

# Verb Structures and Their Phonetics Comparative Study in Sabzevarian Dialect and Persian Language

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**Abstract**—In this paper, the verbs in Mazi (past tense) are presented in Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect for a detailed comparison of their structures as well as their similarities and differences. The result of this study shows that although there are some similarities between two sources but there also exist some important differences among them from the structural and phonetic point of view.

**Index Terms**—verbs structures, phonetics, Sabzevarian dialect, Persian language

## I. INTRODUCTION

The importance of research around Persian language, the great ancient national and cultural state, is obvious. There have been many studies at this area today, but still can be found some dialects, which need to be studied among them is Sabzevarian dialect in Khorasan province.

### **A Brief history of Sabzevar:**

Sabzevar, which Abolfazl -e -Beihagi recognized its root name as Sasanabad , as he believed the city was funded by Sassanid dynasty was first called Sasanvar and after the entry of Islam to Iran , it was changed to "Beihag" and finally to Sabzevar. (Beihaghi ,1991)

Sabzevar is one of the counties of Khorasan province, located at North -East region of Iran. Measuring about 20628 km<sup>2</sup> with 511616 population, it is the second large city of the province after Mashhad, covering % 16 of total area of the Khorasan province. It is located in 226 and 66 km far from Mashhad (the capital of the Khorasan province) and Tehran (Capital of Iran) respectively. (Mohtasham ,1999).

Due to its geographic, economic and financial situations, Sabzevar region has been agriculturally significant, Azar Barzin Mehr altar of Sabzevar which is one of the four important altars of Sassanid era is located in this area (Beihaghi, 1991)

Khorasan province is the source of "Arsacides Pahlavi language" and Pahlavi is related to parthuh (following the name of a big tribe) (Farahvashi, 1979 ) which is the name of present Khorasan (Asadi Tusi, 1986) and its neighborhood towns are Damqan and Sabzevar according to the present divisions . (Bahar, 1990)

According to Ebn – e – Nadims (cited from Ebn-e Moqfae) "Dari is the language of the East and Balkh" a transformed version of Arsacides Pahlavi language (Vahidian Kamkar,1991 ).

Sabzevarian dialect has been under the influence of standard Persian language taught in schools, although it is being preserved through oral contacts of artists, businessmen and people of the older generation in the region.

As any language is alive when it is spoken and the time it loses its speakers, comes its death, it seems necessary to scientifically study and gather the dialects which are the valuable scientific materials for Iranologists to enable them to enrich Persian language even more.

We often find some interesting words and lexicons in dialects of Sabzevar which could be the best and most suitable alternatives for foreign words whose repeated use by language professionals may lead to language abnormality and in some cases may be accounted as the sign of language dependency.

Detailed recognition of Sabzevar dialect would be a great aid for recognition of the missed Arsacides Pahlavi language. At the recent time, when cultural borderlines are about to be vanished and dialects are going to be disappeared, recognizing the scientific, practical and linguistic characters of each zone's dialect is very effective for their preservation leading to (1) higher enrichment of Persian vocabulary, (2) description and interpretation of Persian literature and finally (3) prohibiting foreign lexicon entry to some extent.

On the other hand, the identity, nationality, traditions and ethics are resulted from language recognition which is a perfect way to understand oral literature of any region.

In this paper the verbs in Mazi (past tense) are presented in Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect for a detailed comparison of their structures as well as their similarities and differences.

## II. METHODOLOGY

In this study, the author was involved in gathering lexicons which do not exist in Persian language anymore or have encompassed a high phonetic change through the time. Over fifteen thousands words and about two thousands sentences were gathered and tape recorded. Then 2000 lexicons were compared based on their equivalent in the two resources based on International phonetic alphabet. Since Arabic, as the base of Persian Script, is unable to represent consonants of Sabzevarian dialect, the Sabzevarian dialect words were collected in the form of phonetics and their standard Persian equivalent was regarded as the basis for the study of phonetic system and word making characteristics in this dialect.

