Article

Specifics of Individual Style in The Wishes of Addressees of The Speech Genre of Condolences (on The Basis of Materials in Uzbek Language)

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Abstract: The speech genre of condolence plays a critical role in expressing empathy, emotional solidarity, and social values across linguistic and cultural communities. In Uzbek linguoculture, this genre has evolved to include unique individual styles, particularly visible in Internet discourse, where condolences are publicly shared and influenced by socio-cultural and religious norms. However, limited attention has been given to the individualized linguistic expressions within condolence comments in online platforms, especially in relation to the personal and social status of the deceased. This study investigates the specific linguistic and communicative features of individual styles in condolence expressions within Uzbek online commentary, focusing on the wishes and address forms used for the late President Islam Karimov. The analysis reveals that condolence expressions involve lexical and grammatical features such as possessive suffixes, respectful pronouns, and religious prayers that reflect the speaker's personal attitudes, cultural values, and the deceased's status. The research highlights the polylinguistic and socio-pragmatic dimensions of condolence speech genres in digital spaces, illustrating the integration of religion, hierarchy, and linguistic creativity. These findings contribute to the sociolinguistic understanding of how empathy is linguistically constructed in contemporary Uzbek society and enrich genre theory with culturally embedded communicative practices.

Keywords: expression of sympathy, speech genre, individual style, wishes, emotional speech, social relations, addressee, speech form, content

1. Introduction

To date, the definition of sociolinguistic features of speech genres in world linguistics poses certain challenges for modern linguistics [1][2]. Nowadays, following the rapid development of scientific technology, the penetration of the Internet into social life has led to the emergence of new speech genres in the linguistic system. At the same time, the number of channels of information transmission of speech genres has increased. For example, the speech genre of commentary appeared in the Internet discourse. The realization of the speech situation of expressing sympathy has become popular in comments. This situation has necessitated the study of commentary speech genres and their internal types in world linguistics[3][4].

2.   Materials and Methods

The methodology employed in this study is rooted in a comprehensive qualitative approach, aimed at uncovering the linguistic and sociocultural features of the condolence speech genre within Uzbek linguoculture, particularly through online commentary. To achieve this, a set of linguo-pragmatic and comparative analytical methods were utilized. The research process began with the systematic collection of authentic linguistic data from online platforms, primarily focusing on public condolences expressed in the context of the death of President Islam Karimov. These data were gathered from user-generated comments and posts that contained expressions of sympathy, wishes, and prayers. The selected samples were analyzed through linguistic observation and component analysis to determine the recurring lexical, grammatical, and stylistic elements characteristic of individual expressions. Emphasis was placed on identifying linguistic markers such as possessive suffixes, respectful pronouns, and the use of religious and culturally embedded terminology. Comparative analysis was then conducted to explore how these features reflect the individual style of each speaker and how they are shaped by sociocultural norms and religious beliefs. The study also considered the influence of language contact by examining multilingual expressions in Uzbek, Arabic, Russian, Turkish, and Kyrgyz. Throughout the analysis, attention was given to the pragmatic function of condolences, including how they signal respect, solidarity, and social closeness. The methodology allowed for the extraction of nuanced insights into the personalization of condolence expressions, contributing to the broader understanding of speech genres in digital discourse and their socio-communicative roles in contemporary Uzbek society.

3.   Results

It should be noted that in Uzbek linguoculture, the speech genre of commentary is a peculiar type of speech genre. The addressees participating in comments show their individual linguistic features. In comments, the speech genre of expressing condolence is manifested through praise, wishes, prayers, and envy. It depends on the personal choice of addressees[5][6]. In the speech genre of expressing condolence, the addressee creates a kind of individual speech taking into account the social status of the addressee[7][8]. For example, in the following example, the comments under the video related to the funeral of the President of Uzbekistan I. Karimov activated these wishes and forms of address [9].

