

## **GENDER ISSUES IN FOREIGN THEORETICAL LINGUISTICS: CONCERNING THE HISTORY OF THE ISSUE**

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### **ABSTRACT:**

**The history of the emergence of gender studies in foreign linguistics is presented. Various approaches, within the framework of which gender studies are currently being developed, are considered. The class "gender" regarded in linguistics surprisingly recently, extremely later than in different sciences. The prehistory of gender research in linguistics is rooted in antiquity, whilst the knowledge of the kinds of herbal intercourse (sexus) and grammatical gender (gender) began, and the symbolic-semantic idea of the class of gender (genus) regarded, thinking about it in near reference to on the spot reality: the presence human beings of various intercourse.**

**Key words: category, lingua-gender issues, concept, personification, universal conceptual categories, female and masculine nominations, "female" language, social reality, historical approach, verbal behavior.**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

The category "gender" appeared in linguistics relatively recently (in the 1980s), somewhat later than in other sciences. The prehistory of gender studies in linguistics is rooted in antiquity, when the understanding of the categories of natural sex (sexus) and grammatical gender (gender) began, and the symbolic-semantic concept of the category of gender (genus) appeared, considering it in close connection with immediate reality: the presence people of different sex. For a long time, the opinion about the undoubted

connection between the natural sex and the grammatical gender was unified and dominant, since the symbolic-semantic hypothesis was presented by scientists who had a huge influence on linguistics (W. Grimm, Humboldt, etc.). This theory led to evaluativeness in the interpretation of the category of gender [9]: the masculine gender was paramount due to the ascription of the names related to it, the semantics of force, activity, energy. Feminine names, on the contrary, were characterized by passivity, subordination.

In our opinion, this concept existed for such a long time also because the hypothesis underlying it was associated with the idea of a sex-role tradition that originates in ancient Chinese philosophy with its basic concepts - yang and yin. The concept of the interaction of polar forces, the dualism of which is expressed in the indissoluble unity and struggle of light and dark, hard and soft, masculine (spirit) and feminine (matter), and from the combinations of which any formation and being, thing and concept arose, formed the basis of the doctrine of symbols of the interaction of extreme opposites. These differences have been formed and fixed for centuries. The classification of these differences was also proposed by the ancient Arab physician and philosopher Sar-Dinoil in his "Course of development of the hidden mental forces of man" [13]:

Man	Woman	
The body is active. The soul is passive	The soul is active. The body is passive	concept of biological sex in consciousness and - which is essential - participates in the formation of positive or negative connotations” [9, p. 64].
Mind. Logical thinking	Feeling. Imagination	
Science	Art	
Abstract thinking: analysis, idea, content	Concrete thinking: synthesis,	
Strength, persistence	Substance, susceptibility	
Active state	Passive state	
Energy in action. Onslaught	Energy in tension. Endurance	
Consciousness Conclusion	Superconsciousness. Intuition.	

**MATERIAL AND METHODS:**

At the beginning of the XX century. interest in the gender aspects of language and communication increased slightly, and the topic of language and gender in linguistics began to move to the fore. This was facilitated by a number of circumstances. Firstly, this topic has interested world-renowned linguists in the linguistics of the 20th century. (E. Sapir, O. Jespersen, F. Mautner), although their works in the area under consideration had not yet formed an independent direction. Secondly, in the first place in the linguistic description, the social plane began to be put forward, considering language in connection with society and the person in it; new directions in linguistics arose - sociolinguistics, pragmatics, psycholinguistics, the theory of discourse and communication. At the same time, the experience of studying the differences between male and female variants of the language, accumulated on the basis of the so-called primitive languages, began to be extrapolated to the “civilized” European languages: German, English, French.

In 1921, F. Mautner's work [20] devoted to language criticism was published, in which he recognizes gender differences in the German language, substantiating them with social and historical reasons.

So, when studying the functioning of the language in various social spheres, it was noticed that among factory workers, profanity is used exclusively by men. In the aristocratic strata of society, men, instead of invectives and vulgarisms, used euphemisms, which women were also allowed to pronounce, but as long as their euphemistic character was not lost. According to his observations, only men are

Thus, the conditions of social reality were extrapolated to the laws of language development. However, there are languages in which the category of gender is absent. Within the framework of criticism of this hypothesis and its gradual replacement by the morphological and syntactic explanation of the category of genus, the recognition that the category of genus itself is capable of influencing human perception of the corresponding words and concepts remained unchanged. Thus, personification ascribes the properties of females to objects denoted by the words of the feminine gender, and the properties of males to objects of the neuter and masculine gender. According to R. Jakobson, Russians imagine the days of the week in accordance with the genus of the nominated word. Sin in the German mind is associated with a woman. At the same time, ordinary consciousness does not think about what caused the gender of the word - semantics, syntax or morphology. "Gender is a grammatical category inherent in different parts of speech and consisting in the distribution of words in two or three classes, traditionally correlated with gender or their absence" [7, p. 275]. All this allows us to assume that “the grammatical gender of the name influences the perception of reality, activates the frames associated with the

able to creatively use the language, and women learn what is created by the stronger sex. The scientist connects the origin of the "feminine" language with the traditions of the ancient theater, where initially the female roles were played by men. Only with the appearance on the stage of women in the technique of drama did changes take place, which made it possible to "sound" and the female version of the language. The historical approach led the author to the conclusion that society adopted the "feminine" language when women were allowed to speak, which indicates the influence of the unequal position of the sexes on linguistic socialization. Previously, the social aspects of gender variability were not taken into account.

