficiency of residents of Aktobe Region

Ethnic groups	АҒЫЛШЫН ТІЛІН МЕНГЕРУ ДЕНГЕЙІ					
	1999		2009			
	Total number of representatives of this nation	People mastered Russian	Total number of representatives of this nation	Who understand orally	Who read fluently	Including: who write freely
Kazakhs	482285	1645	448448	88908	59668	43086
Russians	114416	833	85881	15199	9005	6452
Ukrainians	46848	166	22336	2386	1435	1030
Tatars	11675	84	8186	1471	922	682

Germans	10721	30	4441	559	294	216
Other ethnic groups	16613	30	10485	1791	1154	819

Conclusion

Finally, based on the given data, according to the results of the National Census of two years, we observe the development trend of the language situation in the Aktobe region, which is located in the western part of the Republic of Kazakhstan. It should be noted that the Kazakh language is mainly developed among the Kazakhs, but it is not developed at its level among the representatives of other ethnic groups. The Kazakh language is also developed among other Turkic-speaking peoples. The reason is probably due to the fact that they are familiar with their mother tongue, which is related to the Kazakh language. Almost all residents of the region are fluent in Russian. We would like to note that the level of mastery of the English language has also increased. It can be seen that all ethnic groups started paying attention to learning this language. And the increase in interest in the state language is a natural trend due to several factors, including: the increase in the number of Kazakhs among the population, the increase in the number of schools providing education in the Kazakh language. Linguistic planning in the country should be based on census materials, statistical data and the results of sociolinguistic research conducted in the regions.

REFERENCES

- [1] Kurmanova B.Zh. Socio-linguistic problems of functioning of the state language in the western region of the Republic of Kazakhstan: abstract of the dis. ... Cand. of Phil. Sci. Almaty, 2002. P. 28.
- [2] Shveitser A. D. Modern sociolinguistics. Theory, problems, methods. M.: Nauka, 1976. P. 176.
- [3] Desheriev Ju.D. The language of international communication. Alma-Ata: Nauka, 1976. P. 95.
- [4] Hassanov B.H. Languages of the peoples of Kazakhstan and their interaction. Alma-Ata: Nauka, 1976. P. 216.
- [5] Results of the national census of the Republic of Kazakhstan in 2009. – Access mode URL: https://stat.gov.kz/for_users/national/2009/region. – (qaralǵan kúni: 15.05.2922 zh.).
- [6] Results of the National Census of the Republic of Kazakhstan in 1999– Access mode URL: https://stat.gov.kz/for_users/national/1999. () – (qaralǵan kúni: 15.05.2922 zh.).
- [7] Altynbekova O.B. Ethno-linguistic processes in Kazakhstan. Almaty: Ekonomika, 2006. P. 416.

АҚТӨБЕ ОБЛЫСЫНДАҒЫ ТІЛДІК ЖАҒДАЙДЫҢ ДАМУ ТЕНДЕНЦИЯСЫ (ХАЛЫҚТЫҢ ТІЛДЕРДІ МЕНГЕРУ ДЕҢГЕЙІ МАТЕРИАЛДАРЫ НЕГІЗІНДЕ)

Нергиз Бирай¹, Курманова Б. Ж.², *Утегенова А.³

¹Доктор PhD, профессор, Памуккале Университеті, Денизли, Түркия,
e-mail: nbiray@pau.edu.tr

²Д.п.н., доцент, Қ.Жұбанов атындағы АӨУ, Ақтөбе, Қазақстан,
e-mail: baktigul_2001@mail.ru

^{*3} Докторант, Қ.Жұбанов атындағы АӨУ, Ақтөбе, Қазақстан,
e-mail: assel_de_nur88@mail.ru

Аңдатпа. Мақалада Ақтөбе облысы халқының ұлттық құрамы, әрбір этностың басқа этностар арасындағы үлес салмағы, облыс тұрғындарының ана тілін таңдау және меңгеру деңгейі, қазақ, орыс, ағылшын тілдерін меңгеру деңгейі, солардың ішінде аймақ тұрғындарының қай тілді үстемдікпен қолданытыны туралы мәселелер қарастырылады.

Жұмыстың мақсаты – республикамыздың батыс бөлігінде орналасқан Ақтөбе облысының тілдік жағдайын, әсіресе географиялық орналасуы мен этникалық және тілдік әркелкілігіне байланысты тілдік жағдайдың, соңғы тенденциялары мен динамикалық өлшемдерін егжей-тегжейлі қарастыру.

Зерттеудің ғылыми маңыздылығы Ақтөбе облысының тілдік жағдайының өзіндік сипаты мен ерекшелігін көрсетіп, тілдерді меңгеру деңгейінің даму тенденциясын зерттеуде болып отыр. Талдау нәтижелерін тілдік саясатты жүргізуде стратегиялық жоспарлар құрастыруда қолдануға болатындығын зерттеу жұмысының практикалық маңыздылығы ретінде атауға болады.

