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# **Conceptual Metaphors of Emotion in English and Colloquial Cairene Arabic: A Contrastive Study**

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements  
of the Degree of M.A in Linguistics

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**In the name of Allah, the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful**

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ خَلْقُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَالاخْتِلَافُ اَللِّسَنَاتِكُمْ وَالْوَانِكُمْ اِنَّ فِيْ ذٰلِكَ لَاٰيَاتٍ لِّلْعٰلَمِيْنَ

**And among His Signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the variations in  
your languages and your colours: verily in that are Signs for those who know.**

(The Holy Qur'an 30: 22 Translated by Y. Ali)

## Abstract

Metaphor was traditionally seen as a figure of speech and decorative device employed in literary works. With the advent of Cognitive Linguistics, it started to be studied as a cognitive tool, shaping our thought, language, and action (Lakoff & Johnson, 1980; Kövecses, 2010). They assert that metaphors are pervasive in daily communication and used by native speakers to express abstract concepts such as emotions. The emotions under investigation are happiness, love, sadness, anger, and fear. The present study aims at investigating and comparing how metaphorical expressions of these five emotions are employed and conceptualized in two unrelated dialects: American English and Colloquial Cairene Arabic. Moreover, the expressions are taken from Corpus of Contemporary American English and Sketch Engine. Kövecses' model (2005) is adopted to reveal the degree of similarities and differences in the case of five emotions conceptualization between the two dialects. The study is conducted through two basic phases of comparison. At the first phase, the expressions are categorized under their source and target domains. At the second phase, they are compared according to their conceptual metaphors and literal meanings. Then three patterns are identified in this phase: totally the same, partially the same, and totally different. The findings of the comparative analysis show that American English and Colloquial Cairene Arabic share many metaphorical expressions of these emotions that are based on common bodily experiences such as HAPPINESS IS UP, SADNESS IS DOWN, ANGER IS A FLUID IN A CONTAINER, etc. Consequently, the dominant pattern is the pattern of "totally the same". The similarities can be attributed to the universality of cognitive metaphors. However, there are some differences observed and attributed to cultural differences.

**Key Words:** cognitive linguistics, conceptual metaphors, metaphorical expressions of emotion, corpus linguistics, American English, Colloquial Cairene Arabic

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(The Holy Qur'an 1:2 Translated by Shakir)

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## List of Arabic Phonetic Symbols

### Reading Conventions for the Symbols used in the Transcription of Arabic Forms

#### Consonants

- [b] voiced bilabial plosive, as in **/bard/** ‘cold’
- [d] voiced denti-alveolar, non-emphatic as in **/dam/** ‘blood’
- [f] voiceless labio-dental fricative, as in **/fi:l/** ‘elephant’
- [g] voiced velar plosive, as in **/gabal/** ‘mountain’
- [h] glottal fricative, as in **/hodhod/** ‘hoopoe’
- [ħ] voiceless pharyngeal fricative, as in **/hilm/** ‘dream’
- [k] voiceless velar plosive, as in **/kalb/** ‘dog’
- [l] voiced denti-alveolar lateral, as in **/le:l/** ‘night’
- [m] voiced bilabial nasal, as in **/maka:r/** ‘cunning’
- [n] voiced denti-alveolar nasal, as in **/na:s/** ‘people’
- [q] voiceless uvular plosive, as in **/qarn/** ‘century’
- [r] voiced alveolar flap, as in **/rafj/** ‘he went’
- [rr] voiced alveolar trill, as in **/barr/** ‘land’
- [s] voiceless denti-alveolar sulcal fricative, non-emphatic, as in **/sara?/** ‘he stole’
- [ʃ] voiceless palato-alveolar fricative, as in **/ʃakar/** ‘he thanked’
- [t] voiceless denti-alveolar plosive, non-emphatic, as in **/tag/** ‘crown’
- [w] labio-velar semi-vowel, as in **/wagib/** ‘homework’
- [x] voiceless uvular fricative, as in **/xaru:f/** ‘sheep’
- [y] voiced palatal semi-vowel, as in **/yakol/** ‘he eats’

[z] voiced denti-alveolar sulcal fricative, non-emphatic, as in /**zakir**/ ‘he studied/

[ʔ] glottal plosive, as in /**ʔalb**/ ‘heart’

[Σ]voiced pharyngeal fricative, as in /**Σe:n**/ ‘eye’

[ɣ] voiced uvular fricative, as in /**yaɖab**/ ‘anger’

### Emphatic Consonants

ɖ ɣ ʔ ɬ are ‘emphatic’ consonants corresponding to ‘non-emphatic’ d,s,t,z respectively, as in /**ɖofdoΣ**/ ‘frog’, /**ʂaʔr**/ ‘hawk’, /**zare:f**/ ‘cute’, /**tabax**/ ‘cook’

### Vowels

[i] half-closed to close front spread vowel, close when long or final, as in /**sim**/ ‘poison’, /**fi:l**/ ‘elephant’

[u] half-closed back to central rounded vowel, close rounded when long or final, as in /**ɬut**/ ‘put’, /**nu:m**/ ‘sleeping’

[e] mid to half-closed front spread vowel, short and long, as in /**sefna**/ ‘our sword’, /**Σe:n**/ ‘eye’

[o] mid to half-closed back rounded vowel, short and long, as in /**ɬobb**/ ‘love’, /**mo:za**/ ‘banana’

[a] front open vowel, short and long, as in /**marad**/ ‘disease’

[ã] back open vowel, short and long, as in /**nãɬt**/ ‘he jumped’, /**mã:t**/ ‘he died’

\* Geminated consonants are indicated by the consonant letter. They are pronounced longer and more tensely articulated than their single counterparts.

\*Long sounds are indicated by double symbols (Ezzat, 1973)