

**BILINGUALISM AND
POLYLINGUALISM IN THE CASE OF
THE LANGUAGES IN THE REPUBLIC
OF KARAKALPAKSTAN**



Education

Keywords: a linguistic situation, a bilingual and polylingual conversation, a communication process, a socio-linguistic zone, karakalpak.

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Abstract

Thanks to Independence, the language policy and language situation in the Republic of Karakalpakstan has changed dramatically since then, and there are great prospects for the free development and equality of languages of all peoples. Indeed, as in all regions, the people of Karakalpakstan have made unprecedented steps in their internal structure, their qualitative changes, and shifts in the ethnic strata of the population. As the Uzbek and Karakalpak languages are the state language in Karakalpakstan, the social functions of these languages have expanded. It has been widely used as a means of communication among people of different nationalities. The languages in the Karakalpakstan region were analyzed by dividing 1) the South-Uzbek language zone and (2) the north-the Karakalpak language zone. The Karakalpak, Kazakh, Turkmen and Russian-speaking population, which make up the majority of the population in the country, are fluent in Uzbek, in addition to their native language. Issues such as bipolar disorder in some places, individual bipolar disorder in some areas, multilingualism, where and in what regions they are encountered, are discussed in this article.

Having analyzed linguistic situations in the countries and different regions of the world, they divide these into simple and complex language ones. [1.p.161].The former described in one-language societies and are characterized by the presence of diglossia or different language variants (a literal language and dialects). The latter is polylinguistic and can be seen in the activities of various languages. The most visible of which is the phenomenon of bilingualism.

The state of languages in the Karakalpakstan region is complex, in which languages belonging to diverse families of languages, different social levels of development, functions, the scope of their utilization and situations can be met. The function and the field of the activity of these languages appeared in the result of a serious impact on certain historical processes and synchronic states of language development. Because political, economic, cultural, psychological sources as well as territorial division and management system of that period play a great role in the implementation of any social language function and its particular types' existence in a certain historical step. This aspect of the language social activities is also no exception in the region of Karakalpakstan. The languages here also have to be in the state as a result of the effects of the above factors. In the following research, attempts are being accomplished to clarify the concept of communicative environments, taking into account the subtle and general nature of the concept of communications. Because the scope of the language are clearly seen in the context of a communicative environment. A language and its associates can be defined by a specific region, a set of individuals, and a group of ones who have gathered for various purposes. According to the authors, the communication medium of a country or a particular geographical region is generated from the sum of certain types of relations characterized by the level of intensity of internal communication. [2. p.11].

V.D.Bondaletov explains that a communicative environment is as a linguistic ethnic domain in which active communication is possible in several languages or in its variants. [3.p. 86].

The territory of the communicative environment does not correspond to the origin country of a language . It is not equal to ethnic, social groups and dialects. A communicative environment, as noted above, is the result of an intensive dialogue among communicators who use the language form in their speech or a regular, traditional communication medium or a language form of a particular audience. Communicative environment is the line with “Language (speech) community” by A. D. Shveytser and “Common language” by Gamperts. [13.p.42].

Communicative environments combine into sociolinguistic zones where there are different communicative mediums. There are a number of differences and common language features that is specific to this zone in the communicative environments, which are incorporated in the sociolinguistic zones. The majority of people involved in this area can communicate in a common language, that are language-specific to people in other communicative environments. The common language is the most significant sign which indicates the linguistic expression of the sociological zone. This makes it possible to imagine and describe it as a sociolinguistic space.

The concept of communicative environments and sociolinguistic zones have a great importance when analyzing the language in the region of Karakalpakstan. Because the peoples of the region and the territories of this language have natural, economic, cultural and psychological distinctions that allow them to be interpreted as a special sociological domain. Based on this, the languages of the region can be divided into two major sociological zones: 1) South-Uzbek zone, 2) North-Karakalpak zone.

These two zones differ in their character, the composition of the people, their linguistic-psychological aspects, traditions, languages, national characteristic, economic development and cultural values. The spread of languages in these zones is also unique. The extent, content and nature of the phenomenon of bilingualism, polylingualism, diglossia (different types of a language) are different.

