



THE FUNCTIONAL ESSENCE OF ORATORY

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ABSTRACT

This article highlights the phenomenon of speech culture, which is interpreted as a two-stage linguistic process (speech skill) in the teaching of speech culture and the analysis on the fact that a single, perfect scientific definition of the concept of speech culture has not been created, the need to get to the essence of this phenomenon before describing it, to acquire the full scientific essence of the concept and public speaking skills, as well, differences in speech activity in reaching the level of a professional speaker and many facts are provided.

KEY WORDS: *oratory of antiquity, speech culture, oratory, stylistics, speech phenomenon, speech skill.*

Oratory is, first of all, an art, the ability to speak orally and in writing. When the classification of oratory was on focus in the past, it was primarily related to poetry and the art of acting. It is known that these types of arts are interrelated. Both poets and masters of art and orators studied the science of rhetoric in antiquity oratory. For example, Aristotle in his work "Rhetoric" talked about the interrelated aspects of rhetoric and poetry and said that what connects these two arts is a skillful speech. And Cicero used acting methods in his speech process.

Oratory is a unique skill. That is, an attractive, skillful way of speaking. With these features, it is superior to other arts. About this V.G.Belinsky writes that "Poetry is included as an aspect of oratory, reciting beautiful poetry is not the goal of oratory, but a means of improving speech skills" [6].

Determining the essence of oratory is largely related to the interpretation of the relationship of this speech phenomenon to a number of other close linguistic phenomena, and their common and different aspects. Here we are considering the relationship of speech culture and methodology of oratory.

It is known that speech culture, rhetoric and methodology all study the phenomenon of speech. Moreover, all this helps the speech to be correct, effective, and appropriate. For this reason, at first glance, they seem to be fundamentally different phenomena that study the same linguistic object. In fact, these fields are interrelated, independent scientific directions that study the phenomenon of speech from different angles. However, the specific purpose of these fields is to ensure that the process is properly structured and implemented.

It is known that the scientific direction called speech culture appeared at the beginning of the 20th century, but it began to develop widely in the 1960s. Due to the fact that speech culture is a new scientific concept, the essence of this phenomenon is interpreted differently by different researchers. Professor E.Begmatov comes to this conclusion, analyzing more than 30 of such definitions: "All the mentioned facts indicate that a

single, perfect scientific definition of the concept of speech culture has not yet been created. Before describing a phenomenon, it is necessary to get to its essence. The lack of a definition that can perfectly express the concept of speech culture is actually related to the fact that the full scientific essence of this concept is still insufficiently defined" [7].

E.Begmatov summarized definitions of speech culture and divided them into 10 groups.

In the science of speech culture, the phenomenon of speech culture is interpreted as a two-stage linguistic process (speech skill): "The first stage (lower level) in speech culture is the correctness of speech. The correctness of speech is mastering the literary language and its norms... The second stage of mastering the literary language is the speech culture in the full sense" [8].

It is clear that any person who rises to the level of a literary language user and an artistic orator must go through the above two stages of speech culture. In that case, one's mastery of oratory and reaching the level of a professional speaker can be considered as the third stage - the highest stage - in his speech activity. In this sense, oratory is a state in which a person's speech activity, skill, and competence are elevated to the level of speech art.

Despite the noted connections between speech culture and oratory, these two phenomena and fields have their own distinct aspects. Such differences can be seen in the purpose of speech culture and oratory, linguistic material, the object of examination, the factors that cause them, the level of their use and distribution, the persons who implement speech culture and oratory, the structure of speech, etc. An extensive analysis of the difference between speech culture and oratory can be found in the works of E. Begmatov. In the book "Basics of Speech Culture and Stylistics" of the collective authors, there is a title "Speech Culture and the Art of Oratory", in which E.Begmatov showed 2 differences between these two phenomena. This author considers oratory to be a separate art and skill, different



from speech culture: “Everyone can speak if they are not born with a speech defect (unless they are mute or stuttering). But not everyone is very talkative. Oratory in the classical sense is a special, extraordinary speech art. Real oratorical skill (art) is achieved as a result of continuous work on one’s language and speech along with natural ability” [9].

This author continues his comments and states the following: “Any speech is not an example of oratory (as an art), and its owner is not a true speaker (in the sense of an artist). Since ancient times, oratory has been interpreted as a special skill, an art, in the form of an unusual, unique ability of a person” [9].

