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## Ad Narrandum, Non-Ad Probandum: Horizons of Modern Linguistics

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**Abstract.** The article is devoted to the horizons of modern linguistics in Kazakhstan in the context of longitudinal scientific and pedagogical activity of the outstanding Kazakh scientist jubilee in 2025 – Doctor of Philological Sciences, Professor *Eleonora Dyusenovna Suleimenova*. The authors remember the scientist and Teacher, whose life and career are inextricably linked with the development of Kazakh national linguistics, education and, in particular, the Kazakh National University named after Al-Farabi. The study is based on verified material, which comprehensively reveals the scientific and pedagogical activity of the professor.

The main attention is paid to the scientific achievements of E. D. Suleimenova in the field of language theory, education and textbook studies. A special emphasis is made on her contribution to the development of Kazakhstani linguistic education and on the close connection of her professional path with the university, where she has been working since the first days of her labour activity, for almost 60 years. The authors of the article introduce the notion of “Suleimenova’s school”, emphasising the unity of scientific research of the professor and her students, united by the desire to search for meaning and truth in various aspects of the functioning of the Russian and Kazakh languages.

The article presents a description of the researcher’s personality through the triad “present – past – future”. This approach not only pays homage to her scientific biography, but also evaluates her role in the preservation and development of the best traditions of Kazakh national science and education. Judging by numerous jubilee publications and feedback from colleagues, her scientific heritage is highly valued both in Kazakhstan and beyond. The article emphasises that Professor E. D. Suleimenova not only has made a significant contribution to the development of Kazakh philology and education, but also remains a bright personality, whose ideas and exploration influence the formation of new scientific directions.

**Keywords:** E. D. Suleimenova, linguistics, semantics and pragmatics, meta-language, lexicography, textbooks, sociolinguistics, the Kazakh language, the Russian language.

Research area: Social Structure, Social Institutions and Processes; Theoretical, Applied and Comparative Linguistics; Bilingual Education.

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## Ad Narrandum, Non-Ad Probandum: горизонты современной лингвистики

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**Аннотация.** Статья посвящена горизонтам современной лингвистики Казахстана в контексте многолетней научно-педагогической деятельности выдающегося казахстанского учёного юбилера 2025 г. – доктора филологических наук, профессора Элеоноры Дюсеновны Сулейменовой. В ней авторы размышляют об учёном и Учителе, чья жизнь и карьера неразрывно связаны с развитием отечественного языкознания, образования и, в частности, Казахского национального университета имени аль-Фараби. Исследование основано на верифицированном материале, позволяющем всесторонне раскрыть научную и педагогическую деятельность профессора.

Основное внимание уделено научным достижениям Э. Д. Сулейменовой в области теории языка, образования и учебниковедения. Особый акцент сделан на её вкладе в развитие казахстанского лингвистического образования и на тесной связи её профессионального пути с университетом, в котором она работает с первых дней своей трудовой деятельности, почти 60 лет. Авторы статьи вводят понятие «сулейменовская школа», подчёркивая единство научных исследований профессора и её учеников, объединённых стремлением к поиску смысла и истины в различных аспектах функционирования русского и казахского языков.

В статье представлено описание личности Э. Д. Сулейменовой через триаду «настоящее – прошлое – будущее». Такой подход позволяет не только проследить её научную биографию, но и оценить её роль в сохранении и развитии лучших традиций отечественной науки и образования. Судя по многочисленным юбилейным публикациям и отзывам коллег, её научное наследие высоко ценится в Казахстане и за его пределами. Подчеркивается, что профессор Э. Д. Сулейменова не только внесла значительный вклад в развитие казахстанской филологии и образования, но и остается яркой личностью, чьи идеи и исследования оказывают влияние на становление новых научных направлений.

**Ключевые слова:** Э. Д. Сулейменова, лингвистика, семантика и прагматика, метаязык, лексикография, учебники, социолингвистика, казахский язык, русский язык.

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### Introduction

The aphorism of the ancients, put in the title of the article dedicated to the anniversary of E. D. Suleimenova, reflects the desire of the authors to tell about the Scientist and Teacher without any need to prove anything. The article is a scientific story, which does not always require substantiation, as in it we reveal different facets and scientific horizons of the researcher on the basis of personal perception, experience, knowledge, experienced emotions

or values acquired during the work in co-authorship and during communication with Professor E. D. Suleimenova.

To better understand the magnitude of scientific and pedagogical activity of the jubilee we will try to use the ontological nature of time, approaching to aeternalism, in which time is eternal, immutable, permanent, and the past and the future coexist in the present. Therefore, the narrative is divided into three temporal paradigms labelled by the usual Latin



Professor Eleonora Dyusenovna Suleimenova

names of verb forms – *Praeteritum*, *Praesens*, *Futurum*. It turned out to be easier to structure and present what we know about the jubilee from our common life, as well as from the publications of E. D. Suleimenova herself and our joint publications.

