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The position of indefinite enclitic «-ی» in attributive phrases

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to explore grammatical role of indefinite morpheme «-ی» in Persian attributive noun phrases and position of its use. Indefinite morpheme «-ی» is one of enclitics in Persian language. Enclitic is a kind of clitic. Clitic is a bound morpheme which is phonologically and semantically dependent on a host word. But syntactically it is like a free word, as it can be moved and displaced inside the sentence. Clitics are divided into two categories; proclitic and enclitic. Proclitic is added at the beginning of the host word, while enclitic is added at the end of it. Persian grammarians have two points of view regarding indefinite morpheme «-ی». A group of them like Iran Kalbasi, Wida Sheqai and Mohammad Rasekh Mohand think that «-ی» is a clitic, while some of them like Khosraw Farshedward, Mohammad Ali Sorahi and Batol Alinajad say it is an affix. There are also different views about position of «-ی» in Attributive phrase (Noun + Adjective). A group of contemporary grammarians think that as a syntactic unit the position of enclitic «-ی» must be the end of the phrase and should be added to the adjective. Some others say that it can be added at the end of noun as well as at the end of adjective. The second group argues that in ancient literary works it is used in both styles. In this article the view of first group is supported by syntactic argumentations. The study has been implemented through a literature review having analytical-descriptive approach.

Keywords: Indefinite enclitic, phrase, suffix, Attributive phrase

Introductions

One of the ways to make indefinite attributive noun phrase in Persian language is adding indefinite enclitic (ی) at the end of it. Indefinite enclitic (ی) is one of bound morphemes, which is called clitics. Clitics are small grammatical units that cannot be used itself independently, so they are not behaved as free morphemes. They are not considered as morphological elements, rather than as a syntactic unit because they do not bear stress^[12]. They are Until recent years, in Persian grammars, especially those written in Afghanistan, some of these morphemes were studied under the title of affixes^[7, 16, 26] and some others (such as particles) were considered as prepositions. But recently, in recent years, linguists have identified a kind of bound morpheme that, is phonemically similar to affixes, but they are not considered part of the word structure, but are considered part of the phrase structure, and therefore are similar to free phonemes^[9, 23]. Therefore, this category of morphemes are introduced under the title of "clitics"^[12]. The indefinite enclitic «-ی» is of these morphemes. There are different viewpoints of contemporary Persian grammarians, regarding indefinite morpheme «-ی». Some of them have considered it as a suffix^[5, 7, 16, 26], while some others think that it is an enclitic^[9, 14, 23]. These have not been mentioned in the past published books written by some linguistic researchers in Afghanistan such as Mohammad Husain Yamin's "Contemporary Grammar of Persian-Dari Language"^[26], "Contemporary Grammar of Dari Language" by Professor Nasim Saeedi and others^[16]. Some of them have considered indefinite «-ی» as one of the suffixes while others introduced it as one of the signs of indefinite noun. In "Lengthy grammar of today" by Dr. Khosrow Farshidvard in Iran, the word "clitict" has been called "connected word", but did not count it as indefinite connected word «-ی»^[5]. According to those who consider it as a suffix, its position must be after noun in attributive noun phrase with structure (noun + adjective), because it is a morphological unit. According to who it is considered as an enclitic, it is then a syntactic unit, so its position must be at the end of phrase.

The purpose of this paper is to support the theory that consider indefinite morpheme «-ی» as an enclitic using morphological and syntactic argumentations.

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Research questions

The aims of the study are proposed to answer these research questions;

1. What are Persian clitics?
2. How to identify the position of indefinite (ی) as an enclitic in attributive phrases?

Research Methodology

The researchers decided to utilize the qualitative descriptive method. In collecting data, the researchers keep a close reference to the research aims in order to make sure that the data being collected match the purposes of the study. Due to time constraint, the researchers set library-based study [26]. References were collected and reviewed when preparing for the study. Finally, the data then was interpreted and discussed further in findings.

What are enclitics?

A type of bound morpheme that is not included in the affixes, despite playing a grammatical role and lack of phonological independence is called a bound morpheme. Bound morphemes are used in the structures of syntactic phrases and sentences not in morphological ones. On one hand, clitics are subject to syntactic rules like free lexical and grammatical morphemes, and on the other hand, they act as affixes since they are bound. That is, it has no independent use in the sentence and necessarily depends on other words [23]. Clitic is morphologically dependent on the word next to it, and is considered syntactically free. Assuming it is free because syntactic rules treat it like free morpheme. It is assumed free since syntactically acts as a free word. Therefore, the clitic is syntactically a "word", except it does not have the phonological characteristics of a free word and only in conjunction with its host word does it form the phonological form of a word. Clitics, together with its neighboring word (host word) form a single word. This word is also called or the host of clitic [12].

