

PRINCIPLES OF CREATING AN ATLAS OF THE GRAMMATICAL FEATURES OF THE UZBEKISTAN LANGUAGE.

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Abstract: Areal linguistics studies the territorial distribution of linguistic features – across one language or dialect, as well as across several related or unrelated languages – through the analysis of isoglosses. Using the methods of linguistic geography, it collects data on language features, while linguistic geography, in conjunction with cartography, focuses on mapping these features based on the collected material. This article describes and classifies the principles for creating a linguistic atlas, one of the main research objects of areal linguistics. In particular, it examines the principles for developing an atlas that summarizes the grammatical features of the Uzbek language.

Keywords: areal linguistics, Uzbek dialects, territory, linguistic map, linguistic atlas, grammatical features, principles

INTRODUCTION

Areal linguistics, which is considered a branch of linguistics, is closely related to linguistic geography and dialectology. Research in areal linguistics developed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. During this period, the attention of scholars was mainly focused on the linguistic features of small areas (regions and districts), and the need to describe them was recognized. As a result, dialect maps and atlases were created.

In particular, although the linguistic mapping work initiated by Professor V. V. Reshetov in Uzbek linguistics was suspended for many years, in recent years serious efforts have been made to create maps and atlases of regional varieties.

LITERATURE ANALYSIS AND METHODS

Dialectological research forms the basis of the areal approach to any language. In many linguistic atlases, researchers have primarily focused on dialectal features. However, the *French Linguistic Atlas*, unlike other atlases, documents the language as a whole. Although considerable attention was paid to the accuracy of phonetic notation, which made it possible to reflect pronunciation features, the atlas itself has a predominantly lexical character. It lacks maps devoted to the phonetic, morphological, or syntactic features of particular French dialects [1].

In subsequent atlases, features of all linguistic phenomena were analyzed and mapped. Scientific research on the morphological features of Uzbek dialects and their distribution in neighboring republics dates back many years. In particular, the morphology of Uzbek dialects in Southern Kazakhstan was studied monographically by K. Mukhammadjanov [2]; the morphology of Uzbek dialects in Tajikistan was studied by T. Yuldashev [2]; and the morphological features of Uzbek dialects in certain regions of Karakalpakstan were examined by A. Ishaev.

However, these studies have not been systematically mapped. It would not be an exaggeration to say that they also represent an important aspect of the areal study of language. Moreover, these monographs can be considered essential sources for identifying centers of innovation in morphological linguistic maps. For example, any dialectological research is inherently connected with territory.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In Uzbek linguistics, the regional morphological features of dialects have been studied from an areal perspective, particularly using the example of the dialects of the Navoi region [3]. The researcher provides specific examples of the territorial distribution of these morphological features.

In this section of our study, we also draw on the above-mentioned works, as well as A. Shermatov's monograph *What Is Linguistic Geography?* In addition to the main principles for compiling the *Grammatical Atlas of the Uzbek Language*, which includes grammatical features, the following auxiliary principles can be identified:

1. The principle of determining the use of inflectional and plural forms in nouns. In accordance with this principle, we clarify how possessive and case forms of nouns are used, as well as the variation in the use of the plural suffix. Dialectal differences are particularly evident in the use of case endings (directional, accusative, locative, and genitive).

After conducting interviews with informants and recording them, the collected materials are organized and transferred to card indexes.

2. The principle of determining the use of pronouns. This principle considers the use of personal, demonstrative, interrogative, and indefinite pronouns in speech. After recording oral discourse (which may take the form of a dialogue), the relevant data are entered into separate questionnaires.

3. The principle of identifying specific features of the verb. This principle focuses on the use of verb tense forms, as well as the suffixes of the indicative and imperative moods, and functional verb forms. A targeted conversational process (for example, descriptions of significant events in the informant's life) is recorded, and each linguistic unit is subsequently analyzed.

4. The principle of determining the forms of adjectives. This principle focuses on the degrees of adjectives and the variation in the use of derivational suffixes. The conversation may be organized around natural phenomena observed in the given area. The recorded data are then analyzed, and the relevant adjective forms are identified and entered into questionnaires.

In areal linguistics, the mapping of morphological features is often combined with the mapping of phonetic features. Linguistic change is also reflected in phonetic and morphological forms, and developments at these levels may, in turn, influence the lexicon. Since both phonetic and morphological features are closely related to pronunciation, it is advisable to pay particular attention to their joint analysis and mapping.

In linguistics, relatively few maps and syntactic atlases have been created to represent the syntactic features of language phenomena. The principles for mapping dialectal

syntactic differences were developed in Russian linguistics through the works of I. B. Kuzmina, E. B. Nemchenko, and B. I. Trubenskoy [4].

However, because dialectologists have often faced difficulties in accurately describing the linguistic and syntactic features of small territories, the mapping of these phenomena has remained limited. In the early stages of linguistic and dialectal mapping, the number of maps was small, and syntactic maps were either sporadic or not clearly distinguished as a separate category.

Later, with the development of areal linguistics (linguistic geography), regional syntactic maps began to be compiled, and the establishment of syntactic principles gained particular importance. For the first time in Belarus, S. M. Prokhorova developed the theoretical foundations for compiling regional syntactic maps and created the *Syntactic Atlas of the Dialects of the West Smolensk Region* [5]. Subsequently, O. A. Poletaeva also conducted research in this area [6].

The study of syntactic differences is primarily conducted through structured oral interviews. In Uzbek linguistics, very little attention has been paid to the syntactic features of dialects. This field has been explored by M. Turobova and Y. Jumanazarov, the latter focusing on the syntactic features of Oghuz dialects [7].

In our view, it is not feasible to study all the syntactic differences of a language or dialect; rather, it is possible to map specific elements of the syntactic system. Within the scope of syntax, dialectal differences can be observed in the use of phrases, simple sentences, occasionally short compound sentences, vocatives, and introductory words [7]. These differences are also taken into account in our master's thesis.

The following principles can be applied when mapping syntactic features:

1. The principle of syntactic description. According to this principle, the researcher records informants' conversations on specific topics using a voice recorder, classifies the data according to syntactic units, and enters it into the prepared questionnaire. A separate group is assigned to this task, and since each member works in different settlements, a substantial amount of material is accumulated.

2. The principle of analyzing identified phrases. According to this principle, the researcher conducts an engaging conversation with informants about the history of the region, the main sources of income, and their professions, while encouraging active participation. The conversation is carefully organized and recorded simultaneously. The recording is carried out discreetly, taking into account the age and social environment of the informant, particularly because the data are often collected from remote settlements. This method helps prevent distress or discomfort for the informant.

CONCLUSION

Overall, this method provides effective results and offers a realistic representation of the phonetic, morphological, and syntactic features of language phenomena. At the conclusion of the data collection, the researcher systematically analyzes the phrases extracted from the recorded oral texts. These phrases are classified into adjunctive, controlled, and adaptive categories, allowing for a detailed examination of how subordinate and dominant words are combined. Each group is carefully analyzed, organized, and recorded in the prepared questionnaires, which enables the identification and clarification of dialectal differences across different regions.

Following this analysis, the researcher summarizes the results and prepares them for cartographic representation. This process allows the elements of grammatical features in the Uzbek language to be systematically represented across hundreds of maps. The compiled data are then synthesized, and the final outcome is the *Grammatical Atlas of the Uzbek Language*, which visually documents the regional distribution and variation of grammatical structures. This atlas serves as a comprehensive reference for both linguistic research and practical applications in dialectology and areal linguistics.

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