#### A. Verbs in Persian Language and Sabzevarian Dialect

Verbs in Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect, usually come at the end of sentence with different forms for each person, i.e. it takes different forms and indicates four concepts, solely or accompanied with its dependent companions:

- a- Doing or occurrence of an action: Majid wrote the letter
- b- Doing an action upon someone or something: Majid is not killed.
- c- Accepting an state or situation: It gets dark
- d- Attributing an adjective to someone or something: It isn't dark

The concept of person is also presented within the verb. The person refers to the speaker attributes the verb to him or herself, to the listener or the other third person (s) (Ahmadi Givi & Anvari, 1995)

Verb represents the tense too, i.e. in what time the action has been occurred or will occur. The main tenses in Persian and Sabzevarian dialect are: past, present and future. In Persian, the past tense is also called "Mazi(past)", present "mozare (present)" and future "Mostaqbal". In Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect Id indicates part of verb which shows the person or speaker, second person or listener, third person or other person (Khanlari, 1971).

Ids are in two categories: singular and plural.

Ids in Persian (Ahmadi Givi & Anvari, 1995) and Sabzevarian Dialect (Beroqani, 2001) are presented in the following table:

TABLE 1:  
IDS IN PERSIAN LANGUAGE (AHMADI GIVI & ANVARI, 1995) AND SABZEVARIAN DIALECT

	In Sabzevarian dialect	In Persian language
First singular person	اوم um	م
Second singular person	ای I	ی
Third singular person	-	د
First plural person	م Em	یم
Second plural person	e	ید
Third plural person	ان En	ند

As in standard Persian, each verb of Sabzevarian dialect has two roots , including *Mazi(past)* and *Mozare (present)*.

Verb root (بن فعل): There is a structure of any verb including its main concept as a whole and is constant in all the verbs structures.

#### 1. Verbs root in simple verbs of Persian:

In simple verbs of Persian the mazi(past) root remains after the omission of suffix ن (an) and their Mozare (present) root will be made after some change on Maz i(past) root, which can be divided into eight groups. (Ahmadi Givi & Anvari, 1995).

For example in verbs whose infinitives end to یدن – (idan) after omission of ید – (id) from the mazi (past) verbs root ,the mozare (present) root is obtained". For example:

For the verb نالیدن (nalidan) (crying):

Its Mazi(past) root is will be نالید (nalid) (cried)

and its Mozare (present) root is نال (nal).

Most of the Persian verbs are included in this class (Khanlari, 1971).

#### 2. Verbs root in simple verbs of Sabzevarian dialect:

In Sabzevarian dialect omitting suffixes such as «تن ، دن ، ین» (in, dan ,tan) from the end of infinitives makes the Mazi(past) root.

For example in Sabzevarian dialect:

For the infinitive دوشیین (dosiyān),

its Mazi(past) root is *doši*,

and its Mozare (present) (present) root is but in Persian language «ن» (n) is excluded from the end of infinitive making a Mazi(past)(past) root.

Note: infinitive signs in Sabzevarian dialect are ((تن ,tan, دن ,dan , ین)) and their omission will result in Mazi(past) root and by omitting the sign of Mazi(past) in regular verbs, the Mozare (present) root is achieved.

In Sanscrit , pahlavi and Avesta languages , are «تن» (tan) and «دن» (dan) ,also the signs of infinitive and «تن» (tan) is the basic one (Khanlari, 1971).

In Sabzevarian dialect, Mozare (present) root of simple verbs is:

**The imperative without "ب" (be).**

Some verbs in Sabzevarian dialect have both Mazi(past) and Mozare (present) roots :

Example:

گفتن (to say),

Mazi(past) root = "گف"

Mozare (present) = (گو) and (گا) (go and ga).

In the Sabzevarian dialect, the root of some verbs can make verbs with different meanings,

Example:

"کش" (kosh) = "to kill" = "to turn off."

Also there are some verbs which have the Mozare (present) root in dialect but lacking any mazi(past) root,

Example:

"شدن" (shodan) (to become)

Mozare (present) root = "شو" (Sho)

Mazi (past) root = Verb of "رفتن" (to go) (Brogani, 2002).

For the verb گر وختن (grokhtan) (to escape)

Mazi (past) root "گروخت" (grokht) is going to be forgotten nowadays and the Persian words "فرار کرد" (farar kard) (escaped) is about to be used instead.

### B. The Person in Persian Language and Sabzevarian Dialect

Person is one of the important features of the verb in Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect (including third persons). By person we mean one the speaker attributes the verb to.

Some verbs in Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect may have only two persons (i.e.: imperative or negative imperative including only the second singular person and the second plural person.

Some verbs in Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect lack any person:

Example:

"مشدگف" (meshodf goft) (می شود گفت) (it can be said that).

What imparts the verb in its character is Id. Id determines the person and the count. For verbs without person, while having Id, since there is no possibility for choosing an auxiliary verb to take different forms for different persons so they are called "without person" (Ahmadi Givi & Anvari, 1995).

