



LET'S LOOK INTO KURDISH

Introduction

Kurds are living in the borders of four states. These states are Turkey, Iran, Iraq and Syria. The official languages of these countries are Turkish, Persian and Arabic.

Turkish is from Ural-Altaic, Arabic is from Semitic and Persian is from Indo-European language families. Among these languages, only Persian is in the same language group with Kurdish.

However there is an interesting point that, both Arab and Persian official institutes and their laws admit Kurdish existence as an independent language. But Turkish Republic's current laws and officials still don't want to accept Kurdish language and its original character. Of course we can regard as an exception the recent positive negotiations and the projects which aim constitutional changing.

The idea to do not recognize the Kurdish reality is especially spreaded after the years of Turkish republic foundation and became the formal ideology. As it is well known, before the Turkish Republican era Kurds were identified and known with their own language, culture and identity.

For instance Evliya Çelebi in his well known work *Seyahatname* writes about Kurdish and its dialects. He emphasizes that Kurdish is an ancient and rich language and it is different from Hebrew and Persian languages.

Şemsettin Sami in his work *Kamul'ül Alam* and Ziya Gökalp in his articles and his work *Kürt Aşiretleri Hakkında Sosyolojik Tetkikler* (Sociological Observation About Kurdish Tribes) tell that Kurdish is a rich and independent language and it does not resemble to other languages.

After the foundation of the Turkish Republic especially in the 1924 constitution the existence of Kurds were not recognized. Kurdish language and the Kurdish identity were refused. However we know that in many documents of the Ottoman Empire there are the expressions of the Kurd and the Kurdistan.

All of the Kurdologists fixed that Kurdish is an independent language and has no tie with Arabic and Turkish languages. On the other hand Kurds and Persian are Arian. Their languages are in the same group. But each one is an independent language. In the past years Kurds had education in their own language. In the religious school the education and teaching in the subjects like mathematic, logic, grammar, and jurisprudence were in Kurdish and Arabic. With the new Education Law these schools were closed down and in the new system it isn't given permission to the education and teaching in Kurdish.

Nowadays, there is relatively an atmosphere of negotiation. The people for statuesque don't refuse the Kurdish, but they qualify it as a local and weak language and see the existence of the present dialects and accents as a handicap for the education and teaching.

It is a reality that Kurdish has dialects and accents. This reality is not belongs to Kurdish. There are dialects, accents in all languages. The standardization is asked for the writing language. Whether in which language the standardization has been achieved both in writing language and spoken language.

For a standard language there is a necessity to appropriate conditions and time in every respect. They say that Kurdish is a mixed and collected language. Who can bring forward the presence of a pure language? There are foreign words in all languages. It can be given an interesting example about this matter. Languages of all Islamic countries are influenced by Arabic. In the languages of the Christian nations the same influence is in question for the Latin language. The source of this effect is religion. We should not forget that the language of the Church is the Latin and the language of the Mosque is the Arabic.

At same time all the neighbor languages have affected each other on account of many different reasons and have borrow words to each other. Today in Kurdish, Turkish and Persian we see many Arabic words. At one time, since the Persian literature was impressive, in Turkish, Kurdish and Arabic there are many Persian words. This is a very natural fact.

The Kurdish culture had inherited the Mesopotamian culture, for this reason it has got a rich content. It had inherited to a lot of written documents. It is deduced from the available documents that Kurds have used the writing for along time.

By this booklet we have no intention to support by evidence some well known things, but it is duty for us to present the option of the Kurdish about this issue, because, there are some baseless arguments about the Kurdish language. We hope that this booklet will open the way for dialog and peace.

The Alphabets Which Kurds Had Used

The materials and documents in hand are informing us that Kurds have used many alphabets during the history. But we don't know that which alphabet Kurds firstly used and when they began to write. Except the alphabets we are going to give below, Kurds used the symbols of Aramaic, Syrian and Greek, too.

The alphabets which Kurds used are these:

1-The Cuneiform Writing: Medes added six (6) new letters to it and they increased the numbers of the letters from thirty six (36) to forty two (42).This alphabet is written from the left side to the right.

2- The Avesta Alphabet: This alphabet consists of forty five (44) letters. Some sources point out that there are forty eight letters in the Avesta alphabet.

