How Does Dialectal Variation in Syed Family among the Male Members Create a Unique Language Situation?

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Abstract

The present study is an attempt to investigate the Dialectal variation among the Syed family of Chandaul district in Uttar Pradesh, with special reference to the male members in two different languages Urdu and Bhojpuri. The male members of the Syed family use two different codes as per the different social contexts. One is considered a high variety (H) which is "Urdu" and another is a Low variety (L) which is "Bhojpuri".

According to the Fishman's (1967), Diglossia can also be found in two different languages.

Introduction:

The Syed family which is now settled in Chandauli district of Uttar Pradesh are the immigrants. Their parent mother tongue is Urdu, but it is now shifted to Bhojpuri in the next generation. Now they acquire Bhojpuri as first language and Urdu is learnt through formal education.

They are the marked group of people among the Muslims in Chandauli district due to their special usage of Language, Politeness, Culture, etc.

General Information about the Chandauli

Chandauli is a district of Uttar Pradesh of India. It has great natural beauty in the form of Chandraprabha Sanctuary and many waterfalls which include Devdari and Rajdari.

The district contributes to Indian GDP by providing various cereals from the district including paddy and wheat. Popularly known as "Dhanka Katora of Uttar Pradesh"

Aims and Objective of the Research

First and foremost, objective of my research is to take this topic because this has not formed part of any study.

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- Purpose is to find out the diglossic situation in Syed speech community in Chandaulidistrict in U.P.

On the basis of language contact and language shift among the members of the educated class of Syed speech community, I decided to make an attempt to describe the "Diglossic Situation."

Literature Review
This section reviews the literature which is relevant for the study.

Sociolinguistic
Sociolinguistics is study of language use in society. Jendra (2010. p. 9) says "sociolinguistics is a branch of linguistics that takes language as a subject of study, in a way that is usually distinguished from how syntax, semantics, morphology, and phonology handle it." Hudson cited in Putri (2010, p. 11) says "sociolinguistics is study of language in relation to society." Wardaugh (1998. p. 12) states that sociolinguistics is concerned with investigating the relationships between language and society with the goal being a better understanding of the structure of language and how languages function in communication," while Gumperz in Wardaugh (1998. p. 11) states that sociolinguistics is an attempt to find correlations between social structure and linguistic structure and to observe any changes that occur."

Holmes (2001. p. 1) says that sociolinguistics is study of the relationship between language and society. Sociolinguists are interested in explaining why we speak differently in different social contexts. They are concerned with identifying the social function of language and the ways it is used to convey social meaning. Examining the way people use language in different social context provides a wealth of information about the way language works, as well as about social relationship in a community, and the way people signal aspects of their social identity through their language.

Fishman (1991) identifies three main types of dislocation influencing language shift in a community: physical and demographic, social and cultural. These three are described briefly below.

a. Physical and Demographic Dislocation
According to Fishman (1991), this type of dislocation affects the whole of a linguistic community, as it impacts on cultural, social and economic features of a community: "physical and demographic arrangements have cultural (and. therefore, language-in-culture) consequences" (Fishman. 1991:58). Hence, the demographic situation of the group should always be taken into consideration when the community is attempting to reverse language shift. These demographic features include where the

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language speakers live, how close they live to each other, and how accessible the language institutions for speakers of various ages might be (Fishman. 1991).

General Information about the Syed Speech Community
- ➤ Sixty years ago, a Syed family migrated from Lucknow to Chandauli because of better livelihood.
- ➤ Total Six Family Members
- ➤ Four Male Members
- ➤ Two Female Members
- ➤ Two Male Members working in a Government Sector
- ➤ Two Males are Studying

Dialectal Variation
- ➤ This refers to the spoken and written differences in the use of language within a speech community.
- ➤ Dialectal variation has noticeable progress in the past half century. This progression leads to considerable dialectal variation. This is a very important aspect of research in sociolinguistics.

Dialectal is the term more commonly used to denote regional or social language variation.

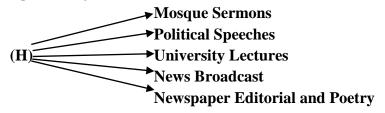**Two Languages are in Complementary Distribution in Syed Speech Community**
Examples of language use by the male members of Syed family in formal and Informal Situation

HIGH(H) Urdu

LOW (L) BHOJPURI

Specialization of functions for (H) and (L) using by male members of Syed family. Urdu considered as High Variety

(H) →
- Mosque Sermons
- Political Speeches
- University Lectures
- News Broadcast
- Newspaper Editorial and Poetry

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Bhojpuri Considered as Low Variety

Giving Instructions to Servant
Personal Letters
(L) → Listening Songs
Friendly Conversation
Folk Lore

This is the formal situation in which Urdu language is being used.

▶ **Bhojpuri Language is used as a Vernacular Variety**

Research Question

How does the dialectal variation in Syed speech community among the male youngsters create a unique language situation?

Hypothesis

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Young male members prefer Urdu over Bhojpuri in different situations in Syed speech community.

Educational status of Syed speech community:
➢ **High School** ➔ **Munshi**
➢ **Intermediate** ➔ **Alim**
➢ **B.A.** ➔ **Kamil**
➢ **M.A.** ➔ **Fazil**

Methodology
Observational and analytical process has been used in the research.

Analysis of the Data
By listening to Audio recording again and again to find out whether two different languages are being used in two different situations.

Different Steps Taken for Data Collection
➢ Observational method has been used collecting the data.
➢ Data collection in the form of Questionnaire via role play.
➢ Personal interview.
➢ Conversation in formal situations or informal situations.
➢ Telephonic Conversations.

Description about the Informants
➢ Number of informants is 35.
➢ Average age of the informants is 20 years to 30 years
➢ *Gender***:** Male
➢ *Class***:** Working and educated both.
➢ *Languages:* Urdu, Bhojpuri, Hindi, English

Conclusion
On the basis of above data, it was found that the informants prefer Urdu over Bhojpuri in specific domains. They considered one variety as High (H) and another as Low (L). This distinction between H and L variety creates a unique language situation which is to be known as "DIGLOSSIA" Now the hypothesis of the research is proved that there is preference of Urdu over Bhojpuri amongst the male youngsters of the Syed family.

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