



Semantic Roles in Selected Irjouzas of the Battle of Al-Taf (A Semantic Sociolinguistic Study)

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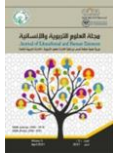
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ABSTRACT

The main goal of studies on religious language is to analyze styles that are used in religious sentences and expressions. These sentences include a variety of agent, state of affairs or properties to raise topics such as guidance, thanks to God, justice, etc. The current study presents two types of analysis: the first is a semantic analysis of ten selected Irjouzas from the fighters of Imam Hussein's army, peace be upon him, in the Battle of Al-Taf. At that time, the fighters used to say several verses of poetry called Irjouzas, showing off their combat capabilities in an attempt to strike terror into the hearts of their enemies. The Irjouzas are chosen, from five young fighters and five older fighters. The aim of such choice is to conduct the second type of analysis, which is a sociolinguistic analysis according to the variable of age. The study assumes that Irjouzas include certain semantic roles to be the most used. It also assumes that young speakers use certain semantic roles more than older speakers and vice versa. The conclusion leads to the fact that the young talkers use the semantic role of relational agent more than the old ones because they need to identify themselves, while the old ones are mainly known to their enemies. On the other hand, older talkers use the semantic role of theme more than young people because their experiences in life and fighting are wide and therefore they had historical actions and victims on the battlefields.

Keywords: Irjouzas, semantics, age, Battle of Al-Taf.



1 Introduction

Language is a means of social interaction in addition to being a tool for expressing people's feelings, wills and decisions. Therefore, the language is framed in symbols agreed upon by its users, and it has specific meanings (Dinneen,1976,p.8). These symbols are combined with each other to generate verbal units with a deeper meaning. Semantics studies the meanings of words and phrases. There are a huge number of studies analyzing semantic roles in different literary, political, and social texts, however, the current study attempts to fill an important research gap, which is the analysis of the semantic roles in the Irjouzas of an Islamic battle that is considered the most famous in the history of Islam, according to its results that are still under discussion.

The study presents its problem by introducing the following hypotheses:

1. What are the most used semantic roles in all the selected Irjouzas?
2. What are the most used semantic roles in the Irjouzas of old-aged speakers?
3. What are the most used semantic roles in the Irjouzas of young-aged speakers?

Accordingly, the study aims at:

1. Illustrating the most used semantic roles in all the selected Irjouzas.
2. Showing the most used semantic roles in the Irjouzas of young-aged speakers.
3. Analysing the most used semantic roles in the Irjouzas of young-aged speakers.

The study is limited to ten Irjouzas of the Taf battle. They are selected according to the age of their speakers (five Irjouzas by young speakers and another five by old speakers). Each five is selected randomly.

In addition, the analysis of the selected Irjouzas is fulfilled semantically and sociolinguistically.

2. Semantics

The scope of semantics(the meaning potential of language)is equivalent to the whole of human semiosis (Haliday,2003,p.4)

According to Akmajian et al (2001,p.587), semantics is "the study of meaning ,reference, truth. and related notions". Olman (2018,p2) believes that "semantics is a branch of linguistics specialized in the study of meaning". Furthermore ,Olman (2018,p2) supposes that even all linguistic meaning is not traditionally considered to be included in the heading of semantics. On the other hand, Halliday (2003,p.4) indicates that the scope of semantics(the meaning potential of language)is equivalent to the whole of human semiosis.

Olman (2018,p.2) believes that there are three general approaches to semantics:

1- The referential approaches

The act of associating a linguistic form with something outside the language , in real world or fictional world called reference (Olman,2018,p.3-4).

2- The relational approach

Sense is a term which used to distinguish the meaning that characterizes Robin's mentor from the Joker's arch and dangerous .The relational approach depends on insights from so- called structuralist linguist De Saussure, regards a linguistic



expression's sense as originating from its link with the other expressions in the other languages (Olman,2018,p.3-4).

3- The denotational approach

This approach is the sense of an expression is considered as specific characteristics that must be achieved in all its use .Dog is example to refer expression , meaning is a set of attribute that characterizes its denotational (Olman, 2018,p7).

Yule (2010,p.112-113) appoints a difference between conceptual and associative meaning. According to him, conceptual meaning covers these basic essential components of meaning which are conveyed by the literal use of a word .E.g ., needle: thin , sharp, steel, instrument. On the other hand, associative meaning is the idea ,connection what the special words brings to you .Eg., needle: painful . Thus people might associated needle with "pain " or "illness" or "blood", or "drug", and these associations may differ from person to another .

2.1 Semantic Roles

According to Crystal (2008,p.428), semantic role is a term used in syntax and semantics to refer to the semantic relations that link a predicate to its arguments in the description of a situation.

In the sentence Roger milked the cow, Roger is volitional instigator and termed as the agent ; the cow is the patient which is effected entity .There are not agreement on the number of participant of roles to speakers of languages.

Semantic roles may be subsumed into main types: the macro-roles of actors and subjects ,or ,in another term , the proto-roles of agent and patient .Other names of these roles include deep semantic case, function rule , participant role and especially in Chomsky linguistics thematic (Crystal,2008,p.428).

Kearns (2011,p.206) believes that thematic relations or thematic role in linguistic theory are general categories participating in the events . Sanskrit grammarian Panini in 500-400Bc noted that the grammatical forms of nouns, nominative phrases, and case signs indicate some general characteristics of the interpretation of the noun phrase in the sentence.

The grammatical form of the noun and phrase has been developed into different nouns and terms, and these terms are of similar rather than equivalent classification, including Theta Rolls, thematic roles, thematic relations, case roles, case relations and participant roles (Kearns,2011,p.206).

