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Language Reform and Word-borrowing Principles in English, Turkish, and Kazakh Languages

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Abstract

The essence of this article is how borrowing words transforms languages. Foreign languages within the geopolitics of nations influence word borrowing, which some researchers argue is a vocabulary enrichment of the mother tongue. However, if foreign languages continue to infiltrate national languages, the national languages become an amalgam of confusion. Therefore, it is essential for national societies to strictly control loanwords by adhering to borrowing principles of the national language. This article analyzes word-borrowing principles and identifies the Kazakh, Turkish, and English linguistic principles of word-borrowing. This article is part of a Ph.D. dissertation in which the lead author and Ph.D. committee conducted multilingual empirical research using a qualitative methodology of interviewing linguists. The findings showed that English and Turkish have their linguistic principles. Other foreign languages must be introduced into the Kazakh language, not through the Russian language, but directly through the Kazakh language law, as our findings for the English and Turkish languages show. The Kazakh language relies on the Russian language's principles concerning borrowing words from other languages without having its principles. Our study's implications indicate a crucial need for further research in the Kazakh language to develop the principles for word borrowing to enhance the language.

Keywords: Word Borrowings, Language Reform, Kazakh Language, Dominant Language, Post-Soviet Country