Intraethnic Installation of Ukrainian Labour Migrants in the Preservation of Linguistic and Cultural Identity

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Abstract

The article discusses the specifics of the conservation and transformation of linguistic and socio-cultural norms of the Ukrainian bilinguals living in the Tyumen region, Khanty-Mansi and Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous districts. Today Ukrainians become the object of attention of many members of the scientific knowledge, because there is a real question: how is the differentiation between Russia and Ukraine developed? Tyumen data are presented in comparison with the results of the author's survey of Ukrainians from Poltava and Lvov. Ukrainians take second or third place in number in the Tyumen region, including the district. Migration of peoples on the territory of the North Tyumen, changing of the usual practice, language behavior leads to the extinction of many features of national culture, language, and then to complete his disappearance, but relict features are stored in the form of ethnically motivated intonation and behavioral norms. Our observations show the growing phenomena of mixing of pronunciation norms both in Russian and in Ukrainian speech of Ukrainian bilinguals of North Tyumen, and, also the growing phenomena of socio-cultural conglomeration due to internal ethnic installations. The study of Russian-Ukrainian cooperation in the Tyumen region allows to determine the level of influence of extralinguistic factors on the state of the Ukrainian language and culture in the Diaspora environment.

Keywords: Ukrainian bilinguals, ethnic installations, nonethnic environment, diaspora, labour migration.

1. Introduction

Reasons, is happening the intensifying of ethnic groups as subjects and objects of ethnopolitical processes, in this regard, there is increasing interest in the study of various Diaspora groups in various aspects, including ethno-linguistic (Akhmetova, B.Z. and othr., 2012; Babenko, V.Y., 1997; Babenko, V.Y., 2007; Bejencev, E.V., Karabulatova, I.S. and Caushe, K.K., 2010; Tyumen region: nations, languages, cultures, 2007; Polivara, Z.V. and Karabulatova I.S., 2011; Polivara, Z.V. and Karabulatova I.S., 2011 (a); Ethnolinguistics of Eurasian continuum, 2009; Ingush diaspora, 2008; Ingush diaspora, 2010; Lomakin, O.C. and Shuruhnov, O.A., 2004; Ryazantsev et all, 2014; Shirin, S.S., Bogolubova N.M., and Nikolaeva J.V., 2014; and Thomas et all, 2014). It should be noted that in the development of national and Federative relations gradually is secreted the factor of distinct ethnic group – Diaspora, undergoing a time of revival and exacerbation of national consciousness and national identity, where the factor of language becomes one of the leading (Polivara, Z.V. and Karabulatova I.S., 2011 (a); Karabulatova I.S. and Karelin L.F., 2006; Pticina, N.V., 2007; and Pelaul et all, 2014). Contemporary international migration in the Tyumen region in the intercensal period formed 1/3 of new migrants, of whom 98% were residents of the CIS and Baltic states. However, the desire to preserve native languages and pass them on to their children is integral feature of almost all Ukrainian migrants (Karabulatova, I.S., 2005). Their children, being in nonethnic language environment, are to simultaneously develop multiple language and cultural systems (Polivara, Z.V. and Karabulatova I.S., 2013; and Polivara Z.V., 2014). Thus linguistic environment where the ”carrier” of the two language systems of communication is called bilingual is born.

According to the All-Russian census of population in 2010 in Tyumen region live 157, 3 thousand of Ukrainians. It is the third most populous nation (after Russians and Tatars), inhabiting the territory of the region. The number of Ukrainians decreased compared to 2002, (The Tyumen region: nations, languages, cultures, 2007; and Bogolubova, N.M., Nikolaeva J.V., Fokin V.I., Shirin S.S., Elts E.E., 2013). However, despite a significant number of Ukrainians living...
here, Russian-Ukrainian bilingualism and the state of biculturalism still is not sufficiently investigated. There are a few
researches on the functioning of the Ukrainian language outside the metropolis in the post-Soviet space. (Babenko, V.Y.,
Karabulatova, I.S., 1997; Karabulatova, I.S., 2001; Karabulatova, I.S., 2004; Karabulatova, I.S., 2006; Karabulatova, I.S.,
Polivara Z.V., 2008; Polivara Z.V., 2008 (a); Polivara, Z.V. and Karabulatova I.S., 2013). The authors of this article are newcomers
in research on language situation, behavior and language consciousness of the Ukrainians of the Tyumen region (Demina,
2008).

