

The Syntactical Structure of Malay and Arabic: Contrastive study

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Abstract

This paper is tries to contrast the Syntactic structures between Arabic and Malay. The paper starts with introduction about contrastive study, then descriptive study for some aspects related to syntax of Malay and Arabic, as word-order, noun phrase, passive voice, object, and sentence, then followed by syntax of Arabic as well. Arabic structures were studied, the subject of nominal sentence and verbal sentence are described as well as Malay. The study contrasts between both languages by comparing the subject in syntax, and found out some similarities in nominal sentences, conditional sentence and specified the differences in subject NP immediately dominated by the node S is the subject.

Keywords: Arabic syntax - Malay syntax – contrastive study- similarities differences – difficulties

1 Introduction

Contrastive analysis (CA) is defined as sub discipline of linguistics concerned with the comparison of two or more languages or subsystems of languages in order to determine both the differences and similarities between them. (Fisiak. Jack 1981:2; Richard S. Roger. 1994:118; Gradman. Harry Lee. 1970:30).

According to Fisiak (1981) there are two types of contrastive studies: theoretical and applied, analogous to Di Pietro's (1971), autonomous and generalized. Theoretical studies within semantics and syntax deal with universal categories and the ways they are realized in contrasted language.

Theoretical contrastive studies give an exhaustive account of the differences and similarities between two or more languages, provide an adequate model for their comparison, and determine how and which elements are comparable, correspondence, etc. Applied contrastive studies are part of applied linguistics. Drawing on the findings of theoretical contrastive studies they provide a framework for the comparison of languages, selecting whatever information is necessary for a specific purpose, e.g. teaching, bilingual analysis, translation, etc. Applied contrastive studies are preoccupied with the problem of how a universal X, realized in language A as Y, is rendered in language B, and what may be the possible consequences of this for a given field of application. Another task of applied contrastive is the identification of probable areas of difficulty in another language. Applied contrastive studies deal with differences and similarities alike. Contrastive analysis (CA) is the technique associated with contrastive linguistics (which is a branch of linguistics seek to compare the sounds, grammars and vocabularies of two languages with the aim of describing the similarities and differences between them) and it may be defined as: a systematic comparison of selected linguistic features of two or more languages. The contrastive analysis hypothesis is stated by Gradman, Lee (1968:168). "Contrastive analysis is based on the assumption he says, that the prime cause, or even sole cause, of difficulty and error in foreign language learning is interference coming from the learners native language;

That the difficulties are chiefly, or wholly, due to the differences between the two languages; That the greater these differences are, the more acute the learning difficulties will be; that the results of a comparison between the two languages are needed predict the difficulties and errors which will occur in learning the foreign languages; that what there is to teach can best be found by comparing the two languages and then subtracting what is common to them, so that "what the student has to learn equals to sum of the differences established by the contrastive analysis. It should be mentioned that scholars differ on how strongly they wish to claim for Interlingua interference the pride of place and error types". We will analyze the areas of Contrastive Analysis (CA) at the morphological level and syntactical level in both Malay and Arabic as the following:

2 THE SYNTAX

Word order: In Malay many words are classified into "Subject of", verbal and object NP or in general Malay words are classified into eight classes or part of speech namely nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, prepositions, and interjection (Hj. Omar. Asmah. 1975:172; Hassan, Abdullah. 1974: 26; Payne.1970: 27).

According to Mashudi (1981) the underlying order of Malay is subject-verbal-object (SVO). A subject NP has a number of properties which among other things include the following by-kah, it cannot be followed by the focus morpheme and it is the NP immediately dominated by the modes. In Malay trunk verbs, adjectives, possessive verb *ada* 'has', 'have' are copula *ada/ia* belong to the same major grammatical category, verbal. It is also claimed by Mashudi (1985) that the NP immediately dominated by the VP mode the object NP. An object NP can be a simple noun or sentential complement. Moreover, object NP can be questioned.

For example:

- (a) **Abu minumkah air itu tadi?**
"Did Abu drink that water just now?"
- (b) **Abu minum air itukah tadi?**
"Was it that water which Abu drank just now?"
- (c) **Abu minum air itu tadikah?**
"Was it just now that Abu drank the water?"

For example:

Itu guru saya

That teacher I

"That is my teacher". It functions as a subject NP.

According to Hj. Omar, Asmah (1975:225) nominalization is defined as the derivation of noun phrase from underlying embedded sentences. The various types of noun phrases in Malay are as follow: yang restrictive relative, genitive phrases, and noun phrases of the *nya*, *si*, passive and adverb types.

