

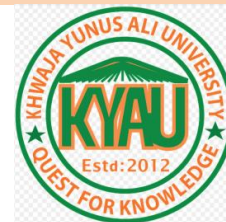
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Research Article

The Variety and Particular Trends of Using Language by the Different Groups of People: A Sociolinguistic Perspective

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Abstract

Language is one of the most significant gifts of Almighty Allah. He has created many kinds of species on earth. Those species have different particular languages for their own communication. Besides, there are variations in their pronunciations even in their own communities. It is noticed that there is a gulf of difference in the languages of different ages and different classes like babies, boys, girls, men, women, etc. Even the trace of specification in choosing the words by children,

women, and men is evident in their speaking. One can easily identify whether the spoken or written words are of a baby, or a lady, or a man. In this study, we will investigate the variety and particular trends of using language by the different groups of people like children, men, and women. In this attempt to come out successful some textbooks, criticism, magazines, journals, and web links, etc. have been selected.

Keywords: Language, linguistics, gender

1. Introduction

Language is used as the sole medium of communication and has particular words for expressing specific things, emotions, and expressions. There are some differences that are clear all the while between men and women in using language. From different surveys, it has been proved that women use always words with exaggerated significantly such as sweet, cute, adorable, darling, lovely, and gorgeous so ones. On the contrary, the chosen words by the male persons are less sophisticated, less lovely, and emotionless. There is a great similarity in the treatment of language by the children with that of the female. Different levels of language acquisition by the children

are really amazing. A greater impact in the boys than the girls in language comprehension has been visualized under the guidance of maternal education.

The study of language variation in urban environments helped to establish sociolinguistics as a science apart from dialectology. Unlike dialectology, which analyzes the geographical distribution of language variation, sociolinguistics examines other sources of variation, such as social status. The most important linguistic identifiers in society are class and occupation. One of the sociolinguistics' most important discoveries, which have been difficult to refute, is that class and language variety are linked. The working class tends to speak less in Standard

English, whereas the lower, middle, and upper-middle classes tend to speak more in standard language. The higher class, even upper-middle-class people, may, on the other hand, communicate with a 'lower' standard than the middle class. This is due to the fact that not just class, but also class aspirations, are significant. To appear to have a different social position and fit in better with either those around them or how they wish to be seen, one may speak differently or cover up an unpleasant accent. But the greater impact on the boys than the girls in language comprehension has been visualized under the guidance of maternal education.

Gumperz, John J.; Cook-Gumperz, Jenny (2008) claims that the historical relationship between sociolinguistics and anthropology can be seen in studies of how language variants fluctuate amongst groups split by social characteristics (e.g., ethnicity, religion, status, gender, level of education, age, etc.). In his 1939 paper "Sociolinguistics in India," published in *Man in India*, Thomas Callan Hodson invented the term sociolinguistics. (Johnstone, B. (2020).

In the West, sociolinguistics was pioneered by linguists like William Labov in the United States and Basil Bernstein in the United Kingdom. In the 1960s, William Stewart and Heinz Kloss established the foundations for the sociolinguistic theory of pluricentric languages, which outlines how standard language variations differ between nations. (Stewart, William A (1968), Kloss, Heinz (1976), Ammon, Ulrich (1995), KordiĆ, Snježana (2010). William Labov, a Harvard and Columbia University graduate, is largely regarded as a founder of sociolinguistics study. By focusing on the quantitative analysis of variation and evolution within languages, he elevates sociolinguistics to the status of a scientific subject. Gordon, Matthew J. (2017).

To be considered a part of a speech community, you must have the communicative ability. That is, the speaker has the ability to use language appropriately in different situations. It is possible for a speaker to be able to communicate in multiple languages. Deckert, Sharon K. and Caroline H. Vickers (2011).

2. Research methods and data collection

Basically, the researcher has collected primary data through recording conversations. Document and content analysis has been used for the collection of secondary data. The researcher has studied 20 to 25 pieces of related literature that are relevant, reliable, and representative of his fieldwork. The researcher has made a list of related literature with his research topic so that he can ensure the systematic collection of secondary data. These are the recognized journals, published and unpublished study reports, scholarly books, etc.

3. Analysis and Discussion

Allah has declared in the Holy Quran: "The Most Gracious Allah. He has taught mankind the Quran. He created man. He taught him the language."¹ Though language is spoken by the ordinary and the common human being, it is purely a science. There is no scope of taking language as ordinary. Its characteristics are full of complexity and science. It is said that language is verbal, vocal, arbitrary, symbolic, productive, modifiable, and purely human. Though it is a social phenomenon, it is non-instinctive and conventional. There is a great difference between the languages of animals and human beings. Allah has prescribed language only for human beings, not for other species. They may use some signs as a language which totally instinctive, inherited and non-modifiable. But only human beings can utter the words with a complete meaning and significance which is scientifically justifiable. So it can be claimed that without the knowledge given by Allah, the human being could never be able to speak correctly maintaining phonetics and grammar.

