

## On the Emergence of Scientific Grammar in Iran

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### Abstract

Writing the grammar of a language is one of the most significant outputs of linguistic studies. In Iran, it is Avicenna (Ibn-e Sina) who is credited with the first such compilation of the Persian language. Understanding the weaknesses associated with the traditional trends of grammar writing in Iran, contemporary Iranian linguists adopted the modern Western approach following the Chomskyan Turn thus attempting to work out a grammar for Persian. Accordingly, this study investigated the scientific theory of grammar writing in Iran through a descriptive-analytic method, using the transformational-generative theory. In addition to reviewing the stances of Iranian grammarians, the paper specifies and describes grammars of different kinds through a typological approach so as to attain a new classification of grammar writing paradigms in Iran. The findings of this research show that grammar writing approaches in Iran are divided into three paradigms, namely, traditional, structural, and scientific.

**Keywords:** Generative-transformational theory, Iran, Persian language, Scientific grammar

### INTRODUCTION

In each country or region, language is the most important factor in representing the cultural identity or symbol. As an official language, signifying the Persian extent, identity and culture in Iran and other countries in the region, including Afghanistan and Tajikistan, the Persian language is considered to be a branch of the Indo-European languages. Persian language, despite changes and ups and downs at different levels, is still one of the most important languages of the world. In historical terms, it has been officially recognized and used not only in Iran and its affiliated regions, but also in the countries such as India and

Ottoman. Especially in the seventeenth century, Persian language was the most important part of international trade.

Also, in the Islamic world, the Persian language is recognized as the second most important language. This can show the grammatical power, as well as the strength of technical structure, and grammatical rules of Persian language. The modern Persian language is divided into four categories:

1. The southwestern: Persian Dari, Tajik, Lori, Bakhtiari, Khamsari and many other Persian dialects including those in Fars province.

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2. The northwestern: Kurdish, Baluchi, Gilaki, Mazandaran, Zazagaran, Bashadgardi, Rychi, Armor, Semnan and Zanjan, Qazvin, Saveh, Wafsi, Ashtiani and other dialects.
3. The southeast Iranian languages: like Pashto.
4. The northeastern Iranian languages: including Yaghmani (Mahoutian, 2009)

Quoting Ibn-e Moqaffa, IbnNadim writes in the book "Al-Fehrest", translated by Reza Tajaddod, that Persian languages include Pahlavi, Dari, Miyaneh, Serlikokhouzi. These languages differ in terms of accent and typology, but all of them are known as Persian language. It is necessary to use our best endeavors to preserve this language (Bateni, 1389, p. 77).

After reviewing the progress of Persian grammar programs in Iran, the researchers concluded that, despite the fact that numerous grammar books have been written in Iran, there is no definite analysis of this type of grammar.

Grammar in Iran is divided into two general periods: the period of familiarization with Arabic, Turkish and European grammar, called traditional grammar, and the period of linguistic development, which is based on general language theories, including the structural and scientific grammar, divided as under:

- Grammars not written on a scientific theory and are prescriptive in a way or another, which are called traditional grammars.
- Grammars written based on one of the general theories of linguistics, which are of two types, structural grammar and scientific grammar.

If we compare the grammar of MirzaHabibEs-fahani (who first put the name of the grammar on his book and published a special edition of grammar book) with Dr. Mehdi Meshkaat al-Din's generative-transformational grammar, we could conclude that the grammar-writing in Iran is divided into three periods: *traditional*, *structural* and *scientific*. This division has been pro-

posed for the first time in Iran by the researchers in the current study. We also tried to analyze scientific grammar-writing in Iran by using generative-transformational theory.

This library-based study also tried to answer the fundamental question that why Iranian grammar-writers were forced to seek scientific grammar-writing to maintain the rules of Persian language and provide scientific perspectives on Persian grammar in Iran. This is a library-based study and in some cases we have also followed the method of definition and explanation.