3- The Aramaic alphabet: The oldest Kurdish documents were written in this alphabet. These documents were found in the region of the Hewreman. As well as, it is said that Kurdish writings are mostly written in it. Among the documents in hand, which were written on gazelle skins, the oldest ones are goes back to the years of 88-87 B.C.

4-The early Pehlevi alphabet: with this alphabet a book named *Dinkerd* was written in the sorani dialect.

5- The Masi Sorati alphabet: Arabic historian Ibn Wehsiyeh in his book which he finished in the year of 855 A.C. says that Kurds used this alphabet (masi sorati) and he found three samples which were written in it. This alphabet had thirty six (36) letters but Kurds added six (6) other letters to it.

6- The alphabet which Yezidi Kurds use: for hundreds of the years this alphabet is being used by Kurds and it is written from the right hand to the left hand. Some people are regarding this alphabet as "The Alphabet of Magic (this is "huruful el sir" in Arabic). The holy Yezidian book *Mishefa Resh* and *Cilwe* were written in this alphabet.

7- The Kurdish version of the Arabic alphabet.

8- The Kurdish version of the Latin alphabet.

9- The Kurdish version of the Cyrillic alphabet.

Except these alphabets, in the region of Zêwê in the East Kurdistan (Iranian part) a kind of writing is observed which is placed on a silver tray. According to the researchers the writing mentioned is a remaining of the 8 century B.C and it belongs to "Medes". Nobody has not met much such writing except this document.¹

The Place of the Kurdish among the World's Languages

Kurdish language, as many linguists and kurdologists have pointed out, is belonging to the family of Indo-European languages. Kurdish is take place among the sub-group of the Iranian languages. It is from the northwest part this subgroup. Now let's give the names of some languages which take place in the same group with Kurdish:

Persian, Kurdish, Beluci Osetian, Peshtoyian, Pamirian, etc.

For making the Kurdish language's position clearer and more understandable, let's give our attention the classification of the languages. Philologistists traditionally divide the languages into two parts and they do this according to the form and the origin.²

a) Languages according to their forms

Linguists divide the languages into three main groups according to the morphology.

1) One syllable languages: Chinese and Tibetan languages.

2) Additive languages: Turkish and Hungarian.

3) Inflective languages: Indo-European and Semitic languages.

As Kurdish language is an oblique language we should give some information in the matter of inflexion³. Linguists comment the inflexion like this; *inflexion is the changing of the root especially the changing of the vowels of the verb's root.*⁴

¹ For a brief information look at; Varli, Abdullah; Dîroka Dûgela Kurdan and Çelîker, Celadet; Kurtedîroka alfabên ku kurdan bi kar anîne, the magazine of the Istanbul Kurdish Institute Zend the second issue, year 1994.

² Aksan, Doğan; Her Yönüyle Dil 1 (Ana Çizgileriyle Dilbilim), Türk Dil Kurumu Publication, Ankara 1987.

³ Bedirxan, Celadet & Lescot Roger; Kürtçe Dilbilgisi, Doz Publication, 5th Edition, Istanbul 2000.

⁴ Aksan, Doğan; ibid.

The best example for the inflective languages is Arabic. In Arabic consonants don't change and the words are constructed with the vowels which come to the front position or in the middle position of the word. For example; k, t, and p are three consonants and the words "kitap, mektep, kâtip... etc are formed with the changing of the Vowels. Also C, H, L are three consonants and with the changing of the vowels words like "cahil, cehele" are formed.

In Kurdish the change able classes of words are inflected, that is, they are changing according to their functions. This rule is current for the root of the word too. For example the verb "kirin" (to make) in the present tense is /di- k-im/. In this example only the letter /k/ is left as a part of the verb. The prefix /di/ is for present time and the suffix /im/ show the person. Let's give another example; the verb is "parastin". Firstly we are going to conjugate it in the present tense and then in the past tense.

Ez di-parez-im.

Ez is the first singular personal pronoun. (The first group of the personal pronouns); **di** is the prefix of the present tense; **parêz** is the verb's root (imperative form); **im** is the suffix of the first personal pronouns.

Min parast.