1. Examples of noun phrases.

Containing this type of restrictive relative clause is mentioned by Hj. Omar, Asmah (1975:225) as in the following:

- (a) **Orang yang datang**
Person who came he
- (b) **Bunga-bunga yang sedang berkembang itu.**
Flowers which are blooming that
"Flowers which are bloom".
- (c) **Wanita yang cantik itu**
Woman which beautiful the
"The lady who is beautiful".

Examples of yang type restrictive relative clauses may occur as parts of the subject, object, or predicative nominative in the matrix sentence are as the following:

- (d) **Yang datang itu.**
"The one who came".
- (e) **Orang yang datang itu Ahmad.**
"The person who came was Ahmad".
- (f) **Dia menulis buku yang tebal itu.**
"He wrote on the book which is thick".

This sentence example of yang clause appearing in object position.

- (g) **Dia seorang doktor yang kaya.**
"He is a doctor who is rich".

This sentence example of a relative clause occurs as part of the predicate nominal of the matrix sentence.

2. Genitive phrases

Example of Genitive phrases which similar to restrictive clauses as follows:

- (a) **Rumah saya**
"My house".
- (b) **Rumah yang saya punyai**
"The house which I possess".

3. Nya-type noun phrase

Examples of this kind of noun phrase are the subject of the following sentences:

- (a) **Berjalanannya lambat.**
"His/her walking is slow".
- (b) **Cara Pemakanannya sangat rakus.**

“His/her eating was gluttonous”.

(c) **Pemergiannya sangat mendadak.**

“His/her departure was very sudden”.

3. Si-type noun phrase

Examples of noun phrase of this type are:

(a) **Si kaya** “the rich”

(b) **Si miskin** “the poor”

(c) **Si buta** “the blind”

According to Hj. Omar, Asmah (1975:238) this kind of noun phrase is derived from the deep structural of the form {R, A V adje = => si V adj}.

4. Passive-type noun phrase

Examples of these kinds are:

(a) **Pisang goreng** “fried bananas”

(b) **Kereta sewa** “hired car”

(c) **Hutan simpan** “reserved forest”

Where the underlying embedded sentence undergoes passivization.

5. Adverb-type noun phrase

Examples of these kinds are:

(a) **Hari penyerahan ijazah.**

“Day of conferring of degrees”.

(b) **Masa pemerintahan Ingerris.**

“Times of English rule”.

(c) **Rumah penyembelihan binatang.**

“Slaughter house”.

Thus, in Malay, an NP can be just a simple head noun, a relative noun phrase or an NP complement (Mashudi.1980:73; Hj. Omar. Asmah. 1975:224).

OBJECT

In Malay an object NP can be a simple noun followed by a determine **air itu** of (**Abu minum air itu**) or a sentential complement as in the following:

Abu memberitahu saya bahawa Ali sakit.

Inform I that sick

“Abu informed me that Ali is sick”.

Otherwise, an object NP may be a direct object (DO) or an indirect object as in the following (Mashudi. 1981:56).

(a) **Kasim membelikan isterinya sebetuk cincin intan kelmarin.**

Buy wife his CL (piece) ring diamond yesterday

“Kasim bought his wife a diamond ring yesterday”.

SENTENCE

In the sentence in grammar is defined as a unit which has potentiality of indefinite silence both before and after it (Payne.1970:101). In Malay the sentence may be simple or compound. The simple sentence contains only one clause. The compound sentence contains more than one clause. Clauses may be of two types (verbal and nominal. (Payne.1970:103). For examples:

Clause in Malay may be verbal or nominal

The verbal clause: the elements of the verbal clauses are S-the subject; P-the predicate; C the complement and A-the Adjunct.

Examples of the subject are:

(a) **Saya datang**

S P

I come

“I come”

Dia datang

P S

Come he/she

“She/he comes”.

The subject must be a noun or its syntactic equivalent.

(b) **Ahmad memukul Ali**

S P C

“Ahmad is striking Ali”.

(c) **Ali memukul Ahmad**

S P C

“Ali strikes Ahmad”.

(d) **Ali Ahmad pukul**

C S P

“Ahmad strikes Ali”.

(e) **Ahmad Ali pukul**

C S P

“Ali strikes Ahmad”.

(f) **memukul Ahmad Ali**

P C S

“Strikes Ahmad-Ali”.

According to Payne (1970) if S and C elements are both presents and are separated by the predicate then the first element which has assist exponent a noun or its syntactic equivalent is the subject.

The predicate

In the verbal clause the predicate is a verb or is syntactic equivalent. It is only essential element of a verbal clause.

The complement of this element must be a noun or its syntactic equivalent.

The Adjunct.

