

Linguistic Hybridization in Pakistani English Newspapers

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Abstract

English is an international language of business, education, science and technology. In Pakistan people use Urdu words in English language to perform various functions in their local context. People of any bilingual society borrow cultural or political words and use them in foreign language. As Haugen (1950) says borrowing is an attempt; used by a speaker to reproduce in one language patterns which he has learnt in another.

This research highlights inclusion of Urdu words in English newspapers published in Pakistan through descriptive analysis by enlisting them. Data has been collected from two most famous and widely read English newspapers in Pakistan: THE DAWN and THE DAILY TIMES. The research is beneficial for those individuals and institutions who are involved in teaching, learning, assessing and language policymaking. It gives an insight about inclusion of Urdu words in English newspapers for setting borrowing strategies and developing acceptance mechanism for inclusion of local flavor.

Keywords: Lingua Franca, World English, Pakistani English, Inclusion of Urdu words, English Newspapers

Introduction

English language has become an international language in this era of science and technology, as it is being used by the business community all over the world. It has become the language of the electronic as well as the print media spreading so speedily. Most of the educational institutes use

English as medium of instruction and it is the official language of many countries all over the world. It can be said that now English is not only the language of the native speakers but it is the language of majority of the population who adopt it as the second language.

In Pakistan, English is the official as well as the language of the politics. Through the use of English a lot of activities are being carried out in Pakistan. In our schools, colleges, universities, instructions are given through this language as well as examination system in Pakistan also uses English language as the tool of assessment. It is the source of modern knowledge and widely used in Pakistan by electronic and print media in Pakistan. Elite class, highly educated and business community of our country has become habitual of using it in their routine life. It can be said that English has become lingua franca in Pakistan. And without the knowledge of English language, social status is unreachable. In Pakistan if someone has a good command over the English language, it becomes a status symbol for him, he is considered an authority and a supreme position is given to him in our society. In like manner Urdu is also our national language and widely used in urban areas and also in offices and if a person can read and write in Urdu language he is given the status of a literate person. So, in routine life the speakers of English in Pakistan take it a common matter to employ the Urdu lexis into the English. Hence, with the mixture of two languages conversion

comes into being and both the speaker and the listener feel ease. So it is an admitted fact that when English is spoken in a context like Pakistan it borrows the local famous vocabulary especially from Urdu. As a result, a lot of Urdu words have become a permanent part of Pakistani English newspapers.

It is the characteristics of the English language that it is expanding day by day and easily accepting the new words from other languages of the world. English language as being the international language has more non-native speakers than the native speakers. And when the English language is used in a setting where there it is not used as the mother tongue in this situation it enlarges as local lexis is included. So same is the case with the Pakistani English newspapers. Newspapers in our society have become part and parcel of our lives, as most of us begin their day with the newspaper before them. Their availability is easy and they are comprehensible even for a man of street. They are the source through which we can live in contact with the world, through these we come to know the firsthand knowledge regarding politics and other current affairs related to every field of life like: general knowledge, showbiz, politics, education, sports, science and technology and about a lot of other social matters. So in Pakistan, English newspapers prove themselves as facilitators for the English language students. When they read the English newspapers they improve their communicative skills like reading, comprehension skill, grammatical structure and their diction is also enhanced along with a lot of current knowledge.

In Pakistani newspapers it is observed that a lot of English origin words are being used in the Urdu newspapers and same is the case with the English newspaper they are also using the Urdu words. Its reason can be said bilingualism and our strong relations with our local culture. In this research paper, the researchers are supposed to critically analyze bilingual aspects of English newspapers in Pakistan. This research will explain that how English is borrowing new words through the non-native users of this language and how bilingualism and multilingualism are generating new English language varieties and becoming the reason of language change. How Urdu language is active in making the English language variety known as Pakistani English. This paper is to acquire the data and find the Urdu words and gave a detailed analysis. For this purpose data has been collected from the two most famous and more read English newspapers in Pakistan;

1. THE DAWN
2. THE DAILY TIMES

As Pakistan is a bilingual country and English is being used as lingua franca. But the Urdu is national language and language of literature. So, most of the Pakistanis are using Urdu words into English in our local context. In this study, the researchers analyze the English newspapers which have a lot of inclusion of local words especially of Urdu.

