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A Contrastive Analysis

of Relational Adjectives

in Modern Standard

English and Al – Nisba

in Modern Standard Arabic

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Abstract

In modern standard English (henceforth MSE), relational adjectives are derived from nouns by means of certain suffixes such as '-al', '-ary', '-ese', '-an', and '-ic' attached to such nouns as in 'colony' ⟶ colonial. Similarly, the nisba in modern standard Arabic (henceforth MSA) is derived by a geminated [yy] preceded by [-i] annexed as a suffix to a noun as in [Өaqaafa] 'culture' ⟶ [Өaqaafiyy] 'cultural'. Relational adjectives in (MSE) and the nisba in (MSA) relate the noun modified by the adjective to the base form of the noun from which the adjective is derived. For instance, 'Italian invasion' in (MSE) and [ġazwun Ɂiṭaaliyy] in (MSA) mean that the nouns 'invasion' and [ġazwun] are related to the nouns 'Italy' and [Ɂiṭaalya] from which the adjectives 'Italian' and [Ɂiṭaaliyy] are derived, i.e. 'Italy launched an invasion'. The present study aims at finding out the similarities and differences between relational adjectives in (MSE) and al – nisba in (MSA). In order to investigate such an aim, data are collected from both (MSE) and (MSA) reliable references and some international journals. These data are categorised, analysed and contrasted and they lead to the salient features that relational adjectives in (MSE) and al – nisba in (MSA) are not used predicatively and that some nouns from which such adjectives are derived undergo certain morphophonological changes. Additionally, relational adjectives in (MSE) are neither gradable nor modified by degree adverbials. Furthermore, some forms of al - nisba in (MSA) are formed by using certain morphological standards without adding the nisba suffix [-iyy]. Such findings indicate that there are some characteristics of relational adjectives in (MSE) which do not conform to those of al – nisba in (MSA) and vice versa. Such results lead to the conclusion that the number of similarities is approximately equal to that of differences between relational adjectives in (MSE) and al – nisba in (MSA).
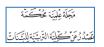
Key words: adjectives, al – nisba, suffixes, relational.

دراسة مقارنة للصفات العلائقية في اللغة الإنجليزية الفصحى والنسبة في اللغة العربية الفصحى

المستخلص

في اللغة الإنجليزية الفصحى تُشتق الصفات العلائقية بإضافة بعض اللواحق الى نهايات الأسماء اما النسبة في اللغة العربية الفصحى فيتم اشتقاقها بإضافة ياء النسب المشددة المكسور ما قبلها الى نهاية الاسم كما في (ثقافة, ثقافيّ. تعيدُ الصفاتُ العلائقيةُ في اللغة الإنجليزية والنسبةُ في اللغة العربية الفصحى الاسمَ المعرَّف بالصفة الى جذر الاسم الذي اشتُقَتْ منه الصفة فمثلا (غزوٌ ايطاليّ) يعني ان الاسم (غزوٌ) يعود الى الاسم (إيطاليا) الذي اشتُقَتْ منه الصفة (ايطاليّ) بمعنى ان (إيطاليا شنَّتْ غزواً). تهدف الدراسة الى اكتشاف التشابه والاختلاف بين الصفات العلائقية في اللغة الإنجليزية والنسبة في اللغة العربية. ولكي نحقق هذا الهدف جُمِعَتْ المعلومات من المصادر الإنجليزية والعربية المعتَمَدَة وبعض المجلات العالمية وتم تحليلها ومقارنتها وادَّت الى خصائص بارزة مفادها ان الصفات العلائقية والنسبة لا يمكن استخدامهما خبريةً وان بعض الأسماء التي اشتُقَتْ منها هذه الصفات تخضع الى بعض التغييرات الصرفوصوتية . إضافة الى ان الصفات العلائقية لا تخضع للتدريج ولا يمكن تعريفها بظرف الحال التدريجي. اضف الى ان النسبة يمكن أحيانا تكوينها باستخدام موازين صرفية معينة دون إضافة ياء النسب المشددة. تشير هذه النتائج الى ان بعض خصائص الصفات العلائقية لا تتوافق مع بعض خصائص النسبة والعكس بالعكس وهذا يؤدي الى خلاصة مفادها ان نقاط التشابه مساوية تقريبا لنقاط الاختلاف بين الصفات العلائقية في اللغة الإنجليزية الفصحى والنسبة في اللغة العربية الفصحى.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الصفات والنسبة واللواحق وعلائقي.

1. Introduction

This study is concerned with a contrastive analysis of relational adjectives in (MSE) whose structure is formed by adding certain suffixes annexed to nouns, and al – nisba in (MSA) which is generally constructed by means of adding the geminated [-y] preceded by [-i] to nouns. It aims at investigating the points of similarities and differences between them. It can be hypothesized that similarities may be approximately equal to differences between them. This study is of benefit to those interested in contrastive analyses between (MSE) and (MSA). It gives them an insight of the structure of both languages so that they can comprehend and understand such similarities and differences.

