METHODOLOGICAL PAPER

De-Militarization of Language in Arabic Grammar Books and its Impact on Human Life

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ARTICL INFO	ABSTRACT
	SUBJECT AND OBJECTIVES: Sibawayh, a leading grammarian in 8th Century used first time violent words and phrases such as "Izhaba, waqtala and wazrib" meaning "Go, and killed and hit", and "Yazhabu, Yazribu, Yaqtilu and Yuzrib" meaning "He is going, hitting, killing and being hit" in his book "Al-Kitaab". Since then, these types of words and phrases are being used in almost all the books of Arabic grammar. This article examines the concept and roots of militarization of textbooks and the effects of these words and phrases on human life and society. **METHOD AND FINDING**: In this research, content analysis has been used to quantify and analyze the presence of specific words and phrases used in Arabic grammar books, based on the psychology of words and human behavior. The words being used in our daily communication shapes human aura which has radiations that effects on emotional and physical state. A word, phrases and sentences carry not only meaning; but psychological effects, responsible to develop human Aura that influence human brain and personality. **CONCLUSION**: These words and phrases effect on human brain which leads people towards anxiety and irritability, consequently reduce human cooperation and collaboration in a significant manner. The nature of human thoughts depends on the words and phrases being used or heard and finally develop human aura that creates positive and negative energy in human. This research confirms adverse impact of negatives words and phrases on human life.
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Introduction

The Holy Quran says:

"Surely! We have revealed it an Arabic Quran that you may understand". (Quran, 12: 2)

The only book that is available for Human kind without any error and changes is in Arabic Language and has been translated in more than 80 languages, just in Indonesia it has been translated in 16 local languages and translation into a few more languages are also under way. *(International Quran News Agency, 2019)*

Translations are important; but could carry inaccuracy and cannot produce the beauty of the actual meaning.

Therefore, to understand Qur'an in depth with higher accuracy one should have a good command on Arabic Language.

In Islamic tradition, learning Arabic language has been recommended and appreciated by authorities. Imam Sadiq Says:

"Learn Arabic; because it is the word of God with which He speaks to His servants". (Majlisi, 1983, Vol. 2: 212)

Do keep the Arabic language alive, we have said a thousand times that the Arabic language is not the language of one nation. This is the language of Islam. If there was no Quran, this language would not have remained in the world. Every culture, every civilization, if it wants to survive, its language must survive. If his language is

dead, he is dead. By God, we have a duty to the Arabic language to preserve this Islamic language. All of you should learn this language. *(Motahhari, 2008)*

Learning a language is a skill and in learning skill, the method is one of the important element of the process being used in learning that skill. The technique which is being followed effects on the multiple areas.

This research paper focuses on the phrases and words being used in teaching Arabic grammar in textbooks and its impact on human life. It will identify what will be the effects of using negative words and phrases on human life?

Theoretical Foundation of Research

1. Militarization and De-Militarization of Language

The dictionary meaning of Militarization is the act of bringing military forces into an area, this can also be used in academics.

The concept of militarization of textbook can be explained as putting violent/negative words within the text to explain a concept.

A word doesn't carry a meaning only, it comes with a background having mainly cultural and psychological effect on human brain and personality.

There were greater incidents of genocide in the remaining fifty years than at some other time in records. At the same time

as no longer completely responsible, the academic discourses, along with textbooks and curricula, have played a prime role in beginning, prolonging, or exacerbating these conflicts. *(Naseem, 2014: 11).*

Demilitarization is the action of removing military forces from an area, while in academics it would be the process of removing the stimulus from the curriculum that would be serving as a cause for militarization.

2. Arabic Grammar Books

Textbook is one of the old tools being used by almost all educational systems.

Until now, thousands of Arabic grammar books have been written; but the history goes back to a Persian man named Abu Bishr Amr ibn Uthman ibn Qanbar al-Basri (760-796) known as Sibawayh.

