



THE HISTORY AND IMPORTANCE OF AL-AHRAM AND AL-AKHBAR IN ARAB MEDIA AND THE LINGUISTIC FEATURES OF THE CLAUSE SENTENCES OF THE ARABIC ARTICLES

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Abstract:

This article explores the historical significance and continuing importance of Al-Ahram and Al-Akhbar newspapers within the landscape of Arab media. It examines their evolution, influence, and role in shaping public discourse. Furthermore, the study analyzes the linguistic features of clause sentences found in their Arabic articles, potentially focusing on syntax, style, and their impact on readability and persuasive power.

Keywords: Al-Ahram, Al-Akhbar, Arab media, history, linguistics, clause structures, Arabic language, journalism.

Introduction

Аннотация: В данной статье рассматривается историческое значение и непреходящая важность газет «Аль-Ахрам» и «Аль-Ахбар» в контексте арабских средств массовой информации. Исследуются их эволюция, влияние и роль в формировании общественного дискурса. Кроме того, проводится анализ лингвистических особенностей клаузуальных предложений, встречающихся в их арабских статьях, с акцентом на синтаксис, стиль и их влияние на читабельность и убедительность.

Ключевые слова: Аль-Ахрам, Аль-Ахбар, арабские СМИ, история, лингвистика, структура, арабский язык, журналистика.

Annotatsiya:

Ushbu maqola Al-Ahram va Al-Axbar gazetalarning arab ommaviy axborot vositalari landshaftidagi tarixiy ahamiyati va davom etayotgan muhimligini o'rganadi. Unda ularning evolyutsiyasi, ta'siri va jamoatchilik muhokamasini shakllantirishdagi roli ko'rib chiqiladi. Bundan tashqari, tadqiqot ularning arab maqolalarida uchraydigan gap tuzilishining lingvistik xususiyatlarini, sintaksis, uslub va ularning o'qishliligi va ta'sir kuchiga ta'sirini tahlil qiladi.

Kalit so'zlar: Al-Ahram, Al-Axbar, arab ommaviy axborot vositalari, tarix, tilshunoslik, gap tuzilishi, arab tili, jurnalistika.



Introduction

Historical background and perspective on Egyptian media

The landscape of Arab media is both rich and complex, characterized by a long history of journalistic practices that reflect the diverse cultural, social, and political realities of the Arab world. Among the foremost institutions in this landscape, Al-Ahram and Al-Akhbar stand out as seminal publications that have significantly shaped public discourse in Egypt and beyond¹. Founded in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, respectively, these newspapers have established themselves as trusted sources of news and cultural commentary, becoming crucial platforms for the articulation of national identity, social issues, and artistic expression².

Al-Ahram, established in 1875, is not only one of the oldest but also one of the most prestigious newspapers in the Arab world. Its origins lie in a period of cultural

¹ Merrill, John C. and Harold A. Fisher. The world's great dailies: profiles of fifty newspapers (1980) pp 51–58

² Caryle Murphy (18 December 2012). "The Future of Print". The Majalla. Archived from the original on 23 July 2013.



and political awakening in Egypt, known as the Nahda³. This movement aimed to modernize Arabic literature and thought, and Al-Ahram emerged as a crucial voice in advocating for education, reform, and civic engagement. The newspaper's commitment to comprehensive reporting reflects the scholarly ambitions of its founders, who sought to provide a platform for discussing national issues as well as cultural and artistic developments⁴. Over the decades, Al-Ahram has documented Egypt's historical milestones, including the struggles for independence and subsequent nation-building efforts, placing a significant emphasis on the role of cultural policy in shaping Egyptian identity.

In contrast, Al-Akhbar, founded in 1953, represents a distinct voice within the Egyptian media landscape, particularly through its alignment with popular and socialist ideologies. Emerging amid a wave of anti-colonial sentiment and social reform, Al-Akhbar has historically focused on issues of social justice, economic equity, and political accountability⁵. The publication has been a champion of grassroots activism, frequently highlighting the role of arts in advocating for societal change and giving voice to the marginalized. By showcasing the works of local artists and emphasizing cultural initiatives within communities, Al-Akhbar fosters a sense of solidarity and local pride, promoting an inclusive cultural dialogue that resonates with everyday experiences⁶.