2. Relational Adjectives in Modern Standard English

Relational adjectives are derived from nouns by means of adding a suffix functions as transpositional as in 'revolutionary' where the suffix '-ary' converts the noun 'revolution' into such an adjective. Concerning the relationship between the adjective and the following noun, Bisetto(2010, 81 – 82) points out that in 'solar energy', 'solar' is an adjective whose meaning is related to 'sun' whereas "the covert relational meaning that links 'sun' and 'energy' is attributed to an extra grammatical purely conceptual sphere". The suffixes mentioned to derive relational adjectives from nouns have no meaning (Spencer,2002). In this respect, Fromkin et al (2003, 86) indicate that derivational morphemes are attached to a root or stem to add meaning in which case the derived word is of a different grammatical class.

According to Levi (1978, 319), relational adjectives are used to form a relation between two domains of entities: "the domain created by the denotation of the noun and the adjective itself". This can be illustrated in 'nuclear energy' where the relation is established between the denotation of the noun 'energy' and the noun 'nucleus' from which the adjective 'nuclear' is derived. In this sense, the relational adjective relates the denotation of the noun to a certain type of entity. Such an entity is classified by means of what it refers to. Downing and Lock (2006, 401) state that the term 'entity' refers to both concrete entities such as persons, objects, places, institutions and other collectives and names of actions such as swimming, thought, qualities, beauty and others. In this respect, Plag (2003, 94) affirms that 'algebraic mind', for instance, means a mind which is concerned with 'algebra', and that 'colonial officer' means an officer who works with colonies.

Moreover, there is another group of derived adjectives that explain more specific concepts. They are referred to as qualitative adjectives whose meaning is sometimes expressed by relational adjectives. Consider the derived adjective 'grammatical' which has a qualitative meaning as in: 'This is a grammatical sentence'. In this sense, 'grammatical' is conformed to the rules of grammar. However, 'grammatical' has a relational meaning in which case it has to do with grammar in a sentence such as: 'She is a grammatical genius'. Accordingly, it should be noted that relational adjectives are used only attributively, i.e. they occur as pronominal modifiers as in 'a lexical problem'. If such adjectives happen to occur in a predicative position as in: 'This sentence is grammatical', it means they have adopted a qualitative sense (Plag, 2003, 94).

2.1 Suffixes

A suffix can be defined as an element added to the end of the root to change its original meaning or grammatical function (Al – Najjar,2006: 67) cited in Iggab and

Kareem (2018, 95). The suffixes mentioned to derive relational adjectives from nouns can be stated as follows:

a.- al

This is exclusively attached to Latinate bases to form relational adjectives such as 'accidental', 'colonial', 'cultural', 'federal', 'institutional', 'modal', etc. As regards stress, all deravatives are stressed either on their penultimate or ante – penultimate syllables. If the base form of the word does not have its stress on one of the two syllables preceding the suffix, stress is shifted to the ante – penultimate syllable of the derivative as in 'colony' /koləni/ which is stressed on the first syllable, and the derived adjective 'colonial' /kələuniəl/ which is stressed on the second syllable. In this respect, stress can be defined as the phonetic feature of a syllable that is produced with a high energy than the neihboring syllables. Stressed syllables are characterised by prominance achieved by greater intensity, a longer duration and a higher pitch than other syllables within the phonological word (Kager, 2012; Ladefoged & Johnson, 2010; Mashaqba, 2015). It can be noted that there are two variants or allomorphs of the suffix '-al' such as '-ial' and '-ual' as in 'confidential', 'labial', 'racial', 'substantial', 'contextual', 'gradual', etc. (Plag, 2003, 95).

b. –ary

This suffix is attached to the base form of nouns to form relational adjectives such as 'complementary', 'evolutionary', 'fragmentary', 'legendary', etc. (ibid).

c. – ese

This suffix is added to the base form of nouns to form relational adjectives expressing a member of nationality or race as in 'Chinese', 'Japanese', 'Portuguese', etc. (Quirk et al, 1985: 1552).

d. – an

This suffix means

1. adherent to as in 'Darwinian', 'republican', etc.

2. relating to as in 'Shakesperian', 'Elizabethan', etc.

3. citizen of as in 'Parisian', 'Indonesian', etc. (ibid,1552).

e. – ic

This suffix is attached to base forms of nouns to form relational adjectives such as 'atomic', 'heroic', 'specific', etc. In some bases ending with '– em', the suffix is '- atic' as in 'problematic'. This suffix is also used to form non – gradable ethnic adjectives and for the names of corresponding languages such as 'Celtic' and 'Arabic' (Quirk et al, 1554). In some adjectives, ' – ic' alternates with ' – ical' to give a different meaning as in 'a comic masterpiece' (of comedy), 'his comical behaviour' (funny); 'an economic miracle' (in the economy), 'the car is economical to run' (money saving); 'an electric light' (powered by electricity), 'an electrical fault' (of electricity); 'a historic building' (with a history), 'a historical research' (pertaining to history); 'his politic behaviour' (tactful), 'political parties' (concerned with politics) (ibid). It should be noted that

suffixes mentioned to derive relational adjectives can also be used to form adjectives with a qualitative interpretation such as 'professional' which expresses a kind of behaviour and can be graded as in 'more professional' (Lieber, 2013: 2101).

