

## BRANCHES OF PHILOLOGY

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## ARTICLE INFO

## ABSTRACT:

## ARTICLE HISTORY:

Received: 12.03.2025

Revised: 13.03.2025

Accepted: 14.03.2025

## KEYWORDS:

Лингвистика,  
Литературоведение,  
Фольклористика,  
Историческая  
филология, Цифровая  
филология,  
Социолингвистика

В этой статье анализируются различные отрасли филологии, их особенности и развитие через современные научные подходы. Филология — это научная дисциплина, посвященная изучению языка и литературы, охватывающая основные отрасли, такие как лингвистика, литературоведение, фольклористика, историческая филология, цифровая филология и социолингвистика. Каждая отрасль исследует социальные, эстетические, культурные и исторические аспекты языка и литературы через свою методологию и подход. Современная филология, обогащенная технологиями, междисциплинарными подходами и глобализацией, позволяет более комплексно и многогранно изучать язык и литературу.

**INTRODUCTION.** Philology (from Ancient Greek: φιλολογία, philologia — "Love of words," "Affection for words") is a branch of the humanities, encompassing linguistics, literary studies, textual criticism, source studies, paleography, and other related disciplines. It focuses on the analysis of written monuments linguistically and stylistically to study the history and essence of human spiritual culture. The text, consisting of its internal issues and external relations, serves as the foundation that defines the existence of philology. By focusing attention on the text and creating supplementary interpretations (a form of philological work), philology, from this perspective, embraces the entirety and depth of human life, primarily its spiritual life. Philology emerged during a period of advanced written culture.

In ancient high civilizations of the Near East, philology was virtually unknown, and during the Middle Ages in Western Europe, it did not receive adequate attention. At the same time, philology arose in harmony with philosophy in ancient India and Greece, where the reflection on words and speech, and their analysis, was rooted. Despite later conflicts between the abstract nature of philosophy and the precision and concreteness of philology,

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the initial unity of philosophy and philology was not accidental: the periods of philology's flourishing and overdevelopment often followed the great periods of epistemological thinking (for example, in the Hellenistic world after Aristotle, in 17th-century Europe after René Descartes, and in 19th-century Germany after Immanuel Kant).

Although philology was not considered a specialized discipline among Turkic peoples in ancient times, many works related to it were written, including dictionaries, grammars, literary studies, tazkiras, and books on the history and ethnography of Turkic peoples. Mahmud al-Kashgari (11th century) holds a special place in the history of Turkic peoples' culture and science. He is one of the scholars who founded the field of Turkic philology and is considered its first pioneer. His work *Devonu Lug'at-it-Turk* covers nearly all areas of this discipline: the lexicon, phonetics, and morphology of Turkic languages, the classification of Turkic languages, oral traditions of Turkic peoples, and more. The work also contains valuable information on the ethnography, toponymy, and geographic locations of Turkic peoples. Al-Kashgari also laid the foundation for the comparative study of languages. Mahmud al-Zamakhshari (11th–12th centuries), who was given the title *Jorulloh* ("Neighbor of God") by his contemporaries, made a significant contribution to the development of Eastern science and culture. He created over 50 works related to philosophy, history, literary studies, folklore, and linguistics. His work *Muqaddimat al-Adab* is not only significant in studying the history of the Arabic language and linguistics, but it is also important for the study of the history of Turkic languages. The dictionary section of the work includes not only Persian and Mongolian translations of Arabic words but also Turkic translations.

In addition, more than 10 single-language or bilingual explanatory dictionaries created by famous or unknown authors between the 13th and 19th centuries contributed significantly to the development of philology in Turkic languages. Moreover, works by Alisher Navoi, such as *Muhokamat ul-Lug'atayn*, *Mezon ul-avzon*, *Majolis un-nafois*, *Tarikh-i Muluki Ajam*, as well as Babur's *Muxtasar* ("Risala-i Aruz") and *Baburnama*, Abulghazi Bahadur Khan's *Shajarai Turk* and *Shajarai Tarokima*, historical works by authors like Munis, Ogahiy, and Bayoni, Shaykh Ahmad Tarazi's *Funun al-Balagha* on literary studies, and other scientific works greatly enriched the field of philology in a broader sense.

Contemporary philology is addressing new issues in the study of language and literature and developing new methods; it is evolving while being closely connected to written sources from all periods of social life. Philological research is being conducted with a deep scientific and critical perspective on existing sources. Once considered a unified and comprehensive field, philology has branched out into independent disciplines such as history, philosophy, art history, and cultural history, with each discipline defining its own tasks while simultaneously collaborating creatively with philology. This collaboration is one of the most significant characteristics of modern philology.

