

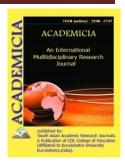
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### USE OF THE KAZAKH LANGUAGE IN KARAKALPAKSTAN

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## **ABSTRACT**

The article examines the social functions of languages—which functioning in the Republic of Karakalpakstan, including the Kazakh language. In the Constitution, Uzbek and Karakalpak languages—are marked as the state. But there are no restrictions for the use of non-state languages—in the republic as a means of communication, application in the education system. The presence of the Kazakh language in the region indicates that it has been preserved as a written form of the literary language and the dialect language. In Karakalpakstan, the written form of the Kazakh language is mainly used in the education system. In the field of secondary and higher education, the media analyzed the social functions of the Kazakh language. Languages—in the territory of Karakalpakstan are divided into two large sociolinguistic zones—the southern Uzbek-speaking and the northern Karakalpak-speaking. The character, composition of the population, linguistic and psychological aspects, traditions and customs, attitude to languages, national peculiarities, peculiar features of Kazakh dialects in the zones are indicated. The article, to a certain extent, gives an idea of—the social functions of the Kazakh language in Karakalpakstan.

**KEYWORDS:** Social Function, Language Acquisition, Social-Linguistic Zone, Bilingualism, Multilingualism.

#### INTRODUCTION

The Republic of Karakalpakstan is one of the regions that are part of the Republic of Uzbekistan, distinguished by its socio-political, economic, administrative-territorial, state structures, geographical location and demographic characteristics, which has a peculiar status.



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The Republic of Karakalpakstan is located in the north-west of the Republic of Uzbekistan, with a total area of 166.6 thousand km2, that is, 37% of the territory of Uzbekistan. The population is 1,923,700 people, the average population density is 11.2 people per 1 km2.

The territory of Karakalpakstan consists of 15 districts, 12 cities, 16 urban-type settlements. The Republic of Karakalpakstan borders on the northern, north-western, western and eastern sides with the Mangishlak, Aktobe and Kyzylorda regions of Kazakhstan, on the southern and western sides of the Navoi, Bukhara and Khorezm regions of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Tashauz, Balkan regions of the Republic of Turkmenistan. [1:7].

Kazakh is the native language of the Kazakh population living in Karakalpakstan. This people accounted for almost 3/1 of the population of Karakalpakstan. But, as a result of migration processes, their number has slightly decreased in recent years. Today they are 16%.

Kazakhs in the republic are considered the indigenous population of Karakalpakstan. According to the Kazakh linguist B. Beketov, the Kazakhs moved to Karakalpakstan in the 1700s. Kazakhs and Karakalpaks who came from Turkestan settled around Kuuanyshdarya and Zhanadarya.

Information about the residence of the Kazakhs of the small zhuz under the patronage of the Khiva Khanate is indicated in the archival materials of 1851. During the period of Khiva Khan Muhammad Rakhimkhan, 27,000 Kazakh families belonged to him [2: 8-9], today most of the Kazakhs live very densely in the city of Nukus, as well as in the Beruniy, Kungrad, Takhtakupyr, Muynak, Khodjeyly and Takhiatash regions. In such places, separate schools are open for their children, and classes with Kazakh languages—are open in schools with mixed languages. A cultural center of Kazakhs functions in Nukus. Most of the Kazakhs live in cities. There are some kind of cultural monuments. [3: 286.]

Despite the fact that Uzbek and Karakalpak languages—are considered state in Karakalpakstan, due to the fair policy of our state, the languages—of any small peoples are not humiliated. In society, the social functions of a given language are supported and all conditions are created for the development of the language. Since, in Article 4 of the Law "On the State Language" it is said: "In the Republic of Uzbekistan, for the study of the state language, all citizens are provided with all conditions and respect for the languages—of all nationalities and peoples living on its territory, for the development of these languages, all conditions." And also, Article 6 of this law states: "Persons living in the Republic of Uzbekistan are given the right to free choice of language for education.

The Republic of Uzbekistan provides for the acquisition of general education, vocational, secondary specialized and higher education "[4: 12-13].