Min is the first singular p.p (the oblique group); **parast** is the verb's root of the past tense.

As the examples show, in Kurdish not only the vowel but the consonant also changes. It can be seen from the verb "parastin" that, while conjugating in the present tense the verb's root (parastin) /a/ changed into /ê/ and /s/ changed into /z/.

On the other hand, in Turkish, at any time, while conjugating the verb's root does not change, always remains the same. As the root does not change its consonants doesn't change into other letters. For example the verb "gitmek" (to go), its root is /git/. We can add many affixes (the affixes of conjugation and additive) to its end such as "gittim", "gidecek", "gitmislerdi"...etc. But the root doesn't change.

b) Languages according to their origins

According to their origins, languages are divided into five main groups:

- 1) Indo-European (English, French, Kurdish, Persian).
- 2) The Semitic languages (Arabic, Hebrew, Acadian).
- 3) The Bantu languages (The south and middle African languages).
- 4) The Chinese languages.
- 5) Ural-Altai languages (Finnic, Hungarian, Mongolian, Turkish).

As we said above, Kurdish is an Indo-European language. If focus on the Indo-European languages, It is possible to face many similiar words. This is the same for all other languages of the same family and group. Now, for this matter let's give the table below:

| Kurdish | English | Germany | French | Persian | Greek |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| stêr | star | stern | astre | sitare | astron |
| kurt | short | kurz | court | - | - |
| lêv | lip | lippe | levre | leb | - |
| jenû | - | - | geneou | - | - |
| dilop | drop | tropfen | - | - | - |
| nav | name | name | nom | name | - |
| no/na | no | nein | non | - | - |
| tu | - | du | tu/te | - | - |
| nû/niwe | new | neu | neu | - | - |
| neh | nine | neun | neuf | - | - |
| dot | douther | - | - | - | - |
| bira | brother | - | - | brader | - |

In this subject Minorsky says⁵: “Kurdish, like Persian is one of the west Iranian languages. As Andreas, Salamann, O.Mann-Meillet, Lent, T. Tedeco have said too, the west Iranian languages are in two groups; the South and the West. And these groups were mixed.

In addition to this, in today languages there are many things which are unfamiliar to each other. Kurdish and Persian, in many ways have characteristics of their own, that is, Kurdish language belongs to the northwest group of the Iranian languages.”

Since Kurdish and Persian have many similar words, many people name the Kurdish as a dialect of Persian. But the linguists who have studied on Kurdish are rejecting this idea. Even so we want to show some differences between Kurdish and Persian.

The Differences Between Kurdish and Persian

As Kurdish and Persian languages are in the same group, in some aspects they are close to each Other. For this reason, some states which are dominating the Kurds do not appreciate the Kurds existence and regard their languages as a complicated and degenerated dialect of the Persian. So we find necessary to expose the differences between the two languages. As much as these two languages are familiar, they are different too and each one is an independent language.

Kurdish is a gender in Kurdish words, but there is no gender in Persian words. In Kurdish (in Kurmancî and Kirmanckî/Zazakî) there are two groups of pronouns. We don't see such a thing in Persian. These two groups of pronouns, in Kurdish are used apart in transitive verbs that is, Kurdish language is an “ergative” language.

Example for Kurmancî:

Min nan xwar.

Ez nên dixwim.

⁵ Minorsky, Vladimir; Kürtler (Kurds), Koral Publication, Istanbul 1992, pp: 76-78.

Example for Kirmanckî:

Min nan werd.

Ez nanî wena.

Besides this, in Kurdish language there is gender in the personal pronouns and demonstration pronouns, but in Persian it is not like that. And there are two groups of demonstration pronouns. Persian hasn't got such a specialty.

We can point out many differences of these two languages. But let's listen to Minorsky about this issue. Kurdolog Minorsky points out that Kurdish language and Persian are different from each other and each one is independent.

Minorsky adds that there are important differences between Kurdish and Persian⁶.

1) Phonetic: The phonetic of the Kurdish is different from the Persian.

2) The changing of the sounds: In The words of the same root too there had been great changing in the matter of the sounds.

3) The difference of the forms: from the pronouns to verb's conjugation, from the affixes of the possessive pronouns to the noun phrases there are differences.

