

**Sentence Grammar in Arabic  
Between Textual Sentence and Textual Linguistics  
Attitude, Properties, and Supports**

**By**

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**Abstract:** This paper aims to investigate the attitude of the Arabic linguists thought from text linguistics (TL) or text grammar (TG) and their reverence for sentence grammar (SG). Text grammar in Arab linguists thought can be described as an implicitly linguistic system. General elements of text grammar are found in Arabic in grammar and rhetoric. Therefore, it can be said that: sentence grammar in Arabic can be considered as an equivalent system as text grammar. It is expected that this discussion will provide us with, not only a clear attitude of sentence; the most important linguistic unit in Arab grammar, but also will demonstrate reasons for not paying attention to the textual studies in Arabic. Furthermore, this research examines the function of textual sentence (TS) in the Arabic grammar through these questions:

- What is the role of sentence grammar for grammatical system in Arabic?
- Are there any factors that have supported sentence grammar in Arabic?
- What is the textual sentence?
- Is the textual sentence in Arabic linguistic thought an equivalent model for text linguistics or text grammar or not?

**Keywords; Linguistic thought; Sentence; Sentence grammar; Text grammar; Textual sentence.**

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## 1. Introduction

There are common terms in both Arabic and Western linguistic studies. A number of these terms may be different in the function and application in both languages. Each one of these terms is described as a linguistic component or system, because of its elements and interconnected relationships, whether among its main parts or other linguistic systems. These linguistic systems set up the basis of linguistic theory in general and textual theories in particular. The most important of these terms are as follows: sentence, text, discourse, sentence grammar, text grammar, and text linguistics. These terms refer to many problems and issues. In this research, our focus is on the relationship between the Arabic sentence and text grammar from an Arabic perspective.

### 1.1. Text and Text Grammar in Western Linguistic

#### Thought

What is the relationship between text and text grammar? This relationship between text and text grammar depends on the concept and the methodology of analysis. There are several definitions for each term, according to a specific aspect of it or a general trend, such as text:

- A text is therefore 'no longer a finished corpus of writing, some content enclosed in a book or its margins, but a

differential network, a fabric of traces referring endlessly to something other than itself, to other differential traces. (Derrida, 1976: 84).

○ Text is the verbal record of a communicative event."(Coulthard, 1977: 190)

○ A text is a sequence of signs, superordinate to a clause with a varied thematic content. (Roman and Roman, 2014:216)

Then, there is a larger linguistic system. It is text grammar (TG), which aims to state formal linguistic or semantic rules in a series of sentences, which form a given text. As such, the communication process is a method or linguistic system for detecting these rules. As van Dijk (1971:46) argues, “[a] text grammar, like any grammar, is thus itself a theoretical model of conceptualized (abstract, ideal) systems.” However, this model may be modified in accordance with the nature of a given language and the properties of its grammatical system.

After that, De Beaugrande and Dressler proposed a more specific and clear system. It is text linguistics. They suggested certain standards of "text grammar" in order to define a communicative and coherent text. This system depends on a set of rules to create a standard for the text, or a perception of what should be considered as a coherent text (De Beaugrande and Dressler, 1981). Therefore, the relation

between "text grammar" and "sentence, is identified by the following general equations: (Ali, 2013:69)

$$TG \neq SG + SG + SG \dots$$

$$TG \approx (\neq) SG + SG + SG \dots + R$$

$$R = L R + S R$$

Then the final equation of the text grammar is:

$$TG \approx (\neq) SG + SG + SG \dots + L R + S R$$

T: Text, G: Grammar, TG: Text Grammar.

S: Sentence, SG: Sentence Grammar.

R: Relation, LR: Linguistic Relations.

SR: Semantic Relations

We can notice that how "text grammar" is based on the formal sentence, so the function of usage of symbol ( $\neq$ ) determines the relationship between the text grammar and the sentence according to different types of texts. Therefore, text grammar focuses on the grammatical correct sentence and text grammatically, and the relationship of sentences to each other. It is not interested in investigating how the sentences or the texts sound very informal. Werlich (1976:14) supported this side: "sentence grammars do not tell the

learner the whole story about communication by means of language". On other side, we note that text linguistics aims to "describing how texts are created and understood."(Donnelly, 1994:18).

## **1.2. Attitude of Arabic Thought from Text & Text Grammar**

From an agreed point of view, on the one hand and independent on the other, Arabic text grammar is related closely to many concepts– particularly grammar sentence, and text. Furthermore, the properties of Arabic text can also reveal new elements which characterize the context of the Arabic language, distinguish it from other languages when we look for a form of Arabic text grammar, and cover the function of textual sentence which has a special role in the grammatical system in Arabic; it is the unit of speech and the basis of actual grammatical analysis.

