

INVESTIGATING VARIATION IN WASITI IRAQI ARABIC

Assist. Lect. Khalida H. Addai

Department of English / College of Education/
Wasit University

ABSTRACT

Wasiti Iraqi Arabic is the sub-dialect spoken across Wasit Province in Iraq. This sub-dialect has its own characteristics which make it different from the other Iraqi sub-dialects in some respects. This paper attempts to investigate the linguistic variation of Wasiti Iraqi Arabic. First, Iraqi Arabic is introduced and reviewed. Next , Wasiti Iraqi Arabic is discussed first by introducing this dialect, elaborating on its phonological, morphological and syntactic variation. Linguistically, Wasit dialect is divided into three main areas: south,centre, and north .Each part is effected by the geographically adjacent dialect(s) . Finally, the paper reaches some conclusions and findings concerning the topic.

Key Words : Iraqi Arabic , Colloquial Arabic , Sociolinguistic Variation.

مستخلص

يتناول هذا البحث اللهجة الواسطية العراقية ,وهي اللهجة المنطوق بها في أرجاء محافظة واسط الواقعة في وسط العراق. يتطرق البحث في البداية إلى اللهجة العراقية باعتبارها اللهجة الرئيسية التي تضم كافة اللهجات العراقية , من خلال التعريف بتلك اللهجة و ذكر بعض خصائصها .بعد ذلك يتعرض البحث إلى اللهجة الواسطية العراقية و توضح هذه الدراسة التنوع في لهجة واسط على المستوى اللفظي والصرفي والنحوي .وفي نهاية البحث , قدمت بعض الاستنتاجات واهم نتائج البحث.

الكلمات الرئيسية :اللهجة العراقية , العربية الدارجة, التنوع الاجتماعي اللغوي.

1. INTRODUCTION AND SUBJECT OVERVIEW

A *dialect* is a variety of language which is related to regional or social factors. Thus, the term *dialect* can involve regional and social dialects. Regional dialects are used by people of a particular geographical area within a speech community (Spolsky, 1998:29

).Social dialects originate among the social groups and are mainly related to social class, education and sex (Hudson,1980:39). This study is confined to the first type of variation irrespective of social factors.

Iraqi Arabic, hence IA, is one of the varieties of Standard Arabic, SA. It belongs to the north-eastern Arab dialects, which are group of colloquial dialects which involve, in addition to IA, Jordanian, Palestinian, Lebanese and Syrian. With the exclusion of Kurdish language, which is spoken in the north of Iraq, IA has dialects which make the present IA as it is spoken across Iraq. IA includes three major dialects; Northern, Central and Southern. The Northern dialect is that which is spoken in Mosul, the capital city of Nineveh Province, and the adjacent areas. This dialect is characterized by the use of qaf-sound, and therefore it is called *qiltu-dialect*. The Central Dialect is that which is spoken in and around Baghdad. It is also known as Baghdadi Dialect. This dialect differs from the two major dialects in many respects. The Southern Dialect is the dialect spoken in the southern provinces of Iraq. Sometimes, this dialect is restricted to Basra Province and all the neighbouring provinces, seeing that this province is the greatest of all the southern provinces in area and population. The Southern Dialect is different from the two former dialects in that [g] is mostly used in speaking and thus it is called *gilit-dialect* (Erwin, 2004:35). Iraqi native speakers understand each other perfectly, but they do speak differently. e.g. *a:nə gutlɪf* (I told you, addressed to a female), in the common Iraqi dialect, is *a:na: qiltu:lku:* in the Mosuli dialect (Al-Khalesi, 2001: 67).

Similar classification has been made to the dialects of Iraq by Blanc (1964 : 5). His view is that IA is categorized into two groups of dialects; the “qiltu-dialect” which is spoken in northern Iraq, and the “gilit-dialect” which is spoken in central and southern Iraq. Further, these two dialects include sub-dialects which in turn have their own characteristics. These sub-dialects are spoken across the extra-regional areas and provinces, i.e. off the borders of Mosul, Baghdad and Basra.

