

A Comparison Of Precedence And Resistance Between Arabic And English Through Modern Science Of Linguistic

Dzulhadj Aeyn Abe Siregar

Faculty of Islamic Studies, University of Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara , Indonesia, (E-mail: sirtondi@gmail.com)

Abstract

Human civilization is strongly intertwined (interdependent) with the spoken language. A pride of a nation is within its language. A nation will be honored due to its language and vice versa. As Hopkyns says (2017) "As English now occupies an important position in many education systems around the world, which is certainly the case in the Gulf Cooperate Council (GCC) states, it has become the 'global academic lingua franca' (Jenkins, 2014, p. 10) or 'lingua academica' (Phillipson, 2008) and a 'high stakes gatekeeper of educational and social success' (Al-Mahrooqi & Denman, 2015, p. 3)". In post-modern world (information age) English is considered as an educational language and leave other language as a second reference. Meanwhile at the other half of the world, Arabic nations only seen as subaltern under the influence of super-nation. Even though, as we know since 1950 middle east has become the central of liquid energy for the world, and the biggest militer-coalition is held by the Arabic-speaker nations known as Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). Historically speaking, the term Dark Age is correlatively connected to Golden Age in eastern term despite their contribution to the modern world.

Keywords: *Phonology, Grammar, Diachronic Linguistic, Synchronic Linguistic, Citation*

1. Introduction

Modern linguists have raised theories that criticized the aspects of oral symbolic in many languages and threatening its consistency. They set a characteristic of language that always dynamically transforming, chronologically productive and they generally applied The Law of Arbitrariness. The dynamicity and arbitrariness are putting a bar on language. At this modern time there are not many languages capable to capture and project the picture of an idea or a nuance, or even to maintain the originality of the formula itself eternally as it spoken in the old times.

Arabic has found the grammatical hierarchy long before English. The richness of Arab literature has known since banī Hāsyim era, earlier than 6th century where English is not constructed yet at that particular time (see History of English in 10 Minutes, 2011). It has been proven with the unification of Al-Qur'an around 646CE (Samsukadi, 2015: 250-256). Even in Newmann (2004) in Eddine, says "*Arabic is one of the oldest languages that its sounds have been extensively investigated and documented as far back as the middle ages*". In the branch of Phonology, Arabic consistently referring to 'Ilmu al-Makhārij al-Ḥurf in such name as al-Jazarī (751-883H/1350-1478CE) (Ibnu, 2012). At meantime Modern Science of Linguistics of 21st century has left behind long after Matn al-Fiyyah were written by Ibn Malik (600-672H/1204-1274CE) ("*Biografi Ibnu Malik, Pengarang Kitab Alfiyyah,*" 2015) and al-Ajurrūm (672- 723H/1273-1332CE) the writer of al-Ajurrūmiyyah (Alawiy, 2012).

During its creation, Modern English has been gradually standardized through several constructions. A lot of assimilation has been occurred, and at the end we found it has been started from the era known as something else than English, that we know as Old English with different phoneme, morpheme, suffix, syntax, and many grammatical principles are time-worn. According to Webster's New Explorer Encyclopedic Dictionary (2006) notes the word 'Grammar' is recently used around 14th century. Some Arabic scholars suspecting the attempt of term-deviation in naming 'Grammar' in English that take a chance of a book entitled al-Ajurrūmiyyah. If we take an examination carefully until we identically found the similarity of the pronunciation between (الأجرومية) al-Ajurrūmiyyah and 'Grammar'. After we drop the Alif-Lām (ال) and Iyyah (ية) as suffixes, then drop the sick letter (Harfun 'Illah) that is al-Wawu (و), and Hamzah on Alif (أ) it will keep the Jīm (ج) that correspondent with G, and Rā (ر) will correspondent with R, and (م) Mīm to M and accumulates جرم. The similarity we found is strong with GRM that much similar to 'Grammar'.