Ignoring cultural differences between Russians and Ukrainians led to the isolation of Ukrainian labour migrants of
post-Soviet era and the growth of Ukrainian public organizations, in which is almost independently develops the life of the
Ukrainian community.

2. Materials and Methods

The material for this survey was conducted sociological surveys, psycholinguistic and speech therapy examination in
conditions of closely related bilingualism, compared with results extracted in the course of the scientific-analytical
monitoring of the special literature.

A peculiar set of rules drawn up and written in the Ukrainian language by famous historian, linguist, public figure I.
Ogienko is called “the Science of obligations to native language, the catechism in the native language for teachers,
writers, clergy, lawyers, students and the general society” (Shirin, S.S., 2015). About the work of I. Ogienko in the
Ukrainian scientific field began to write in the years of 2000-2009 (Belaya, E.M., 2000; and Belaya, E.M., 2001). Ukrainian
expression “роємові обов’язки” used by I. Ogienko, is difficult to translation adequate into a foreign language. After
all, we can’t say native language duties? We can say: commitment to native language. The naturalness of this expression
in the mouth of Ukrainian speaks for itself, confirming once again the thesis that in this case the language as
ethnocentricity factor occupies the first place among others. Let’s try to find an adequate expression appropriate to
Ukrainian. As the book gives instructions on every Ukrainian family in any circumstances to use the Ukrainian language,
to make every effort to preserve its purity and certainly to teach their native language to their children, probably the
closest in meaning will be the text: “Responsibilities in respect of the native language”. We have paid attention to this
issue as in the fact that the book of I. Ogienko there is a separate Chapter on “Obligations to native language in mixed
marriages”, where we are talking about the strict implementation of Ukrainians certain obligations in relation to the
preservation of the native language in mixed marriages. Here are some rules of the “Catechism”:

1. Society should strictly follow that its members do not come into mixed marriage.
2. Mixed marriage usually leads to linguistic degeneration, the biggest sin against own nation
3. If your wife is a foreigner (in Ukrainian version of “чужомовна”), literally “belong to foreign language”, you
   must do so that in a family dominate your mother language and that your children study native language since
   the first year of life. Without this your children are lost to the nation (translation - I. K.).

Today someone can be vexed by a rigid categorical requirements of “Catechism” of I. Ogienko. But you must
remember that his book was written at that time (Ohienko, I., 1936), when the Western part of Ukraine was under Polish
rule and the Ukrainian language was banned on this territory. Perhaps this rigidity, for so long cultivated in the Ukrainian
environment, contributed to the manifestation of distinct national character traits, up to the extreme right-wing sentiments.

Conditions of bilingualism have different impacts on the speech development of the children. Favorable
circumstances (absence of pathology, regular lessons of parents with children) contribute to the full absorption of both
languages. However, “more often in bilingual environments (especially in cases of priority of one of the languages) there
are a lot of speech abnormalities, caused by the interaction of language systems, and speech disorder of non-dominant
language, and often both languages” (Karabulatova, I.S. and Polivara Z.V., 2011; Polivara, Z.V. and Karabulatova I.S.,
2011(a); Ukraine – Western Siberia: dialogues of cultures and nations, 2007; Karabulatova, I.S. and Polivara Z.V., 2013;
and Karabulatova, I.S., 2006).