Although at first the roles were categorized into semantic and conceptual terms, the importance of thematic roles in language is to define certain roles mainly syntactically and are assigned to the interface of syntax and semantics and have importance in semantic theory. Thematic roles can integrate information encoded by semantic representations into the form of lexical conceptual structures (LCS) (Kearns,2011,p.206).

Yule (2010,p.115) concentrates on the semantic roles of agent, theme, instrument, experiencer, location , source, and goal. Lobner (2002,p.106) mentions two other thematic roles which are relational agent and attribute.



This study adopts the following semantic roles in its semantic analysis of the selected Irjouzas:

1. Agent in the entity that performs the action (Yule, 2010,p.115).
 2. Theme is the entity that is involved or affected by the action (Yule,2010,p.115).
- Both agent and theme are illustrated in the following example:

(1) The boy **Agent** kicked the ball **Theme**.

3. Relational agent is the entity that is a referent of its attribute (Lobner, 2002,p.106).

4. Attribute is the entity that describes the relational agent (Lobner, 2002,p.106). Both relational agent and attribute are illustrated in the following example:

(2) Jack **Relational Agent** is clever **Attribute**.

5. Instrument is the entity by which the action is performed (Yule,2010,p.116), as in the following example:

(3) He cut the rope with a razor **Instrument**.

6. Experiencer is the entity which refers to the person who has a feeling, perception or state performed (Yule,2010,p.116), as in the following example:

(4) The boy **Experiencer** feels sad.

Yule (2010,p.116) mentions a number of other semantic roles represent where an entity such as location which refers to place, or source, which refers to the destination from which an entity comes, or goal, which refers to the destination towards which an entity moves, as mentioned in the following examples:

(5) The book is on the table **Location**.

(6) The girl comes from the countryside **Source**.

(7) He travelled to London **Goal**.

3. Sociolinguistics

Trask (2007,pp.264-265) considers sociolinguistics as "the study of the variation of language within speech communities". Holmes (2013,p.1) states that sociolinguistics explains why we speak differently in different social contexts. It identifies the social meanings. It tells that the same message may be expressed differently by different people. People are different in their styles in different social contexts (Holmes,2013,p.1). Trudgill (1995,pp.1-21) defines sociolinguistics as "the study of the effect of any and all aspects of society, including cultural norms, expectations, and context on the way language is used."

Eastman (1975,p.113) defines "sociolinguistics is the study that is concerned with the interaction of language and setting". Coulmas (1998,p.5) says that sociolinguistics investigates how social structures influence the way people talk and how language varieties and patterns of use correlate with social attributes such as class, sex, and age.

Spolsky (1998,p.3) states that language is used to establish and maintain social relationships, and that sociolinguistics emphasizes the social influences on language. Sociolinguists believe that language use is always sensitive to the social relations among the relationships in a speech event. They maintain that there is an intimate and reciprocal relationship between language and society. According to Trudgill (1995,pp.1-21) two aspects of language behaviour are significant from a social point



of view: the function of establishing and maintaining social relationship, and the role played by language in conveying information about the speaker.

3.1 The Social Variant of Age

The social variant of age is observed in the current study as a sociolinguistic model. Yule (2010,p.241) points out that variation according to age is most noticeable across the grandparents–grandchild times span. Wardhaugh,1986,p.10) states that “young children speak differently from older children and, in turn, children speak differently from mature adults”.

Holmes (2010,p.176) states that "there are features of people`s speech which vary at different ages too. Not only pitch, but vocabulary, pronunciation and grammar can differentiate age groups". Holmes (2010,p.180) adds that "it is important to notice how easy it is to confuse patterns of language change with speech patterns which vary with different age groups."

4. What is Irjouza?

Irjouza is one of the Arabic types of poetry. It is famous for its simplicity and it is being kept easily. Some Arabic literary critics consider Irjouza as the primary of Arabic poetry. According to Khalousi (1966:121), this type of Arabic poetry has its specific meter in which there is a sequence of sound couples of vowel plus consonant. Every line in Irjouza is an independent unit. The art of Irjouza is used for many purposes: describing ruins, describing camels, praise, satire, pride, etc. However, it is favorite when preparing for fighting as it doesn`t require complex words and phrases. The use of flexible meter and linguistic styles stimulates the spirit of enthusiasm. The selected 20 Irjouzas are annually narrated on the day of Aashra`a (The tenth day of the first month of Hijri year) for hundreds of years. Such a long time of repeated narration makes any dispute of their reality unnecessary.

5. The Battle of Al-Taf

The battle of Al-Taf is Hussein`s reform revolution. Hussein Bin Ali is the grandson of the holy prophet Mohammed " Peace be upon him and his household". The Battle of Taf is a battle of reform in which the voice of Justice triumphed over injustice and corruption. It took place in 680A.D. Hussein refused to support the rule of Ummayat Yazeed Bin Mua`wia who declared himself as Calipha of Islam.

There was no equivalence in the number between the two parties. The army of Hussein was no more than 72 fighter while the army of Bin Saad (the leader of Yazeed`s army) was thousands of fighters. Before fighting, the Umaayat army managed to dominate the banks of the river, so the Husseini party could not supply any more. Thirst, tiredness, and lack of men led to the defeat of the Hussein army. Hussein and all his fighters were killed.

The battle of Al-Taf is the most controversial incident in the history of Islamic battles. The results and the details of the battle witnessed political, psychological, and religious impacts that are still present. This incident is the most salient one of a series of incidents that have a pivotal role in formulating the relationship between Shiites



and Sunnis. The very accurate details of Al-Taf become one of the cultural bases of Shiites and the day of Aashora` (the tenth day of the first Hijri month) becomes the symbol of resisting injustice, tyranny, and subjugation.

6. Semantic and Sociolinguistic Analysis of the Selected Irjouzas

The current chapter produces analyses of the selected Irjouzas. For the purpose of analyses, there are two models. For the semantic analysis, the study adopts Yule`s (2010) semantic roles. For the sociolinguistic analysis according to age, the study adopts Holmes`s (2013) concept of age.

