

**LINGUISTIC REALIZATION OF REFUSALS IN
PERSIAN BY IRANIAN FARSI SPEAKERS**

FARZANEH ZILAIE

FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND LINGUISTICS

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FARZANEH ZILAIE

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ORIGINAL LITERARY WORK DECLARATION

Name of Candidate: **Farzaneh Zilaie** (I.C/Passport No: A1052-1353)

Registration/Matric No: **TGC80003**

Name of Degree: **Master of Linguistics**

Title of Project Paper/Research Report/Dissertation/Thesis (“this Work”):

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FARSI SPEAKERS**

Field of Study: Pragmatics

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Designation: **Supervisor/Senior Lecturer**

ABSTRACT

This study investigates variations in the linguistics realization of the speech act of refusal in Persian language. It also aims at exploring the role of two social variables; namely ‘social distance’ and ‘power’ in the production of refusals. The data were collected using ethnographic observation, and were both field noted and recorded wherever possible. The results yielded 208 acts of refusals. These refusals were classified according to the refusal classification semantic formulae proposed by Beebe, Takahashi, and Uliss- Weltz (1990). The results showed that Iranian Farsi speakers employed indirect strategies and a combination of direct and indirect strategies more than direct ones in their refusals. Also, among the large number of indirect strategies, "reason, explanation or excuse" enjoyed the highest frequency, in refusals to requests, suggestions and invitations, and "gratitude" was the commonest strategy in refusing offers. The social distance and power did play a role and affected the linguistic realization of refusal. Finally, the possible justifications behind the variations in the production of refusals are discussed.

Key words: speech act, refusal, Persian, social distance, power

ABSTRAK

Kajian ini mengkaji variasi dalam realiasi linguistik dari tindak tutur penolakan dalam bahasa Parsi. Kajian ini juga bertujuan untuk menerokai peranan daripada dua pembolehubah sosial, iaitu 'jarak sosial' dan 'kekuatan' dalam pertuturan penolakan. Data dikumpulkan dengan menggunakan pemerhatian etnografi, dan laporan yang dicatat dan direkodkan setepat mungkin. Keputusan kajian menghasilkan 208 tindakan penolakan. Penolakan ini dikumpul mengikut formula penolakan klasifikasi semantik yang dicadang oleh Beebe, Takahashi, dan Uliss-Weltz (1990). Keputusan kajian menunjukkan pengguna bahasa Iran Parsi menggunakan strategi tidak langsung dan kombinasi strategi langsung dan tidak langsung lebih dari yang langsung dalam penolakan mereka. Selain daripada itu, di antara sejumlah yang terbesar strategi tidak langsung, menikmati "alasan, penjelasan atau alasan" frekuensi tertinggi, dalam penolakan permintaan, cadangan dan undangan, dan "syukur" adalah strategi yang paling umum dalam menolak tawaran. Jarak sosial dan kuasa berperanan dan mempengaruhi realisasi linguistik penolakan. Akhirnya, mungkin justifikasi yang mungkin di sebalik variasi dalam pengeluaran penolakan adalah dibincang.

Kata kunci: tindak tutur, penolakan, Parsi, jarak sosial, kuasa

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