Semantic Changes of Arabic Loanwords in Persian

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Abstract

Persian language has borrowed numerous words from Arabic. These words in addition to phonological changes in Persian to become consistent with its phonological system, they had semantic changes, so that, in many instances their Persian meanings are in contrast to Arabic ones. The study of changes in loanwords is mainly focused on phonological changes and semantic changes have not been studied much. Semantic changes take place in the course of time. So, their study should be in diachronic method. The present article that is in descriptive- analytic method is an effort to semantic explain of meaning changes of some of Arabic loanwords in Persian, and to show their differences to Arabic meanings. Among the many types of semantic changes, six changes, i.e., antonymy, narrowing, broadening, deterioration and amelioration, are studied in a number of words.

Keywords: semantic changes, antonymy, narrowing, broadening, deterioration, amelioration.

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