The empirical analysis is achieved qualitatively, then, there is a quantitative analysis using numerals to enhance the qualitative one.

6.1 Semantic Analysis

Irjouza No. 1

Irjouza No.1 is said by Ali Al-Akbar who was young during the battle of Al-Taf (Al-Quraishi,2013,p.252). Table 1 illustrates the semantic roles of the first Irjouza:

Table 1: Analysis of the Semantic Roles of Irjouza No.1

No.	Words	Semantic roles
1	أنا I	Relation agent
2	علي Ali	attribute
3	ابن الحسين The son of Al Hussein	attribute
4	نحن We	Relation agent
5	و بيت الله And the house hold of Allah	Relation agent
6	أهل بيت النبي The family of the prophet	attribute
7	أنا I	agent
8	نحن We	Relation agent
9	ابن الدعي A son of a bastard	instrument
10	أنا I	agent
11	أنت You	Theme
12	My blasphemy to protect my father بالسيف أحمي عن أبي	instrument
13	أنا I	agent
14	أنت You	theme
15	رمح A spear	instrument
16	هو It	agent
17	A stabbing of Allawai Hashimy Guy طعن غلام هاشمي علوي	attribute

Analysis of Irjouza No.1 reveals that relational agent, agent, and attribute are the most prominent semantic roles. They occur 4 times and amount 23.5 % each.



Instrument occurs 3 times and amounts 17.6%. Semantic roles of experience, source, goal, and location do not occur in Irjouza No.1, as shown in Table 1 below:

Table 2: Occurrence of Semantic Roles in Irjouza No.1

Semantic Roles	Relational Agent	Agent	Attribute	Theme	Experiencer	Instrument	Source	Goal	Location	Total
Total	4	4	4	2	0	3	0	0	0	17
Per.	23.5%	23.5%	23.5%	11.7%	0.0%	17.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100%

Irjouza No. 2

Irjouza No.2 is said by Al-Qasim who was young during the battle of Al-Taf (Al-Samawi,1341 H.,p.36-37). Table 3 shows the semantic roles of the second Irjouza:

Table 3: Analysis of the Semantic Roles of Irjouza No.2

No	Words	Semantic roles
1	انا I	Relational agent
2	القاسم Al Qasim	attribute
3	من نسل علي A descendant of Ali	attribute
4	نحن We	Relational agent
5	بيت الله The house hold of Allah	Relational agent
6	أولى بالنبى The family of the prophet	attribute
7	More than Shimr Al Jawshan من شمر ذي الجوشن	Attribute
8	ابن الدعي The son of a bastard	attribute
9	انتم You	Experiencer
10	انا Me	theme
11	انا I	Relational agent
12	فرع الحسن The son of Al Hasan	attribute
13	The Grandson of the chosen سبط النبي المصطفى	attribute
14	النبي المؤمن Trusted prophet	attribute
15	حسين Hussein	Relational agent
16	الأسير المرتهن The caged prisoner	attribute
17	بين الناس Among people	Location



18	مستسقون Prayers	Relational agent
19	المزن Rain	attribute
20	انتم You	Relational agent
21	عصبة A league	attribute
22	الذين Who	agent
23	نبيها Its prophet	theme
24	Its pure livelihood من عيشها ما قد نقى	theme
25	انتم You	agent
26	سيد A master	theme
27	أهله His family	Source
28	ظلما Oppressively	instrument
29	The back of the neck ذبحا من القفا	source

Analysis of Irjouza No.2 shows that the semantic role of attribute is more used than other semantic roles. It occurs 11 times and amounts 37.9 %. Relational agent occupies the second rank as it occurs 7 times and amounts 24.1%. Theme occurs 4 times and amounts 13.9%. Semantic roles of agent and source occur 2 times and amount 6.8 % each. Semantic roles of experiencer, instrument and location occur one time and amount 3.4% each. Then, Goal does not occur, as shown in Table 4 below:

Table 4: Occurrence of Semantic Roles in Irjouza No.2

Semantic Roles	Relational Agent	Agent	Attribute	Theme	Experiencer	Instrument	Source	Goal	Location	Total
Total	7	2	11	4	1	1	2	0	1	29
Per.	24.1 %	6.8 %	37.9 %	13.7 %	3.4 %	3.4 %	6.86 %	0.0 %	3.4 %	100%

Irjouza No. 3

Irjouza No.3 is said by Zuheer Bin Al-Qeen who was an old man during the battle of Al-Taf (Al-Mufeed,1993,p.73). Table 5 shows the semantic roles of the third Irjouza:

Table 5: Analysis of the Semantic Roles of Irjouza No.3

No.	words	Semantic roles
1	أنت you	Relational agent

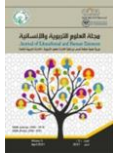


2	هاديا مهديا A well - guided guide	attribute
3	أنا I	Agent
4	جدك Your grandfather	Theme
5	النبي The prophet	Theme
6	حسن Hassan	Theme
7	علي المرتضى Al Murtadha Ali	Theme
8	الفتى الكمي The courageus Guy	theme
9	الذي Who	agent
10	جناحان Two wings	theme
11	أسد الله The lion of Allah	Relational agent
12	الشهيد الحيا The living martyr	Attribute
13	أنا I	Agent
14	To scarify myself for you فدتك نفسي	Theme
15	هاديا مهديا A guide guide	Attribute
16	أنا I	agent
17	Your grandfather the prophet جدك النبي	Theme
18	أنا I	agent
19	أباك علي Your father Ali	theme
20	الذي who	agent
21	الندى The dew	Theme
22	نحن we	Experiencer
23	هو Him	Theme
24	وصيا As the Guardian	Attribute

