THE ROLE OF ENGLISH UNDER ARABICISATION:

A CASE STUDY

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DECLARATION

I, **Mohamed Elfatih Ahamed Braima,** hereby declare that this thesis entitled **The Role of English Under Arabicisation: A Case Study**, represents my own academic work, except where due acknowledgement is made, and that it has not been previously included in any thesis, dissertation or report submitted to this University or to any other institution for a degree, diploma or other qualifications.

Signature: .....

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ABSTRACT

This study was carried out to achieve three objectives, first to evaluate the English Language Program run by the University of Khartoum and taught as University Requirement. Second, was to survey the students' needs for English, their level of proficiency in the Language and their attitude towards English and Arabic as mediums of instruction. And last to assess students' reliance on resources written in English and Arabic languages.

The study was conducted among 250 students, 15 English Language instructors and 9 lecturers in faculties of Arts and Science, at the University of Khartoum. A survey research method was employed and a structured questionnaire was used to collect data. Other instruments were used for data collection that included structured interview and analysis of some relevant documents. Descriptive statistic such as frequencies and percentage were used for data analysis.

The results of the study show that, the English Program was started without planning, nor clear objectives. They also revealed that the program proceeded without any needs analysis. Other results show that reading is the most important skill, students are very enthusiastic to study English although most of them believe that they get little benefit out of the current program. It was found that the syllabus focuses on teaching language skills that are not needed as long as Arabic is a medium of instruction, in addition to teaching irrelevant skills such as translation from Arabic into English and English phonology.

The study showed that most students depend on lecture notes and handouts in Arabic, this was found to be related to the fact that most resources in the library were written in English. A further investigation indicated that the library does not have a budget from the University allocated to buy textbooks and reference books available in Arabic. It was predicted that this situation will have a long lasting impact on an already weakening university education in the country.

The study provides a set of features for alternative English for Academic Purposes program that should be constructed with the purpose of developing reading skills. Teaching of other skills such as writing, speaking and listening should only come in a context that supports the teaching of reading. Other features of the proposed program include a methodology that requires the coordination and cooperation of English teachers and subject lecturers. Such cooperation entails that preparation of teaching materials should be a joint responsibility of the two parties. Other recommendations include, the establishment of a language center to be responsible for managing the English Program and the construction of a research project in collaboration with the British Council to conduct needs analysis, design the syllabus and prepare materials.

ABSTRAK

Kaji selidik ini dilakukan berdasarkan tiga objektif, pertama, untuk menilai Program Bahasa Inggeris yang dijalankan oleh Universiti Khartoum dan diajar sebagai keperluan di universiti tersebut.Kedua, untuk meninjau keperluan Bahasa Inggeris oleh para pelajar, tahap kefasihan dan sikap mereka terhadap bahasa Inggeris dan bahasa Arab sebagai bahasa pengantara.Ketiga, untuk menaksir keperluan para pelajar terhadap kursus-kursus ulangan yang ditulis didalam bahasa Inggeris dan bahasa Arab.

Kaji selidik ini dilakukan tehadap 250 orang pelajar, 15 orang tenaga pelajar bahasa Inggeris dan 9 orang pensyarah dari fakulti sains dan sastera, di Universiti Khartoum. Teknik kaji selidik dijalankan dan soalan-soalan berstruktur digunakan untuk mengumpul data. Peralatan lain digunakan untuk mengumpul data termasuk temuramah analisis berstruktur terhadap sesetengah dokumen, untuk analisis, huraian statistik frekuensi dan peratusan telah digunakan.

Keputsan kajian menunjukkan bahawa program bahasa Inggeris telah dimulakan tanpa perancangan dan objektif yang teliti. Pihak Universiti juga mendapati progam tersebut dilaksanakan tanpa analisis yang diperlukan, Kajian lain mendapati pembacaan sebagai kemahiran yang paling utama dan para pelajar bersemangat mempelajari bahasa Inggeris walaupun ramai antara mereka mendapati program yang sedia ada ini kurang memberi faedah. Keputusan juga menunjukkan bahawa fokus didalam sillabus terhadap kemahiran mengajar bahasa tidak diperlukan, sebagai tambahan mengajar kemahiran-

kemahiran yang tidak berkenaan seperti menterjemah bahasa Arab kepada bahasa Inggeris dan fonologi bahasa Inggeris.

Kajian juga menunjukkan kebanyakan pelajar berharap pada nota-nota yang diberi oleh pensyarah didalam bahasa Arab. Ini disebabkan kebanyakan sumber di perpustakaan adalah didalam bahasa Inggeris. Kajian selanjutnya mendapati bahawa perpustakaan tidak mendapati belanjawaan dari pihak Universiti yang diperlukan untuk membeli buku-buku teks dan buku-buku rujukan di dalam bahasa Arab. Perkara ini diramalkan akan memberi kesan berpanjangan terhadap pendidikan Universiti yang masih lemah didalam negara tersebut.

Kajian ini menyediakan satu gambaran untuk mencuba kaedah lain untuk mengajar bahasa Inggeris bagi tujuan Program Akademik yang seharusnya dibentuk bertujuan peningkatan kemahiran membaca. Pengajaran dalam kemahiran-kemahiran yang lain seperti menulis, bertutur dan mendengar seharusnya dibentuk dalam dalam satu konteks untuk menyokong pengajaran pembacaan tersebut. Kaedah lain terhadap program yang dicadangkan termasuk satu kaedah yang memerlukan koordinasi dan kerjasama guru-guru bahasa Inggeris dan pensyarah-pensyarah subjek. Kerjasama ini melibatkan penyediaan bahan-bahan pengajaran dan seharusnya menjadi tanggungjawab kedua-dua pihak. Cadangan-cadangan lain termasuk pernubuhan pusat bahasa yang bertanggungjawab untuk mengurus Program Bahasa Inggeris dan pembinaan sebuah projek kajian dengan kerjasama 'British Council' untuk mengatur analisis keperluan, rekaan sillabus dan penyediaan bahan-bahan.

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