He was a Persian leading grammarian of Basra and author of the earliest Arabic linguistics books. His famous unnamed work, referred to as Al-Kitab, or 'The Book', is a five volume seminal encyclopedic grammar of the Arabic language. He is Amr ibn Uthman, and he was mainly a grammarian. He arrived in Baghdad, fell in with the local grammarians, was humiliated and went back to some town in Persia, and died there while still a young man. *(Sibawayh, 1988, Vol. 1)*

Sibawayh's al-Kitab was the first book on Arabic grammar. *(Bod, 2013: 76)*

Sibawayh in his "Book Al-Kitaab" uses an example (Izhaba wa Qatala wa Yazrib) meaning "Go and killed and hit", and then he uses (Yazhabu wa Tizrabu wa Yaqtulu wa Yuzrib) meaning "He is going, hitting, killing and being hit". *(Sibawayh, 1988, Vol. 1: 12)*

Tese are the examples with full of violence had been used first time by Sibawayh in history and since then the authors of Arabic grammar books have been following him.

He mainly used two words one is killing or kill and the second one is beating or beat. Mainly the current books and teacher use the word "Zaraba and Yuzribu" while giving lectures and the word "Qatala" meaning "Kill" is not being used frequently neither in books nor by teachers during the lectures.

For teaching Sarf and Nahw, one of the textbooks named "Dars Nameh Sarf and Nahw" is being used in multiple institutes in Iran.

This book is also militarized by the word "Zaraba" and the frequency of this word can easily be checked in this book. This book carries total 130 pages; the main body of this book is on 110 pages. In these 110 pages, the word "Zaraba" meaning "Beat" has been used 100 times. *(Mousavian, 2017)*

Apart from this, the frequency of this word being repeated by teacher and students during the lecture is almost impossible.

This word "Zaraba" is being used in almost all the books of Sarf and Nahw. And this is not the only violent word being used in Sarf and Nahw.

The books of Arabic grammar are filled with the violent words like, Sword, Enemy, killing, revenge, etc. This brings a question that is the militarization of Arabic grammar is done deliberately or un-deliberately? I keep this question open for the expert to research because this is not our objective here.

This is called militarization of textbook, where violent words, phrases or negative words are being used to explain a concept.

The adaptation of a textbook is a long process and once a textbook is adapted, it is difficult to change that book; because of the multiple reasons. The result indicates that the factors influencing the process include teachers, learners and the management. And the standards involved in this domain could either be general or specific or both. The process of selection and evaluation of the literature in textbook is vast. *(Amerian and Khaivar, 2014: 523)*

3. The Impact on Human Life

The words being used in our daily life impact on our body and shapes human aura. The words employed in textbooks convey more than just meaning; they also serve as instruments

for molding our way of thinking and acting.

That indicates that if someone wants to elicit a particular response from the audience, he or she can do it by using certain phrases. However, it is also possible that the phrases chosen for textbooks, lectures, and student discussions will not achieve the desired results or divert the audience from their course; because they are the tools that will frame pupils' thinking and personalities, these words are extremely valuable and have high impact on human life.

On the other hand, he teacher can make significant use of the composition bell, he can use these hours to raise ethical issues and, by stating ethical topics, oblige students to think and explore these issues. *(Hosseini Dehshiri, 2022: 113)*

Psychology of Words
1. The Effects on Words on Human Brain and Personality

In past few decades, research in the field of Psychology has changed our beliefs. Linguistic research over the last 25 years has concluded that the influence of words and phrases on our thinking patterns and processes is extremely considerable.

We are not much aware about the influence of language we use, it effects our behavior in significant ways. The result shows that our concepts, believes and thinking patterns are shaped

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in ways that we might not intentionally wish it to be, and that the sentences we use in our daily life may actually restrict us in achieving our goals. *(Smith, 1997: 14)*

Hence, the words that are being used in textbooks do not carry meaning only, they carry tools that shapes our thinking pattern and behavior. It means that if someone wishes to get the specific behavior from the audience, with some specific words, he or she can get the desired behavior.

Plus if the objective is not to reach to the defined goals or distract audience from their path, that could also be possible from the selection of words being used in textbooks, class lecture and student discussion. Therefore, these words are highly valuable that cannot be used to transferring knowledge only; but also, these are the tools that will shape students thinking pattern and personality.

Newberg and Robert's study says: A single word has the power to influence the expression of genes that regulate physical and emotional stress. Positive words, such as "Peace" and "Love", can alter the expression of genes, strengthening areas in our frontal lobes and promoting the brain's cognitive functioning. They propel the motivational centers of the brain into action, according to the authors, and build resiliency. However, a single negative word can increase the activity in our

amygdala (the fear center of the brain).