2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Though a lot of academic literature has been written on the Iraqi Arabic or on provincial sub-dialects, such as Baghdad, Basra, Mosul and other areas, no single study has tackled the Iraqi sub-dialect spoken across Wasit Province. As for phonology, most of the scholarly works written on the phonology of IA have tackled IA phonology in general without specific consideration for areas or province.

3. WASITI IRAQI ARABIC

Wasit Province lies in central Iraq. It lies between 33° latitude in the north and 32° latitude in the south, and between 44° longitude from the west and 47° longitude from the east and it is situated between six provinces; Baghdad and Diyala from the north, Babylon and Qadissiya from the west, and Thi-qar and Missan from the south. As for the east, Wasit has international borders with Iran. River Tigris runs through the province flowing from the north to the south cutting the province into roughly two main parts. (See Map.1). It has an area of about 434128 sq.kilometres and a population of 1097949.*. Administratively, Wasit Province is subdivided into five districts (əqdijə) and eleven sub-districts (nəwa:hı:), in addition to Kut City which serves as both the capital city of the province and as one of the districts. (See Map. 1).

Wasiti Iraqi Arabic, thus WIA, is the Iraqi sub-dialect spoken across Wasit Province. The location of Wasit between two major provinces; Baghdad from the north and Thi-qar from the south is very significant, not only because these two provinces make large borders with Wasit but also because for long these two provinces have affected the sort of the sub-dialect spoken across Wasit as they involve the presence of two Iraqi major dialects, Baghdadi Dialect in the north and gilit-Dialect in the south, an effect that is clearly seen in the sort of the sub-dialect spoken across Wasit

* According to 1997 Census, Wasit population was 783614, while in 2008 it was estimated to be 1097949. (Source: Iraqi Ministry of Planning, Central Dept. of Census and Development, Population Estimates and Predictions, Baghdad, 2010).

4.1. THE LINGUISTIC VARIABLES CHOSEN IN THIS STUDY

WIA is influenced by two main dialects; the Baghdadi Dialect in the north and the gilit-Dialect in the south. This influence has risen in the phonological, morphological and syntactic features of WIA. A set of linguistic variables were chosen in each aspect, for the sake of investigation. These linguistic variables are the most noticeable in WIA and are given here in order to show the sociolinguistic impact of ND and SD dialects on the WIA speech community.

WIA further has sub-varieties which are based on variations in sound, form and grammar.*

4.1.1. PHONOLOGICAL VARIATION

Phonological variation in WIA can be considered in the phonematic variables , where a set of interchangeable phonemes do exist in use in single words and these variables are significant as they mark regional varieties.

4.1.1.1. THE a:nə / a:nɪ VARIABLE

a:nə is a linguistic variable which is used in IA referring to the first person pronoun. i.e. the speaker. It is used by the third singular personal pronoun *he/ she* when talking about something happens to *him/her*. This variable has two variants: a:nə which is used in SD dialect and a:nɪ which is used in BD or CD dialect. This variable, therefore, helps distinguish between the influence of SD and CD on WIA. It has been noted that the people who live in northern Wasit use a:nɪ as they are affected by BD dialect while the people who live in southern Wasit use a:nə for they are affected by SD dialect. The two variants are used in Kut city as some of the speakers use a:nə whereas, other people use a:nɪ. Table (1) below illustrates the use of that variable across Wasit Province.

*The author has deliberately depended on hearing as for the gathering of utterances so as to compare and analyze these data.

Table (1)
Variant Forms of the First Person Pronoun

Southern Wasit	Central Wasit	Northern Wasit
a:nə	a:nə / a:nɪ	a:nɪ
a:nə xa:bərtə	a:nə / a:nɪ xa:bərtə	a:nɪ xa:bərtə a:nɪ
<i>I phoned him</i>	-----	-----

4.1. 1.2. THE KINSHIP TERMS VARIABLE

Of the significant variables in WIA are the kinship terms , as they show a great deal of variation in this sub-dialect. As in the other variables, this variable signals different forms that are mainly based on regional differences.

