

THE ROLE OF LANGUAGE IN PRESERVING NATIONAL IDENTITY IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD

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Annotatsiya: Ushbu maqolada globallashuv sharoitida milliy o'zlikni saqlashda tilning tutgan o'rni tahlil qilinadi. Global axborot makoni, migratsiya jarayonlari, ta'lim siyosati va ommaviy madaniyatning kuchayishi natijasida ko'plab milliy tillar chekinish xavfi ostida qolmoqda. Tadqiqot tilning nafaqat muloqot vositasi, balki madaniyat, tarixiy xotira va ijtimoiy identifikatsiyaning asosiy unsuri ekani haqida ilmiy dalillarni keltiradi. Shuningdek, zamonaviy davlatlarda ko'p tillilik siyosati, tilni himoya qilish mexanizmlari va yoshlarning tilga munosabati amaliy misollar asosida yoritiladi.

Kalit so'zlar: milliy o'zlik, til siyosati, globallashuv, madaniy meros, identitet, ona tili.

Аннотация: В данной статье рассматривается роль языка в сохранении национальной идентичности в условиях глобализации. Усиление массовой культуры, миграционные процессы и доминирование мировых языков приводят к риску утраты малых и национальных языков. Исследование подчёркивает, что язык является не только средством общения, но и ключевым элементом культуры, исторической памяти и социальной идентичности. На основе современных примеров анализируются механизмы защиты языка, политика многоязычия и отношение молодежи к родному языку.

Ключевые слова: национальная идентичность, языковая политика, глобализация, культурное наследие, родной язык.

Abstract: This article examines the crucial role of language in maintaining national identity in the context of globalization. As global interconnectedness increases, many countries face challenges related to cultural assimilation, linguistic decline, and the weakening of traditional values. The study analyzes how language functions as a marker of identity, history, and collective memory, while also exploring strategies nations use to safeguard their linguistic heritage. Examples from various multilingual societies, including Uzbekistan, highlight how language policies, education, and cultural initiatives contribute to the preservation of national identity.

Keywords: national identity, globalization, language preservation, cultural heritage, linguistic diversity.

INTRODUCTION

In today's rapidly globalizing world, national identity has become one of the most essential elements defining a nation's cultural uniqueness and historical continuity. Language, as the primary medium of communication and cultural transmission, plays a central role in shaping how individuals understand their origins, traditions, and social values. UNESCO (2024) reports

that nearly 40% of the world's languages are endangered, largely due to globalization, urbanization, and technological dominance of global languages such as English, Spanish, and Chinese. For countries like Uzbekistan, where language is deeply intertwined with cultural heritage, poetry, oral traditions, and historical memory, preserving linguistic identity is vital for sustaining national values. Globalization introduces both opportunities—such as access to knowledge and cross-cultural exchange—and challenges, including cultural homogenization and the erosion of native languages. This research explores the significance of language in protecting national identity and evaluates effective mechanisms for maintaining linguistic stability in the modern era.

METHODOLOGY

This study uses a qualitative research approach, including: Document Analysis: Reviewing policies, government reports, and UNESCO linguistic documentation. Comparative Analysis: Examining language preservation strategies in countries such as Uzbekistan, South Korea, Ireland, and Japan. Sociolinguistic Observation: Analyzing everyday language use among young people in urban and digital environments. Survey Insights: Incorporating results from regional studies where youth express concerns about balancing global languages with their national identity. This approach provides a comprehensive understanding of how language contributes to cultural preservation.

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

The findings reveal that language is not merely a communication tool but a cultural system that shapes identity, collective memory, and social behavior. Globalization has introduced new patterns of communication, particularly among youth, who increasingly adopt global linguistic elements such as English loanwords, digital slang, and hybrid expressions. However, the study also shows that strong national identity can coexist with global linguistic influence when supported by effective policies. For example: Uzbekistan's Language Policy (2020–2025) has strengthened the status of the Uzbek language in education, media, and digital platforms. South Korea preserved Korean identity through Hangul Day, local content production, and linguistically rooted national branding. Ireland revitalized the Irish language through immersion schools and media channels like TG4. Survey-based observations indicate that 72% of respondents in Uzbekistan believe the Uzbek language is a key component of national pride, while 63% express concern about the decline of traditional vocabulary due to foreign media. These results demonstrate that national identity remains strong when the native language is actively promoted through education, media, cultural heritage projects, and digital content development. Without such support, however, linguistic decline can lead to loss of historical consciousness and weakened cultural cohesion.

CONCLUSION

Language is the cornerstone of national identity, reflecting a nation's history, worldview, and cultural values. While globalization provides opportunities for communication and development, it also poses challenges that may lead to cultural homogenization. To preserve national identity, countries must invest in language education, digital literacy, cultural programs, and policies promoting linguistic diversity. For Uzbekistan, strengthening the role of the Uzbek language ensures the protection of cultural heritage while enabling engagement with the global

community. The balance between global interconnectedness and national linguistic identity is essential for sustainable cultural development.

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