At the other hand, English in this modern day considered as the language of knowledge, education and research tradition. This assumption injure the diversity of world nations. After the ending of colonialism, Sumatera Utara for example, loses Batak's Artifacts in great amount included the manuscripts. Batak's modern scholars often faces so many obstacles to gather information of their own history due to the lack of access to documents that has been extracted during colonialism era. Further more, the papers are not easily considered as the main source of Batak information even though the scholars themselves are Bataknese maybe because Batak is not a dominant race. This is what we afraid as what we know as Language Consumer.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Science of Modern Linguistic

The historical literature accumulation, grammaticality, linguists and figures, the old research and last research, journals, online articles, encyclopedia, lexicopedia, dictionaries, expert's comments on a works and documenter videos. These sources that mentioned before are included in this work as a primer data to be examine further more.

We found on Gorys Kerafs' (1991) work entitled *Linguistik Bandingan Historis*. Two aspects that we want to opposed in this research, those are:

1. Lautgesetz also known as Sound Law.
2. Derivational Morpheme.

Sound Law

Grimm's Law also known as Sound Law is a part of comparative method that concern in sound transformation of a language in a long spare time. Jacob Ludwig Karl Grimm and his partner Rasmus Rask in 1822 set a theory upon a characteristic of a language then applied it generally upon other language. The views come from German language systems, but yet they see it as a inevitable.

Derivational Morpheme,

Derivational Morpheme is a transformation of a word in a certain period based on the last pilot or a new creation. Generally every language experiencing the dynamism of its user. As English gradually forming the system, we can historically check that sometimes a constructed phonemes re-constructed sociacaly derived from its former shape. Also the morpheme could came up from nowhere as a new born term like Shakespeare did.

More detail Soeparno (2002) explains the entity that Keraf already mention into sub discipline. Every component of Mikrolinguistik, that is; Historical Linguistic, Contrastive Linguistic and Descriptive Linguistik. Soeparno explains about Linguistic Hierarchy those are; Phonological Hierarchy, Grammatical Hierarchy and Referencial Hierarchy.

Matn Tuḥfāh al-Atfāl

Matn is a brief poet containing cognition that intentionally constructed to maintain the most important issues and needs further explanation. Matn Tuḥfah al-Atfāl is written by Sulaymān al-Jamzūriy consisted of 61 of rhymes briefly discuss about phonetic system and tajwīd. Outside of a compulsory of Islam, we can start refer al-Jamzūriy as a modern linguist like we did on Ferdinand de Saussure.

3. Science of Arabic Linguistic

The scholars divide the eras of Arabic Literature at least into 4 significant times (al-Ḥāmid, 1993), those are;

Pre-Islamic

The Arabs known for their ability of memorizing oral poetry far before the dawn of Islam. One's would become a poet to earn pride for himself, his family and his tribe. It divided into two different type of tribe, the nomadic (Baduwi) and the aristocrats. Despite the culture downward, the Baduwi's known for their fluency in daily casual communication and poetry. At the other hand the aristocrats of Makkah systemizing the stream of poetry that would taking part in certain subjects such as declamation, categorization of a poetry, reward, writings and so on.

The Dawn of Islam

This period begins with the prophethood of Muhammad ibn Abdillah that taking place in Makkah in 617CE. He spread orally the words of Allah that undirectly approved by aristocrats as the greater literature yet ever been heard. Al-Qur'an start to be written on a various media that later resulting on deputation several writers. Since this era Arabic has been starting to be sorted and systemized massively, planned, hierarchily become the source of the very base of Arabic structure.

Golden Age

After Muhammad passed away his successor carrying out the spread of Islam and followed by Islamic empires in the middle age. The contribution of Arab-Islam movement are recognized by the world and build the fundamental pieces of modern world. As mentioned by many writings that Islam is a nation who taking credit for restoration the knowledge's lineage by their translation works.

Besides their brilliant progress, nations of Arab-Islam starting to interact with other language due to the polarization of knowledge. Arabic seems to flagging and losing their originality. Start from this many scholars of Arab linguistic begin to create a fixed language system based on Al-Qu'an, Sunnah and the reality of the Tābi' al-Tābi'īn to maintain the phonological aspects, syntax and it's poet.