Literature Review

In this chapter the researchers have discussed the earlier studies which have been done in this particular area. In Pakistan English language is being used for a long time and it is spoken by many people in their daily conversation. As Pakistani people are considered very close to their local and Islamic culture so naturally they have become habitual to include the Urdu words into English language, especially the English newspapers are using Urdu words deliberately. It can be said that all over the world it is often used as lingua franca by the business community now a days.

As (Crystal, 2003) explains that English has come into being as a lingua franca and is being used to conversation in English with the people whose mother tongue is not English. And only the fourth part of the English users are the natives. English is source of communication for those people whose first language and culture vary from each other (Firth, 1996). Same is the case with the Pakistani community who at a large-scale use English for as a lingua franca within Pakistan and while they interact with English people, not only with English people but with each other. As language is the unique characteristics of human beings and it is creative, productive and changes according to the needs of its users.

Different varieties of a language are spoken in the world and often language change happens when the language comes in contact with another language. And most of the changes happen due to the code mixing, bilingualism, code switching and borrowing while a language is used in a non-native context. In accordance with (Bynon, 1977) English as being the international language, it is not only the language of its native speakers but it is the language of every individual who uses it either he is a native or non-native. When people use it in their daily life they take native words to fulfil their needs of communication. Thomason and Kaufman (1988) explain that in the borrowing process a native speaker of a language involves the features of some other contact language. Cosetsem's (1998) describes the borrowing occurs when a person is speaking a particular language in a non-native social settings at that time it takes the characteristics of other languages especially the lexical items. Suppose an Urdu speaker while speaking English transfers the English words into Urdu, so in this way borrowing happens and after some passage of time that word becomes the permanent part of that language. As (Richard Nordquist, 2017) says Lexical borrowing is the way in which a language user takes a word from another language and uses it in his own context, that particular word is called a borrowed word or a loanword. And in accordance with David Crystal English language is the borrowing a lot of words from more than 200 different languages which are now being used as English words. Code-switching is also considered one of the main reasons or causes of language variation or change, code-switching means the use of different languages, variety, or style, by a speaker within a single situation or context as it is described by (Romaine, 1992). Often code-mixing and code-switching are used interchangeably, code mixing also cause the language change.

Furthermore Tallat (2002, 2003) as cited in (Bilal,A., Warraich, A., Fatima, N., Tiwana, S.,& Bhatti, R, 2012) argues that Pakistani English is changing and reason behind its change is its frequent contact with local languages especially with the Urdu. According to her Urdu have a prominent influence on Pakistani English and it is variation because of the Pakistani speaker's divergence which occurs while code-switching and code-mixing during a conversation. As Robert J. Baumgardner who is well known in this regard as he wrote a lot of articles on the Pakistani English, is of the view that in Pakistan majority of population who use English as their medium of communication are authoritative and from elite class. (Baumgardner, 1993).

A lot of local words, especially Urdu words form the different parts of life like, administration department, clothing, fashion and design, from political scenario, food items, and musical words and particularly in this regard religious register is the most effective one. It seem that these loan words now a days have become the permanent characteristics of Pakistani English. In accordance with (Kennedy, 1993a) as he is of the view in his research article, many Urdu words which are included into English they have not alternatives in the British or USA's English. In conclusion he says that Pakistani newspapers have become habitual of using local lexis and those are very closely related to our cultural background and these make the reporting more interesting and attractive.

Research Methodology

Research Design

This is a case study and qualitative in nature. Its basic purpose is to manipulate the Urdu language words which are being used in Pakistani English newspapers. Through the qualitative approach collected data will be analyzed in detail, Urdu word will be analyzed descriptively.

