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The Language Of Internet World

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Abstract : In the era of globalization the system which has more or less influenced different languages is internet. Internet is a system which has its own physical grammar. Every user has to reach to it through this system. As a result, all the people of different languages come upon the same platform after learning in the same language teaching. On the other side, people of different language can spread elements (words and phrases) of their own languages. Different languages of the world have spread the traditional process of enriching their vocabulary through internet. More or less, every language of the world is facing this change.

Keywords- Internet, language, technology, mobile

“Will the English-dominated Internet Spell the end of other tongues?”¹

There is no pure language in our world. Any rich language is indebted to the other languages in various ways. It's an incessant process. We know that for many decades the elements of which language have spread over the world is English. Now a day, besides the urban people, many rural people use English words in their daily life. We use the words like time, pen and local. But these words have found their places in the colonial period. Any language becomes rich with the words from the other languages.

But in the era of globalization the system which has more or less influenced different languages is internet. “The internet is one of the most remarkable things human beings have ever made. In terms of its impact on society, it ranks with print, the railways, the telegraph, the automobile, the electric power and television.”² Internet is a system which has its own physical grammar. Every user has to reach to it through this system. As a result, all the people of different languages come upon the same platform after learning in the same language teaching. On the other side, people of different language can spread elements (words and phrases) of their own languages. Different languages of the world have spread the traditional process of enriching their vocabulary through internet. More or less, every language of the world is facing this change.

Technology has always tried to dominate language. “In each case, the anxiety generated specifically linguistic controversy.”³ Before the internet, in the era of radio, television and telephone, many English words and phrases have incorporated into the other languages. These machines have also given birth of different words. In 1980 the radio series “It's That Man again” gave birth of the phrase TTFN(Ta Ta For Now). Homer Simpson of “The Simpson” gave birth of the word ‘doh’. The word is used for one's own silliness. Another phrase like it is “Give me the 4-4-1”. So, it is very clear that in the internet world, every language of the world is changing very

rapidly and new words and phrases are entering into the languages. David Christyle says: “Language itself changes slowly, but the internet has sped up the process of those changes so you notice them more quickly.”

We have got many blessings of information technology. The first blessing is cellphone or mobile. We get many words like calling, messaging, text, voice call, block, unblock, call forward and so on. In the Bengali novel by Smaranjit Chakraborty, Ira messages Archi-DON'T FRGT, RBMORE, 8 SHARP. Ri writes Ahan- 2 NITE I LST MY VRGNTY . U CHICKN. We always use this abbreviation in Roman letter in message. There are many abbreviations like- FYO (for your information), u(you), ur(your), bfor(before), dr(dear), updt(update), pl(please), hv(have), nt(not), txt(text) and so on. We use sticker and smily to express our mood to save our time.

Some people have thought its bad sides also. Some years ago there were many hot discussions on this topic in the academic world of English. They opine that sms and e-mail are harming languages. In this situation linguist David Christyal writes a book *tng: the gr8 db8* . The publisher is Oxford University Press. The meaning of the name of the book is ‘Texting: The Great Debate’.

It is to be noted that the language of the internet world is actually American English because the origin of internet and social networking is in America. This language is born in U.S.A as contemporary language and this language is being affixed to the different languages of the world. This affixation is faster than the traditional word affixation. As it is related to technology, so where there are smart phone and cyber café culture, this language spreads there. In this respect, this language is not so popular even today. This new technology is not essential in their everyday life. Rather, it can be said that they know very little bit of it, because the periphery of internet world is vast. It is too tough if there is no communication with the urban world.

But how can we understand the language of the Gen-Y when they use OMG (O My God), LOL (Laugh and Loud), FHO (Friends Hanging Out) and # (hash tag). Use of abbreviated words is very significant in the internet world. FOMO(Fear of Missing Out), YOLO(You Only Live Once), DBA(Don't Bother Asking), QAP(Quick As Possible), VBD(Very Big Deal), INCYDK(In Case You Didn't Know), 403(Deny Access To), SNH(Sarcasm Noted Here), YSVW(You're So Very Welcome)--- many words like this are mixed with this technology. It is to be noted here that we have to practice regularly if we understand and use it.

Here we can refer the use and explanation of some words. AMA, i.e., Ask Me Anything. It is a series which started in Reddit. In it any authority casts questions to the audience. At present, the word is widely used in the internet world and used in question-answer format. For example, “Hi, I am Steave Jonson, co-host of Mythbusters, AMA!” He can be asked any question. DM i.e., Direct Message. The direct message feature in Twitter is used for sharing personal messages. DM is very necessary when we do not want to make public our personal phone numbers and address. But, nowadays, it is not so popular. EL15 i.e., Explain Like I'm 5. It is used when someone explain a complex topic. It is generally used in the case of technology. PAW i.e., Parents are Watching. When a child wants to show or say something, but his parents are present in front of him, he uses the term PAW to warn the person in the other end. TIT i.e., Today I Learnt. This word is often used in every field of internet. When we come to know any new information and which is of great joy, we share it with the others by using TIT.