Analysis of Irjouza No.3 indicates that the semantic role of theme is more used than other semantic roles. It occurs 11 times and amounts 45.8 %. Agent occurs 6 times and amounts 25.0%. Attribute occurs 4 times and amounts 16.6%. Relational agent occurs 2 times and amounts 8.3%. Experiencer occurs one time and amount 4.1%. The semantic roles of instrument, source, goal, and location do not occur at all, as shown in Table 6 below:

Table 6: Occurrence of Semantic Roles in Irjouza No.3

Semantic Roles	Relational Agent	Agent	Attribute	Theme	Experiencer	Instrument	Source	Goal	Location	Total



Total	2	6	4	11	1	0	0	0	0	24
Per.	8.3 %	25.0 %	16.6 %	45.83 %	4.1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Irjouza No. 4

Irjouza No.4 is said by Nafi`a Bin Hilal Al-Jamali who was old during the battle of Al-Taf (Al-Samawi,1341 H.,p.86). Table 7 shows the semantic roles of the fourth Irjouza:

Table 7: Analysis of the Semantic Roles of Irjouza No.4

No.	words	Semantic roles
1	أنا I	Relational agent
2	الجملي Al Jamali	Attribute
3	اليمن Yemen	source
4	ديني My religion	Relational agent
5	The same as of Al- Hussien بنفس الحسين	attribute
6	نفس علي Ali's	attribute
7	أنا I	Agent

Investigating the semantic roles in Irjouza No.4 shows that attribute is the most used as it occurs 3 times and amounts 42.8 %. Relational agent occurs 2 times and amounts 28.5%. Source and agent occur one time and amount 14.2% each. The other semantic roles do not occur at all, as illustrated in Table 8 below:

Table 8: Occurrence of Semantic Roles in Irjouza No.4

Semantic Roles	Relational Agent	Agent	Attribute	Theme	Experiencer	Instrument	Source	Goal	Location	Total
Total	2	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	7
Per.	28.5 %	14.2 %	42.8 %	0%	0%	0%	14.8 %	0%	0%	100%

Irjouza No. 5

Irjouza No.5 is said by Suweed Bin Abi Amro Bin Al-Muta`a who was old during the battle of Al-Taf (Al-Samawi,1341 H.,p.101). Table 9 shows the semantic roles of the fifth Irjouza:

**Table 9: Analysis of the Semantic Roles of Irjouza No.5**

No.	words	Semantic roles
1	حسين Hussien	agent
2	أنت You	agent
3	أحمد Ahmed	theme
4	أنت You	agent
5	شيخك Your old father	theme
6	الذي Who	Relational agent
7	حبرك The religious scientist	Attribute
8	الذي who	agent
9	الندى The dew	theme
10	الحسن Al Hassan	Relational agent
11	قمر التمام A full moon	Attribute
12	الذي Who	agent
13	السعد pleasure	theme
14	عمك الهمام Your courageous uncle	Agent
15	قرم Good	theme
16	حمزة Hamza	agent
17	ليث الله The lion of Allah	agent
18	اسدا Lion	attribute
19	ذا الجناحين Two wings	Instrument
20	مقعدا seat	theme
21	الذي which	Agent
22	الفردوس The paradise	Location

Observing the semantic roles in Irjouza No.5 shows that agent is the most used as it occurs 9 times and amounts 40.9 %. Theme occurs 6 times and amounts 27.2%. Attribute occurs 3 times and amounts 13.6%. Relational agent occurs 2 times and amounts 9.0%. Instrument and location occur one time and amount 4.4%. The other semantic roles do not occur at all, as illustrated in Table 10 below:

Table 10: Occurrence of Semantic Roles in Irjouza No.5

Semantic Roles	Relational Agent	Agent	Attribute	Theme	Experiencer	Instrument	Source	Goal	Location	Total
Total	2	9	3	6	0	1	0	0	1	22



Per.	9.0 %	40.9 %	13.6 %	27.2 %	0%	4.7 %	0%	0%	4.5 %	100%
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Irjouza No. 6

Irjouza No.6 is said by Omer ibn Junada Bin ka`ab who was a young boy, during the battle of Al-Taf (Al-Samawi,1341 H.,p.94). Table 11 shows the semantic roles of the sixth Irjouza:

Table 11: Analysis of the Semantic Roles of Irjouza No.6

No	words	Semantic roles
1	أميري حسين My prince Hussien	Relational agent
2	و نعم الأمير A better prince	Attribute
3	هو He	Relational agent
4	The pleasure for the heart of the prophet سرور فؤاد النبي	attribute
5	أنا I	Agent
6	من Anybody	experiencer
7	شخص A person	Theme
8	هو him	Relational agent
9	طلعه His appearance	Relational agent
10	شمس الضحى A sun of morning	Attribute
11	غرة His forehead	Relational agent
12	بدر منير Moon light	Attribute

Relational agent is the most used in Irjouza No.6 as it occurs 5 times and amounts 41.6%. Attribute occurs 4 times and amounts 33.3 %. Agent, theme and experiencer occur one time and amount 8.3% each. The other semantic roles do not occur at all, as illustrated in Table 12 below:

Table 12: Occurrence of Semantic Roles in Irjouza No.6

Semantic Roles	Relational Agent	Agent	Attribute	Theme	Experiencer	Instrument	Source	Goal	Location	Total
Total	5	1	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	12
Per.	41.6 %	8.3 %	33.3 %	8.3%	8.3 %	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%

**Irjouza No. 7**

Irjouza No.7 is said by Anas Bin Al-Harith Al-Kahili who was old, during the battle of Al-Taf (Al-Samawi,1341 H.,p.55-56). Table 13 shows the semantic roles of the seventh Irjouza:

Table 13: Analysis of the Semantic Roles of Irjouza No.7

No	words	Semantic roles
1	مالك و الدودان Malik and Dudan	Experiencer
2	Khandaf and Qais Eelan الخندافيون و قيس عيلان	Experiencer
3	قومي My people	Relational agent
4	أفة الأقران The most furious friend	Attribute
5	هم They	Relational agent
6	سادة الفرسان The masters of knights	Attribute
7	نحن We	Agent
8	موت Death	Theme
9	طعن أن Immediate stabbing	Instrument
10	نحن We	Experiencer
11	العجز عن الطعان Disable of stabbing	Theme
12	آل علي The family of Ali	Relational agent
13	شبيعة الرحمن The people of the Merciful	Attribute
14	آل يزيد The family of Ziyad	Relational agent
15	شبيعة الشيطان The people of Satan	Attribute

Relational agent and attribute are the most used in Irjouza No.7 as they occur 4 times and amount 26.6% each. Experiencer occurs 3 times and amounts 20 %. Theme occurs 2 times and amounts 13.3%. Agent and instrument occur one time and amount 6.6% each. The other semantic roles do not occur at all, as illustrated in Table 14 below:

Table 14: Occurrence of Semantic Roles in Irjouza No.7

Semantic Roles	Relational Agent	Agent	Attribute	Theme	Experiencer	Instrument	Source	Goal	Location	Total
Total	4	1	4	2	3	1	0	0	0	15
Per.	26.6 %	6.6 %	26.6 %	13.3 %	20 %	6.6 %	0%	0%	0%	100%



Irjouza No. 8

Irjouza No.8 is said by Khalid Bin Amro Bin Khalid Al-Azadi who was a young man, during the battle of Al-Taf (Shamsul-din,1981,p.96). Table 15 shows the semantic roles of the eighth Irjouza:

Table 15: Analysis of the Semantic Roles of Irjouza No.8

No.	words	Semantic roles
1	بنو قحطان Sons of Qahtan	Relational agent
2	صبور على الموت Patient for death	attribute
3	هو It	Experiencer
4	For the satisfaction of the merciful في رضى الرحمن	theme
5	هو He	Agent
6	المجد The glory	theme
7	العزة The pride	theme
8	البرهان The clue	Theme
9	هو He	agent
10	العلی The height	theme
11	الطول The length	theme
12	احسان Generosity	theme
13	أنا I	Relational agent
14	جنان Paradises	Location
15	أنا I	Relational agent
16	A palace of pears of good construction قصر در حسن البنیان	Location

Theme is the most important semantic role in Irjouza No.8 as it occurs 7 times and amounts 43.7.6%. Relational agent occurs 3 times and amounts 18.7 %. Location and agent occur 2 times and amount 12.5%. Attribute and experiencer occur one time and amount 6.2% each. The other semantic roles do not occur at all, as illustrated in Table 16 below:

**Table 16: Occurrence of Semantic Roles in Irjouza No.8**

Semantic Roles	Relational Agent	Agent	Attribute	Theme	Experiencer	Instrument	Source	Goal	Location	Total
Total	3	2	1	7	1	0	0	0	2	16
Per.	18.7 %	12.5 %	6.25 %	43.7 %	6.25 %	0%	0%	0%	12.5 %	100%

Irjouza No. 9

Irjouza No.9 is said by Abdullah Al-Ghifari who was a young man, during the battle of Al-Taf (Al-Samawi,1341 H.,p.104). Table 17 shows the semantic roles of the ninth Irjouza:

Table 17: Analysis of the Semantic Roles of Irjouza No.9

No.	words	Semantic roles
1	بنو غفار The family of Ghafar	Experiencer
2	خندق Khandaf	Relational agent
3	بني نزار The family of Nazar	Location
4	نحن We	Agent
5	معشر الفجار The group of immorality	theme
6	كل بنار Every sword	instrument
7	عضب صارم Stern and amputates	Relational agent
8	قومي My tribe	agent
9	بني الأحرار The sons of the moral people	theme
10	المشرفي The honorable weapon	instrument
11	القنا الخطار The dangerous arrows	instrument

Instrument occurs 3 times and amounts 27.2%. Relational agent, agent, and theme occur 2 times and amount 18.1% each. Location and experience occur one time and amount 9.0% each. The other semantic roles do not occur at all, as illustrated in Table 18 below:

**Table 18: Occurrence of Semantic Roles in Irjouza No.9**

Semantic Roles	Relational Agent	Agent	Attribute	Theme	Experiencer	Instrument	Source	Goal	Location	Total
Total	2	2	0	2	1	3	0	0	1	11
Per.	18.1 %	18.1 %	0%	18.1 %	9.0%	27.2 %	0%	0%	9.0%	100%

Irjouza No. 10

Irjouza No.10 is said by Imam Hussein Ibn Ali, peace be up on him, who was old, during the battle of Al-Taf (Al-Kulainin,1365 A.H.,p.53). Table 19 shows the semantic roles of the tenth Irjouza:

Table 19: Analysis of the Semantic Roles of Irjouza No.10

No.	words	Semantic roles
1	أنا I	Relational agent
2	الحسين بن علي Hussein Bin Ali	Attribute
3	أنا I	Agent
4	أنا I	Agent
5	عائلات أبي The family of my father	Theme
6	أنا I	Agent
7	دين النبي The religion of the prophet	Theme

Agent occurs 3 times and amounts 42.8%. Theme occurs 2 times and amounts 28.5% each. Relational agent and attribute occur one time and amount 14.2% each. The other semantic roles do not occur at all, as illustrated in Table 20 below:

Table 20: Occurrence of Semantic Roles in Irjouza No.10

Semantic Roles	Relational Agent	Agent	Attribute	Theme	Experiencer	Instrument	Source	Goal	Location	Total
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Total	1	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	7
Per.	14.2 %	42.8 %	14.2 %	28.5 %	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Discussion

Analyzing the semantic roles in the tenth selected Irjouzas shows that the semantic role of theme is the most prominent one as it occurs 37 times and amounts 23.1 %. Attribute semantic roles occupies the second most prominent role as it occurs 35 times and accounts 21.8%. Relational agent lies thirdly as it occurs 32 times and amounts 20.0%. Then, agent occurs 31 times and amounts 19.3%.