If we analyze the procedure of obtaining the language from the very childhood, we are to be utterly surprised. Because a child develops its faculty of intelligence in learning the language very swiftly but with a gradual process through some stages:²

There is a stage named the pre-linguistic stage (1-6 months) when a baby makes only a natural sound like crying, fussing, cooing, laughter, and it tries to capture the technique of making sounds following the family

members. The second stage is known as the Babbling stage (6-9 months) when a baby uses its articulator organs of making sounds. In the third stage which is known as the holophrastic stage or One-word stage (9-18 months), a baby controls the techniques of uttering one-word. The next stage is called the Two-word stage (18-24 months). During this period a baby can make mini-sentences with two words. In the Telegraphic stage (24-30 months) children can long sentences though those are not grammatically correct. But in the last stage which is known as the Multi-word stage (30 months to onwards), children become able to speak complex sentences like adults. Really we are to be wondered with this change in the linguistic faculty of a baby which is the direct miracle of the Creator Almighty Allah.

Later the children take the vocals of girls or boys and they acquire the particular characteristics in uttering words which is the instinctive nature of either girl or boy. The females develop their girlish attitudes both in manners and language choice while the male does the same according to their own instinctive nature. Linguistic change occurs in this transitory period and the ways of using language used by men and women are regularly being changed. When it comes to the linguistic study of changes, it becomes a sociolinguistic factor. It is to be noted that both family and socioeconomic status have a great role in the acquisition of language. In this context, Stephanie Barbueta (2015) found:

*As a source of individual variation in language development, the child's sex and family socioeconomic status (SES) have been repeatedly identified; yet their conversations have been explored. While gender differences are the focus of renewed concern concerning emerging language skills, data remain scarce and are not consistent across pre-school years. The questions of whether boys and girls are affected equally by family SES, as well as the constancy of these disparities throughout early infancy, remain unanswered.*¹

It is also certain that there are many factors that affect people's way of speaking. Among some aspects, social variation is one of them that usually distinguish people's affiliation including social class. Another aspect is a stylistic variation that refers to the speech

of both sexes. Linguistic variation mainly depends on the environment where the speaker finds himself or herself. The speech of different individuals varies depending on age, gender, social class, and ethnic group. So it is to be believed that the speaker adjusts himself or herself to the situation in order to 'fit in'. The neo-grammarians did argue that the sound change for adjusting to the new environment caused linguistic change during the nineteenth century. In this field, women can play a vital role more effectively than men. A dialectologist named Gauchat proved:

*The old inhabitants used the forms that were phonetically older than the users, young people and advanced pronunciation was used by women in comparison with men. That is why; women were to be taken into account as an innovatory force rather than a conservative force. As the female guided their children at home, the guidance influenced in the language of the young and the language of the innovation would be passed on. The children always tried to follow their mothers' ways of using language and they tried to copy all the sentences that their mothers delivered speeches and even tried to exemplify the same statements delivered by their mothers. That is why the mother is the first natural initiator of linguistic change'*³.

Women are always different from men in many aspects-biologically or social. So one can easily understand the different ways of speaking between men and women. The ways of speaking of women are different compared to men. Otto Jespersen (1922) claimed that: In the conversational talk, women employ turn talking without finishing their sentences because they start talking without thinking about what they are going to say.⁴ Barrie Thorne stated that 'Women, when compared to men of the same social class, age, and educational level, are more likely to adopt the form that is closest to status or the "right" style of speaking.'⁵ Another researcher, Peter Trudgill said:

Because women were not judged by their vocations, they developed linguistic forms that were closer to standard language or had higher prestige, which is

*why "other indications of status, including speech, are correspondingly more important."*⁶.

It is to be mentioned that women do not get the scope of working outside the house in most of the cases of the Bangladeshi context. She is to live in a certain restricted cycle. As a result, she does not get the chance of sharing her lingual attitude with others with other barriers. And this is one of the reasons why women develop certain kinds of differences in language. Moore has a point in his explanation because it's possible that women's language was more limited and controlled at the time. When one considers that women were not allowed to engage at the same level as males in the school system, it is clear that men had an advantage in both language and society as a whole. Women worked just as hard as men, but women were generally left out of the process of creating the forms of thought, as well as the images and symbols through which thought is represented and arranged. Comparing men and women with each other, Spender claims:

*Women have a "superior" ability to communicate than men. Participants who are more polite, less pushy, and technically correct. H.T. Moore discovered in 1922 that men talked about their jobs significantly more frequently than women. Because women did not frequently work outside the home at the period, it was only natural for males to employ words associated with their work. Work vocabulary, according to Moore, should be taken seriously, but women's vocabulary should be considered trivial.*⁷.

Actually, men and women are two different creations of Allah. He has given some particular characteristics to them. Man has possessed some manly manners whereas a woman has the womanly attitudes. There are a lot of differences in every matter of men and women. This ultimate womanly attitude is also observed in their language acquisition. Professor Steven Goldberg of New York in his book *The Inevitability of Patriarchy* says about the difference between men and women:

*"In I. Q. tests with men and women of similar cognitive levels, the male brain functions differently than the female brain. Men tend to perform better in logical and deductive tasks, whereas women perform better in verbal skills. Those women, without a doubt, have a high level of emotional awareness even before they have children. Little girls are more likely than little males to be thoughtful and sensitive to parental moods."*⁸.

4. Conclusion

This research finds that there are some variations and particular trends of using language, especially linguistic differences by the different groups of people like children, men, and women. In the holy Quran, Allah declares: ``The creation of the sky and the earth, as well as the variances in your languages and colors, are among His confirmations. There are indicators for the knowledgeable in these.''ⁱⁱ. So it is evident that language as well as its diversity among children, men, women and the different groups of people on the earth is one of the brighter indications of Almighty Allah. It proves His greatness.

5. Acknowledgment

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6. Conflicts of Interest

The authors declared no prospective conflicts of interest with respect to the research.

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