Data Collection Technique

Urdu words from the collected data were separated and those words in a table shape are given for analysis and newspapers deeply read by the researchers themselves to find out the borrowed words. In nature the collected data is qualitative and is analyzed according to the content analysis methodology. Data collection instrument is the two more read Pakistani English newspapers. English Newspapers are chosen for this

purpose because they use the simple language for communication and widely read by the Pakistani people. These also use local cultural diction just to create interest and sensation in the content.

Population

All the Pakistani newspapers which publish on daily, weekly, monthly and annually basis is the population of the study which will be studied for getting the required data.

Sampling

To save time and money, the researchers have drawn a sample which is considered representative of whole of the population. The researchers have selected the 5 English newspapers randomly from 26-11-17 to 30-11-17 from both of the newspapers “The Dawn” and “The Daily Times”.

Urdu Words Used in Pakistani English Newspapers

S. No.	Word	Meaning	Frequency
1	Allah Malik hai	God is my preserver	1
2	Ashiq-e-Rasool	A person who is blindly in love with the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)	1
3	Bazaars	A shopping place	2
4	Dharna	A protest (the expression of strong disagreement with or opposition to something)	17
5	Diyat	Compensation	1
6	Eid-Milad-un-Nabi	A religious festival which is meant to celebrate the birthday of the holy prophet Muhammad	14
7	Eid-ul-Fitr	A religious festival in which is celebrated by Muslims	1
8	Galam-galooch	The use of abusive language which is harmful or wrong in the society	
9	Hajj	pilgrimage (a religious journey made by the Muslims towards the holy city of Mecca	1
10	Haq-mehr	Money or gold which is given to the bride by the bridegroom at the time of their marriage	1
11	Haram	A strictly prohibited or forbidden act in Islam	1

12	Imam Masjid	A religious scholar in Islam who leads the five times congregational prayers in the mosque	1
13	Imambargah	A place of worship, especially related to a Muslim sect named Shia	1
14	Jagirs	A lot of land or other worthy things	1
15	Jihad	A spiritual fight	1
16	Jirga	A group of elites who administer an area	3
17	Jiyala	A blind lover of someone	1
18	Kaatib	A person who writes	1
19	Khatm-i-Nabuwat	The end of prophet hood	31
20	Masjid	Worship place for Muslims	1
21	Maulanas	Religious scholars	1
22	Mohtarma	A respected word spoken for the respected ladies	1
23	Mullah	A religious scholar (especially in Islam)	2
24	Mureed	Disciple	1
25	Namoos-i-Risalat	Honor of prophet hood	2
26	Nazim-e-Salat	In-charge of the prayers	1
27	Nikah	Marriage	1
28	Nikahnama	Marriage certificate	1
29	Qawwali	A way of singing which is related to Islam	1
30	Qisas	compensation	1
31	Qul	prayer	1
32	Seerat-ul-Nabi	The way, prophet Muhammad led His life	1
33	Shaheed	Martyred	1

34	Shaheed-i-Islam	Martyred in the way of Islam	1
35	Sharia	Islamic laws	1
36	Sharwar kameez	Pent and shirt	1
37	Sunnah	The acts performed or said by the holy prophet	1
38	Ulema	Religious scholars	3
39	Umrah	A religious journey to Mecca by the Muslims	1

Discussion

1) *Allah Malik hai*

This is an Urdu language phrase, which is spoken by its native speakers when they totally submit their will to Allah, the almighty. They trust in Allah, and feel secured.

2) *Ashiq-e-Rasool*

A person who blindly follows and is in deep love with the holy prophet Muhammad (peace and blessing be upon Him) is called ashiq-e- Rasool. This is word is mostly spoken in Asian countries by the Muslims.

3) *Bazaars*

It is the place where things are sold or purchased, and there are a lot of shops. In English, we can say it a market or a shopping mall.

