

http://ijssrr.com editor@ijssrr.com Volume 7, Issue 5 May, 2024 Pages: 168-175

# Bilateral Effects of Language and Culture

Baiturahman Roodwal; Masood Pashtoon

Associated Professor at Kabul Education University Pashto Department, Afghanistan

E-mail: roodwalbusiness@gmail.com

http://dx.doi.org/10.47814/ijssrr.v7i5.2128

#### Abstract

Language and culture are interrelated and to some extent are interwoven. Every culture is evolved from language and progress in language lies progress in culture. Similarly no society is understandable without forming relationship between culture and language of that very society. In start I will put forward different views of different scholars about culture following by forming and analyzing of relationship between language and culture. This is something natural that inhabitants of a specific society are much impacted by their language and culture. It is none but language through which ideas. Thoughts of one society are shared by inhabitants of other society. More the ideological evolution and progress of a society can rightly be called progress and evolution of language in one way and culture in other way. It is the language help in communicating knowledge. Information and ideas from one culture to other. In simple words we can say that language and culture are integral parts of each other progress of one character will be called progress of the other character. This is something natural that progress and evolution of culture reflects in progress in language increasing its words. Suppose if there is no hurdles and obstacles in the progress and evolution of culture will definitely resulted in progress in language. A language is not limited to spoken words but in the large context needs mobility and progress. Without progress in culture no progress can be seen in. Language and vice-versa .in this paper I will not only discuss and compare different views of different thinkers. Scholars about culture and language but will also compare the cultural and linguistic entities of different Regional cultures. It will far more helpful in understanding the relationship between culture and language in different perspectives.

**Keywords:** Culture; Language; Mutual Effects; Pashto

#### Introduction

In the beginning of this article, some ideas about the identity of culture will be presented and then the effects of culture on language and culture on language will be discussed. As much as the culture has spread its roots in the language, the speakers of the language have cast their shadow on the culture.



Volume 7, Issue 5 May, 2024

The word culture was used for the first time in the twelfth century by E.R.Taylor and he defined it as follows: Culture is a complex term that includes information, beliefs, arts, ethics, laws, manners and traditions and all those tendencies, abilities and occupations. There are habits that a person acquires at the threshold of social membership. 1

The word culture is interpreted as a set of material and spiritual values and is created with the help of humans; Dalatin languages have entered the European languages in different forms and forms from the roots, which is in the form of culture in English, which first of all comes in the word agriculture. It is also used in the sense of creating basic and useful changes, education, knowledge, technical knowledge, and general knowledge, that is, uncultured and uncultured are the concepts of illiteracy, ignorance, superstitions and lack of education.

Umid Persian dictionary of science, knowledge, literature, knowledge, education and training, the scientific works of a nation or a nation, and also the book of vocabulary in which the words of a language are described. It is called culture, and cultural is said to be the person who belongs to culture. 2

That is, a teacher and a teacher, that is, a cultured and polite man, the plural of "farhangistan" is madrasah, school, a place of education and training.

# Encyclopedia Britannica has written about culture:

Culture is the habits or ways of people, it is the manifestation of everything, which needs a special care, by studying, a person becomes better and becomes a cultured person that is, and he has the talent of knowledge and art.

Culture or culture in its broadest definition is a collection of traditions, practices, handicrafts, agriculture, religion, economy, traditions, languages and legends of the people of a region in the past and present.

## Philosophical encyclopedia culture writes about this:

The development and special level of a society, moral aspects and human talents to evolve in a particular form and shape, people's activities, material and spiritual values that are created by the people of a society give the meaning of culture or culture, which is this kind of concept of culture does not exist apart from human and society. 4

For the first time in the 20th century, two American linguists Edward Sapper and Benjamin Whorf presented their views on the relationship between language and culture. According to the Sapir Whorf Hypothesis, all the societies that use languages, these languages affect their thoughts, actions and even the sounds in their throats.

These ideas are considered new in linguistics. From the day that these ideas were presented, researchers have come to the conclusion that language has some kind of effect on culture and culture on language.

### The Relationship between Language and Culture

The study of languages is considered one of the methods of cultural study, because the language presents the historical facts to the society, which cannot be seen in the pages of history. For example, in the past or now, you and I have several names for bread, or similar words, which are generally used for one thing or phenomenon, such as tikka, roti, marry bread... And so on.



Volume 7, Issue 5 May, 2024

Everything that occurs as a result of human intellectual activity is explained and understood to others through language, and expressions about the products of human intellectual activity are also transferred from one environment to another through language. The mediator finds the transmission. When information is presented to others about human experience and their developments and inventions, it is only through language. Therefore, it can be said simply that language and culture have inseparable relations with each other.