E. Sapir focused on the differences that realize social identity in the Indian languages Nootka and Coasati. He concluded that gender and status signal abnormal speech through linguistic form. Sapir also considered phonological differences within one morpheme, interpreting them as signaling sex, and came to the conclusion that sex is marked obligatory in the morphology of many languages [22].

In 1922, O. Espersen gave a broader overview of the distinctive signs of gender in the language, based on the information of missionaries about the male and female languages of the Indians living on the islands of the Caribbean archipelago [17]. In his opinion, women use vocabulary different from masculine. For example, in the Chiquito tribe, men were allowed to use some suffixes, and women - others; it was generally forbidden for them to call their husbands by name. Women are more prone to euphemisms and less to swearing, more conservative in the use of language.

O. Jespersen also drew attention to the difference between the speech behavior of men and women in a bilingual situation. In a

bilingual environment, women remain monolingual, and men learn a new language faster. Jespersen described the differences and features in pronunciation and accentuation in English and French, in morphology, in the structure of the vocabulary of men and women, in their use of syntactic constructions. So, in the speech of women, elliptical constructions and parataxis were more common, and periods and hypotaxis were more typical for the speech of men. Although Jespersen most fully for his time interpreted the question of the influence of gender on verbal behavior, his views in the subsequent period were questioned due to the fact that he drew his conclusions based only on personal observations, many of which were not sufficiently substantiated.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

In general, the initial stage of studying the gender factor in the language had two features: firstly, the studies were fragmentary and were on the periphery of linguistics; secondly, in the course of describing the characteristics of male and female communicative competence, relations were formed between male and female languages as norms and deviations from the norm. However, later this topic began to expand and attract more and more attention of linguists due to the emergence of new data, which led to an increase in professional interest in gender studies. In the late 60s. XX century. there was a radical turn in the approach to gender studies, which began to develop intensively, primarily in the Western humanities. Their emergence and development is not accidental and is associated with a new view of the problem of cognition, philosophy of sciences and philosophy of society. Currently, gender studies are developing mainly within the framework of several approaches. So, A.A. Clecin distinguishes three areas:

- 1) Gender as a tool of social analysis;
- 2) Gender as a tool for women's research;
- 3) Gender as a cultural interpretation [11].

E.I. Goroshko notes in linguistics the following three main approaches in the study of gender influence on the speech organization of the individual [7].

The first approach boils down to interpreting the exclusively social nature of the language of women and men and is aimed at identifying those semantic differences that can be explained by the peculiarities of the redistribution of social power in society. In this case, the language is defined as a kind of functional derivative from the main language, used in cases where the partners in speech are at different levels of the social hierarchy.

The second sociopsycholinguistic approach scientifically reduces the "female" and "male" language to the peculiarities of the linguistic behavior of women and men; for him, statistical indicators or the determination of average parameters are of fundamental importance and constitute a framework for constructing psycholinguistic theories of male and female types of behavior [1].

Representatives of the third direction emphasize the cognitive aspect of differences in the language behavior of the sexes. For them, it turns out to be more significant not only to determine the frequency of differences and operate with its indicators, but also to create integral linguistic models of the cognitive foundations of linguistic categories.

A.V. Kirilina identifies six linguistic directions that study the influence of the gender factor on speech and differ in conceptual attitudes, research methods and the nature of the material being studied [9]:

- 1) Sociolinguistic gender studies;
- 2) Feminist linguistics;
- 3) Gender research itself, which studies the language behavior of both sexes;

- 4) Studies of masculinity (the youngest trend that emerged at the end of the twentieth century);
- 5) Psycholinguistic research (work in the field of neurolinguistics, the study of the ontogenesis of speech, the study of cognitive characteristics and differences between men and women and their manifestations in speech);
- 6) Cross-cultural, linguocultural studies, including the theory of gender subcultures.

### **CONCLUSION:**

This basic position, which has developed in the course of the development of some modern societies, causes a negative attitude from a certain group of linguists who are fighting to revise the gender characteristic in modern English [27, 590-598]. They believe that the practice of fixing the masculine gender for neutral concepts is associated with the presence of prejudices in English society during its historical development, when it was a "society for men" with a dominant patriarchy, which could not but affect the evolution of the English language. For example, it is proposed to replace words with the generic attribute man with a generalizing lexeme: instead of chairman, use chairperson, chair, mediator, coordinator; replace manpower with workforce, personnel, the staff, the workers.

The least developed gender component of non-European languages [3]. At the same time, fragmentary gender aspects of the language in intercultural comparison are presented in the works of linguists who do not consider themselves to be genderologists [4, 25].

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