

Proclitic and Enclitic Pronouns in *Abuzeidabadi* Dialect

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1. Introduction

A considerable number of central Iranian dialects are spoken in the cities and villages around *Kashan*, Isfahan Province, Iran. *Abuzeidabadi* is one of these dialects which is spoken in Abuzeidabad located in the district of *Kavirat*, about 33 kms from the south east of *Kashan*. It is a part of *Aran* and *Bidgol*, Isfahan Province, Iran. According to 1390's census, the population of the district of *Kavirat* was 13509.

Except for other unique properties, the existence and use of four types of proclitic and enclitic pronouns are of considerable peculiarities of *Abuzeidabadi* dialect which is also the subject of this study.

2. Theoretical framework

Like other Iranian languages and dialects, this dialect has its own features and peculiarities. *Abuzeidabadi* is clearly different from Persian in many respects. One of the main sources of these differences is that Persian belongs to the group of south-west Iranian languages while *Abuzeidabadi* is a member of the north-west Iranian languages. Among these differences can be seen in the pronoun system of these two languages. The pronouns of *Abuzeidabadi* are different from Persian and are more freely added to their hosts.

3. Methodology

The basis of this study was mainly the researcher's personal experience of teaching Persian grammar at high schools and also his intuition as the native speaker of this dialect together with library and field studies.

4. Results and discussion

A thorough analysis of *Abuzeidabadi* verb system reveals that four different kinds of pronouns are used in this language variety. First, personal enclitics which in addition to possessiveness, in past tenses

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make the verbs transitive and are normally used after prefixes and before past verbal roots such as *b-am-kä(rd)* (I did). These clitics can use noun phrases, propositional phrases, propositions, direct and indirect objects, imperative and negative morphemes, transitive verb roots, adverbs, some questions words the nominal part of compounds and transitive and intransitive verbs as their host.

In the second group we have the subjective enclitics which like their Persian equivalents are attached to the end of the verbs. These clitics are only seen in third person singular of some Persian moods such as intransitive and transitive future and past intransitive forms.

The members of the third group are the same subjective enclitics of the second group with just this difference that in addition to their main function, they can also hold objective functions. *bē- šüd-u* (He take-past-me; He took me), *piy-am-vest-I* (hit-I-you; I hit you) are two examples of this category. These enclitics which look like subjects but represent objective functions are called subjective-objective clitics.

The fourth group includes pronouns which against the enclitics are normally used before the verbs. The proclitic pronouns are prefix like and in transitive past progressive have the syntactic role of subject and with transitive present progressive verbs play the role of direct or indirect objects. Examples are *mā- rūt* (I was selling), *dā- sâj-u* (I am building you), and *bə-yä- vun-u* (I may bring it).

5. Conclusions and suggestions

The results of this study show that in Abuzeidabadi dialect three enclitic and one proclitic pronouns can be seen. Like Persian, enclitic subjects are often present at terminal verbal forms with the exception of transitive past forms in which they function as objective pronouns or complements of their verbs. They can also represent singularity and plurality, and in third person singular they might be the sign of grammatical object's gender.

The third group includes personal enclitics which can choose all types of words as their hosts except for the verbs. The fourth group contains proclitics which play the role of agent and doer of the action in transitive past progressive verbs and object in present progressive and *mozare eltezami*. Most of the sentences with transitive verbs receive two objects and according to the ergative structure agree with the verbs in number and gender.

Key words: pronoun enclitic and proclitics, Abuzeidabad, Abuzeidabadi, Central Iran

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