Example:

Sekarang dia memukul kucing dengan kayu sahaja

Adjunct S P C prepositional phrase/adjective al-particle

According to Payne (1970:79) when the exponent of A is an adjunct it cannot come between P and C in sequence. The prepositional phrase exponent of A has complete freedom of distribution in clause structure.

A simple sentence may be declarative, interrogative or imperative.

The declarative sentence may be simple or compound, as may also the interrogative sentence. The interrogative may be marked by the presence of particle **kah** (more rarely **kah**) or by on intonation tune the final tone which is higher than the initial. (Payne.1970:79)

Exponents of P in declarative verbal clauses

Examples: (Payne.1970:81)

Verb A.I

Active

SPC

dia jual buah

S P

“He/she sell fruit”

“He/she sells (habitually) fruit”.

PSC me (n)

saya membeli buah itu

I buy fruit that

“I am buying fruit (i.e. the fruit that someone else is selling)

PCS

jual ikan parang saya

Sell fish

“I am the one who sells”.

PCS (me) n

dia jual buah tetapi membeli buah itu

“He habitually sells fruit but it is I who is am actively buying it”.

Passive (Payne.1970:81)

SPC di (a) **buku itu dipinjam oleh Ahmad.**

“The book was borrowed by Ahmad”.

SPC te(r) (b) **rumah itu tak terbeli oleh dia.**

“The house cannot be bought by him”.

PCS di- (c) **dibeli oleh Ahmad rumah itu.**

“Was bought by Ahmad this house”.

PCS te(r) (d) **tak terbeli oleh Ahmad rumah ini.**

“Cannot be bought by Ahmad that house”. For further details. (Payne.1970:81-85)

Interrogative clause may be marked by the presence of the particle.

Kah (more rarely *tah* or by an intonation tune the final tone of which is higher than the initial. According to Payne (1970) the interrogative clause may be described in the same terms as a declarative clause.

Exponent of P in imperative clause structure, Transitive verbs have **the per-** form when the imperative is passive. A passive clause is marked in addition by a complement with **oleh** or a complement having potentiality of **oleh** in preposition. Examples (Payne.p.194)

(a) **perbuatlah oleh engkau akan saya sebuah rumah.**

“Let there be made by you for me a house”.

(b) **perbuatkanlah oleh engkau akan baginda sebuah istana.**

“Let there be built by you for his highness a palace”.

3 THE SYNTAX (ARABIC)

Word order: Arabic has been treated as an SVO language. Arabic is inflectional in its morphological structure and this can be illustrated by comparing the simple form of the verb with the Arabic causative and the Arabic reciprocal or with any derived form. For example:

(a) **Kataba risalatan** كَتَبَ رِسَالَةً

V O

“He wrote a letter”.

(b) **kattabahu risalatan** كَتَّبَهُ رِسَالَةً

V O

“He made him write a letter”.

(c) **kaataba hu** كَاتَبَهُ

V pron

“He corresponded with him”.

Modifiers are placed on the opposite side of the basic syntactic element from its primary concomitant. The verb is the primary concomitant of the object, which is a noun. Therefore modifiers that modify the object which is a noun occupy the position opposite to the verb which is the primary concomitant of the object. According to this principle, nominal modifier must follow the noun in VO languages, the order must be as follows: VO Nominal modifier (S).For example:

2. (a) nominal modifier is relative construction follows noun at **shaahada Zaydun 'alkalba 'alladhii Asmah 'akala qitt 'atal-lahmi**. شاهد زيد الكلب الذي أكل قطعة اللحم. “Zayd saw the dog that ate the piece of meat”.

(b) Nominal modifier is adjectives flows noun, **shaahada Zaydun 'alkalba 'al-kabiira**. شاهد زيد الكلب الذي كَبُرَ “Zayd saw the big dog”.

(c) Nominal modifier is genitive expressions flows noun, **shaahada Zaydun kalba jaarihi**. شاهد زيد كلب جاريه. “Zaid saw the dog of his neighbor”

In Arabic verbal modifier such as negation, interrogation, causation, reprecocity, reflexivization, etc must be placed on the opposite of the object. Thus in VO language the order is as follows: Verbal modifier SVO According to the Greenberg’s universal number six reads as follows “all languages with dominate VSO order has SVO as the alternative or as the only alternative basic order” (Greenberg.1961:71). This universal can be illustrated by the following sentences in Arabic.

3. (a) **daraba Zaydun 'amran** ضَرَبَ زَيْدٌ عَمْرًا VSO “Zayd hit Amr”.