Eleonora Dyusenovna Suleimenova – Doctor of Philological Sciences, Professor at the Kazakh National University named after Al-Farabi, a specialist in the field of general linguistics, a member of the Scientific and Expert Council of the Assembly of the People of Kazakhstan, the International Committee of Slavists, the Presidium of the International Association of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature, the President of the Kazakh Association of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature, the member of Public Council of the Basic Organisation for Languages and Culture of the CIS Member States, the member of International Association for the Promotion of Cooperation with Scientists from NIS, the editorial boards of national and international journals. This is far from a full list of the titles of E. D. Suleimenova.

Invariably, every anniversary of E. D. Suleimenova has caused a flow of articles, congratulations, letters from colleagues and students. Let us try not to let them out of our narrative. They have always displayed a recognition of scientific creativity and appraisal of E. D. Suleimenova's work as a brilliant teacher, surrounded by love and appreciation of several generations of students. The articles of Kazakhstani scientists K. Khusainov, Sh. Sarybaev, O. Aitbaev, A. Bolganbaev, L. Zhanalina, Z. Akhmetzhanova, N. Gainullina, E. Amidi-Khasenov, A. Zhunisbek, Kh. Bekmukhamedova, N. Shaimerdenova, A. Fazylzhanova, A. Aldasheva, O. Altynbekova, Z. Sabitova, L. Shaikenova, A. Azamatova, B. Murzalina, A. Agmanova, Z. Temirgazina and others, as well as foreign authors Y. Rozhdestvensky, D. Davidson, S. Ode, A. Mustayoki, U. Fierman, U. Bakhtikireeva, N. Brunova, Y. Sukharev, A. Orusbaev, T. Mlechko, F. Berezin, A. Novikov, G. Melnikov, A. Brudnoy, M. Bragina, etc. are published in books (Altynbekova, Shaimerdenova, 2005, 2015), materials of anniversary conferences (Altynbekova, Bakhtikireeva, Bragina, Agmanova,

Termigazina, Shaimerdenova, Shaikenova, et al, 2015; 2018; 2020), numerous articles and reviews devoted to the scientific work of E. D. Suleimenova.

### **Praeteritum**

This part of the narrative is so named not to deal with the intricacies of the past tense. These are personal recollections and stories of eyewitnesses about how E. D. Suleimenova came to the Kazakh National University named after Al-Farabi and what events from the life of the university were significant for her. They are valuable for understanding the role of E. D. Suleimenova in the development of the Faculty of Philology, the university and in general Kazakhstani linguistics and education.

E. D. Suleimenova came to the university to work being a Candidate of Philological Sciences, having defended her thesis “The problem of definition of a language as an object of linguistics” in the Moscow Linguistic University under the guidance of the outstanding linguist and philosopher G. V. Kolshansky. The defence was preceded by postgraduate studies at the Department of General Linguistics, lectures and seminars by N. A. Slyusareva, Y. V. Rozhdestvensky, I. R. Galperin, N. G. Komlev, F. M. Berezin, A. Y. Shaikevich, G. S. Klychkov, and T. A. Amirova. Here the circle of E. D. Suleimenova's scientific interests was finally defined, where, as she admitted, L. A. Shelyakhovskaya introduced her “into the world of language theory and left her there forever”. Many of her teachers became her inseparable companions. Among them a special place was occupied by G. V. Kolshansky, Y. V. Rozhdestvensky, N. G. Komlev, F. M. Berezin, N. A. Slyusareva...

“Our native Kazakh National University... from Latin ‘universum’ – ‘universe, world’, ‘universalis’ – ‘universal’”. These are the meanings that correspond to the level and achievements of Al-Farabi University, which honourably celebrated its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2024. Professor E. D. Suleimenova has been working at the university with such a long tradition for almost 60 years, her work records show the dates when she came as a young specialist to the Department of General Linguistics, became an associate professor, professor,

Head of the department, Dean of the Faculty of Philology, professor of the Department of Foreign Philology and Translation.

All these years she grew as a teacher, mentor and scholar. While remaining a full-time employee of Al-Farabi KazNU, E. D. Suleimenova studied at the doctoral programme of the Department of General Linguistics of Lomonosov Moscow State University and defended her doctoral dissertation "Semantic parameters of a word in interlingual study (theoretical and applied aspects of contrastive analysis)". We know, she is proud that the opponents of her research were the prominent linguists – Academician of the USSR Academy of Pedagogical Sciences, Head of the Department of General and Comparative-Historical Linguistics of the Lomonosov Moscow State University Y. V. Rozhdestvensky; Professor, Head of the Department of General and Russian Linguistics of the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (RUDN) G. P. Melnikov; Professor, Chief Researcher of the Institute of Linguistics of the Russian Academy of Sciences Y. A. Sorokin.