#### Branches of Philology: New Directions in Language and Literature

Philology, in general, is one of the oldest and most important scientific fields that studies language and literature. It involves a comprehensive analysis of language and literature, their development, cultural context, social, and aesthetic aspects. In the modern world, the branches of philology are expanding and becoming more complex. Today, this field does

not just focus on linguistics and literary studies but also includes various new interdisciplinary approaches that strengthen the integration between these areas.

The branches of philology examine the specific aspects of each language and literature, and they are also evolving with the help of modern technologies and scientific methods. In this article, we will explore the main branches of philology and analyze their distinct roles and development trends.

### **Linguistics**

One of the most important branches of philology is linguistics, which studies the structure of language, its meanings, historical development, and its place in society. Linguistic research examines the phonetics, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics of language.

Linguistics can be divided into the following main areas:

Phonology – studies the sound system of a language, including sounds, their combinations, and their role in the language system. Morphology – examines words, their forms, meanings, and grammatical features. Syntax – studies the relationships between words and sentence structure. Semantics – explores the meanings of words and changes in those meanings. Pragmatics – analyzes how language functions in social contexts, focusing on the practical use of language in communication. Modern linguistics also includes fields like cognitive linguistics, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, and pragmatics, which study language not only as a structure but also in relation to human cognition, society, and culture.

### **Literary Studies**

Literary studies is another core branch of philology, focusing on the aesthetic, moral, historical, and cultural aspects of literary works. Literary scholars analyze literary genres, authors, works, and their social and cultural context. Literary studies include the following directions: Historical literary studies – focuses on the historical development of literature, periods, and literary movements such as Renaissance, Romanticism, Realism, and Modernism. Aesthetic literary studies – explores the aesthetic values of literary works, their artistic forms and styles. Psychological literary studies – examines the representation of human psychology in literature. Sociological literary studies – analyzes the relationship between literature and society, studying how literary works reflect social issues. Feminist literary studies – analyzes the role of women in literature and studies feminist themes in literary works.

In literary studies, new approaches such as postmodernism, postcolonialism, feminist theory, and critical theory provide new ways to analyze literary works from various perspectives.

### **Folklore Studies**

Folklore studies is the branch of philology that focuses on folk literature and traditions. This field examines various forms of oral tradition, such as tales, legends, proverbs, myths, songs, and more. Folklore studies includes:

Studying folk poetry – examining various forms of oral traditions like songs, proverbs, riddles, and poems. Ethnography and anthropology – studying folklore in relation to cultural practices and traditions. The connection between folklore and culture – understanding how oral traditions are intertwined with cultural customs and rituals.

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### **Historical Philology**

Historical philology studies the historical development of language and literature. This branch involves examining ancient texts, their transcription, and analysis. Historical philology allows us to understand how languages and literary forms have changed over time, including identifying grammatical rules and literary styles from earlier periods.

### **Digital Philology**

Digital philology or digital literary studies is the branch of philology that utilizes computer technologies to study language and literature. This field involves the digital analysis of texts, creating digital libraries, and applying new technologies in linguistics. Digital philology also includes tasks like automatic text analysis, identifying stylistic features, and developing translation systems.

### **Sociolinguistics**

Sociolinguistics is the branch of philology that studies the relationship between language and society. It examines how language functions in different social, cultural, and political contexts, and how language is used by different groups within society. This field analyzes issues like the social stratification of language, gender, ethnicity, and other social factors affecting language use.

### **Conclusion:**

Philology, as a scientific field that studies language and literature, not only examines the structure and history of language and literature but also helps to understand their relationship with society, culture, and human cognition. The various branches of philology, such as linguistics, literary studies, folklore studies, historical philology, digital philology, and sociolinguistics, each analyze different aspects of language and literature through their own methodological approaches and scholarly investigations. The development of modern philology continues with new technologies, interdisciplinary approaches, and global connections. This expands the field, fostering integration between branches and allowing for a deeper and broader analysis of language and literature. For instance, digital philology and digital literary studies use modern technologies to analyze literature and language in digital form, while sociolinguistics focuses on understanding the relationship between language and society.

The branches of philology are crucial not only for academic research but also for better understanding the connections between language and culture, preserving and developing language and literature on a global scale. At the same time, each branch contributes to the creation of new scientific methods, ensuring the dynamic development of language and literature. The integration of all philological branches enriches humanity's knowledge of language and culture. In the future, new methodologies and technologies, particularly artificial intelligence, data analysis, and new language learning approaches, are expected to further expand and develop the branches of philology. This, in turn, will enhance the scholarly and practical significance of philology, creating new approaches that meet the demands of modern society.

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