

GLOBALIZATION AND THE DOMINANCE OF ENGLISH: THE IMPACT ON LOCAL LANGUAGES

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Annotation: This article analyzes the direct impact of the globalization process on language policy, particularly the dominant position of the English language in the international arena. The factors leading to the widespread dissemination of English globally are explained based on historical, political, and technological reasons. Furthermore, the article highlights the effects of this process on local languages, such as the Uzbek language, covering phenomena like language mixing (code-switching), lexical distortions, and the devaluation of the native language. A linguistic analysis is conducted on the positive and negative aspects of these situations. The article also provides recommendations regarding the necessary balance in state policy, cultural policy, and measures to be taken in the field of education in order to preserve our native languages.

Keywords: globalization, English language, local languages, language policy, lexical interference, culture, native language, language change, modern language, language threat, language preservation, linguistics.

Globalization is one of the most important and influential processes of the modern era, fundamentally transforming almost all spheres of human life, including language and culture. This process increasingly removes borders between nations, states, languages, and cultures. As a result of globalization, certain languages, especially English, are recognized worldwide as the main means of communication, education, science, and information. At the same time, many other national and local languages, including Uzbek, are struggling to maintain their position in this process. The strong position of English is related to historical, political, economic, and

technological factors. Today, English has become the primary language in international diplomacy, scientific research, higher education, business communication, and online content. This has made learning it a necessity for many. However, the growing influence of English leads to the weakening of local languages, lexical interference, violation of language norms, and indifference toward the native language. This article examines the role of English under globalization and its effects on local languages, particularly Uzbek. Issues such as code-switching, devaluation of the native language, and increased artificiality in youth language are highlighted. The article also provides suggestions and recommendations on how to maintain balance through language policy, education, and culture in order to preserve the native language.

The rise of English as a global language is not a phenomenon of a single day or period. It is closely connected with long historical processes, political events, economic power, and technological progress. English initially spread due to the expansion of the British Empire, and later, in the 20th century, it gained a stronger position due to the global leadership of the United States. Historically, British colonization caused English to be introduced as an official or secondary language in many regions of Africa, Asia, the Americas, and Oceania. Even after the end of colonial rule, many former colonies retained English as a language of education, administration, and international communication. This ensured the institutional stability of the language. From the second half of the 20th century, the prestige of English further increased, this time due to the United States' political, economic, and cultural leadership. The Hollywood film industry, music, technological companies (Apple, Microsoft, Google), and international organizations (UN, World Bank, NATO) all contributed to consolidating English as a global language.

Currently, English has become a global tool in the following areas: Science and Academic Activities: Prestigious scholarly articles, journals, and conferences are mainly conducted in English. Researchers are obliged to write in English to present their work globally. Technology and the Internet: More than 50% of online content is in English. Programming languages, technical documents, and manuals are often

written in English. International Education: Many higher education institutions, especially in Western countries, teach in English. Even non-English-speaking countries (e.g., Germany, Turkey, Malaysia) offer English-medium programs to attract international students. Business and Diplomacy: English is the main language of international trade, diplomatic negotiations, contracts, and transnational companies. Mass Culture: Movies, music, social media trends, and global news are often presented in English, making it increasingly popular among youth. Therefore, English functions not only as a native language but also as a lingua franca — a common language for communication between different nations. Currently, more than 1.5 billion people worldwide can speak English, most as a second language. This makes it a flexible, adaptable, and popular language. All these factors have contributed to the dominant position of English as a global language. However, the impact of this dominance on other languages, especially local languages, requires separate analysis.

