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Kıbrıs Türk Ağzı ile İlgili Yapılan Çalışmalar Kaynakçası

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Abstract

The Cypriot Turkish Dialect (CTD), spoken by Turkish Cypriots, has long been a subject of scholarly interest. It is a distinct dialect that has evolved from Western Anatolian Turkish, influenced by the island's unique sociopolitical and cultural environment. This dialect is not merely a static linguistic variant; it is a vibrant, dynamic form that mirrors the intricate social, historical, and political tapestry of Cyprus. The island's diverse history of colonization and political turmoil has profoundly influenced thedevelopment of CTD, infusing it with a rich mix of words and linguistic features borrowed from Greek, English, and other languages.

Scholarly interest in CTD spans decades, driven by its complex evolution and its role in the cultural identity of Turkish Cypriots. This bibliographic essay aims to provide a comprehensive review of existing research on CTD. By analyzing a broad spectrum of literature—including books, theses, articles, and conference proceedings—this study offers a detailed, methodological perspective on the dialect's evolution and current state. It also seeks to map the scholarly landscape, identifying prevailing trends in CTD studies and pinpointing gaps where further research is needed.

The analysis reveals that while significant work has been done to document and analyze CTD's phonological, morphological, and syntactic features, there remains a need for more in-depth sociolinguistic and diachronic studies. Future research should also consider the impact of modern influences, such as digital communication and globalization, on the dialect. By synthesizing existing knowledge and proposing new avenues for investigation, this essay contributes to a deeper understanding of CTD and its place in the linguistic and cultural heritage of Cyprus.

Keywords: Cypriot Turkish Dialect (CTD), Linguistic Heritage, Cultural Identity, Sociolinguistics.

Kıbrıs Türk Ağzı ile İlgili Yapılan Çalışmalar Kaynakçası

Özet

Kıbrıs Türk Ağızı (KTA), Kıbrıs Türkleri tarafından konuşulan ve uzun süredir akademik ilgi odağı olanbir dildir. Batı Anadolu Türkçesinden evrilen ve adanın benzersiz sosyo-politik ve kültürel ortamından etkilenen bu ağız, statik bir dilsel varyant olmaktan öte, Kıbrıs'ın karmaşık sosyal, tarihsel ve politik dokusunu yansıtan canlı ve dinamik bir formdur. Adanın çeşitli sömürgeleştirme ve siyasi çalkantılı tarihi, KTA'nın gelişimini derinden etkilemiş ve bu dile Yunanca, İngilizce ve diğer dillerden ödünç alınmış zengin bir kelime ve dilsel özellik karışımı katmıştır.

KTA'ya yönelik akademik ilgi, karmaşık evrimi ve Kıbrıs Türklerinin kültürel kimliğindeki rolünedeniyle onlarca yıl boyunca varlığını sürdürmüştür. Bu bibliyografik makale, KTA üzerine mevcut araştırmaların kapsamlı bir incelemesini sunmayı amaçlamaktadır. Kitaplar, tezler, makaleler ve konferans bildirileri gibi geniş bir literatür yelpazesini analiz ederek, bu çalışma, ağzın evrimi ve mevcutdurumu üzerine detaylı ve metodolojik bir bakış açısı sunmaktadır. Ayrıca, KTA çalışmalarındaki baskın eğilimleri ve daha fazla araştırma gerektiren boşlukları tespit ederek akademik manzarayı haritalamayı hedeflemektedir.

Analiz, KTA'nın fonolojik, morfolojik ve sözdizimsel özelliklerini belgelemek ve analiz etmek için önemli çalışmalar yapılmış olsa da daha derin sosyolinguistik ve diakronik çalışmalara duyulanihtiyacın devam ettiğini ortaya koymaktadır. Gelecekteki araştırmalar ayrıca modern etkilerin, örneğin dijital iletişim ve küreselleşmenin dil üzerindeki etkisini de dikkate almalıdır. Mevcut bilgileri sentezleyerek ve yeni araştırma alanları önererek, bu makale KTA'nın dilsel ve kültürel miras içindeki yerini daha derinlemesine anlamaya katkıda bulunmaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Kıbrıs Türk Ağızı (KTA), Dilsel Miras, Kültürel Kimlik, Sosyolinguistik.

Introduction

Cypriot dialect has drawn the interest of researchers for many years and continues to attract attention due to its rich linguistic and cultural heritage. The dialect's distinctiveness and its role in reflecting the socio-political landscape of Cyprus make it a subject of enduring academic interest. Situated in the Eastern Mediterranean, Cyprus is an island with a complex history of cultural and political intersections. This unique context has given rise to a linguistic ecology characterized by the coexistence of two distinctdialects: Cypriot Turkish and Cypriot Greek.

