

## Effect of Arabic Letters and Grammer on Persian language

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### Abstract

Arabic letters when enter into the Persian language, take below grammatical functions.

**The sound:** "Alla" (i.e. alert) is sometimes used as a punishment sound in Persian language.

Alert! He must not cry that the great throne will be quaked if an orphan cries

**Conjunctive:** "Amma", "Ella", "Bal", "Laken" (i.e. but) and "hatta" (i.e. Even) are applied as conjunctive in Persian language (Persian Literature 2002). Ella is an exception letter in Arabic language that is considered as a conjunctive in Persian language.

**Adverb:** "Na'am" and "La" (i.e. Yes and no) are answering letters in Arabic language, yet these words in Persian language are called adverbs of emphasis that are substituted for sentence. For example, in Persian language, in response to the question "has Fereidun gone to Mashhad?" it is said "No." that means he has not.

**Preposition:** Arabic language prepositions applied in Persian language are considered as prepositions.

#### Arabic Verbs in Persian Language

Arabic verbs are rarely applied in Persian language and take below grammatical functions (Ali Mohammad Haghshenas 1997).

**Adverb:** Some verbs are applied as adverb in Persian language like "Yahtamel" which means "it is probable" in Arabic language and is applied as the adverb "maybe" in Persian language.

**Adjective:** Some negative verbs are applied as adjective in Persian language (Dr. Mohammad Moein 1961), like "lam yazre" that means "not growing" in Arabic language and is applied as an adjective and means "infertile" in Persian language.

**Conjunctive:** Some verbs are applied as conjunctive in Persian language like "madam" that is used as a conjunctive and means "as long as".

**Noun:** Some verbs are applied as noun in Persian language like "Ahsant" (i.e. Bravo).

**Sound:** Some verbs are applied as a praise sound like "Ahsant".

**Verb:** For example in some verses of Sanaei poetry, some Arabic verbs have been applied as verb like the below verse that italic words are Arabic verbs (Sanaei, 2003):

Why it has been said to the Saints orzoghni and vaffeghni why it has been said to the Prophets amanna and sollamna.

### Introduction

#### Arabic Grammar in Persian Language

Arabic grammatical rules are applied in two ways in Persian language, one with Arabic words and the other with Persian and non-Arabic words, and occasionally some changes are made in these grammars by Iranians.

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These grammatical rules include attribution, dual, plural, Arabic rhythms, synthetic infinitive, tanween, consistency of noun and adjective, comparative noun, absolute object, ablative (Persian Literature 2003).

**Attribution:** Some Arabic words applied in Persian language have not followed these rules: I. the redundant "t" of some words have not been excluded when attributing, like "san'ati" (i.e. industrial), Some of these words have been applied sometimes as per the rule and sometimes inconsistent with the rule, like "zera'at" (i.e. agriculture) that has been applied as both "zera'ei" and "zera'ati"; that is, sometime the redundant "t" has been eliminated and sometimes not.

**Dual:** There is not a great deal of Arabic duals in Persian language like "tarafein" (i.e. both parties).

**Plural:** Some female plurals have been applied in Persian inconsistent with the rules, like "talafat" (i.e. losses).

**Tanween in Persian:** Arabic words with tanween are seen in the oldest Persian works. These words were not many but from 6<sup>th</sup> century onwards they invaded our language, like "akhiran" (i.e. recently), "lozuman" (i.e. necessarily).

**Synthetic Infinitive:** It is an infinitive that is made by adding "idan" to the end of an Arabic or Persian noun, like "talab: talabidan" (i.e. to request), "jang: jang idan" i.e. to fight, (Dr. Mohammad Javad 2005). Also sometimes "iyat" is added to the end of Persian and non-Arabic words, like "Adam: adamiyat" i.e. humanity (Farshid Vard 1983).

**Tanween:** These words have firstly been few, yet from 6<sup>th</sup> century onwards these words invaded our language like another Arabic words and rules. Also some Arabic words that do not have tanween in Arabic language, has been applied with tanween in Persian language like "aksaran" (i.e. mostly), and some Persian and non-Arabic words have also taken tanween and has become common among some people like "telephonan" (i.e. by telephone), "telegraphan" (i.e. by telegraph), "dovoman" (i.e. secondly), "sevoman" (i.e. thirdly).