According to Biber et al (2000, 508), two groups of adjectives can be semantically distinguished: classifiers and descriptors. Classifiers have a function to limit or restrict a noun's referent in relation to the category of other referents. They are categorised by being non – gradable. Classifiers of certain subclasses such as 'relational', 'affiliative' and a miscellaneous topical class. Classifiers can be somewhat descriptive in meaning. Relational classifiers such as 'additional', 'final', 'similar', etc. have a little descriptive content while many topical classifiers such as 'chemical', 'medical', 'political', etc. provide a descriptive content and limit the reference of the headnoun. Relational / classificational adjectives limit the referent of the noun in relation to other referents such as 'additional', 'average', 'chief', 'complete', 'different', 'direct', 'entire', 'external', 'final', 'following', 'general', 'initial', 'internal', 'left', 'main', 'maximum', 'necessary', 'original', 'particular', 'previous', 'primary', 'public', 'similar', 'single', 'standard', 'top', 'various', 'same', etc. Affiliative adjectives express national or religious groups to which the referent belongs such as 'American', 'Chinese', 'Christian', 'English', 'French', 'German', 'Irish', 'United', etc. Topical adjectives show a relationship with a noun such as 'chemical', 'commertial', 'environemental', 'human', 'industrial', 'legal', 'medical', 'mental', 'official', 'oral', 'phonetic', 'political', 'sexual', 'social', 'ventral', 'visua'l, etc. Some adjectives can be either classifier or descriptor. Classifiers are explained in examples such as 'modern algebra', 'a criminal law', 'a secondary school', etc. whereas descriptors are illustrated in instances such as 'modern authorities', 'a criminal activity' and 'a useful secondary function'. It should be noted that descriptors are gradable and can be modified by means of ' very' to show degree or extent (ibid, 509).

The main feature of relational adjectives is that they are not used predicativly, i.e. they are attributive only as in 'wool industry'. If an explicit or implicit contrastive environment is present, it is possible to use such adjectives predicatively as in 'the crisis is economic and not social' (Spencer, 2002: 50). Relational adjectives cannot be modified with a degree modifier. In addition, they are not gradable. This can be elaborated in an example such as 'a nuclear reactor' which cannot be *'a very nuclear reactor' or a sentence like *'reactor is nuclear'. Conversely, qualitative adjectives are gradable and can be preceded by modifiers as in 'more impressive' and 'very impressive' (Lieber, 2013: 2101; Bauer et al, 2015: 317).
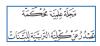
In this respect, Warren (1984, 8) points out that relational adjectives achieve a relation between two entities compared to qualifying adjectives that identify a quality of the referent of the head they modify. According to Ralli & Stavrou (1997, 245), the relational adjective 'nuclear' in 'relatively nucclear testing' has a limited feature in which case it is not modified because of two reasons, firstly; it denotes non – gradable characteristic and secondly it is related to entities because of its derivative nature. However, some relational adjectives such as 'industrial' in 'the mainly industrial area' is modified by a narrow class of adverbs of degree preceded by the definite article 'the'. Another feature of relational adjectives is that their scope changes when changing the order of such adjectives as in 'theoretical modern linguistics' vs. 'modern theoretical linguistics'. Lieber & Stekaur (2014, 280) point out that relational adjectives classify entities that rfer to the field to which such adjectives belong as in 'economy' 'economic', 'they face an economic problem'. Additionally, such adjectives specify the entities with which they make a relationship as in 'Italy',   'Italian', 'an Italian invasion'.

According to Huddleston & Pullum (2002, 1700), there is a semantic relationship between the constituents of compound nouns similar to that between the relational adjective and the head noun as in 'language difficulties' = 'linguistic difficulties'. There is ambiguity in meaning between relational and qualitative adjectives as in 'a criminal lawyer' which has two meanings, the first of which is relational where the lawyer specializes in criminal cass. The scond meaning is qualitative where the lawyer himself is criminal (ibid). According to Drozdz & Tyda (2014, 61 – 62), the meaning of relational adjectives is more specific as in 'a musical clock' (a clock producing music), 'a musical fan' (a fan devoted to music), 'a musical festival' (a festival concerned with music) 'a presidential election' (the election of a president)

English relational adjectives are like transpositions in which case they do not include an additional semantic predicate. However, syntactically they are opaque in the sense that they do not permit the base noun to be modified by an adjective (Spencer, 2016: 17). Nikolaeva & Spencer (2013, 223) affirm that the pure form of the relational adjectives is one in which the derived adjectival form has the same range of denotation as the original noun. In other words, a relational adjective is derived from the base noun by the process of transposition which alters the morphosyntax of the word but does not introduce any additional predicate to the semantic representation. In this sense, the construction 'relational adjective + noun' has the same function as 'noun – noun' compounding. According to Booij (2012, 84 – 85), 'noun – noun' compounds can be explained in examples such as 'atom bomb', 'industry output', 'language skills', whereas 'adjective – noun' phrases can be represented in 'atomic bomb', 'industrial output', 'linguistic skills'. The expression 'adjective + noun' is referred to as a phrase because the main stress lies on the right constituent, i. e. the noun. In this case, Al – Kazwini (2016) indicates that the noun in such constructions functions as a head. Some relational adjectives are not derived from nouns. 'Urban', for instance, is related to 'city' and 'marine' is related to 'ocean'. Spencer (2013, 360) contrasts relational adjectives with 'noun – noun' compounds. The interpretation of 'stone wall' is 'x is made of y' or 'x consists of y'. The relation between the modifier and the head noun is known as 'ascriptive attribution'. The modifying noun such as 'stone' is still the same lexeme whether it is used referentially or ascriptionally. Warren (1984) states a relationship between the adjective and the head noun as illustrated in these examples: 'finantial problem' (sourse – result),' tragic death' (whole – part), 'federal budget' (part – whole), 'urban center' (place – object), 'electric shock' (causal – result), 'controversial issue' (result – causer), 'colonial wars' (time – object).