Noticeably, the other semantic roles are more lesser than the previously mentioned roles. Instrument occurs 9 times and amounts 5.6%. Experiencer occurs 8 times and amounts 5.0%. Location occurs 5 times and amounts 3.1%. Source occurs 3 times and amounts 1.8%. Yet, the semantic role of goal is not used in any of the selected Irjouzas.

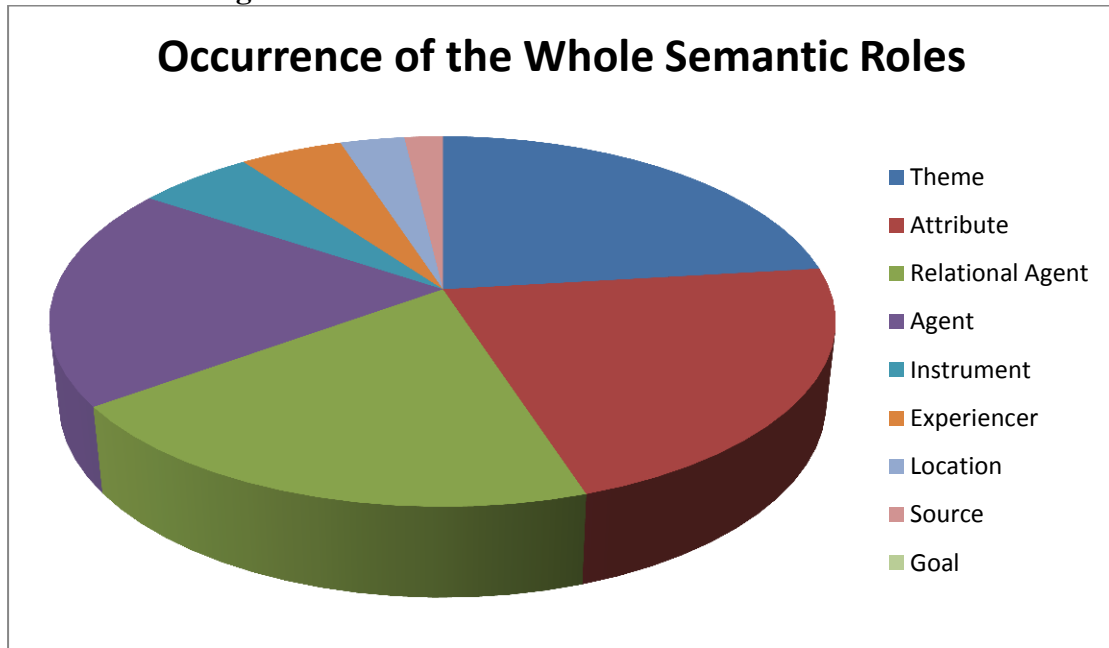
The whole occurrence of the semantic roles in all the selected Irjouzas in mentioned in Table 21 and Figure 1 below.

Table 21: Occurrence of Semantic Roles in the whole Selected Irjouzas

Irjouza	Relational Agent	Agent	Attribute	Theme	Experiencer	Instrument	Source	Goal	Location	Total
1	4	4	4	2	0	3	0	0	0	17
2	7	2	11	4	1	1	2	0	1	29
3	2	6	4	11	1	0	0	0	0	24
4	2	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	7
5	2	9	3	6	0	1	0	0	1	22
6	5	1	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	12
7	4	1	4	2	3	1	0	0	0	15
8	3	2	1	7	1	0	0	0	2	16
9	2	2	0	2	1	3	0	0	1	11
10	1	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	7
Total	32	31	35	37	8	9	3	0	5	160
Per.	20.0 %	19.3 %	21.8 %	23.1 %	5.0 %	5.6 %	1.8 %	0.0 %	3.1 %	100 %



Figure 1: Occurrence of the Whole Semantic Roles



6.2 Sociolinguistic Analysis

The variant of age is observed to achieve the sociolinguistic analysis of the selected Irjouzas. The selected Irjouzas are ten which is divided into two types according to the age of their producers: five Irjouzas said by old speakers and another five said by young speakers.

6.2.1 Old-aged Speakers

Irjouzas No. 3, 4, 5, 7, and 10 are said by old men. Observing the semantic roles in their Irjouzas reveals the following:

1. The semantic role of theme is the most prominent as it occurs 21 times and amounts 28.0%.
2. The semantic role of agent occupies the second rank as it occurs 20 times and amounts 26.6%.
3. The semantic role of attribute occurs 15 times and amounts 20%.
4. Relational agent is the fourth semantic roles in accordance to occurrence. It occurs 11 times and amounts 14.6%.
5. The semantic role of experiencer occurs 4 times and amounts 5.3%.
6. Instrument occurs 2 times and amounts 2.6%.
7. The semantic roles of source and location occur one time each and amount 1.3 % each.