The Kazakh language is preserved on the territory and operates in the following forms: a) written form of the literary language; b) as a dialect language. In Karakalpakstan, the written form of the Kazakh literary language is mainly used in the field of education. The number of schools with pure Kazakh language is 61, the number of schools with Kazakh and mixed languages - 205. If in the 2018-2019 academic year 20906 students studied in Kazakh schools, then in the 2020-2021 academic year 21419 students receive knowledge. It follows from this that in two years the number of students increased by 513, which is 6.4% of the total number of students. There are no Kazakh groups in academic lyceums and professional colleges. The Kazakh language is actively used in the field of higher education. If before the period of independence there were only





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faculties of Kazakh philology, now there are Kazakh departments of directions of physical education, exact, social and humanitarian disciplines. In the 2018-2019 academic year, only 295 students studied in the Kazakh groups of the Karakalpak State University named after Berdakh, the Nukus State Pedagogical Institute named after Azhiniyaz, then in the 2020-2021 academic year there are 488 students in the undergraduate and 16 in the magistracy. This indicator underlines the slowing down of the migration process and the increase in the number of university students.

At this time, Karakalpak TV is regularly broadcasting programs in the amount of 18 hours. All programs are broadcast in the Karakalpak language. The ten-minute information programs "Khabar" are presented in Russian and Uzbek languages. The programs "Oltin Oston", "My Favorite Land", "Altyn Aimak" are broadcasted in Uzbek, Russian and Kazakh languages.

In the analysis of languages in Karakalpakstan, the concepts of the communicative environment and the sociolinguistic zone from the sociolinguistic aspect are of absolute importance. Since the possession of the natural, economic, cultural, psychological characteristics of the territories of the distribution of peoples living in this region and languages makes it possible to represent them as a kind of sociolinguistic area. Based on this, languages on the territory of Karakalpakstan can be divided into two large ethnolinguistic zones: 1) southern - Uzbekspeaking zone; 2) northern - Karakalpak-speaking zone.

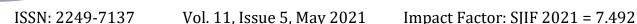
These two sociolinguistic zones differ from each other in their character, population composition, linguo-psychological aspects, traditions and customs, attitudes towards languages, national characteristics, economic development, attitudes towards cultural values. In these zones, the spread of languages is also peculiar. They include the degree of distribution, composition, nature of such phenomena as bilingualism (ikkitillik), polylinguism (kuptililik), diglossia (different pictures of one language).

The northern - Karakalpak-speaking zone is a zone covering the northern regions of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, this zone borders on the western and north-eastern, north-southern sides with the republics of Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, and on the southern side with the Amu Darya and Beruni districts. This zone includes the Muinak, Kungradsky, Shumanaysky, Kanlykul, Khodjeili, Takhiatash, Nukus, Kegeili, Karauzyak, Chimbai, Takhtakupyr districts, from the large cities of Nukus, Khojeyli, Kungrad and regional centers, small-type towns. And the population living in these regions belongs to different nations and nationalities.

The complexity of the linguistic situation in Karakalpakstan is that all peoples living in this region have their own language. Some languages, although they have a range of applications, social functions and tasks of an absolutely narrow degree, they also have their own social functions.

In the linguistic position of Karakalpakstan, the Uzbek-speaking southern zone is considered the largest sociolinguistic zone. Most of the Uzbeks live in Turtkul, Ellikkala, Beruniy, Amu Darya, Khodjeyli districts. Representatives of other nations living in the region are also considered the local population.

In the northern sociolinguistic zone, Kazakh-Karakalpak bilingualism is widespread. This region has long been a region where the Kazakh and Karakalpak peoples live in a mixed manner, they work together in the political, economic, and cultural fields. The Kazakh and Karakalpak peoples



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have not only similar languages, but also lifestyles, traditions and customs, national characters, cultures. This similarity is a factor that ensures the mutual influence of their languages; mutual enrichment. Such factors cannot be ignored, since in the coverage of the phenomena of multilingualism and diglossia it is necessary to take into account: 1) socio-cultural and psychological relationships of languages; 2) structural and psychological factors of the relationship of languages; 3) the results of the mutual influence of languages. [5: 325].

