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Kulwinder Singh
Assistant Professor,
Education, Govt. College for
Swami Vivekanand Institute of
Engineering & Technology,
Banur, Chandigarh, India

Language and culture: Limbs of society

Kulwinder Singh

Abstract

This article is about reserve methods employed in the context of language and culture limbs of society. It is important for human being to know value of language and culture. This paper examiner hoe language might influence and be influenced by culture and what can be found out about a particular culture by studying its language. The common ground of the research interests is identified as language and society, language use and language and thought and illustrated with the relevant nation. This paper examines the inter relationship between language and Culture. This paper discuss especially role of Culture and language in society. Each language is born out of culture. The language is the integration of real life situation and setting. No language remains perfect static in its spoken form there is always a change, through usually for more slow than its spoken type. This is because the impact of culture on the language is slow but it change and interaction makes our mind rich with knowledge which brings development for good. A rich culture is impossible in a community of nomads where people struggle for life. Culture is dynamic; cross currents of other culture always the culture of a country language is species – Specific language as a system of signs. Language is means of communicating various types of feelings, moods, ideas, information, experience language and culture are limbs of society.

Keywords: Language, culture, relationship between of language and culture

Introduction

Language and the culture mile in which it is spoken are interconnected. These culture linguistic links are dynamic and variable and they influence the meaning of words and the way they are used. Language and Cultural factors are linked and cannot be easily separated. Language is a set of arbitrary vocal symbols by mean of which a social group communicates. Language is a system that consists of the development, Acquisition, maintenance and use of complex systems of Communication, Particularly the human ability to do so Language is n't set in stone. It change all the time and in turn, our language changes us. Cultural realm is peculiarly human Culture is the mirror of the society. Culture includes the language, the philosophy, the religion, the values and ideologies. It consists of these rules and regulations which are operational in all walks of social Life, but culture is not concerned with formally made rules and regulations only, it is also concerned with mundane details of everyday. Every acquisition of man which makes him a social being is termed as culture.

The relationship between language, Culture and society is central to the field of sociolinguistic. Holmes (1992, 1) says: Sociolinguistic study the relationship between language and society the phase, Language is culture and culture is language is often mentioned when language and culture are discussed. It is because the two have a homologous although complex relationship. Language and culture developed together and influenced each other as they evolved. The relationship between language and culture is deeply rooted. Language is used to maintain and convey culture and cultural ties.

Finally as this research paper has shown, Language and culture are inter wined to such an extent where as one cannot survive without the other.

Objective of the study

1. To understand the role of language in society
2. To understand the place of culture in society.
3. Describe the relationship between culture and language.

Correspondence Author:
Kulwinder Singh
Assistant Professor,
Education, Govt. College for
Swami Vivekanand Institute of
Engineering & Technology,
Banur, Chandigarh, India

Research Methodology

This research paper is the overcome of on overview of studies conducted on language. Culture and their relationship. It is a qualitative research. We used secondary data from various and discussion with experts in this research.

Language: Its Nature and Principle

Language is the soul of the role into which thoughts run and out of which they grow; Language is very important tool for communication. Language is God's gift all creatures of this world. Human language is unique because it is a symbolic communication system. Language is the mirror of the society.

Language and Its Nature

Language is a means of communicating various types of feeling, moods, ideas, information and experiences. To communicate, we need signs and symbols. The Oxford English Dictionary defines language as "words and the method of combining them for the expression of thought". Dwight Bollinger is of the opinion that, "Language is species-specific. It is uniquely human trait shared by culture so diverse and by individuals physically and mentally so uniquely one another."

Language is a purely human and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions and desires by mean of a system of voluntarily produced symbols. These symbols are in the first instance auditory and they are produced by the so called 'Organs of speech'.

Language is a set of arbitrary vocal symbols by means of which a social group communicates. "Language is the expression of ideas by mean of which speech sound are combined into words, these words are combined into sentences and combination of sentences gives answer to ideas and thoughts."

Basic Principles of Language

- 1. Language Is Learnt:** Any learner with normal intelligence can learn a language. We do not need 'a special gift' for that. But it is not instinctive to man, it has to be acquired. A child removed from the contact of human beings might learn to walk on fours or make meaningless sounds or the sounds he hear. Thus the child picks up the language of his environment.
- 2. Language Is A System:** Each language has a system. Thus it can be observed and analysed. These analyses give us certain fundamental things which tell us about the rules, a code of law or morality or religion. Language is the linguistic code of a society. It is the vehicle of all human thoughts, feelings and actions. It works through system of sound, uttered with certain degree of pitch, stress and intonation.
- 3. Language is made up of Habits:** "Language is the set of human habits the purpose of which is to give expression to human thoughts and feelings especially to import them to other." When a person speaks any language naturally or without any conscious efforts, without thinking about the word order in framing sentence, only then, we can say that he has learnt the language.
- 4. Language is a System of Symbols:** Our utterance have no meaning if it dose not co-relate with certain objects, actions, events, ideas etc. If the utterances are

meaningless; they are just certain sounds and not language. Language functions through symbol if meanings are attached to them.