Clitics appear in language due to a historical process called grammatization. Grammatization is a kind of linguistic change through which a lexical item in certain uses becomes a grammatical item, or through which a grammatical item becomes more grammatical [3].

According to Iran Kalbasi, the clitic, like affixes, sticks to the word before or after it, but unlike them, it is not considered part of the word structure [9]. The clitics are two in types:

The category that attaches to the end of word, is called "Enclitic" and the category that joins the beginning of word, is called "proclitic". Persian clitics are all enclitics such as "م" /am/ in the words like "کتابم" /ketabam/ and "خوبم" /xobam/. In the first example, it is a fix, while in the second one, it is a clitic.

The Difference between Clitics and Morphological affixes: It is rarely straightforward to decide whether a clitic-host sequence should be analyzed syntactically or morphologically, because by definition, clitics present a combination of word-like and affix-like properties. In this section, we will review a number of phonological and morphological facts that suggest strongly that pronominal enclitics in Persian are best analyzed as suffixes.

Dr. Vida Shaghghi, in order to clarify the difference between clitics and affixes, suggests the application of the syntactic rule of "symmetrical omission" in the sentence.

Affixes are a structural part of a word, therefore they are not never removed symmetrically in a sentence, but the clitics can be removed symmetrically [23]. In the following sentences, there are used derivative and morphological affixes as well as clitics:

1. خوانش و نگارش صحیح متن بستگی به دقت لازم دارد
2. *خوان و نگارش صحیح متن بستگی به دقت لازم دارد (

(The derivative affix «ش» /esh/ is removed without symmetry)

1. کتابها و قلمها را روی میز بگذارید (
2. کتاب و قلمها را روی میز بگذارید (

(The morphological affix «ها» /hā/ is removed symmetrically. In Persian, /hā/ is sign of plural. In this sentence)

1. کتابهایتان و قلمهایتان را از روی میز بردارید (
2. کتابها و قلمهایتان را از روی میز بردارید (

(Though the enclitic «تان» /tān/ is removed symmetrically, both sentences have the same meaning)

1. کتاب آرش و قلم آرش را برایش بدهید (
2. کتاب و قلم آرش را برایش بدهید (

(Though the noun "Arash" and the enclitic "ـ" pronounced /e/ are removed symmetrically, both sentences have the same meaning)

The sentence "1b" is grammatical, because the derivative affix cannot be omitted symmetrically. In the sentence "2b" where the morphological affix is removed (plural sign), although the construction of the sentence is not incorrect, but its meaning is different from the sentence "2a". However, the sentences "3a and 4a" are grammatical and have the same meaning as the sentences "3b and 4b" despite the removal of the continuous pronoun which is called enclitic in 3b and the removal of noun after enclitic in 4b. Deletion is a syntactic rule that operates at the word level and syntactic units larger than the word. The clitic is a grammatical word that is used in constructions larger than the word and phonetically forms a phonological word with its base (host), which is considered a syntactic construction, and is pronounced like a word phonetically, but in terms of Morphology, syntax and semantics are not a word [23]. Dr. Mehrdad Naghzgovi Kohan in the article entitled "From clitics to morphological affixes" [18], quoting Armond M. Zwicky and K. Pullum Geoffrey in the article "cliticization vs. inflection" (1983) uses the following criteria to distinguish clitics from morphological affixes.

In order to identify the clitics, we consider the following criteria:

1. Clitics do not have much selective behavior in joining the host, but affixes have high selectivity behavior. Because affixes only join certain categories (such as nouns, verbs, and adjectives), except for clitics, they can join a variety of hosts of grammatical categories. Like the comparative suffix "تر" /tar/ which only joins the adjectives, in contrast, the clitic "-e/" (sign of addition) it can join both the nouns and the adjectives.
2. There is no accidental gap in attaching the clitics to the host. On the contrary, there is accidental gap in relation to affixes. For example, there are some gaps in the affixing of the prefix "بی" / be / to the present tense to make an imperative sentence, including the fact that this prefix cannot be used with the present tense of the

- verb /āšām/ "drink" to form /beyāšām/"Let's eat dinner".
- Irregular morph-phonological changes are more common in words, but such changes occur less frequently in clitics. For example, although the suffix is used in the plural of nouns in Persian, sometimes there are irregularities in this type of morphological structures. If we consider singular nouns such as "house- خانه" /xāna/, "shoulder- شانه" /šāna/ and "servant- بنده" /babda/, they all end in the short vowel "ا" / a /, but as it is seen that the plural form of the first and second nouns is "خانههاhouses". And "شانههاshoulders" and the plural form of the third one is like "بندگان slaves".
 - Unpredictable and irregular meanings are more commonly found in words that arise from the joining of affixes than words that arise from the joining of clitics. Irregularity is also seen in the construction of the past tense of the verb from the present tense by adding the past participle suffix.
 - Syntactic rules treat words with affix as a single word, but do not treat words with a clitic as a single word, but treat the clitic as a separate unit. For example:
 - الف. من مریضم. /man marizam I am sick
 - ب. من مریض و بی حالم. am sick and not feeling well /man maviz-w-behalam//am/ is a clitic which is used to attribute two adjectives to subject pronoun /man/ "I".
 - Clitics can be joined together and placed in the word environment, but affixes cannot be joined in such a way that they fit in the outside environment of the word.

