

Contact-induced change: Processes of Borrowing in Urdu language in India

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Abstract: This paper explores the inferences from the language contact phenomenon in India. The aim of this paper is to assess one of the mechanism i.e. borrowing in Urdu spoken in India. With due course of time significant numbers of borrowings have been incorporated by this language. Generally, people speaks English language when interacts with elite class, educated people and for their social needs. Where English is a global language and has influenced almost all languages of the world. In course of time it has borrowed words from English. I have attempted to find those words that is borrowed in Urdu form different source. During the last twenty-thirty years Urdu has continued to enrich its vocabulary from English.

Keywords- Contact language, Contact induced change, Borrowing, Urdu language



Introduction:

Over hundreds years, Linguists have focused heavily on language change. First time, comparative methods had been used to contour the problems of language change. In this paper, I hope to contribute to this effort by presenting a formal model of a particular kind of drastic change, namely contact-induced change, and placing limits on when its past presence can be inferred from synchronic evidence.

The analogy always occurs in language change and borrowing. Contact induced change can happen when speakers of different languages come in contact. This is the type of contact-induced change that is most obvious and that has been best studied. The consensus is that it can affect all sub-systems of a language depending on the intensity of contact (see eg. Thomason & Kaufman 1988). Contact-induced change predominantly affects the parts of a language which speakers are most conscious of being distinct: the phonological forms of morphemes and words. Most historical linguists, therefore would probably still agree with Welmer's view that, in phonology and morpho-syntax external inferences are significant when compared with internal change. The established principles of comparative and historical linguistics, and all we know about language history and language change (1970:145).

There are two very different kinds of situations that can lead to the emergence of contact induced change borrowings and interferences. Main goal in this paper is to describe and

analyze linguistic results of language contact situations, and co-relate these results with certain fairly general kinds of social factors. The focus is on systematizing the linguistic facts rather than on the various kinds of social influences.

Like other languages English has borrowed large range of words (David Crystal, 2010), but today English is a major donor language. English has become primary source of borrowing because of technological advancements and scientific developments. Language change is a dynamic process. It transformed according to need and time. Borrowing is the natural phenomena of language contact. Borrowing from other languages is old as the existence of human languages themselves. It affected many languages of the world, English is one of them. English is influenced by more than hundreds languages across the world. It has been observed that when languages came in contact. There is transference of linguistic items from one language to another due to the borrowing of words (Kachru,1998). India is a multilingual country where, there are about 1665 languages are spoken. The power and authority is of two languages Hindi and English. English has been the language of Britishers who invaded India in the past, They have been in power for two hundred years. Urdu In India, spoken by about 0.6 percent people. It is listed in 8th schedule of Indian constitution and recognized as official language amongst the 22 languages.

Urdu language history is few hundreds years back. It belongs to the Indo-Aryan language family. It first came to known as rekhta later become Urdu in mughal empire. The term means 'lashkar' that is borrowed from Turkish language in Turkey Urdu still used as a 'army'. Urdu deeply influenced by Arabic and Persian, lightly by Hindi, punjabi and Sanskrit. Turkish and Persian was major language at that time. Although, the work of Khusro(1255-1325 AD) refered to Urdu as Hindi. Hindi mentioned as the language of the region but Punjabi, Gujarati, Dakkani were refered to the local names for distinction. Urdu came into existence as a mixture of all such dialects but it originally developed in Delhi and its surrounding area.

In India, all state divided on the basis of language. Rekhta remained in use up to the Mirza Ghalib's age. By end of the 18th century the poets and writers called Urdu as the language of Delhi. Mirza Ghalib coined the term *Zaban e Urdu e Mualla* during the British era (Approximately in 1857). Later gradually it came to be known as simply 'Urdu'.