3.Al – Nisba in Modern Standard Arabic

Al – nisba means that a person is attributed to father, mother, place, tribe, industry, craft and something owned by that person (Ibn Usfoor, 1986: 408; Al – Akburi, 1994: 50). This can be achieved by a geminated [yy] preceded by [-i] placed as a suffix at the end of the base form of a noun as in [haaʃim] ⟶ [haaʃimiyy], ['baġdaad'] ➔ ['baġdaadiyy'] (Al – Baasha, 1984: 44). The result of such a process is a derivation of a relational adjective (Ibnul – Anbaari, 1957: 369). Sibawayhi (1975, 335) names such a derivational phenomenon as [ʔlʔiḍaafa] 'annexation' and [ʔnnisba] whereas Al – Mubarrid (n.d., 133) calls it [ʔlʔiḍaafa] and [ʔnnasab]. Hamid and Abdul – Raoof (1994, 122) agree with Ibn – Aqeel (1985, 152) and Ibn – Jinni (1979, 79) that [ʔnnisba] adds a new meaning to the word.

3.1 Al – Nisba from Singular Nouns

The nisba suffix [- iyy] is attached to singular nouns as in [juzʔ] 'part'   [juzʔiyy] 'partial' (Ryding, 2005: 261). Some words undergo certain phono morphological changes when adding the nisba suffix to them as shown in the following points:

a. The short vowel [a] at the end of the noun is elided when adding the nisba suffix as in [Ɵaqaafa] 'culture' ⟶ aqaafiyy] 'cultural' (ibid, 262).

b. Some nouns end with the long vowel [aa] as in [maʕnaa] 'meaning' which can be reduced to the short vowel [a], and [w] is inserted between the base form of the noun and the nisba suffix as in [maʕnawiyy] 'meaningful' (ibid). In the same sense, Al – Foozaan (n.d., 22; Al – Taee, 2013: 240) point out that the long vowel [aa] is elided when adding the nisba suffix as in [jamazaa] 'a mare which is walking fast' [jamaziyy], [mustaʃfaa] 'hospital' ⟶ [mustaʃfiyy]. According to Al – Asmar (n.d., p. 144), the long vowel [aa] in the word [dunyaa] 'life' can be elided and the nisba suffix is annexed as in [dunyiyy]. Such a vowel can be reduced to [a], and [w] is inserted between the base form of the noun and the nisba suffix in the same word provided the second consonant is not followed by a vowel as in [dunyawiyy]. It can be noted that the reason behind the insertion of [w] in such cases is to make pronunciation easy. In the same respect, there are some words ending with the glottal stop [ʔ] preceded by [aa] where [ʔ] is elided and [w] is inserted between the base form of the noun and the nisba suffix to form a relational adjective as in [Ṣaḥraaʔ] 'desert' ⟶ [Ṣaḥraawiyy] (Al – Taee, 2013: 240). If the glottal stop [ʔ] is originally [w], it remains as it is or changes into [w] as in [kisaaʔ] 'garment'   [kisaaʔiyy] or [kisaawiyy]. According to Rydying (2005, 262), in some Arabic words, the glottal stop [ʔ] that occurs finally remains as it is when adding the nisba suffix as in [ʔistiwaaʔ] 'equator'   ⟶   [ʔistiwaaʔiyy] 'equatorial'.   ⟶

c. The base form of some words undergoes certain phono morphological changes as in [kaniisa] 'church⟶ [kanasiyy] 'ecclesiastical' and [madiina] 'city'⟶[madaniyy] 'civic' or 'civil' (ibid, 265). It can be noted that, in such words, the long vowel [ii] changes into [a], the final vowel [a] is elided and the nisba suffix [- iyy] is attached to the noun.

d. The glottal stop [ʔ] is inserted between the base form of the noun and the nisba suffix especially in words ending with [aa] as in [siinamaa] 'cinema'   [siinamaaʔiyy] (ibid, 269). ⟶

e. If a noun ends with [y] preceded by [i], [y] changes into [w], the preceding [i] changes into [a] and the nisba suffix is attached to the noun as in [ʕaliy] ⟶ [ʕalawiyy] (Al – Afghaani, 2014: 143).

