

CHAKAVIAN: FROM A RURAL PHENOMENON TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Every language is susceptible to change, which can be intralinguistically and/or extralinguistically motivated. The key topic of this lecture are *changes* that Chakavian, as an autonomous but also as a subordinate linguistic community, has been or still is undergoing.

Basic changes in the dialetological structure and historical development of Chakavian will be shown and compared on its premigration and postmigration maps, while taking into account recent changes in stratification.

The central part of the lecture will be dedicated to extralinguistic factors that have caused changes in the structure of the linguistic community and its vitality. Most of these factors are due to changes in society, usually leading to a gradual decline in the number of native speakers or even disappearance of certain idioms. This process will be observed through the *ethnolinguistic vitality theory* (Giles, Bourhis i Taylor 1977), which has gained momentum only in the past fifteen years, investigating factors that influence the strength and ability of a linguistic community to preserve its language. According to Pauwels (2016), there are three groups of factors affecting the preservation of a language: biographical (e.g., speakers' age, gender, marital status, education level, a speaker's attitude towards their language, etc.), characteristics of the minority community (size, density, linguistic and cultural similarity to the majority community), characteristics of the majority community (attitude of the majority community towards the minority language and culture, existence of laws and regulations supporting linguistic diversity and multilingualism).

In line with the conference outline, special attention will be dedicated to the use of Chakavian in new media and social networking sites, as well as the role that they may have in its preservation.

Key words: Chakavian, linguistic changes, vitality of a linguistic community