

THE INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL FACTORS ON THE LINGUISTIC LEVELS OF JAPANESE, ENGLISH, AND RUSSIAN**Nuritdinova Raykhona Numonovna***Senior Lecturer, Department of Uzbek Language and Language Teaching, Fergana State Technical University*

Abstract: Linguistic elements undergo continuous transformation under the influence of social factors. A number of theoretical and practical issues in sociolinguistics are addressed through the scientific interpretation of variations that emerge first in speech and subsequently in language. The necessity of providing a scientific basis for changes occurring across linguistic levels is one of the primary reasons for the emergence of sociolinguistics as a distinct field of study.

Keywords: linguistic elements, speech variations, sociolinguistics, linguistic levels, theoretical and practical issues, scientific justification, language change.

It has been established that units of every linguistic level undergo specific differentiation in speech under the influence of social factors. The Russian sociolinguist Y.D. Polivanov described this as follows: "Language development occurs differently within the units of each level". Based on these views, the manifestation of speech changes at linguistic levels is presented. Discrepancies in language are identified by studying sounds pronounced differently from the literary language in the speech of community members. Sociophonetics is a field that investigates social-phonetic connections and phonetic changes in speech, as well as their sphere of mutual influence. It phonetically analyzes indicators in a speaker's pronunciation that represent characteristics such as gender, profession, age, and group affiliation.

For instance, the American scholar William Labov, in his study "The Social Motivation of a Sound Change" (1963), found that the pronunciation of vowels in words like "night" and "house" among fishermen on Martha's Vineyard differed from others. Labov also conducted phonetic research in his doctoral dissertation, "The Social Stratification of English in New York City" (1966). It was discovered that visitors to Saks (the most expensive store) pronounced the "R," while 79% of visitors to S. Klein (a working-class store) did not pronounce it at all.

The use of words different from the literary language is most apparent at the lexico-semantic level; these are known as sociolexemes. This term, introduced by Y.D. Desheriyev in 1977, refers to the specific use of words within society, including jargon, argot, and dialects. While Russian linguistics extensively discusses language contact, Japanese scholars focus primarily on the communication skills of various social groups. For example, personal pronouns in Japanese are gender-distinct and social-context dependent.

Sociogrammar studies grammatical changes in language and speech in relation to social factors. In Japanese, specific sentence-ending particles indicate gender. In Indo-European languages, gender is often an established grammatical category. Over time, these can evolve; for instance, the Russian words "zala" and "royala" were feminine in the 19th century but are now masculine. Errors in syntactic structures often depend on the social context and the speaker's intent. Deviations can be intentional (to connect with an audience) or unintentional (resulting from negligence). This demonstrates that the syntactic-stylistic level is highly dependent on the communicative situation and the speaker's status.

The identification of discrepancies between language and speech through affixes is a core task of sociogrammar. Sociogrammar is a field that studies grammatical changes in language and speech in relation to social factors, analyzing the inconsistencies that arise in the application of grammatical forms. For instance, this method yields effective results in identifying gender

linguistics. Furthermore, sociogrammar plays a crucial role in maintaining linguistic norms and analyzing incorrect grammatical usage in speech.

Specifically, regarding Japanese suffixes, sentences articulated by women conclude with special particles indicating that the speech is characteristic of the female gender; conversely, suffixes used by men signal that the speech belongs to representatives of that gender. For example, the Japanese female-specific suffix “-わ (wa)” is typically used only in women's speech to impart a sense of softness to the entire sentence, resulting in a polite tone. On the other hand, “-わよ (wa yo)” is pronounced with a decisive, imperative intonation, expressing notification and formality. These suffixes are used exclusively in oral styles; applying them in written styles leads to a violation of literary norms.

However, in some languages belonging to the Indo-European family, the grammatical category of gender (*rod*) is accepted as a literary norm. For example, the specific endings in the words *играл* (masculine) and *играла* (feminine) indicate gender affiliation. Yet, over time, various influential factors have led to changes in gender categories within these languages: "While in the 19th-century Russian language words like *зала* and *рояля* were feminine, today they have shifted to the masculine gender as *зал* and *рояль*." This process occurs as a result of morphological evolution and can be linked to phonetic shortening or the influence of equivalents borrowed from other languages, serving as an example of evolutionary development occurring at the morphological level.

The incorrect use of syntactic structures and the emergence of stylistic errors occur based on the speaker's social status and communicative intent. Syntactic constructions and stylistic errors are often contingent upon the social context of speech, the speaker's state, and the purpose of expression—phenomena studied by sociogrammar and sociopragmatics. At the syntactic-stylistic level, non-compliance with linguistic rules is divided into two types:

1. Intentional
2. Unintentional

Intentional rule-breaking is driven by a specific underlying motive, a phenomenon frequently observed within linguistic styles. For example, during President Sh.M. Mirziyoyev's 2021 open dialogue with entrepreneurs, an entrepreneur from Bukhara unexpectedly used a barbarism (*вообше* - "voobshe") in his speech. To put the speaker at ease, the President responded: "*Voobshe o'zingni yo'gotma, voobshe*" ("Don't lose your cool at all, at all"), thereby intentionally breaking literary norms and formal style rules. Today, this practice has become popular among politicians; the goal is for state leaders to bridge the gap with the people, showing they accept them as ordinary individuals and encouraging them to express their problems and concerns freely.

Conversely, instances where foreign heads of state completely ignore formal style rules, freely using jargon or vulgarisms, often face criticism. In such cases, leaders may not be pursuing a specific communicative goal but are simply showing negligence in language use. This is considered a gross violation of rules, attributed to various reasons: a sense of superiority and disregard for the audience, a lack of speech culture, or emotive states. For instance, in his 1999 response to terrorist acts in Moscow, Russian President V. Putin utilized a very coarse criminal argot meaning "to serve them right" (*мочить в сортире*). This clearly reflected the leader's intense anger and familiarity with the criminal world (through the specific use of argot), while also conveying a threat to terrorists. Similarly, during his first term, US President Donald Trump frequently accused media outlets of spreading "fake news," a phrase that became part of his informal and critical style. Former UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson was known for using humorous and ironic expressions, which brought him popularity among the public but also drew criticism. Ukraine's President V. Zelensky, having previously been a master of words (performer), occasionally delivers humorous speeches even during his presidency, manifesting an informal style.

Evidently, the syntactic level of style is intimately connected to the speech situation and is not strictly tied to the speaker's age, gender, or status in the same way. It arises from the immediate speech context, indicating that social differentiation manifests uniquely at the syntactic-stylistic level. This level is a complex and fluid phenomenon where sentence structure, complexity, emotional tone, and syntactic variations shift according to the speech situation.

The subject of sociolinguistic research is the relationship between language and society, which can only be fully examined through integrative approaches. The issues of socially restricted lexical units can only be explained within a scientific paradigm from a sociolinguistic perspective. Significant research has been conducted in world linguistics regarding sociolinguistics and socially restricted lexical units in Russian, English, and Japanese. While some fundamental aspects have been addressed in Uzbek linguistics, certain issues in the field remain overlooked by researchers. Sociolinguistic markers are formed under the influence of various factors, where variable and constant social factors affect the language and manifest uniquely across linguistic levels. Through sociolinguistic research, it is possible to distinguish speech types based on gender, age, and social strata, leading to the emergence of social dialects. Their classification is carried out based on socio-phonetic, socio-lexical, and socio-grammatical markers.

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