This releases dozens of stress-producing hormones and neurotransmitters, which in turn interrupts our brains' functioning. This is especially with regard to logic, reason, and language. Angry words send alarm messages through the brain, and they partially shut down the logic and reasoning centers located in the frontal lobes. *(Ref: Cass, 2017)*

Our Sarf and Nahw textbooks are filled with violent words, phrases and sentences. We have multiple examples where these world have been used.

Through the words, human mind can be shaped and personality can be developed. Negative words, whether written or spoken out loud, affects both listeners and readers, increasing anxiety and irritability and significantly reducing human cooperation and collaboration. *(Ibid: 146)*

Therefore, it is concluded that in practical, whenever a person is learning a new language, he or she is not learning a new technique of talking only; but also unconsciously and unintentionally learning a new way of thinking.

2. Human Aura and its Effects

In dictionaries, the Aura has been defined as Any subtle (something difficult to analyze or describe) and it is invisible when released.

The English authorities believe that the origin of term aura is from Latin, meaning "Air". While the

concerned authorities in Hindu religion have declared that it has its origin in Sanscrit root "Ar", that means the spoke of the wheel. The fact that the aura radiates from human body of a person in a manner much like the radiation of the spokes of the wheel.

In brief, the human aura could be defined as delicate and light in a way that seems not to be of this world or emanation surrounding every single human being. The range of human aura is two to three feet, in all the direction from the body. It is believed that human aura has an oval shape. This aura is also referred as "Psychic atmosphere" of a person sometimes or his "Magnetic atmosphere". *(Panchadasi, 2005: 6)*

In different cultures, human aura has been discussed. Experts have defined it with different words; some says it has seven layers, *(Harrison, 2022)* while other says it's like a light with oval shape around human body having six colors; *(Marques, 2013)* but all the experts accept the effects of human thinking on human.

Experts have discovered that that thought and the heart are interconnected and that the thought, as well as energy, may change the heart beats. It could increase or decrease the heart rate, effect the nutritional, metabolic, and endocrine functions within the regulation of cardiac activity. The thought effects

our aura, changing its energetics, hence, it influences on our physical state. It turns out that being an altruist is beneficial for the health. *(Anufrieva and Anufriev, 2018: 4)*

Research Analytic

1. **Enemy's Plot: Militarization in Textbook**

Since the beginning of this world, there are two powers against each other consistently working to defeat the other. The wise is someone who understands the enemy's plot and makes his strategy accordingly.

Imam Khamenei- The leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran- says:

You should notice that our enemy is busy attacking from all sides today. They are making an explicit move. The enemy is entering the arena from all sides. The officials of the country, all capable personalities and the masses of the people should do whatever they can in the face of this enemy. They should prepare themselves in every area and field that they can and they should be present in the arena. They should have a sense of responsibility. (Imam Khamenie, 2019)

As said attacking from all the sides which includes education system as well, there are so many examples of enemy attacks that can be seen in traditional schooling systems' textbooks. Plus the educational agenda

of UNESCO 2030 is one of the Proves:

> *Educational system should teach the lifestyle and the philosophy of life to children on the basis of western principles. This is the gist of the 2030 Education Agenda.* *(Imam Khamenie, 2019)*

Hence, the existence of enemy and his plot for us in the field of education is something that can't be denied.

Military metaphors have become part of our language over hundreds of years. This has been a normal process, since people tend naturally to draw upon experiences in one area of life in order to give fresh insight and understanding to experiences in another. *(Smith, 1997)*

Becoming part of our language of any of the Military metaphors could be unintentionally, and has become normal now because of its frequency; but one think that have become clear now that this militarization in textbook has lead us to a domain which is not only undesired but also harmful for us and would not allow us to attain our goals. The story will not end here; this will have negative effects on students learning, mind and personality.

2. Political Agenda and Textbooks

A textbook is one of the powerful tools in education system and is being used for the political agenda

since long. For colonial administrators, the textbook became an instrument of norm maintenance. *(Kumar, 2005: 87)*

The myth of the Aryan race and its superiority had been well established among educated Indians since the mid-nineteenth century. Colonial education and textbooks were among the agencies disseminating this myth. *(Ibid: 105)*

Now in today's world, where a book is publish in one corner of the world and is being taught in the other corner, requires a strong process of adaptation of a textbook, adaptation of a book or using the historical examples without any based or judgment could have adverse psychological and intellectual effects on brain and human personality. In recent years, the political parties spread their political agendas through text books.

