

Variations in Arabic Consonant Pronunciation among Filipino Expatriates in the Eastern region of K.S.A.

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates according to Firth theory (context of situation) the utterance of special sounds in Arabic language for some Filipinos in Saudi Arabia. Two groups were tested: thirty females and thirty males were examined in pronouncing special consonants. The consonants were as follows: /g/ ,/z/, /s /and /S/ with different short Arabic vowels: fathah/a/ , kasrah /i/ and dammah /u/. They were well trained for three weeks, we wrote the Arabic words in English letters to facilitate their utterance. We used tape records. They recorded it three times and we chose the best one. All the syllables were (cv). We compared their utterance and analyzed the results in two ways: a- listening, and b- using speech analysis program (Praat), this is a comparative study that deals with everyday usage of the language, and by comparing the results with the description of both: the ancient Arab linguists and the modern Arab linguists. Further research is recommended to enrich the linguistic field, especially the comparative linguistic.

Keywords: Phonetics – Philippines - speech analysis program (SAP) – Ancient Arab Linguists (AAL)-Pidgin Arabic (PA)- al lahghah-Tagalog – Filipino expatriates (PE) -Fathah- Dammah – Kasrah- comparative linguistics- Arabic language (AL)

1. Introduction

The name of the Philippine is taken from the name of the Spanish king "Philip II" after the Spanish occupation for a period of time. The Philippines is a small country in the southern east of Asia, in the west of Pacific Ocean. The Spanish people contributed to introduce some Spanish letters to the Filipino language called "Tagalog language". After the Spanish American war, Spain made a deal with the USA for twenty million dollars in Paris treaty in 1898, and stayed in the Philippines for a long time affecting all of life including language and culture. Thus English language became the official language of the country side by side with the Filipino language. It is known that the Philippines include three groups of islands, the people speak different languages as a result of the original language of residents of these islands. But, the influence of the two cultures: the American and the Spanish, was clearly evident in the names of streets, and titles, so they merged into each other and were known as the Blend or "Mestizo". Their number was two million people. Most of them traveled to the Arab countries. Half of them are found in KSA.

According to the Filipino's constitution, the two official languages of the country are English and Filipino that is the actual copy of "Tagalog". There are other approved languages, but Arabic and Spanish are optional. Also, there are a lot of Arabic words in the Filipino language such as "Sabouna" meaning "Soap" in Tagalog language. The Arabic word "Hokem" equals "Hokem" in Tagalog. The Arabic word "Zalam" equals "Dalim" in "Tagalog". So, Islam has spread inside the Philippines after Christianity. The percentage of Muslims is very small including 5-10%, but the rest are Christianity.

Consequently, I noticed, when speaking to them using the two languages, that there is a difference in pronunciation. This gave me a great motivation for carrying out practical study to achieve these practices.

1.1 Rationale of the study

The sequence of the Update alphabets is:
أ ب ت ث ج ح خ د ذ ر ز س ش ص ض ط ظ ع غ ف ق ك ل م ن ه و ي
This sequence was made by Nasr Ben Asem and Yehia Ben Omar El Adwany in the era of Abdel Malak Ben Marawan Al anyway. Then, the Arabic Alphabet spread after the Islamic and Arabic Victory all over the world. But, the Tagalog language is:

AU OU EHA PA KA SA LA TA NA BA MA GA DA RAYA NGA WA.

Tagalog language was chosen for this research as it is the official language of the Philippines. According to Tagalog, its alphabets were taken from three languages: American, Spanish and Filipino that is the mother language. Its alphabets are 20 letters in addition to 8 letters taken from Spanish and English:

J n Q V X Z C F, so the number becomes 28 letters.

As for the available Arabic words, they are few in comparison to the two languages: English and Spanish.

1.2 Purpose of the study:
The aim is to know what are the reasons of the difference present in the pronunciation of the chosen Arabic words of both teams? And to focus on the effective factors in pronunciation.