These terms are associated with kinship and family relationships ,for example, *father , mother , son , daughter ,..etc.*

The set on the left represents the terms that are based on or taken from CD or BD dialect and the set on the right represents the forms taken from SD dialect, which is reflected on the WIA spoken in northern and southern Wasit. As for central Wasit, both forms are used. Table (2) below shows the state of that variable across Wasit Province.

Table (2)
Variation through kinship Terms

Southern Wasit	Central Wasit	Northern Wasit
ibu:ɪ:	ibu:ɪ: / əbu:-jə	əbu:-jə (my father)
ixu:ɪ:	ixu:ɪ: / əxu:-jə:	əxu:-jə (my brother)
um-mɪ:	um-mɪ: / ma:mə	ma:mə (my mother)
rɪdɪ:ʃtɪ:	rɪdɪ:ʃtɪ: / ɪxtɪ:	ɪxtɪ: (my sister)
mærtɪ:	mærtɪ: / zəwɪdʒtɪ:	zəwɪdʒtɪ: (my wife)
xadɪmtək	xadɪmtək / bɪntɪ	bɪntɪ (my daughter)
xadmək	xadmək / ɪbnɪ:	ɪbnɪ: (my son)
jəd-dɪ:	jəd-dɪ: / dʒəd-dɪ:	dʒəd-dɪ:(my grandfather)
həb-bu:btɪ:	həb-bu:btɪ: / bɪ:bɪ	bɪ:bɪ (my grandmother)

4.1.1.3. PROTHESIS

Prothesis means the insertion of a short vowel at the beginning of a word. This phenomenon is common both in historical change (e.g. incredible as / ink'redibl/and in connected speech (left turn pronounced as /'left turn). Crystal(1991;284).

In WIA ,some words have the short vowel [ɪ] inserted at the beginning.Hence, sɪmtʃə > ɪsmʃə (fish) , dʒɪbɪn > ɪdʒbənə (cheese), tənəkə > ɪtnɪkə (tin-can) , lɪbən > ɪlbənə (yoghurt), ʃəxələ > ɪʃxələ (she-goat),ʃəkər > ɪʃkərə (sugar) and buʃəl > ɪbʃələ (onion). Under this process, words are

shifted into feminine diminutives. Such phenomenon is very common in northern Wasit and is noticed in strictly informal speech and probably has to do with to the literacy level of the speakers related.

4.1.1.4 . OTHER PHONOLOGICAL VARIABLES

4.1.1.4.1. REGIONALLY-BASED VARIATION

The table below shows the variation which is based on the three main areas in Wasit : Southern , Central and Northern.

Table (3)

Southern Wasit	Central Wasit	Northern Wasit
ha:ðə (this)	hei-ja:tə / ha:ðə	ha:ðə we:nə
nəhər (river)	ʃət	Goud
xa:tɪr (so that)	əht-tə	ʃu:d
xouf (good /well)	tei-jib	ze:n

4.1.1.4.2. PHONEMATIC VARIATION

Phonematic variation is concerned with the sort of variation as seen in the variant phonetic forms.

4.1.1.4.2.1 [k/ ʃ] VARIABLE

It is the variable that is seen in the pronunciation of several words. It is marked by the phonemes [k] and [ʃ] ;the first signals urban varieties while the second indicates rural varieties.

mkəs-sib* = mʃəs-sib (crusty)

Clarity et al.(2003:122).

kɪfən = ʃɪfən (coffin)

Abu-Haider (1988:75).

With Science and knowledge We build the new Iraq

4.1.1.4.2.2. [dʒ/g] VARIABLE

It is the variable that exists in the pronunciation of several words. It is marked by the dʒ] and [g]. The first indicates rural varieties and the phonemes [second indicates urban varieties.
dʒɪdɪr vs. ɡɪdɪr (cooking pot)

Mansour (1991:56).

brɪ:dʒ vs. brɪ:g (water pot)

Erwin (2004:89).

