

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF FARAH PASHTO DIALECT WITH WRITTEN PASHTO

Sharifullah Malal

Assistant professor Pashto and language department farah university

sharifullahmalal123@gmail.com

Khalilahmad burhani

Pashto and language department farah university

Burhani.khalilahmad786@gmail.com

Abstract:

This research is devoted to the comparative study of the Farahi Pashto dialect with written Pashto. In the research, phonological, morphological, and some dialect words of Farah are studied in comparison with written Pashto. My aim is to encourage readers of my dialect to use standard written Pashto and to make the readers aware of some grammatical points. The value of my research is that readers will be able to distinguish between dialect and written standards and will pay more attention to writing standards rather than dialect when writing. In this study, I concluded that the Farahi Pashto dialect has a clear distinction from the written Pashto in phonological, morphological, syntactic, and lexical aspects which should not be overlooked while writing. This is a field and library research, with dialect-related material that I collected and explained through interviews.

Key words: Pashto, language, spoken language, writing standard

1. Introduction:

Farah is one of the western provinces of Afghanistan and most of its people speak Pashto. Because this province shares a border with Iran, it has greatly influenced the Pashto language and dialect. As most of its people are Pashtuns, they mostly speak in one dialect, but their dialect also has many differences with written Pashto. These differences can be seen mostly in phonological, morphological, syntactical, and lexical areas. This research paper discusses different aspects of the Farahi Pashto dialect with written Pashto and its lexical and grammatical features with written Pashto are comparatively explained which can help us in enriching the standard written language.

The type of my research is field and library, with dialect-related material that I collected and explained through interviews.

2. Research Objectives:

2.1 The main Objective

- Comparative study of Farahi Pashto Dialect with written Pashto.

2.2 Sub-objectives

- Encouraging readers to move from dialect to standard writing.
- Explaining the differences between dialect and writing

3. Issue statement

Since language and writing and spoken dialects are by no means individual phenomena, I think it is important to consider their social standards when writing because many writers still use dialect when writing, which should be avoided as the need for general writing standards is high.

4. The importance of the subject

The value of this research paper lies in the fact that the reader will be able to distinguish between dialect and standard written Pashto and will also be able to pay more attention to the using standard writing rather than dialect when writing, because Pashtu Dialect division reflects the tribal and regional divisions of the Pashtuns.

As language and spoken dialects are in no way related to an individual, so

5. Research Questions

5.1 The main question

Does Farahi Pashto dialect differ from written Pashto or not, if so, what areas can these differences be seen in?

5.2 Sub-questions

- Is Farahi Pashto dialect also different from Kandahari and Eastern dialect?
- Which parts of grammar can most of the differences in Farahi Pashto dialect be identified in?

6. Research hypothesis

As a result of this research article, it may become clear which words of Farahi Pashto dialect differ from written Pashto.

7. Research Methodology and Methods

The type of my research paper is field and library, which has been completed using the descriptive method.

8. A look at previous writings

I did not find any specific work or article which has compared the Farahi Pashto dialect with written Pashto. This is probably the first research article in this section that the readers will be able to read.

9. Discussion:

9.1 A Comparative Study of Farahi Pashto Dialect with Written Pashto

Before discussing the dialects of Pashto, it is important to provide some information about the dialect. The word "Dialect" in English is derived from the Greek word "dialectos", which in Greek refers to the way of speaking. (Hotak,2007,31 p) There are various definitions, given by linguists, some saying that any group change that is seen or occurs in the spoken and vocal system and form of a language is called dialect. (khattak,2012,15p) In other words, a set of inflectional changes in a language is called dialect. (Rashteen,2016,8p) According to the second volume of Pashtu to Pashtu Descriptive Dictionary: The form of a language, which belongs to a particular region and from the standard main form of a language, the colloquial pronunciation