There are some other verbs in Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect with only one person called as "single person intransitive verbs" (Khanlari, 1971)

Example:

«خوشم آمد» (I liked it)

which the verb «آمد» always comes as the form of third singular person.

In this article some types of mazi(past) verbs which are common in Persian language and Sabzevarian with more application nowadays are included

### C. Structure of Simple Past Tense in Persian Language and Sabzevarian Dialect

Simple past tense in Persian language is made by Mazi (past) root plus Id suffix, except the third singular person which doesn't have any Id suffix and past tense root is applied as verb (Ahmadi Givi & Anvari, 1995). Simple past in Sabzevarian dialect is made by adding the prefix "ب" (be) at the beginning of the past root conveying an emphasis.

In table -1, the structures of simple past in Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect is represented

TABLE 1:  
STRUCTURE OF SIMPLE PAST IN PERSIAN LANGUAGE AND SABZEVARIAN DIALECT

The person	Past root	Simple past in Persian language	Simple past in Sabzevarian dialect (the prefix <i>be</i> at the beginning of the past root)
First person singular	رفت (raft) (went)	رفتم (raftam)	برفتم beraftam
Second person singular	رفتی (rafti)	رفتی (rafti)	برفتی berafti
Third person singular	رفت (raft)	رفت (raft) the third singular person which doesn't have any Id suffix and past tense root is applied as verb	برف beraf
First plural person	رفت (raft)	رفتیم (raftim)	برفتیم Beraftim
Second plural person	رفت (raft)	رفتید (raftid)	برفتید berafte
Their plural person	رفت (raft)	رفتند (raftand)	برفتند beraften

Similar application of simple past in Persian language and the Sabzevarian dialect (A) showing an action in past tense, which is the same for the both:

Example:

گاو را آب داد *gow we ow bedū*

(He/ she gave the cow some water)

Different application of simple past in Persian language and the *Sabzevarian* dialect

1- Such type of difference is mainly in conditional sentences in Persian which is presented as non conditional sentences in the dialect.

Example in Persian language (as a conditional sentence):

بابک ، ساعت چهار بیا جلو مدرسه اگر نیایی من رفتم .

(Babak , Come to school at four o'clock, if you don't come, I will go).

Example in Sabzevarian dialect (non- conditional sentence) :

**bes amayam** . بایست آمدم .

(wait , I will be there )

2- In Persian language, simple past tense is used for stating occurrence of the verb at present tense, instead of past continuous:

Example;

verbs such as "بودن" (to be) and "داشتن" (to have) .

3-Infinitives as auxiliary verb and in past perfect made of "بودن" (to be) infinitive as auxiliary verb, are unique to Persian language and do not have any application in Sabzevarian dialect.

4-Sometimes the simple past of «رفتن»(to go) is used as a inking verb.

Example;

"هوا سرد شد" means "هوا سرد رفت" (it got cold).

#### D. Past Continuous Tense

Past continuous tense in Persian language is made of the past simple tense in which the prefix "می" (*mi*) is added to the beginning of the past simple tense (Ahmadi Givi & Anvari , 1995) . To make Past continuous tense in Sabzevarian dialect " Different forms of ( م ، م ، م - *ma-me-mo* ) are added to the beginning of the past simple tense.

In the following table, structures of past continuous tense is represented in Persian language and the dialect.

TABLE 2:  
STRUCTURES OF PAST CONTINUOUS TENSE IN PERSIAN LANGUAGE AND THE SABZEVARIAN DIALECT

Past continuous in Persian	past continuous in Sabzevarian dialect
First person singular می بردم <i>mibordam</i>	میردم <i>mobordum</i>
Second person singular می بردی <i>mibordi</i>	میردی <i>mobordi</i>
Third person singular می برد <i>mibord</i>	میرد <i>mobord</i>
First person plural می بردیم <i>mibordim</i>	میردیم <i>mobordim</i>
Second person plural می بردید <i>mibordid</i>	میرد <i>moborde</i>
Third person plural می بردند <i>mibordand</i>	میردن <i>moborden</i>

#### 1. Similar application of past continuous in Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect:

1- To express an action which continued in past tense.

Example:

In Sabzevarian dialect:

*xoršid medrexšigo yexar ow mekord*

*the sun was shining and melting ices.*

2- To express an action which has occurred several times:

Example: In Persian language:

In Sabzevarian dialect: yake **mama** yake **maraf**

translation: one was coming one was going.