Causes of Borrowing

The division between Urdu and Hindi occurred under the colonial impact with the growing cultural consciousness as part of the processes of political modernization. A beginning, in fact, was affected at the Fort William College, Calcutta (established 1800), under John Gilchrist (1789-1841). There is enough evidence to show that the British rulers tied down the question of the varieties of 'Hindavi', first to the cultural heritage and social hierarchy, and later to religion and political power play. Thus, it was at the Fort William College that the two distinct trends in literary prose writing came to the fore. On the one hand, we had Mir Amman's Bagh-o-Bahar (1800-1802) and, Hyder Bakhsh Hyderi's Aaraish-e-Mehfil (1802-1804) as Urdu prose, and, on the other, Lallu Lal's Premsagar and Sadal Mishra's Nasiketopakhyan as Hindi prose. Later, with the rise of India's freedom struggle, Mahatma Gandhi sensed the communalization of the language issue and the political twist given to it by the British. He, therefore, supported the composite concept of Hindustani as a common variant of the colloquial usage written in both the scripts as the national language of the country. It is interesting to note that much before Mahatma Gandhi's proposal of Hindustani as a language of composite Indian culture, Raja Shiva Prasad in his book of grammar, in the year 1875, reiterated that Hindi and Urdu have no difference on the level of the vernacular. He wrote : "The absurdity began with the Maulvis and Pundits of Dr. Gilchrist's time, who being commissioned to make a grammar of the common speech of Upper India made two grammars. The evil consequence is that instead of having a school grammar of the vernacular as such... we have two diverse and discrepant class books, one for the Mohammedan and Kayastha boys and the other for the Brahmins and Banias." (cf. Srivastava p.30). But the die had been cast and, spurred by the cultural renaissance, the linguistic divide was there to stay. After the partition, though there were no official takers of the idea of Hindustani, it is this common core speech that rules the roost. It is in fact the vehicle of communication at the level of mass culture, and is widely used in movies and all forms of entertainment.

British has not only captured the Indian throne but they had also established their colonies in majority of the world. They were powerful politically and technically and they had no rebel. It was golden age of Europe when great progress in the field of science and technology was made. Soon it achieved the status of a language which was fully equipped in order to face the challenges of the rapidly changing world, that is the reason, it is global language. English could not influence Urdu before partition of India because Urdu was not the official language of the Indian. It was the language of particular region and spoken by Only Muslims.

Muslims were not in majority and they did not come face to face with English. Although, Muslims were rulers at that time, and they were robbed of power by the Britishers. Muslims hated English language that is why they stopped getting education. Britishers imposed English on Muslims as well as other Indians, and they kept ignorant from the education. They fall apart backward in the society because they want keep their language Free from corruption.

This paper is the study of borrowing. Insights and implications put forward by original works in linguistic borrowing and language contact like Haugen(1952), Weinreich (1953) and so on will be taken into account. Two languages are involved in this analysis, social and cultural causes to be used to know the various changes that take place when English items enter into Urdu. Despite it, descriptive method will be taken into consideration to deal with the data available.

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Borrowing

Borrowing is the process in which the Lexicons are taken from One language to another, and there is no need to return back. Loan-words are used to show their prestige, attitude and speaker's comfort ability with language. Thomson and Kaufman(1988) defines "borrowing refers to the incorporation of foreign features into a group's native language by speakers of that language". As a major respect of language change, borrowing does not affect the native language specially at the lexical level.

Haugen(1952) defined, The analyzes of linguistic borrowing is the major reference point for the field of borrowing. He defined borrowing as the use of language forms from two language is not a random mixing, a speaker either switches rapidly from one to other, or switches only for word, phrase or sentences.

"The attempted reproduction in one language of patterns previously found in another"(Haugen, 1952).

Making a perfect reproduction from a language with different systems is impossible. It is reproduction because of the impossibility of directly transferring a feature in one system over to another. Borrowing itself is a mis-interpretative term. Borrowing basically means taking something which must be returned back to the lender. In linguistic borrowing, recipient never gives back what it has borrowed.

In Edward Sapir's book "Introduction to Language (1921)" There is a chapter "How languages influences each other". In which he said one language can influence another one is borrowing of words. He talked about cultural borrowing, which occurs when need of interactions bring them together in direct or indirect contact, each time it introduced new trend in society that results, loanwords.