With the change of culture, the correct language also adapts to change, and these changes can be seen very easily in a language, especially in its capital. In the same way, the development of a language basically shows the development of a society's culture. This mutual influence is basically a sign of a permanent connection between them, so that as long as human societies exist, their language and culture will continue to move forward together. 5

Although more than one word was used for food or other similar things in Pashto language, why is now mostly only one social word used, the language has kept the old words with itself. It is not visible in the pages of history. Development and progress in a language is basically the development of a people and society, and in fact, the development of a society is basically the development of a culture.

We know many peoples whose cultural development has been prevented due to various factors, i.e. their language and culture have not been given the chance to develop. And likewise, what is right and should have been respected has not been respected.

At any rate, the culture of a society grows and develops, at the same level, a language, especially in its vocabulary, will change. If the conditions for the development of culture are not favorable, then the enrichment and development of the language is an impossible task, because the language does not develop through words, but requires practical work. Cultural effort and activity, which will inevitably be related to one or the other part of that culture.

For example, in the Korean language, the civil pronoun is usually used for the first person plural. If you talk to them, they often use plural words in their speech, such as my country, my home, my school, they use my countries, my homes and my school. While in the English language it is called (My Country/My home), but Croatian culture has influenced the language so much that people use such words for someone who is better than themselves. Sugarcane

In the Korean language, if you are talking to your friend, you can use Na-Yi and Bab words, and if you are talking to your friends' parents and elders, then you are forced to Yeon-sae and Jin-Ji take advantage of the visions. The first one is used to mean an ordinary respect and the second one is used as a triple respect, which is done to respect the elders in the community. 6

Whatever characteristics the Korean language had, the Japanese language also has the same characteristics. Often nature affects culture and we can see these effects in language.

There are 50 types of words used for rain in the Japanese language. The Japanese usually use the following waves for rain: fast, slow, wind and rain, snow with rain, rain with snow, rainy season without rain, night rain, spring rain, winter rain, moderate rain, which is every 10 days. Rain, heavy rain, sudden rain after afternoon....... And so on. 7

Even home culture has a direct impact on language.

In 1977, American linguist Joe Ann Taff did his research on two types of children, who were three years old. The fathers and mothers of the children of the first group are specialized, the fathers of the children of the second group were not specialized. As a result of this research, John Taff has come to



Volume 7, Issue 5 May, 2024

the conclusion that children who did not have expert fathers and mothers, they could not benefit from the logic, experiences, future events, programs, motivations and perspectives in the language and did not understand them., how to reason with another child about a question or a task. 8

Although these children are not strong enough in reasoning and logic, it was a kind of prediction that they could not express their thoughts in language. For the second time, the same children were examined again between the ages of five and a half and six years. And benefits from simple answers. Here it was revealed that we can see the culture of a society in their language. So now the question is, does language also have an effect on culture?

In the same way, culture and language are the pillars of the survival of a human society. If someone imagines that the human society can continue its life and survival without language and culture, there is an example, such as someone who claims that a room can stand on its own without walls, but this is just an illusion and that's it. 9

### **Effects of Language on Culture**

Just as, in Korea, the shared sense of ownership, respect for elders, the use of civil plural pronouns and the use of multiple verbs for the same thing were presented, as well as respect for elders in speech was instilled in Korean children. What kind of elders to respect? All these have a special place in their culture. Linguists have done many studies on the effects of language on culture.

Christian Faltis conducted a study in 1998. He came to the conclusion that if the way a child uses language at home is related to the language of the seminary and school, then the child can, on this basis, to have good achievements in the field, this work leads to the development of children and also strengthens their self-confidence. 10

Lera Boroditsky (Lera Boroditsky), a professor at Stanford University and a specialist in language and comprehension, conducted a study in 2010, which was reported in the Wall Street Journal.

In his research, he revealed that language has a profound effect on human abilities such as complex problems, time, numbers, musical sounds, family relationships, morals and emotions. 11

For example, the Russian language uses many waves for blue and bright colors. Russians have a good ability to identify bright colors visually. Or, that the native tribes of Australia use the north, south, east and west directions for the right and left sides, and this tribe has a special ability to know the direction or path in the air system.

Or, in the Piraha tribe of the Brazilian Amazon, instead of numbers, more or less waves are used, and the people of this tribe are considered weak in learning numbers. Also, Japanese and Spanish languages do not talk about the cause of something. For example, Ahmad broke the board, they say the board broke. Speakers of both languages are poor in remembering the cause of the accident.