The researchers argue that “the bilingual thinks on one, or on another language, while those who speak foreign
language instinctively translate everything into their native language” (Balkina, N.V. and Makhankova I.P., 2007). On the
background of the coexistence of a diversity of languages and dialects, the decrease of the functional role of native
languages and, as a consequence, assimilation, and then the disappearance of languages of immigrants is observed.
About these consequences of bilingualism in society and in national languages in the linguistic literature it is mentioned at
least since 1922, but here it is advisable to pay attention to the latest arguments in the study of bilingualism (Polivara,
Z.V. and Karabulatova I.S., 2013; Mlechko, T.P., 2014; Russian language personality in modern communicative field, 2012; Language situation in Canada, 2014; and Karabulatova, I.S. and Niyazov G.M., 2007), where we are talking about negative phenomena caused by the so-called collective situation of bilingualism.

Mastering of any language, its norm of pronunciation begins with “sifting through linguistic sieve” the mother language, comparison of the common and opposite. Thus, differential and constitutive characteristics of phonemes, articulatory-acoustic characteristics of sounds are often blurred.

With the aim of studying the transformation of norms of pronunciation of inphones, we studied the phonetic characteristics of pronunciation part of speech in the Ukrainian bilingual children living in the Tyumen region and in Ukraine (Poltava and Lvov regions). Respondents were taken from two groups: 1) the Ukrainians, who live on the territory of the Tyumen region, are not displaced the last time, and are descendants of the migration waves of colonization of the region (Karabulatova, I.S., 2001) and 2) the Ukrainian labour migrants of the post-Soviet time. This gave the opportunity to trace the evolution and transformation of linguistic and cultural attitudes of Ukrainians in isolation from the parent nucleus”.

As the Russian language belongs to the East Slavic group of the Indo-European family of languages, the closest languages of this group are Belarusian and Ukrainian. These languages are in constant interaction and mutual influence, which affect on the state of the vocal processes of the native speaker. The main features that distinguish the Russian phonetic system are the lack of short and long vowels and the absence of diphthongs. Rhythm and stress also cause a lot of problems for children bilinguals who learn Russian (Polivara, Z.V. and Karabulatova I.S., 2011; and Polivara, Z.V., 2008). Mainly the rhythmical intonation skills, or rather lack of them, or mismatch with other multi-structural and/or closely related languages, pass them as foreigners (Karabulatova, I.S., 2011; and Akhmetova, B.Z. et all, 2012). In Slavic languages the questions are pronounced with a falling intonation, which is perceived by native speakers as impoliteness, or threat from the communicant.

According to the theory of articulatory approach, developed by the Russian scientists-linguists I. A. Grusinski and K. M. Kolosov, 3 main typological groups of phonemes are highlighted: a) coinciding in both languages; b) divergent C) partially coinciding. The most difficult to master should be recognized the last 2 groups, and with partially coinciding phonemes will be of the biggest difficulty. Indeed, lip sounds [M], [P], [B], in Russian and Ukrainian languages are similar, however, to learn their articulation is much more difficult because of differences in articulation to the untrained ear are not too noticeable. In the Ukrainian language phoneme [M] has a more pronounced nasality and more low tonality than in English, caused by more pronounced attack when pronouncing the sound and higher concentration focus of sound. This phenomenon is amplified in the case of conversion, requiring changes in the next vowel after [M], [B]: [mamo, babo]. Ukrainian [M] sound even more firmly in combination with the yotized [a]: м’ясо, м’яч м’ята, that’s why in writing is separated from it by a dividing apostrophe. Children bilinguals, trying to adapt their pronunciation under standardized Russian pronunciation, resort to additional consonant [H]: м’ясо, м’ята м’яч, etc. Labio-dental sounds [V], [F] also have specific features. In the Ukrainian language phoneme [V] is bilabial sonorant fricative sound that is not devocalized in the Russian speech of Ukrainians in the Ukrainian language, [a] turns into non-syllabic [y]. The presence in the Ukrainian language of sustainable combination [x]: [хвиря, хвіст, хвістиць, вихватись, хворий] affects the pronunciation of the sound [F] and raises a number of phonetic errors: [Хвідя, хвокус].

