A Descriptive Study of Noun Phrases in English and Baluchi Languages; (Case Study Sarhaddi Baluchi Dialect in Khash).

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Abstract:

The aim of the present research is to describe the contrastive analysis of noun phrases in English and Baluchi language. The linguistic data collection of this dialect was carried out through observation, recording the free speech and interviewing with Baluchi speakers in Khash. Twenty illiterate farmers and housewives who were informants of the Baluchi language (10 males, 10 females) of the age ranging from 50-80 years old were chosen, and then the required linguistic data having been recorded were phonemically transcribed. The research results show that there are differences as well as similarities between Baluchi language and the English language in terms of the noun phrase. There are some similarities between English and Baluchi noun phrase such as; Ezafe construct, the same word order of pre-determiner or post-determiner, article and in some aspects of plural marking. But, there are some differences between Baluchi and English noun phrase such as; definiteness and indefiniteness.

Key words: Baluchi language, English language, noun phrase.

1. Introduction:

Balochi is an Iranian language, thus belonging to the Indo-European language family, and is spoken in south-eastern Iran, south-western Pakistan, and southern Afghanistan, as well as in the UAE, Oman, and other parts of the Arabian Peninsula, Turkmenistan, India, and East Africa. Grierson (1921: 327) refers to the neighbourhood of the Caspian Sea as the original home of the Baloch who later migrated to Kerman and then, under the pressure of the Seljuqinvasion (11th century A.D.), moved to Sistan and Makran. Their present settlements mainly form part of Sistan and Baluchestan province in Iran and Balochistan province in Pakistan. According to the Baloch themselves, they originally came from Halab (Aleppo) and left their homeland for Sistan (a border region in Iran and Afghanistan) after fighting on behalf of Husain at the battle of Karbala (Grierson 1921: 327). Barker and Mengal (1969: xxiii) believe that the Baloch started their migration in pre-Islamic times eastward from the Caspian Sea region, and later during the Islamic period, scattered into Kerman, Khorasan, and Sistan then into Makran and the Indo-Pakistani sub-continent.

Figure 1. Areas where this dialect is spoken.
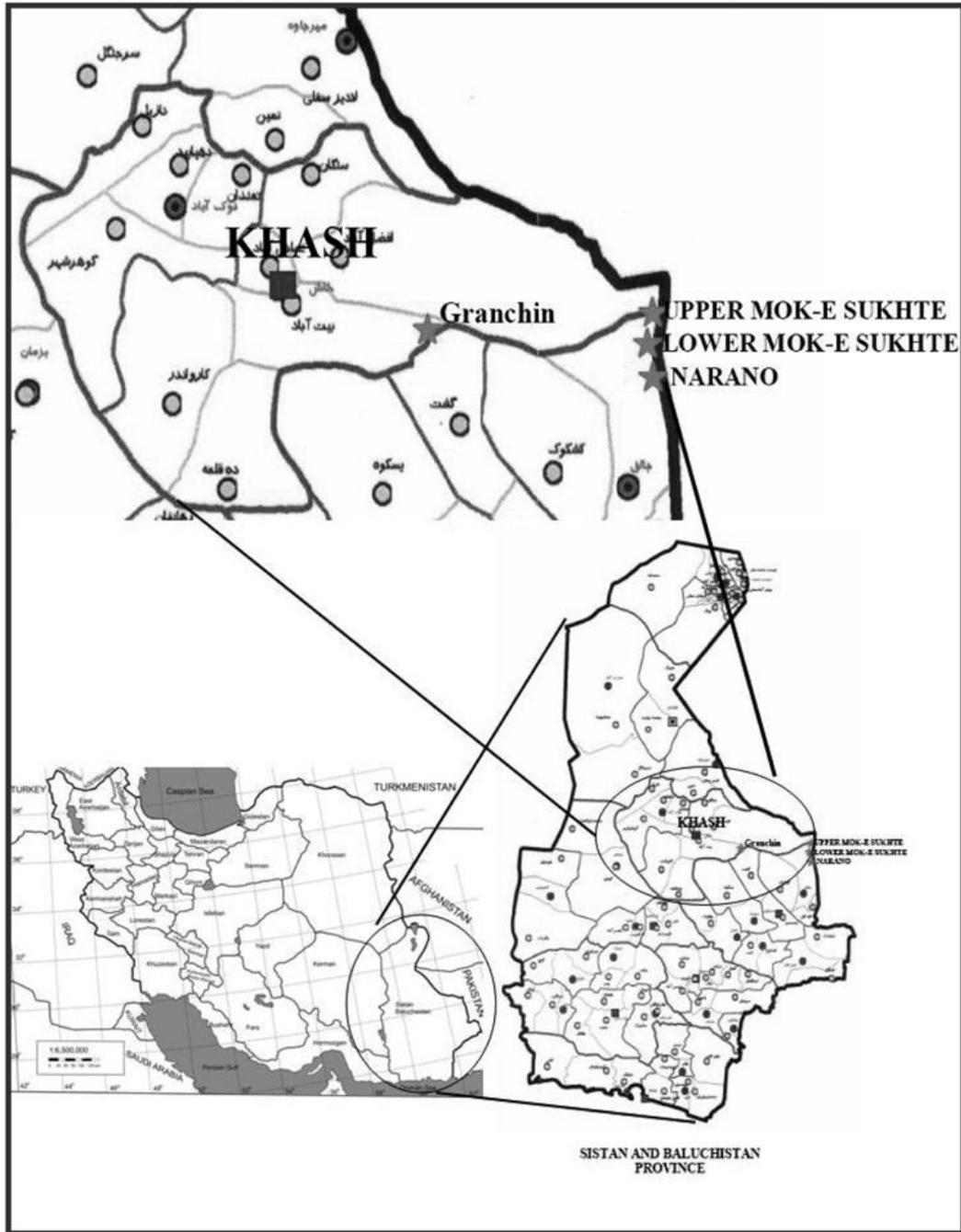
A phrase is a group of words which has no subject (Taller man, 1998, p.90) It means that every group of words or combination of words, which are grammatically similar to word and do not have its own subject is called phrase. There are some phrases such as: noun phrase (NP) adverb phrase (Adv p) adjective phrase (Adj p) verb phrase (VP) preposition phrase (PP).