The relevant articles of the Cyprus Constitution published in 1960 (Article: 2/3), have defined language and identity issues in a specific manner. In other words, it has been indicated which communities will use Turkish and Greek. Therefore, issues of language identity and origin have been clearly defined in the law, article by article. This legal recognition underscores the distinct linguistic identities and origins present on the island, thereby shaping the linguistic ecology of Cyprus. The Constitution's explicit provisions affirm that no single local language dominates; instead, the island is defined by the coexistence and interaction of Turkish and Greek dialects.

In this respect, the evolution of the Turkish Cypriot dialect into a form different from Western AnatolianTurkish is evidence of the dynamic history of the island. According to Tekin & Ölmez (2003), this evolution is evident in the unique characteristics of CTD, which have been shaped by the socio-politicaland cultural transformations experienced by the Turkish Cypriot community. Over the centuries, migration, political upheavals, and close interactions with other linguistic groups have significantly influenced the development of CTD.

Historically, the CTD has absorbed elements from various languages due to Cyprus's strategic position and diverse population. Greek and English have been particularly influential, reflecting periods of Greekand British governance. More recently, the influx of Russian and Persian speakers has introduced new linguistic features to the CTD. This continual linguistic integration highlights the adaptability and evolving nature of the dialect. The modern Cypriot Turkish Dialect is thus a product of centuries of change and interaction. Its current state is a mosaic of influences, each layer adding to the complexity and richness of the dialect. This dynamic evolution is crucial for understanding the present characteristics and future trajectory of CTD. It provides valuable insights into how language adapts and transforms in response to external pressures and internal community dynamics.

By studying the CTD, scholars gain a window into the broader socio-cultural fabric of Cyprus. The dialect is not merely a means of communication but a living repository of the island's history, identity, and cultural exchanges. As such, research into CTD continues to be vital for comprehending the linguistic and social intricacies of Cyprus, as well as the ongoing processes of cultural and linguistic change in the region.

1. Methodology

This bibliographic essay employs a systematic approach to reviewing the body of literature on the CTD. The methodology is designed to ensure that the review is comprehensive, reliable, and valid, providing a clear and detailed understanding of the existing research landscape. The methodology is structured around the categorization of sources into six distinct groups: books, book

chapters, undergraduate theses, graduate theses (master's and doctoral), journal articles, and conference proceedings. These sources were selected based on three primary criteria: relevance to CTD, publication within the last two decades, and contributions to understanding the sociolinguistic dynamics of the dialect. The data collection process involved extensive searches in academic databases such as JSTOR, Google Scholar, and ProQuest, as well as university library catalogs and conference archives, using keywords pertinent to CTD and Cypriot language studies. The synthesis of this comprehensive list of sources, aims to map theresearch landscape of CTD comprehensively, documenting significant works and trends, and suggestingareas for future research. This process includes a thorough evaluation of how the focus of CTD studies has shifted over time, particularly noting an increased emphasis on book and dictionary studies after 2000.

Several bibliographic studies have been conducted to date. The last bibliographic study was conducted in 2006 and was published in the same year in a special issue of the International Journal of the Sociologyof Language in Germany within the context of Cypriot Sociolinguistics. Over the course of time, the 2006 study has been renewed to identify new studies, identify areas of research that have been overlooked, and provide a brief evaluation. In contrast to the 2006 study, in this study, the bibliographyhas been classified as books, book chapters, undergraduate theses, master's and doctoral theses, writtenarticles, and oral presentations/conference proceedings to determine how the focus of the overall study was achieved. In line with this understanding, it is observed that especially after 2000, there has been aconcentration on book studies and particularly on dictionary studies.

2. Results and Analysis

The analysis of the literature on the Cypriot Turkish Dialect (CTD) reveals several key trends and insights across different types of sources, from books to theses, and articles to conference proceedings. This section delves into the findings from each category, highlighting both the depth and gaps in existingresearch.

Books and book chapters predominantly focus on the sociolinguistic dimensions of the dialect. These works explore how external factors such as migration, education, and socio-political changes have shaped and continue to influence CTD. Noteworthy contributions include comprehensive dictionaries and detailed phonological analyses. These resources are invaluable as they document the unique phonetic and lexical features of CTD and its regional variations across Cyprus. They also offer critical insights into how the dialect has evolved under various external influences. For instance, some dictionaries provide exhaustive lists of CTD-specific vocabulary, while phonological studies highlight how CTD's sound patterns differ from those of standard Turkish and other regional dialects.