With all the seeming cultural proximity between Russians and Ukrainians, we observed the presence of significant cultural distance, expressed in different attitudes towards the family, the mother language, emigration and native land, finance. We examined group of Ukrainian labour migrants of the Tyumen region, including the district, in total 300 people were interviewed.

3. Results

A survey of Ukrainian labour migrants identified as extra-linguistic and interlingual differences in linguo-mental the sphere of concepts. Thus, the phonetic feature of Ukrainian bilingual is (as in English) the absence of positional devocalization of sonorous consonants, which manifests itself primarily in the preservation of the voicing of the final: на пл[к], а[к] попросить, до[кд], как ра[с] снимает, пер[е] тобой, хле[б]. Often non-devocalized in absolute end of words and before voiceless consonant remains sound [a]: рачо[е], бочко[е], домико[е], цвето[е]. This is because in Ukrainian [a] is a bilabial-labial sonorant fricative sound that is not devocalized in the Russian speech of Ukrainians (Ukrainian language [a] turns into non-syllabic [y]). In a few cases sonority remains before the voiceless at the junction of morphemes: рь[йк], копь[йк], бьт[йк]. Sonorant [P], [F] have the same articulatory structures, as in Russian, but, according to our observations, among children bilinguals Ukrainians the phenomena of rotacism are much less common than among Russian children. Probably this may be due to the fact that in the Ukrainian language, the structure of the combination of
two laminal consonants is sustainable and frequent: [бджоли, дзеркало, джерела, дзвоб, дзвін]. This, in its turn, prepares the articulatory basis for mastering of complex sonora-vibrant. By analogy with the native language, Ukrainian bilinguals often soften the sound [p] as in the word ɛɨprepares the articulatory basis for mastering of complex sonora-vibrant. By analogy with the native language, Ukrainian ɨthe vowel [i] as in English language (Canada’s Ethnocultural Mosaic, 2006; and Budjhak, S.V., 1987). Ukrainian [sh’] hard native language, as for example, in the word ɫɩɟULTIMATELY has a labial trend of pronunciation. Our study, performed on the territory of Poltava and Lvov regions (2008-2013), confirmed these assumptions: it was stated that the majority of Ukrainian children, the true native language speakers by 3-4 years of age possess the normalized pronunciation complex of sonoros, requiring the active participation of almost all groups of muscles of the tongue. The greatest difficulties for Ukrainian bilinguals is assimilation of Russian affricates. Ukrainian bilinguals soften the sound [L] by analogy with the native language, as for example, in the word [тєп’є] тапньо. However, the hard pronunciation of the consonant sound before sound [i]: ыюща unlike Russian soft helps them to grasp the concept of no palatalization of consonants before the vowel [i] as in English language (Canada’s Ethnocultural Mosaic, 2006; and Budjhak, S.V., 1987). Ukrainian [sh’] hard before [o] : [шо], [шо ще? And etc. Ukrainian affricate [u] [tʃ] decomposed into components: [оооошь] (Ukr.) and [оооошььь] (Rus.), [щастя] (Ukr.) and [счастлье] (Rus.), do nor alternates: [доооош’] (укр.) in comparision with Russian [дожд’].

Mismatching of norms of pronunciation causes the phenomenon of attrition (spoilage) in native Ukrainian language. Not only individual sounds, but whole syllables undergo reduction, causing the deformation of the vocal outline of words [сейчас] in the speech of Ukrainian turns into [субас, шас]. This phenomenon of attrition is the predisposing factor to the emergence of the so-called Surzhik, which should have no place in the literary Ukrainian language.

