REVIEW

of the scientific supervisor
for the dissertation of Iskakova Gulnaz Nurdildayevna
"Prosodic portrait of academic discourse"
submitted for the candidacy of a degree of Doctor of Philosophy degree (PhD)
in "6D021000 - Foreign Philology"

The dissertation presented by Gulnaz Iskakova addresses a highly relevant and timely topic in the field of modern linguistics. The study "Prosodic Portrait of Academic Discourse" explores an under-researched yet essential aspect of communicative linguistics — the prosodic organization of academic discourse as a specific type of oral communication within higher education.

The relevance of the research is determined by the growing interest in discourse analysis and the increasing attention of contemporary linguistics to prosodic phenomena as integral components of meaning-making in communication. The dissertation highlights that, while the term "discourse" has been widely discussed in both domestic and international linguistics, its definition remains multifaceted and context-dependent. Within this framework, the author convincingly demonstrates that academic discourse, as a hybrid form between scientific and pedagogical discourse, has not been sufficiently investigated in Kazakhstan. The research presents a comprehensive and well-structured analysis of the prosodic features of academic speech, focusing primarily on the lecture genre — the core and most representative form of academic discourse. The author skillfully demonstrates how pitch, pause, intensity, duration and other prosodic parameters shape the communicative tone, expressiveness, and effectiveness of academic speech, contributing to the construction of an appropriate academic image and professional identity of the lecturer.

The methodology of the study is grounded in the principles of experimental and acoustic phonetic analysis, combined with elements of discourse analysis and prosodic interpretation. This methodological diversity ensures the reliability and validity of the results. The findings presented in the dissertation are original, theoretically significant, and practically valuable for improving communication strategies in academic settings and for developing prosodic competence in future educators and researchers. The dissertation reflects the author's high level of theoretical knowledge, analytical thinking, and research independence. Gulnaz Iskakova demonstrates a deep understanding of the current trends in phonetic and discourse studies and successfully integrates international research approaches into the national linguistic context.

The structure of the dissertation is logical and coherent; the conclusions are well supported by empirical evidence. The work meets the requirements set for doctoral dissertations in the field of Foreign Philology, and its scientific and practical contributions make it a valuable addition to modern discourse and phonetic research.

In summary, the dissertation "Prosodic Portrait of Academic Discourse" by Gulnaz Iskakova is a completed and original scientific study that contributes significantly to the development of discourse phonetics and academic communication theory. The degree of validity, reliability, novelty, and both theoretical and practical significance of the conclusions and scientific provisions of G. Iskakova's dissertation, titled "Prosodic portrait of academic discourse," submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree in "6D021000 – Foreign Philology," meets the essential requirements imposed on works of this nature.

Altogether, this serves as an objective basis for recommending the dissertation of G. Iskakova "Prosodic portrait of academic discourse" for defense.

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