Enclitics in Persian Language

- The morphological forms of the verb "to be" in the present tense (/ am - /, / i - /, / ast - /, / im - /, / id - /, and - /) as: خوبند، خوبید، خوبیم، خوبست، خوبی، خوبست. These are called as enclitic verbs.
- A personal, continuous object or possessive (/ am - /, / at - /, / aš - /, / emān - /, / etān - /, / ešān - /). دیدم، دیدت، دیدید، دیدتان، دیدشان (objectively) دیدش، دیدمان، دیدتان، دیدشان (possessive).
- Indefinite (ی) as in: شاکردی /mardi/ a man, شاگردی /šāgerdi/ a student.
- Sign of attribution "ت" /e/, such as: /ketāb-e- Jawad/ Jawad's book, /bāy-e- Nawab/ Nawab's garden.
- Definite (ه) /e/ as in: /daraxte/ the tree, /asbe/ the horse. (Only in Iranian dialect)

Indefinite (ی) enclitic or suffix?

Indefinite "ی" / ī / is a sign of indefinite noun; That is, a name that is sometimes unfamiliar to the listener and sometimes to both the speaker and the listener. There is a difference of opinion between linguists and grammarians of the Persian language as to whether we should consider the "ی" in Persian as a clitic or affixes. As we have seen before, Iran Kalbasi^[9] and Vida Shaghghi^[23] consider this word as one of the enclitics. For example, according to the criterion of "omission to symmetry" proposed by Shafaqi (23), it is possible to omit the "ی" symmetrically.

- الف. قلم و کتابی را که از تو گرفتم، پس دادم
- ب. به دوست خود تحفه ارزشمند و سوغات گران بهایی می برد

According to Mohammad Rasekh Mohand^[20], "ی" is also a clitic in Dari Persian, which is in the category of bound morphemes and is in fact of the clitics which is added to the

end of the noun phrase. As if we pay attention to the structure of noun phrases in these sentences:

- الف. من عکسی گرفتم. I took a photo
- ب. من عکس خوبی گرفتم. I took a good photo
- ج. من عکس خوب روشنی گرفتم. I took a clear photo

It can be seen that in these noun phrases, in the above sentences, the "ی" is added at the end of the noun phrase, not to the middle of the phrase. In sentence "الف", the nucleus of the phrase is equal to the whole phrase. He goes on to add that "one of the signs of clitics is that they are added to the phrase, while the affixes are added to the word"^[20]. Parviz Khanlari, while discussing the use of about indefinite (ی) in the first periods of Dari Persian and changing its position in the attributive, says: "In later periods, indefinite (ی) often comes after the adjective and is the only form of use"^[19]. However, Mohammad Amin Sorahi and Batool Alinejad, while discussing the issue, consider it as a morphological affix and in the criteria for identifying the affixes from clitics, they say: My book and my notebook, [in which the enclitics are added to the words with other enclitics- [but morphological affixes are not added to the enclitic groups). If we examine the application of "ی" in accordance with the Zwichi and Pullum criteria, the following characteristics can be enumerated for indefinite:

- The indefinite "ی" can be added to both nouns and adjectives. This feature shows that it is based on the main principle of enclitics. Such as: مردی، قلمی، درختی، مرد خوبی، قلم جدیدی، درخت بلندی. man, pen, tree, good man, new pen, tall tree.
- There is no accidental addition of "ی" to the noun and adjective, meaning that this word can be added to any noun and adjective. پسر دانایی، هوای گرمی، شهر ویرانی، روستایی در بخارا.
- There are no irregular phonological changes in the use of "ی". This means that with all nouns and adjectives ending in any phoneme, words can be used to which the suffix "ی" is added, they do not have unpredictable and irregular meanings. That is, we do not have specific words in the Persian language that do not have a indefinite, and no indefinites is added to them.
- The indefinite "ی" in the following sentences can be moved from the end of the adjective to the end of the noun, this feature also indicates being enclitic:

الف. تو بر کوه بلندی بالا شده‌ای.
ب. تو بر کوهی بالا شده‌ای که بلند است.

