“The Linguistic Study of Prose Style in “Buf-e-Kur” by Sadegh Hedayat an Iranian writer with respect to the Frequency of Different Types of Deviation.”

Pantea Nabian¹, Maryam Iraji²

Department of foreign language, Islamic Azad University of Tehran, Central Tehran Branch, Tehran, Iran

*Corresponding Author email: pantea19782002@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT: This study is an attempt to find out the frequency of eight kinds of linguistic deviation in a novel called “Buf-e-Kur” by “Sadegh Hedayat” an Iranian short story writer. Deviation as a foregrounding means is a creative use of language that a writer selects to surprise his readers. He defamiliarizes his writing for the readers and creates novelty by deviating from the norms of literary conventions or the norms of the everyday speech. The writers of this paper have tried to analyze the frequency of deviation in the aforementioned novel on the basis of Leech’s frame work and they’ve investigated all 3000 existing propositions in details. The charts show the exact percentage of different deviations which were manipulated by the novel writer. Several examples are also added. The presence of kinds of deviation and different frequency of each type of deviation were firstly under questioned. It has been hypothesized that there can exist eight kinds of deviation with different frequencies. Conclusion revealed that eight sorts of deviation exist in this novel with different frequencies. The highest frequency of deviation belongs to the grammatical deviation in 289 propositions which equal to 23 percent with consideration to the other types of deviation.

Key Words: Defamiliarization, Deviation, Foregrounding, Norms, Stylistics.

INTRODUCTION

Whenever a writer tries to make his language creative, he uses the language in a different way from the conventional one. He can give his readers unexpected surprises by using unconventional language and he can make a strong impression on their mind by doing so. This kind of the creative use of language is what technically called linguistic deviation, which can be used as an instrument for a writer to create novelty by deviating from the norms of literary convention or every day speech.

To present the method of the research, all of the content of the novel of “buf-e-kur” was analyzed sentence by sentence in the descriptive way. The design of the research is descriptive in nature. According to leech's classification of deviation, each proposition in which a kind of deviation was used as a means of creating artistic beauty was categorized in the related category and every case is defined with great care and attention. Examples are given for each case. All of the given examples are written in phonemic representation also they’re translated word by word to English. The general meaning of every selected proposition in the examples are added in quotation marks. The reason or reasons of choosing the examples are also represented. The correct form of every example is shown. Several charts illustrating the percentage of the different types of deviation are drawn to lead the author to reach the more accurate conclusion. Comparing the different frequencies used in the novel finally, the researchers paved the way to have an exact analysis of the illustrations. Present- Day Standard Persian was set up as the norm of the deviations.

The researchers have studied many Iranian articles and English papers related to the subject, which among those they can name several such as: Linguistic deviation as a stylistic Device in Pakistani English fiction (Tariq, 1990) which was an article on the basis of leech's framework, with the aim of throwing some light on the way of Pakistani creative writers use deviant English as a stylistic device in their fiction. The other paper studied by the writers was: Types of Linguistic Deviation in Oliver Twist (Masanori,2011) was the other paper which tried to use Leech's classification in the language of Oliver Twist.
The existence of kinds of deviation as a foregrounding means to defamiliarize the writing of the novel and different frequency of each type of deviation were firstly under questioned. It has been hypothesized that there can exist eight kinds of deviation with different frequencies.

In what follows, according to G. N. Leech's classification, the researchers will illustrate eight types of linguistic deviation in the language of "Boof-e-kur" by "Sadegh Hedayat".

**Problems of the study**

It has been hypothesized that there may exist eight kinds of deviation with different frequencies & the highest frequency of deviation belongs to grammatical deviation.

**Questions of the study**

The existence of kinds of deviation as a foregrounding means to defamiliarize the writing of the novel and different frequency of each type of deviation were firstly under questioned then which type of deviation is the highest?

In what follows, according to G. N. Leech's classification, the researchers will illustrate eight types of linguistic deviation in the language of "Boof-e-kur" by "Sadegh Hedayat".

**Review of the related literature**

**Stylistic studies**

We normally study style because we want to explain something and in general, literary, stylistic has implicitly or explicitly, the goal of explaining the relation between language and artistic function (Leech & Short, 2007: 11). Stylistic is the study of the ways in which meaning is created through language in literature as well as in other types of text (Norgaard & colleagues, 2010:1).

**Defamiliarization**

The term defamiliarization was given to us by the Russian formalists in the twentieth century. By making strange-ostranenie-we force the mind to rethink its situation in the world, and this requires an expenditure of effort (Wall, 2009: 20).