ɪ:dʒa:bɪl vs. ɪ:ɡabul (to see /meet someone)

Al-Khalesi(2001:32).

4.1.1.4.2.3. [dʒ/ j] VARIABLE

It is a variable that is seen in the pronunciation of several words. It is marked by the dʒ] and [j]. The first phoneme indicates urban varieties and phonemes [the second one indicates rural varieties.
dɪdʒa:dʒ vs. dɪjɑɪ (chicken)

Daffar.(1990:82).

ɪdʒə vs. ɪjə (he came)

Abdul-Hassan(1988:44).

-- *The short hyphen (-) represents geminate consonants.

ta:dʒ vs. taɪ (the name of a local shrine *Tajuldeen*)

ɪdʒbeɪ-jɪr ə vs. ɪ:beɪ-jɪr (male name)

(ibid)

mɪndʒa:nbɪ: vs. mɪnjəm-mɪ: (on my part)

Abu-Haidar(1988:80).

4.1.1.4.2.4. [ʏ/q] VARIABLE

With Science and knowledge We build the new Iraq

It is a variable in which the phonemes [ʏ/q] are substituted with each in words in which these phonemes are used. This variable is common in rural and semi-rural varieties of WIA speech community. Hence, words such as ʏəza:l (deer), burtəqa:l (orange) and qələm (pencil) are pronounced as ʏələm, qəza:l and burtəʏa:l.

4.1.3.4. OTHER VARIABLES

There are several other minor variables that are noticed in the WIA speech community. These include [ɫ] as a dark and light one as in gəlɫ: and gəlɫ: (frying), gɫɫn and gɫɫn (oil/gallon); [ð] and [ð̥] as in na:ðu:r and na:ðu:r (goggles/binoculars); [u] and [ɪ] dʒumʕə and dʒumʕə (Friday); [s] and [s̥] as in sba:nə and as in śba:nə (spanner) and səbbu:rə and śəbbu:rə (board); [q] and [g] as in qəlla:bɪ: and gəlla:bɪ: (tipper); [ə] and [ɪ] as in bɪskɪt and bəskəwɪ:t (biscuit/crackers), ʕɪʃə and ʕəʃə (supper) and ʏɪdə and ʏədə (dinner); [e:] and [ɪ:] or [eɪ] as in bute:tə and buteɪtə (potatoes) and qe:ʔa:n and qɪ:ʔa:n (shoelaces).

se:ba:jə and sɪ:ba:jə

4.1.1.4.2. METATHESIS

Metathesis means the alteration in the normal sequence of elements in a sentence, usually of sounds, but sometimes of syllables and words or other units (Crystal;1991 : 217).

e.g. -The old English *brid* becoming *bird*.
-aks for ask

(ibid)

The process of metathesis is found in the rural WIA speech communities and is sometimes noticed in the WIA uneducated speech.

dʒa:ru:b = dʒu:ra:b (socks)
CVCVC = CVCVC

ka:bɔɪ = koubaɪ (jeans)
CVCV = CVCV

śıgıd = śıdıg (true)

CVCVC = CVCVC

kəhrəba:ʔ = kərhəba:ʔ (electricity)

CVCVCVC = CVCCVCVC

Words might have a final phonemic replacement represented by replacing the final consonant sound with [l], this is common in some English loans in WIA, hence ;

kəbsu:l = kəbsu:n (capsule) and rı:mout = rı:moun (remote control)

dʒırı:ka:n = dʒılı:ka:n (jerry-can)

4.1.2. MORPHOLOGICAL VARIATION

WIA shows a great deal of morphological variation in the words used in this sub-dialect. Most of this variation is regional-based: after SD and BD varieties. The other variations are either sociolinguistic or register-specific.