There are a lot of Kazakhs in the Muynak, Kungrad, Takhtakupyr districts of this region. They very densely populate many places in these regions and dialect variants of the Kazakh language are widely used in such regions. In other areas of the zone, they live mixed with the Karakalpak people. In such mixed areas - cities like Khojeyli, Nukus, Chimbay, Takhiatash, wide ways are open for the development of Kazakh-Karakalpak bilingualism and the mutual influence of their languages. In addition, the functioning of the media (radio, television, press) in Karakalpakstan in the Karakalpak language, the coexistence of Karakalpak and Kazakh classes in schools, the parallel use of the languages of these two peoples further accelerates their mutual influence.

The dialectal form of the Kazakh language is widely used in the family and everyday life. If a family appeared as a result of a mixture of representatives of the Kazakh and Karakalpak nationalities, then in such families the Kazakh and Karakalpak languages—are used mixed. The dialectal form of the Kazakh language is found in places of dense settlement of Kazakhs, sometimes in cities. In their urban variants (in cities located in the northern regions of Karakalpakstan), the influence of the Karakalpak language is very strong. They are on the eve of assimilation into the Karakalpak language.

There is no oral version of the Kazakh literary language in Karakalpakstan. Since the great remoteness of the territory of Karakalpakstan from the territory of Kazakhstan and the rupture of the connection between the dialects of the Karakalpakstan Kazakhs with the dialects that became the basis of the Kazakh literary language, the weakness, and recently the absence of economic, cultural, linguistic ties at all, indicate the distance of the language of the Karakalpakstan Kazakhs from their origins the influence of the literary language. This gives them the ability to preserve only in a dialectal state. Also, for this reason, their social functions are gradually decreasing and in the future they will continue to merge with the composition of the Karakalpak language.

In some areas, Kazakh dialects differ from each other. Linguist Y. Kuttymuratova investigated the phonetic, lexical and morphological differences of dialects in the monographic aspect [6: 53.].

The professional language of the Kazakh language is not found in its pure form. It also lost its independence as a professional argo, merging with the language of the professional profile of the Karakalpak language.

In the southern sociolinguistic zone, people of Kazakh nationality are found in several places in the Turtkul region, much more in the Beruniy region, and to an average extent in the Ellikkala regions. The region with their largest location is the Beruniy district. Although they study in schools in their native language, they know the Uzbek language well and the older generation of all strata of the population, serving in the social sphere, speak Uzbek. The Kazakh-speaking diaspora is absolutely strongly influenced by the Uzbek-speaking environment around it. B.



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Beketov's Ph.D. thesis broadly covers the influence of the Uzbek dialects on the Kazakh-speaking population of the region. [7:17].

Kazakh-Uzbek bilingualism also exists on the left side of the Amu Darya. The Kazakh-speaking population of the Amudarya region lives in the collective farms "Ok oltin", "Dustlik", but due to their random residence, they mixed with the Uzbek-speaking population and their language changed to such an extent that they have no reason to name them even with any dialect of Kazakh language. The population of this group speaks Uzbek and the family also speaks Uzbek, education and upbringing are also conducted in Uzbek.

The language of the densely populated Kazakhs in the southern regions of Karakalpakstan exists as a dialect language and the influence of the Uzbek language is very strong in them. And in these regions, too, the Kazakh dialects are on the eve of merging with the dialects of the Uzbek language. The dialect variant of the Kazakh language in this region serves as a family local language. The Kazakh-speaking population of this region, going beyond the territory of a densely populated agricultural or collective farm, communicate in the Uzbek language. The owners of this language are bilingual. In general, the Kazakh language, in whatever region of Karakalpakstan is found, as a dialect language that has been strongly influenced by other languages, performs the function of a local language with a limited range of use. Its dialectal features were studied by B. Beketov, N. Zhunusov. [eight.].

In conclusion, we can say that in Karakalpakstan there are no obstacles to the functioning of the Kazakh language, becoming a means of communication, and its development. The Kazakh language is used in the social sphere, mainly in the field of education, partly in the field of mass media. For the Kazakh-speaking population living in the republic, all conditions have been created for obtaining secondary and higher education in their native language.

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