The most important sign of oratory is indicated in the mentioned comments. But there are important differences between oratory and speech culture. E.Begmatov pointed out the following differences:

1. The phenomenon of speech culture is related to literary language. Whereas, for oratory, this is not the main sign. A person who can speak skillfully and impressively in his own language can also be an orator.
2. Public speaking is essentially an oral speech. Speech culture refers to both oral and written forms of speech.
3. The speech culture refers to the society or the majority. Oratory refers to the speech of an individual(s).
4. The field of speech culture also aims to bring the literary language to certain standards [10]. Oratory does not set such a goal for itself.
5. Speech culture involves a simple stage known as a speech stage, while oratory is a high-level form of speech that requires artful use of language and exceptional speech skills.

There are also important common aspects between speech culture and oratory. First of all, these two fields are aimed at improving and perfecting human speech activity. Secondly, the activities carried out in the field of speech culture serve to form a person’s oratorical ability. This feature is especially evident in the speech of orators who speak literary language. Also, educating skilled orators, perfecting human speech is the complete and ideal goal not only of the field of oratory but also of the field of speech culture.

From the above analysis, it can be seen that although speech culture and oratory are interconnected and have common aspects, these two phenomena and fields differ according to their specific goals and tasks.

The relationship between oratory and speech styles, in other words, functional styles, is one of the problems that have not been specifically studied yet. At the heart of such a problem, in our opinion, there are two important points of view: the first is the relation of oratory to functional styles, and the second is one of the functional styles of oratory, to be more precise, the question of whether there is a style of speech called oratory style. If oratory is considered a speech style, does it have an independent linguistic object or material?

It is known that stylistics)is now fully recognized as an independent field of linguistics and formed as a scientific direction, and 5 speech styles are recognized in the studies of methodology. These are: colloquial style, official style, scientific style, publicist style, artistic style [11].

But in some works, it is noted that there are other types of styles: “The types of written style are mainly the following: 1) Artistic style, 2) Popular (publicistic) style, 3) Official-business style, 4) Scientific style, 5) Oratory style, 6) Official-book style, 7) Mixed style [12]”. The mentioned idea differs from the traditional classification recognized in the field of methodology until now in that it is quite limited. These are the following:

1. Oral speech style is considered separately and is not listed among functional styles;
2. Oratorical style, mixed styles are also considered to exist;
3. The official style is divided into two independent styles;
4. The speech style (oratory) is not considered an oral form of speech, but a written form;
5. In some literature, it is mentioned that the neutral style is also distinguished as a separate type, etc [12].

In the case in question, the rhetorical style is explained as follows: “Rhetorics is mainly expressed by means of positive words and phrases, rhetorical interrogative sentences, and complex sentences. Rhetorical style has historically been an independent style and it would not be correct to say that it “belongs to the oral type of publicist (oratory) style [12].” It can be seen from the quoted opinion that its authors once again deny that rhetorics is a form of oral speech. Of course, putting the issue in this way, in our opinion, is controversial.

Now let’s focus on the relation to the functional styles of oratory.

Usually, the recognition of a linguistic event as an independent category is related to its having its own independent language material. Approaching the issue from this point of view, Professor E.Begmatov comes to the conclusion that methodological norms do not have their own independent normative units, i.e. language units, and writes: “Stylistic norms are the situation or feature of the use (branching) of language tools according to each stylistic criterion”. So, the stylistic norm is not just the norms that are language tools, rather, it is the situation of applying those norms in practice. Thus, stylistic norms are functional, i.e. activity norms of language norms [13].

The following opinion of V.I.Kodukhov is also presented in this work: “Language styles are a communicative and functional form of the language norm” [14].

So, it is clear from the above opinion that each of the functional styles does not have its linguistic material, independent linguistic norms, rather, it is the expression and application of language norms in each speech style in its own way.

However, it should be noted that functional methods work with speech texts and text units, not with separate normative tools.



For example, the separation of the scientific method is due to the presence of scientific texts in the Uzbek language, and the separation of the artistic style is due to the presence of artistic texts and the language of fiction.