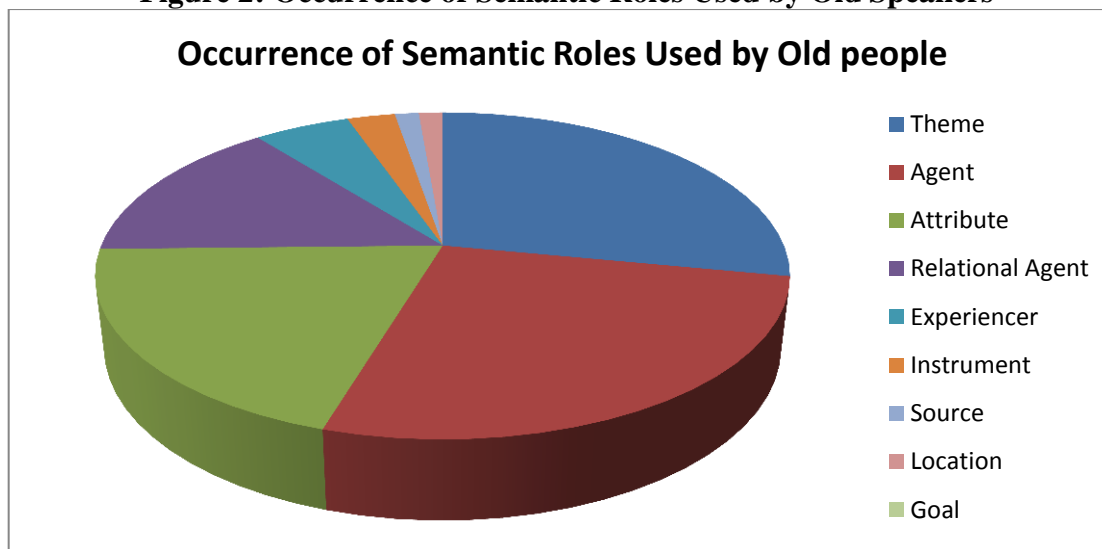
8. The semantic role of goal does not occur in the selected Irjouzas at all.

The whole semantic roles of the selected Irjouzas said by old mean are illustrated in Table 22 and Figure 2 below:

Table 22: Occurrence of Semantic Roles Used by Old Speakers

Irjouza	Relational Agent	Agent	Attribute	Theme	Experiencer	Instrument	Source	Goal	Location	Total
3	2	6	4	11	1	0	0	0	0	24
4	2	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	7
5	2	9	3	6	0	1	0	0	1	22
7	4	1	4	2	3	1	0	0	0	15
10	1	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	7
Total	11	20	15	21	4	2	1	0	1	75
Per.	14.6 %	26.6 %	20.0 %	28.0 %	5.3 %	2.6 %	1.3 %	0.0 %	1.3 %	100 %

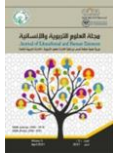
Figure 2: Occurrence of Semantic Roles Used by Old Speakers



6.2.2 Young-aged Speakers

Irjouzas No. 1, 2, 6, 8, and 9 are said by young men. Analyzing the semantic roles in their Irjouzas shows the following:

1. The semantic role of relational agent is the most prominent as it occurs 21 times and amounts 24.7%.
2. The semantic role of attribute occurs 20 times and amounts 23.5%.



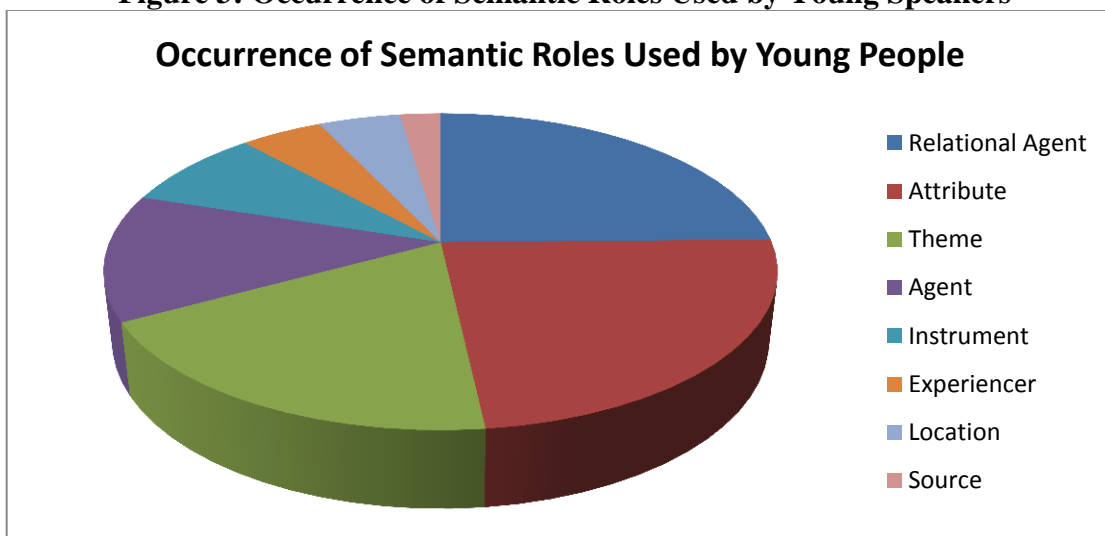
3. The semantic role of theme occurs 16 times and amounts 18.8%.
4. Agent occurs 11 times and amounts 12.9%.
5. The semantic role of instrument occurs 7 times and amounts 8.2%.
6. The semantic roles of experiencer and location occur 4 times each and amounts 4.7% each.
7. The semantic roles of source occurs 2 times and amounts 2.3 %.
8. The semantic role of goal does not occur in the selected Irjouzas at all.