3- To express an action which has occurred at the same time with another action.

Example:

In Persian language:

تمرینهای دستور را می نوشتم که صدای در زدن را شنیدم

In Sabzevarian dialect:

temrinay destore menvištom ke soday dar ziyane šenofom

translation I was writing the grammar exercises when I heard the door knocked.

4- In place of perfect implicit

Example: in Persian language: ای کاش دوباره شما را می دیدم

In Sabzevarian dialect:

kaš dibara šomar mediyom

I wish I would see you again.

#### 2. Application Difference of past continuous in Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect

1) Instead of imperative which is characteristic to the dialect, *namaraf* (نمی رفتی) translation : you weren't going.

And past continuous in expressing an action which the speaker has been absent during its occurrence, expressing an action which has not absent during its occurrence, expressing an action which has not taken place but expected to be occurred. Omission of auxiliary verb from the present perfect tense in some cases and expressing an action which has occurred in past and its effect or result has been sustained up to now has application only in Persian language.

### 3. The following important changes are considered in Sabzevarian dialect in *past continuous tense*

1. The sign of continuity in the dialect is applied by adding prefixes «می» (mi) , «م ، م و م» (ma , mo , me) that «ی» (i) is changed as a result of homogeneity with vowels of the first syllable of the verb , i.e. transformation of «می»(mi) to «م»(mo).

Example: *merex* می ریخت (it was pouring)

2. Transformation of prefix «می» (mi) to «م» (mo) in *past continuous tense*

*mogoftom* = می گفتیم

(I was saying)

Verbs containing the "u" vowel can be placed in this group

*mosuza* = می سوزد ( Its burning )

*mogurra* = می غرد و ناله می کند (He / she is snarling)

3. Transformation of prefix «می» (mi) to «م» (ma)

*maraf* = می رفت ( He/she was going)

4. Sometimes affected by a verb which contains the "I" vowel, it preserves its form, like:

*miškastum* = می شکستم (I was breaking)

Sometimes because "ای" is placed in the imperatives of these verbs , the same "ای" has application in its continuous, like " می شستوم *meyšastum* . (I was washing )

### E. Past Perfect Tense in Persian Language and Sabzevarian Dialect

The past perfect in Persian language is made of past participle of the main verb (the past root "ه" ) and simple past tense of "بودن" (to be) auxiliary verb.

The past perfect in Sabzevarian dialect is made of past participle of the main verb + بی ( the auxiliary verb of بودن (to be) + mediating "ی" + Ids (table -3).

TABLE 3:  
STRUCTURES OF THE PAST PERFECT TENSE IN PERSIAN LANGUAGE AND SABZEVARIAN DIALECT

The person	Past perfect in Persian language	Past perfect in Sabzevarian
First singular person	دیده بودم (I had seen)	دی یه بی یوم diya bi yum
Second singular person	دیده بودی (you had seen)	دی یه بی بی di ya bi yi
Third singular person	دیده بود (He / she had seen )	دی یه بی diya bi
First plural person	دیده بودیم (we had seen)	دی یه بی یم diya bi yim
Second plural person	دیده بودید (you had san)	دی یه بی یه diya bi ye
Third plural person	دیده بودند ( they had seen)	دی یه بی ین biy bi yen

The application of the past perfect is the same in Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect.

1- expressing an action which has been occurred in the past before another action.

Example:

In Persian language:

ناهار را خورده بودم که مجید وارد شد

in the dialect:

nahare boxārda biyem ke mejid vared raf.

Translation: I had eaten the lunch when Majid entered.

Note: In Sabzevarian dialect, some of the past perfect verbs take the single word "ب" and some do not. The ones which do not take prefix are so rare like: گفتن (to say) and کردن (to do)

### F. Present Perfect Tense in Persian Language and Sabzevarian Dialect

#### 1. The present perfect tense in Persian language

The present perfect tense in Persian language is composed of the "pp" of main verbs (i) (the past root + "ه" expressing movement ) + the auxiliary verbs ام (am (I)), ای (are you) است (is He/she/it) , ایم (are (we)), اید (are (you) and اند (are (they / those) (Ahmadi Givi & Anvari, 1995)

#### 2. The present perfect tense in Sabzevarian dialect:

The present perfect tense in Sabzevarian dialect is made of past participle adjective + mediating "ی" + auxiliary verbs and the Ids.

The following table represents the six persons of the present perfect tense in two.