For two years E. D. Suleimenova worked as a visiting professor of the Department of Slavic Studies at the University of Maryland (College Park, USA). Here new creative ties were formed, there were joint projects with American Councils for International Education (ACCELS), long-term work on creation of electronic and traditional textbooks on Kazakh language, joint supervision of Ph.D. doctoral students and interns, publications in American journals. Soon doctoral students W. Rivers, M. Wade and others undergo scientific training at the department. W. Rivers plunged into experimental work: creation and approbation of questionnaire, pilot survey, mass survey in all universities of Kazakhstan, computer processing of materials, etc., and in 2002 in Bryn Mawr College he successfully defended his dissertation "Factors Influencing Attitudes and Behaviors towards Language Use among Kazakhstani University-Level Students" (supervisors – E. Suleimenova and D. Davidson).

The Department of General Linguistics during the years of E. D. Suleimenova's leadership has become a recognised centre of cre-

ative linguistic thought and multiplication of academic traditions, which were formed under the influence of outstanding scientists who worked at the department at different times: Academician of the USSR Academy of Sciences I. I. Meshchaninov, Corresponding Member of the USSR Academy of Sciences S. E. Malov, Corresponding Member of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan Professor K. A. Akhanov, Professors V. M. Nikitevich and A. S. Amanzholov. Numerous doctoral students, postgraduates, trainees and applicants not only from different universities of the country, but also from the USA, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan flocked to the department. The legendary tradition of qualitative training and guidance of scientific research of postgraduates, applicants, doctoral students, and then Ph.D. students has been formed at the department. Professor E. D. Suleimenova has generously shared her knowledge, actively supporting young scientists in their scientific research and creating conditions for fruitful work.

Not only the range of scientific and pedagogical activities of Professor E. D. Suleimenova, but also the numbers of young scientists involved in the school, those who formed the authoritative Suleimenova's scientific school, became striking. She trained 19 Doctors of Philological Sciences, 40 Candidates of Philological Sciences, as well as 9 Doctors of Philosophy – Ph.D. (including a citizen of the USA – W. P. Rivers), who defended their dissertations in Moscow, Washington, Almaty, Astana.

E. D. Suleimenova and N. Zh. Shaimerdenova initiated and opened a doctoral dissertation council on specialities 10.02.01 – Russian language, 10.02.19 – language theory and 10.02.20 – comparative-historical, typological and comparative linguistics. The necessity of a dissertation council on these specialities had long been overdue, so the interdepartmental scientific seminar started to work at once, and the council began to function in full force. The department, the scientific seminar, lively discussions of topics and researches, pre-defence and defence prepared more than one generation of linguists of Kazakhstan. Today in all higher education institutions of the country there are specialists



in the theory of linguistics, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, comparative-historical, typological, comparative and Russian linguistics, to a great extent involved in the work of the Department of General Linguistics and the dissertation council, which for many years was headed by E. D. Suleimenova.

In 2000, E. D. Suleimenova founded the laboratory “Sociolinguistics, Theory and Practice of Translation” with visiting professors G. Thomson (Canada), D. Davidson and D. Akanova (USA), Zh. Smagulova (Kazakhstan) (Synopsis, 2024). On the basis of the materials of mass questionnaires and interviews, data of sociolinguistic and psycholinguistic field experiments and their processing in computer programmes, 13 international (INTAS, ACCELS, Lomonosov Moscow State University, St. Petersburg State University, RUDN, MSLU, etc.) and 20 national fundamental and applied research projects (MES RK, MIK RK, Assembly of People of Kazakhstan, National Chamber of Entrepreneurs of Republic of Kazakhstan “Atameken”) were successfully implemented in the laboratory. Two INTAS projects became breakthroughs: “The Lexicographical Description of Loanwords in Kazakh” (Dr. Hendrik Boeshoten, the Netherlands, E. Suleimenova, N. Shaimerdenova, M. Akberdi); “New language identity in transforming societies: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan” (Dr. Marsha Bensoussan, Dr. Isabelle Kreindler, Dr. Arkady Purism, Israel, Dr. Arto Mustajoki, Dr. Ekaterina Protassova, Finland). Based on the results of INTAS projects, 29 reports and posters were made at international and national conferences: in Washington, Uppsala, Kazakhstan, Tashkent, Bishkek, Tyumen and many other cities.

In the Laboratory under the leadership of E. D. Suleimenova there was carried out a panoramic sociolinguistic description of the language situation and language policy in Kazakhstan; in accordance with linguistic, socio-political, socio-demographic, socio-functional and national-cultural parameters the vitality of Kazakh, Russian and many other languages of the country was assessed. The laboratory staff headed by Professor E. D. Suleimenova still maintains extensive scientific and educational

international relations, actively participates in international programmes of Al-Farabi KazNU and fruitfully cooperates with scientists from the USA, Canada, Russia, the Netherlands, Germany, Finland, China, Israel, Ukraine, Switzerland, Belarus, Hungary, Romania, Spain, Bulgaria, Poland, Sweden, Azerbaijan, Poland, Turkey, Japan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and other countries.