**Comparative Noun:** Here, there is similarity between the words in Persian language that are made by the suffix "tar" (the sign of comparative nouns) and comparative nouns of Arabic language; that is, both of them have both comparative and superlative meaning. So, the fact that "tar" (the comparative form) has been

occasionally applied in the meaning of "tarin" (the superlative form), may have been resulted from the effect of translating Arabic texts (Dr. Mohammad Javad 1984).

Consistency of noun and adjective, absolute object and ablative have similar trends, as well. Besides, many Arabic words have been transformed following entrance into the Persian language that is discussed in the following.

**Transformation in Arabic Words:** In irregular verbs, some Arabic words changed like "da'u" that becomes "do'a". Transformation is created via omission and conversion and combining letters and is divided into: 1) merger, 2) conversion of vowels (which is called "e'lal"), and 3) conversion.

**Merger:** It is occurred only when certain requisites are met. One of these requisites is that there must be no distance between two identical letters. Second, in three-letter words the second letter must be vocalic like "melal". Third in the words that merger has once occurred no other merger is possible. E'lal. These words have abundant application in Persian language like "mizan" that was "muzan", "khianat" that was "khuvanat", "mi'ad" that was "mu'ad", these words have entered into Persian after E'lal (Rashid 1429).

**Conversion:** It is divided into two types; it is either for vowels or for other letters, the latter is applied in Persian language: I. If one of the letters of Efte'al is "sad, zad, ta, za" (Arabic alphabet), then "t" is converted into "ta" like "ezterab" with "t" that becomes "ezterab" with "ta"<sup>19</sup>. ii. If one of the letters of Efte'al is "z, d, za" (Arabic alphabet), then "t" is converted into "d", like "eztiad" that becomes "ezdiad".

The effect of Arabic language on Persian language phonetics: As per extant evidence, phonetic and phonological system of Persian language has not been influenced by Arabic language until first 4-5 centuries, and it was more or less like middle Persian phonetic and phonological system. Consonant letters of middle Persian are as below:

P t c k  
b d j g  
F s x h  
Z (z)  
W r l y r M n

According to middle Persian experts, the phoneme state of the letter "gh" in middle Persian is doubtful, because this phoneme in some words of Zoroastrian texts has been

borrowed from other Iranian languages. Also the phoneme state of the letter "dz" is doubtful. Yet we know that in Dari Persian in Khorasan which was created by integration of middle Persian and Parti languages, there are some words with the letter "dz" and the application of this letter in those words is not dependent upon any specific position. Also there are some words in Dari Persian like "ghuk", "ghariv", "ghaltidan" etc., that have been borrowed from Iran eastern languages and the letter "gh" has been applied in the beginning of these words, while in such words as "bagh", "kalagh", etc. the letter "gh" has been placed after a vowel. Abu Hatam Razi in 322 lunar year states, Iranians cannot pronounce the letter "gh" of Arabic language and they say "volam" instead of "gholam"; so as it is seen the status of "gh" in Persian language is complicated. The comparison of phonetic and phonological systems of contemporary Persian and middle Persian languages reflects that the phoneme "hamzeh" that had only been placed in the beginning of the words commencing with vowels, is placed in other positions in contemporary Persian. Also the phoneme "gh" that has not existed in Persian language according to Arab and Iranian authors has entered into phonetic system of this language. Jahez states that Abu Moslem said "kolto laka" instead of "gholto laka" and in Persian Gulf coasts there is not still the letter "gh", as the people of these areas say "korban" and "kelyan" instead of "ghorban" and "ghelyan". The word "Gholam" is not nowadays pronounced "volam" by Iranians. In many areas of Iran, Afghanistan and Tajikistan, these two phonemes are distinctive. Acceptance of these pronunciations in Persian language has stemmed from two factors namely, first the entrance of mass of Arabic words with these phonemes into the Persian language and second, redeployment of multiple groups of Arabs in different parts of Iran. With regard to the first factor, it is worth mentioning that in 4th solar century Arabic words comprised 25 to 30 percent of Persian vocabulary, but in 6<sup>th</sup> solar century this figure reached 50 percent. The evidence of the second factor is the presence of Arabs groups in some parts of Afghanistan and Transoxiana.

Albeit in some parts of Iran, the phonemes "ha" and "ein" of Arabic language entered into the phonetic system of Persian language. In phonemes combination, Persian language has also been influenced by Arabic language. For example proximity of two occlusive phonemes in Persian language is impossible or difficult to pronounce, yet following the penetration of mass of Arabic words like "sabt", "rabt", "abd", etc. the proximity of two occlusive phonemes became usual for Iranians (Persian Literature 2004).

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