4) The etymological differences.

5) The differences of the words.

Kurdish Dialects

In the matter of Kurdish Dialects there are unfamiliar ideas. Especially some people who are not willing to appreciate the Kurds and their languages, reflects all the Kurdish accents as Kurdish dialects and sometimes the dialect itself as a language.

But this problem is enlightened by philologists and Kurdologists for a long time ago.

• In the 16 th century "Şerefyanê Bedlisi" in his famous work *Şerefname*⁷ numbers the Kurdish dialects as below:

1) Kurmanci

2) Lori

3) Kelhûri

4) Gorani.

• As for G. Ginvinli, who did some investigations on Kurdish ethnography in 1836-37, Kurdish language is in two groups: The upper part Kurdish, the downstairs Kurdish.

• Peter Lerch (1857-58) classifies Kurdish in five dialects: Zaza, Kurmanci, Kelhurî, Goranî and Lurî.

⁶ The same book.

⁷ Şerefyanê Bidlîsî, Şerefname, Hasat Publication, Istanbul 1990.

- Oscar Mann separate Kurdish as the western Kurdish, the southern Kurdish, and the eastern Kurdish. Mann regards Gorani/Zazaki as non-Kurdish.

- E. B. Soane in his study *Grammar of Kurmanci or Kurdish Language* (1913) divides Kurdish into three parts: The upper part Kurdish, downstairs Kurdish and Lori-Zazaki (Hewremani and Gorani)⁸.

- Ziya Gökalp in his study *Kürt Aşiretleri Hakkında Sosyolojik Tetkikler*⁹ (Sociological Observations about Kurdish Tribes) evaluates Kurdish as five dialects: Kurmanc, Zaza, Soran, Goran and Lor. Gökalp reports that they all existed from the ancient Kurdish.

- Dr. Mac Kenzie rates Kurdish in three groups: The northern group, the central group and the southern group.

- Cemal Nebez classifies Kurdish in four parts: Northern Kurdish, southern Kurdish, middle Kurdish, Gorani-Zazayî.

- Alaedin Secadi, in his work *The Dictionary of Kurdish, Arabic and Persian* classifies Kurdish in two parts: the Kurmancî of Behdinî and Soranî.

- According to Dr. Kemal Fuad Kurdish have four dialects: 1) The western Kurdish, 2) The eastern Kurdish, 3) The southern Kurdish, 4) The Zazaki/Gorani Kurdish.

- Fuat Heme Xurşid in his work *Zimanî Kurdî, Dabeşbûnî Cografyayî Diyalektekanîy* classifies Kurdish as; 1) The northern Kurdish, 2) The central Kurdish, 3) The southern Kurdish, 4) Gorani.

- Emir Hesepûr¹⁰ in his study *Nationality and Languages in Kurdistan* (1918-1985) divides Kurdish into four dialects: Kurmanci, Sorani, Hewrami, and Kirmanşahi.

It is clearly seen from the studies of languages mentioned, they mostly, agree that in Kurdish there are four dialects.

- 1) Kurmanci (Kirdasi)
- 2) The central Kurdish (Sorani)
- 3) Kirmancki (Kirdki, Zazaki/Gorani)
- 4) Lorani.

The northern Kurmanci and the southern Kurmanci are the two main dialects both of them are regarded as dialects which have written literature. Recently The Kirmancki is also step by step walking towards to be a written language.

Among the Kurdish dialects the one which is the most spoken is Kurmanci. Kurmanci is spoken in whole region where kurds live.

In Turkey, there are only Kurmanci and Zazaki. Except the Central Anatolian and Qerejdax where Şêxbizinî (shekhibizini) are living, an accent of Sorani is spoken there.

⁸ Viwan, Murad; Türkçe Açıklamalı Kürtçe Dilbilgisi, Jîna Nû, Sweden 1992.

⁹ Gökalp, Ziya; Kürt Aşiretleri Hakkında Sosyolojik Tetkikler, Sosyal Publication, first edition, Istanbul 1992.

¹⁰ Hesepûr, Emîr; Nationalism and Language in Kurdistan, Mellen Research University Press, Canada 1992.