There is another important observation in the study of both "text grammar" and "text linguistics" in Arabic. Most Arab linguists and researchers consider "text grammar" and "text linguistics" the same approach. It was common in the study of textual linguistics. For some students, both concepts represent a combined methodology for analyzing the text, and there are some students who separate them, where

textual linguistics is considered as a theoretical and descriptive branch for text grammar.

This perception may be related to the function of grammar and text. Therefore, the analysis of grammatical elements and components of the text are the most important benefit which Arab linguists aim at obtaining it is more formal. Moreover, there is an urgent desire to aim at an "Arabic text grammar" (ATG) that corresponds to the nature of the Arabic language. Although each of these terms has several definitions, such as text, text grammar, and text linguists, there is also disagreement on the limits of each term, there are points that are almost agreed, even from the formal side, on which we can base a stable linguistic attitude, like that:

A - System of sentence grammar is bigger than system of word, and system of text is bigger than system of both word and the sentence.

B- System of sentence grammar contains the word and the sentence

C- System of text grammar contains the word, the sentence, and sentence grammar.

D- System of text grammar can include text linguistics.

The last observation is that the Arab linguists and grammarians have considered grammar as text grammar. Arabic Grammar is speech, it is the criteria, by it we can say

sentences are correct or not. Ibn 'Aşūr (1986:1/45) said in his book:" Grammar is the knowledge of standards that come from the extrapolation of the Arabic speaking, for distinguish what is admissible from what is not in the compositions".

## 2. Methodology & Materials

There are differences in some of grammatical and linguistic concepts in Arabic, so we will depend on the most common concepts such as, sentence means or equals sentence grammar and Arabic grammatical theory means or equals theory of sentence grammar. We can discover the dimensions of the linguistic elements and relationships contained in sentence grammar, starting with the smaller-scale, partial relationships, and extending to the large-scale, holistic relationship that the text grammar approach seeks to discover. According to the above, our methodology depends on two main tools in analyzing linguistic phenomena in Arabic:

- a. Monitoring and reporting the issue or the phenomena.
- b. Analyzing and explaining the phenomenon, according to the material upon which we apply the phenomenon, on both sides:
  - 1) Properties of theory of sentence grammar in the Arabic.
  - 2) Factors that supported the theory of Arabic sentence.

## **2.1.Theory of Sentence Grammar in the Arabic Thought.**

### **2.1.1. Sentence between the Western Concept and the Arabic Thought**

The western definition of "sentence" combines the formal and semantic side more clearly than the Arabic concept; perhaps it is linked to other textual elements, such as reference, substitution, and correlative relations alongside syntactic form, so the sentence in the western thought is:

- "A structural pattern with specified formal constituents." (Fries 1952:277)
- "A sequence of speech units followed by a pause."(Gardiner, 1962:207)
- "The expression of a "complete thought." (Ivič, 1970:20)
- "A coherent word combination, expressing a complete thought." (Graffi, 2001:113)
- "A syntactic tree". (Booij, 2007:118)

Because of the attention of Arab linguists to the value of meaning in the sentence in the modern era, the concept of "sentence" in Arabic grammar and linguistics has, noticeably, incorporated aspects of the Western definition. For example:

- "A sentence is the least amount of speech that conveys an independent meaning." ( 'Anīs, 1978:275)

- "A sentence is, semantically and grammatically, a perfect or independent unit." (al-Mubārak, 2005:851)
- "A sentence is an abstract structure that exists outside any context." (Binkirād, 2010:10) The above definitions reveal a set of general characteristics of the concept of the sentence, as follows:
  - An independent vocalization in itself (it is, perhaps, linked to other).
  - A grammatical semantic structure.
  - A completed meaningfulness and a distributed structure on (predicate and subject).

The Arabic sentence represents a convergence point for many different linguistic approaches. Therefore, most fields of Arabic linguistic study around the sentence grammar. This appeared clearly in their numerous works. Although the concept of "sentence" is not used explicitly in the book of Sībawayh (D.180 AH) which is considered as one of the best books in Arabic grammar, the implicit definition and the sentence applications were common.

