

SENTENCE STRUCTURE IN ARABIC NAHWID AND SENTENCE STRUCTURE IN UZBEK: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Abduvahobov Shahzodbek Ravshanbek o'g'li

Tashkent University of Humanities

Student of the Programme "Philology and Languages Teaching (Arabic)"

Abstract. This article provides a comparative analysis of sentence (jumla) structure in Arabic grammar and sentence construction in Uzbek. In Arabic, a sentence is divided into two main types: the nominal sentence (الْجُمْلَةُ الْإِسْمِيَّةُ) and the verbal sentence (*al-jumla al-fi'liyyah*) are analyzed on a scientific basis, along with their constituent parts, word order rules, and differences from sentence structure in the Uzbek language.

Keywords: Sentence, nominal sentence, verbal sentence, subject, predicate, verb-predicate, noun-predicate, word order, subject, predicate, sentence structure.

The most important syntactic unit of any language is the sentence. In a sentence, words are combined in a specific order to express a complete thought. The Arabic and Uzbek languages differ significantly in their sentence structure: in Arabic, a sentence usually *begins with the predicate*, while in Uzbek it *begins with the subject*. This difference is not coincidental but stems from the typological nature of the two languages.

As emphasized in Abduhafiz Abdujabborov's "Arabic Language" textbook, in Arabic grammar, a sentence is divided into two main types: those that begin with a verb are **verbal sentences**, and those that begin with a noun are **nominal sentences**. In the classification of sentences in Uzbek, there is no such dichotomy—sentence types in Uzbek are distinguished based on other criteria.¹

This article provides a detailed discussion of the structure, constituent parts, and word order characteristics of nominal and verbal sentences in Arabic, based on Abdujabborov's textbook, and conducts a comparative analysis with sentence structure in the Uzbek language.

Types of sentences in Arabic grammar.

According to scientific foundations, in Arabic grammar a sentence is divided into two types. First type – *the verbal sentence (al-jumla al-fi'liyyah)*: a sentence that begins with a verb. Second type – *the nominal sentence (al-jumla al-ismiyyah)*: a sentence that begins with a noun (a proper noun, adjective, numeral, or pronoun).²

¹Abdujabborov A. Arabic Language: A Textbook for University Students. - Tashkent: Tashkent Islamic University, 2005. - P. 69.

²Abdujabborov A. Arabic Language. - P. 69.

For example: كَتَبَ رَشِيدٌ - Rashid wrote (it begins with a verb - *an action clause*); دَهَبَ الْمُهَنْدِسُ - The engineer went (it begins with a verb - *an action clause*). If these same sentences are in a different order, i.e., if they begin with a noun: رَشِيدٌ طَالِبٌ - Rashid is a student; الْمُهَنْدِسُ دَهَبَ - The engineer went - these are now considered *nominal sentences*.

In Uzbek, sentences are not divided into types in this way; rather, in Uzbek sentence structure, the word order is strictly defined: the subject comes at the beginning of the sentence, and the predicate comes at the end. Therefore, to understand the types of Arabic sentences from the perspective of the Uzbek language, it is necessary to study their internal structure separately.

Noun clause: Mubtada and khabar.

Mubtada (subject) – al-mubtada' (المُبْتَدَأُ). A nominal sentence consists of two main parts: the mubtada and the khabar. The subject of a noun clause – *the mubtada (al-mubtada)* – is the . It is the part of the clause that indicates the topic, is considered the head of the clause, and is usually in the definite case.³

The mubtada corresponds to the subject in Uzbek. Both are in the main case (in Arabic – the nominative case) within the sentence. However, there is an important difference: in Uzbek, the subject does not always have to be in the definite case, whereas in Arabic the subject usually appears in the definite case. For example: الطَّالِبُ مُجْتَهِدٌ – The student is diligent (الطالب – in the definite case, as the subject).