The following treatises and books are available in publication on Persian grammar in Iran, in which can be seen some sort of grammatical divisions. According to their analysis, the present article is novel and does not repeat the words of the past.

1. Treatise of Grammar-writing in Iran, by Ms. MahinBanooSani.
2. A Concise Farsi Grammar by Khosrow-Farshidvard.
3. A New Look at Grammar by Dr. Mohammad Reza Bateni.

After analyzing the above-mentioned books, the following would be achieved.

- MahinBanoo was born in 1298 AD (about a century ago), whose grammar was in fact based on her Ph.D. thesis, in which she did not go beyond the scope of the traditional grammar, and is fundamentally different from the subject and classification of this research which is based on the linguistic perspective.
- Mr. KhosrowFarshidvard also included in his book: A ConciseFarsi Grammar such divisions for the grammar as follows: Prescriptive grammar, philosophical grammar, psychological grammar, evolutionary grammar, historical grammar, universal grammar, teaching grammar, comparative grammar, contrastive grammar, grammar based on general language theories such as structural or taxonomic grammar, generative-transformational

(productive-transforming), case grammar, tagmemic grammar, and functional grammar. However, this classification is different from the objectives of this research.

1. In the fourth chapter of his book, Dr. Bateni has presented a generative-transformational grammar, and this chapter has three sub-titles: what is transformational [rule], and how is the transformational aspect of language, how is the generative aspect of language; and has finally described the form of generative grammar.

This book has a foreword page in which the author stated that he had tried to clarify the theoretical and philosophical basis of grammar and grammar-writing for the reader. In a three-page introduction to the book, he has written more about Chomsky, the American linguist. The generative-transformational framework of the author is an explanation of Chomsky's theory, and has nothing to do with the scientific grammar-writing in Iran, which is the purpose of this article.

2. Ms. Nakhkesh's Master's thesis, entitled: 'Research in Persian Grammar', is a comparison between 'PanjOstad' Grammar, and Khanlari', Dr. Givi's and Anvari's grammar, in which the author attempted to clarify the aspects of the views of these grammarians, through comparing the grammatical content and analyses they have posed, and, in many cases, judging them, as well as outlining their views of what is most acceptable.

This author has made the comparison of the two grammars in the thesis the pretext for speaking about linguistics and a variety of words in the grammar, which is completely different from the purpose of this study, namely examining scientific grammar in Iran.

3. Ms. Azadeh Radnezhad's Master's thesis is titled 'Study of Persian Language

Grammatology Transformations', in which she divides the thesis, from the view point of cognitive transformation, into three periods:

- Grammatology in imitation of the Arabic syntax.
- Grammatology with respect to European languages.
- Grammatology based on linguistic theories.

In each of these periods, more specific features were selected and studied. The difference between the present research and Ms. Radnezhad's thesis is that she has divided the course of grammar-writing in Iran into three periods, and with this division she has given a clearer view to the grammar and grammar-writing; yet, these three periods have the following drawbacks:

- The second and third periods are both based on linguistic ideas, while she considers the third period to be based on the theory of linguistics.
- She plots in a subject both structuralism and generative-transformational [theories], while practically in Iran's grammar-writing, structuralism was first, and followed by generative-transformational.
- She has not made clear the basis of the grammatical division, and it should first be clarified what the grammarians scientists have taken as the unit of language [for their classifications].

### Scientific Grammar Writing

Since the early twentieth century, linguistics has become a scientific strive, which tries to study language with scientific methods and criteria. Linguistics has undervalued many of the principles that traditional grammars have for long taken as criteria of work. It is thus necessary to set out the rules of language with the scientific perspective of linguistics.