Ukrainians do often not properly digest the phoneme [H], because the sound [h] in the Ukrainian language is always pronounced hard; [іть- чуть, ве[ч]ерр, [ч]ерешня, [ч][ерешинка, кру[ч]енки, мя[ч]] and in Russian language do not have the hard variant косто[ч]ками, [чеснок]. Ukrainian [ч] is harb before all vowels except [:]: [чинаму]. The phoneme [ч] in Russian and Ukrainian languages differ in the place of formation, in the Russian language it is palato-labial, as in the Ukrainian - coronal, alveolar sound. Clarity of pronunciation of this phoneme, in our opinion, can be considered as one of the factors of tachilalia of Ukrainian speech in terms of its “saturation” with sounds [ч], [ш], causing rapid switching of the organs of speech. In the Ukrainian language - coronal, alveolar sound [ч] has articulatory community at the place and method of formation with such sounds-sonorants as [z], [ʐ] and their combinations with coronal whistling [дз] and [дж]. Cacuminal sounds [ш,ж] sound more hard. Although there is no signal indicator as longitude of sound in the Ukrainian language and, but in the flow of sounding speech they are distinguished by bright articulation, oral and acoustic characteristics. If characterizing the general contour of the sounding the Ukrainian language, it can be viewed as somewhat accelerated melodic background with saturation of hushing, affricates and accent of hard vibrant [p] : [попереджати, перепрошувати, добрий вечір]. Sibilant [c] [s] are shaded and have a different saturation and phonetic load than in Russian. This, in its turn, affects overall grave tonality of the Ukrainian language and reflects the direct interferences of the Polish language.

Certain difficulties at learning of Russian phonetics of Ukrainian children occur with back sounds [r], [k], [х]. In the Ukrainian language the sound [r] is coronal, fricative consonant. Similar problems arise with the formation of the Russian normalized [x] and [k], n the Ukrainian language they sound somewhat breathy and always on the soft attack of voice, have no occlusive component:[Катри, куліш, коханій, прокатий].

The evolution of the Diaspora takes place in the depths of such general trends as the population increases due to migration groups and activation in the socio-cultural processes because of the expansion of the ethnic factor. Under certain conditions migration may cause complication in inter-ethnic dialogue. Competition and fierce concurrence between cultural-historical types, between “indigenous” and “alien” nations is an obvious tendency in the genesis and evolution of national processes and institutions.

4. Discussion

While studying with using the methods of the free choice of self-definition the set of possible identifications is becoming even more diverse. One can observe that the choice and preference of certain social categories in order of identification sometimes slightly depends on the degree of its “reality,” for example, the USSR is no longer existing, but identification with him is still quite high. This phenomenon calls a “Phantom” of identification (Lebedev N.M, 1997).

Thus, the phonetic system of the Slavic Russian and Ukrainian languages, despite the apparent similarity and commonality, has significant differences. Therefore, difficulties in learning the Russian language by Ukrainian bilinguals are inevitable. It must be clearly understood that the mother (Ukrainian) language will be subjected to interference. Mainly quality mastering of the native language (literary norms) in early childhood is a reliable immunity against attrition, presented by “Surzhik”: панчики-чупки, шкарпетки-носки, сукня-плаття, цукор-сахар. The balance of languages
may change in favor of one or another language, if there are appropriate conditions: one of the languages may partially degrade (language attrition), cease to grow (fossilization), be forced out of use (language change), be forgotten, become obsolete (language death); or, conversely, can be reborn (revitalization), maintained (save), be brought to the level of official recognition and use (modernization).

This circumstance will require from specialists an informed psycholinguistic analysis and approach in teaching and learning articulation norms of another language by children bilinguals. Teaching the consonant sounds of the Russian language of Ukrainian bilinguals, it is necessary to pay special attention to articulation, palatalization and aspiration, not always coincident in the language of one of the East Slavic group. It is also needed to realize of how phonemes are connected in words, and then how these words are connected in the sentences, what are the characteristics of structuring sentences of a language. In a natural language environment this is indirectly and simultaneously. The child in a relatively short period of time quite easily attracts pronunciation norm of native language, recognizing speech reality. In terms of a non-native language environment, the formulation of pronunciation skills should devote considerable time and attention. This work does not aim to consider all comparative characteristics of the languages of the contactees, but only raises the existing problems associated with linguistic adaptation of the organs of speech in a foreign language environment.