A (NP) most commonly functions as a subject-object - or complement a word group with a noun or pronoun as it's head. The noun head con be accompanied by modifiers, determiners or complements. Generally, "a phrase is defined as a sequence of words that can function as a constituent in the structure of sentences" (Burton-Roberts, 1986:19).

According to Heather Macfadyen "a phrase is a group of two or more grammatically linked words without a subject or predicate".

A noun phrase is defined as phrase that consists of a pronoun on noun with any number of associated modifiers, including adjectives(small ,red, lovely) adjectives phrases, adjectives clause ,possessive adjectives (my, his, her) Adverbs (very, extremely) determiners (the ,a, an) preposition phrases and other nouns in the possessive case.

According to Hasselgard et al (1998) there are two types of noun phrase: one is noun- head phrases; the other one is pronoun – headed phrase.

According to Bakken (2006), the head of a noun phrase is a noun or a pronoun. If the head is a noun, it may combine with determiners, pre modifiers and post modifiers. On the contrary, if the head is a pronoun, determiners will normally not occur, and even if modifiers occur these are usually post-modifiers.

In this study, the researcher has described the functions, similarities and differences of noun phrases between English and Baluchi languages through observation by recording the free speech and interviewing with Baluchi speakers in Khash (Khash is a city in the southwest of Sistan and Baluchestan province of the Islamic Republic).

**2.Objectives*:*

1. To Investigate the grammatical functions of noun phrases in English and Baluchi languages.

2. To compare similarities and differences of noun phrases in English and Baluchi languages.

3. **Hypothesis*:***

1. There is no relationship between noun phrases grammatical functions in English and Baluchi languages.

2. There are no similarities and differences in English and Baluchi languages.

4. Research Method:

This research uses a descriptive method. It means that all the data in this research are in the form of sentences and words. As Wilkinson (2000, p.7) stated that the resulting data is presented in the form of descriptions. According to Wilkinson (2000, p, 79). Qualitative data is usually analyzed by subjecting it to some form of coding process.

5. Samples

Twenty illiterate farmers and housewives who were informants of the Baluchi language (10 males, 10 females) of the age ranging from 50-80 years old were chosen, and then the required linguistic data having been recorded were phonemically transcribed.