3.2 Al – Nisba from Biliteral Nouns

This group of words includes [ʔab] 'father', [ʔaẖ] 'brother', [yad] 'hand', [dam] 'blood'and [fam] 'mouth' (Al – Asmar, n.d.:145). Such nouns can be subdivided into two types:

a. This group comprises [ʔab] 'father' and [ʔax] 'brother' whose nisba form can be accomplished by inserting [- aw -] between the base form of the noun and the nisba suffix as in [ʔab] ⟶[ʔabawiyy] 'paternal' and [ʔaẖ]   ⟶[ʔaẖawiyy] 'fraternal' (Al – Foozaan, n.d.: 237).

b. The second group includes [yad] 'hand' and [dam] 'blood' to which the nisba suffix [- iyy] is attached either without changing or that [- aw-] is inserted between the base form of the word and the nisba suffix as in [yad] 'hand' ⟶ [yadiyy] or   [yadawiyy] 'manual' and [dam] 'blood' ⟶ ['damiyy'] or ['damawiyy'] 'bloody' (ibid, 236).

There is a group of nouns including [ʔbn] 'son' and [ʔsm] 'name' to which the nisba suffix is attached as in [ʔbniyy] and [ʔsmiyy] (Al – Asmar, n.d.: 146). In this respect, Al – Foozaan (n.d., 237) indicates that it is possible to omit the glottal stop [ʔ] at the initial position of such nouns and insert [- aw -] between the base form of the noun and the nisba suffix as in [banawiyy] and [samawiyy]. It can be noted that the short vowel [a] is inserted between the first and the second consonant of such nouns. If the biliteral nouns end with [a], [-w-] is inserted between the base form of the noun and the nisba suffix as in [sana] 'year'   ⟶[sanawiyy] 'annual' (Ryding, 2005: 265).

3.3 Al – Nisba from Place Names

The initial glottal stop [ʔ] and the following consonant that represent the definite article are omitted when the nisba suffix is attached to names of certain countries such as [ʔssuudaan] ⟶ [suudaaniyy]. Note that the nisba to city names such as   [ʔlqaahira] 'Ciro' can be accomplished by deleting the definite article and the final [a] as in [qaahiriyy]. Similarly, the nisba to place names ending with the glottal stop [ʔ] can be achieved by omitting such a glottal stop and inserting [n] between the base form of the noun and the nisba suffix as in [Ṣanʕaaʔ] ⟶ [Ṣanʕaaniyy] (Ryding, 2005: 266).
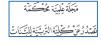
3.4 Al – Nisba from Compound Nouns

Compound nouns are of three types: [mazji], [ʔisnaadi] and [ʔiḍaafi]. Concerning the first and second types of such nouns, the nisba can be achieved by adding the suffix [- iyy] to the first part of the compound noun as in [baʕlabak] ⟶ [baʕliyy]. [maʕad yakrib] ⟶ [maʕdiyy] (Al – Foozaan, n.d.: 235). However, Al – Afghaani (2014, 145) points out that hearing should be taken into consideration in case of the nisba process in that the nisba suffix is added to the second part or both parts of such nouns as in [baʕlabak] ⟶ [baʕlabakkiyy] or [baʕliyy bakkiyy]. [maʕad yakrib] ⟶   [maʕad yakribiyy] or [maʕdiyy yakribiyy].

As far as the third type of compound nouns is concerned, the nisba suffix is attached to the second part as in [ʕbnul – Zubair]   ⟶[zubairiyy] and [ʔbu bakr] [bakriyy]. If such compound nouns have no [ʔbn] or [ʔbu], the nisba suffix can be attached to the first part of them as in [ʕbdullaah] ⟶   [ʕbdiyy] (Al – Asmar, n.d.: 147). However, the nisba suffix is attached to the second part of similar nouns such as [ʕbdul - muṭṭalib] ⟶[muṭṭalibiyy] and [ʕbd manaaf] ⟶ [manaafiyy] in order not to confuse to whom the word [ʕbd] is annexed (Al – Foozaan,n.d.: 236). Similarly, there are certain compound nouns where the nisba suffix is attached to their second parts such as [raʔsmaal] 'capital'   [raʔsmaaliyy] 'capitalist' and   [barmaaʔ], [barmaaʔiyy] 'amphibian' (Ryding, 2005: 268).

3.5 Al – Nisba from Adjectives

Some adjectives can be derived by means of adding the nisba suffix [- iyy] to the same adjective as in [ʔawwal] 'first' ⟶   [ʔawwaliyy] (ibid, 265). In this case, the adjective [ʔawwal] can undergo certain phono morphological changes to form the

adjective [Ɂawlawiyy] where [-wa-] is elided and [- aw -] is inserted before the nisba suffix [- iyy] (ibid). If an adjective ends with a geminated [- yy], the second [y] changes into [w] before which [a] is inserted and the nisba suffix is attached, as in ['ḥayy'] 'alive', to form the relational adjective [ḥayawiyy] (Al – Taee, 2013: 240).

