

## \* Chapter-15-: Language Planning

21<sup>st</sup> May

- \* Has existed for a long time.
- \* At the end of colonization, many countries around the world.
- \* We have: Marginal languages. And Standard languages.
- \* When we talk about Language Planning as a science, it started to emerge (just) after the end of colonization. After the independence of those different colonized countries.
- ex: Africa, thousands of languages were spoken. The colonizer left the country, so they could manage in a sociolinguistics way / perspective. So those people in Africa (that is independent now) found it hard to deal with the language. One important point of building a nation is language. The reason they faced difficulties is because:-
- When we have a country, that has different languages, none of them would give in to any other variety.

$\begin{matrix} B & C & D \\ A & G & H \\ F & E & \end{matrix}$

⇒ if I chose (D), none of the rest would accept it. "Why not me as a standard!"

- \* Independence brought with it sociolinguistic consequences that were never far off.
- \* The easiest way to solve this problem was to resort to the colonizer's language. So many of them continued to use Eng. or French as an official language to avoid conflicts. Believing that Eng. was an "innocent language".



- \* Choosing the colonizer's language doesn't mean that everyone accepted it in the country.
- \* Nationalists refused it, but there was no other choice.

\* Language Policy is the human intervention (تدخل) in the course (=life) of languages including different things:

- \* change a language
- \* kill a language
- \* defuse a language
- \* maintain a language

\* About a thousand years back, there were only 6 working languages:

- \* Arabic
- \* Old English
- \* Latin
- \* Greek
- \* Slavonic
- \* Hebrew (dead language)

⇒ later on, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, those (6) languages became (30), because of independence. (1937).

- \* languages are expressions of identity, ethnicity, who we are. It's not easy to give in the language.
- \* English is a killer language, because many communities around the world started to abandon their native languages, and use English instead.



\* We have: Status Planning. ① P.379 23 May  
 ⇒ changing the status of a certain language, changing the function of it. This changing reflects on those who speak the language.  
 ex: Arabic and Hebrew were two official language before (سابقاً). But then he decided that only Hebrew, and that changed the status of Arabic, as a result this reflects on us (Palestinians).

② Corpus Planning: related to status planning. P.379  
 ⇒ We have to produce a body that reflects that language.  
 \* Develop dictionaries, words, spelling, writing system.  
 ⇒ The language that is chosen to be official/standardized is used in the government, education, media.

\* Language Planning (LP) can have subtle consequences, and can have brutal consequences on other varieties.

\* We have 4 major ideologies of (LP):- P.380  
 1) Linguistic assimilation:-  
 ↳ assimilation means: 2 different things coming together to become 1 (melting).  
 ↳ Says that: everybody should speak one language.  
 ex. when France colonized different places in the world, they had a definite language policy, which is that everybody should speak French.



\* Why one language?

↳ Because of language planning. Different countries gained independence, so now we have nation building. The colonizers out, and for us to build a nation we must have one language that brings us together.

2) Linguistic pluralism :- P.380

↳ When we have more than one official language.

ex: Canada → French and English.

Switzerland → German, French, Italian and Romansh

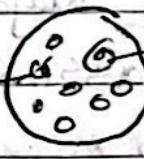
Belgium → French and German and Dutch.

↳ opposed to the (assimilation) policy.

↳ there is almost always some conflict as to which language is more powerful.

3) Vernacularization :- P.380

↳ A local language. Language policy planners choose one variety of a group of varieties that are found in a certain area.

local languages varieties  becomes an official language

4) Internationalization :- P.380

↳ to adopt the language of the colonizer, and it sounds neutral (when in fact it's not), because it reflects the colonizer's control in cultural and linguistic way.

↳ when a non-indigenous language is chosen.



\* Language categorization:- p.381

1. Standard. 2. Official.

3. Promoted language.

↳ a language that is encouraged to be used.

- ex: English is a promoted language in science and technology in the Arab world.

4. Proscribed language.

↳ opposite of the promoted language.

↳ a language that is not encouraged to be used, and it's usually attacked, not accepted.

- ex: going back to the French colonization policy, any other language that is not French, was proscribed language.