(b) **Zaydun daraba 'amran** زَيْدٌ ضَرَبَ عَمْرًا SVO “Zayd hit Amr”

(c) **darab 'amran Zaydun** ضَرَبَ عَمْرًا زَيْدٌ VOS “Zayd hit Amr”

(d) **'amran daraba Zaydun** عَمْرًا ضَرَبَ زَيْدٌ OVS “Zayd hit Amr”.

For further details (Saad, George 1982)

Noun phrase: the Arabic treatment of the noun phrase is to define the distributional coherency of items which characteristically occur together. The structural classes one might expect to be included in the noun phrase in Arabic which is related to each other within a noun phrase (Owens, Jonathan 1988:152)

4. (a) topic and comment

Mubatda' khabar

مُبْتَدَأُ خَبَرٌ

(b) Noun modifier

Matbuu' - taabi'

مَتَّبِعٌ تَابِعٌ

(c) Noun processor

Mudaaf- mudaaf 'illayhi

(d) Noun condition

'ism- haal

حَالٌ اسْمٌ

(e) verbal nouns- its complements

Masdar ssila

مَصْدَرٌ صِلَةٌ

(f) Active/passive participate complement

(g) Noun (specified) - specifier

Mumayyaz tamiiz

مُمَيِّزٌ تَمَيِّيزٌ

Examples of noun phrases are as the following:

6. (a) topic and comment

Zaydun ttawiilun

طَوِيلٌ زَيْدٌ

“Zayd is tall”

A topic **mubtada** مَبْتَدَأٌ “beginning” subject

And a comment **khabar** خَبَرٌ “news” predicate

(b) Noun modifier **tawaabi'** تَوَابِعٌ

They are nouns which completely share the inflections of noun they modify” (Ibn Aqill II: 190)

Tawaabi' “modifier” is recognized into five sub- classes as the following:

The descriptive adjective (**na** نَا ‘□t نعت or **ssifa/wassf**, صِفَةٌ / وصف example is:

(a) **'al-rajul-u al-dhariif-u**

الرَّجُلُ الظَّرِيفُ

Def man noun def nice noun “the nice man” noun

(b) **al-rijaal-u I-dhurafaa-'u**

Men nice/ pl- noun

The conjunct (**'attf or -'attf al-naskh** عَطْفُ النَّسْخِ / عَطْفٌ) is a noun which occurs after one of ten coordinating conjunctions, the most basic of which **wa** و “and”.

(a) **Ja'a Zaydun wa 'amrun** جَاءَ زَيْدٌ وَ عَمْرٌو “Zayd and Amr came”

The emphasis **Ta'kiid** تَأْكِيدٌ consist of a small set of nouns like **nafs** نَفْسٌ “self” **kull** كُلُّ “all” or simply repeats the modified noun, for example:

jaa'a Zaydun nafs-u-hu جَاءَ زَيْدٌ نَفْسُهُ

Self noun-his “Zayd himself came”.

(b) **Jaa'a Zaydun Zaydun** “zayd came”.

The implicative **'attf bayaan** عَطْفُ بَيَانٍ specifies. The modifier noun by identifying one from a group. Example:

(a) **mararrtu bi walad-i-ka zayd-in** مَرَرْتُ بِوَالِدِكَ زَيْدِ

Passed I by son ben your ben

“I passed your son Zayd”.

The per mutative **badal** بدل is a noun which in some way completes and complements the meaning of the modifier noun. Examples are (Ibn Hisham: 1963)

- (a) **'akaltu l-raghiifa- thuluth-a-hu** أَكَلْتُ الرَّغِيفَ ثُلُثَهُ
Ate I def-bread-acc third acc its

“I ate a third of loaf of bread”.

- (b) **a'jaba-nii Zaydun 'ilm-u-hu** أَعْجَبْتَنِي زَيْدٌ بِعِلْمِهِ
Pleased me noun his

“Zayd pleased me with his learning”.

6. The relative clause: have the structure relative pronoun **mawssuul** مَوْصُول + dependent sentence **ssila** صِلَة. the dependent sentence must have a presumptive pronoun referring aid to relative pronoun. Example:

- (a) **'alladhi ra'ay-tu-hu Muhammadun** الَّذِي رَأَيْتُهُ مُحَمَّدًا
Who saw I him

“The one whom I saw is Muhammad”.

The type of relative pronoun can be descriptive adjective modifier.