An important component of E. D. Suleimenova’s scientific and organisational work is holding international congresses and conferences. As a member of the International Association of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature Presidium, Prof E. D. Suleimenova has been involved in holding International Association of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature congresses in Bratislava, St. Petersburg, Shanghai, Granada, Moscow, Varna since 1999. Through the efforts of the Kazakh Association of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature members and with the support of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the XIV International Association of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature Congress “Russian Word in a Multilingual World” was held in 2019, which became a major event in the world of Russian studies. More than 500 scholars from 47 countries participated in the Congress.

A wide range of topical issues is regularly brought up for discussion at international conferences held under the auspices of the International Association of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature: “Russian language in the socio-cultural space of the XXI century” (2001), “Psycholinguistics and sociolinguistics: state and prospects” (2003), “Language and identity” (2006), “Multilingualism: Language – Consciousness – Culture” (2008), “Language and Mentality” (2009), “Language – Society – Time” (2010), “Language and Usus” (2011), “Language and Innovation” (2012), “Language and Globalisation” (2013), “Language as Soft Power” (2016) and many others. At all conferences E. D. Suleimenova made plenary reports not only on the results of her own research, but also generally analysing the prospects of linguistic research. Every time the conferences were events of special social

and cultural significance in the development of ideas of humanisation and democratisation of society, in the exchange of professional knowledge between the West and the East in the field of linguistics.

For all years E. D. Suleimenova has been giving general theoretical lecture courses to Bachelor's and Master's students, as well as doctoral students, laying the foundations of knowledge on the most important problems of language theory, history of linguistic doctrines, methodology and methods of language analysis. In addition to classes at the faculty, E. D. Suleimenova undertakes extensive educational work as a keynote lecturer in the Schools of Sociolinguistics, Schools of Russian Studies in universities of Kazakhstan, in the Programmes of Additional Professional Education (KazNU – RUDN), educational organisations and universities abroad (the USA, Russia, Kyrgyzstan).

### Praesens

If with the help of the verb in the present tense it is possible to describe the events taking place at the present moment, then in our narrative *Praesens* will help to focus on what of the previously created by Professor E. D. Suleimenova continues to be timely and in demand today.

The answer to this question certainly requires systematisation and generalisation. This was done in 2005 by the authors of the book “The Life of Language and Language in Life”, dedicated to the first big anniversary of E. D. Suleimenova. The article “Non multa, sed multum” by N. Zh. Shaimerdenova (Shaimerdenova, 2005) highlights the clearly formed main directions of E. D. Suleimenova's linguistic and applied research: communicative linguistics, general and contrastive semantics and pragmatics, metalinguistics: theoretical and applied lexicography, theory and practice of language acquisition.

Developing the ideas of her teacher G. V. Kolshansky on communicative linguistics, semantics and pragmatics, E. D. Suleimenova wrote the following monographs “The concept of meaning in modern linguistics” (Suleimenova, 1989), “Kazakh and Russian languages: ba-

sics of contrastive linguistics” (Suleimenova, 1996), “Topical problems of Kazakh linguistics: 1991–2001” (Suleimenova, 2001). They developed the interpretation of meaning and sense as conceptual semantic parameters of a word, considered at different levels of representation (nominative, communicative-pragmatic, cognitive), and qualification of meaning as the basis of interlingual comparison (Suleimenova 2009; 2020).

In different sections of the collective monograph “Mentaldy markerlengen conceptualer. Tildik zhane ethnikalyk saikestikter” (Amrenova, Suleimenova, 2015) the terms *worldview*, linguistic *worldview* and other terms of the same series are subjected to complex analysis. They refer to the most important part of human comprehension of his/her place in the world, the role of language in building connections with the surrounding reality and the participation of language in cognitive processes. In a more lapidary style, these issues can be formulated as the problem of the relationship between language and the surrounding world. Even more specifically – as the problem of interaction of the trinity of *thinking – language – communication* with objective reality. The doctrine of the *word*, its *content*, and its connection to related *notion* and *concept* is based on a long tradition and occupies one of the most milestones in the theory of language. However, much in this area remains not fully elucidated, e.g. studies of the problems of structuring the “universe of language” are insufficiently covered from theoretical point of view (Suleimenova, 2013). This circumstance determines the fundamental need for a detailed semantic analysis of language artefacts (“over-protected” and precedent texts), considered as evidence of invariance and impossibility of full explication of meaning, the nature and range of its fluctuations. The researcher defines “strong” and “weak” semantic links of contacting languages, and substantiates the separateness of explicit and implicit semantic interlingual contrasts. It is established that semantic contrasts in conditions of long and intensive interaction fall under the influence of universal processes of unification, generating parallel semantic and emotional-expressive transfor-

mations in interacting languages, forming and “compacting” semantic space. It is proposed to consider semantic ties of universal character as “strong”, as they are actualised as a basis for mutual understanding when speakers of different languages communicate (Suleimenova, Shaimerdenova, Akanova, 2020). The zone of semantic confrontation of languages, created by the uneven and non-parallel distribution of specific semantic phenomena across languages, is characterised by “weak” semantic ties. The peculiarities of strong and weak semantic ties are vividly illustrated by comparing fields, communicative-semantic groups in differently structured languages.