of vocabulary and specific grammatical structure, the conversation of a particular place, often change. (Pashto to Pashto dictionary,2004,1404p) We can say that many differences in the speech of the speakers of a language are, indeed, various dialects of the language. Some linguists have classified Pashtu Dialect into two, some others have classified it into three and even into four kinds. Norwegian Linguist Professor Morgenstern has classified the Pashto dialect into two main sections, soft (بن, ږ) and hard (خ, گ). He says that classifying Pashtu Dialects is not an easy task, because the areas, where these dialects are used, are close to each other. According to him, the reason behind his classification is the two phonemes 'ژ' /Ž/ and 'ښ' /Š/. In soft i.e. southwestern dialects, these two phonemes are pronounced in their original quality 'ش' /Š/ and 'ژ' /Ž/, while in hard or northeastern dialects, 'ښ' /Š/ is pronounced as 'خ' /x/ and 'ږ' /Ž/ as 'گ' /g/. In addition to these differences, there are other differences that we will discuss in the Pashto dialect of Farah. (Shpoon,2016,92p) Among foreign linguists, Islanov has also divided Pashtu Dialect into two groups "Eastern and Western". He says that Pashto has many dialects but it can be summed up in two 'East and West' dialects. According to Islanov, the major difference between the mentioned dialects is (بن = š and ږ = Ž). In the west, it is pronounced as (ش = Š) while in the east, it is pronounced as (خ = x). Also, (ږ = Ž), which is pronounced as (ژ = Ž) in Western dialect and as (گ = g) in eastern dialect. (Islanov and Grasimo,1968,29p) From National scholars, the late Mohammad Sediq Rohi, also favors two dialects in Pashto and says that in the evolution of a language, the phonetic letters change more quickly than silent letters, these changes generally in Pashto dialects and particularly in (Shpoon,2016,93p) Khost dialects are worth mentioning. However, Mr. Zeyar classifies the Pashto dialect into three groups (Eastern, Western, and Central). (Ziar,2007,301p) During the explanation above, we can say that the factors that create and differentiate dialects depend on the language, just as objects, events, and behaviors in an environment and time do not remain in the same state, similarly, variations occur in the language. In the language, these variations mean different dialects. Farah Province, one of the western provinces, has a population of about 85% Pashtuns, but due to local influences, many people have forgotten their native language and now speak Dari. Some of the Pashtuns living in remote districts of Farah province still have managed to save their native language "Pashto". However, their dialect has some differences with the present Pashto reading in the use of verbs, nouns, pronouns, prepositions, postpositions, and phonetic changes in written Pashto. This is the main topic of discussion which we will discuss below.

9.2 Phonological changes in Farahi Pashto dialect

There are no phonemes in the Farahi Pashto spoken dialect that are not in written Pashto, but changes do occur in these phonemes which differentiate them from the standard written Pashto. For example, if we consider the division of Pashto dialects based on (ږ and ښ); the Farah dialect, therefore, pronounces ' /'ږ' / as ' /'ژ' / and ' /'ښ' / as ' /'ش' /; whereas in a hard or northeastern dialect, ' /'ښ' / is pronounced as ' /'خ' / and ' /'ږ' / is pronounced as ' /'گ' / (Mangel2008, 91p).

Written Pashtu	Farahi Dialect
gira ريره	ira Ž ريره
gaZ, Zag برغ، غر	Žag برغ
ZəmanJ رمنج	gmanJ رمنج
šār بنار	Šar بنار
šāgəlay بناغلی	Šāgəlay بناغلی
šāPirəy بناپیری	ŠāPirəy بناپیری
Pašto پښتو	PaŠto پښتو

(maki,2021,July28th: 09: 30 A.M)

In some words of Pashtu Dialect, /š/ is pronounced as /s/, in written Pashtu, the pronounced part 's' of Farahi Dialect is not used. In fact, 'š' is used instead of them in those words. You can see it in the following examples:

Written Pashtu	Farahi Pashtu Dialect
Šū شو	sū سو
Šta شته	sta سته
Šul wə وشول	sulwə وسول
Šwa شوه	swa سوه

(norzai,2021,July26th, 9:40 a.m)

Sometimes phonemes are added to some words, such as the word "رنا" which is pronounced as "روننا" in the Farahi Pashto dialect, or the plural of the word "هلک" which is pluralized as (هلکان). However, in this dialect, the letter (و) is also added to it and it becomes (هلوکان).

(Zahir2021, August18th, 9:10A.M) There are also some other changes of letters in this dialect which are as follows.

- The letter (خ) changes into (چ). For example: 'خراغ' which they pronounce as 'چراغ'.
- The 'و' /w/ changes into the letter 'ب' /b/.
- The 'ن' /n/ changes into the letter 'م' /m/.
- Forwardness or backwardness. For example: 'مخکه'- 'مخکه', 'اورخ'- 'اورخ', 'اغرا', 'برغ'- 'اغرا', 'اورپدل', 'اغزی'- 'ازغی', 'اورپدل'.