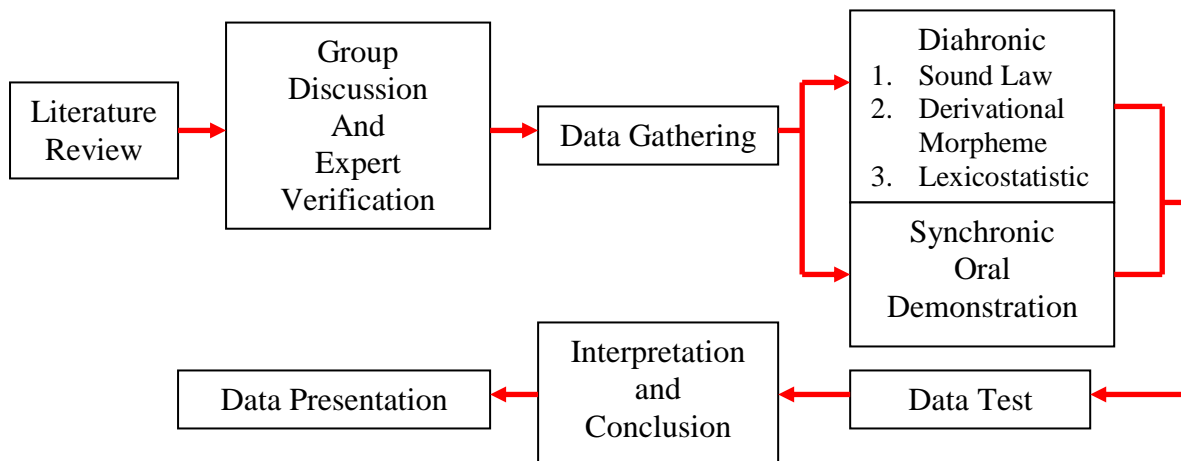
After century the dawn of Islam around 7th century, Baghdad bring up a phenomenal figure known as Khalīl ibn Aḥmad al-Farahidiy (Taufiqurrochman, 2015). He's came up with a system in lexicopedy based on phonetic arrangement as the oralic organ has vocalized. Khalīl's work became the fundamental of Arabic fundamental system until this day. This work also the first documented phonetic system of an oral language.

Modern

These day Arabic get a new nickname from a non-speaker linguist known as Modern Standarized Arabic. This work opposed the last fixed work that already arranged by the indigenous scholars of Arab. The reality tells the different way, that Arabic educational system never leave the old tradition. If we pay attention to the ages timeline, Arabic in the era of Islamic invention (where the scholars create the works) seems not change very much.

4. Methods

Workflow consisted of several steps that can be visualized as this after:



Information Gathering

This step is a preparation for the samples examination, data gathering and more newest literature review during the making of this paper. The source could come from books, audio, audio-video, interview and observation. The data that has been gathered will be submitted into two approaches, that is dychronic and synchronic.

Diachronic

Diachronic is a type of analysis that related to historical aspect at a certain spare of time, see (Soeparno 2002: 118). Two methods was set in this paper, those are; (1) Sound Law, (2) Derivational Morpheme; two of them will be historically exemined in the span of time. The comparative timeline will be displayed in a table for further examination.

Synchronic

Soeparno 2002 p. 117 explains that synchronic analysis based on contemporaneity principal, that is phenomena of a language and its connection with the present time. We found a lot of works by Islamic phonology (Tajwīd) that synchronized to the modern Arabs even more so in Talaqqi tradition.

Descriptive Study

The result will be interpreted through analogy of thinking. Broad outline will generalized and explained with descriptive method.

5. Result

We discovered that;

- 1) Arabic is more precedence and more resistance according to unification of Al-Qur'an and the works of Arabic Linguist.
- 2) The modern linguists merely wrong to quickly determined that Arabic exposed to The Law of Arbitrariness, thought it contrast to the law instead. The dictionary and its treasury of other language represented by a morpheme shared with varied meanings or concepts. While in Arabic a concepts that barely similar are represented in one distinkted morpheme. So we can come in to a conclusion that Arabic is more accurate in containing dissimilarity of a concept.
- 3) Arabic is more resistance upon Sound Law due to its phonetic preservation tradition.