What makes it more exotic is when we find this word in the Qur'an, which is the primary text for the grammatical evidence Šawāhid in Arabic <sup>(1)</sup>. We can also note that the phrase "a meaningful sentence" does not exist. It is also remarkable that we cannot find the word "sentence" except in

al-Muqtaḍab by al-Mubarrid (D.285 AH) (al-Hāġġ Ṣāliḥ, 1993:8). Although this might appear as a strange omission, it may be related to the following reasons:

- Dominance of the educational trend on the methodological approach in the study of grammar.
- Scientific instability in Arabic terminology.
- Prevalence of individual analysis in the study of grammatical issues.

All these factors are reflected in the general Arabic linguistic thinking, which can be described as lacking a terminology or methodology. Therefore, it would not represent the stability of grammar and some of its concepts. This does not neglect the existence of many other grammatical concepts, which are accurate and scattered in linguistics and grammar books of that era, such as: "addition" (ʿIḍāfah); "condition" (Ṣart); "ellipsis" (Ḥaḍf); and "predication" (ʿIsnād)...etc. Although these were the characteristics of the early stage in the linguistics and Arabic grammar history, it was considered as a distinguished scientific phase to study variable grammatical issues in details. At the same time, these issues were a rich scientific sphere for a positive linguistic controversy to improve the linguistic sciences in Arabic. The analysis of the

word "sentence" in Arabic, lexicologically, is revealing several connotations:

"الْجُمْلَةُ فِي الْمُعْجَمِ الْعَرَبِيِّ هِيَ وَاحِدَةُ الْجُمْلِ، وَالْجُمْلَةُ جَمَاعَةُ الشَّيْءِ، وَأَجْمَلَ الشَّيْءِ: جَمَعَهُ عَنْ تَفْرِيقِهِ.

"The sentence, in Arabic dictionary, is the singular of "sentences". The word "sentence" in Arabic refers to "a group", and the verb is ('aǧmala), i.e. he summarizes the thing or reunites something".(Ibn Manzūr, 1981: 685-686).

From this lexicological meaning, the Arab grammarians derived the word "sentence": a compound of two words in which one is predicated on the other (az-Zubaydī, 1997: 1/17). This lexicological definition, although it is general, concentrates on the idea of combination and correlation among the linguistic elements, which form the sentence. Ibn Ğinnī (D.293 AH) added the element of "meaningfulness" ('Ifādah) which is considered as the positive correlation of the language units for the production of meaning:

"أما الكلام فكل لفظ مستقل بنفسه مفيد لمعناه، هو الذي يسميه النحويون الجمل"

"As for the speech, it is an independent meaningful "term". It is what the grammarians call sentences". (Ibn Ğinnī, 2000:1/17)

This meaning of “sentence” was emphasized by Ibn Mālik in the 7th century, viz. three centuries after Ibn Ğinnī. Ibn Mālik mentioned the concept of sentence as speech (Kalām), pointing to the generalization of the concept:

كَلَامُنَا لَفْظٌ مُفِيدٌ كَأَسْتَقِيمُ  
وَأَسْمٌ وَفِعْلٌ ثُمَّ حَرْفٌ الْكَلِمِ

[Our speech is made up of meaningful elements or words, e.g. istaqim (go straight). Those elements are either nouns or verbs or prepositions.] (ar-Raġaz) (Ibn ‘Aqīl, 1980:1/13)

Even the various explanations of (‘Alfiyyah of Ibn Mālik) did not surpass the general definition of the sentence. Speech has become a general equivalent for the sentence (sentence = speech). Therefore, the speech or “sentence” is the independently meaningful vocalization (Ibn‘Aqīl, 1980, 1/14). The general definition of both of them has become “every correlated structural term that achieves perfect comprehension”. After Ibn Mālik, most Arabic language scholars were affected by this definition in the ancient times, so the sentence / speech became:

- "What is sufficient and meaningful when we finish it. It should consist at least of two words". (al-Ḥarīrī, 1991: 2)

- "The compound term, whether it is existent or hidden, that is meaningful in its position" (Ibn 'Aṣḥūr,1986: 1/45).
- "A dependent single saying. The "word" means- in lexical meaning- the perfect sentence"(as-Suyūṭī,1998:1/ 19).
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### **2.1.2. Expansions in the standard Arabic sentence**

The standard or traditional sentence is more active when it moves to a textual context. It remains a partial communicative unit even if it combines smoothly with other units to form a text. This operation, which forms a text in Arabic, has been activated through several conditions, which make the sentence a special textual case, such as:

- Structural expansion in Arabic sentence
- The dialogical elements in sentence

#### **A) Structural expansion in Arabic sentence**

Although there are many kinds of sentences in Arabic, the prominent element of all sentence types is "the predicative structure" or "the predicative sentence"<sup>(2)</sup>. This represents the main semantic relationship, and contains the most forms of grammatical styles. Additionally, expansion in predicative structure is an intermediate stage between Arabic sentence grammar and Arabic text grammar. In Arabic, there are three

main types of predicative structures: simple, connected, and expanded. These types harmonize in the text according to the template and requirements of the context. Each type is distinguished by a different number of internal connectors. For instance:

A - Simple predicative structure (SPS). For example:

أنت الطبيب الفرد غير منازع فيما اختصت به وأنت حكيم

- You are the only unique doctor, of what you are specialized in and you are wise. (al-Kāmil) (Muṭrān, 1977, 3/19)

B- Connected predicative structure (CPS). For example:

العبقري حياته من صنعه لا صنع أسماء و لا أوصاف

-The genius makes his own life. It's not determined by names or characteristics. (al-Kāmil) (al-Ġārim, 1990,2/ 403)

C- Expanded predicative structure (EPS). For example:

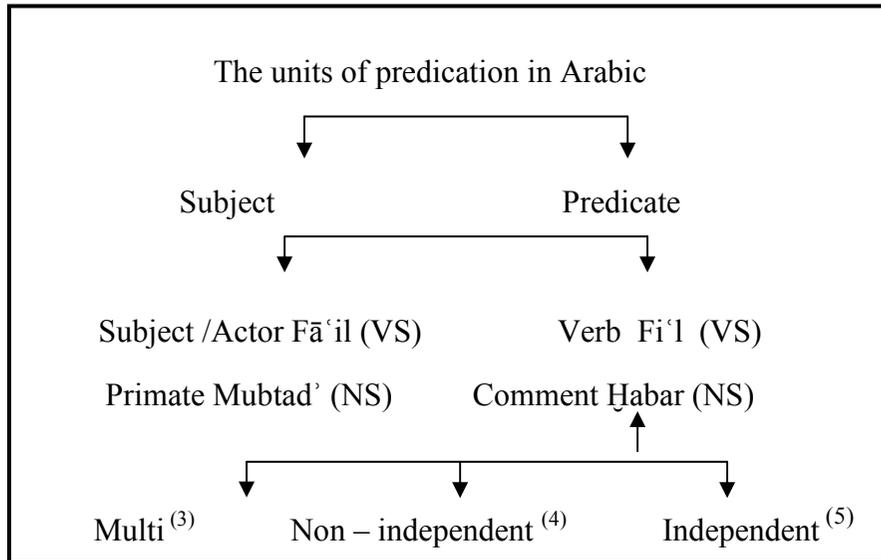
أية أمة عربية

تلك التي تغتال أصوات البلابل؟

- Which Arab nation is, that assassinates the voices of nightingales? (al-Kāmil) (Qabbānī, 2006:163)

These predicative structures may represent a separate unit in the context, or are independent. There is an independent structure that contains a mono predicative structure. As for the dependent predicative structure, it gathers two forms of a

general and independent predicative structure at the same time, and the multi-structure gathers a general predicative structure and more than one independent structure (figure.1)



(F.1) Dependency in Arabic predicative sentence

The expansion in the predicative structure in Arabic is considered as a form of linguistic communication among sentences. This linguistic communication is accompanied by further semantic relations, because any change in the two parts of predication causes a justified linguistic deviation from the regular style (standard sentence), particularly with the existence of complex stylistic elements. Therefore, the Arabic sentence possesses means – such as the predicative relations – to increase the semantic relations. These means represent a general form of cohesion. In Arabic, the relation

between the predicative components is the most prominent semantic relation, and it is considered as the main, common factor among the different classifications of Arabic sentence, whether in terms of quantity or function. As-Suyūṭī (D.911 AH) referred to the formal, quantifiable analysis of the ancient Arabic sentence. He said:

"وتتقسم -أيضا - إلى الكبرى والصغرى، فالكبرى هي الاسمية، التي خبرها جملة، نحو: زيد قام أبوه، وزيد أبوه قائم، والصغرى هي المبنية على الجملة المخبر بها...."

"It is also divided into a long and short sentence. The long is the nominal sentence, whose predicate is a sentence, such as: Zed's father stood "Zaydun qāma 'Abūhu" and Zed's father is standing "Zaydun 'Abūhu Qā'imun". The short is the predicate such as sentence, by which is told ..." (as-Suyūṭī, 1998, 1/51).