When considering undergraduate theses, it is observed that the forms of language in the regions of Cyprus are examined. It is worth emphasizing that these studies are the first studies related to Cypriot dialect. These theses, in addition to being pioneers in leading the studies conducted today, also clearly shed light on the current changes in Cypriot dialect. Master's theses generally contain studies related tophonetic form and tense contexts. When looking at doctoral theses, two studies conducted in the UK andthe USA in 1980 and 2012 are found, examining tense, aspect, and semantic issues. In addition, early theses laid the groundwork for understanding regional variations of CTD.

These studies are crucial as they provide primary insights into the dialect's phonetic and syntactic peculiarities. On the other hand, recent master's and doctoral theses have explored deeper linguistic structures and socio-linguistic dimensions, such as the influence of language policies and identity on CTD.

Upon examination of research articles and conference papers, it is observed that studies on Cypriot Turkish encompass phonetics, syntax, and lexical production, discourse, and a range of culturally weighted publications, alongside studies on language identity and language policies. The majority of research conducted on the Cypriot dialect is documented in Turkish and often remained confined to national sources. This limited dissemination, especially of valuable findings from postgraduate studies, restricts their reach and impact within the broader academic community. To enhance the global scholarly engagement with CTD, it is crucial that these studies be published in peer-reviewed international journals and presented at international conferences. Also, research articles and conference papers have expanded the scope of CTD studies to include discourse analysis, language identity, and the impact of digital communication on the dialect.

Language undergoes a continual evolution within an ecological environment (Mac Mahon; April 1994). As the environment influences language, language naturally impacts and alters the environment (Saphir1921). This linguistic change cannot be evaluated solely as positive or negative in linguistic terms (Arlotto, 1972) due to its association with societal needs. Consequently, especially since the year 2000, the pace of change and societal re-culturation in the Cypriot dialect has significantly accelerated. Factors such as the proliferation of universities, the expansion of online communication, ongoing conflicts in the vicinity of the island, and consequent mass migrations (from Russia, Ukraine, Iran, Turkmenistan, Syria, etc.) are exerting an influence on the Cypriot dialect. The linguistic landscape is rapidly changing, with English, once the dominant language, now giving way noticeably to Russian and Persian.

As a result, the focus of CTD research has shifted markedly towards understanding the sociolinguistic implications of these changes. There is a growing interest in how globalization, digital communication, and mass migration are shaping CTD. However, despite the wealth of existing research, there remains asignificant gap in the publication of CTD studies in peer-reviewed international forums. This gap limits the broader academic recognition and engagement with the dialect. While there are ample studies on CTD's phonological and lexical features, there is a pressing need for more comprehensive, multidisciplinary research. Future studies should aim to integrate linguistic, cultural, and socio-political perspectives to provide a holistic understanding of CTD in its evolving context.

3. Conclusion

The Cypriot Turkish Dialect is not just a linguistic variant; it is an essential component of Cyprus's linguistic heritage and identity. By providing a comprehensive bibliographic review and analysis of existing literature, this study advances our understanding of CTD and lays the groundwork for future research. Through this review, we gain a clearer understanding of how CTD reflects and responds to the unique socio-political and cultural landscape of Cyprus.

This study underscores the importance of enhancing the visibility and accessibility of CTD

research within the global academic community. Despite the significant body of work that exists, much of it remains confined to national sources and local publications, limiting its reach and impact. To foster a deeper appreciation and knowledge of CTD, it is imperative to promote the publication of these studies in international, peer-reviewed journals and to encourage their presentation at global conferences. Such efforts will not only bring CTD into broader scholarly conversations but also highlight its relevance in the study of minority dialects and language evolution.

Looking forward, there are several promising avenues for future research. One critical area is the impact of digital communication platforms on CTD. As social media and other digital technologies become more pervasive, they inevitably influence how languages are used and evolve. Investigating how these platforms affect language usage and identity among Turkish Cypriots can provide valuable insights into the ongoing evolution of CTD. Another important direction is to explore CTD in relation to other minority dialects and languages within similar socio-political contexts. Comparative studies could reveal common patterns and unique features in how languages adapt and change under various social pressures. This can enrich our understanding of CTD and contribute to broader theories of language development and sociolinguistics. Finally, conducting long-term, diachronic studies is essential to observe and document the ongoing changes in CTD. These studies can track how socio-cultural shifts, such as migration, globalization, and political changes, continue to shape the dialect. Such research will be crucial for capturing the dynamic nature of CTD and its responses to contemporary influences.

In conclusion, it is believed that besides sharing research on the Cypriot dialect internationally, there should be an increase in doctoral-level research and an effort towards producing a comprehensive publication examining the Cypriot dialect in all its aspects. By doing so, we can ensure that CTD is notonly preserved as a vital part of Cyprus's heritage but also recognized as a significant subject of linguistic study in its own right.

4. Bibliographic List of the Cypriot Turkish Dialects: 2024

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