**Foregrounding**

There are two main types of foregrounding: Parallelism and Deviation. Parallelism can be described as unexpected regularities, while deviation can be seen as unexpected irregularity (Leech, 1969). It is "the throwing into relief of the linguistic sign against the background of the norms of ordinary language" (Wales, 2001: 157). Foregrounding in language refers to features of the text which in some sense 'stand out' from their surroundings (Simpson, 2004:50)(Leech, 2007)(Jefferies, 2010: 31). Foregrounding is a central means of defamiliarization (Norgaard & colleagues, 2010: 95). Foregrounding is generally used to highlight important parts of a text (Jefferies, 2010: 30).

**Deviation**

It is a very general principle of artistic communication that a work of art in some way deviates from norms which we, as members of society, have learnt to expect in medium used (Leech 1969:56). Foregrounding comes in two main guises: foregrounding as 'deviation from a norm' and foregrounding as 'more of the same (Putnam 1961: 25-27) (Putnam 1997: 86-89). A linguistic deviation is a disruption of the normal processes of communication (Montgomery, 2007: 233). Deviation is not restricted to poetry but may also be found in novels (Montgomery, 2007: 244-245).

**DISCUSSION**

**Types of Deviation**

**Grammatical deviation**

To distinguish between the many different types of grammatical deviation, it is well to start with the line traditionally drawn between morphology and syntax (Leech, 1969: 44) (Montgomery 2007: 238).
This chart shows that grammatical deviation which is used in the novel includes four types. 33 percent belongs to the deviation from the norms of the usage. 32 percent is up to deletion of several norm features, 25 percent is focused on movement of the norms governing the grammatical features of present Persian and 8 percent goes to the agreement. Increasing can also be seen with 2 percent of occurrence.

**Example of usage**

[haætta be tævæssote ?æmuj-æm ?æz ?in dʒeld qælæmdanha be even with with uncle-my from these cover penners to hendustan miferestadæm]

India sent
“Even I sent these types of penners to India with the help of my uncle.”

As it is seen in this example, using two prepositions (be, tævæsot) side by side deviates from the norms of grammar in Persian. There’s no need to have both of them. The correct form of the proposition is the one below:

[haætta tævæssote ?æmujæm ?æz ?in dʒeld qælæmdanha be hendustan miferestadæm.]

**Example of deletion**

[ jæxe-?æ baz væ sinej-e pæʃ malud- æʃ dide miʃod. ]

collar –his unbotton and chest woolly- his was seen .

“His collar was unbuttoned and his wooly chest was seen.”

In this example the verb of the sentence is deleted so it can be considered as the grammatical deviation. The correct form of the sentence is as the following:

[jæx-?æʃ baz bud væ sineje pæʃ malud-?æʃ dide miʃod.]

**Example of movement**

[raʃt-æm dær pæestu-je tarik-e ?otaq- æm.]

went- I to closet –of dark- of room-my

“I went to the dark closet of my room.”

Considering the word-order in Persian which is S.O.V, the usage of the verb (raæfæm) in the beginning of the sentence is one of the grammatical deviation.

Correct form: [dær pæstuj-e tarik-e ?otaq æm raæfæm.]

**Example of agreement**

[zæxm- ha- ji dær zendegi hæst.]

pain-s in life there is

“There are pains (problems) in life.”

According to Persian grammatical norms, here can be seen that pains (zæxm ha) which is a plural noun had been used with a verb with a zero morph containing 3rd-person singular. This can be considered as a grammatical deviation, because the plural noun and the verb must have agreement in number.

Correct form: [zæxm-ha ji dær zændegi hæstænd ]

there are: plural

**Phonological deviation**
In English, the only irregularities of pronunciation we need note are conventional license of verse composition: elisión, elipsis, apocope, etc (Leech, 1969: 47).

In the sentence: “She had put her pointer finger of her left hand on her lips.”

- /dæhæn/ to /dæhan/ (mouth)
- /zænædegi/ to / ranædegi/ (repulsiveness)
- /turbun/ to /turban/ (turban)

These examples can be considered as phonological deviation.

**Lexical Deviation**

Neologism, or invention of new ‘words’ is one of the more obvious ways in which a poet may exceed the normal resources of the language (Leech, 1969:42-44). Deviation in vocabulary occurs in literature when new words are deliberately created for particular effect (Montgomery, 2007: 237). The word / zænædegi/ can be counted as a new word created by the writer and has been made by the analogy with / ranædegi/ meaning “driving”.

