

## MODERN DEVELOPMENT PATHS AND CURRENT ISSUES OF THE UZBEK LANGUAGE

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**Abstract:** This article examines the developmental stages of the Uzbek language in the post-independence period, its role in the digital age, the influence of globalization and information technologies, issues arising on social media, as well as urgent problems related to terminology, education, and culture. The author proposes recommendations and directions necessary for the further development of the language. Special attention is paid to preserving the language and instilling respect for the mother tongue among youth.

**Keywords:** Uzbek language, language policy, digital age, social networks, terminology, globalization, language culture, language and technology.

## СОВРЕМЕННЫЕ ПУТИ РАЗВИТИЯ И АКТУАЛЬНЫЕ ПРОБЛЕМЫ УЗБЕКСКОГО ЯЗЫКА

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**Аннотация:** В данной статье рассматриваются этапы развития узбекского языка в период после обретения независимости, его роль в цифровую эпоху, влияние глобализации и информационных технологий, проблемы, возникающие в социальных сетях, а также актуальные проблемы, связанные с терминологией, образованием и культурой. Автор предлагает рекомендации и направления, необходимые для дальнейшего развития языка. Особое внимание уделяется сохранению языка и воспитанию уважения к родному языку среди молодежи.

**Ключевые слова:** узбекский язык, языковая политика, цифровая эпоха, социальные сети, терминология, глобализация, языковая культура, язык и технологии.

Language is a spiritual wealth of a nation, an inseparable part of its national thinking, mentality, and historical memory. Every nation values its language and continually strives to preserve and develop it. The Uzbek language has enriched its literary, scientific, and social capacities over centuries, and in the years of independence, it has entered a new stage of strong development. Due to independence, the Uzbek language gained high status as the state language and began to be actively used in official documents, education, mass media, science, and cultural spheres. This plays a significant role in understanding national identity, preserving cultural heritage, and fostering respect for the mother tongue among younger generations. However, in today's era of globalization, rapid technological advancement, and an overwhelming flow of information, the Uzbek language is also facing a number of pressing challenges.

Modern technological development influences all aspects of language life. On one hand, it creates new opportunities: websites, mobile applications, translation systems, and dictionaries

operating in Uzbek have emerged. For example, platforms such as “Til.uz” and “ZiyoNET”, the Uzbek Explanatory Dictionary, and terminological dictionaries are now widely available in digital form. These resources help increase young people's interest in the language. Moreover, software tools for word choice and grammar correction are being developed, demonstrating the Uzbek language's adaptability to technology and its integration into the digital space.

On the other hand, digital technologies — especially the negative influences coming through social networks — are damaging language culture. Among young people, the widespread use of abbreviations, code-switching, and disregard for spelling and stylistic norms has become a daily norm. This trend leads to a decline in written speech culture. Insufficient grammar instruction in educational institutions, poor-quality language content online, and the excessive popularity of foreign languages are all factors that negatively impact the active use of the mother tongue. These conditions require new measures to maintain the prestige and promote the development of the language.

Another critical issue facing the Uzbek language is terminology. As new concepts continue to emerge in science and technology, it becomes increasingly important to accurately adapt and consistently apply these terms in Uzbek. Unfortunately, in practice, many foreign terms are used directly without adaptation or appear in various versions for a single concept. This weakens stylistic clarity. The activities of terminology councils are not always consistent. Therefore, strong collaboration is necessary between specialists in different fields and linguists.

The education system plays an irreplaceable role in language development. Teaching the mother tongue should not be limited to theoretical knowledge, but also focus on developing practical skills. Although the content, methods, and quality of Uzbek language classes in schools and universities are being modernized, accelerating this process, integrating contemporary teaching tools, and strengthening students' attitudes toward the language remain pressing tasks.

Moreover, the role of language in mass culture and media is also vital. The language used by television, print media, bloggers, and content creators often lacks sufficient attention to accuracy and quality. Unedited and unsupervised posts, articles, and shows contribute to the spread of errors in the language. Therefore, there is a need for clear norms and responsible approaches to ensure the proper and elegant use of the language in media.

In conclusion, for the Uzbek language to secure a strong place in modern society, actively participate in the digital and scientific spheres, and maintain its prestige among the youth, a systematic and scientific approach is essential. The development of the language requires the combined efforts of state policies, the education system, research institutions, and every member of society. Because preserving the language means preserving the nation — its historical memory, identity, and future.

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