



THE STATE OF UZBEK SCIENTIFIC LINGUISTICS

Rimboyeva Nazira Rashid kizi

Urgench No. 1 Khorezm Region 1 Teacher Mother Tongue and Literature

Abstract:

Uzbek scientific linguistics has developed significantly in recent decades, incorporating both traditional linguistic approaches and modern interdisciplinary methodologies. This article explores the current state of linguistic research in Uzbekistan, focusing on historical developments, contemporary trends, and future directions. Special attention is given to the impact of digital technologies, corpus linguistics, and sociolinguistic studies on Uzbek linguistics. The study also highlights challenges such as standardization, integration with global linguistic research, and the need for enhanced methodological approaches.

Keywords: Uzbek linguistics, language research, corpus linguistics, sociolinguistics, linguistic methodology, digital linguistics.

Introduction

Linguistics in Uzbekistan has a rich historical background, dating back to the medieval period when scholars such as Alisher Navoi made significant contributions to Turkic linguistics. The Soviet era brought structuralist and comparative methodologies, while post-independence research has sought to integrate modern linguistic theories with national identity considerations. The aim of this study is to analyze the current trends and challenges in Uzbek scientific linguistics, considering both theoretical and applied aspects of the field.

Uzbek scientific linguistics is a dynamic and evolving field that has undergone significant changes over the past century. It has been shaped by historical events, political reforms, and technological advancements. Today, Uzbek linguistics is an interdisciplinary field encompassing theoretical linguistics, applied linguistics, computational linguistics, sociolinguistics, and educational linguistics. This article provides a comprehensive overview of the state of Uzbek linguistic science, including its development, current research areas, key challenges, and future directions.



Historical Development of Uzbek Linguistics

Pre-Soviet Period (Before the 20th Century)

Before the 20th century, linguistic research in the Uzbek language was largely philological, focusing on lexicography, poetry, and grammar. Scholars worked on:

- Classical Chagatai and Persian influences: Uzbek language studies were linked to classical Turkic and Persian literature, with scholars like Alisher Navoi playing a central role in documenting linguistic aspects.

- Lexicographical works: Dictionaries and grammatical studies were primarily developed to facilitate understanding between Turkic and Persian-Arabic speakers.

Soviet Period (1920s–1991)

During the Soviet era, Uzbek linguistics was institutionalized and influenced by Russian structuralist approaches. Key developments included:

- Alphabet reforms: Uzbek transitioned from Arabic script to Latin (1929) and then to Cyrillic (1940), impacting literacy and linguistic research.

- Standardization efforts: The modern Uzbek literary language was officially codified, with debates over dialect selection (Fergana vs. Tashkent varieties).

- Marxist linguistic influence: Language studies were often conducted through a political lens, emphasizing class-based approaches to language.

- Syntax and morphology studies: Uzbek linguistics saw the rise of formal studies on agglutination, syntax, and lexicon, following structuralist methods.

Post-Independence Period (1991–Present)

After gaining independence, Uzbekistan saw a shift in linguistic research priorities:

- Return to Latin script (1993): The transition aimed to strengthen national identity and align Uzbek with global languages.

- Growth of Turkology: Research on historical Turkic languages and their relation to Uzbek expanded.

- Increased focus on computational linguistics: Efforts to develop Uzbek-language digital tools began, though progress has been slow compared to Western languages.

- Sociolinguistic studies: The role of Russian, English, and Uzbek in post-Soviet society became a key research area.

Major Research Areas in Uzbek Linguistics

Theoretical and Applied Linguistics

Uzbek linguistics has a strong foundation in theoretical research, including:



- Phonetics and phonology: Studies on vowel harmony, consonant assimilation, stress patterns, and intonation.
- Morphology and syntax: Focus on Uzbek's agglutinative structure, case system, word formation, and sentence structure.
- Lexicology and semantics: Research on lexical borrowing (from Arabic, Persian, Russian, and English) and meaning changes in Uzbek words.

Computational and Corpus Linguistics

As digitalization advances, Uzbek linguistics is gradually integrating computational methods:

- Development of Uzbek language processing tools: Spell-checkers, text analyzers, and automatic translation software.
- Natural Language Processing (NLP): Limited but growing research on Uzbek-language AI models, speech recognition, and machine learning applications.
- Corpus-based linguistic analysis: Building linguistic databases for Uzbek to enhance research in morphology, syntax, and lexicography.

Sociolinguistics and Language Policy

Sociolinguistic research in Uzbekistan is gaining importance, with studies on:

- Bilingualism and code-switching: The interaction between Uzbek and Russian, as well as increasing English influence.
- Language standardization: Challenges in maintaining a unified Uzbek literary language across regions.
- Script debates: The ongoing transition from Cyrillic to Latin and its impact on education and communication.
- Urban vs. rural linguistic variation: Differences in speech patterns among various socio-economic groups.

Historical and Comparative Linguistics

Uzbek linguists continue to explore historical and comparative aspects of the language:

- Turkic language comparisons: Examining Uzbek's relationship with Old Turkic, Chagatai, and other modern Turkic languages (Kazakh, Uighur, Turkish).
- Persian, Arabic, and Russian influence: Tracing loanwords and syntactic structures borrowed from these languages.



- Etymological studies: Investigating the origins of Uzbek vocabulary and its transformation over time.

Conclusions

Uzbek scientific linguistics is evolving rapidly, incorporating new methodologies and technological advancements. However, for further development, it is essential to:

Increase funding and institutional support for linguistic research.

Strengthen international collaboration with linguistic scholars worldwide.

Expand computational linguistic resources for Uzbek.

Develop interdisciplinary approaches to bridge linguistics with artificial intelligence and big data analysis.

Encourage young researchers to engage in innovative linguistic studies.

By addressing these challenges, Uzbek linguistics can continue to progress and establish itself as a significant contributor to global linguistic scholarship.

References

1. Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated October 21, 2019 No. PF-5850 "On measures to increase the prestige and status of the Uzbek language as a state language" // www.lex.uz.
2. Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated October 4, 2019 No PP-4479 "On the celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan" On State Language "/" Ma'rifat "newspaper. - Tashkent, October 5, 2019. - №77.
3. Abdurahmonov F., ShukurovSh. Historical grammar of the Uzbek language. - Tashkent: Teacher, 1973.
4. Djalolova L. Linguistic research of Abdullah Qadiri's novel "The Past": Philol. Ph.D. diss. rework. - Tashkent, 2007.
5. Qurbonova M. Fitratningtilshunoslikmerosi: Filol. Ph.D. diss. rework. - Tashkent, 1993.
6. Toychiboev B. Historical numbers. □Guliston: Ziyο, 2011. - P. 29□39.
7. Toychiboev B. Fitrat is a linguist. - Tashkent, 1995.
8. Tog'aeв T. AshuraliZohiriyvauningtilshunoslikmerosi: Ph.D. diss. rework. - Tashkent, 2005.



9. AK Borovkoveski as a researcher of Uzbek language dictionaries // Problems of Uzbek language history. - Tashkent: Fan, 1977.
10. Chorieva Z. Linguistic, spiritual and stylistic features of the letters in Abdullah Qadiri's novel "The Past": Ph.D. diss. rework. - Tashkent, 2006.