- (b) **al-rajul-u iladhii ra'ay-tu-hu Muhammadun** الرَّجُلُ الَّذِي رَأَيْتُهُ مُحَمَّدًا
Def man noun who saw I him

Topic: **na't** نَعْت /adj
mawssuul/ssila

'alladhi الَّذِي is an adjectival modifier to **'al-rajulu**; its **ssila** dependent sentence is **ra'aytuhu** which contains a presumptive pronoun referring to **alladhi** (Owen.1988:158)

7. The conditions **hal**. Example is:

- Jaa'a zaydun raakiban** جَاءَ زَيْدٌ رَاكِبًا “Zayd came riding”.
Came zayd riding- acc
Hal

raakiban is considered in a constriction with **zayd** and **jaa'a** where the condition is said to resemble the circumstantial (locative) object **dharf** ظرف, in meaning, being paraphrasable as **fii haal** في حال x “in condition x”.

8. Specifier **tamyiiz**. The noun phrase relations are as follows:

- (a) **'ishruuna dirhaman** عِشْرُونَ دِرْهَمًا “20 dirhams”.
Specified specifier

9. Possessed **mudaaf** مُضَاف possessor **mudaf** مُضَافٌ إِلَيْهِ

- thala thatu rijaal-l-n** ثَلَاثَةُ رِجَالٍ
3 men gent indef

- (b) **ssadiiqu rajul-l-** صَدِيقُ الرَّجُلِ “A friend of a man”.
Man gent indef

10. Verbal nouns-its complements

- master ssila** مصدر صِلَة
Daaribun huwa 'amran ضَارِبٌ هُوَ عَمْرًا
Hitter he Amr

“he is the hitter of amr”.

Where **daaribun** is respectively verbal noun **massdar**, function as it is a verb.

11. Active participle (AP) which governs a nominative agent. Example is:

- (a) **mararrtu bi rajulin daaribin 'ab-u-hu zaydan** مَرَرْتُ بِرَجُلٍ ضَارِبٍ أَبُوهُ زَيْدًا
passed I by man hitting (AP) father-noun-his
"I passed a man whose father was hitting zayd".
- (b) **Zaydun haamilun al-mataa'a yawma l-khamiis** زَيْدٌ حَامِلٌ الْمَتَاعِ يَوْمَ الْخَمِيسِ
(AP)
"Zayd is carrying the loads on Thursday".

OBJECT

Maf'uul مَفْعُول in Arabic grammar is any accusative noun directly dependent on the verb (Mubri IV: 299) for example:

- (a) **'abu yashrabu dhaalika almaa'a** أَبُو يَشْرَبُ ذَلِكَ الْمَاءَ
drink (dem pron) def- water
- (b) **Kaasi 'ishtarali-zawjatihii khaatama 'almaasin 'amsi**

قاسم اشترى لزوجته خاتم الماس أمس

V DO
Kasim buy prep-wife-his ring diamond yesterday

"Kasim bought his wife a diamond ring yesterday".

Where the verb **ishtara** "bought" is **muta'adii** مُتَعَدِي "transitive" taking accusative objects **khaatama** "ring".

- (c) **'abu 'akhbarani bi-anna 'alyian mariidun**
أَبُو أَحْبَرَنِي بِأَنَّ عَلِيًّا مَرِيضٌ
DO acc

Told- me by indeed Ali sick

"Abu informed me that Ali is sick".

Ni pronoun is a direct object; **bi 'anna 'aliyan mariidon** is a prepositional object.

In Arabic each types of object were recognized by Saraji (I:189) as the following:

Obsolute direct, circumstantial, accompaniment, reason, condition, specifier and exception.

The last three "pseudo" objects **shibhu l-maf'uul** شِبْهُ الْمَفْعُولِ

In the following the relevant is in

- (a) **darab-tu-hu darban** ضَرَبْتُهُ ضَرْبًا
Hit I him a hit acc absolute (maf'uul muttlaq مَفْعُولٌ مُطْلَقٌ)

"I really hit him".

- (b) **ra'aytu Zaydan** رَأَيْتُ زَيْدًا
) direct (maf'uul bihi مَفْعُولٌ بِهِ)

Saw I acc

"I saw Zayd".

- (c) **ra ‘aytu Zaydan fawq-a il-bayti** رأيتُ زيداً فوقَ البيتِ circumstance
(dharf ظرف or maf‘uul fihi مفعول فيه)
saw me on acc house

“I saw Zayd on top of the house”.

- (d) **sirtu wa l-niil-a** سيرتُ والنَّيْلَ accompaniment
Walk and Nile acc (maf‘uul ma‘ ahu مفعول معه)

“I followed the Nile”.

- (e) **ji’-tu-ka ttama-‘an fi birri-ka** جئتُك طمَعاً في بركِ Reason
(maf‘ul li-‘ajlihi (مفعول لأجله)
came I you needing-acc charity your

“I came to your needing charity”.

