



Humanities in the Age of AI: Challenges and Opportunities

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Abstract:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has changed the way we use language, learn, and share ideas. This paper discusses the role of AI in multilingual education and media from a humanities perspective. AI tools help people learn in their mother tongue and allow stories from different regions to reach a global audience. At the same time, AI also creates serious concerns such as loss of cultural meaning, language bias, and reduced human involvement in communication. This study highlights the need for the humanities to guide the use of AI so that technology supports cultural diversity instead of weakening it. The paper focuses on both the opportunities and challenges of AI while stressing the importance of preserving the human touch in language and learning.

Keywords: *AI Ethics, Multilingualism, Digital Humanities, Cultural Diversity, Algorithmic Bias, Language Preservation.*

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Introduction

Today, AI can translate long books within seconds. However, it cannot truly understand emotions, cultural depth, or the hidden meanings of poetry and literature. For students and teachers of humanities, this creates a serious question: Are we gaining speed but losing meaning?

Language is not just a tool for communication; it reflects culture, emotions, and ways of thinking. Multilingualism helps us understand the world from different perspectives. When AI becomes part of language learning and communication, it does not remain neutral. It influences how knowledge is shared and how stories are told. This paper examines how AI can help multilingual education and media, while also pointing out why human understanding remains essential.

AI IN EDUCATION: THE FUTURE OF LEARNING

Education plays a major role in saving and promoting languages. AI is slowly changing the role of teachers. Instead of only giving information, teachers now guide

students in using technology wisely.

A. Supporting Learning in Mother Tongues

For a long time, education has focused mainly on dominant languages such as English. This often ignored regional and local languages. AI now makes it possible to explain difficult subjects in a student's mother tongue. This helps students understand concepts better and feel more confident. Such use of AI can make education more inclusive and fairer.

B. The Risk of Over-Dependence on AI

Although AI is helpful, too much dependence on it can be harmful. Learning a language requires effort, mistakes, and practice. If students rely completely on AI for translation and expression, they may lose the deep understanding that comes from real learning. True language learning builds patience, cultural awareness, and emotional connection, which machines cannot provide.

AI AND THE CHANGING MEDIA LANDSCAPE

The media shapes how societies remember their past and understand the present. AI has changed the way media content is created, translated, and shared.

A. Giving Local Stories a Global Voice

Earlier, language barriers stopped many local writers, journalists, and filmmakers from reaching a global audience. AI translation and dubbing tools have reduced these barriers. Stories from villages, regions, and minority communities can now travel across borders. This helps promote cultural diversity and global understanding.

B. The Problem of Filtered Content

AI systems often promote content that attracts more views and engagement. As a result, meaningful but complex or critical voices may be ignored. In multilingual media, this can silence minority opinions and cultural expressions. Human judgment is necessary in the media to ensure fairness, truth, and ethical responsibility.

THE ISSUE OF LINGUISTIC SOVEREIGNTY

A major concern with AI is the control over language data. When languages are used to train AI systems, questions arise about ownership and representation.

A. Loss of Cultural Identity

AI often simplifies language by removing dialects, slang, and informal expressions. However, these features carry cultural identity and emotional depth. If AI promotes only standard language forms, cultural richness may slowly disappear.

B. Bias in AI Data

AI systems depend on available data. Many minority and regional languages are not well represented online. As a result, AI tools may ignore or misrepresent these languages, leading to their digital disappearance. This creates inequality in the digital world.

A HUMAN-CENTERED APPROACH TO AI

To protect the role of humanities in the AI age, a balanced approach is required.

Preserving Languages: AI should be used to record,

protect, and revive endangered languages.

Critical Learning: Students should be encouraged to question AI translations and understand what cultural meanings may be missing.

Ethical Design: AI developers must consider cultural context, emotions, and social values while designing language tools.

CONCLUSION: HUMANS AND AI TOGETHER

AI does not mark the end of the humanities. Instead, it makes the role of humanities more important than ever. While AI offers speed, access, and convenience, it cannot replace empathy, cultural understanding, and human creativity.

The future of education and media should be a partnership between humans and machines. Technology may assist us, but humans must guide its direction. By respecting linguistic diversity and cultural values, we can ensure that progress does not come at the cost of our identity. The future should be multilingual, inclusive, and deeply human.

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