2. Literature Review

2.1. Phonetic study:

AL has many classical dialects which are standard, and they differ from colloquial Arabic. Each Arab country has both its colloquial Arabic and its classical Arabic Language. But no doubt, the colloquial Arabic (al lahghah) has its direct or indirect effect on the classical Arabic. The scope of the study is to focus on it. In Arabic language, there are three short vowels: Fathah, Dammah and Kasrah and three long vowels (al alif, al waow and al yaa).

The Gulf area especially in Saudi Arabia, at the eastern region, a large number of PEhave jobs in it, and they either learn AL at their countries or they learnt it after their arrival .

2.2 Previous related studies:

A number of studies have researches related to this study in Gulf countries. Al- Zubeiry (2015) describing Saudi Pidginized Arabic as produced by Asian Foreign expatriates with references to three morpho-syntactic features namely, sentence word order, verb phrase form and noun phrase form

Al Zarkawi(2010), in Saudi Arabia described the Saudi PA spoken by Indians, Bangladeshis, Indonesians and Filipinos in Al - Ahsa province, she suggested to differentiate between them and added that this variety is also affected by the mother tongue language.

Al Bakarawi(2013) in Tabuk, investigates on the effect of the Asian workers on Saudi Arabia linguistically, she used tape records, collecting data and she found that they affect the followings: word order, negation, copula, verb form, determiner, quantifier and lack of inflections.

Al Mooaily(2012) investigated language variation in (GPA) resulting from the morpho-syntactic differences in the speakers L1s and from their length of stay in the Gulf, he concluded that the two features :object and possessive pronouns and verbal agreement were developmental pidgin shifted towards a variety different from the super state language, GA.

Another study was done by Naess(2008) about Omani pidgin Arabic, he describes Gulf pidginized Arabic(GPA) and compares it to Gulf Arabic(GA), the study was on three grammatical features: negation , verbal system and possessive marking, she observed that mother tongue language affects the GPA speakers. and this reflected in the reduction of the number of morphemes in one word and the preference of the analytic structures.

Bakir(2010) described the GPA(Gulf Pidgin Arabic) in various countries of the western coast of Gulf area and Saudi Arabia, he added that tense can only be inferred from context or by the existence of some adverbs of time. He also noticed that the aspect markers are absent , and the progressive aspect of the verb can be indicated by the use of the speakers GPA particle "fii"

3. Methodology

Thirty informants from each group were selected randomly from a random sample, we interviewed them first, then, thirty females and thirty males were pronounced special consonants, the consonants are as follows: /g/ ,/z/ ,/s /and /S/ with different short Arabic vowels: fathah/a/ , kasrah /i/ and dammah /u/.they are well trained for three weeks, we wrote the Arabic words in English letters to facilitate their utterance. We used tape records. They recorded it three times and we chose the best one. All the syllables are (cv).

3.1. The Chosen Sample:

The sample of the two genders were under the following conditions :

- 1- Spent 6 years or more in KSA .
- 2- Not having mispronunciation .
- 3- Good at speaking in Arabic .
- 4- Their ages are between (30:35) years old .
- 5- Have Higher education.

At first, the sample was given chosen words for training before registration. These words include specific sounds that are the core of experiment. The registration was made three times to choose the best one . But, the sounds of experiment are as following:

3.2 The Chosen Sounds

Four Communicative sounds were chosen:

- 1- /g/
- 2- /z/
- 3- /s/
- 4- /f/

Note: All sample was given words required for the studying and other unrequired words for the research as a kind of training to pronounce using the same way.

3.3 The Used Programs and Devices

- 1- Laptop (Toshiba)
- 2- The special Compact Disk (paraaat)
- 3- record tapes

3.4 The Chosen Words

Words with the four chosen sounds were chosen in matching with the three main sounds in the study. The words, required to be analyzed, were registered using the three syntactic movements: Fathah, Dammah and Kasrah at the beginning, the middle and end of words. All syllables of the short kind.

Note: The Arabic words were written in English letters to enable the two groups to read easily. (Table no 1).

The number of words of the four sounds in the experiment = 36 words.