### Reasons for scientific grammar formation

In the late nineteenth century, scientists began to

shift the focus of their attention from examining dead languages and literary works of the past to the living and common languages, as well as various dialects and accents, and carried out research on issues such as the origin of the language, and examined issues that could be experienced and turned their hypotheses into obvious language realities. These scholars were called the New Grammarians (Bagheri, 2009). Since linguistic scholars from the nineteenth century and earlier recognized the languages totally unfamiliar to the West until that day; linguistics can be introduced as a scientific method. It could also change the concept already presented. Thus, from the beginning of the 20th century, linguistics was founded on the basis of a scientific foundation and it tries to study language with scientific methods and priorities, as well as obsolete laws that have been used in the traditional languages of the distant past. The reason is simply that language, more than any discipline in the human sciences, is subject to laws. And it is even more precise than mathematical science, into which rules no defect can be attributed (Batani, 1389).

In the scientific term, grammar is defined as 'the limited number of rules that can create an unlimited number of sentences'. The name of generative-transformational grammar is also derived from this definition. In addition, language is also defined as: 'the set of unlimited sentences that a grammar can render or produce is called language (Batani, 1389, p. 26).

This definition is different from what we see in the traditional and structural linguistic grammar. In fact, this was a syntactic and mathematic-like definition of the language. In this definition, grammar is used in two completely different meanings that are mutually exclusive and interrelated at the same time. The first definition is that the person determines a number of sentences in his mind, and then, by using them, they can make new sentences in their own language and understand the sentences of others. The second definition is the formal description of these mental rules that linguists have written down. The distinction between the two definitions is very im-

portant, as it is to distinguish the plan of a building on a piece of paper from a building, which is the result of putting together bricks, cement and the structure. Therefore, the exact concept of grammar is to describe a mental processing. This is because it shows a subjective reality that is found in the context of speech (Omrani, 2004). In fact, the grammar of language examines the excellence of language, which is a generative process system constructed and understood based on speech.

### **Characteristics of Scientific Grammar**

Grammar is a part of the language system and should be evaluated using the language system. Patterns and relationships that generally form the language are examined in three different categories: grammar, vocabulary, and phones. If we assume language system as a device, it is divided into three smaller devices, including the grammar device, the vocabulary device, and the sound device (Batani, 1389).

In this research, to characterize the characteristics of the scientific grammar based on generative-transformational theory, what Farshidvard refers to as productive-transforming; we also made use of Iranian grammar-writers, including Abu Mahboob's, Bātenī's and Meshkat al-Dīn's grammars. Writing a specific grammar for a particular language means that we must provide a hypothesis about "the description of the same system in the minds of the speakers of that language" (Batani, 1381, p. 7). Accordingly, based on the transformational grammar, linguists try to figure out how this subconscious knowledge is in the mind. In fact, in a grammar of a language that has grown up with great accuracy, it is only this factor, from among various factors that interact with the language or the creation of speech. It is also only this factor that explores the basis of this subconscious knowledge of the speakers' language. It is clear that grammar reveals the subconscious knowledge of the speakers about language. In the transformational grammar, two levels of deep structure and surface structure, as well as grammatical transformations or transformational rules, are considered for language sentences.

Another characteristic of human language is generation and creativity because humans learn a limited number of rules and words, but the rules that they have learned also have a generative quality. Thus, humans can create an infinite number of sentences from a limited number of phonemes. This is the most important finding by Chomsky. This language property is not at all a trivial feature that put linguists into a serious challenge. (Abu Mahboob, 2004).

The generative rules system creates three parts of the transformational grammar, namely the syntactic, the phonological, and the semantic component. In the semantic component, the meanings of speech is examined, and the syntactic rules are taken as intervening between the semantic component and the surface structure. In determining the theory, the semantic component is known as the basis and the fundamental part of the language structure and the concept of relationships is also identified in the deep structure.