In this case explicit semantic contrasts are distinguished in separate parts of language systems and are characterised by the fact that, at least in one of the languages, certain meanings receive direct material symbolisation. Implicit semantic contrasts, which do not have conventionally fixed forms of expression, can be shown indirectly, only in peculiarities of functioning, lexical-semantic valence, connotative features, directions of semantic transposition, etc. The revealed internal shifts of conceptual plans of expressive means of both national and international origin are indicative in this respect (Suleimenova, Ismailova, Belentchikow, 2013). It has been established that when projecting reality into the semantics of interacting languages, the unique processes of conventionalisation, idealisation and schematisation inherent in each language either come into conflict or begin to operate in the same direction, which results in the universalisation of semantic space, proceeding with varying intensity and efficiency and capturing different spheres of content. At the same time, the alignment of “projected worlds” is carried out with a constant balancing between stability and flexible adaptability.

Within the framework of this direction, the researcher proposes a holistic representation of contrastive linguistics as an independent integral synchronic-comparative scientific direction and academic discipline (Suleimenova, 1996). The basic commensurability of languages and forms of convergence of linguistic descriptions are theoretically substantiated, the existing forms of convergence of linguistic descriptions

are analysed and a contrastive specification of Kazakh and Russian languages is suggested. The author has developed and drafted an extended project of contrastive description of Kazakh and Russian (as well as other languages) including not only their structurally significant but also communicative-pragmatic similarities and differences (Suleimenova, 2020).

E.D. Suleimenova successfully works in the field of discourse theory. The “discursive revolution” has resulted in several fundamental works. This is a section written together with G.G. Burkitbaeva in the well-known collective encyclopaedia “The Handbook of Business Discourse” (Edinburgh University Press, 2009). A versatile analysis of the existence of linguistic units in text and discourse is found in several doctoral and candidate’s theses, carried out under the supervision of E. D. Suleimenova. Their topics cover a wide range of themes, for instance, the problem of semantics and lexicographic definitions of linguistic units; business discourse: ontology, interaction and genres; similarity and difference: linguistic forms of expressing comparative relations; linguistic conceptualisation of colour in the Kazakh and Russian languages; as well as ways of conveying metacommunicative features of Kazakh bilinguals’ speech in Russian-language fiction texts; experience of cognitive analysis of asymmetry of a linguistic sign; functional-semantic description of mental performatives; contrastive and pragmatic analysis of speech acts of praise in the Russian and Kazakh languages; contrastive analysis of *verba anatomica* in Russian and English languages; metaphors-frequentalia in the sphere “animal – human”; semantic structure of verbs with the meaning of “to rejoice” (on the material of the Kazakh, Russian, German and English languages); connotative-cultural dominants of ethnonyms *Kazakh* and *Russian*, etc.

The second direction “Metalinguistics: theoretical and applied lexicography” is connected with E.D. Suleimenova’s traditionally steady interest in the problems of meta-language and terminology.

Particular theoretical and practical need for solving these problems instigated the creation of the bilingual dictionary of linguistic



terms “Til bilimi sozdiri. Dictionary of Linguistics” (Suleimenova, Shaimerdenova, Smagulova, 1998) at the department in 1998. It was the first and long-awaited bilingual dictionary in Russian terminography, containing interpretations of more than 1300 linguistic terms in the Kazakh and Russian languages. Many terms have English, German and French equivalents that facilitate access to the universal meta-language of linguistics and linguistic terminology systems of these languages. The dictionary won the open competition of textbooks of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Large-scale testing of sociolinguistic terms took place in the scientific linguistic environment and in student classrooms, the corpus of terms and proposed definitions were discussed by specialists of the Kazakh, Russian and English languages. Numerous reviews have been published since the release of the dictionary, and finally the dictionary has become a subject of study itself.

Linguistic terminology is known to have a dual character caused by its belonging to the language-object and to the meta-language – the means of research of the language-object, so the research takes place in both directions: the meta-language is replenished at the expense of the means of the language-object, and the lexicon of the language grows to a great extent at the expense of the units of the meta-language. When systematising and conceptualising the meta-language of linguistics in the form of a bilingual dictionary, the authors duly described and explained the degree of language circularity (i.e. the ability of a language to describe itself by its own means), the isomorphism of the system of terms and the meta-language as linguistic phenomena, the differences of lexicographic traditions in Kazakh and Russian linguistics and many other points.

