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# SPEECH – AN INDICATOR OF A PERSON'S SOCIAL STATUS

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### **Abstract**

Social status is a multifaceted characteristic of a person that reflects a set of certain characteristics. This article provides information about the concept of social status, its definitions in sociology, psychology, and its main features. The essence of this concept has also been discussed in linguistics. Opinions about speech communication were expressed. It was noted that the participants of the dialogue can show their social status with their speech.

**Keywords**: language, speech communication, social status, social role, status indicators, verbal and non-verbal means.

#### Introduction

Speech communication represents the complex, rich and colorful social activity of people, and at the same time it is suitable and characteristic for the organization of this activity. A person is formed on the basis of communication and improves through communication. Speech communication is one of the important conditions for the social development of an individual and society. The level of communicative power, improvement, and intelligibility of a language depends on the extent to which social factors are reflected in it and the extent to which it satisfies the communicative needs of social types [Hasanova, 2022:62].

In sociolinguistics, the concepts of social role and social status are related to each other. N.I. Formanovskaya defines "social role" as "a defined combination of position and task." In addition, in the minds of people, this or that role is connected with a pattern of behavior, what are the obligations of a person in this role, and what rights he has. [Formanovskaya, 2002: 44]. In sociology, "social role" is a certain social task performed by an individual, a part of society [Karasik, 2002:125]. Social tasks determine a person's social status, which summarizes many social roles. Q. Rasulov shows their social status, social task and social position as "necessary components" of communicants participating in the communicative act. Here, the term social status is used in relation to the characteristics of a person representing the higher (dominant) or lower (subordinate) level of legality of society in connection with the position specific to the laws of a certain social system. Instead of the term social duty, it represents a sign of obligation that is required by the demands of the relevant social group arising from the profession of the society. The term social position

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indicates the place of society in the communicative act under the influence of social status and social task. [Rasulov Q, 2008:18] If we express our opinion more clearly, if the social status determines the character of the society formed under the influence of the right of the profession and position, i.e. the level of legality, then the social function defines its professional obligation, duty and social position in the communicative situation of the society. determines its position. These signs of communicators complement each other and directly determine the speech of the society, the characteristic parameters that guide the speech, and the situations of behavior, i.e., the behavior of communication, and all this is united under the term of the social role of communicators. [Rasulov Q, 2008:20] In fact, a certain pattern of behavior considered suitable for people with a certain status in a certain society, a form of stable behavior, including human actions, thoughts and feelings represent a "social role". Role behavior is the behavior of a person with a certain social status in accordance with what people expect from him. A social role can be formally, for example, given to a person by law, or it can be informal in nature. Each person has not one, but a whole set of social roles in society. Their combination is called a role system. Social roles are diverse, but if some social roles conflict with each other, it can cause internal conflict in a person. When it comes to how social status is expressed, it can be noted that it can be in the following forms: 1. Verbal and non-verbal. 2. Involuntary and intentional. 3. Direct and indirect.

#### **METHODS**

When it comes to the direct expression of social status, it is necessary to mention certain words and gestures, gestures, appeals, politeness formulas, and greetings that express social relations. Direct indicator of social status. Indirect indicators of social status require detailed interpretation, they are different in nature and are related to areas of life related to social status (education, social background of a person, work, financial situation, behavior etc.) are relevant. Showing the way of life calculated from the indicators of social status applies to almost all objects surrounding a person, as well as events, relationships, behavior, evaluation and others. The social indicator of speech can be observed in phonetics, lexis and grammar. In conditions of inequality of social status, respect for the listener is realized at the level of relative freedom of communication participants: a participant in communication with a low social status has less freedom in choosing forms of behavior than his high-level partner. In general, the expression of status relations is very specific in different cultures and languages. This is manifested, in particular, in special forms of appeal. One of the important problems of a person's social status and social relations is the study of a person's communication behavior and the influence of social factors on it. In modern Uzbek sociology, the division of society into upper, middle and lower strata is almost not observed, this type of stratification of society is avoided, but managerial, entrepreneurial, intellectual and needy strata are mentioned. Sociolinguistics is interested in identifying peculiarities in language use of social categories. [Y. Odilov, 2024: 12].