3.6 Al – Nisba from Plural Nouns

The nisba from plural nouns can be accomplished as follows:

a.The plural noun changes into singular to which the nisba suffix is attached as in [duwal] 'nations' ⟶ [dawliyy] 'international' (Al – Asmar, n.d.: 147). It should be noted that [- uwa -] changes into [- aw-].

b.The plural noun is treated as if it were a proper noun the reason why it is considered as singular as in [ɁanṢaar] 'supporters' ⟶ [ɁanṢaariyy] (ibid). Sometimes the nisba suffix is used to derive relatrional adjectives when added to plural forms of nouns whose singular forms end with [a] as in [ḍariiba] 'tax', [ḍaraaɁib]'taxes' [ḍaraaɁibiyy] (Ryding, 2005: 265). In this respect, Al – Foozaan (n.d.: 228) points out that the nisba to dual, sound masculine plural and sound feminine plural can be achieved by adding the nisba suffix to their singular forms as in [jabalayn] 'two mountains' ⟶[jabaliyy], [muʕallimiin] 'teachers' ⟶ [muʕallimiyy] and [wardaat] 'flowers'⟶ [wardiyy].

Al – Najjar (2017, 147) affirms that the nisba from plural is preferable in the language of the contemporary specialists. Thus, it is said that [Ɂsnaaniyy] 'dental' refers to the sounds produced when the tip of the tongue touches the upper front teeth. Other examples are [Ɂalqawaaʕidiyy] ' grammatical' and [ɁalʕalaaɁiqiyy] 'relational'.

3.7 Al – Nisba from [faʕiila] and [faʕuula]

The nisba from [faʕiila] and [faʕuula], the two morphological standards, can be accomplished by changing the long vowels [ii] and [uu] into the short vowel [a], eliding the final [a] and adding the nisba suffix [iyy] as in [rabiiʕa] ⟶[rabaʕiyy] and [ḥaluuba] [ḥalabiyy] (Al – Afghaani, 2014: 143). ⟶

3.8 Al – Nisba from [fuʕayla] and [fuʕayl]

Al – Nisba from, the two morphological standards, [fuʕayla] and [fuʕayl] can be achieved by :

a. eliding the final [a] as in [Ɂumayma] ⟶ [Ɂumaymiyy] (ibid).

b. eliding [y] and the final [a] as in [juhayna] ⟶ [juhaniyy] (ibid).

c. eliding [y] as in [qurayʃ] ⟶ [quraʃiyy] (Al – Zaamili, 2013: 76).

3.9 Al – Nisba from [faʕiil]

Al – Nisba from the morphological standard [faʕiil] is achieved by adding the nisba suffix [- iyy] to the base form of the word without any change as in [ʕaqiil] [ʕaqiiliyy] (ibid, 77).

3.10 Al – Nisba without the Suffix [- iyy]

Arab linguists affirm that the nisba can be achieved by means of the following morphological standards without adding the suffix [- iyy]:

a. [faʕʕaal] as in [jammaal] 'someone who has camels', [najjaar] 'carpenter',i.e. someone who is attributed to his craft (Sibawayhi, 1975: 381; Al – Mubarrid, n.d: 161 – 163).

b. [faaʕil] as in [taamir] 'someone who owns dates' (Ibn – Yeesh, n.d.: 13 – 15).

c. [faʕil] as in [nahir] 'someone who is concerned with walking during the day' (Ibn – Usfoor, 1986: 409).

d. [mifʕaal] as in [miʕṭaar] 'a woman with perfume' (Al – Afghaani, 2014: 147).

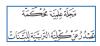e. [mifʕiil] as in [miḥḏiir] 'a feminine camel that runs fast' (ibid).

3.11 Miscellaneous Types of al – Nisba

There are some irregular types of the nisba as illustrated in the following points:

a. [baṢra] ⟶ [biṢriyy] where the first short vowel [a] changes into [i] and the final [a] is elided (Al – Asmar, n.d.: 149).

b. [dahr] ⟶ [duhriyy] where the first short vowel [a] changes into [u] (Al – Afghaani, 2014: 146).

c. [baadiya] ⟶ [badwiyy] where the long vowel [aa] is reduced to the short one [a], [-iya-] is elided and [-w-] is inserted before the nisba suffix (ibid).

d. [ʃaʕr] ⟶ [ʃaʕraaniyy] where the syllable [- aan -] is inserted between the base form of the noun and the nisba suffix (ibid).

e. [ʔumayya] ⟶ [ʔumawiyy] where [- yya -] changes into [-w-] before the nisba suffix [- iyy] (ibid).

f. [ʔʃʃaam] ⟶ [ʃaamin] where the definite article, represented by the glottal stop [ʔ] and the following consonant, is elided and the syllasble [-in] is attached to the word (Al – Asmar, n.d.: 149).

g. [ʔalyaman] ⟶ [yamaanin] where the definite article [ʔal] is elided, the second short vowel [a] changes into [aa] and the syllable [- in] is attached to the word (ibid).

