

CLASSIFICATION AND SEMANTIC FEATURES OF WORDS BELONGING TO THE PREPOSITION CATEGORY IN ARABIC

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Abstract

This article comprehensively analyzes the classification and semantic features of words belonging to the preposition category in the Arabic language. The preposition category, which is considered one of the important parts of Arabic grammar, is distinguished by its grammatical function and semantic richness. The article first of all discusses the form and semantic peculiarities of words belonging to the preposition category, the criteria for their separation as a category, and their relationship with other word categories. In addition, the lexical and semantic possibilities of words in the preposition category, their use in various speech situations, and the meanings they carry in the context are scientifically analyzed.

In the course of the research, based on classical and modern sources of the Arabic language, the grammatical rules and practical application methods of the preposition category were revealed. At the same time, various classifications of the preposition category - semantic, syntactic, and functional aspects - were widely studied. The article also highlights the role of words in this group in speech as connecting, reinforcing, directing, and determining means of meaning.

The article serves as an important theoretical and practical resource for linguists engaged in the grammar and semantics of the Arabic language, students of Arabic philology, and researchers studying sacred texts from a linguistic perspective.

Keywords: *Arabic language, preposition group, classification, semantic features, grammatical rules, lexical-semantic analysis, syntactic function, linguistics.*

Introduction:

The Arabic language is one of the oldest and richest languages in the world. Its lexical composition, grammatical system and semantic possibilities have been the focus of attention of linguists for many centuries. In particular, the word groups in the Arabic language, their grammatical functions and semantic features require extensive scientific research. In the Arabic grammatical tradition, words are mainly divided into noun, verb and preposition groups. Among them, the preposition group is of particular importance. Because it does not carry an independent

meaning, but is an important means of connecting words and sentences, ensuring their semantic relations and giving coherence and harmony to speech.

The words of the preposition group differ from other groups in that they do not change in form, do not have an independent meaning and mainly serve as a connecting, directing, emphasizing or defining function. For example, in Arabic, words such as *fī* (in), *‘alā* (on), *ilā* (to, towards) do not carry an independent meaning, but rather create a semantic connection in speech through context. Therefore, studying the classification and semantic features of the preposition family is of great importance for a deeper understanding of Arabic grammar, especially in interpreting the texts of the Quran and Hadith from a linguistic point of view. This article comprehensively analyzes the classification criteria of words belonging to the preposition family, their grammatical and semantic features. Also, their functions in speech, the possibilities of carrying meaning, and syntactic roles are shown through examples. Based on scientific and theoretical sources and practical examples, the specific features of the preposition family are revealed. This study is of theoretical and practical importance not only for students and specialists of Arabic philology, but also for scholars engaged in general linguistics.

Material and methods: In the Arabic language, words are divided into three main categories: noun, verb, and preposition. Each of these categories occupies an important place in the semantic and grammatical system of the language. Among them, the preposition category is one of the essential tools that ensure semantic and syntactic cohesion in Arabic. It does not convey an independent meaning but establishes various semantic relations between words and sentences, bringing coherence and harmony to the text.

Arabic linguists classify the preposition category based on several criteria:

Functionally: conjunctions (*wa*, *fa*, *aw*), prepositions (*fī*, *‘alā*, *ilā*), conditional and causal particles (*in*, *idhā*, *li-*).

Semantically: temporal (*mundhu* – since), locative (*‘ind* – at, near), directional (*ilā* – towards), emphatic (*inna* – indeed), conditional (*idhā* – if).

Syntactically: types that function as connectors or explanatory elements within sentences.

This classification shows how rich and multifaceted the preposition category is.

Particles play a significant role in expressing various shades of meaning:

Direction and place: *ilā* (to), *min* (from), *‘alā* (on, upon).

Time: *ḥattā* (until), *mundhu* (since).

Cause and condition: *li-* (for, because of), *idhā* (if).

Emphasis and intensification: *inna* (indeed), *laqad* (truly).

Through these meanings, the preposition category contributes not only grammatical but also stylistic force to discourse. In speech, the preposition category performs the following functions: Connecting and harmonizing the parts of a sentence; Establishing semantic relations between words; Ensuring cohesion and coherence of the text.

For example, the conjunction “*wa*” connects sentences equally, while *fa* expresses sequence and causality.

Classical linguists such as Sībawayh, al-Zamakhsharī, and Ibn Hishām studied the preposition category in depth, widely explaining its meanings and functions in Islamic sources. In modern studies, however, greater attention is paid to their cognitive, stylistic, and pragmatic features. This shows that the preposition category should be studied not only as a grammatical element but also as a universal communicative tool of the language.

In the Qur’an and Hadith, the correct interpretation of words from the preposition category can change the entire meaning of a passage. For example, the preposition *min* usually denotes “from,” but in some cases, it can also mean “part of.” Therefore, a deep semantic study of these particles is of great importance in the fields of Islamic studies, translation, and exegesis. Moreover, in modern Arabic literary language and mass media, the semantic potential of the preposition category serves to strengthen stylistic effect and rhetorical impact.