4.1.2.1 THE ʔa: / ləʔəd VARIABLE

In IA, ʔa: and ləʔəd are used at the beginning of interrogative sentences. ʔa: is used in SD dialects, while ləʔəd is used in CD dialect .. These two variants are both used in WIA. ʔa: is used in the southern cities of Wasit such as Hayy, Muwaffaqiya and Basha'ir . ləʔəd is used in the northern cities of Wasit ; Suwaira, Hafriya, Aziziya and Duboony. As for central Wasit, across Kut city, both of these variants are used, and in some suburban varieties ʔa: ləʔəd is used as a single variant. which is an indication that WIA is highly influenced by CD and SD dialects. See table (1).

4.1.2. wıgəʔ/ ta:h VARIABLE

It is a common variable in WIA in which two variant forms are used :

wigəf and h (to fall down).The first variant is based on CD or BD dialect, ta:

whereas the second one is based on SD dialect.The influence of these two said dialects on WIA is vividly seen through this variable. The people who live in northern Wasit use wigəf as they are affected by BD dialect while the people who live in the southern Wasit use for they are affected by SD dialect . The two variants are used in Kut city as some of the speakers use ta:hwigəf whereas, . Table (4) below shows the use of that variable across other people use Wasit Province.

Table (4)
The tʃa: / ləʃəd Variable in WIA

SOUTHERN WIA	CENTRAL WIA	NORTHERN WIA
<p>tʃa:</p> <p>tʃa: le:ʃ ma: dərəs ? <i>So why didn't he study?</i></p>	<p>tʃa: ləʃəd</p> <p>tʃa: ləʃəd le:ʃ ma: dərəs? -----</p>	<p>ləʃəd</p> <p>ləʃəd le:ʃ ma: dərəs ? -----</p>
<p>ta:h</p> <p>ta:h ilwələd <i>The boy fell down.</i></p>	<p>wigəf/ta:h</p> <p>wigəf/ta:h ilwələd -----</p>	<p>wigəf</p> <p>wigəf ilwələd -----</p>

4.2.3.OTHER MORPHOLOGICAL VARIABLES

4.2.3.1. REGIONAL AND URBAN VARIATION

Intimate, friendly addresses, to beg or please the addressee:

jə ʃumri: My life
jə gəlbi: My heart
jə ru:hi: My soul
jə ʃe:ni: My eyes

These endearments are heard in spoken language as single words,

With Science and knowledge We build the new Iraq

jəʕumri: rather than two words *jə ʕumri:* and this is because the first word ends with a short , rather than long , vowel .

4.2.3.2. LEXICAL FEMINIZATION

It means rendering a word, singular or plural, feminine, by adding an initial vowel .This is common in WIA :

ʃəkər = ɪʃkəra:t (sugar)

dʒɪbɪn = ɪdʒbəna:t (cheese)

Other cases are of lexical variation of different cases are mentioned below:

xɪrdə vs. ʃərəf (money change)

ʃɪrkəb vs. ʃɪʃfəd

ʃəmʃə vs. tɪʃla:gə (hanger)

ʔəbɪ:b dɪktour (doctor)

məke:nə vs. muəħɪr-rɪk (engine)

məxəd-də vs. wɪsa:də (pillow)

dər-ra:dʒə vs. ma:tour (motorcycl)

su:g vs. wla:jə (city centre)

srndʒə vs. ubrə (syringe)

Øil-la:ɖʒə vs. frɪ:z (fridge)

həra:rə vs. ʃxu:nə (fever)

ɪɖrə vs. kərwə (car fee)

bədlə vs. qa:t (suit)

dʒa:ke:t vs. sɪtrə (jacket)

fər-ra:fə vs. ʃa:mɪlə (female janitor)

xja:t vs. tɪʃa:l (sewing)

kəm-mɪ:-jə vs. hɪs-ʃə (ration)

4. 1.3. SYNTACTIC VARIATION

Syntactic variation is concerned with the sentence structures used in WIA speech community, especially those who live in Kut and suburban communities.