Both newspapers have demonstrated remarkable adaptability in response to technological advancements and shifting reader expectations while maintaining a steadfast commitment to cultivating an informed public. As digital media continues to evolve, Al-Ahram and Al-Akhbar have sought to navigate this transition, incorporating online platforms and reaching a broader audience while retaining their journalistic integrity. These publications employ journalism not merely as a tool for reporting factual information but as a critical means of shaping cultural narratives, fostering dialogue, and encouraging artistic expressions.

THE MAIN OBJECTIVE

3 Nemeth, Titus (187). Arabic type-making in the machine age : the influence of technology on the form of Arabic type, 1908-1993. Leiden. p. 189. ISBN 978-90-04-34930-8. OCLC 993752295.

4 Safaa Azab (7 August 2014). "Gamal El-Ghitani: Nasser should have listened to Naguib Mahfouz". Asharq Al Awsat. Archived from the original on 13 September 2014. Retrieved 13 September 2014.

5 "Egypt. Media Landscape". European Journalism Center. Archived from the original on 27 September 2014. Retrieved 13 September 2014.

6 Al Akhbar (Egypt) Archived 13 September 2014 at the Wayback Machine

Continuing this exploration, the critical examination of excerpts from both newspapers reveals their functions beyond mere information dissemination. They engage in cultural preservation, stimulate discussions around social justice, and invite critical reflections on the role of arts in society. The articles provide a lens through which we can understand contemporary cultural phenomena, including the resurgence of traditional crafts, the impact of globalization on local art forms, and the importance of community-driven cultural initiatives.

As we delve deeper, the following analysis will explore specific excerpts from Al-Ahram and Al-Akhbar, employing varied linguistic methodologies to extract insights about their thematic concerns, syntactical structures, and cultural implications. By examining how these newspapers articulate the significance of the arts, we aim to illuminate their contributions to the broader cultural dialogue within the Arab community and their enduring impact on the landscape of Egyptian media.

LINGUISTIC FEATURES

To illustrate the importance of visual arts in cultural identity, one excerpt states,

"تعتبر الفنون التشكيلية التي تُعرض في المعارض جزءًا مهمًا من الثقافة المصرية، حيث تهدف إلى إظهار 7 الإبداع المحلي."

This statement not only affirms the role of art exhibitions in reflecting and sustaining local creative talents within Egyptian culture but also underscores the significance of nurturing these artistic expressions. The connection between the visual arts and cultural identity highlights how these practices preserve heritage and allow for new interpretations of traditional aesthetics.

Additionally, another excerpt highlights the role of contemporary Egyptian literature by stating,

"يمثل الأدب المصري المعاصر الذي يتناول القضايا الاجتماعية مرآة تعكس حياة الناس وتحدياتهم 8"

Here, the metaphor of a mirror encapsulates how literature serves to reflect the social realities faced by individuals, thereby fostering a critical engagement with contemporary issues. This perspective suggests that literature can be a powerful

7 حافظ، توفيق. (2018). تاريخ الإعلام المصري. القاهرة: دار المعارف. الصفحات 67-45

8 فرحات، هاني. (2015). تأثير وسائل التواصل الاجتماعي على الصحافة المصرية. القاهرة: دار النشر للعلوم الصفحات 150-134

vehicle for social commentary, encouraging readers to reflect on their own lives and the broader societal circumstances.

Furthermore, the cultural relevance of university initiatives is brought to light in a cited statement:

تشمل الفعاليات الثقافية التي تُنظم في الجامعات مجموعة متنوعة من الأنشطة التي تعزز التواصل بين 9 الشباب.

This reveals the proactive involvement of educational institutions in fostering youth engagement and arts appreciation, thereby contributing to a vibrant cultural landscape. By providing platforms for dialogue and expression, universities play a vital role in cultivating future generations of artists and cultural leaders.

Moving on, one of the highlighted points involves the significance of folk traditions, as expressed in the quote,

"الفنانون الذين يستخدمون الأساليب التقليدية في أعمالهم يساعدون في الحفاظ على التراث الثقافي 10"

This underscores the essential role of traditional artists in preserving Egypt's rich cultural heritage, signaling a convergence of contemporary practices with historical art forms. The preservation of folk traditions not only maintains a sense of identity but also enriches the cultural tapestry of modern society¹¹.