The North-Karakalpak zone is a one surrounding the northern regions of the Republic of Karakalpakistan which is bordered with the Republic of Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan in the western, north-eastern and north-southern sides but with Amudarya and Beruniy districts in the south. This zone includes Muynak, Kungrad, Shumanay, Kanlikul, Khodzheli, Takhiatosh, Nukus, Kegeyli, Karauzak, Chimbay, Takhtakupir districts, large towns like Nukus, Khodzheli, Kungrad, the centers of the districts and small towns. The people living in these areas belong to different nationalities and ethnicities.

The complexity of the Karakalpak language is that all the people in this area have their native language. Although the scope of use of some languages, social services and duties are extremely narrow, they still have their social function.

Bilingualism and polylingualism are the most widespread phenomena in the region. These phenomena are differently commented in scientific literature and they vary according to their nature.

In particular, knowing the bilingual being specific to some people is individual bilingualism, and it is called common one if it is largely known in the region. If common bilingualism covers an administrative-territorial district or region, it can be described as territorial one. However, in complete bilingualism it is typical of the whole nation to know two languages. Suppose it is specific to some of the society, it is partly called two.

In any bilingualism the relationship between two languages is evident. If a person knowing two languages can translate from one language into another freely, or if two words in the mind express the same meaning it is mixed bilingualism. However, if a person who can speak in two languages has the ability to communicate both in the mind as separate system or if one is able to communicate in both of the languages as his/her mother tongue, it is fluent bilingualism. Such a double phenomenon is a rare occurrence. The appearance of various versions of bilingualism is recognized as follow in sociological research:

1) Bilingualism in the result of the use of a local language (the languages are often used in local dialects). Usually it is binary, such as Tajik-Uzbek bilingualism and Uzbek-Tajik one.

2) Bilingualism based on the use of the native language and the language of the regional communication. (In Kenya, there are also local and ethnic languages, as well as the Suahili language that serves as a language of communication with ethnic groups.)

3) Bilingualism based on the language functioning international and local communication one. In this case we can see different situations. a) Forced integration of any foreign language function in the antagonistic society to the local population leads to the suppression of native languages of the indigenous peoples. b) In a society with no antagonistic nature, macroprudentials (like the Russian language) are officially equated with native languages and the basis for a balanced development of the Russian language in the local and national one.

4) Bilingualism based on using both local and international languages. (for instance, the utilization of the Russian language as a common language for all peoples of the country and the republics of the former Soviet Union).

5) Bilingualism based on using national and vocational language (tradition language – Sanskrit, science language – Latin, classical language – Arabian languages, and so on.) [9.p. 96-103; . 3. p. 85].

If the state of languages in Karakalpakstan is considered to be a single entity, a whole complex of languages, all the languages in which it operates represent the full functioning of the existing social system, its progression and life-threatening blood vessels. Every language in the state of languages constitutes the most important, unique component of this valuable complex.

Without these parts and elements, languages cannot exist and the social community cannot keep up with it. That's why every language in the region has its place and role in the case of languages. It is impossible for a particular language function to fulfill another language. Because the language is small or large whether it is developed or not developed in the social sphere, it serves to advance the life and to continue its existence.

In describing the present state of languages in the Republic of Karakalpakstan it is extremely important to look at their historical past, rely on diachronic data and present the roots and sources of the synchronous situation in language evolution.

The Northern Karakalpak zone is a region inhabited by various nations, covering a vast area. It includes 11 districts and political, economic, cultural cities. This area is the principal place of residence of the Karakalpak people and the region where they have been living for a long time. Such a social situation allowed the spread of the native language–Karakalpak bilingualism in the region. So, we can see more Kazakh-Karakalpak, Uzbek-Karakalpak, Turkmen-Karakalpak bilingualism in the Republic of Karakalpak.

There is also Russian-Karakalpak bilingualism the Muynak area. The type of this one was composed over a century. One of the main historical roots of this is that in 1978, during the former Soviet period 5000 families of Ural Cossacks were evacuated to the lower reaches of the Amu-Darya river and their descendants lived with the local population. "Those who were abducted had to communicate with the local population to survive, and restore their working relationships. The experience of communication with the Turkish speaking population (for example, they could speak Kazakh like their mother tongue) and their bilingualism allowed them to access local production easily. Those who were abducted kept the mother tongue with dialectal features and enriched it with the lexical units of the Turkic languages. Their lifestyle and occupational training provided a number of benefits in this situation." – said E.I.Korotin. [3.p.58] There were many Russian – speaking people in the city of Muynak earlier. The Russian population dropped from here because of the decline in the Aral Sea, a sharp drop in fish reserve, closure of the canning plant in Muynak, fishing industry-related industries and the ecological catastrophe. Therefore, the traditions of Kazakh-Russian, Karakalpak-Russian bilingualism continue to function through inertia (without influences). This is reflected in the speech of Karakalpak and Kazakh people, In their speech the words 10/2, 10/2 have come from the Russian language.