6. Procedures:

This paper, which is based on the author's fieldwork, provides a description of noun phrases grammatical functions between English and Baluchi languages. The linguistic data collection of this dialect was carried out through observation, recording the free speech and interviewing with Baluchi speakers in Khash.

The grammatical functions of noun phrases in English and Baluchi languages:

1. Subject:

The noun phrase can act as a subject in a sentence function.

e.g: the child read the book.

e.g: zahg ketâb-â howânt

   The child book-def read.

2. Subject complement:

Noun phrase is subject complements which follow a copular verb and describes the subject

e.g: He was a very nice person.

e.g: âĪ bâz hoben mardom-e hatat.

    He very nice person-Ez was.

3. Direct object:

Noun phrase can also function as direct objects.

e.g: The child read <u>the book</u>.

e.g: zahg ketâb-â howânt.

   The child book-def read.

4. Object complement:

Another function of noun phrase which follow and describe the direct object is object compliment.

e.g: I selected you <u>team leader</u>.

e.g: man šomânâ tim-e sarog entehâb ko.

   I you-pl   team-Ez leader selected.

5. Indirect object:

One of the functions of noun phrase which is used as an object with the actions verb is indirect object.

e.g: Maryam gave <u>her best friend</u> a birthday present.

e.g: Maryam yak čam rosin wati gehtren dostâ dâ.

   Maryam a birthday present her best friend gave.

6. Prepositional complement:

Noun phrases have a function as prepositional complements they also called complements of prepositions and objects of preposition.

e.g.: David is swimming in <u>the pool</u>.

e.g: dâūt tah estahr –â dâri âŠnâa kan.

   David in pool-def is swimming.

7. Noun phrase modifier:

Adjective use as a word that describe the quality of nouns, noun phrases can function as noun phrase modifiers.

e.g: The <u>bed room</u> walls are all date palm.

e.g: hwâb-e koţi diwâl- ân ša homrâg-e čaţ-an.

Bed - def room wall-pl prp date-EZ wood-are.

8. Determinative:

Noun phrases can also functions as determinative that indicates possession of or some other relationship to another noun or noun phrase.

e.g: Aliś book.

e.g: yali-e ketâb.

Ali-EZ book.

9. Appositive:

One of the important functions of nouns and noun phrases is appositive that modifier or explain another nouns or noun phrases.

e.g: chakar, the bank manager.

e.g: čâkar , bânk-e raīs.

Chakar bank-def manager.

10. Adverbial:

The final function of noun phrases is adverbial that describes the clause by providing Information such as: time, place, manner, condition, reason or purpose.

e.g: Today I need to go bed early.

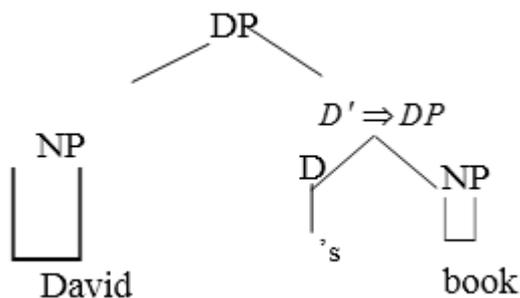e.g: maroči man ehtyâjon ke zoter brawân bowaspân.

Today I   need   to early   go   sleep.

 Comparison between Baluchi and English noun phrases:
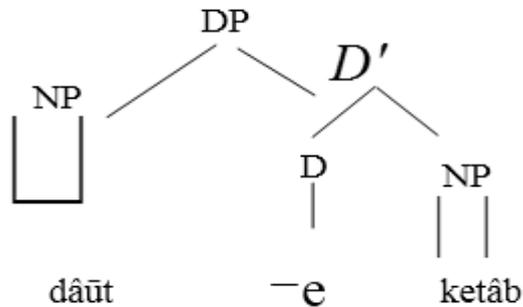
A: Similarity:

The similarity between Baluchi and English noun phrase is they have their DP in Ezafe construct.

e.g: David 's book.

e.g: dâūt-e ketâb.

According to the uniformity principle all of the languages are head first. In this case they are similar. The difference between Baluchi and English noun phrase is the position of head word in the word order .In fact, the position of head word in Baluchi noun phrase is head- initial. While the position of head word in English noun phrase is head-final.