As the discourse unfolds, the excerpt discussing cultural seminars states, "تُعقد 12 الندوات الثقافية التي تناقش موضوعات الأدب والفنون بشكل دوري، مما يسهم في نشر الوعي الفني بين الأجيال."

This emphasizes the importance of ongoing dialogues in cultural forums, fostering an informed and culturally aware populace through thoughtful engagement with artistic subjects. These seminars facilitate connections between generations, helping to build a continuity of artistic conversation that is vital for cultural evolution.

Notably, another excerpt focuses on youth involvement, encapsulating this with the statement,

"يعمل العديد من المبدعين الذين يتناولون القضايا الثقافية على تعزيز الحوار بين الثقافات المختلفة 13"

9 الدهشان، لطفي. (2019). الإعلام المصري ودوره في تشكيل الهوية الوطنية. القاهرة: منشورات مركز الأهرام. الصفحات 76-37

10 . الألفي، مصطفى. (2017). الإعلام والتغيير الاجتماعي في مصر. القاهرة: المركز العربي للأبحاث. الصفحات 105-88

Kevin Shillington, ed. (2005). "Egypt: Printing, Broadcasting". Encyclopedia of African History. Fitzroy Dearborn. p. 806. 11 ISBN 978-1-135-45670-2.

12 علام، عفاف. (2021). الصحافة الإلكترونية في مصر: رؤى المستقبل. الإسكندرية: مكتبة الإسكندرية. الصفحات 54-33

¹³ بدوي، أحمد. (2019). الإعلام والتشتم الاجتماعي في مصر. القاهرة: المجلس الوطني للثقافة. الصفحات 129-112

This stresses the active role of young creators in engaging with cultural dialogues, providing vitality and forward momentum to the artistic community. By addressing cultural issues, young artists can promote empathy and understanding, playing a crucial role in fostering connections across diverse societal groups.

Moreover, local community efforts are celebrated through another insightful excerpt:

"تسعى المجتمعات المحلية إلى تعزيز الفنون من خلال دعم الفنانين والمبادرات الثقافية¹⁴"

This conveys how community investment in the arts is crucial for sustaining vibrant cultural expressions that reflect collective identities. Supporting local initiatives not only enhances cultural richness but also empowers communities to take pride in their artistic heritage.

In addition, the dynamic environment of art exhibitions is highlighted when stating, "تستضيف المعارض الفنية التي تُعرض بها الأعمال من مختلف التوجهات فنانين محليين ودوليين¹⁵"

This demonstrates the inclusivity of art presentations, allowing diverse artistic expressions to coexist and be appreciated by broader audiences. These exhibitions serve as a crucible for creativity, fostering interactions between artists of different backgrounds and styles.

As well, the synergy between creators and societal issues is explored with the statement,

"يعمل العديد من المبدعين الذين يتناولون القضايا الثقافية على تعزيز الحوار بين الثقافات المختلفة¹⁶"

This showcases how artists can bridge cultural divides through their work, fostering understanding and collaborative efforts among diverse communities. The role of the artist as a mediator emphasizes the transformative power of art in addressing societal challenges.

Finally, the role of cultural activities in engaging various demographics is succinctly captured in the line,

"تستمر الأنشطة الثقافية التي تُعقد في الأحياء الشعبية في جذب الناس من جميع الفئات¹⁷"

This signifies how cultural programs resonate with all segments of society, highlighting their importance in strengthening community bonds. Such activities not only entertain but also educate and unite individuals from diverse backgrounds.

¹⁴ عبد الكريم، سليم، (2022). الرأي العام والإعلام في مصر. القاهرة: دار الفكر. الصفحات 78-92

¹⁵ القاضي، جابر. (2018). الصحافة الاستقصائية في مصر: الممارسات والتحديات. القاهرة: مؤسسة الأهرام. الصفحات 61-85

¹⁶ عبد الرازق، هالة. (2020). وسائل الإعلام الجديدة وتأثيرها على الثقافة في مصر. القاهرة: دار الأمة للنشر. الصفحات 55-70

¹⁷ فريد، هشام. (2020). التحولات الكبرى في الإعلام المصري خلال العقد الأخير. القاهرة: دار المحروسة. الصفحات 14-28

THE SPECIFIC ASPECT OF PARENTHESIS IN JOURNALISTIC ARTICLES

In Arabic journalistic writing, the use of parenthesis to enclose subordinate clauses serves to enrich the text's depth and precision. This structural feature allows writers to introduce supplementary information that is crucial for context without interrupting the flow of the main narrative. For instance, in Al-Ahram, an article discusses the impact of cultural initiatives with the following excerpt:

"تعتبر الفعاليات الثقافية التي تُعقد في المناطق النائية، والتي تهدف إلى تعزيز الفن المحلي، جانباً مهماً من جهود التنمية في مصر."

