



**EVOLUTION OF HUMAN COMMUNICATION DURING THE TRIBAL COMMUNITY
PERIOD**

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Abstract:

The language that is used today appeared in a much simpler form thousands of years ago. This article presents an analysis of theories about the emergence of language and a history of human vocal communication.

Keywords: Continuity theory, Spontaneous theory, Noam Chomsky, Charles Darwin, Michael Tomasello, homo habilis, homo erectus, Max Muller, cacque theory.

Introduction

Language, which is currently considered the main means of communication among people, was manifested in the speech of primitive people several thousand years ago in the form of the pronunciation of several sounds. In the process of human evolution, it was polished and got its present perfect and colorful appearance. The emergence of language is based on several tentative theories:¹

- "Continuity theory" puts forward the hypothesis that language emerged as a result of a complex sociolinguistic process, such as the development of communication between human primate ancestors before the emergence of language;

- "Spontaneous theory" supports the opposite idea to the theory of continuity, that is, the theory that language appeared as a result of a random event in the process of human evolution;

Some theories view language as the result of natural genetic processes;

- In addition, there are several views regarding language as a spiritual system that is learned on the basis of social communication.

In 2018, most linguists were proponents of the "continuity theory," but they differ in how they hypothesize language development. Among those who believe that language is mainly innate, some say that non-human primates cannot fully reveal the linguistic features and emphasize that language is the result of evolutionary development.² Among the workers of this intellectual activity, the majority,

¹ Ulbæk, Ib (1998). James R Hurford; Michael Studdert-Kennedy; Chris Knight (eds.). The origin of language and cognition. Approaches to the evolution of language : social and cognitive base. Cambridge, UK; New York: Cambridge University Press. pp. 30–43.

² Pinker, Steven (1994). The language instinct. New York: W. Morrow and Co. ISBN 978-0-688-12141-9. OCLC 28723210



mainly Ib Ulbaek³, support the idea that language is not a result of primates communicating with each other, but a derivative of primate cognition, which is a more complex process.

Theorists like Michael Tomasello⁴ believe that language as a result of social communication develops as a result of the cognitive aspects of communication between primates, and that this communication is based on gestures rather than sounds. When it comes to vocal communication, many theorists assume that humans use language to sing.

Noam Chomsky, a supporter of the "spontaneous theory", claims that 100,000 years ago, a random mutation occurred in the human brain, which made the language ability "perfect" or "semi-perfect".⁵ According to some historical data, australopithecines also did not have the ability to communicate vocally. Some scientists believe that the development of primitive language features is related to the appearance of the human species "Homo habilis" (2.5 million years ago). The appearance of symbolic communication (communication through signs) is associated with the appearance of "Homo erectus" (1.8 million years ago). Communication between people through language is estimated by the emergence of "Homo sapiens" 200,000 years ago.⁶ In 1861, the historical linguist Max Müller published a list of speculative theories about the origin of spoken language:⁷

"Bow-wow" is a hypothesis attributed to the German philosopher Johann Gottfried Herder. According to him, the first words appeared as a result of imitating the cries of animals and birds. In some literature, it is also called "kakku" theory.

- "Pooh-pooh" - a theory that believes that the first words appeared as emotional words and exclamations caused by pain, pleasure, surprise, etc.
- "Ding-dong" - Max Muller proposed his theory called "ding-dong". According to him, everything has a natural resonant vibration, which was somehow reflected by man in his first words.
- "Yo-he-ho" - the theory says that language appeared as a result of people's attempts to relax their muscles in order to relax after collective rhythmic work, resulting in deep breathing "ho" expressed by the sound of imitation.
- According to the "ta-ta" theory, humans formed the first words by mimicking hand gestures and making them audible through tongue movements.

³ Ulbæk, Ib (1998). James R Hurford; Michael Studdert-Kennedy; Chris Knight (eds.). The origin of language and cognition. Approaches to the evolution of language : social and cognitive base. Cambridge, UK; New York: Cambridge University Press. pp. 30–43.

⁴ 3 Tomasello, Michael (1996). B M Velichkovskii; Duane M Rumbaugh; Universität Bielefeld Zentrum für Interdisziplinäre Forschung (eds.). The cultural roots of language. Communicating meaning : the evolution and development of language. Mahwah, N.J.: L. Erlbaum

⁵ Chomsky, N, 1996. Powers and Prospects. Reflections on human nature and the social order. London: Pluto Press, p 30.

⁶ Arcadi, AC. (August 2000). "Vocal responsiveness in male wild chimpanzees: implications for the evolution of language". Journal of Human Evolution. (2): 205–23.

⁷ Johanna Nichols, 1998. The origin and dispersal of languages: Linguistic evidence. In Nina Jablonski and Leslie C. Aiello, eds., The Origin and Diversification of Language, pp. 127–70. (Memoirs of the California Academy of Sciences, 24.) San Francisco: California Academy of Sciences



In the system of modern sciences, most scientists do not consider such theories to be very correct. They believe that language evolved and changed automatically after human ancestors discovered a mechanism for associating sounds with meaning. Medieval Muslim scholars also developed several theories about the origin of language. These theories are of five general types:

1. Naturalistic Theory: There is a natural relationship between expressions and what they mean. That's why language originated from the tendency of man to imitate the sounds of nature.
2. Conventionalist theory: Language is a social convention. The names of things are the result of random inventions of people.
3. Theory of Revelation: Language was given to humans by God, and therefore everything was named by God, not by humans.
4. The revelatory-conventionalist theory: God reveals the basic basis of language to people, enabling people to communicate with each other. After that, people invented the rest of the language.
5. Neutral theory: A view that holds that conventionalist and revelation theories are equally valid.

Another popular theory about the origin of language is the "mother tongue" hypothesis. According to him, languages originally belonged only to mothers. In order to establish communication with her baby, the mother began to pronounce sounds that were understandable to her child. The sounds that were understandable to both sides were later used as words for communication among other members of the tribe. In this way, the communication between the members of the tribe started through words.

These theories proposed by scientists are tentative hypotheses about how the language came about, and are based on archaeological and anthropological evidence related to this field.

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