The film, which was launched as a competition for English, Japanese and Spanish speakers to identify important and non-important accidents, the English were able to better understand and remember the cause of an accident. Why the Japanese and the Spanish could not win this competition, because the Japanese and the Spanish are weak in understanding the factor.

Speakers of English, Hebrew and Porampura (Australian Aboriginal) languages were asked to draw the picture back on the ground after looking at it. The British always painted this picture from left to right, the Hebrews did it the other way around, and the Porampur people drew it from east to west, which was done by the English, the Hebrews and the Porampuris with a change in thinking and writing. It was due to the change of route.



Volume 7, Issue 5 May, 2024

This is the close relationship between language and culture, which has led our leaders in the society to use language as a tool to improve their actions in the form of experience, for example:

I don't say: this matter is not related to you.

To say: I will solve this issue myself.

Or don't say: It doesn't hurt us.

Rather, I say: They are not suitable for me.

The above meetings are recommended meetings, which are very popular and beautiful. But inwardly, by using such suggestive meetings, they are respectful to their addressees against time.

### **English Language and Culture**

The British are strong in production, their strength is directly reflected in the English language. What the British say, what they produce, most of them are related to technical sciences. The majority of the speakers of this language create new views in the social and cultural part, and the language is always changing. In the United States, there is no cultural or linguistic group involved in the creation of new languages, but the majority of new languages are presented by the media for the first time. If these new views are accepted by the public, then these views find their place in American culture.

This example is very famous in relation to the formation of new sentences in the English language, which I am mentioning here.

At the end of George Bush's presidency, the price of oil rose very quickly, and these prices doubled that of gasoline. As usual, Americans used to go to other states for summer vacations in other years. However, this year (2008), many Americans stayed at home due to the high oil prices and cooperation with the country's economy, but the American media praised their work and called the situation Staycation. This compound word is formed from Stay and Vacation, which is used to mean stay at home. 12

## Another example is:

According to Freegan, in the 1990s, people started their struggle against the consumer economy in the West and began to seize everything. This movement was considered radical by the people, for the first time the media used the word Freegan for this movement and later it was widely used by the people. This word is also a combination word, which means Free and Vegan means grass-eaters. These grass-eaters used to eat animal food, against animal cruelty and against the increase of all kinds of products in the market. 13

The British produce an average of 1,000 boats and structures every year, and the majority of their work is on production. Their work will ensure the survival of the English language. According to a poll, 147 views have been added to the Oxford dictionary in just three months in 2017, and a new part of the online dictionary is published every three months.

### **Afghan Culture and Pashto Language**

Considering the current culture of Pashtuns, which was mentioned in this article, the ratio is consumer to production, that is, the level of consumption of Pashtuns is higher than the level of production, which directly affects their language. In this regard, I am forced to point out some facts, for example, sugar in Pashtun areas, which is mostly produced in the areas of Koza Pakhtunkhwa, has lost its



Volume 7, Issue 5 May, 2024

market compared to Chinese and Arab sugar. Shoes, slippers, plastic dishes and other similar examples, which are produced in Pashtun areas, but under the influence of production in other countries, have very few users.

Some time ago, I went to the market to buy white paper for printing books. Instead of native paper, the shopkeeper put Pakistani, Chinese, and Turkish paper in front of me and said that it is cheaper than native paper and of higher quality. Most of my customers like this paper.

When I heard these words of the shopkeeper, I understood two secrets and truths of his words. First, emphasis on buying foreign production instead of domestic production, secondly, work for the culture of others than your own culture. English is seen instead of Pashto in our internal production, and on Chinese, Pakistani and Turkish papers, only the language and symbols of these countries are seen.

My aim here is not to consume rather than produce, but that is important in its own right. In Afghanistan, the majority of people make their own offerings to make clothes on Eid and New Year days. If we think about it, compared to our own Afghan cultural goods, we give more value to foreign cultural goods, this also has a direct effect on the society.

This kind of thing has reflected a lot in Afghan culture, this issue is not only good and bad. Benefiting from foreign production, it not only affects our culture, but many of the words we use in the language are gradually destroyed and replaced by foreign words. This work is done not only through the production in the Afghan society, but the announcement of the related productions on radios and televisions also directly cooperates with this and the language leaves its original expressions to other languages.

An example of words used in cricket, in the past, English words were used in cricket, why now we use our Pashtun words, such as wicketkeeper, umpire, ground, player, etc. .... As usual, it can be said that Pashto is a big and important element of identity recognition and we should use our own words against the words of other languages in order to protect our identity.

But making new words in the language, making your language the language of creation and production, giving importance and value to your national products compared to other products, helps to strengthen the language and culture directly.