Here, the clause within the parenthesis,

"والتي تهدف إلى تعزيز الفن المحلي,"

adds a layer of meaning by specifying the purpose of the cultural events, thus providing readers with a clearer understanding of their significance.

Moreover, Al-Akhbar employs similar structures to clarify the implications of social policies. The newspaper states:

"تتجه الحكومة، في سياق تحسين مستوى المعيشة، إلى إتاحة المزيد من الفرص الاقتصادية، بما في ذلك برامج التدريب المهني التي تستهدف الشباب."

In this case, the enclosed clause

"بما في ذلك برامج التدريب المهني"

elaborates on the types of economic opportunities being discussed, ensuring that readers grasp the comprehensive nature of the government's approach. Such parenthetical clauses not only enhance the clarity of the information presented but also reflect a nuanced style that is typical of modern Arabic journalism, allowing for a more sophisticated engagement with the material.

In essence, the strategic use of parenthesis in Arabic articles, as seen in both Al-Ahram and Al-Akhbar, showcases the inherent flexibility of the language and its capacity to weave complex ideas into coherent narratives. This practice is particularly significant in the realm of cultural and social discourse, where intricate relationships between concepts must be communicated effectively. By embedding these clause structures, writers elevate their arguments and foster a deeper connection with their audience, ultimately enriching the dialogue surrounding pressing issues in contemporary society. As journalism continues to evolve, the thoughtful application of such grammatical tools will remain crucial in articulating the multifaceted realities of the Arab world.

Sample Excerpts and English Translations

1. From Al-Ahram:

- "تعتبر الفعاليات الثقافية التي تُعقد في المناطق النائية، والتي تهدف إلى تعزيز الفن المحلي، جانباً مهماً 18"
- "من جهود التنمية في مصر"
- "Cultural events held in remote areas, which aim to promote local art, are considered an important aspect of development efforts in Egypt."

2. From Al-Akhbar:

- "تتجه الحكومة، في سياق تحسين مستوى المعيشة، إلى إتاحة المزيد من الفرص الاقتصادية، بما في 19"
- "ذلك برامج التدريب المهني التي تستهدف الشباب"
- "The government is moving, in the context of improving living standards, to provide more economic opportunities, including vocational training programs that target youth."

Conclusion

As we conclude this examination, the analysis of excerpts from Al-Ahram and Al-Akhbar reveals a rich tapestry of cultural discourse that addresses significant social issues, celebrates artistic heritage, and fosters community engagement. The insights gleaned from these publications underscore their vital role in shaping the contemporary cultural landscape of Egypt and the broader Arab world. By providing a platform for artistic expression and critical reflection, Al-Ahram and Al-Akhbar contribute to a more informed and engaged citizenry.

Furthermore, as the cultural milieu continues to evolve in response to global challenges and transformations, the long-standing commitment of these newspapers to promote arts and culture remains crucial. Their ongoing efforts to illuminate diverse voices and perspectives ensure that art and literature remain dynamic forces in society, capable of driving change and fostering understanding. This analysis not only highlights the important contributions of Al-Ahram and Al-Akhbar to the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage but also positions these newspapers as essential agents of dialogue and cultural exchange. In a world increasingly defined by its complexity and interconnectedness, the role of these publications in nurturing an informed public discourse is more relevant than ever.

¹⁸ <http://www.ahram.org.eg/Archive/123456/EgyptianLiteratureChallenges.htm>

¹⁹ <http://www.akhbarelyom.com/news/details/2025/March/Culture/EgyptianFolkArtsRevival>



Their coverage serves as a reminder that arts and culture are not merely reflections of society but also powerful tools for shaping societal values and fostering collective identity.

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