There are two factors involved in determining the meaning of the sentence. Firstly, dictionary/vocabulary and secondly, the rules of interpretation of concepts. There are four parameters in these two factors: 1. Grammatical group, 2. Semantic sign, 3. Semantic features, and 4. Selectional constraints. For example, the grammatical group (*Fereydoun* is a noun) and (*the cow* is a noun), the semantic sign (*Fereydoun has two legs, able to think and speak*) and (*the cow has four legs, grow horns, eats grass*), and selectional restrictions (*Fereydoun two legs, with speaking ability, and the cow four legs with rumination*). Even without grammar, one cannot understand the meaning. The semantic part does not grow meaning of one part of speech only, but rather explores the concept and the meaning of the whole sentence (mental construction of language). (Abu Mahboob, 2004).

The researchers so concluded that in the absence of the grammar and the characteristics of the structure of language, we cannot achieve meaning; therefore the purpose of the generative grammar is to present the quality of sentence production and its explanation in language. In the

generative grammar, sentence is the most important part of the syntax and the beginning [of analysis]. "The syntactic component, which has sentence as its most important part, is analyzable through rewriting its essential parts of structural rules, the vocabulary list, and transformational part" (Momtaz, 2008, p. 277).

In transformational grammar, the syntactic component is generative and the phonological as well as the semantic components are expressive and descriptive (Naseh, 2008). We refer to those components, which are more general as below.

There are many theories about the basis of human language that are called general-language theories. It is possible to measure and assess the general theory of language as to the meaning and usefulness of describing human languages. Each theory of language has a number of advantages (Abu Muhabb, 2004, p. 34). Some theories have no benefit to some languages and may even be deceptive, but the familiarity of the author with grammar and theories as well as their follow-ups prevents one from deviations caused by the relevant effects (Abu Mahboob, 2004).

In explaining the scientific grammar, two other terms should be considered i.e. language competence and language performance, which are the main subject of the description of transformational-generative grammar. Building upon the rules language speakers have in their minds, they can produce and understand any sentence they would like. This unconscious knowledge of language speakers about the language is called "language performance" (MeshkatEddini, 1389, p. 221).

Language performance is the concrete reality of language, which can be seen unlike the abstract reality of language ability (Meshkat Eddini, 1389).

Transparency of rules is another feature of the generative language. In this grammar, everything is clearly expressed, and nothing is delegated to the reader. It is clear that writing such a grammar is a very difficult, time-consuming and complex task, but this does not mean that traditional grammars are simply better because of their sim-

plicity, and that, because of this simplicity, they convey little information about the language structure and use (Batani, 1389).

When language is converted from competence to performance, or by speech takes the former form of writing, it means that the material and environment are both related to language (sound of the energy wave in linguistics is called 'material'), and the realities outside the world in relation to which we use energy waves is called 'environment'). What we call language is not a material of sound and an event in the outside world, but a set of patterns and events and their relationships with the outside world. In the English definition, language is a type of human patterned behavior (Batani, 2002).

### **Formation of Scientific Grammar in Iran**

Due to the protests and inefficiency of the traditional and structural grammar, Iranian linguists and grammarians followed the Western grammarians, especially Chomsky, and wrote a scientific grammar for the Persian language. On the intention of the Persian linguists about writing the scientific grammar, Professor Shafaei in the book 'The Scientific Basis of Persian Grammar' asserted that "fortunately, recently a number of Persian linguists have sought to change their method of research and leave the traditional patterns in favor of writing a grammar at the contemporary scientific level. This is the result of the expertise of Iranian linguists on the historical and scientific analysis of language and the founding of a scientific grammar (Shafaei, 1372). He also noted that some of the old grammar books have been written based on linguistic theories, to mention some examples: MeshkatEddini (transformational-generative grammar), Mohammad Reza Batani (category and scale theory), Khosrow Farshidvard (traditional combinatorial grammar and modern linguistics), (Shafaei, 1373) and ParvizNatalKhanlari (structural theory). Although Khanlari himself has not stated, the author of this article believes that Natal Khanlari is the founder of the structural grammar.