- (f) **jaa‘a Zaydun raakib-an** جاءَ زيدٌ راكِباً condition (haal حال)
Came riding acc

“zayd came riding”.

- (g) **tassabbaba l-faras-u ‘araq-an** تَصَبَّبَ الفَرَسُ عَرَقاً specifier (tamyiiz تمييز)
Dripped def horse noun sweat acc

“The horse dripped sweat”.

- (h) **ra‘ayti l-qawma ‘illa Zaydan** رأيتُ القومَ إلا زيداً exception (‘ isthisna (إستثناء)
Saw I def people except acc

“I saw the people except Zayd”.

In (3.3b) the direct object the verb can take and is cross-classified according to this parameter. Intransitive verb **laazim** لازم and transitive **muta‘addi**. مُتَعَدِّي lit. “Passing over” which is in turn is classified as transitive, bi-transitive, and tri-transitive, and as taking noun clause complement or not (ISI;82, 202)

In (3.3c) the word **fawqa** فوقَ “on” this noun can be used as direct dependents of verb, as circumstantial object, where the action is related to him directly.

In (3.3a) absolute object the verb describes an action that occurs in some **haal** condition (3.3f) whether or not it is transitive to a direct object (Mub.IV:33). The noun-direct object is wholly optional.

SENTENCES

The basic syntactic structures of Arabic language are divided into two types:

1. **al-jumlatu-l ‘ismiyyah** الجملة الاسمية (the nominal sentence)
2. **al-jumlatu-l fi‘liyya** الجملة الفعلية (the verbal sentence)

The distinction between these types of sentence is said to be based on the word-class which occupies first position in the sentence, which is to say if we have a noun substantive or one of its substitutes (that is adjective, a personal pronoun, a demonstrative or a relative pronoun) at the beginning of a sentence. Then we have a nominal sentence, regardless of type

- (a) **haadha Zaydun** هذا زيدٌ “this is Zayd”.
- (b) **haadha ‘aalimun** هذا عالمٌ “this is learned (man)”.
- (c) **haadha fi-dhaakirati** هذا في الذاكرة “this is my memory”.
- (d) **haadha yuhaddiru l- ummata** هذا يحضّر الأمة “this civilizes the nation”.

On the other hand, as sentence of which the predicate is a verb preceding the subject, e.g. **qaama Zaydun** “zaydu stood up”, or a sentence consisting of a verb form which includes both subject and predicate, e.g. **qaama**” (He) stood up” is called by the grammarians **jumlatun fi’liyyatun**: a verbal sentence”.

The subject of a verbal sentence is called **fa’il** “agent”, and its predicate **fi’l** “action or verb”. The following remarks seem called for:

1. **’alwaladu qaama** “the boy stood up” and **qaama l-waladu** “ the boy stood up” and two realizations of one structure in which **’alwaladu** “ the boy” is the subject and qama “stood up” is the predicate, the only difference between these two realizations is the difference between emphasis or focus: **qaama l-waladu** is the ‘unmarked’ verbal sentence, and **alwaladu qaama** its “marked counterpart.

2. Although the rule according to which, for examples, **’alwaladu qaama** is a nominal sentence was fairly generally accepted, nevertheless we find (1) that the **kuufah** الكوفة school regarded this rule as optional. In their view, **’alwaladu qaama** “the boy stood up” and **zaydun hadara** “zayd arrived” are marked verbal sentences derived from unmarked verbal sentences **qaama l-waladu** and **hadara zaydun**

(Ibn Mada.1948:103; Ibn Hisham, vol.2:379-80) that is preferable (even obligatory for some) to contextualize the sentence Zaydun qama within a conjoined structure, i.e. **qa’ada ‘amrun wa zaydun qaama** “amr sat down and zayd stand up”, which is a verbal sentence in earlier terms and thus not an infringement of the stated rule (Ibn Hisham, vol.3:379)

CONDITIONAL STRUCTURE

The Arab scholars assumed two structure i.e. nominal and verbal structures. The classified the adverbial structure under the nominal structures and they are classified the conditional structure under the verbal structures, even though they may be different structures can be presented as follows:

Of predicate which follows the initial nominal element in other words, every sentence which begins with the subject (substantive or pronoun) is called **jumlatun ’ismiyyah** “nominal sentence”, whether the following predicate is an adjective, a preposition and the word it governs (i.e. a prepositional phrase), or a verb. To summarize, the following are said to be a nominal sentence.