The complexity and multidimensionality of multilingualism in the context of globalization and migration have led to diverse aspects of the study of bilingualism (linguistic, psycholinguistic, sociolinguistic, cultural, educational) that caused the emergence of numerous scientific works on this problem (Frolov, N.K. and Karabulatova, I.S., 2001; Karabulatova, I.S., 1997; Karabulatova, I.S., 2001; Karabulatova, I.S., 2004; Karabulatova, I.S., 2006; Karabulatova, I.S., 2007; Karabulatova, I.S. and Isakova, A.A., 2007; Polivara, Z.V., 2008; Polivara, Z.V., 2008 (a); Polivara, Z.V. and Karabulatova I.S., 2011(a); Polivara, Z.V. and Karabulatova I.S., 2013; Zamaletdinov et al, 2014; Chilvers S. and Walton-Roberts, 2008; Malik, Sh. and Singh A., 2014). In this connection, Dr.Shipra Malik and Dr. Anupriya Singh fairly raise the question of the preservation of identity in the context of globalization and changes in the socio-cultural behavior as well as nations-participants of migration and its individual representatives in the course of globalization processes on the example of the people of India, whose are members actively integrating into the American reality. (Malik, Sh. and Singh A., 2014). It is generally accepted that migrant workers do not have any influence on linguistic and socio-cultural life of the host society. However, this superficial view turns to be untenable under detailed consideration of the problem. The problem is that on the background of the coexistence of a diversity of languages and dialects, the decrease of the functional role of native languages and, as a consequence, assimilation, and then the disappearance of languages of immigrants are observed. (Polivara, Z.V. and Karabulatova I.S., 2011 (a)), who at first also acted as labour migrants on the territory of the Tyumen region (Karabulatova, I.S., 2011).

Thus, linguistic-cultural setups of Ukrainian labor migrants in their implementation is a multidimensional phenomenon requiring a synthesized approach to its study.

5. Conclusion

Long, for centuries, life in the Diaspora as an foreigner, low status and vulnerable minorities, specific economic specialization has gradually formed a special type of person, his lifestyle, the model of economic behavior, value system. Communication in the religious practice of the Ukrainian Diaspora of the Tyumen region is realized in Russian and Ukrainian languages. In domestic rituals of Tyumen Ukrainians "national" Christianity and the relics of paganism remain.

Communication in regional social-political practice is presented by national oriented Newspapers («Кущ калин», "Voice of Ukraine in Western Siberia"), staged events (holidays, evenings of national culture, concerts, conferences and etc.), television and radio broadcasts in their native language. The language here serves as a way for the manifestation of own ethnicity and the nature of the individual's ethnic identity. Ambiguous is communication in the domestic sphere of the Ukrainian Diaspora of the Tyumen region. The level of knowledge of the Ukrainian language by other ethnic members of mixed families and their children may be different depending on extralinguistic factors. Sociolinguistic facts shows: Ukrainians speaking the language of their ethnic group, make up a small percentage (steadily decreasing every year). The younger generation of Ukrainian ethnus in the Tyumen region, as a rule, is not fluent in written form of the Ukrainian literary language, in his speech practice makes greater use of the Russian language. Ukrainian language, operating only in the domestic sphere, is subject of strong assimilation. In addition, as the Ukrainian languageis mastered by children spontaneously and they own it unconsciously, that is, not being aware of certain linguistic phenomena, the Ukrainian language has interfering effect on their Russian speech.

The fact of migration, meaning "leap into the uncertainty", the gap between the right existence, centuries-established structure and rhythm of life dramatically increased the value of such human qualities as flexibility, dynamism,
initiative, ability to navigate in a completely new and rapidly changing circumstances. Linguistic and cultural system in a polyethic environment form the various linguistic and cultural situations, which are a dynamic and wave interaction process languages and cultures in the historical cultural regions and social spheres.

References