Зерттеу статистикалық мәліметтерді жинақтау және талдау әдістерін пайдалана отырып жүргізілді. Зерттеу материалы ретінде 1999 жылғы және 2009 жылғы Қазақстан Республикасы Статистика агенттігі ұсынған Қазақстан Республикасының Ұлттық санақтарының қорытынды нәтижелері алынды.

Зерттеу жұмысының нәтижесінде Қазақстан Республикасының батыс бөлігінде орналасқан Ақтөбе облысындағы тілдік жағдайдың даму тенденциясы байқалады. Қазақ тілі қазақ халқының арасында үстемдікпен дамығандығы, ал басқа халықтар арасында өз дәрежесінде дамымағандығы анықталған. Қазақ тілі басқа түркі тілдес халық өкілдерінің арасында да дамыған. Себебі олардың ана тілдері қазақ тілімен туыстас болғанына байланысты болса керек. Аймақтың барлық тұрғындары дерлік орыс тілін жетік білетіндігі, ағылшын тілін меңгеру деңгейінің де өскендігі байқалып, аталмыш тілді меңгеруге барлық этностардың көңіл бөле бастағанын көруге болады.

Зерттеудің құндылығы Ақтөбе облысындағы тілдік жағдайдың сипатын халықтың тілдерді меңгеру деңгейі бойынша анықтау болып табылады.

Зерттеу нәтижесінде алынған мәліметтерге сәйкес мемлекеттік тілге деген қызығушылықтың артуы – бірнеше факторларға байланысты, оның ішінде: тұрғындар арасында қазақтар санының өсуі, қазақ тілінде білім беретін мектептер мен балабақшалар санының көбеюіне байланысты табиғи үрдіс деген тұжырым жасауға мүмкіндік береді.

Тірек сөздер: тілдік жағдай, тілдік үдерістер, Ұлттық санақ, әлеуметтік лингвистика, тіл саясаты, статистикалық мәліметтер, әлеуметтік-лингвистикалық зерттеулер, тілдік ұстанымдар.

ТЕНДЕНЦИЯ РАЗВИТИЯ ЯЗЫКОВОЙ СИТУАЦИИ В АКТЮБИНСКОЙ ОБЛАСТИ (НА МАТЕРИАЛЕ ИНФОРМАЦИИ ОБ УРОВНЕ ВЛАДЕНИЯ ЯЗЫКАМИ НАСЕЛЕНИЯ)

Нергиз Бирай¹, Курманова Б. Ж.², *Утегенова А.³

¹Доктор PhD, профессор, Университет Памуккале, Денизли, Турция,
e-mail: nbiray@pau.edu.tr

²Д.п.н., доцент, АРУ им.К.Жубанова, Ақтөбе, Казахстан,
e-mail: baktigul_2001@mail.ru

^{*3}Докторант, АРУ им. К. Жубанова Ақтөбе, Казахстан,
e-mail: assel_de_nur88@mail.ru

Аннотация. В статье рассматриваются вопросы, касающиеся национального состава населения Актюбинской области, в том числе вопросы о доле представителей разных национальностей, выборе родного языка народом региона и уровне владения им, уровне владения казахским, русским, английским языками, а также о том, какой из них превалирует.

Цель работы – детальное рассмотрение языковой ситуации Актюбинской области, расположенной в западной части республики, обусловленной в частности особенностями ее географического расположения, этнического и языкового разнообразия, а также последними тенденциями языковой ситуации и динамических критериев.

Научная значимость работы заключается в исследовании тенденции развития уровня владения языками, в выявлении характера и особенностей языковой ситуации Актюбинской области. Возможность использования результатов анализа в проведении языковой политики, составлении стратегических планов можно отметить как практическую значимость исследования.

Исследования проводились с использованием методов сбора и анализа статистических данных. В качестве материала исследования были взяты итоги Национальной переписи населения Республики Казахстан 1999 и 2009 гг., представленные Агентством РК по статистике.

В результате исследования отмечается тенденция развития языковой ситуации в Актюбинской области, расположенной в западной части Республики Казахстан. Выявлено, что казахский язык развивается преимущественно среди казахов, среди представителей же других этносов – не на должном уровне. Казахский язык распространен среди других тюркоязычных народов, что объясняется, возможно, хорошим уровнем владения ими своими родными языками, родственными казахскому. Заметно, что большая часть жителей региона свободно владеет русским языком, наблюдается рост уровня владения английским и внимания к нему среди представителей всех этносов.

Ценностью исследования является определение характера языковой ситуации в Актюбинской области, уровня владения языками ее населения.

Данные, полученные в результате исследования, подводят к выводу о том, что повышение интереса к государственному языку – естественный процесс, связанный с рядом факторов, в том числе с ростом численности казахов среди населения, увеличением количества школ с казахским языком обучения.

Ключевые слова: языковая ситуация, языковые процессы, Национальная перепись населения, социальная лингвистика, языковая политика, статистические данные, социально-лингвистические исследования, лингвистические принципы.

Статья поступила 09.08.2022