The features of the Russia-Karakalpak bilingualism and the impact of these languages on each other are widely covered. It has long been announced. The influence of the Russian language on the Karakalpak language increased during the former Soviet period. This aspect is reflected in the lexical-semantic, phraseologic, morphologic, syntactic and functional methods of the Karakalpak language in active use in various branches of life.

Social, political, sporting, household, apparel, footwear, jewelry and other objects of human origin originated in the Russian language and are expressed in different forms their names,

human names, the use of the Russian language and the methods of are well – known in the works by Q. M. Qoshchanov.

Although the number of Russian-speaking the people in this region has diminished to a minimum like other places of Karakalpakstan, the influence of the Russian language on the Karakalpak language still remains. As you know, any process in history leaves some traces. Even if a native speaker has moved somewhere, his influence will remain unchanged for a long time.

The effect in the tongue is especially viable. This should also be true of Russian influence on the Karakalpak language.

The Russia-Karakalpak bilingualism had a very well-developed appearance in the areas where large cities, industrial enterprises developed. The city of Nukus has a great place in this way. The existence of higher and secondary specialized educational institutions, the submission of many agencies to the center, official papers, Russian-language financial statements and other factors are the basis of the development of the Russian-Karakalpak and Karakalpak-Russian bilingualism. Particularly, educated intellectuals and groups linked to the production of the Karakalpak-Russian bilingualism.

The representatives in the field of science were obliged to study the Russian language and write their scientific works ii that one at the time. Particularly, this phenomenon is evident in the work of people who are involved in natural and exacting science and technology. Social and humanitarian workers are also encouraged to use Russian at their own discretion. Most of the people in this category are citizens of bilingualism and possess the Karakalpak-Russian bilingualism.

The Kazakh-Karakalpak biodiversity is common in the northern sociological zone. In this area Kazakh and Karakalpak peoples live together in social, political, cultural, religious and living spaces. The Kazakh and Karakalpak people are close to each-other not only in languages but also lifestyle, traditions, national character and culture. This proximity is a factor that affects one another's languages and enrich one another. These factors can not be ignored. It is necessary to take into account socio-cultural and psychological factors in the interaction of languages in the context of multilingualism and digulalia, the structural and psychological factors in the context of language, the effects of the interrelated interactions. There are a lot of Kazakhs in the Takhtakupir, Muynak and Korauzak districts of this region. Together with the abovementioned bilingualism, multiplication phenomena, the Uzbek-Karakalpak duality is widespread in the sociological-linguistic zone under analysis. The Uzbek-speaking people who are called by the name of the Aral Uzbeks have been living for many years in this area. They came from Dashti Kipchok in the 14th-16th centuries. Besides it there is also Korakalpak bilingualism in this area. [10.p.124]. Representatives of the Karakalpak and Kazakh peoples live in the districts of Nukus, Kegayli, Chimboy which are located on the right bank of the Amu Darya river. Mainly the nations belonging to Karakalpak live in the Chimbay and Kegayli districts and the languages of theirs were less influenced by the language of other peoples and districts. It is known that the northern

dialects of the Karakalpak language were the basis of the formation of the literary language. The pure form of the Karakalpak language, which has not been exposed to external influences, is found in the territory of these districts. At the same time the inhabitants in the districts of Taxtakupir and Qorakuz were affected by the Kazak dialect. There are two schools in Taxtakupir and 10 ones in Qorauzak and we can see a lot of Kazakh classes in mixed schools. According to this aspect we know that there are a number of ethnic Kazakh populations in these areas. Karakalpak-Kazakh bilingualism is common in the recorded districts.

The activities of the media in the Karakalpak language, the combination of Karakalpak and Kazakh classes in schools, the parallel application of the two languages in the community, in public places and enterprises further reinforce the interaction.

The dialectal form of the Kazakh language is widely used in family life. If the family is formed as a result of the intervention of representatives of the Kazakh and Karakalpak ethnic groups, both Karakalpak and Kazakh languages are used in these ones. Observations show that 90 of families of Kazakh and Karakalpak people are mixed ones. This situation leads to the strengthening of the Karakalpak and Kazakh languages from one family to another.