1. **mubtada’** مبتدأ (substantive) + (a) adjective
 - (b) Prepositional phrase
 - (c) Verb phrase

- (a) **Zaydun ‘aalimun زيد عالم** “zayd is learned”.
- (b) **zaydun fi-l-bayti زيد في البيت** “zayd is in the house”.
- (c) **zaydun yusa ‘idu ‘usratahu زيد يساعده أسرته** “zayd helps his family”.

2. **mubtada’** (= adjective + (a) adjective
 - (b) Prepositional phrase
 - (c) Verb phrase

- (a) **al-‘aalimu faqirun العالم فقير** “the learned (man) is poor”.
- (b) **al-‘aalimu fi-l-maktabi العالم في المكتب** “the learned man is in the library”.
- (c) **’al-‘aalimu yusaa ‘idu ummatahu العالم يساعده أمته** “the learned man helps his nation”.

3. **mubtada’** (personal pronoun) + (a) noun (=substance)
 - (b) Adjective
 - (c) Prepositional phrase
 - (d) Verb phrase

- (a) **huwa Zayd هو زيد** “he is zayd”.
- (b) **huwa ‘aalimun هو عالم** “he is learned (man)”.
- (c) **huwa fi-lmaktabi هو في المكتب** “he is in the library”.
- (d) **huw yusa ‘idu l-muhtajiina هو يساعده المحتاجين** “he helped those who are in need”.

4. **mubtada’**(= demonstrative +pronoun) (a) noun (=substance)
 - (b) Adjective

- (c) Prepositional phrase
(d) Verb phrase

- (a) verbal sentence
(b) nominal sentence

According to the Arab scholars a conditional structure consists of two structures which function as one structure. For example:

'in 'anta 'akramta-lkariima malakta-hu wa 'in 'anta 'akramta lla-'iima tamarrada وإن أنت أكرمت الكريم ملكته، وإن أنت أكرمت اللئيم تمردا

If you honor the kind you own him and if you honor the evil person he rebels (al-mutanabbi: poet)

“If you honor the kind person you owe him and if you honor the evil person he rebels. Ibn Hisham (1969) mentioned two Arabic terms **jumlah ssughra** جملة صغرى “simple sentence” and **jumlah kubra** جملة كبرى “consist of two sentences, one of which is dependent and one of which is independent”. For further details (Salwa. A. Kamel.1982:55)

4 THE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN MALAY AND ARABIC AT THE LEVEL OF SYNTAX

Word order: both Malay and Arabic have been treated as SVO language. For example:

- (a) **Abu minum air itu** (NP,s)
Drink water the

When in this structure

Abu precedes **minum air itu, minum and air itu**

- (b) **minum** precedes **air itu**
(c) **air** precedes **itu**

it is similar in Arabic as follows:

- (a) **'Abu yashrabu 'al-maa'a**
When abu precedes yashrabu al-ma'a
(b) **yashrabu precedes 'al-maa'a**
Def- water

Object NP in both Malay and Arabic may be different object (DO) or indirect object (ID) for example:

- (a) **Kasim membelikan isterinya sebetuk cincin intan kelmarin**
ID DO

Buy wife his CL/piece ring diamond yesterday

“Kasim bought his wife a diamond ring yesterday”.

In Arabic we find DO and ID in the following sentence where the verb is transitive.

- (c) **kasim 'akhbarani bi-'anna alian mariidun**
Informed def-indeed sick
“Kasim informed me that Ali is sick”.

Ni-pronoun is a direct object, where **bi-'anna 'alyian mariidun** is a prepositional object considered as (ID).

Noun phrase: the noun phrase in Malay and Arabic are similar in many aspects as follows:

- (1) **orang itu yang datang tadi**
Person which came just now

Where the relative pronoun **yang** occurs between the head noun and the verb. The Arabic language has the same structure. For example:

haadha al-shaxhu 'alladhii jaa'a 'allaana
This def-person which came now
“This person who came just now”.

Where the relative pronoun **'alladhi** “who” occurs between the head noun and the verb **jaa'a** “came”.

Examples of yang type restrictive relative clauses may occur as a part of the subject, is similar in Malay in Arabic. For example:

- (a) **orang yang datang itu ahmad**
Person which came ad-person Ahmad
“The person who came was ahmad”.

The Arabic has the same structure

- (b) **al-shaxhu 'al-ladhii jaa'a huwa 'ahamd**
Def-person which came domen pro
“The person who came was ahmad”.

Where the relative clause occurs as a part of the subject (**al-shaxu**) “person” as well as young “which occurs as apart of the subject **orang** “person” also example of yang type restrictive relative in genitive phrase as follows:

- (c) **rumah yang saya punyai**
House which I possess
“The house which I possess”.