This traditional analysis of the sentence was prevalent in Arabic references and manuscripts, particularly in books of explanations and abbreviations, in which the sentence is mentioned. This methodology continues to the present day when studying the sentence grammatically (see: Ibn 'Aqīl, 1980, 1/13-22; al-'Azharī, 2000, 1/15-19, 33; aṣ-Ṣabbān, 1981, 1/56-57, 82-83). Therefore, the predicative relation

divides, generally, the components of Arabic sentences in terms of quantity or functions into two main categories, as represented in the following (figure 2):

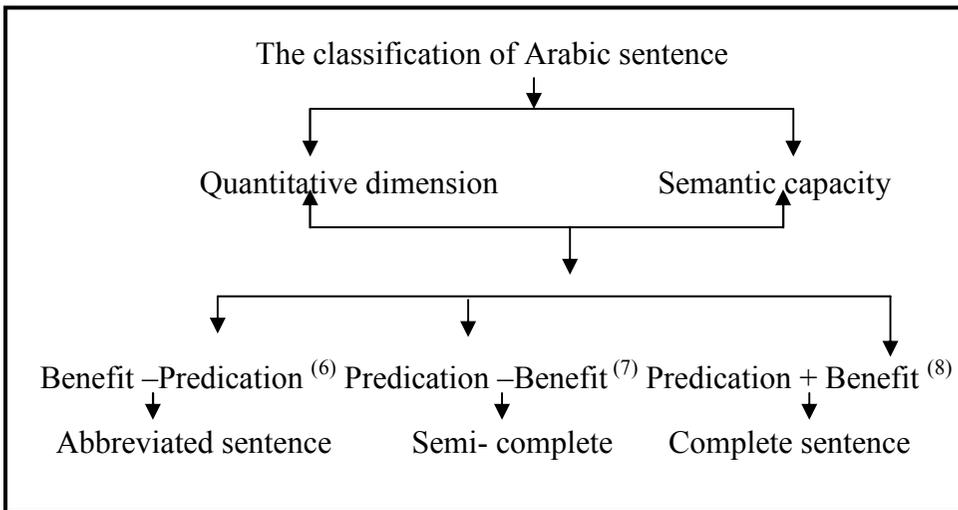


Figure (2) Classes of the Arabic sentence according to the relation of predication

These divisions of the sentence units, or its relationship with its parts, were a critical stage in the analysis of the Arabic sentence and its textual function. This function indicates the features of a developed system. It reveals, at the same time, the abstract sentence form which generates all possible and acceptable sentences in a language`s grammar (az-Zannād, 1993). This analysis of the sentence also represents a crucial stage towards textual sentences that are actually achieved in the classification of Arabic sentence, reaching wider textual relationships among sentences.

Furthermore, the presentation of certain concepts – such as the connector (Rābiṭ) and the referential pronoun (‘Ā’id), as well as many other cases of the expansion in Arabic structure – is a key, from a theoretical perspective, to the transition from the traditional sentence to the “Para-sentence”. Thus, we would need to determine the formal and semantic rules for this new level of sentences in Arabic, without focusing on the standard sentence only.

On the practical side, the attention of Arab linguists has concentrated on the simplest unit of a text; it is the “standard sentence” that formed the pillars of the grammatical rules in Arabic. This seems clear in what was mentioned in the books of Arab grammarians under two main headings: "the chapter of primacy" (al-Ibtidā’) and "the chapter of subject" (al-Fā’il). Despite the importance of all semantic relations in composing the sentence and text, linguists’ attention was rarely on the other types of relation among sentences, or among the sentence's components. For example, some notions concerning the sentence’s relations were presented by Arab linguists, such as the dependency issue (at-Taḍām), as evident in the following passage by Ibn Ğinnī:

"...بعض الجمل قد تحتاج إلى جملة ثانية احتياج المفرد إلى المفرد ، وذلك في الشرط وجزائه والقسم وجوابه.. "

"Some sentences may need another sentence like the dependency of the singular on another singular such as the conditional sentence with its answer and the oath sentence with its answer."(Ibn Ğinnī, 2000:3 /178)

These relations were presented as an explanation for expanded sentences, in which the condition of understanding depends on the complementary sentence, particularly in the case of stylistically ambitious sentences such as the saying (Qawl), the exclamation (at-Ta‘ağub), and conditional style (Šart). The poet says:

لعلي إذا صادفتُ في القول راحةً      نضحتُ غليلاً ما روته المشارع  
لعمرُ أبي وهو الذي لو ذكرتهُ      لما اختال فخارٌ ، ولا احتال خادعُ  
لما نازعتني النفس في غير حقها      و لا ذللتني للرجال المطامع

- 1- “Perhaps if I felt relief, by chance, in saying  
I would exude wrath that couldn’t be relieved
- 2- I swear by the name of my father who if I mentioned.  
The most pride wouldn’t be proud and no deceiver would  
deceive
- 3- And my soul wouldn’t be unfair  
And my ambitions wouldn’t make me humble among  
men”(aṭṬawīl) (al-Bārūdī, 1998: 317- 318)

In this example, the conditional sentence may need a textual expansion to complete its two parts and the oath sentence as well. The conditional sentence ("If I felt ...by chance/'idā ṣādaftu") would not be meaningful without the answer ("I would exude/ naḍaḥtu...").