3.5 The chosen Material

It is as following:

- 1- /g/
- 2- /z/
- 3- /s/
- 4- /f/

The following table illustrates the chosen words:

- 1- /g/:
- gammaal -gusuur -gihaan -
 - uguuragiir -igaar
 - massage massagu-massagi

2-/z/:

-zaamil -zuzu -ziir-
-waziir -mizaan -muz-

3-/s/:

-saabirsuwar-sihriig-
-usuul-masaadir -basiirah-
-qisaasa -qisaasi -qisaasu-

4-/f/:

Shukri -shaadii -shiimah-
-mashaarii -mashiimah -mashuurah

no	The consonant	The chosen word	The vowel	The end of the word	The middle of the word	The beginning of the word
1-	/g/	gammaal	Fathah			√
		Magaaal			√	
		Massaga		√		
		gihaan	Kasrah			√
		agiir			√	
		massagi		√		
		uguur	Dammah			√
		Gusuur			√	
		Massagu		√		
2-	/z/	zaamil	Fathah			√
		mizaan			√	
		muza		√		
		ziir	Kasrah			√
		waziir			√	
		muzi		√		
		zuzu	Dammah			√
		3azuuz			√	
		zuzu		√		
-3	/s/	saabir	Fathah			√
		masaadir			√	
		qisaasa		√		
		sihriig	Kasrah			√
		basiirah			√	
		qisaasi		√		
		suwar	Dammah			√
		usuul			√	
		qisaasu		√		
-4	/S/	Shaadii	Fathah			√
		mashaarii			√	
		bashuush		√		
		Shiimah	Kasrah			√
		mashiimah			√	
		bashuusha		√		
		shukri	Dammah			√
		mashuurah			√	
		Bashuushu		√		

Table No.1

3.5 Procedure:

Training for reading was held in two methods:

1-Hearing

2- Listening to cases before and after registration.

4. Analysis and Measurement:

The analysis depends on measuring the values of components by Hertz (Vibration), first and second or F1,F2. These values were transformed from (Hertz) to (Bark) according to the mathematical formula mentioned in (Fant, 1983) as following: $Bark = 7X \log_2 (\text{hertz}/650) + (\text{hertz} / 650) ^ 2$

The objective of transformation is comparing the acoustic information to the listening impression as Bark measurement result from listening experiments as known internationally .

4.1 Analysis of Results:

The results was analyzed by:

1- listening: it was noticed that there is a clear difference between the two groups when pronouncing the sounds, especially /f/ and /g/

2- The phonemic sounds analysis (Praat program).

Note:The available frequencies in tables are the average of the three cases of each group

Case no 1	X	1	2	3
1- /g/	3033	3200	3000	2900
2-/z/	2025	2030	2045	2000
3-/s/	2883	3100	2950	2600
4-/f/	3346	3320	4020	2750

Table No. 2
(F2-F1) (males)

Case no 1	X	1	2	3
1- /g/	2967	3100	2700	3000
2-/z/	2150	2000	2500	1950
3-/s/	2413	3000	2040	2200
4-/f/	3137	3300	4050	2060

Table No. 3
(F2-F1) (females)

Group Sound	1st group	2nd group
1- /g/	3033	2967
2-/z/	2025	2150
3-/s/	2883	2413
4-/f/	3346	3137

Table No. 4
The differences between the two groups. (F2-F1)

5. Discussion

From the above tables, it was noticed that table (2,3) represent the average of registration of first and second groups by the three sounds in the beginning, middle and end of a word. The varieties appear clearly in values especially with Fathah/a/ and very close with Kasrah/i/ and Dammah/u/.