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#### **RESULTS**

Social status is directly related to language, because a person's speech also depends on his position in society. We can know this from the difference between the speech of a highly educated person and the speech of an ordinary peasant. Sociolinguistics is a complex science, and to study the social nature of language and its social functions, the sciences of linguistics, sociology, and ethnography also help. Within the framework of modern sociolinguistics, a system of concepts describing the social aspects of language has been developed. Among them: language community, language code, socio-communicative system, language status. A language community is a community united by linguistic and social ties. The main characteristic of a language community is communication, as well as the existence of stable connections between members of this community. In order to define a language community, it is necessary to take into account both its linguistic and social aspects. Speech features are one of the means of confirming social status. One of the most important factors of speech behavior in socially oriented communication is the social roles of the speaker and the listener. At the same time, there is the following functional connection: not only the role situation determines the character of the speech behavior of the participants, but also the selected linguistic means show and confirm the social situation. Undoubtedly, language is the main means of confirming the social status of the participants. When the most important social roles for the interlocutors to communicate are noted, there are indirect socio-symbolic tools that demonstrate the social status and role of the interlocutors [Khasanov, 2023: 1025]. These tools include: 1. Choosing a form of application. Undoubtedly, the form of address is chosen depending on the identity of the listener, if the social statuses are equal, the speaker expresses his personal attitude to the listener. [Karasik, 2002: 68]. By changing the forms of address, it is possible to find out whether the relationship is formal or informal, as well as the need to establish social distance on this basis. For example, addresses such as "Ladies and Gentlemen!", "My friends", "My dear", we can get information about the distance between the interlocutors and whether the social status is equal or not. Depending on which type of greeting or farewell is chosen, we can also find information about social status. For example, "Hello. How are you?", "That's it, see you", "Hello, dear participants!", "Goodbye", "Let's talk", and similar speech etiquettes indicate the social status of the interlocutors. can report. For example, the address in Russian clearly reflects the civil social status of a person: "Ivan Petrovich", "comrade Petrov", "Citizen Petrov". We can see this situation in Uzbek as well. [Byganova, 2011: 21] For example, in the dialogue between the military, investigators, officials and ordinary citizens subordinate to him, in the dialogue between the police officer and the citizen, in the dialogue between the teacher and the student. 2. Deliberate imitation of pronunciation. According to many studies, a person adjusts his speech to the pronunciation of his communication partner, and it is appropriate if they show empathy to each other in this situation.

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3. Choosing the style of speech behavior. The social status of the communicators is also differentiated by the speech styles they choose. In particular, formal, conversational styles can provide information about the social status of the interlocutors. If there is a difference in social status between them, they use statements that encourage the listener to act and control him. The use of the form "You" or "You" in addressing is characterized by a change in the communication style, this method is aimed at raising or lowering the social status of the speakers [Majidovich, 2022: 158]. This is also considered a relative concept, and in some regions of our country, the address "you" can be used for big and small.

The social indicator of speech can also be seen in tone. According to research, the higher the status of the participants in the society, the more sensitive and polite they conduct the conversation, the intonation is hurried, even the voice is modeled [Geertz, 1982:173]. Tone characteristics in speech are one of the main factors determining the social status of a person. An indicator of social status is considered through pronunciation, word choice, and adherence to normative grammar.

V. I. Karasik said that the social status is manifested in the process of communication through the following forms: 1) verb tense, in particular, command verbs, modal verbs; 2) personal and possessive pronouns [Karasik, 2002: 168].

#### **CONCLUSION**

In the process of communication, the social status of the interlocutors is also evident in the fact that they are educated or not. One of the most vivid examples of the correct speech of an educated person is the language of mass media. Mass media have a great influence on society, at the same time, not only social consciousness and attitude to certain events are formed, but also the speech of the audience is formed. In addition, mass media have the task of influencing the minds and speech of citizens.

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