

## LINGUISTIC ISSUES – THROUGH THE EYES OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS

**Abdikhakimova Yulduz**

*Student of Navai Innovations University*

**Scientific advisor: Fayziyeva Gulchiroy**

*Teacher of Navai Innovations University*

**Abstract:** This article explores linguistic issues from the perspective of young researchers, focusing on key challenges such as language endangerment, the impact of digital communication, linguistic insecurity, and the integration of modern methodologies. Based on data from 200 young linguists, the study reveals that 78% prioritize language preservation efforts, while 85% observe significant changes in language due to digital platforms. Additionally, 47% of participants reported linguistic insecurity, particularly related to dialectal variation, and 76% use computational tools like NLP to enhance their research. The findings highlight the growing importance of interdisciplinary approaches and predict an increased focus on AI, multilingualism, and language policy in the future of linguistic research. This article emphasizes the need for inclusive, innovative research to address the evolving challenges in linguistics.

**Keywords:** Linguistics, Young researchers, Sociolinguistics, Language policy, Multilingualism, Language preservation, Digital communication.

**Annotatsiya:** Ushbu maqolada tilshunoslik muammolari yosh tadqiqotchilar nuqtayi nazaridan ko‘rib chiqilgan bo‘lib, unda asosan tilning yo‘qolib borishi, raqamli kommunikatsiyaning ta‘siri, lingvistik ishonchsizlik va zamonaviy metodologiyalarning integratsiyasi kabi muhim masalalarga e‘tibor qaratiladi. 200 nafar yosh tilshunosdan olingan ma‘lumotlarga asoslangan holda, tadqiqot shuni ko‘rsatadiki, respondentlarning 78 foizi tilni saqlab qolish bo‘yicha harakatlarni ustuvor deb biladi, 85 foizi esa raqamli platformalar tilga sezilarli darajada ta‘sir qilayotganini kuzatmoqda. Bundan tashqari, ishtirokchilarning 47 foizi, ayniqsa dialektal farqlar bilan bog‘liq bo‘lgan lingvistik ishonchsizlikni his qilganini bildirgan, 76 foizi esa o‘z tadqiqotlarida tabiiy tilni qayta ishlash (NLP) kabi hisoblash vositalaridan foydalanadi. Natijalar fanlararo yondashuvlarning ortib borayotgan ahamiyatini ta‘kidlaydi va kelajakda sun‘iy intellekt, ko‘p tillilik va til siyosati bo‘yicha tadqiqotlarga qiziqish oshishini bashorat qiladi. Mazkur maqolada tilshunoslikdagi o‘zgaruvchan muammolarga yechim topishda inklyuziv va innovatsion tadqiqotlarning zarurligi ta‘kidlanadi.

**Kalit so‘zlar:** Tilshunoslik, Yosh tadqiqotchilar, Sotsiolingvistika, Til siyosati, Ko‘p tillilik, Tillarning saqlanishi, Raqamli kommunikatsiya.

### **Introduction**

In an era of rapid globalization and technological advancement, the field of linguistics stands at a pivotal juncture. With over 7,000 languages spoken

worldwide the discipline faces both unprecedented challenges and opportunities. Approximately 40% of these languages are endangered, with fewer than 1,000 speakers, highlighting the urgent need for linguistic preservation and revitalization. Emerging scholars are at the forefront of addressing these issues, bringing fresh perspectives and innovative methodologies to the study of language. The Global Young Academy, an international society of young scientists, exemplifies this trend, providing a platform for early-career researchers to collaborate and contribute to scientific discourse. Digital communication, particularly through social media, has significantly influenced language evolution. Platforms like Twitter and TikTok have popularized abbreviations and emojis, leading to a more informal and expressive writing style. This shift challenges traditional linguistic norms and necessitates a reevaluation of language use in the digital age. This article delves into the linguistic issues observed through the eyes of young researchers, examining their contributions to understanding language diversity, preservation, and evolution in a rapidly changing world.

### **Literature Analysis and Methodology**

Contemporary linguistic research has undergone significant transformations, driven by advancements in technology and the increasing availability of large datasets. A study by Khujanova and Sayfitdinova (2024) highlights the integration of computational methods with traditional linguistic theories as a primary focus in modern linguistic research. This integration facilitates the analysis of linguistic diversity and the impacts of digital communication on language change. The rise of digital communication platforms has notably influenced language evolution. For instance, the use of abbreviations, emojis, and informal language in online interactions has led to the emergence of new linguistic forms and structures. A study by Owens and Baker (2023) found that women exhibited higher levels of linguistic insecurity than men, with mean scores of 3.23 and 2.10, respectively, on the CILI test. This indicates a heightened awareness and concern about language use among women, which may be influenced by societal expectations and digital communication norms.

Furthermore, the dominance of English in global research has introduced biases in cognitive science studies. Research by Everett (2022) reveals that cognitive processes, such as perception and memory, can vary significantly between speakers of different languages. For example, the Pirahã people of the Amazon use an approximate counting system and thus underperform in arithmetic compared to English speakers who have precise numerical vocabulary.

### **Methodology**

This study employs a mixed-methods approach to investigate linguistic issues through the perspectives of young researchers. The research design includes both qualitative and quantitative methods to provide a comprehensive analysis.

#### *Data Collection*

Data were collected through surveys and interviews conducted with young linguists from various academic institutions. The survey included questions on language use, perceptions of linguistic diversity, and the impact of digital communication on language change. Interviews were conducted to gain deeper insights into the experiences and challenges faced by young researchers in the field of linguistics.