- To explain this phenomenon, the individual may change the utterance by nature. It is known that the more the phonological distance between sounds increases, the variety increases, in addition to the small number of Arabic sounds compared to the foreign languages such as English.
- The first component is influenced by the pre-sound, so the stress becomes less and the vibration packages increase as a result of integration of vibration component resulting from tone. It may integrate stress leading to the difficulty of extracting first component (F1).
- The first component (F1) is influenced by the change in the quality of sound as a result of the releasing of air during pronunciation.
- The quantity of released air from /f/ was bigger and more effective for the second group (Table 2,3).
- Also, the differences between the two components (F1-F2) represent a decisive point in listening.
- The third evidence was the effective listening qualities of these sounds as following

5.1 /g/sound:

/g/ - it is an explosive consonant. In Arabic language, /g/ has different images in six ways:

- 1- /g/ is an explosive sound and consonant
- 2- /dj/ is a palatal communicative consonant
- 3- /d/ is an explosive consonant by teeth
- 4- /j/ is a palatal consonant
- 5- /y/ is a middle palatal consonant
- 6- /z/ is a coming palatal consonant

- The position of pronunciation of the two groups was as follows:

- /g/ of the two groups is a palatal consonant.

It means the desire of pronunciation. The majority of employees from India and Pakistan, especially Benegaladish, have these sounds in their mother language. May be, the Filipinos were influenced in pronunciation according to being in the Arab area. Another explanation, is that they are influenced by the other languages (Spanish and English) available in their country. In Spanish and English, there is the consonant opposite to /j/ of El Sham area.

Frequencies

- First group:

For Fathah or /a/, F1-F2 are between 320:3100 HZ

For kasrah or /i/, F1-F2 are between 2700:3000 HZ

For Dammah or /u/, F1-F2 are between 2900:3000 HZ

- Second Group:

For Fathah or /a/, F1-F2 are between 2400:2700 HZ

For kasrah or /i/, F1-F2 are between 2700:3100 HZ

For Dammah or /u/, F1-F2 are between 2350:3000 HZ

5.2/z/ Sound

- Both groups pronounced /z/as Arabic. It is the opposite in Arabic. /z/ in Arabic is a palatal consonant.

Note:/s/ in Arabic the tip of tongue lies behind the higher teeth meeting the tip of the higher palate (Palate), the touch takes place as a result of the narrow bridge.

Frequencies

- First group:

As for Fathah or /a/, F1-F2 are between 203:3000 HZ

As for kasrah or /i/, F1-F2 are between 2045:2500 HZ

As for Dammah or /u/, F1-F2 are between 1950:2000 HZ

- Second Group:

As for Fathah or /a/, F1-F2 are between 1650:2000 HZ

As for kasrah or /i/, F1-F2 are between 1440:2500 HZ

As for Dammah or /u/, F1-F2 are between 1800:1950 HZ

5.3 /s/ Sound

It is a palatal fricative consonant. It is formed in the same way of /s/in Arabic, but the tip of the tongue rises towards the upper palate and back again. So, the stress takes place as in /z/and /t/ and also the vibration takes place.

A- For the two groups, they pronounced it without change but it is delicate as /s/ of Arabic.

-Frequencies:

- First group: when listening, it is noticed that

For Fathah or /a/, F1-F2 are between 2870:3100 HZ

For kasrah or /i/, F1-F2 are between 2845:2950 HZ

For Dammah or /u/, F1-F2 are between 2250:2600 HZ

- Second Group:

For Fathah or /a/, F1-F2 are between 3000:21650 HZ

For kasrah or /i/, F1-F2 are between 2000:2040 HZ

For Dammah or /u/, F1-F2 are between 2000:2200 HZ

- When listening, it is clear that the tongue does not come backward, because of the habits of young age. In addition, there is no /s/ sound in their multiple languages.

- Dr. Salah El Din Hasanein says that the Arab victories after Islam led to the mix of Arabic language with Quotia in Spain.

Also, the Salibia wars gave the chance to Arabic to mix with the modern European languages.- On the other hand,

Lapov confirmed that there is an equal relationship between the speaker's lingual behavior and his/her social position. This is measured by the social economic status.

- The difference in one's language depends on the used speech. This is to confirm the idea of choosing them as higher education graduates as a condition of the sample.