4. Method

The present study is mainly concerned with analysing and contrasting the morphological, phonological, semantic and grammatical aspects of relational adjectives in (MSE) and nisba in (MSA). This linguistic phenomenon can be investigated by surveying the literature of both languages so that data can be collected. The researcher has adopted (MSE) and (MSA) reliable references as well as some international journals to find out the main characteristics of relational adjectives in (MSE) and nisba in (MSA). The data taken from (MSA) references were translated into English. The data were compiled from such sources by using the technique of note taking. The analysis of such data leads to understanding the internal structure of relational adjectives in (MSE) and nisba in (MSA) and how these adjectives are derived from

nouns by means of certain suffixes. Additionally, it appears that the phonological structure of some adjectives is different from that of the nouns from which such adjectives are derived. Furthermore,this study sheds light on the semantic and grammatical features of relational adjectives in both languages where it shwos that the meaning and the grammatical function of the derived adjectives are completely different from those of nouns. These analyses result in differences and similarities between relational adjectives in (MSE) and nisba in (MSA).

5. Findings and Discussion

Analysing and categorising the main characteristics of relational adjectives in (MSE) and nisba in (MSA) indicate that both of them are derived from nouns. In (MSE), the relational adjective is derived by using some suffixes such as '-al', '-ial', '-ual', '-ary', '-ese' '-an' and '-ic' annexed to nouns as in 'evolution' ⟶ 'evolutionary'. With regard to (MSA), the suffix [-iyy] is attached to nouns as in [juzʔ] 'part'   [juzʔiyy] 'partial'. Morphologically speaking, some nouns undergo changes when deriving adjectives from them as in 'colony' ⟶ 'colonial' where the letter 'y' changes into 'i' after which the derivational suffix is attached. Phonologically, the final /i/ in 'colony' / koləni/ changes into /iə/ in 'colonial' /kələuniəl/. In this respect, the final /ə/ in 'China' /tʃainə/ changes into /i:/ in 'Cinese' /tʃaini:z/ after which /z/ occurs. In (MSA), the final [a] or [aa], in certain nouns, is elided and the nisba sufix is attached as in [Өaqaafa] 'culture' [Өaqaafiyy] 'cultural' and [mustaʃfaa] 'hospital' ⟶ [mustaʃfiyy]. Additionally, in some other nouns, the final [aa] is reduced to [a] and [w] is inserted between the base form of the noun and the nisba suffix [-iyy] as in [maʕnaa] 'meaning' ⟶ [maʕnawiyy] 'meaningful'. The same thing can be said about the noun [ṣaḥraaʔ] 'desert' where the glottal stop [ʔ] is elided to form [ṣaḥraawiyy]. The stem of some nouns undergoes certain morphophonological changes as in [kaniisa] 'church' where the long vowel [ii] changes into [a] and the final [a] is elided to form the adjective [kanasiyy] 'ecclesiastical'.

As far as number is concerned, in (MSE), the suffix is attached to singular nouns to derive relational adjectives as in 'fragment' ⟶ 'fragmentary' whereas in (MSA), the nisba suffix [-iyy] is attached to singular and plural nouns with some morphophonological changes as in [ʔax̣] 'brother' ⟶ [ʔax̣awiyy] 'fraternal' where the syllable [-aw-] is inserted between the base form of the singular noun and the nisba suffix. The dual noun [jabalayn] 'two mountains' becomes [jabaliyy] where the final syllable [-ayn] is elided which means that the nisba suffix is added to the singular noun [jabal] 'mountain'. The plural noun [ḍaraaʔib] 'taxes' becomes [ḍaraaʔibiyy]. The nisba from sound masculine plural and sound feminine plural can be achieved by adding the nisba suffix to the singular form of such nouns as in [muhandisiin] 'engineers' [muhandisiyy] and [wardaat] 'flowers' ⟶ [wardiyy] where the final syllables [-iin] and [-aat] that represent the plurality are respectively elided. It is preferable to add the nisba suffix to the broken plural without changing into singular as in [qawaaʕid] 'grammar' [qawaaʕidiyy] 'grammatical'. This gives an impression that (MSA) is morphologically more flexible than (MSE).

Grammatically speaking, relational adjectives, in (MSE) are used attributively only, i.e. they precede the nouns they modify as in 'nuclear energy' where it is impossible to say *'energy is nuclear'. In (MSA), though the adjective follows the noun, it is also attributive as in [ḥallun juzʔiyy] 'partial solution'. Certain features of relational adjectives in (MSE) have no counterparts in (MSA) among which is that relational
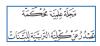
adjectives are not gradable in that they do not take [-er] comparative and [-est] superlative as in *'more complementary' and *'most complementary'. In addition, such adjectives are not modified by degree adverbials, i.e. it is impossible to say *'very nuclear reactor'. Furthermore, when the noun replaces the relational adjective, it cannot occur as predicate as in 'a court decision' which is impossible to be *'a decision is a court'.

As far as compounding is concerned, in (MSE), the first noun of 'noun – noun' compounds can be changed into an adjective to form 'adjective – noun' phrase as in 'industry output' ⟶ 'industrial output'. With regard to (MSA), the nisba suffix [-iyy] is attached to the first part, the second part or both parts as in [baʕlabak] ➤ [baʕliyy], [baʕlabakkiyy] or [baʕliyy bakkiyy]. In compounds beginning with [ʔbu] or [ʔbn], the nisba suffix is attached to the second part as in [ʔbnul – zubair] ⟶ [zubairiyy] and [ʔbu bakr] ⟶ [bakriyy]. Concerning the compounds beginning with [ʕbd], the nisba suffix is added to the second part as in [ʕbdul - muṭṭalib] ⟶ [muṭṭalibiyy] with the exception of [ʕbdullaah] where the suffix is attached to the first part to become [ʕbdiyy].