Plural marking indefiniteness, definiteness and noun phrases:

B: differences:

There are some differences in the interpretation of Singular plural noun phrases in Baluchi and English:

e.g :   a :   sag   diston .
                         dog   saw
                         I saw dogs.
              b: sagâ   -   nâ   diston
                         dog   -   pl   saw
                         I saw the dogs.
            c: sag   - â   diston
                  Dog   -   singular   saw
                  I saw the dog.
              d: â   sag   - e
                         That   dog   - Ez

9

That is a dog.

e: â   ṭūhein   sag - e

    That   big   dog   - Ez

    That is a big dog.

f : âvân   ṭūhein   sag - an

    Those   big   dog - pl

    Those are big dogs.

In (l a) a singular count noun appears in the object Position in the Baluchi sentence . That shows a mass Interpretation in Baluchi language and a plural noun In English language .

In (lb.) English and Baluchi languages are the same in plural markers. Plural marking (- â n â) on the object noun sag, dog shows the definiteness.

In (l c)Baluchi language has its own markers for Showing the definiteness but in English language we have one marker (the) that shows the definiteness also in (l d).

In (l e) and (l f) the word order especially in adjectives position and demonstrative words are the same in both languages.These examples show that Baluchi has three definiteness Markers while English language has one definiteness marker.

    e.g: the book

  Baluchi: 1- â ketâb - â   gepton

              Def   book   def   buy

          2- ketâb - â   gepton .

              Book   def   buy

          3- â ketâb - ok â   gepton

              Def book - def   buy
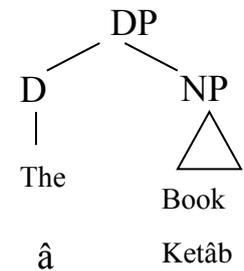
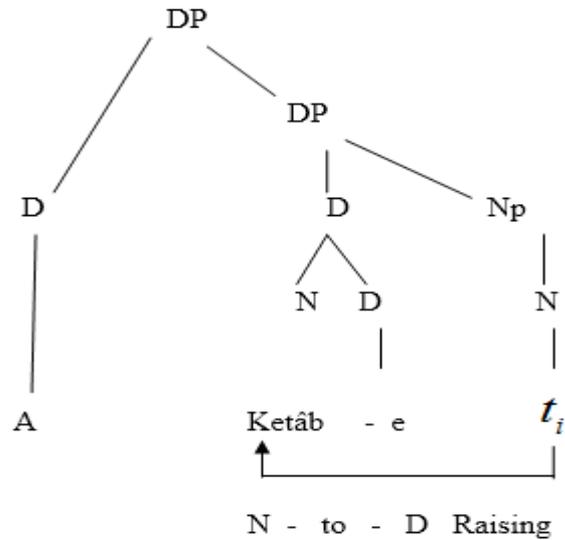Indefiniteness in Baluchi and English languages:

English: e.g: a book

Baluchi: e.g: yak   ketâb – e gepton.

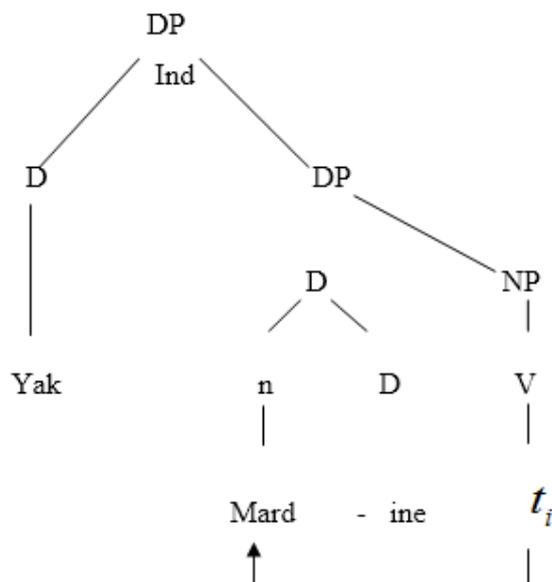   a   book- EZ   buy

              Ketâb –e gepton.