Therefore, the creation of new words in the language should be called the development and strengthening of the language, not the action against foreign languages, because this work means the development and strengthening of the language, culture and society.

#### References

- 1. Bhand, Dr. Latif (translator). Culture Studies, Moscow, 1999.
- 2. Paliyal, Syed Mohammad Amin (S.M. Amin Paliyal). Language and Human Work, Kabul Magazine, Afghanistan Academy of Sciences, Language and Literature Center, Pashto Society, 9th edition, 1357 H.
- 3. Subman, Ali Muhammad. Language and Speech, Kabul Magazine, Pashto Society, Government Press, 9th issue, 1356 AH.
- 4. Pashto Dictionary, Volume 1, Pashto Society, Government Press, 1330 AH.



Volume 7, Issue 5 May, 2024

- 5. Pashto Ariana Daira Maarif, Volume 5, Ariana Daira Al Maarif Society, Government Press, 1354 AH.
- 6. Taniwal, Mulajan, Language and Society, Kabul Magazine, Language and Literature Center, Pashto Society, Government Press, 12th edition, 1366 AH.
- 7. Candidate Academician Mohammad Ibrahim Atayi, An Analytical Research on Pashto Oral History, Ministry of Information and Culture, Department of Broadcasting, Government Press, 1370.
- 8. Pashto-Pashto Descriptive Dictionary, Volume 4, Afghanistan Academy of Sciences, Language and Literature Center, Second Edition, (Mediotech), Kabul, 1383.
- 9. Candidate academician Muhammad Sediq Rohi, folklore identification, Afghanistan Academy of Sciences, Language and Literature Center, Pashto Society, Kabul, 1365.
- 10. Bruce Quinn, Dramadi Beh Sociology, translated by Mohsen Talasi, Tehran, Farhang Maasar, 1385.
- 11. Bruce Quinn, Basic Sociology, translated by Dr. Ghulam Abbas, Tehran, Samit, 1390.
- 12. Yusuf, A.H., Fishter, Sociology, independent translation by Abdul Rauf, Kabul University, 1353.
- 13. Researchers, academics, scholars. Language and Society, Afghanistan Academy of Sciences, Language and Literature Center, 2008.

## **References in Roman**

- 1. Bahan, Dr Latip (translation). Koltor pohana, de masqaw chap, 1999 Kabl.
- 2. Palyal, Said Muhammad Amin (seen.mem. Amin Palyal). Zaba aw bashari kar, Kabul majala, de Afghanistan de wolomo Acadimy, de zabo aw adabyato markaz, pakhto tolana, 9 gana, 1354 hej kal.
- 3. Sobman, Ali Muhammad. Zaba aw wena, Kabul majala, pakhto tolana, dawlati matba, 9 gana, 1356 hej kal.
- 4. Pakhto qamos, lomerai tok, pakhto tolana, dawlati matbi, 1330 hej kal.
- 5. Pakhto Aryana diyratul marif, fenzam tok, Aryana dayratul marif tolana, dawlati matbai, 1354 hej kal.
- 6. Taniwal, molajan, zaba aw tolan. Kabul majala, de zabo aw adabyato markaz, pakhto tolan, dawlati matbai, 12 gana, 1366 hej kal.
- 7. Qandid aqadmesin, muhammad Ibrahim atai, de pakhto pe dastan yawa tahleli serana, de etlai ato aw koltor wazarat, de nasharato reyasat, dawlati matai, 1370hej kal.
- 8. Pakhto pakhto tashrehi qamus, saloram toq, de Afghanistan de wolomo aqadimy, de zabo aw adabyato markaz, doham chap, (Medotec), Kabul, 1383 hej kal.
- 9. Qanded aqademisn muhammad sediq rohi, folklore pezandana, de Afghanistan de welomo academy, de zabo aw adabyato markaz, pakhto tolana, Kabul, 1365 hej kal.
- 10. Beros koyain, dar amid ba jamiya shnasi, terjoma muhsin salasi, Tehran, parhang masir, 1385 hej kal.



Volume 7, Issue 5 May, 2024

- 11. Beros koyain, mobany jama shnasi, tarjoma dr Ghulam abas, Tehran, smat, 1390 hej kal.
- 12. Yusif, eich, fekhtar, tolan pohana, de abdul rauf khpulwak zebara, Kabul pohantoon, 1353 hej kal.
- 13. Cheranwal, taniwal, mulajan, zaba aw tolana, de Afghanistan de welomo academy, de zabo aw adayato merkaz, 1388 hej kal.

# Copyrights

Copyright for this article is retained by the author(s), with first publication rights granted to the journal.

This is an open-access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).