1st addressee: Юрт отаси, Ўзбек отаси, Оллоҳ ўз марҳаматини сиздан аямасин, Аллоҳ сизни ўз раҳматига қабул қилсин;

2nd addressee: Бобомиз Ислом Абдуғаниевич Каримов, доим қалбимиздасиз

3rd addressee: отажон, жойиз жаннатда бўлсин;

4th addressee: жойингиз жаннатда бўлсин, отажоним ўзимни;

5th addressee: Ватанимиз подшоси бўлган отамизни жойлари жаннатда бўлсин;

6th addressee: Жойиз жаннатда бўлсин, бобожон, биз сизни неваралариз ва давомчиларизмиз, сизни жуда яхши кўраман;

7th addressee: жаннатларда жавлон уриб ётинг, Отажон;

8th addressee: Оллоҳ рози бўлсин, Ислом Отадан;

9th addressee: Аллоҳ раҳмат этсин Юртбоши Исломжон Абдулғани ўғилларини;

10th addressee: Ражаб ойи ҳозир, сизни дуо қиламиз;

11th addressee: сизни соғиндик, дода;

12th addressee: Ислом деп ўғлимни исмини қўйдим, йўлизни берсин;

13th addressee: Эсиз, Ислом Каримов, президентим ва ҳоказолар.

In the speech of these addressees in the speech situation of expressing sympathy, such speech acts as wish, prayer, regret, longing, and envy are directly turned into linguistic means of the speech genre of expressing sympathy in the communicative-pragmatic and functional-content aspects [10]. In these examples, the mention of the name and surname of the deceased (Islam Karimov) indicates that the deceased was an official person. In the forms of address to the deceased, the address "дода" indicates that the addressee perceives him as a father according to the Tashkent dialect, and the fact that social statuses such as бобо, бобожон, ота appear in the forms of address means that the deceased has the status of president in Uzbek linguoculture. In Uzbek society, the president has a special social title as the father of the country[11][12]. Addresses to the юртбоши, президент, юрт отаси express the addressees' respect for the official status of the addressee.

Since the president is addressed with the pronoun "сиз" in texts expressing condolences, the person and number suffixes are adapted to the pronoun "сиз" Addressing with possessive suffixes of singular and plural, such as "Президентим", "бобожоним", "бобожонимиз," indicates that the addressee refers to the deceased closely. The statement "неваларингиз" and "давомчиларингиз" is also an expression of the addressee's humility towards his president[13]. Hence, in the form of the speech genre of expressing condolence between the president and the people, mutual closeness, official respect for the official status and personality of the addressee are also expressed by various lexical and grammatical suffixes. Wishes and prayers for Allah's mercy, that the deceased's place is in paradise, that the deceased will live in paradise, that Allah is pleased with the deceased, to pray for the deceased, to pray during the holy months, indicate that the addressees' religious beliefs indicate that the religion is Islam [14].

In Uzbek society, in the speech genre of condolence, admiration of the deceased in the speech of the addressee, assigning his name to his child, as well as perception of the deceased's life as an example for himself and his children, is the highest positive evaluation of the deceased. Such titles in Uzbek society are wished only to those who during their lifetime managed to do everything enviable and achieved certain successes [15].

It should be noted that since Internet comments are a form of open communication for all addressees, polylinguistic forms of expressing condolence are found in this speech situation. The polylinguistic character of expressing condolence in Internet comments is manifested in the expression of wishes in different languages. For example, in Russian: Вечная память Исламу Каримову, хорошему человеку, in Turkish: Allah sizden razı olsun, in Kyrgyz: Жайы жаннатда болсын, Ислам Каримов атанын торпаги торга болсин, амин; Жаны жумакда болсин кабилар.

4. Discussion

Observations show that among fraternal peoples sharing the same religion, universal wishes are found in wishes of sympathy. For example, the wish Жойи жаннатдан бўлсин is popular in Uzbek and Kyrgyz. The wish expressed in Russian reflects the intention for eternal memory, while the wish Аллоҳ рози бўлсин in Turkish is also found in the speech of Uzbek addressees. It is known that the forms of prayers in Arabic for representatives of Islam are understandable to representatives of Islam speaking other languages [16]. For example, the wish "Инна илайҳи рожиъун" in the speech situation of expressing condolence. Although the translation of this wish means that we will definitely come back, all Muslims know that this prayer is used in a speech situation related to funerals. From this point of view, it should be noted that wishes and prayers in Arabic and Uzbek are actively used in the speech genre of expressing condolence, indicating religious beliefs [17].

5. Conclusion

Thus, what form of condolence to use depends on the personal choice of the addressee. Accordingly, the addressee chooses a prayer in Arabic or one of the speech acts of prayer, wish, praise, recognition, remembrance, or admiration in Uzbek. The expression of condolence through sympathy can also mean deep respect for the personality of the deceased. Besides, in the speech genre of expressing condolence, adding possessive suffixes of lexico-grammatical means, addressing you, mentioning various adjectives peculiar to the addressee in the speech act of addressing the addressee, adding social status, and position are the basis for praising the deceased, making a positive conclusion about him.

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