I should mention that the changes that occur in Pashto dialects through addition, omission, and backwardness are valid in terms of pronunciation; However, they are not important in terms of writing and standard form. The form, which is accepted by Pashto scholars and teachers, should be used instead. (Reshteen,1993,404p)

9.2.1 Morphological changes: In the Farahi Pashto dialect, the changes for plurals of nouns, (in terms of gender, number, and tense), do not vary more from written Pashto; however, sometimes, nouns ending in consonants that change into a plural by adding (ونه) in written Pashtu, are changed into a plural by (ان) in the mentioned dialect, which reduces one syllable of the word, as in the following examples.

(Rahmani2021,July 15th, 9:20 AM.)

Since the Pashto language also has forms of comparative and superlative adjectives, in many dialects, (لا, خورا ښه, ښه ډیر ښه) are added to form the mentioned degrees, such as: 'د فراه انگور تر'. In the Farahi dialect, the words (بیترین, بیتر) are added for comparison. For example: 'زما پلار تر پخوا بیتر دی'.

(Hotak,2020,55p)

9.3.1 Number-noun Agreement in Farahi Pashto dialect

The relation between number and the noun used after it is not the same in all Pashto dialects it is slightly different in some dialects. In Farahi Pashto Dialect, when the word 'دوه' is used for the plural of a feminine word, the word 'دوی' agrees with the word used after it, for example, 'دو بڼجونې راغلي'. In the Farahi Pashto dialect, 'ه' is dropped when pronouncing the number 'دوه' which is an important kind of dissimilation and is also called omission, such as: 'دو شپيته، دو دیرش، دونوي'. In addition, when pronouncing the number 'دوی', they pronounce 'دو' instead of 'دوی', such as 'دو روښپينه، دو څلویښ' (ghorbandy,2016,14p)

In the Eastern dialect, the number 'دوه' is used for both masculine and feminine plurals. For example, 'دو هسیر راغله' and 'دو هنجونې راغلي'. In his book 'Pashtu Writing Guide', Professor Mujawer Ahmad Ziar considers it wrong to use 'دوه' for feminine nouns. (Ziar2007,233p) In the poems of Khushal Khan, the word 'دوی' has been frequently used. The word 'دوی' is also used in the poetry of Khushal Khan Khattak. (khishki,2018,88p)

زما دوی سترگی ولاري ته څلور شوي
که ښکاره د پارله لوریه خدای رسول کا

(Hotak,2007,71p)

The numbers mentioned above has been summarized in the table below.

Farahi Pashtu Dialect	Written Pashtu
دوه سړي راغلل.	دوه سړي راغله.
دوي ښځي راغلي.	دوي/دوه ښځي راغلي.
زما دوشپيته نمرې ولي.	زما دوه شپيته نمرې وي.
ټول دروديش کتابونه و.	ټول دري دیرش کتابونه و.
دروپینځوس افغانی لرم.	دري پنځوس افغانی لرم.

(Rahmani,2021,July 15th, 9:20 AM)

It is important to say that in written Pashto, most of the writers still use the number 'دوه' for males and females; however, in western dialect, the number 'دوی' is used for feminine word and 'دوه' for masculine words.

9.4 The use of personal pronouns in the Farahi Pashto dialect

A pronoun is a word that is used instead of a noun to avoid its repetition and to shorten a speech and is also called a noun substitute. (Reshteen1993,143p) It has various kinds in Pashtu such as 'personal, demonstrative, interrogative, relative, and indefinite pronouns.

In the Farahi Pashto dialect, the personal pronouns (ستاسو, تاسو) are used for the plural of the second person and are pronounced as 'ستوز, توز' in the Farahi Pashto dialect. For example: 'ستوز دواړو نومونهمپولیکلا. توز چیرپواست'. (mahmudi,2021,July 16th, 9:20 A.M)

The above sentence, which I have written from the Farahi Pashto dialect as spoken by the speakers of the mentioned dialect, shows that the 'ستاسو' pronoun has been turned into 'ستوز', which should be written as 'ستاسو'.

In the Farah Pashto dialect, the personal pronouns 'زما' /ZəMā/ and 'زموږ' /ZəMOŹ/ are used for the first person and have one syllable, such as: 'زما' /ZMā/ and 'زموږ' /ZMOŹ/. (Hijrat,2021,June 5th 4: 25 P.M)

9.5 The use and pronunciation of some verbs in Farahi Pashto dialect

The verb, as a major component of speech, refers to the doing or occurrence of an action at a particular time. (Khishki,2013,139p) In other words, a verb is a word that shows the effect of an action that someone has done or is done to them at a particular time. For example: وليکه, ليکي, وبه... ليکي

Here we discuss the verb as an important part of speech in the Farahi Pashto dialect, how the verb is used in this dialect, and whether it has any difference with the present written Pashto or not.