4.1.3.1. DOUBLE NEGATION

It means that two negative forms are used simultaneously in the same sentence. Each negative has its separate value and the paraphrases cancel out each negative, leaving an entirely positive sentence in meaning. (Quirk et al,1985:799)

- Not many people have nowhere to live. {‘ Most people have somewhere to live’}

- Nobody has nothing to eat. {‘ Everyone has something to eat’}

(ibid.)

In WIA, double negation is used. This construction is thought to have originated under the influence of CD variety , for the construction is used in

Baghdad urban community and it is often used by female speakers and educated people.

məhħəd mə-jɪdrɪ: (nobody knows)

məhħəd mə-jɪgdər (nobody can)

məhħəd məko (nobody here)

The sentences literally mean *nobody doesn't know* and *nobody cannot*.

4.3.2. DEMONSTRATIVE + where (ha:ðə we:nə)

This construction is used as an answer to questions about persons and places. It is used particularly by the people who lived at the north of Wasit. They use ha:ðə we:nə to refer to the male, and haɪ we:nhə referring to female.

e.g. we:n əhməd? ha: ðə we:nə
(where is Ahmed?) This is where he is.
we:n ɪlməhkəmə ? haɪ we:nhə

(Where is the court?) This is where it is ?

Thus , the people who live in Kut city use the demonstrative (heɪ-ja:tə) affected by BD dialect, whereas the people who live in the southern Wasit use the demonstrative(ha:ðə or həðə:kə) referring to male whether near or distant and (ha:jə or həðɪ: tʃə) referring to female whether near or distant.

SD

CD

ND

heɪ-ja:tə

ha:ðə we:nə

ha:ðə

4.3.3. IMPERFECT MARKERS dʒaɪ-/ də-

dʒaɪ- and də- are alternative forms used at the beginning of sentences to indicate progressive tense. They are used with verb forms denoting

With Science and knowledge We build the new Iraq

present simple or imperfect tense to indicate progressiveness in action. **dʒaɪ-/ də-** is often followed by a verb form in present:

dʒaɪ-jɪktɪb vs. **də-jɪktɪb** (He is writing)

Mansour(1991:19).

dʒaɪ-gu:l vs. **də-gu:l** (He is saying).

These alternative forms are based on the two previously mentioned dialects; **dʒaɪ-** is used in SD and **də-** in CD. Thus, they also imply a semi-sociolinguistic or stratal variation. These forms are used with present tense only; they are not used with future or past tense (Mahdi,1985:70).

7. CONCLUSIONS

In the light of the discussion elaborated on previously , the following conclusions have been reached :

1. WIA can be considered as a cross-dialect or inter-dialectal variety having combined traces of both of ND in the north and SD in the south.
2. WIA is highly influenced by ND and SD. The amount of such influence can be seen in the utterances which share features of both ND and SD.
3. WIA has a variation in morphology, phonology and syntax.
4. WIA speakers are more aware of sociolinguistic differences in speaking, which thus make them to be more prestigious in choosing the vocabulary items when it comes to different settings or conversational situations. Thus , in formal situations the vocabulary is urban and ND-based whereas in informal or friendly situations the vocabulary is informal and SD-based .

8. STUDY FINDINGS

The study finds that :

- 1. WIA has shown to have regional, sociolinguistic and stratal variations.**
- 2. Variation in WIA is sometimes linked to formal /informal situations.**
- 3.The study finds that variation in WIA is influenced by such factors as place , setting and other sociolinguistic factors.**
- 4. Variations within WIA show two types of approximation : the first approximation is toward Kut City and its suburbs and the second one is toward the SD or CD varieties.**

9. SUGGESTIONS FOR PROSPECTIVE RESEARCH

Below are some suggested areas of research that can be investigated in further works:

- 1. Certain phonological aspects in WIA such as stress patterns, germination and intonation might be investigated.**
- 2. There are other variation-related factors such as gender , education and age that can be studied to highlight their role in the WIA variation.**
- 3. The current paper has tackled variation across Wasit Province with no focus on any single city or area . Hence , a further study may investigate these sub-variations, particularly those found in areas adjacent to other provinces such as Numaniya , Hayy , Jassan and Badra.**
- 4. Variation in WIA can also be investigated through formal / informal settings to see how significant this area in relation to the topic.**

