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**«ҒЫЛЫМ ЖӘНЕ БІЛІМ – 2017»**

студенттер мен жас ғалымдардың  
XII Халықаралық ғылыми конференциясының  
БАЯНДАМАЛАР ЖИНАҒЫ

**СБОРНИК МАТЕРИАЛОВ**

XII Международной научной конференции  
студентов и молодых ученых  
**«НАУКА И ОБРАЗОВАНИЕ – 2017»**

**PROCEEDINGS**

of the XII International Scientific Conference  
for students and young scholars  
**«SCIENCE AND EDUCATION - 2017»**



14<sup>th</sup> April 2017, Astana



**ҚАЗАҚСТАН РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫ БІЛІМ ЖӘНЕ ҒЫЛЫМ МИНИСТРЛІГІ  
Л.Н. ГУМИЛЕВ АТЫНДАҒЫ ЕУРАЗИЯ ҰЛТТЫҚ УНИВЕРСИТЕТІ**

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will provide more explanation and interpretation.

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## **PUTONGHUA AND DIALECTS IN CHINESE LANGUAGE**

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Chinese languages, also called Sinitic languages, Chinese Han, principal language group of eastern Asia, belonging to the Sino-Tibetan language family. Chinese exists in a number of varieties that are popularly called dialects but that are usually classified as separate languages by scholars. More people speak a variety of Chinese as a native language than any other language in the world, and Modern Standard Chinese is one of the six official languages of the United Nations. Chinese now has earned itself greater status in the World. The official language of China is the Mandarin, which is the very name of 'Hanyu' or 'Putonghua', belonging to Sino-Tibetan.

Chinese national policy stipulates regional and cultural autonomy with freedom for each dialect group to use its own language, but this freedom is subject to the prior interest of creating a single national language.

Prior to the twentieth century, Chinese governments of the imperial period seem to have taken little notice of language problems. The sociolinguistic situation which prevailed for many centuries, wherein governmental business was carried out either in the written literary language or in the oral lingua franca based on the speech of the imperial capital, served the practical needs of the government quite well.

In general, the communist government which took power in 1949 continued the linguistic policies of the former regime, expressing strong support for a single báihuà as the common written language was further strengthened, and the use of Putonghua was curtailed altogether. Little official action on the language reform front was taken until the mid-1950s. Among the resolutions of the National Script Reform Congress which met in October 1955 were suggestions concerning reform and simplification of the traditional logographic script, as well as suggestions about promoting the study of national language, now officially called Putonghua (Mandarin Chinese) ‘the common language’[1, 422–425].

In 1956 the State Council issued an official directive ordering the teaching of putonghua (Mandarin Chinese) in schools beginning from the autumn of the same year; in addition, it contained broad instructions on how putonghua was to be promoted in various areas of national life

- the army, the Communist Youth League, broadcasting, journalism, industry, commerce, and translation and interpreting work. Among other practical measures mandated were the creation of a new phonetic alphabet and the compiling of a dictionary of the standard language. The policy outlined in this directive was actively implemented up until the inception of the Cultural Revolution (1966-76); during this period work on promoting putonghua virtually ceased.

China is a vast nation boasting diversified nationalities and languages. With 56 ethnic groups, there are over 100 languages used in China, and there are countless local dialects.

Pinyin means to join together, or spell out, sounds. Pinyin was developed for Chinese speakers and those learning standard Chinese pronunciation, and is an efficient way of representing Chinese sounds with the Roman alphabet. It serves the same purpose as the international phonetic symbols used in dictionaries to show how English words are pronounced. Pinyin was developed during the People's Republic of China era (from 1949). It was first approved by the Chinese government in 1958, and the International Organization for Standardization adopted it as a world standard in 1982. It is obvious that pinyin wasn't developed for, and is often misunderstood by, the English-speaking world. This is in evidence whenever English speakers try to pronounce pinyin words without any previous study. About half the time letters in pinyin represent different sounds from what they would in a typical English word, and most of the time the vowels have peculiar sounds.

Pinyin is a very useful tool to learn to get around China. The Chinese view their characters as the true Chinese written language, but pinyin can be seen on many maps, road signs, and other notices. Pinyin is much easier to learn, use and remember than characters, particularly if tones are ignored. Pinyin notation can be thoroughly learnt in a few hours (though the tongue may not be fully trained in that time—that takes days or weeks of practice), but a working knowledge of Chinese characters (3,000 characters for basic literacy) takes years of hard study [2, 537-538].

