

INTERLINGUAL COMMUNICATION IN THE MAGHREB COUNTRIES

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Annotation

The article is devoted to the problems of the interlingual relations in Maghreb, and it considers the factors contribute to the transformation of language processes and analyzes the consequences of European influence in the countries of the North Africa. The article is devoted to the actual current problem of Arabization in Arab countries. Being insufficiently explored this theme is a subject of study for orientalist-arabists in all over the world. The article is devoted to the bilingualism phenomenon and to the peculiar linguistic revival in Maghreb. This view will be interesting for linguistic, Arabic studies and ethnolinguistic specialists. In conclusion it reveals the basic principles of the relevance of this article and brings conclusions.

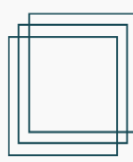
Keywords: Dialect, bilingualism, Arabization, francization, diglossia, language policy, borrowed words, language substrate.

Currently, the study of living dialects of the Arabic language is one of the important tasks of modern Arabic linguistics. Unlike the eastern dialects of the Arabic language (Iraqi, Syriac, Egyptian, etc.), the dialects of the Maghreb are poorly studied and require significant research.

The peculiarity of the Maghreb dialects is that they have undergone a significant change under the influence of the dialects of the local population since the era of the Arab invasion of North Africa. So, Krymsky A.E. believed that the language spoken by the Moors is a special Arabic dialect ("Magribi", Moorish) and differs from the dialects of Egyptian, Syro-Mesopotamian and Arabian. [35: 263]

The only exception is the classical Arabic language, which so far has undergone only minor changes. It should also be added that no less noticeable influence on the Arabic dialects of the Maghreb was exerted by the French language, which, being the language of the protectorate of the post-war period, played the role of an auxiliary language.

As Z.M. Seydametova notes, "the influence of Western dialects on classical vocabulary was always much weaker than the influence of eastern dialects. In addition to external and literary influences, dialectal vocabulary followed the usual paths of its



development: the meanings of words belonging to the main fund of the Arabic language were erased and replaced by new ones.

Nowhere in the Arab world is there so many verbal taboos and nowhere is anti-phrase so widespread as in the dialects of North Africa and especially in Morocco. They cover the most varied aspects of the vocabulary. " [4: 131]

It should also be added that the problem of the correlation of linguistic factors in the Maghreb countries is very complex, since the literary Arabic language and its various dialect forms constantly interact with the languages of the local (non-Arab) population. Despite the assimilation (for example, the Berbers in Morocco), nevertheless, the spread of the Arabic language among the local population of the countries conquered by the Arabs proceeded very slowly, which led to the spread of bilingualism among these ethnic groups.

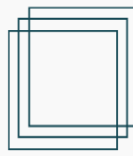
The specificity of the Maghreb dialect, as an object of scientific research, lies in the fact that its development is largely determined by the active influence on it of substrates common to the Maghreb and unknown in the eastern Arab countries. Of particular importance is the interaction of the Arabic language with the Berber language, which in diachrony acts as a substrate of the Moroccan dialect, and in synchronicity - as its adstratum.

The influence of the Berber language on the Arabic dialects of the different regions of the Maghreb is not the same. In many respects, it depends on the quantitative ratio of the Arab and Berber population and the degree of Arabization of the latter.

According to M. Sallu, "the Berber substratum left a strong imprint on the structure of the Arabic dialects of the Maghreb, which led to their noticeable separation from the Arabic dialects of the Mashriq. The influence of the substrate was reflected at all levels of colloquial speech of the Maghrebians - in phonology, morphology, syntax, and in the dictionary. It is weaker on the eastern flank of the Maghreb - in Tunisia and is increasingly felt as we move westward - in Algeria, Morocco, and Mauritania. It turned out to be deepest in Morocco.

Here, the Arabic spoken language was exposed to the Berber substrate in the north and northeast of the country more than in the south (for example, in the Middle Atlas - Sus), in the speech of the townspeople (Casablanca, Marrakesh, Rabat, Fez, etc.) - less than in numerous rural dialects, and in Bedouin dialects, the sub-extract influence is minimal. " [10: 2]

It is known that the Arabic language appeared on the territory of the Maghreb during the nomadic invasions of the Arabs. Little is known about the language situation in the region prior to the arrival of the Arabs. The Berber languages were native to the majority of the population, and in the north of the Maghreb (in cities such as Tangier, Ceuta, Sala, Volubilis, etc.), the Romance language (folk Latin) was in use. In the first centuries after the Islamic conquest, Arabization was rather superficial, and Arabic



was spoken only in the largest cities; in the rest of the region, the Berber or Romance languages were still used.

