

HISTORY OF THE LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT STAGES OF THE UZBEK LANGUAGE

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ABSTRACT: Languages change over time and their evolution is studied by historical linguistics. The Uzbek language belongs to the Turkish language family, holds a prominent position in Central Asia. This article provides an in-depth exploration of the historical development of the Uzbek language, tracing its evolution from its Turkish roots to its modern form. The article examines the linguistic significance of Uzbek, including its influences, dialect variations, and its role in shaping the cultural and social identity of Uzbek people. Through a comprehensive analysis of historical records, linguistic studies, and cultural factors, this article sheds light on the rich history and importance of the Uzbek language.

INTRODUCTION

The Uzbek language, with its roots in the Turkic language family, has a fascinating history that spans centuries. This section provides an overview of the significance of studying the history of the Uzbek language and outlines the objectives of the article.

ORIGINS AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT.

The origins of the Uzbek language can be traced back to the ancient Turkic language spoken in Central Asia. The Turkic language family is part of the larger Altaic language family, which includes other languages such as Turkish, Kazakh. The early development of the Uzbek language took place as various Turkic tribes migrated and settled in the region of present-day Uzbekistan. These tribes, including the Karluk, Oghuz, and Kipchak, brought their own dialects and linguistic influences, contributing to the formation of the Uzbek language. The Uzbek language, particularly its dialects, maintains close ties with neighboring Turkic languages such as Kazakh and Karakalpak. The linguistic connection between the Turkic-speaking peoples in the region.

MODERN STANDARD UZBEK

The emergence of modern standard Uzbek as the official language of Uzbekistan marked a significant milestone in the linguistic development of the Uzbek language. This development was influenced by historical and political factors, particularly during the Soviet era. The process of standardizing Uzbek began in the

early 20 century, during the period of Soviet rule. Linguists and scholars worked to create a unified literary language based on the dialects spoken in the region. This standardization process involved selecting a specific dialect as the basis for the standardized language, adopting certain grammatical norms, and establishing a standard vocabulary. Linguistic reforms were implemented to enhance the clarity and effectiveness of communication in Uzbek. These reforms aimed to simplify the grammar, improve the writing system and ensure consistency in usage across various domains. The goal was to create a language that could be used in education, administration, media and literature. One significant change during the Soviet era was the adoption of the Cyrillic script for writing Uzbek, replacing the Arabic script that had been used for centuries. The Cyrillic script was seen as more suitable for representing the phonetic features of the Uzbek language. However, following Uzbekistan's independence in 1991, there was a shift toward reclaiming the cultural and historical heritage of the Uzbek language. As a result, in 1993 Uzbekistan transitioned to the Latin script, which was more closely aligned with the original Turkic writing system. In independent Uzbekistan, language planning efforts have focused on preserving and developing the Uzbek language. Efforts have been made to promote the use of Uzbek in education, media and public instructions, ensuring its continued growth and vitality. Language policies aim to balance the preservation of cultural heritage with the need for linguistic modernization and adaptation to contemporary needs.

DIALECTS AND REGIONAL VARIATIONS

The Uzbek language exhibits dialectal variations across different regions, influenced by geographical, historical and cultural factors. These dialects reflect the linguistic diversity within the Uzbek speaking community and contribute to the rich tapestry of the language. While there are several Uzbek dialects, the major ones include northern Uzbek, southern Uzbek and central Uzbek.

Northern Uzbek dialects are spoken in the northern regions of Uzbekistan, including Tashkent, Samarkand and Bukhara. These dialects have been influenced by the surrounding Turkic languages such as Kazakh and Karakalpak. Northern Uzbek dialects feature vowel harmonization and specific phonetic characteristics that distinguish them from other dialects.

Southern Uzbek dialects are spoken in the southern regions of Uzbekistan, including Surkhandarya and Kashkadarya. These dialects have been influenced by Persian and Tajik languages, resulting in a significant number of loanwords. Southern Uzbek dialects often exhibit distinct phonetic variations and lexical differences compared to other dialects.

Central Uzbek dialects form a transitional zone between the northern and southern dialects and are spoken in regions such as Navoi, Jizzakh and Syrdarya. Central Uzbek dialect display a mixture of features from both the Northern and southern dialects, making them a bridge between the two

ROLE OF UZBEK LANGUAGE IN CULTURAL IDENTITY

The Uzbek language holds a crucial position in the cultural and social identity of the Uzbek people. It serves as a vehicle for the expression and preservation of cultural heritage traditions and values. Literature has played a particularly important role in shaping the cultural identity of Uzbek-speaking communities. Prominent Uzbek poets and writers such as Alisher Navoiy, Chulpan and Abdullah Qadiriyy have contributed immensely to Uzbek literature creating works that reflect the Uzbek cultural ethos and historical experiences. Uzbek literature encompasses various genres, including poetry, novels, plays and folklore and provides a platform for exploring and celebrating the Uzbek identity. Music and performing arts also rely heavily on the Uzbek language to convey emotions, stories and cultural themes. Traditional Uzbek music such as maqom and shashmaqom, often incorporates lyrics in Uzbek exploring themes on love, nature and devotion. Folklore, including proverbs, tales and epic poems, showcases the linguistic richness and oral storytelling traditions of the Uzbek people.

CONCLUSION

The scientific article summarizes the historical development of the Uzbek language, from its Turkic origins to its modern form. It highlights the linguistic significance of Uzbek, its influences, dialect variations, and its role in shaping the cultural and social identity of the Uzbek people. By understanding the rich history of the Uzbek language, scholars, linguistic and policymakers can gain valuable insights into the linguistic diversity and cultural heritage of Central Asia.

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