This sentence is equivalent to the sentence in Arabic as follows:

- (d) **'al-baitu 'al-ladhii 'amlukuhu 'anaa**
Def-noun which possess I
“The house which I possess”.

Example of this kind of noun phrase is the subject which is similar in Malay and Arabic as the following:

- (e) **berjalannya lambat**
His/her walking slow
“His/her walking is slow”.

It is similar in Arabic as following:

Mashyuhu/ha battii'un
Walking his/her slow

Where **mashyuku/ha** “his/her walking”

Is the subject of phrase as well

As **berjalannya** “his/her walking”

is the subject of the phrase.

THE SENTENCE

In both Malay and Arabic the sentence may be a simple or compound. The simple sentence in both Malay and Arabic may be one clause. Clause in Malay and Arabic may be verbal or nominal. The elements of verbal clause are the subject (s), P-predicate; C complement and A-the adjunct. Examples:

Saya datang

I come

S P

Example of passive type noun phrase is similar in Malay and Arabic as follows:

- (g) **Pisang goring** “fried bananas”
Bananas fried

it is equivalent to Arabic as follows:

Mawzun maqlyyun مَوْزٌ مَقْلِيٌّ “fried bananas”.
Bananas fried

Where the underlying embedded sentence undergoes passivization.

In both Malay and Arabic sentence may be simple or compound. The simple sentence in both Malay and Arabic contains only one clause which is in Malay may be verbal or nominal as well as in Arabic.

The verbal clause in Malay are S-the subject, P-the predicate, C-the complement and A-the adjunct. Examples are:

(a) **saya datang** "I come"
 I come
 S P

It is similar in Arabic as:

'**anaa 'ajji 'u** "I come"
 I come
 S P

The subject a noun or its syntactic equivalent:

(b) **Ahmad memukul Ali** "Ahmed is striking Ali"
 S P C
 Strike

Similar in Arabic as:

'**Ahmad daraba 'aliyan** "Ahmed is striking Ali"
 S P C
 Strike Ali

(c) **memukul Ahmad Ali**
 S P C
 "Strikes Ahmad-Ali"

Similar in Arabic as:

Daraba 'ahmadan 'aliyun
 P C S
 "Strikes Ahmad Ali".

The sentence suggests that the first element which has its exponent a noun or its syntactic equivalent is the subject.

5 THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MALAY AND ARABIC AT THE LEVEL OF SYNTAX

In Malay a subject NP immediately dominated by the node S is the subject.

Example:

(a) **Abu minum air itu** (NP,s)
 Abu drink water the
 "Abu drink the water".

Where Abu bears the relation (NP,s) e.g. subject of to Abu **minum air itu**.

In contrast Arabic is different in the ordering of elements as follows:

Abu yashrabu al-maa'a
 Subj (dif) V O
 "Abu drink the water".
 (SVO)

Where the subject is definite; the order of SVO is allowed like Malay, but if the subject is indefinite then the order SVO is not allowed.

Daraba rajulun 'amran
 Strike man Amr

Rajulun daraba 'amran
 Indefinite-man strike Amr

Object: in both Malay and Arabic are similar in one aspect; that is, Malay has (DO) or (ID) as well as Arabic the case of prepositional object (ID).

Examples:

Abu membelikan isterinya sebetuk cincin intan kelmarin

“Abu bought his wife a diamond ring yesterday”.

In Arabic the following sentence is similar in the case of (ID); prepositional object.

'ishtara abu -lizawjatihii khaatama 'almaasin 'amsi

اشترى أبو لزوجته خاتم ألماس أمس

“Abu bought his wife a diamond ring yesterday”.

Objects in Arabic are eight types one of them directs object **maf'uul bihi**. The others are kind of objects which the verb describes an action that occur like **haal** “condition”, or the action is related to the verb directly like circumstantial object (**dharf**).

According to Arabs scholars the non-direct object are wholly optional. In contrast, Malay has not any kind of these types.

NOUN PHARES

In Malay the noun phrase can be simple head noun, a relative noun phrase or NP Complement. For example: (mashudi.1980:73)

Orang itu menyatakan (dia sakit)

“The person said (that) he was sick”.

In contrast, noun phrase in Arabic did not call the sentential structure nominal because it stands with nouns, but because it starts with initial constituent can be different categories. For example:

- (a) **tasma'u bi-l mu'aydii khayrun min 'an taraa-hu**
You hear about mu id better than that you see him

“To hear about Mu' id is better than to see him”.

Where the sentence “**tasma'u bil-mu 'aydii** is **musnad 'illayhi** “initial constituent”, thus, the most important fact about nominal structure is that its initial constituents must be one of MI.

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