- Only the sixth criterion according to which one enclitic should be added to another enclitic, but the "ی" enclitic cannot be added to other enclitic. It is not added to other enclitics because in Persian, words with nominal enclitics are the definite "ی" and is not a sign of being indefinite.

The position of the indefinite in the Adjectival Clauses:

When we consider the indefinite "ی" to be one of the enclitics, when adding this word to the attributive noun phrase, it will undoubtedly have its place in the structure of this phrase (noun + e + adjective) at the end. Because clitic is a syntactic element used in clauses and sentences.

- الف. بخارا شهر بزرگی است در ماوراءالنهر
- ب. کتاب سوومندی خرید
- ج. باغ بزرگی داشت

But some grammarians believe that the "ی" does not come in the form of an adjectival clause after the noun. As Mehdi Mushkoo al-Dini says about the last two examples: "It can be seen in the last two examples, in cases where the adjective is used after the noun, the indefinite sign is usually added to the adjective dependent. However, in many cases, in the official Persian language, and especially in the literary style, in the syntactic combinations of the noun and the adjective, the indefinite sign appears after the noun, such as the following examples:

(13 دیواری بلند، کاخی بلند، درختانی سرسبز)

It seems that the literary style here means the language of writing. It seems that the literary style here means the language of writing. In order to avoid ambiguity, sometimes "ی" is mistakenly written after the noun (noun).

الف. زن ثروتمندی.

ب. پسر شاعری.

Each of these constructs can have two meanings; Example A is a woman who is rich herself, or she is the wife of a rich man. Example B can mean that the son himself is a poet, but it can also mean that he is the son of a man who is a poet. But as we know, the task of grammar is to explain the language of speech and the pronunciation forms of the speakers, not the written language, and also the written errors. Therefore, such examples cannot be used to explain the grammatical rule. Although Dr. Khosrow Farshidvard knows better how to count the suffix "ی", he thinks that its place in the adjectival clause in the speech of today's tendency is more at the end of the adjective and the addition to the end of the name is considered more the work of writers and followers of the old style. According to Mushkat al-Dini, if the adjective defining "هر" comes before the adjectival clauses and also appears in the composition of the dependent adjectival clauses, the sign does not follow the adjective, as in the following examples:

هر آدم عاقلی، هر کتاب جدیدی، یک آدم خوبی، هر خانه نوی، هر یک تن (13 اسر بازی).

In the other case, the sign of increase come together with the indefinite.

(زنی ثروتمند، دختری شاعر)

On the other hand, if the indefinite "ی" is added to the attributive noun phrase, then there is the sign of increase, which is a clitic in its Persian, will have a vague fate in the structure of this attributive. In other words, the question arises whether the sign of increase (descriptive fraction) is pronounced or not? Does this word have a phonological representation or not? If so, how; after the indefinite or before? As we know, the sign of increase (descriptive fraction) is also one of the components of the Persian language that in no case can its phonology and pronunciation be ignored in the sentence structure. As we know, the sign of increase (descriptive Kasra) is also one of the enclitics in Persian that in no case can its phonology and pronunciation be ignored in the sentence structure. Because ignoring this Kasra leads to the non-existence of its meaning. One of the important principles of sovereignty and reference theory which says: "The information contained in the expression of each syntactic level is projected and reflects the information contained in the vocabulary, meaning that each of the above-mentioned syntactic levels

must necessarily observe the subcategory information related to each entry exactly and precisely" [4]. The descriptive Kasra in the construction of an attributive phrase cannot be ignored and its phonological expression ignored. Also, according to the principles of the linguistic theory of "sovereignty and reference", each syntactic phrase forms a single structure to which the additive element must be added at the beginning or end. The attributive phrase then forms a single structure, and any additional elements (such as the "ی"s must be added to the adjective at the end.

Conclusion

Indefinite "ی" is an enclitic in Persian-Dari language. Clitics are bound morphemes which are added to their host words, which phonologically depend upon them. Enclitics are added at the end of their host words. Although some contemporary grammarians have considered this as a suffix, it shows most of the features of a clitic, rather than to be an affix. This morpheme is not "completely dependent" like the affixes, and syntactically shows some features of the free morphemes such as the ability to move in the sentence. Therefore, it should be considered as one of the Persian enclitics. The morpheme "ی" is considered as an enclitic of a syntactic element that when added to a syntactic phrase such as an attributive noun phrase, (noun + adjective) sticks to the end of it after adjective. The indefinite "ی" cannot be added to the end of the noun, because in this case the structure of the phrase as a syntactic structure breaks down and the phonological expression of the description of "کسره" after the noun is lost. By adding the indefinite "ی" to the end of the adjective in the attributive phrase, this phrase assumes a structure in the form (noun + adjective + ی). In the text, it should be followed by the speech form after the adjective.

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