“Language in Culture and Society”: VIII Annual Conference

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On May 28—29, 2021, the Department of the Russian Language and Intercultural Communication (Peoples’ Friendship University of Russia), together with the Institute of Linguistics of the Russian Academy of Sciences, held an Annual International Scientific and Practical Conference “Language in Culture and Society”.

The problems that are subject to comprehensive scientific understanding and fruitful discussion at the conference are of fundamental importance for understanding the linguistic processes taking place in modern society. What transformations have affected the linguistic personality of the speakers of the Russian linguistic consciousness in the context of the global metasocium, and how does this affect their identity? Are we able to offer an adequate toolkit for recording and describing these changes? What is the specificity of constructing linguistic and non-linguistic consciousness in a synchronic aspect? What are the most relevant trends today in Russian studies, psycholinguistics, communication theory, linguistic conflictology and other disciplines that have gone beyond the immanent knowledge?

The conference not only provides the scientific community with a contest platform for discussing these issues, but also produces new knowledge focused on solving practical problems. The geography of its participants from year to year becomes only wider, which indicates the importance of this event for Russian science — and world science in general.

Humanity exists not so much in the objective world as in the verbal world. Communication through the Word is the privilege of Homo Sapiens. However, it should be recognized that this communication is currently undergoing significant changes. Modern society is developing under the conditions of large-scale technical progress, which makes it possible to overcome colossal distances in the shortest possible time. The Internet is becoming a global communicative space in which new forms of speech interaction — specific virtual genres — appear. Language is a dynamic phenomenon that transforms in the conditions of the environment in which it exists. This environment, in turn, is society, the development of which feeds the language system with new facts of reality. In the works of many authoritative researchers (N. Luhmann, M. Castells, M. McLuhan, J. Sempsey, A. Touraine, J. Habermas, U. Eco) society is presented as a world of communication, in which new information tools become one of the most important orientation instruments of a person in the world and the interaction of people with each other. At the same time, the new communicative environment imposes its own unique imprint on the past types of communication. All this takes place at the level of an extralinguistic context. Even more important paradigmatic shifts have affected our linguistic consciousness — a
phenomenon that seems to be a much more difficult and exciting task to describe and comprehend. And, we emphasize, epistemologically important.

Welcome speech by Doctor of Philology, Professor E.F. Tarasov, and Doctor of Philology, Professor V.P. Sinyachkin, had started the scientific event.

The plenary session was opened by the Doctor of Philology, Professor, Head of the Department of Psycholinguistics and the Sector of General Psycholinguistics of the Institute of Linguistics of the Russian Academy of Sciences E.F. Tarasov, whose report was devoted to a systematic approach to the analysis of speech processes in the theory of speech activity. N.V. Ufimtseva, Doctor of Philology, Professor, Head of the Ethnopsycholinguistics Sector of the Institute of Linguistics of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, spoke about how the linguistic consciousness of Russians is changing in dynamics and what is the variability of these changes. T.D. Martsinkovskaya, Doctor of Psychology, Professor, Director of L.S. Vygotsky Institute of Psychology (Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow), devoted her research to understanding the phenomenon of linguistic identity in the transitive world.

A.V. Kirilina, Doctor of Philology, Professor, Vice-Rector for Scientific Work of the Moscow International Academy, Moscow, analyzed the situation of globalist standardization of humanitarian knowledge as the cause of controversy in scientific discourse. The problem of functional and cultural illiteracy was linked by V.V. Krasnykh, Doctor of Philology, Professor of the Moscow State University named after M.V. Lomonosov, Moscow. I.A. Sternin, Doctor of Philology, Professor, Director of the Center for Communication Research, Voronezh State University, Voronezh, spoke about the issue of the false meanings formation in the language consciousness of a native speaker. I.V. Shaposhnikova, Doctor of Philology, Professor, Chief Researcher of the Institute of Philology of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Novosibirsk, was devoted to the scientific understanding of the image of the human world and the ordering of vocabulary on the model of the associative-verbal network. M.R. Zheltukhina, Doctor of Philology, Professor, Professor of the Russian Academy of Education, Academician of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences, Head of the Research laboratory “Discursive Linguistics” of the Volgograd State Social and Pedagogical University, Volgograd, focused her speech on the problems of axiological linguistics on the example of British and German media translation of the image of Russia and analysis of the mechanisms of value factors of influence.

Sectional sessions of the conference were devoted to a wide range of problems relevant to modern philology.

So, section 1 under the direction of E.F. Tarasov and I.V. Zhuravlev was devoted to linguistic and non-linguistic consciousness, in particular, to the problems of ontology and epistemology. Speakers discussed such fundamental issues as ethnoregional identity in the linguistic consciousness of the residents of the Republic of Khakassia (T.G. Borgoyakova, K.A. Pokoyakova, Khakass State University named after N.F. Katanov, Abakan), the specificity of dominant evaluative meanings (I.A. Bubnova, Moscow State Pedagogical University, Moscow, D.V. Gorokhova, Odintsovo branch of MGIMO State University, Odintsovo), strategies for updating a fragment of the linguistic consciousness of Russian speakers (L.O. Butakova, F.M. Dostoevsky Omsk State University, Omsk), everyday semantisation of common vocabulary (E.N. Guts, Dostoevsky Omsk State University, Omsk), actual variants in the speech of young people on the example of
On the first day, there were such sections as “Ontological and epistemological aspects of the formation of a professional image of the world” (headed by S.V. Myskin); “Dynamics and variability of the linguistic picture of the world (everyday linguistic consciousness) of modern speakers of the Russian language / culture” (moderators N.V. Dmitriyuk, N.V. Ufimtseva); “Conflict-related elements of the modern linguistic picture of the world” (moderators A.A. Romanov, N.P. Peshkova); “Psycholinguistic analysis of media content in a multimodal aspect” (supervisor M.A. Pilgun). The second day of the conference was devoted to the work of the sections “Speech communication: problems of analysis” (supervisors A.V. Vdovichenko, E.F. Tarasov); “Bi-, poly-, translingualism: theoretical analysis and practice” (supervisors M. Debrenn, D.B. Nikulicheva); “Text, pretext, intertext, hypertext: problems of analysis” (moderators D.V. Makhovikov, I.V. Vasumina); “Values of modern Russia in psycholinguistic research” (supervisors V.A. Ilyina, E.F. Tarasov).

Much attention at the conference was paid to the work of Round tables, where participants could exchange scientific opinions and in a discussion format. The Round tables focused on various sets of problems: “Interdisciplinary paradigm in the study of children’s speech: the norm and deviations” (supervisors Yu.O. Filatova, L.I. Belyakova); “Russian Psycholinguistics: Results and Prospects” (supervisor E.F. Tarasov); “Features of the linguistic consciousness of the inhabitants of the Crimea” (moderators N.V. Ufimtseva, O.V. Balyasnikova); “Linguistic Identity: Interdisciplinary Research” (supervisors D.A. Khoroshilov, E.S. Oshchepkova); “Speech and processing of auditory information in health and disease” (supervisor T.V. Akhutina).

At the close of the conference, the results of the work were summed up and the prospects for further research were identified. Over the eight years of its functioning, the conference has qualitatively transformed: from the particular problems of psycholinguistics, scientists have come to a discussion of such topical problems as bilingualism, translingual literature and language education, which will provide it with even more participants and international prestige.

Bio Note:
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