- 5. Language Is Arbitrary:** This means that there is no direct connection between the sound or form of any word and the object which it represents. There is no scientific explanation for any word we use to mean that particular object. The object and the symbol attached to it is what people have it in mind. If tomorrow they reject the word and replace it which they feel better or which suits well, they can do it.
- 6. The Symbols of Language Are Voac:** Language and its symbols are primarily meant for speaking, writing is just a secondary representation of language. Language cannot exist in vacuum. The basis of language is speech. It is one of the most effective means of communication.
- 7. Language Is Unique:** NO two languages are the same. Each language has its own structure sounds and words which makes it distinctive. So there is no identity between any two languages in sounds, stress intonation and structure. Similarities in the languages belonging to the same linguistic group may be found. No language can be learnt resorting to the use of other language.
- 8. Language Is for Communication:** Right language comes with right use of pronunciation and intonation which is intelligible to others. Language is a means of communication. If we are able to put across our thoughts to the person we are talking to, then we are successful language users; if we fail, we fail as language user.
- 9. Language Grows and Changes:** Nothing is static so how can language be. As the culture changes, Language also changes. What we say today, may not be true about is tomorrow. Dynamism an essential characteristic of a living language, depends upon culture change. Many new words are coined. Much pronunciation change. Some words become old and obsolete giving place to new words which are borrowed and absorbed in a language from time to time.

Culture: its Characteristics and Functions

In order to assure the survival of their biological bring, human beings must construct a social life. Biologists have pointed out that being social is not exclusively a human attributed; most animals also display social behaviour. There is a division of labour, co-operation and interdependence quite conspicuous among some of the animals. They display forms of dominance and submission. But they lack culture. Culture realm is peculiarly human. It includes the language, the Philosophy, the religion, the values and ideologies; it consists of those rules and regulations which are operational in all walks of social life. But culture is not concerned with formally made rules and regulations only. It is also concerned with mundane details of everyday life. Every acquisition of man which makes him a social being is termed as culture.

Culture may be stated as the embodiment in customs, traditions, thoughts and institutions etc. Culture is accumulative in nature, as social conditions are changing new experiences, Ideas and theories are always added to it.

Characteristics of culture

- 1. Culture is learned behaviour:** Culture is not innate. While living in society by different processes man

learns it from other social beings. At the time of birth man is only a biological entity. Culture is added by the process of socialization. Culture is socially acquired.

2. **Social heritage:** Culture refers to the common ways of behaviour. It is a social product which is shared by all the members of the group.
3. **Culture is idealistic:** Culture embodies the ideas and norms of a group. It is sum total of the ideal patterns and norms of behaviour of a group.
4. **Linked with the past:** Culture is a social heritage of man. It means that it is linked with the past. Culture is a repository of past experience and learning and without it the past experience would have vanished, the past endures because it lives in Culture.
5. **Culture is an integrated system:** Its various components are integrated with each other and they represent a whole. All the parts are united in such a way as equilibrium is maintained. Any new element or change which is introduced is also integrated.
6. **Culture satisfies social needs:** Culture helps in the satisfaction of social needs. It guides social action and reaction of the individuals living in society, so that network of relationship that forms society can be maintained. It provides guidelines of social Behaviour.
7. **Language is the chief vehicle of culture:** Culture is a social heritage which incorporates not only the experiences of the present people but those of the past too. Through language, the past experiences are transmitted to the present people and they will transmit the accumulated wisdom to the coming generation. So culture goes on accumulating and making social advancement possible.
8. **Manifestation of human mind:** Finally culture is manifestation of human mind in varying moods of nature and environment and in the changing course of history; Culture has its own momentum of progress. Man's ideologies are reflected by culture.
9. **It is super-organic:** Man is the carrier of culture, no doubt without him the evolution of culture would not have been possible. But it is not the creation of any single man. Every culture is more than any individual can grasp or manipulate. It is the habit of the group as a whole and evolves of the satisfaction of social needs of the individuals. It is the product of the interaction of collectively or group as a whole.

