

LANGUAGE: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF CHINA AND INDIA

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Abstract

Under the influence of globalization, English is used more and more widely. The younger generation in China also attaches more and more importance to English, but its income is not ideal on the basis of high investment. India, our neighbour, has a great advantage in this respect. By comparing the current use of English in China and the current use of language in India, and combining with the new generation of young people's ways of communication, I hope I can get some inspiration in language learning.

Keywords: *language, comparative study, China, India*

In every field of education peoples physical, social, cultural cognitive and psychomotor development is necessary. Day by day the role of education is increasing. In ancient age it was limited to sociological and economic development only. Education shapes the destiny of any nation. The quality of human power in any country ultimately determines the sustainable well-being of its people. Education provides foundation for a person to be a responsible citizen. So, it forms an important part of the entire educational ladder.

Through this article, I wish to share with you some phenomena of the young people in China and my simple comparison of the uses of languages.

Application of Language by Youth

Language, Young people and China's development

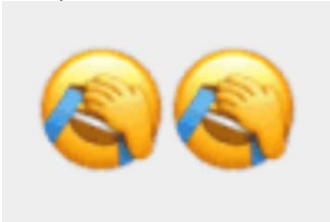
The number of college young people aged 18 to 22 years in China is on the increase. With a number of over 9 million graduating from college in 2018, the language is generally Mandarin or Putonghua in Chinese. Though the dialects may vary from the west to the east and north to south in China, the understanding and communication is mainly mandarin. The prevalence of a common written language started in the Qin dynasty 2200 years ago, which has lasted until now with different variants of writing through different periods. The language has played a huge role in the periods of transition. Besides, the Chinese college students usually take English as their second or third language. Those students have acquired the importance of learning a language and their own development in future, which naturally leads to my observation of the language they use.

It is inevitable for most second language learners to speak with an accent and the mother tongue feature. In particular, the English many students use is with accents, leading to a painstaking listening and understanding of English. You know, it's really painful for me to speak Hindi with a Chinese accent. Most Chinese students do not produce tremolo. Still, the oral Hindi is difficult for many but the written Hindi language is far better.

I want to make a connection with the development of China and the English language as a whole on the basis of the above statement. Indeed, China's development in the past forty years could not rule out the role the English language has played. Forty

years ago, those who learnt English were few in number, but now the number of English-speaking people in China is increasingly growing except for other foreign languages. Generally speaking, the young people are better in using English than their parents did, which will strengthen their ability in further communication with native speakers in cross-cultural communication.

At the same time, some Chinese young people also make their own voice heard through some mobile apps and platforms like Weibo, a twitter-like platform in China. The catchphrases and emojis the young people use are what I like to share with you. For example, young people like to use some cute or edited emojis to express their emotions. The laugh-and-cry emotion means the state of feeling something amusing or silly.



They want to use those feelings to let the other side know their real feeling. However, a common smile or a gentle smile does not mean being friendly but quite the other way around.



It means disagreement or even mockery. But for the parents, the gentle smile means friendliness. When the young people receive emojis like these, they may feel uncomfortable or a sense of fear. What are their parents going to do with them? Those are languages young people use, but the differences are clear in generations. From the emojis or some buzzwords they use, I think the state of minds are changing hugely in different groups. When I chatted with my India friends, I also found that we could not communicate with each other by emojis, because her understanding was quite different from mine.

India and Languages

Those who are barely familiar with the Indian society are clear that India boasts of extreme richness in languages, religion and anthropology. The fact has been employed by the official government's clip to label an Incredible India. When we take a glimpse of the language branches in the different parts of India, there are mainly seven language families, of which the Indo-Aryan languages and the Dravidian languages are respectively spoken by 78.05% and 19.64% of Indians. Also, India has the second highest number of languages in the world with 122 major languages and 1599 other languages with a varying number according to different institutions. The simple fact

that the richness in languages could both serve as a reservoir of religions and anthropological resources, providing numerous traces of the past lives of Indians, and as a barrier for the efficiency for the process of industrialization.

From a perspective of an exchange college student, I have experienced the barrier of the Indian language when traveling around India, which gives me some deeper thinking of the future development of the Indian society. The first concern is about the official language or languages. The prevalence of either Hindi or English may pose challenges to a large extent. Hindi and English may encounter resistance regarded as a way of ruling out the local languages even though the prevalence is not intentionally meant for the potential effect. We could not deny the fact but a balance is needed to follow the tide of the modern world while remaining the local distinctions. This brings up my second observation.

Some experiential observations

India has a second largest population in the world. The industrial process could be delayed by the barriers of and disbeliefs to the prevalence of certain languages. The participation in the industrialization is of consideration. The large population could yield boundless achievement for years to come. However, the bondages cast by the thinking are too heavy for the future development of India. During the process, huge gaps between the rich and the poor are inevitably reflected in their use of languages. The language offers mirrors to think deeper into the education, a socializing process for the masses to get involved in the industrialization. In my opinion, to deal with the richness in languages is high on the list for the future development in lifting the masses to modernity and a balance in development and history.

Conclusion

My experience in India tells more of the secrets of language. The Indians are highly valuing the importance of education and I have observed some of them pursuing a Ph. D degree in their 20s. I think both India and China will continue to learn language deeper.

Reference

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