



THE AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ART OF PATTERN AND RHYME STRUCTURE IN ARAB LITERARY SPEECH.

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ABSTRACT

In this article, the nature and rhetorical functions of several stylistic devices that hold an important place in Arabic stylistics—such as antithesis, rhymed prose (as-saj'), and quotation (iqtibās)—are analyzed. The role of antithesis in the process of meaning formation, along with its simple and complex forms, is explained through illustrative examples. Additionally, the aesthetic significance of rhymed prose, which is widely used in Arabic proverbs, and its psychological impact on the listener is highlighted. The article also demonstrates the role of quotation in presenting meaning convincingly, and examines the influence of Qur'anic verses and Hadiths on Arabic discourse. The study concludes that these stylistic devices possess significant artistic and functional value in the culture of Arabic speech.

Antithesis, or oppositional speech (mu'āraḍat al-kalām), is a stylistic device based on comparing concepts, images, objects, phenomena, or ideas that stand in contrast to one another. This figure of speech is used to reveal social contradictions, uncover the dialectics of the human mind, and express the author's attitude toward the characters or events depicted in a work.

Antithesis may be simple or complex. Oppositional speech belongs to the complex type of antithesis, as it involves listing one set of words or expressions and then opposing them with another set of terms that carry opposite meanings in the same structural order. In other words, a group of words (a phrase or sentence) is presented, followed immediately by another group of words whose components are entirely opposite in meaning to the first group.¹

² كدر الجماعة خير من صفو الفرقة

"The muddiness of togetherness is better than the purity of separation."

In this sentence, there are two pairs of antonyms: *kadar* "turbidity" and *ṣafā'* "clarity," as well as *al-jamā'ah* "unity/community" and *al-furqah* "division/separation." Thus, the phrase consists of only two lexical units: *kadar al-jamā'ah* meaning "the turbulence of unity"

¹ Стариченко В.Д. Большой лингвистический словарь. – Ростов на Дону: Феникс, 2008. – С. 52.

² المدني الفضل ابو. الميداني الفضل ابو الامام الامثال مجمع. افيقاص ام بيروت. ص ٢٠١٠

and *ṣafw al-furqah* meaning “the clarity of division.” Therefore, such a structure contains three, four, or more words arranged in parallel contrast. As stated in the Qur’an:

يَأْمُرُهُم بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَيَنْهَاهُمْ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ

“...He enjoins upon them what is right and forbids them what is wrong...” (Surah 7, Verse 157).

Below are some examples of how proverbs function in speech:

إِحْرَاصٌ عَلَى الْمَوْتِ تُؤْتِيكَ الْحَيَاةَ³

“Fear death, and life will be given to you.”

الْقُرْشُ الْأَبْيَضُ يَنْفَعُ فِي الْيَوْمِ الْأَسْوَدِ⁴

“Save for a rainy day.”

يُمَسِّي عَلَى حَرٍّ، يُصْبِحُ عَلَى بَارِدٍ⁵

“A warm evening brings a cold morning.”

Rhymed prose (السَّجْعُ) is a form of expression in which the endings of phrases end with similar sounds. The most effective type of rhymed prose is that which is divided into short, balanced semantic segments with an equal number of words. The primary purpose of rhymed prose is to create a harmony of sound that pleases the ear and provides a sense of ease and aesthetic enjoyment to the listener.

Examples of sound harmony are widely found in the Qur’an and in Arabic poetry. As for proverbs, rhymed prose can be observed in nearly all of them.

رَحِمَ اللَّهُ عَبْدًا قَالَ خَيْرًا فَغَنِمَ أَوْ سَكَتَ فَسَلِمَ

“May God have mercy on the one who speaks well and succeeds, or remains silent and stays safe.”

In this expression, the final rhyming words of each part, *غَنِمَ* “achieved success” and *سَلِمَ* “found safety,” are called *فاصلة* (literally: “separation marker”). These words are usually pronounced with *sukūn*, so *غَنِمَ* and *سَلِمَ* may be pronounced as *غَنِمَ* and *سَلِمَ* in accordance with the rhythmic structure.

From the perspective of linguistic stylistics, prose that is divided into segments of equal length is considered an exemplary form. For example:

الْحَسَدُ صَدَأُ الْقُلُوبِ وَاللَّجَاجُ سَبَبُ الْحُرُوبِ

“Envy is the rust of hearts, and stubbornness in argument is the cause of wars.”

حَفَظْتُ اللِّسَانَ رَاحَةً لِلْإِنْسَانِ

“Guarding one’s tongue brings peace to the soul.”

Quotation (الإقتباس) refers to the verbatim inclusion of a fragment from any text. Quotations are an important stylistic device that help express the main idea more rationally and convincingly, while also adding emotional coloring to the statement. A quotation explains or supports the idea being presented, but does not merely repeat it. In Arabic stylistics, the term “*iqtibās*” refers to incorporating passages from the Qur’an or statements of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) into prose or poetry. Moreover, authors often do not indicate the source from which these passages are taken. In such cases, making slight

³ أبو الفضل المدني . مجمع الأمثال الإمام أبو الفضل الميداني . أم صافية . بيروت ٢٠١٠ . ص 19

⁴ O’sha joyda.-B.21

⁵ O’sha joyda.-B.9

modifications to the quoted text is permissible. For example, we can cite a quotation from a hadith — the words of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him):

لا تُعَادِ النَّاسَ فِي أَوْطَانِهِمْ قَلَّمَا يُرَعَى غَرِيبُ الْوَطَنِ
وَ إِذَا مَا شِئْتَ عَيْشًا يَبْتَغِي خَالِقُ النَّاسِ يَخْلُقُ حَسَنًا⁶

Do not show hostility toward the people of your own homeland, For rarely will a stranger ever care for you. And if you wish to live among them in peace, Then treat people with kindness.

The final part of the poem is taken from the words of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him): *"Treat people with kindness."*⁷ The first part of this quatrain is a well-known proverb. The inclusion of passages from the Qur'an and Hadith in speech enriched with proverbs makes the expression more persuasive, as Arabic speakers do not reject the truths conveyed by the Qur'an and the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). Moreover, the verses of the Qur'an and the Hadiths are distinguished by their inherent beauty, which is why eloquent speakers often use this stylistic method to adorn their speech. In addition, Arabic proverbs and aphorisms are characterized by conciseness.

Conclusion

The analyses above demonstrate that antithesis, rhymed prose, and quotation hold an important place in Arabic stylistics not only as artistic expressive devices, but also as significant rhetorical techniques that create harmony between meaning and sound. Antithesis enhances the depth of meaning by contrasting opposing concepts; rhymed prose adds rhythm and memorable musicality to speech; and quotation increases the credibility of the message while adding religious and ethical nuance. In particular, the use of Qur'anic verses and Hadiths as quotations in Arabic discourse elevates its cultural, moral, and spiritual significance. Thus, these stylistic devices serve as fundamental mechanisms that ensure the unity of form and meaning both in Arabic proverbs and in artistic expression

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⁷ <https://hadis.uk/xadisy-o-zhenshhinax-xadisy-1-100/45498/>