A LINGUISTIC STUDY OF ARABIC
GRAMMATICAL FUNCTIONS IN
EXPRESSIONS OF SOME
PERSONAL ATTITUDES

by

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Abstract

Excluding the conclusion, this thesis has been divided into five chapters:

The first chapter forms a historical background of the linguistic and grammatical studies in Arabic language before the establishment of the school at Baṣrah, and throws some light in particular on the grammatical studies prior to Sibawayh, and the various reasons for the emergence of Arabic grammar itself.

It is not the object of this chapter to describe in detail the establishment of the different schools at Baṣrah, Kūfa and Baghdād and in Egypt and Andalusia, nor the arguments and differences between the scholars concerning grammatical and linguistic matters, but merely to outline the main schools and the main features of the two outstanding schools, represented by two of the most notable scholars: Sibawayh and his work, al-Kitāb, and al-Farrāʾ and his work, Maʿānī al-Qurʾān.

The second chapter is devoted to certain aspects which have become synonymous with Arabic grammar, and of which considerable study has already been undertaken.
The role and function of these aspects have been studied in the views of the scholars who opposed them and their development; ʿĀbd al-Qāhir al-Jurjānī and Ibn Mādāʾ. The material for these aspects has been arranged under the following headings:

1. The regent.
2. Causation.
3. Paraphrasing.
4. Analogy.

The third chapter is concerned with the methods of the ancient grammarians, and their approach to the exclamatory styles in the light of the function of the regent and the other aspects mentioned in the previous chapter.

The fourth chapter contains a linguistic approach to the exclamatory styles, including an examination of their main characteristics in the light of the distinctive features of noun and verb formulated by the ancient grammarians; a grammatical analysis of these styles; and a linguistic study on the basis of the contribution of various elements in the ascertaining of meaning and in the light of some methods and components of studying meaning.
The last chapter contains an attempt to explore the meaning of the exclamatory styles in the light of the attitude of the speaker on the one hand, and the feelings and response of the hearer or the person addressed on the other hand, when any of these styles is employed.