The Function of Culture

Culture plays significant for the individual and for the group.

Importance to the Individual: Culture plays a significant role in the formation of human personality. The following advantages of culture to an individual may be pointed out.

1. **Culture and Socialization:** It is the culture that makes man a social being; Culture is the peculiarity of human society. In the absence of culture there would not be much difference between animal and human society. Culture directs the purely animal instincts of man in a social pattern. Man's behaviour is conditioned by cultural factors. Culture teaches him and guides social ways of behaviour. It provides him a complete design for living. An individual devoid of cultural influence is less than human; he is what we call a feral man.

2. **Culture provides solution for complicated situations.** Man often faces strange and new situation which have many alternatives to follow. Culture guides him what is the appropriate way of behaviour. Which is goal-oriented? Without culture he would have been baffled even at the simplest situations. He needs not go through painful trial and error method; culture provides him set patterns of behaviour, the successful ways to meet specific demands. Horton and Hunt write, "From before he is born until after he is dead, man is a prisoner of his culture directs and confines his behaviour, limits his goal and measures his rewards...."
3. **Culture provides traditional interpretations to certain situations.** The traditional interpretations are peculiarities of a culture. If a cat cross one's path, it is interpreted inauspicious in some cultures. Owl may be regarded auspicious in some and inauspicious in other culture. These interpretations differ from culture to culture for the group.

Importance to the groups

1. **Culture maintains social relationship:** Society is defined as a network of social relationship and this network is the outcome of social action and interaction. Culture provides those rules and regulations which condition social interaction and thus social relationships are maintained. If everybody acts in his own way then behaviour of everybody will be unpredictable and relationships will start breaking up one by one. Culture has provided innumerable checks upon irrational conduct. The entire person is held in line by constraints provided by culture. Culture maintains social relationships; provide set of behaviour thus keeping the group well integrated.
2. **Culture broadens the outlook of the individual:** Man is basically animal. But due to culture constraints, while satisfying his own needs he has to keep in mind the needs of others. Culture teaches him to think himself as a part of the integrated whole. Due to culture, division of labour is functional, every man has to co-operate with others for the satisfaction of the social needs of the group.
3. **Culture creates new needs:** As social conditions change, culture creates new needs and new drives. Its motivates man to act in new social situations to achieve new goals.
4. **Culture provides valuation:** Culture stands for all the achievements which mankind has accumulated during the long course of history. Culture is transmitted from has generation to generation. Supposing whole mankind forgets how to extinguish fire or how to control fire by accident. There would be very serious repercussion of it which may affect the whole mankind. Culture thus links us with our past heritage.
5. **Culture provides valuation:** In the words of Maclver and page, "Culture is the realm of final valuations and human beings must inter-pret the whole world, including their own devices, techniques and power, in the light of their valuation....." Every people and every age has special ways of looking at things. It is in the light of our culture we conceive different aspects of social life. It provides us appropriate ways to perceive different situations. All the members evaluate the things

in the same way with the same yardstick as a result of which group solidarity can be maintained.

Relationship between culture and language: Language and culture are main tool of the society. Society is incomplete without these two precious tools. We cannot imagine of any society without language and culture. Culture and language also make complete each other. Language grows out of culture. Language exists in its speaker, the speaker in specific social group / place and specific situation. The language is complete only in the sense that it interprets completely the culture of a society which is using it. It explains material and non-material sense of culture. Thus all the words become meaningful only in relation to their society and culture. Culture can be defined as a learned system of values, Beliefs and/or norms among a group of people. Culture not only changes people's values and habits, but also affects people's language and behaviour. Culture knowledge is crucial in achieving linguistic proficiency and the culture of a society can be changed depending upon the language used. In brief, Language should be conceptualized an integrated as part of a society and its culture.

Conclusion

The purpose of this article is to discuss about language, culture and their relationship. There is a inseparable relation between culture and language. Language born out of culture. Language and culture are limbs of our society. Culture and language play vital role in the origin of society. Human language has kept pace with the growth of civilization. In the same way, language keeps pace with the growth of individual man. Language is not only a means to make statements or to express our thoughts and ideas about things, It is a medium of knowledge, tradition and culture also. Child's interrelation with social shaped by language habit brings in him intellectual growth. We can represent our culture through the use of language. Thus we find language has meaning only in relation to the culture and society. So every language has a flavour of both language and cultural factor are linked and cannot be easily separated. Integrated studies of language and culture are essential needed. We cannot imagine of any society without these two precious tools.

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