On October 31st, 2000, the Law of Universal Language and Character of the People's Republic of China came into force, which stipulates Mandarin as China's universal national language. While Mandarin is spoken in distinctive dialects throughout China, standard Mandarin is mostly influenced by the Northern Beijing dialect. This is similar to how standard American English is influenced by the West Coast dialect. Beijing being the center of government in China accounts for its influence, while the actresses and actors of Hollywood set the American standard. The official language in China is called **Putonghua** (普通话), literally translated as 'common speech', which is known in English as Mandarin Chinese, or Standard Chinese. It is the most widely used language in China and the world at large, and one of the 6 official languages of the United Nations.

**Mandarin Chinese** belongs to the Sino-Tibetan language family, and is the shared language of most Chinese people. Chinese people, who speak other languages, often also speak or use Mandarin as their second language. If you intend to learn Chinese, it is most useful to learn Mandarin Chinese.

While written forms of Mandarin maintain a rigid standard across the country, the dialects of China vary widely in their pronunciation patterns. Of the other varieties of Chinese spoken by the many ethnic groups of China, the most widely used and well known are Cantonese, Hakka, Shanghainese, and Sichuanese.

**Cantonese** is common and influential in Guangdong Province, Hong Kong (together with English) and Macau (together with Portuguese), as well as numerous Cantonese-speaking overseas communities. In many countries' China towns, there are many Cantonese emigrants.

**Hakka** is widely spoken in Fujian Province, Taiwan Island, and some countries in Southeast Asia, such as Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia. The Hakka people are believed to be a sub group of the Han Chinese of Northern China. Hakka Chinese is given special notice by Taiwan where the Ministry of Education names it as one of the official languages of Taiwan.

**Shanghaihua** or **Shanghainese** is the dialect spoken in Shanghai and the surrounding regions. Like many other dialects, its unique pronunciation is nearly unintelligible to standard Mandarin speakers. There is growing demand to learn Shanghainese as the city continues to become

the commercial trading hub of South Asia.

**Sichuanese** is the dialect spoken in Sichuan Province. Sichuanese varies from standard Mandarin in its pronunciation and is largely unintelligible to standard Mandarin speakers. If you find yourself in Sichuan, for example on our popular A Close Experience with Pandas tour, it might be useful to brush up on the Sichuanese pronunciation of common phrases.

English has been the language of power for a long time, so it is hard to think of a world where English is not the dominant language. The power of English is economic, first with the English speaking British Empire leading up to the Second World War and the American Empire since the end of the Second World War. As the power and influence of the USA declines relative to the growth of China, Russia, India and Brazil (the BRICs), the dominance of English as the language of power will also see a decline. This is especially true as the Internet provides increasing levels of accuracy in translation between languages with no extra cost. More and more people are able to use technology in their local language, so the necessity of learning English is decreasing. The same can be said for Japan. There are still a lot of Japanophiles out there, but the necessity of learning Japanese to appreciate Japanese culture is evaporating as translations are ubiquitous in English, Chinese, French, German, etc. It is increasingly easy and practical for people to rely on their mother tongue instead of having to add English, Japanese, Chinese, etc.

As the growth of China's economy continues to outstrip that of the USA, it will soon, and in some ways already has, exceed that of the USA. There is increasing demand for Chinese (Putonghua/Mandarin) to be taught in schools around the world as the result. It used to be the case that local Chinese in Hong Kong only wanted to learn English, but increasingly Putonghua is becoming essential not only for success in the workplace, but for daily life. This is true in most of the cities in China; Putonghua is pushing out local languages [3].

So, what is the future for Chinese language? It will continue to steadily increase in strength worldwide as China's economy outstrips that of the USA; however, it will never obtain the global dominance that English has because technology enables people to communicate without learning the language and Chinese is particularly hard to learn as a second language. As technology improves, the more people will rely on their mother tongue (or national language) and lose the desire and ability to learn multiple languages.

As for the future of Chinese language, after a period of almost a century of controversy, the general outlines of China's linguistic future are emerging. China will remain a multidialectal and multilingual country, but the position of the national language will become progressively stronger; the dialects will probably remain important symbols of local identity while at the same time absorbing an ever-increasing number of forms from the standard language. Some of the larger minority languages like Mongolian, Uygur and Tibetan will most likely continue their own independent development [4, 85-86].

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