Book-EZ   buy

There is no difference   between { the   book   } and {a ketab} put In the case   {ketâb - e }Here (D) is an affixed   and it should Come   before   its complement .

DP
  D
    DP
      D
        N D
      Np
        N

A
        Ketâb   - e
                          t_i

N - to - D Raising

Other examples about indefiniteness:

Yak -   mard - ine

  A   man   - IND

DP
  Ind
  D
    DP
      D
        n   D
      NP
        V

    Yak

        Mard   - ine
                          t_i

Yak   mard – e   puldâr (seiţe)

```
                        DP
               D              DP
               |              |
              Yak      D              NP
                     /    \         |     \
                    N      D       N       A
                    |      |       |       |
                  Mard    -e      tᵢ     puldâr
                    ↑_____|
```

Yak   mard - ke   puldâr - e

```
                   DP
            D              DP
            |           /  \        \
            |          N    D        NP
            |          |    |        |
          yak      Mard -ke          N
                   Puldâr    |       |
                            -e      tᵢ
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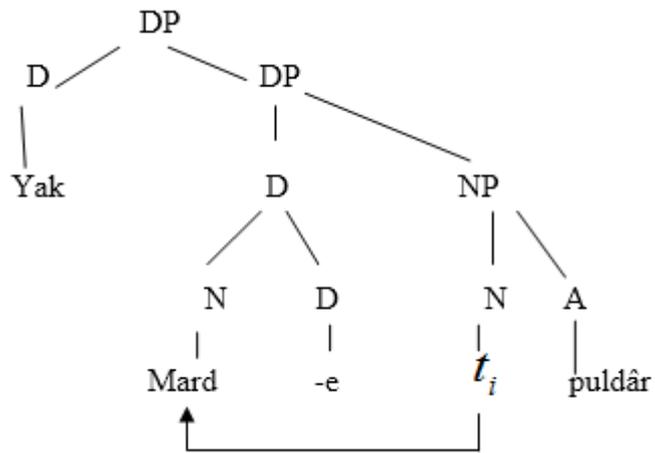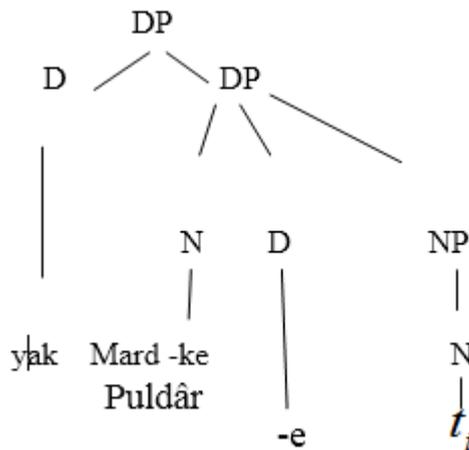
The Baluchi indefinite enclitic(- e) or(ke) can occur on noun phrases in subject and direct object Positions.

> a) mard - ke   yaht
>
>   Man- IND   came
>
>   A man   came.

b) mard – e   diston

   man- IND   saw

  I   saw   a man

c) ketâb -e   be zahg -e   dâton

   book -Def to bog - IND give

   I give the book to a boy.

These examples show that Baluchi indefinite enclitic (-e) and (ke) is different from the English indefinite article (a).

Noun phrase and sentence:

The similarities between noun phrase and sentence have received much attention in generative grammar both sentence and noun phrase occur as subject or direct object in English and Baluchi language:

{I know   David.

{I know that David came.

{man   Dâūtâ dorost a   kanin .

{man-e   zânein ke Dâūt   yahta

Conclusion:

In this article, the various grammatical functions of noun phrases between English and Baluchi languages have been described. The following conclusions are drawn: first, all of the grammatical functions (subject, direct object, object complement…) between these two languages are the same. Second, similarities; There are some similarities such as: Ezafe construct, the same word order of pre determiner or post determiner, article and in some aspects of plural marking. Third, differences; there are some differences between Baluchi and English noun phrases such as: definiteness, the position of head word (Baluchi language is head-initial but English is head-final) and indefiniteness for ex: English language has (the book) but in Baluchi language we have three definiteness articles. A contrastive analysis view between English and Baluchi noun phrases bring us a view of similarities and differences between the two linguistics units in two languages which is helping the learners to describe and learn it.

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