

**KOREAN LANGUAGE EDUCATION AS A FACTOR
OF INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION
AMONG YOUTH IN CENTRAL ASIA**

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Annotatsiya: Mazkur maqolada Markaziy Osiyoda koreys tilining rivojlanishi va uning yoshlar orasida madaniyatlararo muloqotni shakllantirishdagi oʻrni tahlil qilinadi. Bugungi globallashuv sharoitida chet tillarini oʻrganish yoshlarning dunyoqarashi, kommunikativ kompetensiyasi, madaniy tafakkuri hamda ijtimoiy faolligini rivojlantirishning muhim omiliga aylanmoqda. Markaziy Osiyoda koreys tiliga boʻlgan qiziqish Koreya Respublikasi bilan taʼlimiy, madaniy va iqtisodiy aloqalarning rivojlanishi, Hallyu fenomeni hamda xalqaro akademik dasturlar bilan bogʻliq ravishda ortib bormoqda. Maqolada koreys tili taʼlimining yoshlar orasida bagʻrikenglik, madaniyatlararo hurmat, kommunikativ odob va global tafakkurni rivojlantirishdagi pedagogik ahamiyati yoritiladi.

Kalit soʻzlar: koreys tili, madaniyatlararo muloqot, yoshlar, globallashuv, Hallyu, pedagogika, kommunikativ kompetensiya, Markaziy Osiyo.

Abstract: This article analyzes the development of Korean language education in Central Asia and its role in promoting intercultural communication among young people. Under the conditions of globalization, foreign language learning has become an important factor in developing youth worldview, communicative competence, cultural awareness, and social activity. Interest in the Korean language in Central Asia has increased due to the expansion of educational, cultural, and economic relations with the Republic of Korea, the influence of Hallyu, and international academic programs. The article highlights the pedagogical significance of Korean language education in fostering tolerance, intercultural respect, communicative ethics, and global thinking among young people.

Keywords: Korean language, intercultural communication, youth, globalization, Hallyu, pedagogy, communicative competence, Central Asia.

Аннотация: В данной статье анализируется развитие корейского языка в Центральной Азии и его роль в формировании межкультурной коммуникации среди молодежи. В условиях глобализации изучение иностранных языков становится важным фактором развития мировоззрения молодежи, коммуникативной компетенции, культурного мышления и социальной активности. Интерес к корейскому языку в Центральной Азии возрастает в связи с развитием образовательных, культурных и экономических связей с Республикой Корея, влиянием феномена Халлю и международных

академических программ. В статье раскрывается педагогическое значение преподавания корейского языка в развитии толерантности, межкультурного уважения, коммуникативной этики и глобального мышления среди молодежи.

Ключевые слова: корейский язык, межкультурная коммуникация, молодежь, глобализация, Халлю, педагогика, коммуникативная компетенция, Центральная Азия.

Introduction

In the modern era, globalization has significantly influenced international communication, education, culture, and social interaction. Young people today actively participate in global informational and cultural exchanges through digital technologies, social networks, academic programs, and international cooperation. In this context, foreign language education has become an important part of modern pedagogy and youth development.

Among foreign languages, Korean has become increasingly popular in Central Asia during the last decades. The development of the Korean language in the region is connected with historical relations, the Korean diaspora, academic exchanges, economic cooperation, and the global spread of Korean culture. Today, many young people in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and other Central Asian countries study Korean not only for educational or professional purposes but also for cultural and communicative interests.

Language learning plays an important role in intercultural communication. Through language, learners become familiar with another nation's traditions, values, mentality, and social behavior. Therefore, Korean language education contributes to the formation of intercultural competence and mutual understanding among young people in Central Asia.

The Development of Korean Language Education in Central Asia

The Korean language began to spread actively in Central Asia after the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Korea and Central Asian countries in the 1990s. Educational cooperation between universities, scholarship programs, Korean cultural centers, and international projects created favorable conditions for the development of Korean language education.