- ex: Catalan and Castilian, they don't like or accept each other's language/variety.

5. Tolerated language.

↳ tolerate: to accept/put up with it (not necessarily with love)

- ex: the use of Kurdish, in Turkiye was proscribed. However, now with the rise of human rights, some people started to accept/tolerate Kurdish.

- ex: Catalan was proscribed, now it's accepted/tolerated.

\* interventionist approach: Critical Theory.

↳ the abuse of a certain language, and this reflects on its speakers.



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\* Language Planning leads to Language Death/Attrition.

↳ When people stop using their own languages / indigenous languages, and move to use another language, then their own languages would die.

- ex: as a result of immigration / colonization, quite often some languages die.

\* Language maintenance: to keep a certain language / to maintain it.  
⇒ as a result of immigration, this would create a situation where we have different languages spoken in the same state.

⇒ Language planners had to find a solution, some of them went back to the ideologies:

⇒ The European Council created (A charter) = law. P.382

↳ saying that: immigrant languages are to be recognized.  
~~recognition~~ recognition for the different language that are spoken in a certain area.

↳ it also says that: every country can use whatever it sees / pleases.

\* as a result of human rights movements = language rights:

- 1) Immigrants can keep their own language.
- 2) Immigrants should not keep their own language, they should assimilate.



the number (1) policy: Those immigrants can keep their own language at their own responsibility. Meaning the government will not help them in keeping their own language, they're not proscribing it, but they won't fight for its place, won't give any surface for it.

↳ when the government said that, some human rights movement did not accept that. That leads to the next point, which is:-  
⇒ to get some demographic data about immigrants.

meaning, you can't say you won't help immigrants.  
demographic data: numbers, ages, genders, education, residence.  
— when we collect these, then we can decide whether to help or not.

\* A Variety of Situations:-

P.383

(1) France. P.383

↳ whether France itself, or a colonized country they adopted, it calls for only one language (French), other languages are not accepted.

(2) Switzerland: Multilingual

↳ German, French, Italian, Romansh.

(3) Belgium: Dutch, French, German.

\* 2 different languages = 2 different ethnic groups \*



\* in Belgium we have 2 basic language groups:-

P.384

1) Flemish (~~French~~)

(Dutch) = 59%

official

2) Walloons (French) = 40%

German = 1%

official

⇒ for a long time, Flemish controlled Belgium so it was the official language (Dutch). Until King William came, and reversed the situation, French became then the official language.

\* time is very important in the language policy.

Belgium

Flemish  
↓  
represents

Dutch

59%

Walloons

↓  
represents

French

40%

8<sup>th</sup> May

\* Flemish see Walloons as a threat to the country.

\* Any problem in German, does not seen as a problem, because it's only 1%.

\* Spain (3 languages) → Castilian, Catalan, Basque.

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\* for a long time, they were banned.

that's why they are seen as a threat (proscribed). \* they called for independence from Spain.



- \* Turkey: they used the Arabic script. P.385
- in 1928, Kamal Atatürk used the Roman Alphabet.
- Arabic to Roman. (A, B, C, D...)
- Changed the writing system.
- \* Why? for 2 reasons:-
- 1] 90% of the Turkish population were illiterate/uneducated.
  - ↳ they didn't know what was going on in schools, so when Atatürk started schools, he started with the Roman Alphabet.
  - ↳ So those kids and their families who didn't know anything in the past, this was the norm (Roman).
- 2] Atatürk didn't want anything with the Arab World.
  - ↳ to him, the Arab world represented bad wordliness.
  - ↳ He wanted very much to be like the west (Europe).
- in 1930, He called for collaboration from Western languages, to be more like them.
- The Sun-language theory:-
  - ↳ assumes that all languages of the world emerged from Turkish. So Turkish is the mother language of all languages in the world.
- through time, Russia collapsed, and there became the Soviet Union, which they used the same script (Roman).
- That made Atatürk change from Roman to Cyrillic.



- Roman to Cyrillic (E, A, ...)

- He didn't want anything from the East, only West.