TABLE 4:  
STRUCTURES OF THE PRESENT PERFECT TENSE IN PERSIAN LANGUAGE AND SABZEVARIAN DIALECT

The person	The present perfect in Persian language	The present perfect in Sabzevarian dialect
First person singular	خورده ام (I have eaten)	خور دیرم boxorde <b>yum</b>
Second person singular	خورده ای (you have eaten)	بخوردیی boxorde <b>yi</b>
Third person singular	خورده (he / she has eaten)	بخورده boxor <b>de</b>
First person singular	خورده ایم (we have eaten)	بخوردییم boxorde <b>yim</b>
Second person plural	خورده اید (you have eaten)	بخوردید boxorde <b>ye</b>
Third person Plural	خورده اند (they have eaten)	بخوردین boxorde <b>yen</b>

### 3. Similar applications of the present perfect tense in Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect

1- Expressing an action which the speaker has been absent during its performance.

Example:

In Persian language:

In the dialect:

diroz befemiyom ke ei kare bekarda

Translation: I Found it yesterday that who has done this work

2) Instead of perfect implicit.

Example:

in Persian language:

شاید به خانه رفته است

In the dialect:

š ā yad be xana borofta

Translation: perhaps he/ she gone home.

3- Expressing an action occurred at past whose effect or result has continued up to now.

Example:

In Persian language.

الآن این را داده است.

In the dialect:

hemāl ir bediya

Translation : he / she has given this how.

4-Expressing an action has not been done(negative structure) but is expected to:

Example:

in Persian language:

هنوز برنگشته است

In the dialect:

henoz ver nagerdiya

Translation: He/ she hasn't come back yet.

### 4. The specific application of the present perfect tense in Persian language.

Expressing an action which has started in the past and is still continuing and the auxiliary verb is sometimes omitted from the present perfect.

The present perfect used in expressing the future is exclusively applied in Sabzevarian dialect.

Example:

وقت آن رسیده است : waxtiš risiya

Translation:

its time has reached

Note: From the structural point of view, when the present perfect is used for answering or negative imperative, it will become the same as past simple. At this time no phonetics exist to represent the difference between the two but the chain "a" sound (Named Zebar in Persian ) i.e. the stress makes the difference. (Vahidian Kamkar, 1991)

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برفتم (berraftom) = the past simple

برفتم (braftoom) = the present perfect

"l" is the sign of stress. (Beroqani , 2002).

### III. CONCLUSION

Just the same as standard Persian, each verb of Sabzevarian dialect verbs has two roots, including *Mazi(past)* and *Mozare (present)*.

In simple verbs of Persian language the mazi(past) root remains after the omission of suffix ن (an) and their Mozare (present) root is formed after some changes are made in Mazi (past) root, which can be divided into eight groups. (Ahmadi Givi & Anvari, 1995).

In Sabzevarian dialect omitting suffixes such as «تن ، دن ، ين» (in, dan, tan) from the end of infinitives forms the Mazi(past) root.

Infinitive signs in Sabzevarian dialect are ((in ين , dan دن , tan تن)) and their omission will provide the Mazi(past) root and by omitting the sign of Mazi(past)(past) in regular verbs, the Mozare (present) root is achieved.

Some verbs in Sabzevarian dialect have both Mazi(past) and Mozare (present) roots and in the Sabzevarian dialect, the root of some verbs can make verbs with different meanings. Also there are some verbs which have the Mozare (present) root in dialect but lack any mazi(past) root,

Some verbs in Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect may have only two persons (i.e.: imperative or negative imperative including only the second singular person and the second plural person.

Some verbs in Persian language and Sabzevarian dialect lack any person.

Simple past tense in Persian language is made by Mazi(past) root plus *Id* suffix, except the third singular person which doesn't have any *Id* suffix and past tense root is used as verb (Ahmadi givi & Anvari, 1995). Simple past in Sabzevarian dialect is made by adding the prefix "ب" (*be*) at the beginning of the past root conveying an emphasis.

One of the important differences is mainly in conditional sentences in Persian which is presented as non- conditional sentences in the dialect.

Example in Persian language (as a conditional sentence). Also in Persian language, simple past tense is used for stating occurrence of the verb at present tense, instead of past continuous tense.

On the other hand, Infinitives as auxiliary verb and in past perfect made of "بودن" (to be) infinitive as auxiliary verb, are unique to Persian language and do not have any application in Sabzevarian dialect

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