10. REFERENCES

- Abdul-Hassan, R.(1988). Variation in the Educated Spoken Arabic of Iraq: A Sociolinguistic Study. PhD Thesis. Leeds: University of Leeds.
- Abu-Haidar, F. (1987)." The Treatment of the Reflexes of /q/ and /k/ in the Muslim Dialect of Baghdad " Journal of Arabic Linguistics, 17:1 (41-57).
- (1988)."Speech Variation in the Muslim Dialect in Baghdad : Urban vs. Rural " Journal of Arabic Linguistics,19:2(74-80).
- (1992). Shifting Boundaries : The Effect of MSA on Dialect Convergence in Baghdad. In Brodelow, E., Eid , M. and McCarthy,J.(eds.).(1992).Perspectives on Arabic Linguistics, Vol:IV.(p.p.91-106).Amsterdam :John Benjamins.
- Al-Ani , S. (1976). " The Development and Distribution of the Arabic Sound Qaf in Iraqi Arabic" In Littl,D.(ed.).(1976). Essays on Islamic Civilization. (p.p.48-55). Leiden: E. J. Brill.
- Al-Khalesi ,Y.M.(2001).Modern Iraqi Arabic: A Textbook with MP3 Files. Washington: Georgetown University Press.
- Blanc , H. (1964). Communal Dialects in Baghdad. Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.
- Clarity, B, Stowasser, K., Wolfe, R., Woodhead, D. and Beene, W.(2003). A Dictionary of Iraqi Arabic:English-Arabic,Arabic-English Lexicon. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press.

Crystal,D.(1992).A Dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetics.Oxford : Oxford University Press.

Daffar ,A. M.(1990). Sociolinguistic Variation in Khasibi Iraqi Arabic. MA Thesis. Basra : University of Basra.

Erwin, W.(2004). A Short Reference Grammar of Iraqi Arabic. New York: New York University Press.

Ghalib , G.(1984). An Experimental Study of Consonant Gemination in Iraqi Arabic. Unpublished PhD Thesis. Leeds: University of Leeds.

Haddad, A. (1969). A Synchronic Description of the Phonology of Muslim Baghdadi Arabic. PhD Thesis. Beirut : American University of Beirut.

Hameed, J. K. (1985). " Level-Ordered Morphology and Phonology of Iraqi Arabic " Cahiers Linguistiques d' Ottawa, 13:2(63-75).

Hassan , Z. M. (1981). An Experimental Study of Vowel Duration in Iraqi Spoken Arabic. Unpublished PhD. Thesis. Leeds: University of Leeds.

Hudson , R.A.(1980). Sociolinguistics. Oxford :Oxford University Press.

Mahdi,Q.(1985).The Spoken Arabic of Basra. PhD.Thesis.Exeter:University of Exeter.

Majdi,B.(1988).Iraqi Arabic Morphophonemics.PhD Thesis. Connecticut : University of Connecticut.