This textual expansion extends to the answer in the last verse ("And my soul wouldn't be unfair / lamā nāza'atnī an-nafsu") and is related to the phenomenon of prosodic implication (at-Taḍmīn al-'arūḍī), in which the meaningfulness of both sides of a structure depends on their distribution in two poetic verses or more (as-Simmān, 1986), such as the linkage between the verb in one verse and the subject in another. This is a common form in ancient and modern Arabic poetries.

### **B) The dialogical elements in sentence**

The sentence is an organization, not simply a series. It cannot be reduced to a set of constituent words, but instead forms a new, original unit (Barthes, 2001) which does not depend on just general formation. The regular context and the connective elements in some sentences, such as in conversation or narrative, form new linguistic properties that support the predicative sentence, as in this poetic sentence:

هُمُ فِي ظِلَالِ الْحَقِّ جَمْعٌ مُوَحَّدٌ      وَعِنْدَ التَّقَاءِ الرَّأْيُ فَرْدٌ مَجْمَعٌ

- “They are all in the shadow of righteousness as a united group.

- And when they agree on an opinion, they are one” (aṭ-Ṭawīl) (al-Ġārim, 1990: 2/350)

In the previous example, the predicative sentence “they are...” (Hum fī "ilāl) differs in terms of its semantic capacity, when we transform it into several forms of predicative structure in Arabic, as follows:

- They are in the shadow of righteousness. - هم في ظلال الحق
- They are a united group. - هم جمع موحد
- They are in the shadow of righteousness as a group. - هم في ظلال الحق جمع
- They are all in the shadow of righteousness as a united. - هم في ظلال الحق جمع موحد

Every form of this predicative structure is a complete sentence, and differs in its semantic capacity. Whenever the predicative structure acquires more demonstrative and descriptive elements, the semantic capacity increases, reaching a high level when these structures are inserted within the dialogue, without being just instructional sentences. Although the predicative structure does not contain all the communicative elements of a text, it is

considered as a communicative unit within the dialogue because the sentences represent the action itself at the moment of speech (Ricoeur, 2006), or the primary unit of speech which has both understanding and communication combined.

In particular, the communication between both sides of the communicative process depends on achieving clarity and comprehension in all sentences. A dialogue is an active environment, in which it is possible to move from the standard sentence to a contextual sentence. The poet uses a set of sentences in a conversational style that reveals that the communication is not complete until a great number of partial units - or “predicative structures” - are connected in the case of interaction, as seen in the following:

”... /نظر الليث إلى عجل سمين

قال للثعلب : / يا ذا الاحتيال / رأسك المحبوب أو ذاك الغزال

... /فدعا بالسعد والعمر الطويل

...قائلا: / يا أيها المولى الوزير“

"The lion looked at the fat calf / .....

He said to the fox: / O, master of cunning / Your beloved head or that deer

He wished him happiness and long life / ...

He said: O, my master minister... "(ar-Ramal) (Šawqī, 1998, 4/138)

The dialogue then continues with simple sentences that play a motivational role for the text's events and control the cohesion of the text in order to reach the purpose or the end of the dialogue:

وهناك .. ابتلع الليث الوزير  
و حبا الثعلب منه باليسير  
سلم الثعلب بالرأس الصغير  
ففداه كل ذي رأس كبير

1- "There, the lion swallowed the minister, and the fox got a little bit

2- The fox, which has a small head, survived, therefore, every animal with a big head defended him" (ar-Ramal) (Šawqī, 1998, p. 139)

Although the dialogism is a textual element, we can make use of simple sentences to achieve perfect conversational communication. The sentence "He said to the fox" (qāla liṭ-Ta'lab) or "the lion looked" (nazar al-Layṭ) are simple sentences based on a communicative construction between both sides of the predication. This construction depends on its correlation with other sentences.