The global dominance of English undoubtedly affects other languages, particularly smaller and local languages. Language is not only a means of communication but also a key instrument expressing a nation's culture, thinking, and identity. From this perspective, the global dominance of English sometimes leads to the weakening of local languages, reduction of functional domains, and even the risk of disappearance. Language Mixing and Lexical Distortions: English has deeply entered daily life, resulting in Uzbek (and many other languages) using English words directly or in modified forms. For example: “deadline,” “meeting,” “update qildim,” “file yubor,” “online bo‘ldi.” Such mixing can disturb the naturalness of speech and disrupt language norms over time. At first glance, this may appear as a sign of modernity. From a linguistic point of view, however, it represents lexical interference, that is, abandoning the ability to form native words and directly adopting ready-made foreign words. This weakens the uniqueness of the national language. Decline of Attention to the Native Language: Many young people perceive English as a sign of modernity, intellect, and success. Social media influencers, bloggers, and content creators speaking English strongly influence the younger generation. This leads to

treating the native language as secondary, showing little interest in it, and using it only in formal situations. Among schoolchildren and students, translating English thoughts into Uzbek has become common. Consequently, Uzbek sentence structure, tone, and style adapt to foreign models, resulting in artificial changes rather than natural development. Threat to Literary Language and Cultural Heritage: The influence of English is not only lexical but also affects literary norms and forms of expression. Many young people are moving away from classical literature and traditional styles, while modern internet language relies on abbreviations, emojis, and English-mixed words. Cultural heritage — folklore, proverbs, terminological layers — exists and develops in the native language. Without fluency, these layers gradually fade or become passive.

Benefits of Learning English: Although the global spread of English may pose some risks to local languages, the opportunities arising from learning it cannot be denied. Indeed, English today is not only a means of communication but also a key to personal development, professional success, and international integration. International Education and Grant Opportunities: English-speaking youth can study at prestigious international universities, participate in exchange programs, and receive grants and scholarships. For example, Erasmus+, Fulbright, DAAD, and other programs require English proficiency. This allows students to gain foreign experience and contribute to local development. Direct Access to Modern Technologies: Most cutting-edge resources on the Internet — educational YouTube videos, scientific articles, programming courses, and materials from foreign online universities — are in English. Knowledge of English provides full access to these resources, enhancing technical and professional potential. Job and Business Opportunities: Today's job market is highly competitive. International companies, IT firms, export-import sectors, and service industries require English proficiency. Specialists fluent in English can participate in foreign projects, work abroad, and earn through online services. Therefore, learning English is a social necessity. However, it should not lead to neglecting the native language but should develop alongside it.

Strategies for Preserving the Native Language: Strengthening the Legal Status of the Native Language: The status of the state language should be protected legally and practically. This ensures active and quality use of Uzbek in all areas (education, administration, media, advertising, services). High-quality content in Uzbek should increase on platforms popular with youth (YouTube, TikTok, Telegram). **Creating Uzbek Equivalents for Modern Terms:** In the absence of Uzbek equivalents for technological, economic, and scientific terms, English words are directly adopted. Specialists and linguists should create convenient, widely-used Uzbek equivalents. These should be promoted through normative dictionaries, term databases, and educational resources. **Implementing a Bilingual Education Model:** Teaching English deeply in schools and universities is important, but it should not be at the expense of the native language. Some subjects can be taught in English, but thinking, questioning, and scientific writing in Uzbek should be equally developed. **Approaching Language as a Social Value:** The native language is not just a communication tool but a symbol of identity, historical memory, and national pride. From preschool education, national literature, oral creativity, theater, music, and other cultural fields should promote love for the native language.

Conclusion: The global dominance of English is undeniable. Today, it is an integral part of communication, science, technology, education, business, and culture. As a result, learning English is essential for youth to enter the international arena, acquire modern knowledge, and achieve personal and professional success. However, alongside the increasing influence of English, the social status of local languages, especially Uzbek, weakens; foreign elements enter the lexical system, and youth's indifference toward the native language grows. This threatens the cultural and national significance of language. Using the native language actively in scientific, literary, technical, and daily life, and enriching it according to contemporary standards, is a pressing task. Therefore, mastering English must go hand in hand with preserving, developing, and making the Uzbek language competitive. State policy, education, media, social networks, intellectuals, and linguists all play a crucial role. Every

language is the soul of a nation. Its preservation reflects the cultural potential and intellectual development of society.

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