9.5.1 **ولاری, لاره, ولاری**: In Farah dialect, the gerund 'تلل' at the time of inflection, each syllable takes 'و' at the beginning. For example: احمد کابل ته ولاری. زه هرات ته ولاړم. دوی بازار ته ولاړل.

For the singular masculine third person, at the end of 'لاره' the letter 'ی' is added instead of (ə) and for the first and second person 'ی, ام' inflectional suffixes are added.

9.5.2 **واست, واستی**: In the Farahi Pashto dialect, the ending of 'است' is added to the end of the plural second person. For example: توز څه کولاست. توز بیده شواست, چې مور راغلو؟ (Kamalzai,2021,July15th 10: 20 A.M)

In Khushal Khan Khattak's 'Dastaranama', the verb 'واستی' has also been used. He says, “که واره “...سره یو ځای په یوه اتفاق واستی, څوک مه به مات نه کا (Khattak,2015, 210p) Here, I would like to say that in such situations, 'واست' is used instead of 'واستی' in Farah Dialect. In addition to it, the forms of 'وی, وي, وای' are also commonly used in Farah Dialect, however, in other dialects, 'یاسی, یاست, وای' are used instead, as we saw in the 'Dastarnama'. It can be said that its use in classical literature is similar to that of Western dialect. Professor Mujawer Ahmad Ziar considers the forms of 'یاست, یاست' more standard than 'واستی, یاستی, وای' (Ziar2007 333p)

9.5.3 **ولیدی, ورسیدی**: In Farah Pashto dialect, for the singular masculine third person, instead of 'ولید, ورسید', the verb ends in 'ی'. For example:

ما صابر په مکتب کې ولیدی.
استاد شهباز خیل هغه ورځ وختي ورسیدی.

(Zmarial,2021,June 2nd, 10: 20 A.M) I must say that in the Eastern dialect it is said as 'ولید, ورسید'.

9.5.4 **رانیو**: This word is written and said by speakers of other dialects as 'رانیو' which means 'to arrest', but in Farahi Dialect, it generally means 'to purchase'. For example:

ما لس کتابونه رانیوول.
ما مي خپل لور ته پیسي ورکړي چې ځانته پرې قلم رانیوسي).

(Nekzad,2021,July17th, 10: 20 A.M)

9.5.5 'کښل': In the Farah dialect, 'کښل' is used to mean (to write, kiss, and take out).

Meaning take out: زما له جیب یې پیسې وکښلې.

Meaning writing: ډیر ښه کتاب یې کښلی دی.

Meaning Kissing: امید زما لپاره هم کښل کره!

I have to say that 'کښلی' is also used to mean (beautiful) in the Farah dialect. For example, دا هلک ډیر کښلی دی.

9.5.6 گډپډل: The gerund 'گډپډل' is used in other Pashto dialects to mean (dancing). 'گدا' is its noun.

It is used to mean 'interference' in the Farah dialect. For example, you always get in my way ' مور مور کله ستاسو په خبرو کې درگډیرو.' (Farzana,2021,May 5th. 09: 30 A.M)

9.6 Formation of verbal noun in Farahi Dialect

Names that have a verbal meaning and are formed from the gerund are called verbal nouns. However, both the gerund and the verbal nouns are considered verbal nouns. The only difference between them is that the verbal noun has a stronger naming aspect while the verbal noun has a stronger verbal aspect. (Rashteen,1993,242p)

9.6.1 نځ/ڼ/: Farahi Pashtu Dialect, this suffix is added after the omission of 'ل' /l/ in the gerunds ending in 'ل' /l/ and 'یدل' / /, and 'ه' is also added at the end and forms the produced gerund. As in the table below.

Verbal Noun	Gerund	Verbal Noun	Gerund
غورځیدنګ	غورځیدل	چښنګه	چښل
اوسیدنګه	اوسیدل	تلنګه	تلل
خورنګه	خوړل	پاڅیدنګه	پاڅیدل
راوستنګه	راوستل	کونګه	کول
اغوستنګه	اغوستل	کښیناستنګه	کښیناستل
ختنګه	ختل	ورنګه	ورل

(Panzel,2010,140p)

10. The Conclusion:

As the vocabulary, phonetic and morphological aspects of dialects have a profound effect on dialect differences and inflections, I have come to the conclusion during this research paper that the Farahi Pashto dialect has also clear differences with Spoken Pashtu in phonological, morphological, syntactical, and lexical aspects which should not be ignored while writing

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