

In the Name of God, the Compassionate
& the Merciful

Zagazig University
Faculty of Arts - Benha Branch
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Summary of a Doctorate Thesis

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Subject: Poetry language in the 1st Mameluke Era in Egypt (The period
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Language has its functions, of its most important ones is that it being a means of expression, a tool of communication between the member sons of the one linguistic society, in thought & feeling. The linguistic group organizes words, in the light of controls & regulations, put by the Arabic Grammarians to originate the desired lexical meanings, thus becoming understandable, hence a communication arises between the speaker & the receipient.

However, the factors which come upon the societies, results from them the evolution in Arabic. This evolution is a natural consequence to the mixing of the Arabs with the other conquered peoples. As the races of the arriving people to Egypt have diversified, from non Arab origins,

it was a must that the ruled class language submits to that of the stronger one. There also, it was a must that there should be a language for understanding between them. This language to which grammatical mistakes have leaked, and weakness has struck, has called those in charge of the language to rectify the Arabic tongue. The early efforts have appeared since the second century of Hira, until our present Era.

As the principal aim of this paper or research was having its seat in revealing the aspects of the linguistic trouble in the 1st Mamelukes' Era poetry in Egypt, it was a must to follow the precise scientific bases, and the objective measures which are inclining to the scientific attitude of the procedure and the discipline of the followed methods, getting far from being affected by the previous opinions, and exaggeration in pursuing the theoretical concepts, without benefiting from its applications, the treatment of the text from within its structure, until linking it with the poets environment, the political, economic & cultural changes which happened to their community. There is no doubt that linking the arabic language with the social structure is that what governs the linguistic behaviour of the individuals. This is having its importance in explaining the linguistic phenomena.

The impetus behind this choice hides in the withdrawal of the scholars of the language of this period, out of the linguistic studies fields. This era did not acquire except one single research, which was not a reflection of the Mamelukes Era poetry or prose, but rather was a refree for individual marks on two language levels: the classical & the slang or colloquial, and between two arts, each having its own rules which govern it, they are, prose & Popular Arabic poems in strophic forms. This research has emancipated on all the linguistic study levels, from phonetic

to morphological, grammatical and meaningful. In addition to that the governmental offices of this era are still containing in their hiding places a manuscript to which the hands of scholars did not reach, except a few of which that enjoyed good verification. The depth of heritage books are thundering with distinguished persons & sections for this era's poets. It is in need of the Arabic language sons' efforts.

I was perceived that the scientific material would be: 1st Mameluke's Era Poetry globally, and I specified the Egyptian class of poets for many reasons: 1st, the multitude of poets of this era, and the width of the linguistic surface which composed many dialects in Egypt & Syria, for both were as one province in that time. As the aim was to disclose the linguistic disturbances in their poems, and the Egyptian colloquial was one of these aspects, it was necessary for the research to favour the Egyptian class exclusively, specially that their number is about sixty, from the Egyptian who were born and grown in Egypt, or born only in it.

The study has concentrated on the phrase order and the conventional sentence, and put aside the phonetic & morphological aspects. This is because the disturbance aspects in the phonetic aspect, represented by some colloquial pronounciations. It was treated in the conventional colloquial sentence study. As regards the morphological aspect, they used grammatical formulation built on no measure, nevertheless, it is not representing any phenomenon spreading in their poems, which one could judge their language through.

The study has imposed the method, it was descriptive, analytical & statistical. The statistical method represents the quantitative demarcation for the extent of the width of the linguistic phenomenon, it has its

significance, as regards the abundance of specific lexical elements, the spreading of designated instructive structures. This needs, in turn, analysis inside the context, to reveal the social class of every composition with returning it to its arabic origins.

The study is divided into: - Introduction, Preface & two Chapters.

In the introduction I have treated the historical period which is the subject of the study. It is the Dynasty of Naval Mamelukes (from 648 H - 786 H) in a trial to unravel the social class, which comprised the political, economical, social, religious & cultural conditions, which lead in turn to influencing the poets and dying their ways in expressing the contrasts of the society.

