

"Semantic Structure of Prepositions in Farsi"

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Abstract:

As a consequence of the process of grammaticalization, lexical categories change to functional ones and independent words change to inflectional elements throughout the time. According to Heine et al. (1991) and Hooper & Traugott (1993) understanding the process of grammaticalization would not be possible if you consider a decisive boundary between descriptive and historical linguistics and study these two branches of knowledge separately. In order to study the semantic structure of prepositions in Farsi, I have focused my attention on the historical development of Persian language and have a historical and descriptive look at the subject. In this respect I have used some examples of both Old Persian and contemporary Farsi in this article.

The mentioned examination is done in the form of representational approach, and that kind of meaning is intended which is formed in the basis of conventional conceptual structures. In this respect, by introducing different functions of prepositions, I consider the explicit, implicit, figurative and contextual meanings of them in linguistic performance.