News (predicate) - الْخَبَرُ

The second main part of a nominal sentence is *the khabar (الْخَبَرُ)*. According to Abdujabborov, if the khabar is expressed by a verb, it is called "verb-predicate," and if it is expressed by a part of speech other than a verb—namely a noun, adjective, pronoun, or numeral—it is called "noun-predicate." The predicate noun is usually in the indefinite state and agrees with the subject in gender and number.

Examples:

سَمِيرٌ مُدَرِّسٌ - Samir is a teacher (noun predicate, indefinite case).

الْغَتَاةُ حَيَّاطَةٌ - The girl is a seamstress (noun-predicate, agreement in gender).

الْقَتَبَانِ مُهَنْدِسَانِ - The two youths are engineers (agreement in number).

أَنْتُمْ مَا فَلَاحَانِ - You two are farmers.

In Uzbek, however, there is no such grammatical agreement rule: "Samir oqituvchi," "Qiz tikuvchi" – the predicate does not change regardless of gender.

Definiteness and the disjunctive pronoun in noun-predicate sentences.

Furthermore, the main characteristic of subject-predicate sentences is that the subject is in a definite case and the predicate is in an indefinite case:⁴

The main characteristic of noun-verb sentences is that the subject is in a definite case, while the predicate is in an indefinite case.

³Abdujabborov A. Arabic Language. - P. 87.

⁴Abdujabborov A. Arabic Language. - pp. 88-89.

الْعُلَمَاءُ أَنْبَاءٌ - Scholars are heroes.

However, the predicate can also be in a definite state. In such sentences, it becomes difficult to distinguish the predicate from the qualifier. For example: خَالِدُ الْمَعْلَمِ – this sentence can be understood as "The teacher Khalid..." or "Khalid – teacher." To eliminate this ambiguity, a third-person personal pronoun that agrees in gender and number with the noun phrase is inserted between the subject and the noun phrase: e —the disjunctive pronoun (ضَمِيرُ الْفَصْلِ)— is added: خَالِدٌ هُوَ الْمَعْلَمُ – Khalid is the teacher (that one).

Auxiliary predicate and the meaning of existence.

One feature that occupies a distinct position in the structure of a nominal sentence is the auxiliary clause. According to the above sources, auxiliary nouns can appear in the sentence as the predicate, modifier, complement, and case marker.⁵

A prepositional predicate can come before the subject. Such sentences usually express existence and are translated into Uzbek as the modal verb "bor":⁶

فِي الدَّارِ زَيْدٌ - There is Zayd in the house.

فَوْقَ الطَّاوِلَةِ مِصْبَاحٌ - There is a lamp on the table.

لِمُحَمَّدٍ جَدٌّ وَجَدَّةٌ - Muhammad has a grandfather and a grandmother.

In place of the auxiliary clause, the adverbs "huna" – "here, in this place" – and "hunaka" – "there, in that place" – can also be used: *al-maktaba huna* – the library is here; *huna maktaba* – there is a library here.⁷

In Uzbek, existence is expressed by the words "bor" (is/there is) and "yo'q" (is not). Translating the Arabic relative clause construction into Uzbek with "bor" shows their functional similarity, but structurally they are fundamentally different: The word order in Arabic is "auxiliary verb + noun + subject," while in Uzbek it is "subject + auxiliary verb + bor."

Finite clause: verb and subject order.

In Arabic, the predicate expressed by a verb often comes *before* the subject, and this is one of the main distinctive features of Arabic sentences:⁸

خَرَجَ مَحْمُودٌ مِنَ الْعُرْفَةِ - Mahmud came out of the room.

سَافَرَ خَالِدٌ إِلَى الْقَاهِرَةِ - Khalid traveled to Cairo.

In Uzbek, however, the order is reversed: the subject always comes first, and the predicate (verb) always comes at the end of the sentence. "Mahmud came out of the room" – in Uzbek, the subject (, "Mahmud") comes first and the verb (chiqdi, "came out") comes last. In Arabic, however, the verb (خَرَجَ, "kharaja") comes first and the subject (مَحْمُودٌ, "mahmudun") comes after. This is the most striking syntactic difference between the two languages.

⁵Abdujabborov A. Arabic Language. - P. 80.

