COMMENTS ON THE PLACE OF POLYGLOTTERY STUDIES IN RUSSIAN PSYCHOLINGUISTICS

Dina Nikulicheva

Institute of Linguistics, Russian Academy of Sciences
1 bld. 1, Bolshoy Kislovsky per., Moscow, 125009, Russia
Moscow State Linguistic University
38 bld. 1, ul. Ostozhenka, Moscow, 119034, Russia

Dear colleagues, I am glad to welcome everyone present at this seminar and I would like to congratulate Grigory Kazakov and the entire community studying the phenomenon of polyglottery on the creation of a much needed publication – the journal *Linguistics & Polyglot Studies* under the auspices of such a reputable educational institution as MGIMO and the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

This fact itself testifies to the recognition of the scientific and practical significance of the research in this area that helps to study the psycholinguistic mechanisms underlying the effective acquisition of multiple languages by adult learners and to promote effective teaching of foreign languages.

In my brief speech, I want to emphasize that the psycholinguistic approach to the study of polyglottery has already been recognized by the scientific community in Russia. Articles by Grigory Kazakov and his students, my articles, contributions from talented researchers from other regions of Russia are regularly published in the authoritative Russian edition, *Journal of Psycholinguistics*. We regularly attend and speak at scientific conferences in Russia and abroad. We publish reviews about international conferences and symposia of polyglots.

I am the author of two books on the application of linguistic and psychological strategies of polyglots in the practice of learning foreign languages. Now I am working on my third book that will present a psycholinguistic analysis of the linguodidactic polyglot behaviour in the process of learning new languages based on the joint experiment conducted with a polyglot from Vladikavkaz, Alan Bigulov, "10 Languages in 1,000 Days".

Today, I would like to share some good news. A landmark book has just been published – a more than 600-page survey of the achievements of Russian psycholinguistics over the past 50 years, under the title *Russian Psycholinguistics: Results and Prospects (1966–2021)*.

This joint study reflects the trends in Russian psycholinguistics from the moment of its inception to the present day. Russian psycholinguistics, which began as a small group of enthusiasts around Alexey Leontiev, currently unites numerous scientific schools and centres, many of which are recognized by the international community for both theoretical and applied contributions.

This collective research work presents an overview of the history and achievements of psycholinguistics in Russia. Each section and the appendix are supplemented with the corresponding bibliography of leading Russian psycholinguists, their main books, manuals and doctoral dissertations defended in the field of psycholinguistics.

In the first part of the book, which is devoted to an overview of major trends in Russian psycholinguistics, our topic "Psycholinguistic modelling of polyglottery" was covered in section 1.5 "Directions of modern Russian psycholinguistics as a consequence of the expansion of the subject area of research" [1, p. 97–107].

I am sure that the new journal, *Linguistics* & *Polyglot Studies,* and this special issue will further increase public awareness of and interest in the mechanisms of individual conscious multilingualism achieved in adult life, and will serve to strengthen international scientific ties between researchers working on this issue.

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References

1.   *Rossiiskaia Psikholingvistika: Itogi i Perspektivy (1966–2021)* [Russian Psycholinguistics: Results and Prospects (1966–2021)] (I. Sternin et al. eds.). Moscow: Institute of Linguistics – Moscow International Academy, 2021. 626 p. DOI: 10.30982/978-5-6045633-7-3

Dina Nikulicheva, Doctor of Philology, is Chief Researcher at the Institute of Linguistics, Russian Academy of Sciences, and Professor at Moscow State Linguistic University. Research interests: Danish linguistics, Scandinavian languages, Germanic studies, contrastive linguistics, translation theory, psycholinguistics, polyglottery, language learning. E-mail: nikoulitcheva@yandex.ru

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