The impact of internet has not only changed the words in the English spoken countries. Svitlana Pyrkalo, producer of BBC World Service Ukrainian Service, says that the internet words are rapidly changing in Ukraine. For example, he mentions the words ‘Control’, ‘Alt’, and ‘Delete’ for which the Ukrainians use ‘Dulya’. It's a Ukrainian posture where three fingers are used---one thumb and any two fingers. Here three fingers are used for pressing the buttons. So, in Ukrainian language its meaning is – to direct someone (here computer) to go. In other countries they also have internet acronyms. The French people use ‘mdr’ to mean ‘mort de rire’ and the English meaning of which is ‘dying of laughter’. In Swedish language, the abbreviation of the ‘Asgarv’ is ‘asg’ the meaning is intense laughter. On the other hand, the English 5 in Thai is ‘h’. If we keep three 5 chronologically and make 555, the English meaning of which becomes ‘hahaha’.

It's a matter of curiosity that how the words find their place in dictionary. In this respect, Fiona McPherson, the senior editor of Oxford Dictionary's 'New Words Group', thinks that the key of success of new words is its permanency. To make a place in dictionary the common people have to use those words. For example, he uses the word LOL and it has qualified to find a place in dictionary by being used by the common people for more than 5 years. On the other hand, if a word, after its origin does not find its place in dictionary, it may be used by the people and find its place in the dictionary in future.

At present, 'social network' is not used in the same meaning like in the 1973 Oxford English Dictionary meaning. At that time it meant to network's 'physical activity' in the social atmosphere. Later, in the 90s it meant to 'virtual engagement'. In 1998 we got the it's official meaning in Wikipedia:

"...a platform to build social networks or social relations among people who, for example, share interests, activities, backgrounds, or real-life connections."⁴

There are many websites and these websites do various activities. Some of the websites are Orkut, Twitter, Tumblr, and Hi5. But the most popular is Facebook and the owner of it is Mark Zukerberg. It started its journey in 2005 and now it makes its presence all over the world. Through it any individual, group or any institution make their presence. They communicate with others for various purposes. This facebook has many languages of its own which find their places in our daily life conversation—like, ping, online, on, chat, status, post, inbox, tag, group, admin, moderator, block and so on.

These words are not only used in facebook. They are also used in E-mail, Whatsapp and Imo of the internet world. These words carry the same meaning all over the world in respect of symbol or mood. For example-

1. "Now seriously delete Diya from your from your life."
2. "I could not get your heart's password, Boss!"

These words are intertwined with our life inextricably. Some people use the language of the internet world as terminology in their language. In Bengali language arrow key(teer chabi), enter key(probesh chabi), shift key(poriborton chabi) and email(boidyutin potro) are used. But the English words are so used by the people that the terminologies need not to be used. The use of its English word is reasonable. But in the internet world it is very helpful to use various fronts in mother tongue for messaging or other necessary activities. In Bengali language we can use many fronts like Abhro, Bijoy, Sumit and so on.

But not only for necessity, the internet system is taking important role in entertainment and literature. The origin of many online magazines has become possible for this internet facility. Before, we needed to search very hard to get a magazine. Now we can get from our home and read it anywhere while travelling in a crowded train or bus. Another thing is 'e-library'. There is no risk of cutting by insects or stealing by anyone. The only thing is to apply antivirus to prevent extinguishment which can be done by the user. Many a things are saved by this system and the most saved items are ink and paper.

On the other side, the languages of internet world are used in literature for various reasons:

1. These are the languages of this present generation. So this language is very necessary for identifying this generation.
2. As identifying of the criminal is the main motto in the detective story, so it is very necessary and realistic at this present time to use smart phone, e-mail and whatsapp.
3. It has an important role in the ups and downs of the human relationships. Facebook and whatsapp are enmeshed with our daily life. We cannot remove these from our life. That is why all these have found their place in literature.

In literature and cinema mobile phone has been given in the hands of Byomkesh or Feluda to remain update their characters. In Bengali literature poet Srijato Bandopadhyay wrote in 2005 : “Ranju darling, I don’t read your emails anymore.” The important sign of Bengali zero decade’s poetry is the presence of the internet languages.

It can be said that the language of the internet world has spread after the coming of the social media. Jacob Eisenstein and his colleagues ran a survey in Atlanta’s Georgia Institute of Technology and 30 millions of tweets were sent to the institute between 2009 and 2011 from the various parts of America. The main purpose of this survey was to find the origins of these internet words and to identify the routes through which those words spread all over the country. Through the impact of the social media various internet words spread all over the world within some weeks or months. If it were before the internet era it would take many years. In *The Life of Slang*, Julie Coleman says:

“It’s not necessarily that language is changing more quickly, but technologies have developed and they allow the transmission of slang terms to pass from one group to another much more quickly.”

The elderly people keep themselves safe from the infection about language. On the other hand, the young generation does not hesitate to use the words coming out from the daily life experience. So it is not a matter of wonder that the young boys and girls use the language of the internet world. If we open facebook or any site, we come across various advertisements and news and their language English. This internet language can find place in our mouth very easily. After some time these words and phrases enrich the vocabulary by merging with the traditional language.

As the language of the internet world is English, through these English words, as the medium of communication, all the people of different languages around the world is realizing internationality. Because of this other languages are facing changes. Curzan thinks that we have to be slower about imposing likes and dislikes of words on others. The change of language is not a matter of fear. Rather it is joyous and excellent. At last we can say in the words of David Crystal: “If we are to understand truly how the Internet might shape our language, then it is essential that we seek to understand how different varieties of language are used on the Internet.”⁵

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