Another influential author L. Bloomfield has defined borrowing in his book "language (1933)". three types of borrowing are there, Intimate borrowing which means two or more languages have to be used within the same geographical area or the same political community where higher language becomes the source of borrowing for the language with a lower socio-linguistic status. In case of Urdu, English is pervasive through the scientific developments and technological advancements. Almost every invention and research occurring in English language.

Dialect borrowing takes place within one language, where the standard one can borrow from dialect or one dialect can borrow from another. In dialect borrowing features come from within the same speech area. Third one is cultural borrowing, where borrowed features come from a different language, words are borrowed for new concepts, things and ideas. The word borrowing despite having been used for so many years, but in different semantic views. It came to noticed that no one can speak of borrowing strictly as it would employ source language temporarily leading one of its forms to the target language and expect it to be returned which is not possible. Western culture's prolong proximity heavily influence the culture of Urdu language, new inventions and discoveries are directly causes of borrowing. Mostly borrowings occur from superstratum to substratum.

Urdu language is rich in sounds. So it is borrowed many words in their original form.

E.g.	mission	interview	Police	Break
	Bank	Dollar	Vote	Constable
	Parliament	Satellite	Station	Counter

Report	English	Spicejet	Budget
Case	Certificate	Crime	
File			

However, words undergo many sound changes; As

Pipe- Pep	/pæp/	Inverter- Invator	/invatar/
Bicycle- Cycle	/saikīl/	Drum- Draam	/dīrām/
Phone- Phoon	/fon/	Policies- Policiyon	/polisīyon/
Doctor- Daacter	/dāktar/	Master sahab- Massaab	/maassab/

In this study borrowed words are mostly nouns and frequently used in Urdu language.

The words extracted only from English language and paid no attention to other European language. Beside it, Urdu has borrowed many words from Persian, Turkish and Arabic. During the Pre-mughals period and untill now it has borrowed words from other certain languages as well.

The focus is only on Urdu borrowing from English language. Our interest is not only on loanwords which have been directly borrowed from English, but also on English forms of words of other European languages which had become part of the English language. We considered the recent language from which Urdu has borrowed a word, not the ultimate origin of the word.

Utilization of this paper would be as to fill the gap and to contribute in Urdu linguistics. It will be very helpful to know the ratio of generally used English words in Urdu.

Urdu Known to be sweetest language and used as standard language of education, media etc.

The sources are as newspaper, magazine, literature and electronic media, ads, films etc. Newspaper covers large range of social life and domains such as Politics, science and Technology, literature, sports, economics, history and advertisements. Magazines are as- Tehelka (Urdu version), Span (Urdu version) and Tehzib-ul- Akhlaque

In modern times, loanwords often invades in a language through their written form, although sources and recipient languages have different scripts.

At large level, world literature is written in English. Borrowed words enter language through written sources. Scientific development and technological advancements term constitute the major parts of its loan words corpus. These terms become very common for daily use such as;

Atm	Ashtray	Accident
Browsing	Band	Bank
Computer	Cabin	Café
Call	Camp	Ebola
Google	Hurricane	Internet
Katrina	Mobile	Scanner
Zika virus etc.		

There are other common fields as everyday usage words as objects, foods and drinks, sports, Literature and arts etc. Two language Urdu and English are involved in this study.

Conclusion

In last twenty-thirty years English has influenced Urdu very much. At large level, It has borrowed uncountable English Lexicons in Urdu. There is a need to explore more. Most of the Indians used to speak English to show the hegemony of the global language. They feels proud to be English speaker either they are elite or other literate people. Elite class people goes to the foreign country to have education, job and visit as tourist. They become recipient bilingual while studying abroad. Urdu still enriches their vocabulary using English words in Urdu. It undergo many changes time to time with influence of English. English has become language of fashion today. Urdu did not borrow words according to its own word structure and fixed standard which resulted in the lost its respect globally.

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