

THE USE AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE OF SLANGS IN THE UZBEK LANGUAGE

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Abstract

The article discusses the factors of emergence, use, role and significance of slang in the communication process, which is considered a limited lexical unit. The study of slang from the point of view of linguistics, its lexical and semantic features, its spread through modern information technologies, as well as their impact on the development of culture and language are discussed.

Keywords: argot, jargon, slang, youth language, culture, language development, informal language, pragma linguistics, socio linguistics.

The study of the process of communication in the Uzbek language is a very complex process. In linguistics, the directions of sociolinguistics and pragma linguistics, which study the social status of the language, have been formed. It is difficult to study the process of communication without knowing the specific customs, values, and traditions of our people. Today, research is being conducted in Uzbek linguistics devoted to the study of the pragmatic characteristics of language units [Pulatova, 2023:235].

Sociolinguistics studies the state of language use in society, the level of use of words in the language, the way language users approach communication based on their speech situation, social status, profession, age, gender, position, and worldview. There are words in our language that are used only in the speech of people living in a certain region or engaged in a certain profession. Examples of these include jargon, argot, and slang. Some researchers emphasize that these words are considered synonymous, but when their origin and use are studied, their differences are revealed.

There are different views on the factors that led to the emergence of slang, jargon, and argot. The term slang appeared in linguistics somewhat later, and it can be said that it is currently actively used in youth speech. Young people, based on their worldview, widely use unusual, unnatural words, informal words, expressions, and terms that adults do not understand. Such words are called slang in linguistics.

The word “slang” is borrowed from English, where “slang” means jargon, and it entered linguistics precisely from English [Akhmanova, 1969:419]. In other studies, slang (“slang” is

borrowed from English and means jargon, simple, words typical of oral vocabulary”), general slang, special slang (jargon and argon are special words) and vulgarism (rude words) are used. [Tuxtasinova, Alieva, 2023:297].

The emergence and development of slang is often associated with the communicative needs of youth language, social cultures, urban culture, the media, and the Internet environment. Slang units often deviate from language norms, but they serve as a means of strengthening solidarity between social groups.

The use of slang in the Uzbek language is also being formed under the influence of various factors. In particular, socio-economic changes, technological progress, the influence of foreign languages (in particular, English), migration, and global mass culture (pop culture) serve as the main driving forces of this process. Slang words are rapidly spreading and updating, especially through digital communication - social networks, messengers, and Internet platforms. Slang is actively used mainly in informal communication.

Linguistic analysis of slang shows that it is semantically rich, highly expressive, and emotionally expressive. Due to these characteristics, slang is often used as a means of sarcasm, humor, rudeness, or protest. At the same time, slang is also culturally important, as it serves as a means of expressing social relations, value systems, and intergroup boundaries in society.

Slangs specific to a particular age group, region, or street slang, youth language, and Internet slang can be distinguished. Examples of slang used in youth speech in Uzbek include: online – active, constantly in motion (That boy is always online.), bomba – very good, wonderful, “no words” (in the sense of praise), “received a reprimand” (punished), stop – done, do not cross the border, jinnini yoqdi – to act like you do not know, agorotiga tosh otish – to interfere in his work, yedirdi – to eat, etc.

In sociolinguistics, it is also necessary to pay attention to the question of whether slang serves as a means of creativity and cultural expression or whether it threatens the norms of the literary language. The impact of slang on the development of culture and language is considered in two directions: on the one hand, it serves to enrich the language, manifest creativity and diversify communication methods, on the other hand, it can also create elements that contradict the norms of the literary language. Therefore, from the point of view of linguistics, it is urgent to study slang in depth as a sociolinguistic phenomenon, to identify its positive and negative aspects, and to form a balanced approach to it in language policy and educational processes.

Today, qualitative data from social media, popular music, television, and urban youth communication are used. When analyzing slang in the context of broader sociocultural changes, relevant literature on language change, lexical innovations, and cultural studies is important. By observing and analyzing widespread social media (e.g., Instagram, Telegram), popular music genres (rap, pop), television programs (entertainment shows, series), and live

forms of communication (conversation, chat) among urban youth as the main data, important conclusions can be drawn about slang.

Slang has become widespread in all spheres of society, and young people are enriching their vocabulary through their own language. The distortion of youth speech, that is, the use of inappropriate words in communication, the habit of using such words leads to the distortion of the national language. Slang not only increases the richness of speech, but also renews the language and adapts it to the requirements of the time. At the same time, its excessive and inappropriate use can negatively affect the norms of the literary language.

Slang serves as a living, dynamic and rapidly responding unit of language to changes in society. It plays an important role in ensuring mutual understanding, expression of affectivity and group cohesion among young people.

Therefore, it is important to study slang through a scientific approach, not rejecting it, but as an integral part of language and culture, in order to establish effective communication with young people. In the future, more in-depth research in this area will serve to more clearly define the place of slang in the modern language system.

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