- 4) Citation in modern research tradition often refer to practitioners outside the Eastern-side. We as muslim and as an academic community it's compulsory to us to cites the scholars of Islam. It's our fault, why until now, we barely found a translation of Kitāb al-Taṣrīf liman 'Ajaza 'An al-Ta'līf by Khalaf ibn 'Abbās a.k.a al-Zahrāwiy even in our Medical Faculty.

As we muslim always fail to extract Bukhari's work into multidiscipline outside theological branch. Bukhari meet different people with different characteristic, it is compulsory to us to find the correspondency of Bukhari's work outside discipline of Ḥadiṣ like in Sociology for example. Bukhari also set a surgical instrument called 'Ilm al-Jarḥ wa al-Ta'dīl. This instrument is what we called as 'Research Methodology' these days. Despite the greato of our scholars we failde to extracted it into a familiar form so it can compete even in third world.

5.1 Precedence and Resistance

As we know that Arabic sociolinguistic tradition in memorization of oral poetry has begin in pre-Islamic era, binded in systemized way of application with a certain rewards as a symbol of person's exelencies and his family or tribe. At the 6th century Muhammad ibn 'Abdillah that was raised among the Baduwi (nomadic) in his childhood, begins the teaching of Islam through both literal and spoken word. This habit of literacy passed to his successor and reach the peak in the era of Islamic empires particulary 'Abbāsiyyah and contribute tons of translation works from interdiscipline of knowledge, meanwhile Europe don't even give a sight to writtings.

5.1.1 Diachronic Test

The table below extend span of time for a better view to ease the work and the examination descriptively.

Table 1: The Diachronic Timeline

| Era | Century | Arabic | English | Diachronic Results | |
|-----|--------------------|--|----------------------|--|---|
| | | | | Sound Law & Derivational Morpheme | |
| | | | | Arabic | English |
| Old | Before 6th Century | Poetry of Quraisy | Imperialism of Roman | The era of Quraisy both oralic and written poetry. At this stage Arabic not yet set the grammar | The Romans speak Latin as their mother tounge. English not constructed yet. |
| | 6th Century | Al-Qur'an | The Nord Settlements | The book of Muhammad ibn Abdillah came to Quraisy as the greatest form of literature. Since then Al-Qur'an became the source of Arabic. | The Nordmen frequently raid their neighbor land. At that time their mother tounge is Old German. |
| | 6th-10th Century | Islamic Empire and The Spread of Al-Qur'an | Old English | Islam expands its political territory. Arab influencing other nation by it's power and language that enters the social structure, bureaucracy and militer. | The settlement of Nordmen has taking long periode of time until the assimilation resulting Old English. |

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Middle Age | 10th-15th Century | Islamic Empires, literacy translation and The Discovery of Sciences | Normandy then Shakespeare | While other nation still debating about the territorial land, Islamic empires already start their civilization. Literacy become something in the air. Islam the source of science. The Empire translates so many old books and manuscripts into Arabic across nations. Later in the future these Arabic sources translated back into multilanguage. | The Neighborhood Nordmen, the Normandy follow their brother's step, to stay in England and later dominating the land. Normandy came to power with strong influence in language. Furhter more, Shakespeare profound around 2,000 words. English is start its formation. |
| | 15th-20th Century | Islamic Empires and The Discovery of Sciences | King James Bible then The Scientists | Islam and Arab keep improving and profound so many inventions. | Theologically King James bible taking place in the name of language. Even though the use of the bible not necessarily grammatic. We still not found yet the scholars of English this time so. Europe and the English speakers also start the inventions and came up to the surface. |
| Modern | 21th Century | Postmodern | Information Age | Arab and Arabic start to split one of each other. English starts to dominating the word. | English slowly become the Lingua Franca. People considered English as the language of the knowledge or education. |

5.1.2 Synchronic

Arbitrariness

The base assumptions is that every languages has the characteristic of arbitrariness, a language composed of unique sounds. These brief sounds generated from oralic organ or related to it. The variant of sounds can stand alone or lined up in a row consisted in differencies. The particular sound occupies a meaning henceforth with know as Morpheme.

