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The History of Glottal Stop Phenomenon in the Arabic language and old Arabic Dialects and its Effect on Word Structure

Yahya Atieh Ababneh

Abstract

The subject of this study is the history of glottal stop in the Arabic language and old Arabic dialects including Safaitic, Thamudic and Lihyanite. The study material comes from the sources that are involved in registering transcripts of the aforementioned dialects, and it is divided into two parts: the first one discusses a number of issues that care to reveal the role of glottal stop in word structure in the Arabic language in comparison to old Arabic dialects which go back in history to the first centuries, even before the birth of the Christ, and the first centuries after the birth of the Christ. All of them belong to times before Islam.

The second part involves issues that deal with the functional roles of the glottal stop such as its role in gender identification (male and female), plural prefices, and some other roles that involve deleting it from word pronunciation and its other modifications.

The study has used the comparative historical method in almost all passages, to reveal those issues and give final judgments.

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(²) Al-Ani, S., Arabic Phnology, P. 31.

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(4) Huber, C., Journal d'un voyage en Arabie, No. 396.
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(8) Winnett, The Ha'il Inscriptions, 1979, NO. 104.

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- (1) Jaussen & Savignac, Mission archeologique en Arabie, No. 447.
 - (2) Winnett and Harding, Inscriptions of Fifty Safaitic Cairns, 1978. No. 865.
 - (3) Beeston, (et al), Sabaic Dictionary, P. 3.
 - (4) Huber, C., Journal d'un voyage en Arabie, No. 581.

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- (12) . / () ()
- (13) Beeston, (et al). Ibid, P. 81.

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 (3) Winnett and Harding, *Inscriptions of Fifty Safaitic Cairns*, 1978. No. 2125. / ()
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(3) Winnett and Harding, *Inscriptions of Fifty Safaitic Cairns*, 1978. No. 189.

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(1) Winnett, Thamudic Inscriptions from the Negev, No. 11052.

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(1) Huber, Journal d'un voyage en Arabie, No. 447.

(2) Winnett and Reed, Ancient Records from North Arabia, No. 67.

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(1) Winnett and Harding, *Inscriptions of Fifty Safaitic Cairns*, 1978. No. 3197 b.
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(9) Branden, *Les Textes Thamoudeens de Philby*, No. 210ad.

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¹) Winnett and Harding, *Inscriptions of Fifty Safaitic Cairns*, 1978. No. 1900.

(2) Winnett and Harding, *Inscriptions of Fifty Safaitic Cairns*, 1978. No. 1246a.

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(7) Littmann, E., *Semitic Inscriptions, Safaitic Inscriptions*, 1943, No. 2208.

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(1) Winnett and Harding, Inscriptions of Fifty Safaitic Cairns, 1978. No. 1198.

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(3) Branden, Les Textes Thamoudeens de Philby, No. 271w.

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