

THE ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF DICTIONARIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL LANGUAGE

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Annotation: *This article provides a scientific analysis of the role of dictionaries in the development of the national language, as well as their influence on linguistic culture, lexicography, literary norms, and cognitive advancement. Dictionaries are evaluated as essential tools for the spiritual development of society, the formation of scientific fields, and the systematic enrichment of the language.*

Keywords: *National language, lexicography, dictionary, explanatory dictionary, terminology, language norms, literary language, lexical system, language development, linguistic culture, electronic dictionary, corpus linguistics.*

Language is the spiritual wealth of a nation, its historical memory, and the core component of its cultural identity. The development of a language primarily depends on the expansion of its lexical resources and the processes of standardization and codification. Dictionaries play a crucial scientific and practical role in this process. They are not merely collections of words and terms, but sources that scientifically document the state of the language at a particular period, regulate it, and make it accessible to the wider public.

Theoretical Foundations of the Role of Dictionaries in Language Development

Lexicography is a branch of linguistics that focuses on collecting, classifying, and explaining linguistic units. Dictionaries, as the main product of lexicographic activity, perform several key functions:

Formalize the lexical system of the language.

Reinforce the adoption of new words and terms.

Establish phonetic, orthographic, morphological, and stylistic norms.

Therefore, dictionaries serve as scientific and normative sources that shape the standard basis of the national language.

The Role of Dictionaries in the Development of the National Language

1. Systematizing Function

Dictionaries organize existing words, phrases, terms, and their meanings in a systematic manner, helping manage the lexical wealth of the language.

2. Normative Function

Spelling dictionaries, explanatory dictionaries, and orthoepic dictionaries establish the norms of the literary language. As a result, uniform standards are ensured in the press, education, science, and government institutions.

3. Educational and Enlightening Function

For language learners, students, translators, journalists, and the general public, dictionaries serve as essential sources of knowledge. Through dictionaries, a nation's worldview, cultural thinking, and historical memory are preserved.

4. Innovative Function

Bilingual and multilingual dictionaries play an important role in the introduction of new terms, technological concepts, and scientific notions. Terminological dictionaries directly contribute to the development of scientific fields.

The Social Importance of Dictionaries

An increase in linguistic culture within society is directly linked to the systematic use of dictionaries:

The prestige of the state language increases.

Official documents and scientific-technical texts are standardized.

The quality of education improves.

National identity is strengthened.

Words—the main wealth of a language—preserve the historical memory of society.

Dictionaries also serve as invaluable historical sources that record social changes in the language.

Digital Dictionaries and Modern Lexicography

The development of information technologies has brought a new stage to lexicography:

Electronic and mobile dictionaries

Corpus-based explanatory platforms

Lexical databases of machine translation systems

Online terminological databases

Digital dictionaries, with their speed, ability to be updated, and user-friendly interface, significantly accelerate the development of the language.

Dictionaries play an irreplaceable scientific and social role in the development of the national language. They:

Systematize the lexical wealth of the language;

Consolidate literary norms;

Support the advancement of science, education, and culture;

Serve as key tools for restoring national identity and spirituality.

Therefore, the development of lexicography and the creation of new terminological, explanatory, and electronic dictionaries should be considered one of the priority directions of national language policy.

Terminology and the Importance of Scientific Dictionaries

Scientific and technical development leads to the introduction of new concepts into the language. Terminological dictionaries that regulate these terms:

Ensure the unified use of terminology;

Facilitate international scientific information exchange;

Simplify interdisciplinary communication.

In modern Uzbek terminology studies, hundreds of specialized terminological dictionaries have been created, contributing significantly to the scientific potential of the national language.

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