Shivakumar- The President of Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee, India-said that the Bharatiya Janata Party was spreading the poison of communalism among the youth. One of the technique spreading political agenda of this party is changing textbook in the name of revision. *(Shivakumar, 2022)*

By promoting their agenda, they try to achieve their political goals. The chief of Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) believes that textbook published by the government are responsible for "Anarchic trends" in Society. *(Surendran, 2017)*

So the expert believes that the textbooks could be a tool to drive the behavior of society. Therefore, these textbooks should be designed and prepared very carefully, selection of colors, pictures, text all have their own effects on human brain which leads to develop the personality.

Conclusion

Militarization is not related on Warfield only, the concept of militarization is being used in educational domain as well, especially in textbooks. Violent words and phrases being used in textbook represents militarization and need to be de-militarized.

The textbook is one of the powerful tools being used to transfer concept. The words and phrases a textbook carry have its own psychology that effects on thinking pattern and processes. The words which we use in our daily develops our brain and shapes our personality.

Sibawayh in 8th Century was the first grammarian used "Zaraba" and "Qatala" in his Arabic grammar book named "Al-Kitaab". Since then, the notion could be seen in large numbers in our "Sarf" and "Nahw" books.

Violent words and phrases has become a necessary part of our Arabic grammar books. The words and phrases which we use do not carry meanings only; but influence our thinking that leads to our brain development and finally effects on learners' life.

Even a single word has power to influence our behavior. Violent words send alarm messages through the brain, and they partially shut down the logic and reasoning centers located in the frontal lobes.

The physical and emotional state of human being is also derived by positive or negative words being spoken or listened. Negative words, whether written or spoken, influence listeners and readers both that leads to anxiety and irritability. This uneasiness significantly reduces human cooperation and collaboration. The words and sentences we use effects the process of brain development that shapes our personality.

Human Aura which is an invisible part of human personality is also connected by our thoughts which is based on the selection of words and sentences. Beside these psychological effects, enemy's plot in educational domain can also not be denied after UNESCO 2030 agenda.

Therefore, there is an extreme need to de-militarize our Arabic grammar textbooks. A shift from traditional phrases to strategic one, would help us to stop further personal and collective damages. These strategic phrases will help our generation to show their presence new era that will impart the concept of peace, harmony and pure life.

In general, the recommendations and suggestions of the research are as follows:

1. De-Militarization of Textbook: From Zaraba Zaidun to Nasara Hadiyun

Since the book of *"Al-Kitaab"* by Sibaway, in which he used the violent sentences and words like "He is going, hitting, killing and being hit", there have been hundreds of book published in recent times; but unfortunately, the authors used the same sentences and word. Specially the word "Zaraba Zaidun" meaning "He hit Zaid". Whether these words and phrases were used with an agenda or used in ignorance by Sibawayh is beyond our subject.

What is in our topic is that the use of these types of words and phrases is not only a cause of damage to the personal life; but there is also a fear of deterioration in the society due to these types of words. Therefore, it is a time to make a shift from traditional phrases and words to strategic one in Surf and Nahw textbooks.

The word "Nasara" which means "To help" and the sentence "Nasara Hadiyun" mean "He helped Hadi" or something like that could be more strategic and peaceful in all the words and phrases being used in sarf and Nahw textbooks. These types of words and phrases have strong roots in Islamic tradition as well. Mainly, there are two objectives that could be achieve by the recommended words and sentences.

First, the root of these types of words and sentences goes to the Islamic tradition. Second, the words and sentences both are positive and would create positive aura and personality.

Based on the psychology of words, it will help us to achieve our personal and collective goals. It will help us to achieve maximum human potential and create a shield in front of our enemies to protect our individual and society.

2. Imparting the Concept of World Peace and Harmony for Pure Life

Peace, harmony and pure life are the basic prerequisite of a developed society. These values bring stability and order to society, and they are a necessary condition for the survival and development of mankind.

A world deprived of these values will push the people to the jungle era and the society will be collapsed. There is a need to use different tools to establish these values in the society. One of the strong tools is textbook, which could be used at different levels.

One of the level is Houza where students learn Surf and Nahw. In Houza, students from 130 countries learn different values. This selection of text on one side will develop a positive personality of students and on the other side will effect on the global level; because these students will go back to their countries where the

will teach the values which they have learnt in Houza.

One of the elements of the global unrest could be the textbook of Houza selected by the Houza authorities. The textbook which is being used should be based on global accepted values, peace and harmony.

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