First Chapter: The phrase organization or order:-

I started it with a preparation, displayed in it the difference between speech & phrase, the opinion of the grammarians & linguisticians in that respect; the function of the sentence, its limits and sections for them. This chapter was divided in two parts:

1st Part, the Nominal Clause:

I defined only the Nominal Clause, what is obligatory & allowed in it, and what is necessary. Then I took by statistics & analysis the patterns of the Nominal Clause, composed of :- predicate & subject as regards definition & disaffirmation. I collected the patterns which were mentioned by the poets, then I dealt with the forwarding & delaying phenomena, the justifications of each with observing every standardizing of these phenomena, and what has been approved in its use by many of the poets, and what they got out of the standardization. Then I dealt with the phenomenon of starting with the idea. I did not observe through it any

deviation that forms a generalized phenomenon with all the poets. I studied the deletion phenomenon which was exposed to each of the predicate & subject & I displayed the disaffirmative predicate which comes after "may be" (Roubba) for its distinction by a high frequency proportion with the poets. Then I displayed the Nominal Clause written with "Kaana & its sisters" & "Inna & its sisters". I also met with the phenomenon of separation between two parts of ascription, in a trial to explain the indication of the separating phrases, and their effect on the meaning. The phenomenon of separation has been repeated frequently between the two portions of the necessity construction with some poets, and has been limited in the adjective & the noun followed by an attribute or asyndetic relative clause.

2nd part, The Verbal Clause:

I started it with the most eminent definitions of the verbal clause, with all what is related to it out of the forwarding, delaying & cancellation to one of the parties of ascription, then I moved to the most prominent linguistic phenomena as regards spread in their poetry, the "condition" phenomenon, which I preferred to start with as it represents a proportion of high frequency with all the poets. I observed all its patterns to get hold of what is standardizing in it and what is not; for it being a necessity approved by the grammarians in poetry & not prose, with mentioning the indicative causes for this outing. I dealt with & exposed the widening which happened between both sides of the condition, i.e.: the condition and requital, in a trial to observe the wisdom in complicating this composition and its ambiguity, because of the proceeding in speaking, the interference of the phrases and their complication, then I dealt with the predicate & subject in the simple verbal clause as regards: the class, the conformity deletion, also what has

been permitted by the grammarians in that, and what they did not, in addition to the relation of the object to the verb and the active principle in the composition, and what changes in class it has suffered. Then it has been carried out a separation between both elements of ascription, this separation has its effect on the indication. The conditional clause and the simple verbal one were from the most prominent phenomena to which the poets have been joined & met together, then its evidences were recurrent with them. I then dealt with some individual linguistic phenomena which present individual differences between poets, however they are not considered the distinctive manner of the era language.

Second Chapter: The conventional sentences and their construction patterns.

The conventional sentence is distinguished by the molding, the fixity of its order, and the non permissibility of its conjugation in use. Some poets may have recourse to this measure when obliged; they deal with these sentences by resuming or deleting and changing in the indication. I introduced this section by defining the convention, old & recent, in the rhetoric & linguistic, old & new, concentrating on the importance of the conventional sentence in eliminating confusion and obscurity in our arabic dictionaries, to simplify their recognition by the scholars of the language out of its people, and those not talking it, as it represents, with its ambiguity an obstacle to the translator, if he is ignorant of the culture of the people to whom he translates, his style in shaping the sentences, his tying them up with social classes as in saying:- his misery kept him from revolution, the extent of his repentance for what has been lost, he failed to keep his promise as did Arkoub with his brother, in the center of the sky, hospitable & generous, exploiter who excels in seizing the opportunities.

In pursuing this phenomenon, we can disclose what has happened to these compositions or constructions in indication evolution: either in the specifying indication or generalization or decline. The change can happen on the composition itself by changing a word or more with keeping one or more words from the origin of the composition.

This phenomenon has been submitted to the legacy language, and the colloquial slang. Whereas the colloquial words & compositions do not enjoy the indicative proportional stability which is distinguishing its classical counterpart. They change from a place to another, from one time to another, in a quick and great fashion. They change with the linguistic climates changes which are submitted to constant evolution.

This chapter is divided in two parts :

First Part: The conventional sentences dictionary, which I divided in two sections.

First Section: The legacy conventional sentences dictionary. I organized the dictionary according to the beginnings of the words in the composition, I brought together the evidences related to the phenomenon and returned them back to their linguistic origin, while mentioning the social class of each - whenever available - and endorsing them with evidence from the Old Arabic poetry, the Holy Koran, the Holy Prophet's Hadith. I relied in this, on the most of the popular & general of our Arabic Dictionaries represented by: *Lisan El Arab* by *Ibn Manzour*, *Al Sihah* by *El Gohary*, *Tag El Arous* by *Al Zabeedy*, *El Kamous El Moheet*, *El Moagam El Wasit*, in addition to the origins & references which dealt with the phenomenon like :- *Al Amthal* by *El Midany*, *Thimar El Koloob Fil Modaf Wal Mansoub* by *El Thaaliby*, *El Magazat El Nabouiah*, *Fiqh Allugha* by *El Thaaliby*, *Al Ittibaa* by *Abi El Tayeb*