Therefore, to recognize the existence of a speech style is to recognize the existence of a speech text that is considered to be

Functional styles:	Linguistic material
1. Scientific style	the language and texts of scientific research
2. Official style	the texts of official documents and business
3. Publicist style	texts written with the intention of being understandable to the general public
4. Artistic style	texts of fiction
5. Colloquial style	simple conversation between people, speeches representing the oral speech process, their written texts

At first glance, it seems that the style of oratory has its own independent speech texts, like others. Because artistic speakers also speak, and it can be recorded (on a tape recorder or in the form of a written text) and this creates a certain speech text.

But two features complicate matters here: firstly, oratorical speech does not rely on originality (specificity of artistic speech or scientific speech), one does not repeat the other. Secondly, oratorical speech can appear in all of the above-mentioned styles, so it can belong to all styles. In other words, an artistically expressed speech can be on a scientific topic, an official topic, an artistic topic, or a journalistic topic.

So, oratory speech cannot be limited in the same way as functional styles are limited. In fact, a speech belonging to oratory, that is, a skillfully and artistically spoken speech, can belong to any of the functional styles. So, an oratorical speech is a perfect speech given in any speech style. It is understood that an artistic, eloquent speech belonging to any functional style can be an example of oratorical speech.

It is clear from what has been said that oratorical speech does not stand in line with functional styles, rather, it is the speech perfection achieved in those styles. In this sense, it is controversial to consider oratory as a type or form of speech style, like functional styles.

It is also clear from what has been mentioned that oratorical speech can be expressed in any of the mentioned styles. It all depends on the methods, tools, and factors of speech delivered in these styles to the level of speech art. The main task of the

its example. In this sense, to consider oratorical style as existing is to recognize that it has independent speech material, speech text, and linguistic tools. Based on this principle, the speech material of the 5 functional styles recognized by many, that is, the linguistic material on which it is based consists of the following:

scientific field of oratory is to study the methods and ways of simple, correct speech to reach the level of speech art.

Poetry, acting skills and oratory are, first of all, each of them is a separate form of art. Each is historically formed and theoretically based. In all three, the first place is the attitude to the word, but the expression of this word is different in all three. Poets can't always interpret their poetry skillfully, actors can perform and act out the content of this poem, but they may not be able to influence the minds of the listeners and their psyche all the time. If fantasy, dream, and metaphor occupy the main place in poetry and acting, these situations are rarely used in oratory, because orators must think, not fantasize, to convey their personal thoughts to the minds of their listeners.

In order to master oratory, you need to know well its fields and types, situations of using speech. Because the style of oratory differs from each other not only by the topic and specific content of the speech, but also by the method of presentation, effectiveness, and the tools used.

With the development of social life, the demand for oratory is increasing. Being able to express one's opinion boldly, to interpret it correctly, to speak meaningfully, and to be able to speak beautifully (without extraneous elements, literally logically beautiful) is a requirement of today. In order to achieve such speech skills, it is necessary to master the "style" of oratory and its specific features. Before classifying the types of oratory (areas of application and situations), we will give a schematic table of them:

A. Applied fields of oratory (used cases)

B. Types of speech

1. Socio-political oratory

Lectures on socio-political topics,
Reports at the meeting,
political speech, parliamentary speech,
campaign speech,
speech of political activists,
political commentary,
speeches expressing the national idea.

2. Socio-household oratory

Anniversary speech
welcome speech, toast, eulogy.

3. Academic oratory

Lectures (in the auditorium), scientific lecture,
scientific information,



4. Court oratory
5. Religious oratory
6. Artistic oratory

scientific review.

Prosecutor, accuser's speech, lawyer's speech, victim's speech, etc.

Khutba, va'z, tavba, duo and others.

Poets and writers' performance skills.

From the above table, we can see that there are currently six main forms of oratorical speech, and they may have their own internal differences. When we compare this schematic table with the table in G.Z. Apresyan's book "The Art of Oratory", we can see the absence of Section VI. In our opinion, artistic speech is also a skill, it has its own characteristics. The analysis related to its interpretation is given in the next pages of the work. It is also worth noting that you can find some differences in the different versions.

In Tashkent in 1979, S. Inomkhojaev and N. Alieva developed the program "Fundamentals of Oratory". In this program, only five types of oratory are presented, and some of them are not covered. With the development of social life, the differentiation of oratorical style continues. Therefore, studying some of its undiscovered aspects is an urgent issue and demand of today.

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