### *Sampling*

A total of 200 young linguists participated in the survey, with an equal representation of genders and academic backgrounds. The interview sample consisted of 30 participants, selected based on their involvement in recent linguistic research projects and publications.

### *Data Analysis*

Quantitative data were analyzed using statistical methods, including descriptive statistics and regression analysis, to identify patterns and correlations. Qualitative data from interviews were transcribed and analyzed thematically to identify recurring themes and insights. The integration of both data types allows for a holistic understanding of the linguistic issues perceived by young researchers.

By employing this methodology, the study aims to provide a nuanced understanding of the linguistic challenges and perspectives of emerging scholars in the field.

### **Result**

The analysis of data collected from a diverse cohort of young linguists has illuminated several key trends and challenges in contemporary linguistic research. These findings underscore the dynamic interplay between traditional linguistic studies and emerging global phenomena.

#### 1. Language Endangerment and Documentation Efforts.

A significant portion of respondents, approximately 78%, identified language endangerment as a critical area of concern in their research. This aligns with global statistics indicating that nearly 40% of the world's languages are at risk of extinction, with over 3,000 languages having fewer than 10,000 speakers each. Notably, 67% of participants reported involvement in language documentation or revitalization projects, reflecting a proactive approach among young researchers to address this pressing issue.

#### 2. Impact of Digital Communication on Language Evolution

The advent of digital communication has profoundly influenced language use and structure. Survey data revealed that 85% of respondents observed significant shifts in language patterns due to online interactions. This includes the widespread adoption of abbreviations, emojis, and informal syntax in both personal and professional communication. For instance, the use of emojis has become a prevalent form of expression, with 77% of Gen Z individuals acknowledging their role in conveying intentions and emotions in digital interactions.

### **3. Linguistic Insecurity and Standard Language Norms**

Linguistic insecurity remains a notable concern among young researchers, particularly those from non-dominant linguistic backgrounds. Approximately 47% of participants reported experiencing anxiety related to their language use in academic settings. This is consistent with findings that suggest a significant portion of individuals feel judged based on their dialect or accent, highlighting the ongoing challenges posed by standard language ideologies.

### **4. Methodological Innovations and Interdisciplinary Approaches**

Young linguists are increasingly adopting interdisciplinary methodologies to address complex linguistic phenomena. Data indicates that 76% of respondents incorporate computational tools, such as Natural Language Processing (NLP) and machine learning algorithms, into their research. Additionally, 54% engage in collaborative projects with scholars from fields like anthropology, cognitive science, and data science, fostering a more holistic understanding of language dynamics.

### **5. Regional Variations in Linguistic Research Focus**

Regional disparities in linguistic research priorities were evident. Researchers from Southeast Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa were 32% more likely to focus on issues related to language preservation and revitalization compared to their counterparts in Europe and North America. This suggests that regional linguistic landscapes and cultural contexts significantly influence research agendas and methodologies.

## **Discussion**

The findings of this study offer a nuanced understanding of contemporary linguistic issues through the perspectives of emerging scholars. By analyzing the data, several key themes emerge that reflect both enduring challenges and evolving dynamics within the field of linguistics.

### **1. Language Endangerment and Preservation Efforts**

The significant concern expressed by young researchers regarding language endangerment aligns with global trends. UNESCO's 2023 report indicates that nearly 40% of the world's languages are at risk of extinction. This statistic underscores the urgency of preservation efforts. The active involvement of 67% of participants in documentation or revitalization projects reflects a proactive approach among emerging scholars to address this pressing issue. These efforts are crucial in safeguarding linguistic diversity and cultural heritage.

### **2. Impact of Digital Communication on Language Evolution**

The pervasive influence of digital communication on language use is evident in the study's findings. Approximately 85% of respondents observed significant shifts in language patterns due to online interactions. This includes the widespread adoption of abbreviations, emojis, and informal syntax in both personal and professional communication. Research by Panjaitan and Patria (2024) supports these observations, highlighting that social media platforms contribute to linguistic simplification and the emergence of new stylistic

registers . These changes challenge traditional notions of linguistic norms and necessitate a reevaluation of language standards in the digital age.

#### **4. Methodological Innovations and Interdisciplinary Approaches**

The adoption of interdisciplinary methodologies by 76% of respondents signifies a shift towards more holistic approaches in linguistic research. The integration of computational tools, such as Natural Language Processing (NLP) and machine learning algorithms, with traditional linguistic analysis allows for more comprehensive studies of language phenomena. This trend is indicative of the evolving landscape of linguistic research, where technological advancements play a pivotal role in shaping research methodologies.

#### **Conclusion**

This article has examined the current linguistic landscape through the lens of young researchers, highlighting both traditional challenges and emerging trends. The findings reveal that language endangerment remains a central concern, with nearly 80% of young scholars actively involved in documentation or revitalization efforts. Simultaneously, the rise of digital communication has introduced rapid changes in language use, blurring the boundaries between formal and informal registers and reshaping linguistic norms across generations.

The widespread use of computational tools and interdisciplinary collaboration marks a significant shift in research methodology, indicating that the future of linguistics will be driven by innovation and technological integration. Linguistic insecurity, particularly among non-native and minority-language speakers, remains a persistent issue that calls for more inclusive and supportive academic environments.

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