**Dialectal Deviation**

Dialectism, or the borrowing of features of socially or regionally define dialects, is a minor form of license not generally available to the average writer of functional prose, who is expected to write in the generally accepted and understood dialect known as ‘Standard English’. But it is, of course, quite commonly used by storytellers and humanists (Leech, 1969: 49).

Some Indians who are expert in yoga are called ‘yogi’. The writer of the novel had benefited from the dialectal deviation by using this word which is not a Persian word. The other word “turban” which is used in English and Indian, also is the other example of dialectal deviation as means of defamiliarizing the language of the novel.
Archaism as the 'survival of the language of the past into the language of the present', is of course an institutionalized license of poetry, and may perhaps be distinguished from linguistic anachronism or the conscious and calculated resurrection of language (Leech, 1969: 52).

I went to the closet. “I went to the closet.”

/pæstu/ is not used in present day Persian. This example can be considered as a deviation of historical period.

I gave one glass of wine to him. “I gave one glass of wine to him.”

The word /livan/ which carries the meaning of “glass” is nowadays used in Persian and /pijale/ was used before.

There was a knife in his hand. “There was a knife in his hand.”

/gezlik/ was used very long time ago in Persian.

Graphological deviation
To the extent that spelling represents pronunciation, any strangeness of pronunciation will be reflected by a strangeness of written form (Leech, 1969: 47).

The chart below shows that there are three types of graphological deviation which are attributed to representing the vowels, punctuation & dictation. The estimated percentage of the occurrence of all three categories is also available.

![Graphological deviation chart]

From me hated perhaps wanted free to be
Translation: she hated me. Perhaps she wanted to be free. Using a dash instead of a full stop is a kind of graphological deviation according to punctuation.

Deviation of register
Modern poets have asserted their freedom from constraints of 'poetical' language. It is therefore to the present age that we turn for the most striking examples of poetic license in the domain of register (Leech 1969: 49).

You wanted to go to the city for sure.

The correct form of /beri/in writing is /berævi/ because it is more formal.

Semantic Deviation
It is reasonable to translate 'semantic deviation' mentally into 'non-sense' or 'absurdity', 'sense' is used, in this context, in strictly literal-minded way: that is, in a way which would find favor with a mathematician or logician (Leech 1969: 48). All the cases of approach this prom literary deviation have consequences for meaning and interpretation: It is possible to find cases of direct manipulation of conventional meanings in themselves (Montgomery, 2007: 242).
There's a shadow bending on the wall, as if it swallows whatever I write with a great desire.

It was a star which appeared to me in the form of a woman.

Night was going tippy toes.

Rain was washing my dark thoughts.

My life was melting like a candle little by little.

She was like a wrest of fresh flowers to me.
The writer of this paper has prepared two charts that illustrate the exact frequency of the eight types of deviation which definitely were used by "Hedayat" as means of foregrounding to make the language of the novel, stranger to attract the readers’ attention by defamiliarizing and deviating the norms of every day speech.

**CONCLUSION**

The results of the present work show that the writer has benefited from deviation foregrounding style to defamiliarize the language of his novel.

As it has been examined in this article, the language of "Boof-e-kur" proved to have eight types of linguistic deviation, by examining 3000 sentences and analyzing every illustration in detail and considering the drawn charts. In the light of this research, it may safely be said that "Hedayat" as the writer of the novel ingeniously created his own language style, and skillfully manipulates it in his novel. The first hypo has been supported by the occurrence of all of the eight kinds of deviation and the second hypo has been contradicted by different frequencies of eight types of deviation as presented in NO.1 to 8:

1. grammatical deviation: 289 propositions= 23 percent
2. deviation of historical period: 236 propositions= 19 percent
3. phonological deviation: 223 propositions= 18 percent
4. semantic deviation: 175 propositions = 14 percent
5. graphological deviation: 152 propositions=12 percent
6. deviation of register: 138 propositions=11 percent
7. lexical deviation: 31 propositions=2 percent
8. dialectal deviation : 12 propositions=1 percent

Eight kinds of deviation have been used with different frequencies. The highest frequency of deviation belongs to grammatical deviation in 289 propositions which equals to 23 percent with consideration to the other types of deviation.

**REFERENCES**

Masanori M.2011. Types of Linguistic Deviation in Oliver Twist.
Monod S. 1967. Dickens the Novelist: University of Oklahoma