4) *Dharna*

A protest or strike by some people who raise their voice in favor of something or in oppose of something. In Pakistani scenario this word has become popular after the protest of PTI Chairman, Imran Khan in oppose of government.

5) *Diyat*

This word is taken from Arabic language, it is used in Islamic world. When a person hurts someone or damages his body or his property in response he is forced to pay for that particular act to the subject man.

6) *Eid-Milad-un-Nabi*

Eid-Milad-un-Nabi is celebrated by the Muslims every year on the 12th Rabi- ul-Awal, an Islamic month, as on this particular day, the holy prophet Muhammad was born.

7) *Eid-ul-Fitr*

For the Muslims there are two festivals which they celebrate in a year, one of them is Eid-ul-Fitr. Eid-ul-Fitr is celebrated on the first Shawal according to the Islamic calendar after the whole month of Ramadan.

8) *Galam-galoch*

Use of abusive language in a wrong or offensive way to hurt someone is known as galam-galoch in Urdu language.

9) *Hajj*

In Islam, a religious journey towards the holy city of Mecca by the Muslim at least once in their life, if it is affordable for him. It is performed in the month of Zilhaj, according to the Islamic calendar.

10) *Haq-mehr*

This word is taken from Arabic language. Haq-mehr is a sum of money or a quantity of gold or any other precious metal which is paid to the bride by the bridegroom on the day of their marriage. According to the Islamic laws, when a male and female are married, the male partner gives a sum of money to the female at the time of their Nikah. This money is known as haq-mehr.

11) *Haram*

Haram word is taken from Arabic language. It means strictly prohibited or forbidden. To explain this word, an explanation is given, in the holy Quran or in the saying of the holy prophet Muhammad (PBUH) Muslims are strictly prohibited or forbidden to perform some actions, this prohibition is called haram. This word is also used for the meat of those animals which are not allowed to eat in Islam or those which are not slaughtered in accordance with the Islamic rules.

12) *Imam Masjid*

In Islam a religious scholar, whose duty is to lead the congregational prayers five times a day is known as Imam Masjid. They are paid by the local community and respected people of the Muslim community. They have a lot of knowledge of the holy Quran and the hadiths of the holy prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and they learn the Quran by their heart.

13) *Imambargah*

This is a worship place where Muslims, especially Shia Muslims offer their prayers and other religious discussion and preaching is also done at this specific place.

14) *Jagirs*

This word is used for a lot of wealth, especially if it is in the form of agricultural or commercial land. This shows the wealth of a person. If a person has a jagir it can be said he have a lot of wealth.

15) *Jihad*

This word is taken from Arabic language, it means struggle. It is used for a person who is having a spiritual struggle within himself to stop himself breaking the religious or moral laws. It is also used for a holy war fought by Muslims to defend their religion or country.

16) *Jirga*

A group of elite class people who lead the people in their specific area. This word is mostly used in the tribal and KPK areas. The people who are members of the Jirga hold a lot of powers; their decision is the final one. In other words, it can be said that they hold the whole administrative powers.

17) *Jiyala*

This word is often used in the political scenario of Pakistan. A Jiyala is a person who is blind follower or in deep love with some person or a political party or any other organization.

18) *Kaatib*

Kaatib is an Urdu word, which is used for a person who writes especially whose hand writing is so clear, neat and clean.

19) *Khatm-i-Nabuwat*

Khatm-i-Nabuwat means the end of prophet hood. In accordance with the Islamic religion, prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is the last prophet of Allah. The series of prophet hood has ended after the prophet hood of Muhammad (PBUH). So if someone claims prophet hood after the prophet hood of Muhammad (PBUH), he is a liar.

20) *Masjid*

Masjid is a specific place in the Muslim world, where the Muslims worship the Allah, the almighty five times a day.

21) *Maulanas*

This word is taken from the Arabic language, it means the religious scholars. Maulana is honor word which is used for the religious people who have a lot of knowledge of religion and have beard and

practically act upon the Islamic teachings.