### 3. Discussion and Results

The Arab Grammarians had adopted the issue that the sentence and its relationships are considered as "a complete idea" or "a specific textual act". Therefore, this presumably means, one extended sentence or more constitute a text, or "a textual sentence". This sentence represents a continuous contextual sentence, which is related to another contextually and structurally. The lack of attention to the textual studies in Arabic. It's likely that it is associated with two essential reasons. First, the dependence of Arabic linguistic thought on the Qur'anic text in the presence of common culture. This linguistic culture is based on partial thinking, which is concerned with the example more than the whole theory. Second, dependence on "Sentence Grammar"(SG) and some rhetorical aesthetics which are used as an alternative linguistic method for "Text Linguistics"(TL) or "Text Grammar" (TG) in text analysis.

There are a set of fundamental factors, which influenced the attitude of Arab linguists and grammarians. They used sentence grammar (SG) as an equivalent or substitute for text linguistics (TL) or text grammar (TG), particularly from methodological or applied aspect. These factors are as follows:

- 1.3. Qur'an and the exaggerated attention of grammar
- 2.3. The actual textual sentence in the Qur'anic context and poetry
- 3.3. The incomplete linguistic theory in Arabic

### **1.3. Qur`an and the exaggerated attention of grammar**

The exaggerated attention of sentence Grammar (SG) for Arabs was expressed by the Arab linguist when he spoke about the function of grammar and its relation with the Holy Qur`an. He said: "The benefit of grammar is in imitation of Arab speech correctly without modification, and preserving the book of Allah "Qur`an".

It is the basis of religion and life. The true news of the prophet is known by it, because the meanings of the Prophet can be correctly understood by grammar"(az-Zaġġaġi, 1979:95). Consequently, Arabic grammar is not an industry nor a mental sport as much as it is a base to analyze the context Quranic and demonstrate the miracle of its language, because "the language of Qur'an is the most eloquent of Arabic styles."(al-Farrā`, 1972,1/16)

### **2.3. The actual textual sentence in the Qur'anic context and poetry**

Text sentence is a subset of actual and potential utterance-signals which are grammatically acceptable" (Lyons,1977 :387). At the same time, Qur`anic sentence is considered as a textual sentence, not just an extended sentence, "it is a sentence of actual potential context" (az-Zannād,1993:14-15), because one chapter "Surah" in Qur`an consists of interconnected contexts or coherent texts. The context of Qur'anic verses is often called discourse or text, because the features of the Qur`anic sentence are alike the general features of text or discourse, as follows:

- a) Adaptation and consistency of words.
- b) A short phrase that denotes a complete and coherent meaning.
- c) Transition of meaning from moral to physical (al-Baġā & Mīsto, 1998: 18-35).

The meaning in sentences of Qur'an is renewed and varied; it parallelizes the meaning in sentences of discourse, which goes beyond the traditional level. Meaning in a discourse; however, is made up of the meanings of its constituent expressions or sentences, and the meaning of each expression or sentence derives from the meanings of its constituent words. Furthermore, the structures of the constituent expressions of discourse are taken as structures of meanings; i.e. "the organization of sentences as predicates and arguments are interpreted as other sources of meaning. Hence, the interpretation of the overall meaning does not stop at this level" (Bennet, 1995:35-36). The meanings of Micro-sentences combine together to form the major-meanings; these meanings, in their turn, combine together to form Meaning of the whole surah. These procedures can be described as the process to construct the text of Qur'an.

This textual sentence is also common in the Arabic poem, which is based on the poetic verse. This verse often consists of a set of interrelated sentences; so this verse is called "the unity of poem" (Wiḥdat al-Qaṣīdah) by Arab critics.

### 3.3. The incomplete linguistic theory in Arabic

Although the Arabic linguistic theory - like any theory –must be included in a number of essential foundations, towards: syllabus, foundation, general assumptions, apostates, time and place, In addition to the logical and objective features, applicability, consistency, and inclusiveness, these scientific standards were not fully achieved in the theory of arabic grammar. This may relate to the following reason :

- The scientific environment and intellectual conflict between the schools of Arabic grammar (such as Basra and Kufa) .
- The standard grammatical approach, not descriptive and analytic method for the grammatical phenomena and rules.
- The political tribal conflict that did not stop, despite spreading of Islam.
- The multiplicity of dialects and its effect Arabic grammar and morphology.