Today, Korean is taught in universities, schools, private educational centers, and King Sejong Institutes across the region. In Uzbekistan, Korean language departments and Korean studies programs attract many students every year. Similar developments can be observed in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

The popularity of Korean language education is also related to academic opportunities. Many students study Korean to participate in exchange programs, continue their studies in South Korea, or apply for international scholarships such as

the Global Korea Scholarship program. As a result, Korean has become one of the most attractive foreign languages among Central Asian youth.

Korean Language as a Tool of Intercultural Communication

Intercultural communication refers to interaction between people representing different cultures, languages, traditions, and social values. In the modern globalized world, intercultural competence has become one of the key skills for young people.

The Korean language serves as an effective tool for intercultural communication because it introduces learners to Korean cultural norms, speech etiquette, traditions, and social relationships. Korean communicative culture is based on politeness, respect for elders, responsibility, and social harmony. These values are reflected in Korean speech levels, honorific expressions, and forms of address.

When Central Asian students learn Korean, they not only study grammar and vocabulary but also become familiar with Korean ways of thinking and communication. This process helps learners develop tolerance, empathy, openness, and cultural sensitivity.

Moreover, Korean language learning encourages students to compare Korean culture with their own national culture. Such comparison strengthens respect for cultural diversity while preserving national identity. Therefore, Korean language education contributes to mutual understanding between Korea and Central Asia.

The Influence of Hallyu on Youth Motivation

One of the main reasons for the growing interest in Korean language education is the influence of Hallyu, or the Korean Wave. Korean dramas, K-pop music, films, entertainment programs, and social media content have become extremely popular among young people in Central Asia.

Through Korean popular culture, many students first become interested in Korea and later begin to study the Korean language. Korean dramas often present themes such as family values, friendship, education, perseverance, and social responsibility. These themes positively influence young people's attitudes and cultural awareness.

K-pop music also motivates students to improve their pronunciation, listening comprehension, and vocabulary. Many learners use Korean songs, subtitles, interviews, and online videos as additional educational resources.

However, teachers should guide students toward a deeper understanding of Korean culture beyond entertainment. Korean language education should include cultural analysis, communicative ethics, and critical thinking in order to support meaningful intercultural learning.

Pedagogical Importance of Korean Language Education

Modern pedagogy emphasizes the importance of learner-centered education, communicative competence, and intercultural awareness. In this regard, Korean language teaching can contribute to the intellectual, cultural, and social development

of students.

First, Korean language education develops communicative skills. Students learn to express opinions, participate in discussions, and interact respectfully with others. These abilities are essential for successful intercultural communication.

Second, Korean language learning develops cultural awareness. Students become familiar with Korean history, traditions, social values, and etiquette. This knowledge helps them understand cultural differences and avoid stereotypes.

Third, Korean language education promotes independent learning and self-discipline. Learning Korean requires regular practice, patience, and responsibility. These qualities positively influence students' academic and personal development.

Finally, Korean language classes can create opportunities for international communication and academic mobility. Students who know Korean can participate in conferences, exchange programs, internships, and international projects, which further develops their intercultural competence.

Challenges in Korean Language Education

Despite positive developments, Korean language education in Central Asia still faces several challenges. One of the main problems is the shortage of qualified teachers and modern teaching materials adapted to Central Asian learners.

Another challenge is maintaining students' motivation. Some learners begin studying Korean because of entertainment-related interests but later face difficulties related to grammar, pronunciation, writing systems, and honorific expressions. Therefore, teachers should use interactive and communicative teaching methods to maintain student interest.

In addition, more comparative linguistic and cultural research is needed to improve Korean language teaching methodology for Central Asian students. Educational cooperation between Korean and Central Asian universities can help solve these issues.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Korean language education plays an important role in promoting intercultural communication among young people in Central Asia. Under globalization, foreign language learning has become not only an educational necessity but also a means of cultural dialogue and social interaction.

The Korean language helps young people develop communicative competence, tolerance, cultural awareness, and global thinking. Through Korean language education, students gain opportunities for academic mobility, international cooperation, and professional growth.

The growing popularity of Korean in Central Asia demonstrates the strengthening relations between the Republic of Korea and the countries of the region. Therefore, the further development of Korean language education can contribute significantly to

intercultural understanding, youth development, and international cooperation.

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