

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم





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Case, Movement and Deletion in Three Linguistic Theories (al-Basra, al-Kufa and Chomsky's Principles and Parameters): A Case Study of al-Tanaazu'

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Abstract

This thesis investigates Case Theory in three different linguistic theories. The topic of this thesis is *ʔal-Tanaazu'* [Case Conflict] (*ʔibn Hishaam*, n.d., II, p. 186). It is a linguistic phenomenon, in which two potential case assigners compete for assigning case to a shared single DP. The study explores a number of interrelated analyses that contribute to the Conflict of Government or Case Conflict known in Arabic linguistic tradition as *ʔal-Tanaazu'*. Case can be either abstract as in English, or realized via diacritics as in Classical Arabic (CA). In English, case is determined by word order and structural relations. In contrast, case in classical Arabic is determined by a diacritic at the end of each word, a fact that explains why CA has free word order. The behavior of CA data is found in the difference between the theta roles of the shared constituent under the syntactic construction of *ʔal-Tanaazu'*. This phenomenon is studied within two different CA schools of thoughts: *ʔal-Basra*, represented by *Sibawayh*, and *ʔal-Kufa*, represented by *ʔal-Mubarrid*. The thesis explains how both schools complement one another rather than compete one another. In the light of Chomsky's Generative Enterprise (1980, 1981, 1986, 2000 and 2001), some sub-theories provide a unified approach to account for this controversial issue. Among these are Theta Theory (Chomsky, 1981b), Case Theory (Chomsky, 1986a) and split VP analysis (Larson, 1988), among others. In this study, I adopt the recent minimalist conditions and principles to provide a unified analysis for the issues surrounding *ʔal-ʔiʕmaal* [Case Assignment and Government] in CA. Moreover, it highlights that the conflict between *ʔal-Basra* school of linguistics and *ʔal-Kufa* school of linguistics can be resolved by Chomsky's Generative Enterprise.

Keywords: Case Conflict, *ʔal-Tanaazu'*, Government, Case Theory, Deletion, Rightward Movement, θ -Theory, Principles and Parameters Theory

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List of Abbreviations:

A-Position	Argument Position	ACC	Accusative
ACD	Antecedent-Contained Deletion	Agr	Agreement Operation/ Agree
Agr F	Agreement Feature	ATB	Across-the-Board
Aux	Auxiliary	C/ Comp	Complementizer
BWD	Backward Deletion	CA	Classical Arabic
C-Command	Constituent Command	CP	Complementizer Phrase
CorP/CoP	Coordinate Phrase	Co	Coordinate
CSC	Coordinate Structure Constraint	D	Determiner
DO	Direct Object	DP	Determiner Phrase
DS	Deep Structure	EC/e	Empty Category
ECM	Exceptional-Case Marking	EF	Edge Feature
EPP	Extended Principle Projection	Fem	Feminine
FWD	Forward Deletion	GB	Government and Binding
GTC	Government Transparency Corollary	Gen	Genitive Case
GF	Grammatical Function	H	Head
i	Refers to co-referentiality	iF	Interpretable ϕ -features
Iff	If and only if	iT	Interpretable Tense Feature
j	Refers to co-referentiality	LCH	Long Conjunct Hypothesis
LF	Logical Form	LPD	Left-Peripheral Deletion

Masc	Masculine	MP	Minimalist Program
N	Noun	Nom	Nominative case
NP	Noun Phrase	Num	Number
Nt	Neutral	Obl	Oblique Case
P	Preposition	P&P	Principles and Parameters
PredP	Predicate Phrase	PF	Phonetic Form
Pass	Passive	PP	Prepositional Phrase
Pl	Plural	Q	Question
PRN	Pronoun	RPD	Right-Peripheral Deletion
RNR	Right-Node Raising	Sg	Singular
ROD	Recoverability of Deletion	SCH	Small Conjunct Hypothesis
Spec	Specifier	SS	Surface Structure
SVO	Subject-Verb-Object	T	Tense
TF	Tense Feature	TG	Transformational Grammar
TNS	Tensed	TP	Tense Phrase
uC	Uninterpretable Case Feature	UG	Universal Grammar
uϕ	Uninterpretable Phi-feature	V	Verb
VOS	Verb-Object-Subject	VP	Verb Phrase
VSO	Verb-Subject-Object	vP	Light verb Phrase
VPISH	VP-Internal Subject Hypothesis	WO	Word Order
X'	X-Bar/ Intermediate Projection	X	Head

XP	Maximal Projection	Y	Variable
[]	Unvalued	[val]	Valued
Φ	Phonological Component	Σ	Semantic Component
φ Features	Phi-features ‘gender, number, person’	-TNS	Non-finite
+TNS	Finite	α β	Alpha and Beta (symbols refer to x and y)
θ-theory/ θ-grid/ θ-role	Theta-Theory/ Theta-grid/ Theta-role	?	Grammatical but not preferred
e	Refers to co-referentiality		

Table 1. Abbreviations Used in the Current Thesis

IPA Symbols Used in the Phonemic Transcription of CA Forms:

<u>Consonant</u> s	Labial			Emphatic		Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyn geal	Glottal
		Dental	Alveolar	Dental	Alveolar						
Nasal/ bilabial	م m		ن n								
Stop Voiceless	p		ت t		ط ṭ			ك k	ق q		
Stop Voiced	ب b		د d		ض ḍ			g			ء ʔ
Fricative Voiceless	dental ث θ	س s		ص ṣ			ش ʃ		خ x	ح ḥ	ه h
	ف f										
Fricative Voiced	dental ذ ḏ	ز z	ظ ṭh			ر r	ج ʒ			ع ʕ / ' / ġ ġ	
	v										
Affricate Voiceless							č				
Affricate Voiced							ɟ				
Semi- vowels	و w		ل l				ي y				

Table 2. CA Consonant Phonemes

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:IPA_chart_\(1951\).png#/media/File:IPA_chart_\(1951\).png](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:IPA_chart_(1951).png#/media/File:IPA_chart_(1951).png)