The meta-language of linguistics is thoroughly investigated by E.D. Suleimenova in such theoretical-methodological and lexicographic aspects as description of the meta-language continuum and basic concepts of terminological subsystems; construction of nominative and conceptual systems; normative activity of a linguist; internationalisation and innovations in terminology; lexico-semantic,

word-formation, phonetic, orthographic and other peculiarities of terms, Greek-Latin sources of their formation and systemic relations between them; codification, unification and standardizing of meta-language units, lexicographic analysis and conceptualisation of units taking into account the isomorphism of the terminology system and meta-language.

All these approaches led to the work on improving the vocabulary of sociolinguistic terms. The definition of sociolinguistic terms was needed due to both a critical attitude to the conceptual and terminological apparatus, which began to free itself from the “illusions and myths” of the Soviet period, and the need to create a reference book on sociolinguistic courses, which were included in the universities’ curricula.

The dictionary with more than 400 terms’ definition was published in 2002 (Suleimenova, Shaimerdenova, 2002) and it was the first sociolinguistic dictionary in the post-Soviet space. Then the author’s team increased and the corpus of the dictionary expanded to 650 terms in the Kazakh and Russian languages (Suleimenova, Shaimerdenova, Akanova, 2007). The Kazakh-Kazakh dictionary and its articles were created, and several editions of the bilingual dictionary followed (Suleimenova, Shaimerdenova, Smagulova, Akanova, 2024). Finally, two editions of the updated dictionary were published in Kazakh in 2024 (Suleimenova, Shaimerdenova, Smagulova, Akanova).

All editions of the Dictionary of Sociolinguistic Terms are clearly structured by blocks: theoretical aspects of sociolinguistics as a science; relations of sociolinguistics with other related and auxiliary sciences; formation of sociolinguistics as a science; directions of sociolinguistics; methodology and techniques of sociolinguistic research; basic concepts of sociolinguistics, which, in turn, include terminology of language policy and language planning, language variation and language variants, language preservation and death, etc. The Dictionary of Sociolinguistic Terms has been comprehensively and lexicographically analysed and systematized. The Dictionary provides a critical lexicographic analysis, ordering and systematisation of the existing terminological

corpus of sociolinguistics, conceptualisation of the units in the corpus of sociolinguistics terms, and standardizing and unifying activities concerning the formation of definitions of sociolinguistics terms.

In parallel with the creation of the dictionary of sociolinguistic terms, the laboratory worked on the terms of ethnic politics, which are subject to rapid changes. This is especially noticeable in the era of globalisation and socio-political transformations. In 2014, the ethnopolitical dictionary came out, soon followed by the second edition (Saduakasova, Suleimenova, 2014, 2020). The bilingual ethnopolitical dictionary contains information about the main terms and is aimed at solving problems relevant to Kazakhstan. The corpus of ethnopolitical terms is accomplished and systematised taking into account the available lexicographic sources in Kazakh, Russian and English; standardizing and unifying activities were carried out to complete interpretations of selected terms; terms that had not previously received a scientific definition were singled out and introduced in the Dictionary as independent dictionary units and then dictionary definitions were created for them as well (a total of 150 ethnopolitical terms in Kazakh and Russian were enlisted).

The initiative work of the laboratory staff under the direction of E.D. Suleimenova on lexicography of the Kazakh language resulted in the publication of the original dictionary of collocations in one of the most actively developing spheres of the modern Kazakh language – official-business language (Aldash, Suleimenova, Akanova, Aldasheva, 2005). The dictionary outlines the corpus of key words most frequently reproduced in the sphere of official-business and everyday business communication; the basic composition of word combinations of key words reflecting as far as possible their lexical meaning. Key words and word combinations were translated into Russian; the entire corpus of units was systematised and arranged in accordance with the requirements of lexicographic science; alphabetical indexes of key words were created. Not only the conceptual idea is original, but also the method and convenient form of lexicography of word collocations

around key words, as well as the arrangement of dictionary units.

The main direction of E. D. Suleimenova's scientific activity has been sociolinguistics for many years, and her scientific interests have focused on the problems of language policy and language planning, language vs. ethnic / civic / gender identity (Suleimenova, Shaimerdenova, Smagulova, 2005), vitality of Kazakh and other languages, language transmission in a multilingual society, problems of bilingualism and others.