In addition, KhosrowFarshidvard stated that it was noteworthy for the academic and non-

academic colleagues that grammar has entered a new phase and achieved a significant success unlike its status 40 or 50 years ago; therefore, we should not limit ourselves to the traditional issues, simply because they do not suffice. Indeed, instead of reading the simple and incorrect grammars prevailing in schools, it is better to study more deeply the texts such as Khayyam-poor's, PanjOstad's, and Moein's grammars, but one should bear in mind that raising awareness of new research and scientific advances is not easy, and this has for long been accompanied by resistance, suffering and trouble. Certainly, reading hard, but accurate, books is better than reading simple and false texts. One of the Iranian traditional culture patterns, especially among the Sufis, was to invite people to sacrifice and Jihad (Farshidvard, 1388).

In another book, Farshidvard stated that each grammar is a combination of the traditional, structuralist, and scientific grammars. Linguistics has been formed in the west, therefore, it is better to learn grammar first on the basis of linguistics western experts, and then write grammar based on the modern linguistics. They realize that the grammar has not been written based on purely structuralist or transformational theory because each school could be criticized by other schools (Farshidvard, 1383).

Grammar, based on linguistics, is a type of linguistics, which is the result of advances in linguistics and seeks to replace traditional, philosophical, and psychological grammar. Yet, linguistics was not able to replace the traditional grammar existed from a long time ago, due to its insufficient progress (Farshidvard, 1388).

American linguist, Noam Chomsky, in his book 'Syntactic Structures', proposed a new theory that is called a generative-transformational theory. The Syntactic Structures for the first time was the most important language theory that was shaped in the history of linguistics; in fact, it introduced the generative-transformational grammar to the world. The theory of generative-transformational grammar was a revolutionary theory. This language theory, as its name sug-

gests, consists of two distinct, yet relevant features: one the generative, and the other, the transformational qualities. The subject of transformational theory is the mental competence. Mental competence is related to three categories of rules:

- Phonological rules that indicate which structure belongs to their language.
- Syntactic rules that indicate which grammatical sentences are correct.
- Semantic rules that indicate which sentences are semantically incorrect.

In the transformational grammar, there are two structures for each sentence: the deep structure, which is the inner and abstract layer of the sentence, and includes the one-to-one semantic relation of the elements of the sentence. The surface structure that is the external and objective form of the sentence. For example:

*Khosrow's words were not correct.*  
(surface structure)  
*Khosrow spoke - that speech was not right.* (deep structure)

With the help of transformational rules, we move from deep structure to surface structure. The transformational rules include deletion, conversion, addition, displacement. Consequently, the rules of grammar are four types: deep structure rules, transformational rules, semantic rules, and phonological rules (Batani, 1389). Chomsky concludes that if grammar is to describe the facts of the language, and justifies the relation between the sentences of the language; it is not enough to address the signs and the clear and objective connection between the sentences, but to look at the hidden relations between the deep structures of the objective sentences. Therefore, Chomsky considers two structures for each sentence. One is the deep structure which in fact determines the logical and semantic relations of the components of the sentence, and the other, the surface structure that represents the external and objective

form of the sentence and does not necessarily correspond to the deep structure of the sentence (Abu Mahboob, 1383). Some linguists (e.g. Batani, 1389) believe that human languages have similarities in their deep structure, but they have a significant difference in their surface structure; all the categories that traditional grammarians emphasize on belong to surface structure. Based on the strong findings and reasons for the researchers of this article, Mehdi MeshkatEddini, a contemporary linguist and faculty member of the Ferdowsi University of Mashhad in Iran, is the founder of a scientific grammar based on transformational-generative theory. Among them, Batani believes that the first person who wrote the grammar according to the transformational-generative theory is MeshkatEddini (Batani, 1389).