Although Arab grammarians were able to take a way to punctuate the judgments with all rigors, and they were able to control the rule from the point of view of mental reasoning and logical judgments, so they were able to lay down grammatical theory, but this is an uncompleted theory. Perhaps, the problem of this theory is related to their reliance on isolated samples and not the actual textual sample, which is considered as an entrance to a complete theory. Therefore, it was commonly grammatical sample "aš-Šāhid" and "Sentence is speech". Criticism and literature were also

affected by this Intellectual direction. Thus, it was commonly "poetic verse is a unity of the poem. As a result,"The grammarians could not set up a general theory or draw broad lines that refer to principles and foundations. "(Bišr,1998: 2/60)

Finally, there are some general notes, which uncover the relation between "the textual sentence" in Arabic and text grammar as follows:

- This scientific tendency in the study of Arabic sentence was a fundamental reason that made most of Arabic linguists lag behind to focus on the textual studies in Arabic for a long time.
- The Arabic linguistic studies in Arabic dealt with "the textual sentence" as a specific position, it is a model of textuality and a substitute for "text grammar" in general.
  - a) There is no sentence in Arabic text that deemed an isolated unit from context; the sentence is associated with the textual context or the situation of text or together.
  - b) Arab grammarians focused on the unit of sentence and its relations as a self-contained idea or a limited textual event, so a set of sentences may equal a text.
  - c) The textual sentences in Arabic are the whole build of text. Therefore, the Arabic sentence performs many

important linguistic functions like what the text can do, so "the textual sentence" in Arabic is:

- The simplest contextual model (regular and irregular).
  - An educational structural unit.
  - A model for the relationship among the words.
  - A partial or primary connective unit.
  - An integrated structure discusses several grammatical issues.
- d) The actual textual sentence, especially in Qur'an, is the most factors, which supported equivalence between sentence grammar in Arabic and text linguistics or text grammar.

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### Comments:

(1) In the following verse : (الفرقان: ٣٢): "وَقَالَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا لَوْلَا نُزِّلَ عَلَيْهِ الْقُرْآنُ (جُمْلَةٌ وَاحِدَةٌ)..."

It means:" And those who disbelieve say: "Why is not the Qur'an revealed to him all at once?" (al-Furqān: 32) (al-Hilālī & Khan, 1999/482).The direct meaning, away the context, of "ḡumlatan wāḡidah" is one sentence, but the contextual meaning here is together.

(2)"The predicative sentence" is a relationship between two parties (Subject and Predicate); both are associated with each other closely (Sībawayh, 1988:1/23) .

(3) Such: Zaydun 'Aḡūhu ḡā'a (Zayd, his brother came) and Zaydun 'Aḡūhu 'Amru (Zayd, his brother is Amr).

(4) Such as: Zaydun ḡā'a (Zayd came).

(5) Such as: ḡā'a Zaydun (Zayd came), Zaydun raḡlun (Zayd is man), and Fī al-Bayti Raḡlun (Man is in the house).

(6) Such as the call sentence "Nidā'" or the answer sentence "al-ḡawāb", for example: Yā Zaydu: Oh, Zayd or ....? Na'am / lā ....? Yes /No

(7) Such as the sentence of verb's condition "Fi'l aš-Šarṡ", for example: 'In ya'ti Zaydun ... If Zayd comes ...

(8) It's a standard or complete sentence in Arabic, whether on terms of nominal or verbal case, for example: Zaydun ḡā'a (N) ḡā'a Zaydun (V) Zayd came.

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## نحو الجملة في العربية بين الجملة النصية ولسانيات النص الموقف، والخصائص، والدعائم

**مُلخّص:** تهدف هذه الورقة البحثية إلى تقصي موقف اللغويين العرب من "لسانيات النص" (TL) أو "نحو النص" (TG)، وتبجيلهم لـ "نحو الجملة" (SG). فـ "نحو الجملة" في فكر اللغويين العرب يمكن وصفه بأنه النظام اللغوي، الذي بدا مكافئاً و بديلاً لـ "لسانيات النص" أو "نحو النص" على حدّ سواء. ومن المتوقع أن هذه المناقشة لا تقتصرُ - فقط - على بيان الموقف من "الجملة"؛ أهم وحدة لغوية في نحو العربية، و لكنها تُظهر - أيضاً - أسبابَ قصورِ الاهتمام بالدراسات النصية في العربية. وعلاوة على ذلك، يبحث هذا البحث وظيفة "الجملة النصية" في النحو العربي عن طريق طرح هذه الأسئلة:

- ما وظيفة "نحو الجملة" للنظام النحوي العربي؟
- هل هناك عوامل عضدت "نحو الجملة" في العربية؟
- ما هي "الجملة النصية"؟ و هل "الجملة النصية" في الفكر اللغوي العربي نموذجٌ مكافئٌ لـ "لسانيات النص" أو "نحو النص" أم لا؟
- الكلمات المفتاحية: الفكر اللغوي؛ الجملة؛ نحو الجملة؛ نحو النص؛ الجملة النصية.