

The study of Lexical and Phonological Remnants of Middle Persian in Kermani dialect

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Abstract

Language is changing as a social phenomenon and in this changing process some dialects resist against some historical changes and ancient forms may still be used by native speakers. In this research, we hypothesize that there are some lexical and phonological middle Persian remnants in Kermani dialect. The research zone is kerman city and informants are selected from upper 50 years old native people of kerman city. Lexical middle Persian remnants include words which are used in Kermani dialect in the same way as middle Persian. Of course, some of them bear some tiny phonological and semantic changes. Phonological data include some middle Persian phonemes in Kermani dialect that are changed or deleted in new Persian language. The findings indicate that Kermani dialect resists against some lexical and phonological changes from middle Persian and this means that kermani dialect as a southeastern dialect of central Iranian dialects is old and ancient one.

Key words: middle Persian, new Persian, kermani dialect, and linguistic change.

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