In both (MSE) and (MSA), a relation is established between the denotation of the noun modified by the adjective and the noun from which the adjective is derived and that the meaning of the relational adjective is mostly specific. 'Musical clock' [saaʕa musiiqiyya], for instance, means the clock that produces music. Additionally, there is a semantic relationship between the relational adjective and the head noun as in 'electric shock' [ṣadma kahrabaaʔiyya] which means that the 'shock' [ṣadma] is the result caused by electricity. Thus, this relationship is referred to as 'causal – result'. In this sense, when the suffix '-ic' alternates with '-ical', the relational adjective gives a different meaning. 'An electric light' [ḍawʔ kahrabaaʔiyy], for instance, means that the light is powered by electricity whereas 'an electrical fault' [xalal kahrabaaʔiyy] means that the fault [xalal] is caused by electricity. In (MSE), some semantic features have no counterparts in (MSA) such as the semantic ambiguity between relational and qualitative adjectives as in 'a criminal lawyer' which has two meanings. The first meaning is relational which indicates that the lawyer specializes in criminal cases whereas the second meaning shows that the lawyer himself is criminal. The other feature is that the relative scope of relational adjectives changes when changing the order of adjectives as in 'theoretical modern linguiustics' vs. 'modern theoretical linguistics. In addition, the semantic relationship between the relational adjective and its head noun is similar to that between the constituents of the compound noun as in 'linguistic difficulties' = 'language difficulties'.

Some features in (MSA) have no counterparts in (MSE) among which is that the nisba suffix can be attached to an adjective to derive another relational adjective as in [ʔawwal] 'first' ⟶[ʔawwaliyy] and [ʔawlawiyy]. The other feature is that the nisba can be achieved by using certain morphological standards such as [faʕʕaal], [faaʕil], [faʕil], [mifʕaal] and [mifʕiil] as in [najjar] 'carpenter', [taamir] 'someone who owns dates', [nahir] 'someone walking during the day', [miʕṭaar] 'a woman with perfume' and [miḥḍiir]' a feminine camel that runs fast' respectively.

In both (MSE) and (MSA), the relational adjective can be derived from country or place names with some morphophonological changes. In (MSE), for instance, the suffix '-ese' is attached to the names of countries such as 'China', 'Japan' and 'Portugal' to form 'Cinese', 'Japanese' and 'Portuguese' that express members of nationality or race.

Similarly, in (MSA), the nisba suffix [-iyy] can be added to the names of countries or cities such as, for instance, [ʔssuudaan], [ʔlqaahira] and [ṣanʕaaʔ] to form [suudaaniyy] where the glottal stop [ʔ] and the following consonant that represent the definite article are elided, [qaahiriyy] where the definite article [ʔl] and the final [a] are elided and [ṣanʕaaniyy] where the final glottal stop is replaced by the consonant [n].

6. Conclusions

A detailed analysis of relational adjectives in (MSE) and nisba in (MSA) shows that there are similarities and differences between them in terms of morphology, phonology, grammar and semantics. Morphologically, both of them are derived from nouns by using certain suffixes with some morphophonological changes. However, in (MSA), the nisba from some nouns can be formed by means of certain morphological standards without adding the suffix [-iyy]. It should be noted that in (MSE) the suffix is attached to only singular nouns to derive relational adjectives whereas in (MSA) the nisba is formed by annexing the suffix [-iyy] to both singular and plural nouns. With regard to compounding, in (MSE) the suffix is attached to the first constituent of the 'noun – noun' compounds to form 'adjective – noun' phrase whereas in (MSA) the suffix can be added to the first, the second or both parts of certain compound nouns. Both relational adjectives and nisba are derived from country or city names with some morphophonological changes. It can be added that only in (MSA), the nisba suffix [-iyy] can be attached to certain adjectives to derive another adjective. Grammatically speaking, relational adjectives and nisba are used attributively, i.e. such adjectives are impossible to be predicate. Similarly, the noun that replaces the relational adjective in (MSE) cannot occur predicatively. In this respect, such adjectives in (MSE) are neither gradable nor modified by degree adverbials. As far as meaning is concerned, in both relational adjectives and nisba, a relation is established between the denotation of the noun modified by the adjective and the noun from which the adjective is derived in the sense that the relational adjective or nisba relates the denotation of the noun to a certain type of entity which is classified by means of what it refers to. Additionally, the meaning of the relational adjective or nisba is mostly specific. It should be noted that, only in (MSE), there is a semantic ambiguity between relational and qualitative adjectives. Furthermore, the relative scope of relational adjectives changes when changing the order of adjectives. Also, the semantic relationship between 'noun – noun' compound is similar to that between 'adjective – noun' phrase. Finally, when the suffix '-ic' alternates with '-ical' , it forms adjectives with different meanings.

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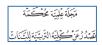
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