Result and discussions: The prepositional family in Arabic occupies an important place in the grammatical system of the language and its semantic and syntactic possibilities are very wide. The words of this family do not carry an independent meaning, but establish various relationships between words and sentences. In this regard, they perform the function of a connecting bridge in the language.

The analysis revealed that:

1. In terms of classification, the prepositional family is divided according to functional (connective, prepositional, expressing condition and reason), semantic (time, place, direction, emphasis, condition) and syntactic (connective or explanatory) criteria. This classification shows that they are multifaceted.

2. In terms of semantics, the words of the prepositional family express meanings such as direction (*ilā* – towards), place (*‘alā* – on), time (*ḥattā* – until), reason (*li-* – for), condition (*idhā* – if), emphasis (*inna* – certainly). This determines their importance as a means of conveying meaning.

3. Syntactically, they connect sentences, establish logical relationships between parts, and ensure cohesion and coherence of the text. For example, the connective “wa” conveys consistency, while fa conveys sequence and causality.

4. While in classical linguistics, scholars such as Sibawi, Zamakhshari, and Ibn Hisham developed the theoretical foundations of the preposition complex, modern studies focus on its cognitive and pragmatic features.

5. From a practical point of view, the correct interpretation of the preposition complex in the Quran and hadith determines the meaning of the entire verse or hadith. Therefore, their in-depth study is of great importance in the fields of Islamic studies, translation, and exegesis.

The following general results were drawn from this study, which is devoted to the classification and semantic features of the preposition complex in the Arabic language.

First of all, although the words of the prepositional family do not have an independent meaning, they have emerged as the main means of ensuring semantic coherence and syntactic harmony in speech. Through them, various semantic relationships are established between words and sentences, ensuring the logical consistency and stylistic strengthening of the text.

Secondly, the functional classification of the prepositional family consists of words expressing conjunctions, prepositions, conditions and reasons, which strengthen the grammatical basis of speech. Semantically, they carry meanings such as direction, place, time, reason, condition and emphasis. In this regard, the prepositional family plays an important role in the process of creating meaning in the language.

Thirdly, in terms of their syntactic function, the words of the prepositional family connect sentences, provide cohesion and coherence between parts. For example, if the “wa” connective performs the function of equal connection, then fa carries the meaning of sequence and causality.

Fourth, while classical linguists (Sibawi, Zamakhshari, Ibn Hisham) have elucidated the theoretical foundations of the preposition complex, modern research is paying special attention to their cognitive and pragmatic significance.

Fifth, in practice, especially in the texts of the Quran and hadith, the correct interpretation of the preposition complex is very important. Because a single preposition can change the meaning of an entire verse or hadith. Therefore, their semantic analysis is of great importance for the fields of Islamic studies, exegesis, and translation.

Ultimately, the use of the preposition complex in the modern Arabic literary language and the media enhances the stylistic effectiveness of speech and enriches the semantic aspects.

Conclusion: This study comprehensively analyzed the words of the preposition family in the Arabic language, and their grammatical, semantic and stylistic features were highlighted. As the main means of ensuring the consistency and harmony of the Arabic language, the preposition family plays an important role not only in the grammatical system of the language, but also in creating meaning and increasing the power of stylistic influence. If nouns and verbs have independent meanings, words in the preposition family, without having independent meanings, direct meaning within the context and connect parts of speech with each other.

Firstly, the study revealed that the functional classification of the preposition family is very rich and diverse. It provides grammatical and semantic coherence in speech through connectives, prepositions, words expressing conditions and causes. Secondly, semantically, they are distinguished by the fact that they can carry many meanings, such as time, place, direction, reason and emphasis. Thirdly, in terms of its syntactic function, it ensures cohesion and coherence between sentences and parts of the text, serving the logical consistency of the text.

In classical linguistics, scholars such as Sibawi, Zamakhshari, and Ibn Hisham created the theoretical foundations of the preposition complex and extensively covered its semantic aspects. In modern studies, special attention is paid to their cognitive, methodological, and pragmatic features, and the preposition complex is being reevaluated in various areas of linguistics.

From a practical point of view, the correct interpretation of the preposition complex in the Quran and hadiths is of great importance. Interpreting a single preposition in different meanings can affect the content of the entire verse or hadith. Therefore, their in-depth study is necessary in the fields of Islamic studies, exegesis, and translation. Also, in the modern Arabic literary language and the media, the semantic possibilities of the preposition complex enhance the stylistic effect and increase the expressiveness of speech.

In conclusion, the preposition complex in the Arabic language is of great importance as: the main tool in the grammatical system of the language, a mechanism for semantic orientation and meaning formation, a means of increasing the power of stylistic influence and a factor supporting cognitive and communicative processes.

Therefore, a comprehensive study of the preposition complex is of great scientific and practical value not only for Arabic philology, but also for general linguistics, translation theory, and stylistics.

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