Sociolinguistic description of active processes in the macro-linguistic situation, assessment of the language policy being implemented in the country from the point of view of effectiveness, sociolinguistic monitoring of the state language functioning, the content of status and corpus planning in the country and many other things are covered in monographs (Suleimenova, 2018; 2007) and numerous articles by E. D. Suleimenova. Sociolinguistic monitoring of the functional development of the state language as a result of the purposeful impact of the language policy being implemented in the republic has been carried out; the types of language policy and essential characteristics of the language ideology in the country have been determined (Suleimenova, Smagulova, 2005); the parameters of a comprehensive assessment of the functional development of the state Kazakh language in the light of the phenomenon of linguistic Renaissance have been developed (Suleimenova, 2011). The next study presents a detailed analysis of the directions and content of status and corpus construction (codification) of the state Kazakh language, the functional correlation of the state Kazakh and Russian languages within a single communicative space and the correspondence of the legal status to the level of language functioning, as well as the quantitative and qualitative characteristics of language policy as an important area of domestic policy in Kazakhstan in recent years (Suleimenova, 2015). In accordance with linguistic, socio-political, socio-demographic, socio-functional and national-cultural parameters, the vitality of the Kazakh language has been theoretically and convincingly substantiated (Suleimenova, 2015; 2016). The author

pays close attention to the study of active innovative processes that concern the language situation in different regions of Kazakhstan within the framework of the ongoing language policy, aimed at strengthening political stability and consolidation of the Kazakh society; determination of the effectiveness of language policy in relation to the functional development of the state language and the development of necessary practical recommendations on the possible correction of language policy and mechanisms of its implementation on the part of subjects of language policy aimed at strengthening the position of the Kazakh language as the state language of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Suleimenova, Akberdi, Ibraeva, 2011).

E. D. Suleimenova wrote her first works on language contacts and the risks arising therefrom, on the description of types of bilingualism from full bilingualism to semilingualism, as well as on interference and ways of overcoming it back in the distant 1970s, and her latest works on these topics were published in 2024. This testifies not only to the growing interest in the burning problems of mass bilingualism and the co-existence of languages in a single communicative field, but also to the fact that her works describe new aspects of these complex problems. E. D. Suleimenova, Zh. K. Tuimebaev and M. M. Aimagambetova investigated the peculiarities of early Kazakh-Russian bilingualism, when parents, integrating a child into society, expect the child to share the family language behaviour. The authors describe the phenomenon of “ugly duckling”, when the child does not follow the family language practice and suggest further prospects for an all-inclusive study of language behaviour of the child: “Undoubtedly, a special interdisciplinary analysis of the areas of language dominance of bilingual children is needed to complete the picture. It can be carried out, for example, in terms of code-switching theory, communicative strategies, mastering the rules of socialisation, diversity of language practices in conditions of bilingualism, which, we hope, will bring us closer to the secrets of cases of unexpected choice of the dominant language by a bilingual child”

(Suleimenova, Tuimebaev, Aimagambetova, 2024).

The third direction of E. D. Suleimenova is “applied linguistics: theory and practice of second language acquisition”. She considers the complex process of bilingualisation from the standpoint of cognitive, creative, linguistic and pedagogical development and existence of a person in a second language. This direction is covered by monographic researches, which were developed under the guidance of E. D. Suleimenova into doctoral dissertations by L. Ekshembeeva, K. Kadasheva, Zh. Nurshaihova, A. Agmanova, I. Vinnitskaya. The topics include language modules and language acquisition, the theory of algorithmic syntax, the predicate-centred theory of second language acquisition, strategic competence in second language, psycholinguistic analysis of children’s acquisition of verb forms and others.

E. D. Suleimenova is the author of Russian and Kazakh language textbooks. Original textbooks on the Russian language for Russian schools and for Kazakh schools were created by order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Kazakhstan, successfully tested and repeatedly reprinted.

Among the textbooks on the Kazakh language, the one strikes out, namely educational complex created with the use of modern technologies of teaching a second language and consisting of five books aimed at developing all types of speech activity (Suleimenova, Kadasheva, Akanova, 2006).

A series of textbooks, teaching aids and programmes for teaching Kazakh business language was prepared by E. D. Suleimenova together with D. Akanova, A. Aldasheva, K. Kadasheva. The most significant in this series is the educational complex “Resmi iskeri Kazak tili” (Suleimenova, Aldash, Kadasheva, Akanova, 2010; 2012). It represents a level approach to teaching the Kazakh language, with each of the three levels including a consistently increasing amount of lexical and grammatical material aimed at developing specific skills of oral and written Kazakh speech in business sphere. The training complex includes a grammar guide on the main issues of phonetics and grammar of the Kazakh language. This educa-

tional complex is the winner of the Open Competition on modern technologies of teaching the state language of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Ministry of Information and Social Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Together with ASTR/ ACCELS and Indiana University, M. Lekich, E. Suleimenova, D. Akanova, and K. Kadasheva created eleven Kazakh Language Training Modules on Culture. Each Kazakh Language Module is a cycle of lessons based on authentic texts. The Modules are posted on the Internet (Lekič, Suleimenova, Akanova, 2000–2018) and have become a popular resource for learning Kazakh language.

