



شبكة المعلومات الجامعية
التوثيق الإلكتروني والميكرو فيلم

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



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شبكة المعلومات الجامعية
التوثيق الإلكتروني والميكروفيلم



شبكة المعلومات الجامعية التوثيق الإلكتروني والميكروفيلم



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جامعة عين شمس

التوثيق الإلكتروني والميكروفيلم

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MONA MAGHRABY



A Stylistic Analysis of the Lexical Parallelism in Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things* and Leila Aboulela's *The Kindness of Enemies*

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Dedication

This thesis is fully dedicated to my mother.

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Abstract

This thesis is an interdisciplinary study between literature and linguistics. The researcher applies a stylistic approach to analyze the two novels; Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things* (1997) and Leila Aboulela's *The Kindness of Enemies* in (2015). The main aim of this study is to investigate the types and functions of lexical parallelism in the two novels. It also aims to show how the use of parallelism sheds light on the main themes in both novels. This research applies quantitative and qualitative methods. The theoretical framework of this study is the list of types of the lexical parallelism model developed by Dennis Rygiel (1994), and the list of functions of verbal repetition model developed by Deborah Tannen (2007), in addition to further discussion on the functions of parallelism in the novel. The data were collected by reading the novels, classifying the data, and analyzing them. The researcher was the primary instrument of this study and the table form acted as the secondary instrument.

The results of the research are as follows; (1) Among nine types of lexical parallelism developed by Rygiel (1994), all of them are observed in the novels; *The God of Small Things* (1997) and *The Kindness of Enemies* (2015), namely anaphora, epistrophe, symplece, epanalepsis, anadiplosis, medial, chiasmus, pleonasm, antithesis. (2) All four functions based on Tannen's theory are found, i.e. production, comprehension, connection, and interaction. In addition to other two functions found in the novels which are; emphasis and overshadowing. (3) There are four common themes which are extracted from the use of lexical parallelism in both novels. These themes are; love, resistance, political issues, and fear. This study shows how both non-native novelists, who have different backgrounds, use parallelism as a main tool of their writing style to determine certain concepts.

Keywords: lexical parallelism, stylistic analysis, anaphora, epistrophe, symplece, epanalepsis, anadiplosis, medial, pleonasm, antithesis, production, comprehension, connection, interaction

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Chapter One

Introduction

Chapter One**Introduction****1.0. Overview**

Each writer has his/her own style in writing to express his/her ideas. This style includes certain aesthetic effects to attract the reader. The writer has the freedom to use unlimited ways such as; deviations, parallelism, and figurative language which are called stylistic devices. Writers also choose to use regularities or irregularities as a part of their style. Lexical parallelism is an example of the irregularities which is studied under the field of stylistics in this present study.

Stylistics is the study of language in literary texts (Leech, 1969, p.1). Geoffrey Leech and Mick Short (1981, p.13) claimed that the “aesthetic effect cannot be separated from the creative manipulation of the linguistic code.” That is to say when one observes certain linguistic features, he/she seeks their aesthetic/ literary functions. On the other hand, when one analyzes some literary and critical interpretations, he/she seeks linguistic evidence. This is the task of the stylistic analysis where it combines between 'the critic's concern of aesthetic appreciation with the linguist's concern of linguistic description' (Leech&Mick, 1981, p.13). Therefore, language and literature complete each other. It is observed that in language especially the literary language, any type of repetition is allowed. There are lexical, grammatical, morphological, phonological, and others. However; in this study the focus is on lexical parallelism as it is not widely studied as a major tool of writing style in the field of literature, and is mostly analyzed in speeches especially political ones. Therefore, the types, functions, and the characteristics of the lexical parallelism used by Roy (1997) in her novel *The God of Small Things* and Aboulela (2015) in her novel *The Kindness of Enemies* will be studied.

The following parts of the chapter tackle the background of the study which includes the reasons for conducting this research, the context of the study, the context of the novel *The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy (1997), then the context of the novel *The Kindness of Enemies* by Leila Aboulela (2015), and the objective of the study. Moreover, the significance of the study, the research questions, and the division of the thesis will be mentioned in this chapter.

1.1. Context of the study and the research problem

Parallelism is the form of free repetition of words, phrases, sentences, morphemes, sounds, or structures. According to Fox (2014, p.3), parallelism is a tool that is used to create "a poetic balance" in writing and it is used to "provide emphasis, authority, or significance to an expression of ideas". Mostly, writers use parallelism to present their ideas in a direct or an indirect way. For example, Roy repeats certain words to show how women are abused. If she does not repeat exact words, sentences or even incidents, nobody would know how Indian women suffered in the society. Another example is Aboulela who repeats words to show how Muslims were treated in foreign countries and how they suffered. Therefore, parallelism is useful in the sense that it allows the writer to force the reader to pay attention. It intensifies the reader's suspense.

To be specific, the type of parallelism that is tackled in this thesis is lexical parallelism. Lexical parallelism is the repetition of certain words, phrases and sentences. It tends to foreground and overshadow the relationship between the words and their meanings in the text. The present study contributes to analyze the types of lexical parallelism and their functions to investigate the nature and the effects of lexical parallelism in the novels. The reader could tend to misunderstand the excessive use of repeated words as well as give false interpretation to what is written and what is meant (Gopinath, 1999, p.26). Therefore, this study attempts to find out how the use of

similar patterns of repetition helps in adding meaningful words and creativity to the novels.

1.2. The Significance of *The God of Small Things* (1997) and *The Kindness of Enemies* (2015)

Arundhati Roy's novel *The God of Small Things* (1997) and Leila Aboulela's novel *The Kindness of Enemies* (2015) are chosen to be analyzed in this study for three reasons: first, both Roy and Aboulela are distinguished by the use of parallelism as a main linguistic tool in their works. Roy declares, "Repetition I love, and used because it made me feel safe. Repeated words and phrases have a rocking feeling, like a lullaby. They help take away the shock of the plot - death, lives destroyed or the horror of the settings - a crazy, chaotic, emotional house" (Nair, 1999, p.251, cited in Gopinath, 1999, p.27). Similarly, Aboulela's prose is described as, "amazing". She uses rich vocabulary which helps her in showing flexible prose. Her writings are organized; however, it has a sense of poetic style due to the use of rhythm, repetition and rhetorical devices (Albashir, 2015, p.29). She uses repeated words to highlight certain themes in an indirect way. Parallelism is used in describing characters, events, and places. It is also used to show the ideas and themes of the novels. Due to its central role in both novels, it is found that it is worth analyzing from a stylistic perspective.

Moreover, both novels are considered to be the most important novels in their writers' history. Roy is the first Indian woman writer to win the Man Booker Prize for Fiction in 1997. Roy's novel is one of the most famous novels in Indian literature. In this novel, she tries to mix between reality and vision, art and life and the inner and outer world of the characters (Zhao, 2012, p.40). Her novel *The God of Small Things* "does not transcribe the reality, but it makes it alive in front of the readers" (Neelima, 2016, p.37). On the other hand, Aboulela is the first winner of the Caine Prize for African Writing. Her novel *The Kindness of Enemies* is designated for The Orange Prize.