5.4 /f/ Sound:

Language, it is a whispered, palatal fricative consonant, it is formed by the tip of tongue meeting with the end of gum and upperpalate (palatal) in harmony with a narrow bridge for releasing of air (fricative). But, this bridge is bigger than the/s/ sound and the forward part from tongue is to be towards palate. So, the sound cords do not vibrate

.The position of pronunciation of both of groups is as following:

- The first and second group pronounced /f/as described by Dr. El Sarran and Dr. Kamal Beshr.

- The Correct Explanation: The influence, by the spread languages of foreign employees in the eastern area of KSA, was very effective to pronounce using this way, In addition, this sound is available in the Filipino, Spanish and English.

-Frequencies:

- First group:

For Fathah or /a/, F1-F2 are between 2700:3320 HZ

For kasrah or /i/, F1-F2 are between 402:2550 HZ

For Dammah or /u/, F1-F2 are between 2260:2750 HZ

- Second Group:

For Fathah or /a/, F1-F2 are between 1750:3300 HZ

For kasrah or /i/, F1-F2 are between 4050:3540 HZ

For Dammah or /u/, F1-F2 are between 2060:1350 HZ

5. Conclusion

-/g/ sound of the two groups is a fricative and palatal consonant. (pronounced as /g/in Arabic Sham.

-/z/ sound of the two groups is a whispered, palatal and teeth consonant. (As in Arabic).

-/s/ sound is a whispered, delicate, palatal and fricative consonant. As /S/ in Arabic.

-/f/ sound is a whispered, delicate, palatal and fricative consonant. As /S/ in Arabic.

- There is an agreement in results taken by some old Arab scientists such as Sebawaih , Ibn Yaish and Al- Khalil about the pronunciation of some sounds. On the other hand , there are some objections because of the use of the modern technology , science and the effect of Arab environment. Also, the multiple nationalities available in the eastern area have a clear effect on the process of pronunciation (see table No.5).

- Also these results agreed with the description for some modern scientists and different with others. (Table No.6).
- this mix between the different civilizations and cultures in the eastern area should bevariously effective in pronunciation.
- The two groups were very careful to pronounce properly at first as the Filipinos are known to behard workers and loyal.But. we cannotforget that the foreign languages spread, especially, English and Spanish. All was a factor that greatly affected the process of pronunciation.
- Most cases pronounced the sounds properly , but pronouncing /g/and /s/ was argumentative.
- This pronunciation is sometimes close to what some old scientists described (Table No.5.)

Ibn Al Gazry 833 B.C	Ibn Yaish 643 B.C	El- Zamakhshary 538 B.C	Sibawaih 180 B.C	El Khalil 170 b.C	Avisinai
The same opinion of Ibn Yaish.	In the middle of tongue and upper palate.	In the middle of tongue and upper palate.	In the middle of tongue and upper palate	Muted, In the middle of tongue and upper palate.	No stress such as /b/ in Arabic. It is not released strongly.
Original	From the first tip of tongue and grinders	Original	From the first tip of tongue and grinders	Original (Back of tongue and above palate)	Not releasing , then releasing. It is like /g/, but the air goes to the narrow areas in teeth.
Original	Original, between teeth and palate	Original		Original	By teeth like /s/ depending on areas among
					Teeth, but the oozing air gets bigger.
The same opinion of ibn Yaish	In the middle of tongue and upper palate	muted	In the middle of tongue and upper palate	In the middle of tongue and upper palate	Not releasing and pushing air (Stress)

Table No.5

- Some modern scientists described them as follows:

Dr. Abu El Seoud El Fakharany	Dr. Salman Al Any	Dr. Salah Hasanein	Dr. TaghridAnber	Dr. Kamal Beshr	Dr. Abdel SabourShahin	Dr. Mahmoud Al Saaran
Palatal , By Gum	Deep	Absolute	Velar	By Teeth and Gum	Palatal	By teeth
By Gum	By teeth	Original	By Teeth and Gum	By Gum	By Gum	By teeth
By Gum	By teeth		Back of Gum	By Gum	By Gum	By teeth
Palatal, By Gum	Deep	Not mentioned	Deep	Palatal, By Gum	Palatal, By Gum	By teeth

Table No.6

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