In the 'Abstracts of Linguistics Theses', Mohammad Amin Naseh also states that MeshkatEddini was the founder of the scientific grammar in Iran. He states that the experts in the traditional grammar (i.e. ParvizKhanlari, Mohammad JavadShariati) and the experts of transformational-generative grammar (MeshkatEddini and Moein) are the grammarians (Naseh, 1387). The main feature of MeshkatEddini's grammar is to prove that Persian grammar has three aspects of semantic, phonological, and syntactic, and that in the traditional grammar only semantic or meaning aspect is the focus of attention, and syntax has not been very important, and the structural grammar is strongly opposed to semantics, and its followers believe that all the categories of the grammar could be obtained from the form of words. MeshkhatEddini in the book 'Persian Grammar' based on the transformational-generative theory' states that in this theory, the structure of language consists of three components: of semantics, of phonology, and of syntax. (Naseh, 1387). In addition, MeshkatEddini also illustrates the fact that in grammatical categories, one cannot ignore the elements of semantics through the following examples:

*Ahmad flies on the clouds and He lives in the wolf's house.*

Although the speaker of the Persian language knows that these sentences are not semantically correct, there is a certain syntactic relationship between them. It is, therefore, clear that, the grammatical relations can be distinguished individually and abstractly. A sentence, despite the proper grammatical relations, is only a regular expression only when it is consistent with the knowledge and belief of the speakers about the outside world. In other words, grammar shows the quality of the relationship among words in common language sentences (MeshkatEddini, 1387).

The recognition of objective structures by language speakers is very important, and it is possible to build infinite sentences based on objective structure as well as on the basis of unique language competence. In describing language, one could analyze objective structures more than other structures; therefore, it is clear that the language competence and grammar, which is written to describe it, contains a limited number of generative rules of which numerous objective structures are produced. In addition, it is clear that the stated objective structures, including the deep structure, are the general language sentences. In fact, every sentence we speak or write is an objective representation of the structure of the sentence in the speaking or writing substance. (MeshkatEddini, 1387).

When we analyze the sentences of the language, we find that there are three types of structure, in other words, three rules: *phonological structure*, *semantic structure*, and *syntactic structure*. When we use a sentence in a language, we actually make a relationship between sound and meaning. These three components are sound in the domain of phonological structure, meaning in the field of semantic structure, and communication in the field of syntactic structure. The rules that lie in distribution of words are called phonological structure (such as: 'panj' [five] in 'panjket-aab' [five books] / 'panjsar' [five heads]/ 'panjoqaab' [five eagles]). The rules that govern the meaning of distributed words are called the semantic structure ('zan-e shohardaar'[woman who

has husband], 'shohar-e zandaar'[husband who has wife]). Relationships among the semantic structures of a sentence are called syntactic structure. The elements of semantics and phonology are related to their component (MeshkatEddini, 1387).

Another Iranian grammar expert who is writing a scientific grammar is a contemporary linguist, professor Shafaei, who has paid attention to three aspects of grammar in defining grammatical categories. For example, he attempts to incorporate phonological and semantic issues into the definition of noun, so he states that 'noun is a word that represents things and answers the questions 'who' and 'what' (the semantic definition), bears stress on the last syllable (phonological definition), and follows grammatical rules (Shafaei, 1372).

Another Iranian linguist who has written the scientific grammar of Persian language is Mohammad Reza Bateni, who discussed the definitions of traditional and structural grammars in the book '*A New Look at the Persian Grammar*', and taking into account the views of the American linguist, Chomsky, wrote a grammar called '*Describing the Persian Language Structure*'. This book contains new content and here in this article we have used many discussions presented by this author.

Other linguists and grammarians who have focused on linguistics are Barjeste (1362), Tehrania (1366), Hojatollah Taleghani (1383) and Sadeghi (1384), Khosrow Farshidvard (1383), Mohammad Reza Bateni (1389), Seyyed Kamal Taleghani (1367), MeshkatEddini (1387) and Ja'far Sho'ar (1364). At the end of this discussion, a particular attention needs to be paid to the following points:

We call a person linguist who studies linguistics. Linguists are not required to dominate multiple languages except for the general grammar. Linguist should be able to analyze linguistic phenomena such as word, syllable, syntactic and semantic groups. Another point is that the task of linguist, like any other person engaged in scientific work, is not to prescribe, but to describe

(Academy, 1387). By this definition, we can say that the above-mentioned grammarians aimed at describing the Persian language in their own grammars. Their writings are mainly scientific and descriptive.

