Linguoculturology as an actively developing field of linguistics

The tendency for different fields of knowledge to penetrate one into another is one of the determinative features of the 20th century science.

Every person is a part of national culture which includes national traditions, language, history and literature. Nowadays, the economical, cultural and scientific contacts between nations are becoming closer. Thus, the investigations dedicated to intercultural communications, correlations of language with culture and language personality are important today. The activation of culturological studies turned the spotlight on linguoculturology.

The purpose of our report is to comment on linguoculturology as a science and give the review of the different fields of linguoculturology.

Linguoculturology as an independent field of linguistics first appeared in the 70th of the 20th century on a base of the triad by Emil Benvenist: language, culture and human personality. The aim was to activate the facts about language and culture of the country of studying language with the help of philological methods of teaching.

The scientists who works in this field are: A. Wierzbickaya, R.M. Keesing, R. Langacker, V. Maslova, V. Karasic, S. Vorcachev, V. Telia, V. Shaklein, F. Vorobev, J. Stepanov, E. Levchenko, V. Kononenko, V. Zhayvoronok.

According to V. Maslova’s research the term “linguoculturology” means the science, which appeared at the intersection of linguistics and culturology. This science investigates the question of reflection and consolidation of nation’s culture in language [2].
It should be emphasized that linguoculturology concerns both the science of culture and the science of language. It represents a certain unity of knowledge about national-cultural peculiarities of nation and their reflection in language.

The aim of linguoculturology is to study the methods which the language embodies in its units, to keep and to transmit culture.

The main task of linguoculturology is to study and to describe language and culture in their interaction. According to V. Telia goal of this field of linguistics is to study and to describe interrelation of language and culture, language and ethnos, language and national mentality [3].

Methods of linguoculturology are the collection of analytical techniques, operations and procedures which are used in analysis of interaction of language and culture. I should be noted that different methods can be used during the investigations but the most useful are conceptual, descriptional, contextual, analytical, comparisonable ones.

The special field of investigations is the linguoculturological analysis of texts as the real keepers of culture. Here can be used such methods and techniques of investigations as interpretational to psycholinguistical ones.

The main category of linguoculturology is concept which is defined as the conventional mental unit directed to the complex studying of language, mind and culture.

The main object of linguoculturology is the interconnection and interaction of culture and language in the process of its operation; the study of interpretation of this interaction as a whole system.

The subject of linguoculturology is the national forms of existence of nations which are reproduced in a system of language communication and which are based upon their cultural possessions. In other words the subject of linguoculturology is the language picture of the world.

Linguoculturology can be divided into five main fields according to the purposes of the investigations.

1. Linguoculturology of separate social group, ethnos in any bright epoch from the point of view of culture (the investigation of concrete linguistic situation).
2. Diachronic linguoculturology (the investigation of changes of linguocultural state of ethnos in a period of time.

3. Comparative linguoculturology (the investigation of linguocultural demonstrations of different but interconnected ethnoses.

4. Confrontational linguoculturology (the youngest field). There are only several works in this area. The most interesting is M. Golovanivskaya “French mentality from the point of view of Russian person” [1].

5. Linguocultural lexicography (practice the compiling of linguo-area studies dictionaries).

Consequently, we came to conclusion that linguoculturology is a new actively developing field of linguistics. According to R.M. Frumkina the distribution of linguoculturology began in a time when it was found that there was no place for culture in the science of language. Every culture has a number of concepts which are the markers of its identity [4]. For example, the key markers in British culture are law, lie, privacy, etc. Moreover, every language is an original system which is etched in native speakers’ mind and build up their world perception, therefore linguoculturology is a promising field for linguistic investigations.

References:


