Lexical Innovation: The Contribution of HRH Prince El Hassan Bin Talal in Creating and Disseminating New Terminology into Arabic

By

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Abstract

Lexical Innovation is one of the major objectives of language planning. It has been a topic of considerable concern among Arabic planning institutes to fulfill the need for new terms in all fields of knowledge. Most efforts of Arabic planning have been focused on the modernization of the lexicon.

This study uses a linguistic approach to investigate the processes of lexical expansion as employed by Prince El Hassan, an endeavor to enrich Arabic vocabulary. These processes include derivation, compounding, blending, arabicization and metaphorical extension of meaning. The techniques proved to be effective in generating new vocabularies when analyzing the terms innovated and disseminated by the Scholarly Prince.

In this study, I have investigated the collected terms on the basis of coinage mechanisms. First of all the study commences in providing an introduction about the nature of the thesis, and clarifying the academic background of Prince El Hassan, his biography and some aspects of his ideology. Then the core of later Chapters is on topics such as discussions of language planning and lexical modernization, particularly of the Arabic language. The analysis of data that are a corpus of the Prince’s terms is the gist of my study. This analysis is conducted in Chapter Three. Finally, it has become clear for the researcher that there are many facts behind the creativity of the Scholarly Prince in this domain. Some of these motivating reasons are linguistic while others are ideological in nature.