The whole semantic roles of the selected Irjouzas said by young men are illustrated in Table 23 and Figure 3 below:

Table 23: Occurrence of Semantic Roles Used by Young Speakers

Irjouza	Relational Agent	Agent	Attribute	Theme	Experiencer	Instrument	Source	Goal	Location	Total
1	4	4	4	2	0	3	0	0	0	17
2	7	2	11	4	1	1	2	0	1	29
6	5	1	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	12
8	3	2	1	7	1	0	0	0	2	16
9	2	2	0	2	1	3	0	0	1	11
Total	21	11	20	16	4	7	2	0	4	85
Per.	24.7 %	12.9 %	23.5 %	18.8 %	4.7 %	8.2 %	2.3 %	0.0 %	4.7 %	100 %

Figure 3: Occurrence of Semantic Roles Used by Young Speakers





Discussion

Comparing the semantic roles used by old-aged speakers and young-aged speakers illustrates that:

1. Young speakers use relational agents far more than old speakers. Young speakers use relational agents 21 times, but old speakers use them 11 times.
2. Young speakers use attributes more than old speakers. Young speakers use attributes 20 times, but old speakers use them 15 times.
3. Old speakers use theme more than young speakers. Old speakers use them 21 times, but young speakers use them 16 times.
4. Old speakers use agent more than young speakers. Old speakers use them 20 times, but young speakers use them 11 times.
5. Young speakers use instrument more than old speakers. Young speakers use attributes 7 times, but old speakers use them 2 times.
6. Both young and old people use experiencer equally. They use them 4 times.
7. Young speakers use location more than old speakers. Young speakers use attributes 4 times, but old speakers use them one time.
8. Young speakers use source more than old speakers. Young speakers use attributes 2 times, but old speakers use them one time.
9. Neither old people nor young people use the semantic role of goal.

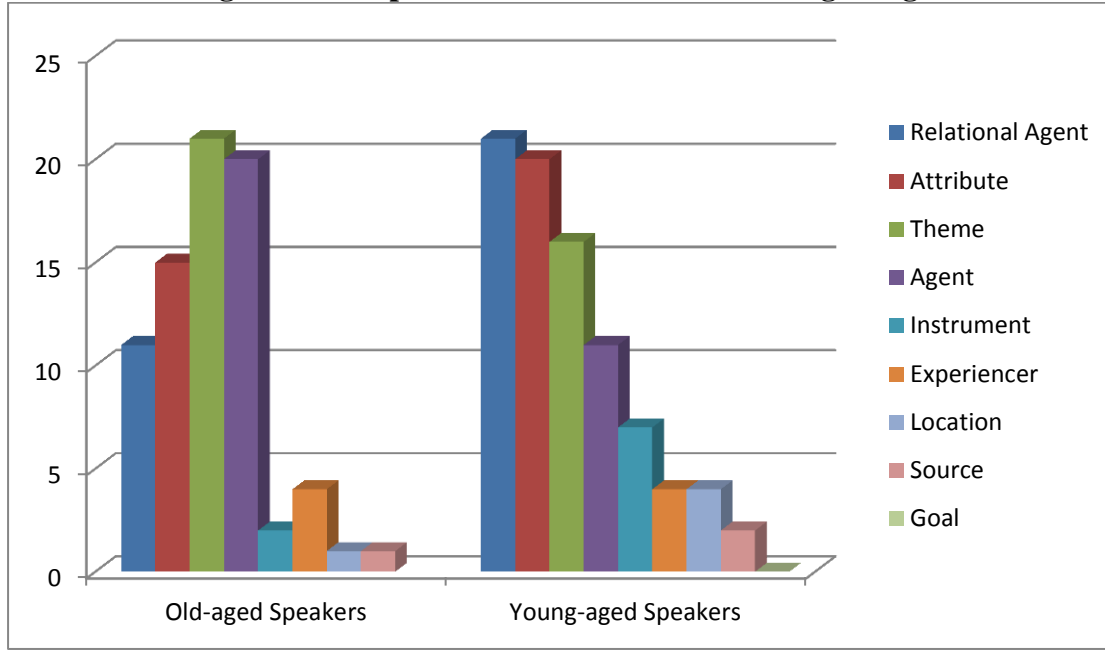
The compared semantic roles can be best illustrated in Table 24 and Figure 4 below:

Table 24: Compared Semantic Roles According to Age

Age	Relational Agent	Agent	Attribute	Theme	Experiencer	Instrument	Source	Goal	Location	Total
Old	11	20	15	21	4	2	1	0	1	75
Young	21	11	20	16	4	7	2	0	4	85
Total	32	31	35	37	8	9	3	0	5	160
Per.	20.0 %	19.3 %	21.8 %	23.1 %	5.0 %	5.6 %	1.8 %	0.0 %	3.1 %	100 %



Figure 4: Compared Semantic Roles According to Age



7. Conclusion

According to the prior hypotheses of the study, it drives at the following conclusions:

1. The semantic role of theme is the most prominent one as it occurs 37 times and amounts 23.1%. Semantically, theme is a stationary target of contacting movement or action of another entity (Kearns,2011,p.208), which is the agent. It has a lack of control. Accordingly, the speakers of the used Irjouzas aim to say that their enemy are useless who have no power to fight them. Their enemy lack of causal influence in the event of fighting.
2. The semantic role of attribute is the second most prominent semantic role. Fighters need to account their attributes and merits of fighting. They target to make the enemy feel afraid of their powerful merits.
3. The semantic role of goal does not occur in the selected Irjouzas. Such semantic role refers to the destination where an entity aims to go. The absence of such semantic role reveals that the supporters of Al-Hussein, peace be on them all, have only one destination, which is paradise. They aim to martyr for the goal of supporting their Imam.
4. Old-aged speakers use the semantic role of theme more than young-aged speakers. This use reveals that old speakers have a lot of experience which are known by their enemy. So, they remind them that they (the enemy) have no control of the action of fighting.
5. Young-aged speakers use relational agent more than old-aged speakers. As Lobner (2002,p.106) indicates "relational nouns constitute two-place predicate terms". Accordingly, relational nouns are referents of their attributes or themes. Old fighters



do not need to introduce themselves to the enemy. They are well-known for their courage. Oppositely, young fighters need to introduce themselves by revealing their identity.

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