That language "imported" by the Arabs had many similarities with the classical Arabic language (KAYA). However, it soon began to differ in phonological, morphological and syntactic aspects. Over time, dialects began to take shape. [1: 8]

After the Arab countries gained independence in the second half of the twentieth century, the Arabic language was proclaimed the official language of the country, and the language of the former metropolises was used as a second language. For the Maghreb countries, it became French.

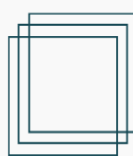
Considering that the majority of the population in the ethnic composition speaks Arabic, and in the religious composition 95% of the population are Muslims nevertheless, French played a significant role in the life of the urban population. Almost all the intelligentsia preferred to speak and write in French, considering the knowledge of this language a prestige in society.

As noted above, until now, the French language in the Maghreb continues to undergo changes at different levels as a result of the influence of linguistic, sociolinguistic and extralinguistic factors. French in North African countries is considered a foreign, second or preferred foreign language. [4:55] However, in the 70s of the twentieth century in the Arab countries there was a wave of "Arabization", promoting the "purity" of the language and the ousting of foreign languages from everyday life.

At the center of this ideological struggle were the problems of culture, religion, tradition, modernity, independence and oppression. An important place in the discussion of these problems is occupied by the question of the relationship between the Arabic and French languages. Supporters of Arabization advocate the spread of the Arabic language in absolutely all spheres of public life; their opponents advocate a moderate and rational approach to the use of native and foreign languages. [eleven]

However, if in the Mashriq countries the Arabization policy went on at an intensive pace, in the Maghreb countries this process developed very slowly. This was facilitated by the fact that ALL (the Arabic literary language) is not actively being introduced into the field of public education and other communicative spheres, thereby generally restraining the functional development of ALL. The reason for the slow process of Arabization is also the low level of education of the Maghreb population.

Attempts by the government of Algeria to somehow rectify the current situation have not yet yielded tangible results. The references to the fact that it was the Arabs who opened mathematics to the Western countries and that exact disciplines should be taught in the Arabic language are also in vain. Long years of scientific and cultural stagnation in Arab countries could not pass without consequences. In addition, the next point is also important. The literary Arabic language is not widely known and the number of illiterates among the indigenous population is still high. [3:30]



Classical Arabic, the language of the Koran and writing, in this region is often far from being used by the population, especially the rural ones, as much as any other foreign language. Despite the policy of compulsory schooling in all three states of the Maghreb, illiteracy is still widespread. In addition, according to a number of linguists, the classical Arabic language, which is currently on the path of modernization, has not yet fully integrated the language of scientific, technological and IT innovations, taking into account the pace of changes in these areas and the speed of their spread. (8: 4)

As for bilingualism in the Maghreb countries, this phenomenon has been widespread since the era of the French protectorate. The majority of the Maghreb population is fluent in two or even three languages. Mandatory - it is ALL and French. In addition, the local dialect of Arabic is used in colloquial speech.

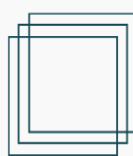
Articles of the Constitutions of the states under review indicate that the language of education is Arabic. Nevertheless, according to data for 2002-2003, French was taught compulsory at an early age: from the third year of primary school in Tunisia, in an amount of 9 to 10 hours per week, reaching 12 hours per week in the final class primary school; from the third year of study in Morocco, in the amount of 8 hours per week, while in private schools the number of French hours reached 15 per week and from the third year of primary education in Algeria.

Among foreign languages, French has received the largest share of use. Also interesting is the fact that in the three countries of the Maghreb, training in technical and scientific disciplines, along with their terminology, as well as teaching physics, takes place in French. [8: 5-6]

Thus, officially the literary Arabic language has a clearly overestimated status in comparison with its actual use in the practice of linguistic communication. As for the French language, which is officially prescribed a much smaller role than the literary Arabic language, it really comes close to it.

The dialect of the Arabic language, which has a minimum prescribed status, is in fact used much more actively than any other language in the country. Such a situation, of course, requires the implementation of a policy in relation to the Arabic dialect that would provide for serious language construction.

It should be added that in the post-colonial period, even when the policy of Arabization was actively introduced into the culture of the population, many Arab writers continued to write works in French. As Prozhogina S.V. writes, "along with Arabic, which was the main language of the Maghreb literature of the past, the Maghreb writers also began to use French, resorting to it not only as a forced means - the official language, but also often as an effective weapon in the fight against colonialism." [9:23] After the independence of the countries of North Africa, the French language retains its position thanks to the democratization of education, the preservation of contacts with France, the presence of French-language media and television. In particular, thanks to the Internet, the number of users of which is increasing every year, the



French segment of the Internet in the Maghreb countries is also growing. On the one hand, the French language is losing its position for political and ideological reasons, on the other hand, its influence on local languages is undeniable. [2:58]

The greatest influence of the French language was experienced by Algeria, while in Tunisia or Mauritania the process of "francisation" was weaker. Morocco, being divided into French and Spanish colonies, was also slightly influenced by European languages.