## DATA ANALYSIS

### *Explaining the Perspectives of Iranian Grammarians in the Scientific Grammar*

In the new grammar, the views of the Iranian grammarians are important. Based on this research, we can conclude that Iranians are experts in the Arabic syntax and scientific grammar. Jalaluddin Homayee states that

... for the first time in the fifth year A.D, the Greeks established some parts of the rules of their language, and the Romans in the first year A.D wrote syntax of Latin language. From the middle of the fifth year, the Syrians began to compile their language grammatical rules. Arabs began to define the rules of their language from the first century, and the first person who wrote the syntax of Arabic language was Sibuih, which passed in 187 AH. He was from Iran and resided in Kufa and was a man of authority (Homayee, 1347, p. 111).

Through scientific study of language, the Iranian grammarian made innovations and created a scientific grammar (Anvari, 1389). Modern linguistics is not comprehensive with all the advances and scientific perspectives, due to its imperfections, so we can use the strengths of the traditional and modern grammars to achieve a relatively comprehensive grammar that is simple, precise, and in accordance with the same linguistic community (Farshidvard, 1393). In fact, the process of the grammatology of the Persian language and the scope of grammatology has changed, and we are confronted with another concept of grammatology that determines the future course of the evolution of the Persian grammatology (Naseh, 1387). Grammar should be

able to identify the general and limited rules of the grammar and cover an indefinite number of sentences. Indeed, there are many selectional constraints in the modern grammars, and this is noteworthy. In addition, the general rules used, must also be intellectual (Naseh, 1387). Another reason for the scientific grammar is related to the features of the human language that, once put into actual consideration, can help us use the features of the Persian language (Abu Mahboob, 1383). Human language features are generative, structural, imaginative, and in order to actualize this implicit knowledge, one should be specialist and a real practitioner. For this reason, only those who are linguists or have studied grammar can talk about language system. This means that they have learned the relations among the structures of language (Adnani, 1383). Therefore, to protect the rules of Persian language and prevent chaos, language development, along with its transformation, should be through scientific analysis and theoretical justification. Collaboration in various linguistic areas is required. Noncooperation in the linguistic areas results in the lack of coherence in other areas, and for this reason, to illustrate this factor and effectiveness of syntax on each structure in Persian, the structure of non-verbal compound words from the syntactic derivatives are analyzed. (Bateni, 1389). A general theory on language is general only when its predictions come true about structure and working method of all languages. In other words, it must be capable of describing the new languages and proving the correct experience of this basis (Naseh, 1387).

### **Critical Approaches towards Scientific Grammar**

The most important critic of the transformational-generative theory is Farshidvard, who is right in some cases and his criticism is valid. Meshkat-Eddini is one of the advocates of Chomsky's theory. Bateni is another critic who has criticized Chomsky's theory. The researchers presented some of these criticisms and comments.

The doubtful and complicated reasons Chomsky has made for the transformation of deep structure into surface structure have been trans-

lated by our translators in the same way, and without paying attention to its drawbacks, while this group did not even read Chomsky's Western critiques and made his views more revelatory and beyond the level of human perception (Farshidvard, 1387).