Creating textbooks of Russian language, reading and literature for secondary schools is another most important area of Prof. E. D. Suleimenova's activity. The first textbook was "A reading book on Russian language for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade of Kazakh school", written together with R. B. Nurtazina back in 1990. This textbook survived dozens of editions, then in 2001–2002 it was sensibly revised in accordance with new requirements and realities of life. Professor K. Urazaeva joined the author's team, and "Literary Reading" (later "Russian Language and Literature") in a new updated format has also survived several editions (Nurtazina, Suleimenova, Urazaeva, 2018).

Under the guidance of Prof. E. D. Suleimenova, the author's team created three educational and methodological complexes "Russian Language" for 7–9<sup>th</sup> grades of general education schools with the Russian language of instruction. The educational complexes, recommended by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan, present educational material in modern ways, taking into account the changed forms of testing knowledge and students at different stages of learning grammatical material. The textbooks include a variety of test tasks, introduce special sections and lexicographical support of the educational material, etc. (Suleimenova, Altynbekova, 2009; 2012; 2014).

In 2024, E. D. Suleimenova, O. B. Altynbekova, L. V. Ekshembeyeva, and Z. K. Sabitova published the textbook "Morphology of

the Modern Russian Language" (Suleimenova, Altynbekova, Ekshembeyeva, Sabitova, 2024). This is the first standard textbook on morphology of the Russian language created in Kazakhstan and recommended by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan for use in universities and pedagogical colleges teaching students who then will be able to teach Russian language and literature both in Russian and Kazakh schools. The textbook is adapted to the conditions of the Kazakhstani educational model of higher professional linguistic education, taking into consideration the specifics of sociolinguistic and cultural situation, as well as the practice of teaching morphology of the modern Russian language. The textbook also contains theoretical information on morphology of the modern Russian language, which is illustrated by examples from fiction, modern media, and the National Corpus of the Russian Language.

## Conclusion

A recognised maestro of Kazakhstani science, Eleonora Suleimenova is a person in whom the past, present and future have merged. She was able to cross the boundaries of the centuries, created the famous scientific school, which successfully works not just in one but several linguistic directions. She broke the widespread stereotype about age, preserving exceptional efficiency for the benefit of science and education. She made a kind of revolution in the training of scientists, took the courage and responsibility to create a doctoral dissertation council, which became a legendary centre for training highly qualified specialists not only for our university, but also for many universities of Kazakhstan and abroad.

E. D. Suleimenova's research activity is inseparable from her work as a leader and organiser of scientific undertakings. One can only wonder how organically EDS (as we call her among ourselves) manages to combine different types of activities, remaining charming, purposeful and energetic, demanding to everyone and, first of all, to herself.

Eleonora Dusenovna Suleimenova's colleagues, friends, co-authors usually speak of

her as a theoretical linguist in the first place, and the directions of her scientific activity described above allow the readers to see to the fullest extent that the centre of her attention is always language in the multifaceted and complex unity of all its aspects.

E. D. Suleimenova is the author of many fundamental dictionaries, reference books, textbooks of Kazakh and Russian languages, as well as monographs on topical problems of general linguistics and sociolinguistics.

Deep linguistic knowledge, high competence, initiative aspirations, strong internal impulse of development, firmness of beliefs and dissatisfaction with the achieved results have united colleagues and students of E. D. Suleimenova. Realisation of many research projects and related tasks would have been impossible without such consolidation of scientific activity. The scientific school of E. D. Suleimenova as a community of scientists united by special research and human qualities is characterised by common theoretical and high moral principles, and the head of the school is deeply concerned about scientific succession.

Many years ago Eleonora Dyusenovna Suleimenova confidently entered our university and started lecturing on introduction to linguistics and general linguistics. Today doctoral

students attend her classes on sociolinguistics and methodology of linguistics... And still we continue to admire her greatheartedness, her ability to believe in the talents and capabilities of budding scientists, to be principled, decisive and firm, soft, forgiving and patient, and always able to be demanded.

‘The happiest person is the one who gives happiness to the greatest number of people’, these words of D. Diderot reflect our ideas about the Teacher, whose lessons are very dear to us. Day after day Eleonora Dyusenovna Suleimenova generously gives the happiness of communication to everyone who lives together with her in the wonderful world of knowledge, science and creativity.

Eleonora Dyusenovna Suleimenova’s contribution to the research of topical problems of fundamental and applied directions of linguistics, development of scientific thought of Kazakhstan and training of scientific personnel has been marked by high governmental awards, among them are the orders “Barys” and “Kurmet”.

Congratulating Eleonora Dyusenovna on her glorious anniversary, we, her colleagues, students and followers, sincerely wish her health, well-being and success in further extensive and effective work.

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