22) *Mohtrama*

It is honor word used for the most respected ladies in the Urdu speaking countries. It is used to show respect and honor someone.

23) *Mullah*

Mullah is an informal word used for the religious scholars in Islamic religion, especially in Pakistan and India.

24) *Mureed*

A disciple, a person who believes in and follows the teachings of a religious or political famous personality. Particularly this word is used in the sub- continent by the Muslim community.

25) *Nammos-e-Risalat*

The honor and respect of prophet hood means Nammos-e-Risalat. Muslims say this word to honor and protect the name of prophet hood of the holy prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

26) *Nazim-e Salat*

The in-charge of prayers are called nazim-e-Salat. First of all this word was used in the reign of General Zia-ul-Haq in Pakistan. Nazim-e-Salat were selected to motivate/preach the people to make them offer prayers five times a day.

27) *Nikah*

Origin of this word is Arabic; it is used in the meanings of marriage. Actually, nikah is the process through which a male and female become husband and wife, in accordance with the teachings of Islam.

28) *Nikahnama*

This is a compound word whose first part is from Arabic and second is from the Urdu language. Nikahnama is the written certificate of a marriage.

29) *Qawali*

Qawali is a specific way of singing related to Islamic world.

30) *Qisas*

Qisas is a word used in the meanings of compensation. For example, if a person hurts or damages to someone's body or property, he is forced to pay money or something else to compensate.

31) *Qul*

It is a word used for prayer at some specific time, especially it is a supplication which is offered after the death of a person.

32) *Seerat-ul-Nabi*

Seerat-ul-Nabi is an Arabic origin word, used for the study of the whole practical life of holy prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Through the seerat-ul- Nabi Muslims study the each and every aspect of prophet Muhammad (PBUH) from the very first day till the last day of prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

33) *Shaheed*

It is an Arabic origin word used for a person who suffers very much or is killed because of his religious or political belief. This word is used mostly by the Muslim community.

34) *Shaheed-i-Islam*

Shaheed-i-Islam is word used for a person who is martyred in the way of Islam. Shaheed is a word used for a person who is killed while defending his religion especially Islam.

35) *Sharia*

Sharia is a word of Arabic language. This word is used for the whole set of rules and regulation of Islamic religion. All the decisions are made based on these rules in the Islamic world.

36) *Sharwar kameez*

This is an Urdu word which is used for pent and shirt. This is conventional word for dress of Asian

region people.

37) *Sunnah*

Sunnah is a word taken from the Arabic language; it is mostly used in the world of Islam. Sunnah is used for acts, actions and sayings of holy prophet Muhammad (PBUH), it is necessary for the Muslims to act upon them in their practical lives.

38) *Ulema*

It is an Arabic word which is used for the religious scholars, who preach the Islamic teachings and have a lot of knowledge of their religion.

39) *Umrah*

Umrah is an Arabic word which is used for a religious travel towards Mecca with intention of getting closeness to Allah, the almighty.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it can be said that local words of Urdu language at a large scale are used in Pakistani English newspapers. This type of Urdu words inclusion into local English newspapers becoming the source of variation in Pakistani English and lexical items are also increasing as well as changing. Causes behind this variation, change or borrowing is code switching and code mixing with the mixture of local languages as Pakistan is a multilingual country. Critically detailed analysis of the selected newspapers is prove the amount of Urdu words in English newspapers is increasing day by day especially in the columns and news section. The detailed analysis explains the difference among the Pakistani and British variety of the English through these newspapers. This paper expresses that how a local language affects when a person whose mother tongue is not English use it within a local context. At the end it can be concluded that mostly borrowed words belong to the religion, politics and culture.

On the whole it is said that these English newspapers are an authentic source for the language learners and if the language of the newspapers would be far from comprehension then the learners would not be able to get the real learning and their target will be missed. Therefore the language which is used by the newspapers should be simple, clear and free from the vernacular/slang words that are used locally in Pakistan.

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