In the years of independence the popularity of local languages increased and bilingualism became multilingualism. It should be noted that many intellectuals working in Karakalpakstan graduated from higher educational institutions in Uzbekistan and they occupied Karakalpak-Uzbek bilingualism.

It is known that many people in this category are the owners of the Karakalpak-Uzbek-Russia triplet. Nowadays, such individuals are rising every year and they continue to work in various areas of social life.

All small and large enterprises, educational institutions, political, economic, administrative, cultural religious and other institutions in Karakalpakstan have direct or indirect contact with the related organization in Uzbekistan. The official work paper, financial statements are in Karakalpak and Uzbek languages. This is also a reason for the development of the Karakalpak-Uzbek bilingualism.

In the early years of independence a number of agencies began to offer people working for the preparation of official papers in this language or those who had the ability to translate Karakalpak and Russian into Uzbek in order to make official documents in Uzbek. It is interesting that after the official documents of enterprises and offices were first written in Russian, ones were translated into Uzbek or Karakalpak. Thus, in the local languages the staffing of official work papers did not work in these agencies and organizations and there was no need for them.

It was resolved within ten years of independence. Nowadays, all departments and organizations work in Karakalpak and Uzbek languages and their number is growing year by year.

Most of the Turkmen people live in the boundary zone. They have been residing in the western one of Kungirov, Shumanov, Khodzeli, Tahiatosh districts. Internal and external migration cases occur frequently in the districts. Because of this it is difficult to calculate the number of them. Nearly all of the Turkmen people can speak fluently in two languages. [9.p.1-127]

In the region, especially in cities and the center of the districts, Koreans live in the densely populated area. They speak both the Korean and Karakalpak languages.

Tracking the population of the region, analyzing their linguistic characteristics shows the mass of two Kazakh, Turkmen and Korean ethnic groups living in this area. In particular, Karakalpakstan is a popular two-language population because of its occupation of the Kazakh language. [14]

Most Russian-speaking population speak in the Karakalpak language very well because these people were born in Karakalpakstan. At the same time some of the older generation of the Russian people do not know the Karakalpak language enough. They are partly two-thirds of the population. Kazakh, Karakalpak, Uzbek and Turkmen population in the area are multilingual so we have the right to call them a double-edged one. [5]

In short, the northern sociolinguistic zone of the Karakalpak language is actively used. The southern zone with the Uzbek language is the largest sociological one in the case of the Karakalpak language. All the inhabitants of the region are locals. The native language – Uzbek bilingualism commonplace in the zone. These are Turkmen-Uzbek, Kazakh-Uzbek, Karakalpak-Uzbek, Russian-Uzbek, Korean-Uzbek bilingualism.

The population who speak both Turkmen and Uzbek are in the second place after the Uzbek. Most of them live in Turtkul, Ellikkala, Beruniy districts stretching the right side of The Amu Darya, when of some of the people have their house in the Amu Darya district on the left one of the Amu Darya river. The characteristic roof is that the complexes on the right side of the Amu Darya are busy and occupy large areas. We can see this situation in the Turtkul, Beruniy and Ellikkala districts. The Turkmen have preserved their national characteristics, traditions and national cultures. In the abovementioned districts Turkmen schools are functioning. Turkmen in the region are away from their national roots-the Turkmen and regional, political, economic and cultural aspects in Turkmenistan. Therefore, their lifestyle is not affected by the influence of their nationals in Turkmenistan. The Turkmen language in the south zone has also been influenced by the other languages as a out of its national root language.

The Turkmen in this area are a two-dimensional population. Their young children also can speak Uzbek as the elderly. There is a great impact of the Uzbek language on the dialects of Turkmen. Because they have been living among a number of Uzbek-language people. The Uzbek language has a great influence on the dialects of Turkmen. Uzbek people live in the place which was densely populated with Turkmen ones. The Uzbeks have a common sense of Uzbek-Turkmen bilingualism where they use the Turkmen language.

Turkmens living in the border areas of Turkmenistan in the district of Amu Darya. are provided with national and Turkmen-language classes. Until recently, They have lived in Turkmenistan and not outside of their country. In the past such relationships have slowed down. Turkmens living in the region are also two-third of Uzbeks who speak in Uzbek much better than these in the districts of Turtkul, Beruniy, Ellikkala. This is due to the fact that their dwelling is dwindling and the population is relatively small. This objective social environment is obstacle for keeping on national culture and tradition which are specific for the Turkmen people.