⁶Abdujabborov A. Arabic Language. - P. 81.

⁷Abdujabborov A. Arabic Language. - P. 81–82.

⁸Abdujabborov A. Arabic Language. - P. 93–94.

Agreement of the predicate verb with the subject

The predicate that comes before the subject is always in the singular form—agreeing only in gender, not in number. The predicate that comes after the subject, however, agrees with the subject in both gender and number:⁹

The farmers went to the field.

The farmers went to the field. The students (girls) wrote a letter. The two actresses sat in the hall.

The students (girls) wrote a letter *to* .

In Uzbek, since the verb follows the subject, this kind of agreement problem does not exist at all - the verb usually comes after the subject and does not agree in number: "Dehqonlar dalaga ketdi" - the verb is singular, the subject is plural.

Omission of the pronoun and the subject.

In Arabic, the subject pronoun in a predicate-verb sentence is usually omitted—its meaning is conveyed by the verb's person-number suffix:¹⁰

كَتَبْتُ - (I) wrote - no pronoun, the meaning is understood from the verb.

دَخَلُوا - (They) entered - the pronoun is omitted.

Such pronouns can only be used for emphasis: أَنْتُمْ صَرَبْتُمْ - You struck (with emphasis). In Uzbek, however, the subject is often used, even though the meaning is implied by the verb's person-number form: "I wrote," "They entered."¹¹

Sentence structure in Arabic and Uzbek.

Arabic and Uzbek have a number of functional similarities in sentence structure. In both languages, a sentence consists of a subject and a predicate. In both languages, the subject in the main case (in Arabic – the nominative case) is in the . In both languages, the predicate can be expressed by a verb or by a word class other than a verb.

Additionally, both languages have an existence construction: in Arabic, *في الدار زيد* - "There is Zayd in the house"; in Uzbek, "There is Zayd in the house." The function is the same, but the construction is different.

Main typological differences.

The first difference is word order. In Arabic, the basic word order is: verb, noun, and object complement. In Uzbek, however, it is: subject, object, and verb. This is the most fundamental difference in the syntactic typology of the two languages. In Arabic sentences, the verb comes first, whereas in Uzbek sentences, it comes last.

⁹Abdujabborov A. Arabic Language. - P. 93–94.

¹⁰Abdujabborov A. Arabic Language. - P. 94.

¹¹Abdujabborov A. Arabic Language. - P. 94–95.



The second difference is the classification of sentence types. In Arabic, a sentence is divided into nominal and verbal sentences based on the first word. In Uzbek, there is no such classification. In Uzbek, sentences are analyzed based on their parts (subject, predicate, object, modifier, adverbial).

The third difference is the agreement of the predicate with the subject. In Arabic, the predicate verb agrees with the subject in gender, but when it comes before the subject, it does not agree in number. In Uzbek, the verb has no gender category – it only changes in person and number, but there is no agreement in gender.

Fourth difference - the optionality of the pronoun subject. In Arabic, the personal pronoun subject is often omitted - the meaning is understood from the verb's person-number suffix. In Uzbek, the pronoun subject can also be omitted, but it is usually used.

Conclusion: This comparative analysis shows that there are both commonalities and significant typological differences between sentence structure in Arabic and clause construction in Uzbek. The common feature is that in both languages a sentence consists of a subject and a predicate and obeys a specific grammatical order.

The main difference is in word order. In Arabic, the verb usually comes before the subject, and sentence types (noun/verb) are distinguished by the first word. In Uzbek, however, the subject always comes first and the predicate always comes last—this is a strict order. Furthermore, grammatical phenomena in Arabic, such as the agreement of the verb-predicate with the subject in gender, the definite/indefinite rules in nominal sentences, and disjunctive pronouns, are completely foreign to Uzbek.

At the same time, the sentence structure of the Arabic language has its own internal logic and follows consistent rules. Comparative analysis of these rules with the corresponding categories in Uzbek, clearly highlighting their similarities and differences, serves as an important methodological basis for learners of Arabic.

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