In many language include English, arbitrariness is the worst nightmare. English arranged from different languages as the cultural changes, politics and military influencing the speakers. Diachronically more dynamic than Arabic.

Sound Law

It is hard to agree with this theory, because for about 15,000 years Arabic follow the same system of sound as the Qurays speaks. On the contrary even the system has written down literally. For example, a phoneme can be spoken correctly by follow the instructure, like; what organs involved in process, what the characteristic it'd made differentiate themselves one each other.

At the other hands English accepts the revolution as we examine with table before. A lot of phonemes start evolving along its creation. Also we don't yet found the figures of its phonology and its often copies what's available in society.

Talaqqi

This tradition is the strongest reason to resist Grimm's Law. Jamzuri say's "wa ifhamanhu bi al-Muṣul" (and understand it by example). The scholars can always write their works and the reader can always take the benefits of it. But the oral practices are humanic, therefore a right example of pronunciation always step ahead then what it have been written. This tradition is more than compulsory in Islam, it is also a strong cognition for linguists.

English in other way, established by history, evolving by socials, and systemized by the scholars related to nick of time. It dynamic without any compulsory to preserve the originality, arbitrar and infected by Lautgesetz.

References

- Alawiy, Muhammad Taqiyyuddin (2012, 27 December). Manaqib Imam ash-Shanhajiy, Pengarang Kitab al Jurumiyyah fin Nahwi. Diperoleh 16 Desember 2018 from, <http://taqiyyuddinalawiy.com/manaqib-imam-ash-shonhajiy-pengarang-kitab-al-jurumiyyah-fi-n-nahwi.html>
- Biografi Ibnu Malik, Pengarang Kitab Alfiyyah. (2015, 06 Juni). Biografi Ibnu Malik, Pengarang Kitab Alfiyyah. Diperoleh 15 Desember 2018 from, <http://ibm.mudimesra.com/2015/06/biografi-ibnu-malik-pengarang-kitab.html> Eddine, Djamel (no year). Contrastive Analysis of Arabic and English. *Academia.edu*. retrieved from https://www.academia.edu/10838150/Contrastive_Analysis_of_Arabic_and_English?
- Al-Ḥamid, (1993) *Silsilat al-Ta'lim al-Lugah al-'Arabiyyah al-Mustawwa al-Ṣāliḥ al-Adab*. Riyadh, King Imam Su'ud University.
- Hopkyns, Sarah (2017). A Conflict of Desires: Global English and Its Effects on Cultural Identity in The United Arab Emirates. *Leicester Research Archive*. retrieved from <https://lra.le.ac.uk/handle/2381/40444>
- Keraf, Gorys (1991). *Linguistik Bandingan Historis*. Jakarta, Publisher PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama.
- Merriam-Webster (2006). *Websters' New Explorer Encyclopedic Dictionary*. Connecticut, Federal Street Press
- Samsukadi, Mochamad (2015). Sejarah Mushaf Uthmānī (Melacak Transformasi al-Qur'an dari Teks Metafisik Sampai Textus Receptus). *Religi: Jurnal Studi Islam*, 6 (2). Retrieved from <http://www.journal.unipdu.ac.id/index.php/religi/article/view/489/436>
- Soeparno (2002). *Dasar-Dasar Linguistik Umum*. Yogyakarta, Tiara Wacana Yogyakarta.
- Taufiqurrochman (2015) *Leksikologi Bahasa Arab*. Kota, UIN Maliki Press.
- The Open University (2011, 22 Juni). History of English in 10 Minutes. Retrieved from 15 December 2018 dari, <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/english-language/the-history-english-ten-minutes>
- Thohir, Ibnu (2012, 5 Desember). Biografi Qari': Muhammad Ibnu Al-Jazari. Retrieved 16 December 2018 from, <https://www.lingkaran.org/biografi-qari'-muhammad-ibnu-al-jazari.html>