There is also a widespread Kazakh-Uzbek bilingualism in the southern sociolinguistic zone. We can meet some people belonging to the Kazakh nation in the district of Turtkul, more ones in Beruniy but they are not often found in the Ellikkala district. Most of them live in Beruniy. Adults in the social sphere know the Uzbek language. The influence of the Uzbek-speaking environment is extremely powerful on the Kazakh-speaking group of people. The Kazakh-speaking population in the region has a great influence on Uzbek dialects. Kazakh-Uzbek bilingualism is on the left side of the Amu Darya. Kazakh-speaking population reside in farms called "Ok oltin", "Dustlik" of the Amu Darya district. However, they interfered with the Uzbek-speaking population and their language changed dramatically as a deception of the Kazakh language because of their dispersal. The people of this group speak Uzbek and have education in this language too.

There is also Karakalpak-Uzbek bilingualism in this region. These Karakalpak-Uzbek language people live in a pervasive way. They were ignored by the Uzbek-speaking population, and their language has lost its natural identity and has become a separate dialect of the Uzbek language. A great deal of candidate and doctoral research studies in the Karakalpak language in this area was carried out where the language problems of the population were widely analyzed.

In the years of Independence when the language was given the status of the state, a Karakalpak school in Ellikkala, Amudarya, Turtkul, Beruniy districts and some Karakalpak classes were developed in the region. In particular, there is one school which is specific for Karakalpak in every district like Ellikkala, Amu Darya, Turtkul, Beruniy. In other places only Karakalpak classes are organized. These schools are considered to be mixed-class schools and there are 22 ones in Ellikkala.

Most of the pupils know two languages and they speak in their mother tongue during classes, in Uzbek after classes. However, when adults speak both in Karakalpak and Uzbek with their family members, they use the Uzbek language completely in their speech in public places. This case is often met in Karakalpak-Uzbek bilingualism. Because there is fewer nations of Karakalpak than ones of Turkmen and Kazakh in this region and they live sparsely. This is evident in the fact that the degree of proliferation of Karakalpak-Uzbek disparities is not significant. These people abovementioned communicate each-other with the help of Uzbek and can be inquired that they belong to the Karakalpak nationality. Therefore, this bilingualism is not a mass character, but partly individual one.

There are also few Russian-Uzbek and Korean-Uzbek bilingualism in the region. The former can be met in the city of Turtkul. Earlier, in the period of Soviet Union, Russian people lived in the city of Petro-Aleksandr and many of them in government offices and in the military. Getting the capital status of Turtkul until the 30s of the 20th century was the reason for the movement of the Russian nation to the city. Today they know Uzbek very well because of their mixed nature with local people. There are Russian classes in three schools for Russian children in the city of Turtkul. Russian is mainly used in family circles and in the studying process. They speak only Uzbek in public places.

Koreans in this area have a discrete life style. This is why they only communicate only in Korean and sometimes in Russian when they are with their family's members. Koreans who studied Russian classes accepted Russian as their mother tongue. They are Korean-Russian-Uzbek speaking population. Most Koreans live in Nukus and their numbers are limited in southern areas.

Bilingualism of Russian and Korean people is individually characterized by their influence on the role and status of this sociological zone.

The utilization of the Uzbek language is not the same there. The Uzbek-language population have the character of diglossia. The people living in Turtkul, Ellikkala speak in the southern Khorezm dialect and their language in speech is similar to Xozorasp, Xonka, Khiva districts in the province of Khoresm. The language of the population in Beruniy, Amu Darya speak nearly close to one of the Gurlan district which is located in the province of Khoresm.

The people of the village named after Nazarxan lying in this sociolinguistic zone communicate as the people living in the northern one. Although they are mainly Karakalpak population with Uzbek duality, the Karakalpak language components are in the forefront. Because Karakalpak is the leader language in all social spheres, despite the fact there are many ethnic Uzbeks here. People speak only in Karakalpak in the schools and educational institutions. There are also a lot of people belonging to the Kazakh nation so the Kazakh –Karakalpak bilingualism is quite civilized in this region.

In short, the Karakalpak-speaking northern sociolinguistic zone is clearly distinguishable from the southern Uzbek one in the Republic of Karakalpakistan. Internal process of the language in this zone have their features. Each zone plays a great role in the language position.

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