Majdi,B. and Winston , M. (1993). Gemination and Antigemination in Iraqi

- Arabic.In Brodelow,E. ,Eid,M. and McCarthy, J.(eds.).
(1993).
Perspectives on Arabic Linguistics, Vol : V.(p.p.163-194).
Amsterdam : John Benjamins.
- Mansour,D.(1988)." Vowel Distribution in Judeo-Arabic Dialect of
Baghdad "
Journal of Arabic Linguistics, 19:3(60-73).
- (1991).The Baghdadi Dialect.Washington: Babylonian Heritage
Center.
- Ministry of Planning(2010).Central Department of Census and
Development,
Population Estimates and Predictions, Baghdad.
- Odden , D. (1989)." Aspects of Iraqi Arabic verbal Phonology " Studies in
the
Linguistic Sciences , 8:1(137-152).
- Quirk ,R. Greenbaum ,S., Leech,G. and Svartvik,J.(1985). A
Comprehensive
Grammar of the English Language. London and New York :
Longman.
- Rahim,A.(1980).The Phonology of Spoken Iraqi Arabic from a Functional
Point of View. PhD Thesis. Leeds: University of Leeds.
- Rahim, A. and Farjo, S. (1985). " A Functional Phonematic Analysis of
the
Consonants of Spoken Mosuli Arabic " Al-
Mustansiriya
Journal of Arts, 1:11(263-284).
- Rose, S. (2002). Doubled Verbs and Syncope Resistance in Iraqi
Arabic.
14th Arabic Linguistic Symposium,University of California,
March 10, 2002.

Spolsky ,B.(1998). Sociolinguistics. Oxford :Oxford University Press.

State Organization of Area. (2002).Iraq Administrative Mapping. Baghdad.

Tucker , M. (2009). Roots and Prosody : Iraqi Arabic Derivational Verb.

University of California Papers in Applied Linguistics.

PDF

File retrieved at www.tucker/derivationalrootverb/iraqi/ucla.edu. (Accessed March 3rd , 2010).

(2010)." Iraqi Aabic Verbs:The Need for Roots and Prosody " In
Byram , M. (ed.). The Proceedings of the 28th West Coast
Conference on Formal Linguistics. Somerville, MA.

Van Ess, J.(1961).The Spoken Arabic of Iraq. London: Oxford University Press.

Ward , N.G., Novick, D.G. and Salama , S.I. (2006). The UTEP Corpus of

Iraqi Arabic . UTEP Technical Report .Texas : University

of

Texas . PDF File at retrieved at www.cs.utep.uot/edu/nigel. (Accessed July 15th ,2010).

11. APPENDIX

11.1. PHONEME CHART OF WIA* CONSONANTS

	BILABIAL	LABIODENTAL	DENTAL	ALVEOLAR	POSTALVEOLA	PALATAL	VELAR	UVULAR	PHARYNGEAL	GLOTTAL
STOP	b		d* t*				k g	q		ʔ

With Science and knowledge We build the new Iraq

NASA L	m			n					
TRILL				r					
FRICA TIVE	f	θ ð	s* z	ʃ		x ɣ		ç	h
AFFRI CATE				ɟʒ tʃ					
APPR OXIM ANT			l*		w j				

* Characterization of WIA phonemes is based on that given in Crystal(1992:) and Al-Ani (1976:50).

v+ alveolar velarized allophone of [s] as in še:f(summer) and le:l(night).
*[s̺]

*[d̪] v+ interdental velarized allophone of [d] as in ðil(shade) and ðuba:b(fog).

*[t̪] v- velarized allophone of [t] as in te:r (bird).

*[l] has two variants; dark [ɫ] and light [l].

VOWELS*

		FRONT		CENTRAL		BACK	
		UNROUNDE D	ROUNDED	UNROUNDE D	ROUNDED	UNROUNDE D	ROUND
HIGH	CLOSE	i:					ɜ:

	OPE N	i					u
MID	CLO SE	e: *					o u
	OPE N	e					
LOW	CLO SE						
	OPE N			a:			

*In addition to short vowels, there are three diphthongs; /ei/ as in way, /ai/ as in tight and /au/ as in cow.

*A short vowel that is common in IA as in be:t (house) and še:f (summer).

11.2. CONVENTIONS USED:

- 1.WIA Wasiti Iraqi Arabic
- 2.SA Standard Arabic
- 3.IA Iraqi Arabic
- 4.CD Central Dialect
- 5.SD Southern Dialect
6. ND Northern Dialect
- 7.CA Colloquial Arabic
- 8.v- voiceless
- 9.v+ voiced
10. BD Baghdad Dialect

**Map (1) WASIT
(Source: State Organization of Area, Iraq Administrative Mapping,
Baghdad,2002.)**