\* Finland.  $\Rightarrow$  Finnish.

↳ for over 700 years, Finland was part Sweden, but then, as a result of diplomacy and politics, it became part of Russia.

↳ in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, as they gained their independence, their language was only spoken, and they developed the writing system. They wanted their language to be different from the Russians and the Swedes.

↳ Finnish then became official/standard language.

↳ developed literature.

\* At the end of colonization, many of the colonized countries (except for a few) continued to use the European languages.

Why?

↳ they wanted to avoid conflict between the different ethnicities.

↳ the population was used to these languages, especially English.

↳ European languages meant mobility, because they are more common than non-European languages.



30 May

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- \* India: there are over 1 billion people in India.
- ↳ official language is Hindi. P. 389.
- ↳ language planning in India is confined to the elite group.
- ↳ during the British colonization in India, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan were one country, and the language they used was called (Hindi-Urdu). Until the independence they started to have their own stuff.
- ↳ English in India is called an (auxiliary language) helping language.
- ↳ Nationalists in India tried to purify Hindi from 2 languages:-
  - ↳ Urdu and English.
  - Those nationalists wanted to get rid of Urdu and English Terms.
  - Deciding on Hindi as the official language, is at the cost of the other minority languages.

### \* Winners and Losers :- P. 464

- from a language perspective, a winner language is the language that survives. Regardless whether it's official or no.
- losers are the languages that die / lose their native speak
- in 1950's, Spanish was used by 59% none of them
- native speakers } Hindi-Urdu 59% compares to Chinese
- Arabic 2% it's used by billion
- English 9% of people



- in 2000, English was used by 6%      Arabic 2%  
 why?      Spanish 5%      Hindi-Urdu 5%  
 (Urdu is taking over).

We have 4 major thriving languages nowadays:-

1) English. 2) Spanish. 3) Arabic. 3) Hindi-Urdu.

- Russian, French, German --- they are all international languages, However, they're not thriving (developing).

- Some language planners expect Arabic to be the next lingua-franka.

25% of the world's population speak English as native and non-native language.

- By 2050, the people who will speak English will be 3 billion worldwide.

English is a winner language / ultimate winner (قائم).

- By 2050, it is expected that Chinese, Arabic and Spanish will be more important than other languages.

English is the language of science and technology.

90% of the world's scientific data is in English.

English is the language of entertainment, sports, music, movies, books...

English is a prestige language.

- Dominance of English = hegemony.

negative consequence language death/attrition.

many non-thriving languages die

2-hegemonise intellectually, mentally.

(لغة) هي لغة الهيمنة



9. June

\* America :-

↳ the American constitution, doesn't see English is the official language, because it's spoken worldwide.

↳ the year 2000, it has been found that there's 2 basic communities: 1) WASP.  $\Rightarrow$  White Anglo Saxyn Protestant  
2) Hispanic (Mexican Americans) 12%  
 $\Rightarrow$  Native language: Spanish.

\* 1 out of 6 in America, doesn't speak English. This includes both: Hispanic Community and immigrants.

\* 2 solutions for immigrants:-

- Swim or Drown. (meaning  $\Rightarrow$  speak English or leave the country).
- Bilingual education.

\* in America, people who don't speak English are considered as a threat to the country.

- "English First"  $\Rightarrow$  A law which wants everybody in America to speak English.

\* Going back to Winners and Losers P. 407:-

\* We have 2 studies:-  $\Rightarrow$  Why 2?

↳ 6912  $\Rightarrow$  sometimes they look at varieties as a language  $\Rightarrow$  2800

↳ 4000 languages.  $\Rightarrow$  after 60% = 1600.

\* it is expected that nowadays 60% of languages are endangered

\* by the end of 21<sup>st</sup> century, 95% of languages of the world will die (theory).



\* Reasons for language death:-

- 1) Death of their speakers, whether naturally or genocides.
- 2) immigrations.
- 3) native speakers stop using their own language.

\* According to language Policy makers, the English language has established itself as a global language for the next 100 years

\* the number of non-native speakers of English is way higher than the native speakers.

\* end of Chapter-15. \*