Touching upon the classical Arabic language, it is worth noting that at present it has ceased to be used by the population and is used only by clergymen in worship.

The issue of diglossia in these countries is no less acute. There is a significant difference between ALA and spoken dialects, up to the fact that ALA is studied as a foreign language. This is primarily due to the fact that historically, the Arabic language, having experienced the influence of the languages of local tribes (Berbers, Bedouins, etc.), has changed a lot, especially in phonetics, vocabulary and syntax (the last aspect of grammar has not been studied at all). As in other languages, local dialects are characterized by simplified grammar.

In each of the Maghreb countries, several dialects coexist, and each dialect, in turn, breaks down into many dialects. Three types of dialects are considered basic, namely: urban, village and Bedouin. An interesting fact is that the above dialects and dialects, interacting with each other, form a complex dynamics of linguistic processes in the region.

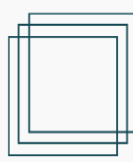
Speaking about the current situation of ANRY (Arabic folk-spoken language), it should be noted that each version of the ANRY Maghreb has its own characteristics that draw some invisible linguistic boundaries within the region and make it possible to judge the socio-historical path of each territory. The most difficult to understand for the rest of the population of the Middle East is the Arabic folk-spoken language of Algeria (ALANRYA). [1: 9]

Thus, at present, in the modern linguistic situation of the Maghreb countries, relations are noted between the following languages:

- 1) the native languages of the local population (the language of the Berbers, beni hilal, beni ma'kil, Bedouin dialects, etc.);
- 2) literary Arabic and its colloquial forms;
- 3) French, Spanish, English.

Finally, the last, no less important factor in the language situation of the Maghreb is the process of borrowing and changing the vocabulary. Any language, as a result of its development, is constantly updated with new vocabulary.

A new vocabulary appears in the language, words and constructions are borrowed from other languages. It is believed that vocabulary is more susceptible to change than grammar. However, these two areas of the language are closely related, so changes often affect both of them. [6: 129]



Also, the Arabic language, despite its "purity", constantly experiences the process of borrowing foreign language vocabulary. The first group is words borrowed from local dialects. The second group is borrowings from European languages, from the period of colonization to the present day. Also, the period of Ottoman rule in the Arab countries had a significant impact on the vocabulary of the Arabic language.

In recent years, global processes taking place in mass communication networks, in the press, based on such a human right as freedom of speech, have a certain impact on the Arabic language.

On the other hand, the development of technologies, scientific areas also contributes to the emergence of new words and phrases. New words and expressions are formed, existing words undergo changes within the framework of new phrases, words can also return to their previous meaning. In particular, this process has accelerated in the 21st century.

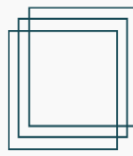
The unity and interdependence of world structures are growing, and international relations are becoming more complex. For example, the influence of social structures on the implementation of the "Arab Spring" is known, which led to a change in the geopolitical picture of the world. All this contributed to significant changes in the life of the Arabs, primarily in social and political life.

These changes have influenced language processes, both directly and indirectly. Naturally, this manifests itself in different spheres of language life in different ways. At the same time, the vocabulary of the language is constantly updated, enriched and changed. Those words that are considered neologisms, after a while can pass into the active vocabulary, while some of them remain in the language in a passive form. Thus, they lose their novelty, that is, neologic. [7:30]

The literary Arabic language, being the state language of all Arab countries, is constantly assimilating with other local dialects, thereby creating a complex linguistic problem. A variety of dialects and dialects, often very different from each other (for example, the dialects of the Maghreb and Mashriq), remain an object of study for Arabic linguists.

Conclusions

The Arabic dialects of the Maghreb, as well as the linguistic situation, are a complex and poorly studied phenomenon. The variety of numerous types of ALA, local dialects and dialects contributes to the process of accelerating language dynamics. The above allows us to say that the era of French colonial rule over the Maghreb countries had a significant impact on the development of the Arabic dialects of the Maghreb group, manifested in the multilevel interaction of local dialects and the language of the colonialists. In real life, it is difficult to draw a clear line between the Arabic literary language and the dialect, since both forms of the language coexist simultaneously, in



parallel and often overlap, and interact with each other depending on the communicative and social contexts.

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