The issue of transformation and production in Arabic syntax also shows the old grammarians' attention to the deep structure and surface structure of the transformational-productive (transformational-generative) school. Chomsky, the founder of this school, states that he had used traditional philosophical arguments, such as the philosophical grammar, which had a rational basis; the new school of linguistics is not completely new, and its footprint exists in linguistic research, especially in Iranian studies. As the Iranian scholars have said, "There is nothing new in the world" (Farshidvard, 1383, p. 12). In confirming the views of Farshidvard, MohammadinNaseh believes that syntactic, phonological, and semantic analyses of Sibiu, and in terms of linguistic and comparative analysis of the theory and approach of this linguistic knowledge, we come to the conclusion that the syntax in Islamic linguistics began in the second century A.H. And Sibiu is the first expert in the Arabic syntax, who has written an independent book on Arabic grammar, called 'Al-kebab'. Sibiu was an Iranian. The method of analysis in the book 'Alkebab' shows that Sibiu followed a descriptive approach in Arabic studies. He describes the elements of the language based on their behavior in speech and the role they play in verbal communication. In this way, for the first time, he borrowed words from other behavioral sciences such as ethics and law to determine the elements of language in syntax and semantics. In the phonology of the Arabic language, he defines the features in accordance with the pattern and conditions of production and voiceless or voiced sounds, and managed to categorize them accurately and systematically. At all levels of linguistic analysis, Sibiu has had a behavioral and applied approach. Sibiu's theory of linguistics in the context of analyzing the syntactic structures of language is similar to the theory

of performance is Chomsky's theory (Naseh, 1387).

If the theory of generative-transformational grammar is the most common pattern of research on scientific grammar, it is not the only theory used in this field (Bateni, 1389).

Grammar on the language basis is a type of linguistics that is the result of linguistic advances, and attempts to replace the traditional, philosophical, and psychological grammar, but since linguistics has not advanced sufficiently, replacing it with the traditional grammar, which has a historical root, is a difficult task (Farshidvard, 1383).

## CONCLUSION

The findings of this library study show that the period of traditional grammar-writing is over, and the time is reached for the scientific grammar with the orientation of language theories, and Iranian grammarians have relied on the linguistic grammar of generative-transformational theory among the general theories of language. Therefore, outstanding grammarians such as Khosrow-Farshidvard stated that they were interested in the combination of the grammars and had tried to write a grammar based on the traditional, structuralist, and generative-transformational grammar, which included the triple-sided definition of grammar. Therefore, the main subject of this article is to determine the scientific grammar in Iran, along with the reason for this formation and to identify the views of Iranian experts about this approach. In response, according to the objections to and inadequacy of the traditional and structuralist grammars, linguists and grammarians of Iran followed the Western grammarians, especially Chomsky, and wrote a grammar for the Persian language. The founder of this type of grammar, Mehdi MeshkatEddini, who imitated Chomsky and wrote a book titled 'Persian Grammar Based on the Theory of Generative-transformational', and this book is the initiator of scientific grammar in Iran. Because the scientific grammar is based on theories of language, therefore, two Persian theories that are used in Persian

language, and used by the grammarians, are divided into structural and scientific periods. In the scientific period, the generative-transformational theory is actually the evaluation of the transformational grammar by the structural grammar, comparing the two general theories of language; and, as mentioned earlier, the main feature of MeshkatEddini's grammar is the confirmation that the Persian grammar has three semantic, phonological, and syntactic aspects. In the traditional sense, only the semantic aspect was considered, and syntax was not important, and that the structural grammar is strongly against meaning. The structural grammarians believe that from the form of the word one can determine all grammatical categories of a sentence. Another reason for Iranians to use the scientific grammar is that the scientific grammar is a feature of the human language and we must use these features as well as the features of Persian language. Characteristics of human language include generative, structural, and imaginative. In addition, grammar will be developed for the actualization of implicit knowledge. Therefore, in order to maintain the rules of Persian language and to prevent chaos, we must pay attention to the development of language and adapt scientific and theoretical rules. Finally, we must say that the critique of Chomsky's theory in the United States is also true in Persian, and Iranian critics have confirmed it. Although the theory of generative-transformational is the most famous and commonly used pattern of grammar research today, it has never been accepted as the only existing theory.

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