The complication in the matter of dialects is often because of the names giving. For example; the northern Kurmanji is called as Behdini in the south and as Şikaki in the east. However the be downstairs Kurmanji is called as simple Kurdish, Sorani. The same situation is right for Zazaki too. Name such as Kirmancki, Dimilki, Dersimki, Sobê are used. For the Hewrami the name Gorani is called. Es it is seen from the examples above the names which all the investigators agree are names like Kurdi, Kurmanji, Kirmancki and Kirdki ,often used, the others are the name of region's and tribes' names.

The Accent of Kurdish Dialects

People who don't want to admit Kurdish as an independent language are calling the speech of the each city, even each village as an accent or sometimes as a dialect, too. As all the languages have accents and dialects, there are in Kurdish also. We should not forget that standardization is possible for the formal language but not for the informal language. Without a political status and interference the standard language does not come into being.

Ehmedê Xanî (17th century) in his famous work *Mem û Zîn*¹¹ divided Kurdish dialects into three main accents let's expose his establishing with a couplet from his masterpiece *Mem û Zîn*.

Bohtî û Mehmedî û Silivî (Bohtî and Mehmedî and Silivî)

Hin la'l û hinik ji zêr û zivî. (Some are pearl and some are from golden and silver)

We can take basis that saying of Ehmedê Xanî for Kurmanji accents. In a general way researchers are put in order the accents to the other dialects like this:

The central Kurmanjî (Sorani): Silemani, Mukri, Sineyi.

Kirmanckî (Zazakî): The Dêrsim accent and the Siwêreg accent.

Syntax

The syntax teach us which position do the word classes take and how do they bind together. That is, the state of the words and word classes opposing one another is the syntax.

In Kurdish the relation and the tie among the words are in this way; in Kurdish the words attach to each other often with articles. The articles in Kurdish are in two kinds: The definite and indefinite. Firstly let's give examples for definite articles.

Mala mezin (noun-adjective)

Mastê we (noun-pronoun)

Keçên bedew (noun-adjective)

For the indefinite articles we can give those examples:

Maleke mezin

Keçine bedew

¹¹ Ehmedê Xanî, *Mem û Zîn*, Hasat Publication, third edition, Istanbul 1990.

As it comes in sight the connection of the words in Kurdish is opposite to Turkish.

Example:

Mala min

If we write this compound in Turkish, it will be like this,

Benim evim

In this example it becomes obvious that both the articles any languages and the position of the elements are separate.

As well as, the Kurdish syntax, in many ways, differs from Persian syntax. Let's listen to Minorsky's proves about this subject: *"Kurdish syntax differs from the Persian syntax in the matter of compound words and transitive verbs."*¹²

In Kurdish language the order of sentences' elements are separate from Turkish and Persian's syntax. In a Turkish direct sentence the predicate is always at the end of the sentence. Example:

Ben dün Ankaraya gittim. (subject + complement + predicate)

Let's set up the same sentence in Kurdish:

Ez duh çûm Enqereyê. (subject + complement + predicate + complement)

For a sentence to be formed two main elements are necessary. These elements are the subject and the predicate. From the easy to the complex let's give the sentences with their elements.

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| Ez (I) | çûm (went) |
| subject | predicate |

Predicate also can accomplish a sentence alone. As it is seen in the example above, if you throw the first singular personal pronoun "*çûm*" (I went) can forms a sentence by itself.

In sentences the subject is at the beginning and the predicate is at the end. The syntax of the transitive and intransitive verbs is different. In short, according to the complexity of the sentence, the position of its elements is changed.

The elements of the sentences are ordered like this:

1) Subject + complement + predicate

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Tu | li serê çiyayê Sîpanê | dijî. |
| subject | complement | predicate |

2) Subject + object + complement + predicate

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Sivên | nanê xwe | dereng | xwar. |
| subject | object | complement | predicate |

¹² Minorsky, Vladimir; ibid.

3) Subject + complement + predicate + complement

Hun dê tu caran neçin Geverê.

sub. comp. predicate comp.

In Kurdish the element which is going to be stressed comes close to the predicate.
Example:

Ez ê kevirekî bi tevşo bişkînim.
(3) (2) (1)

Ez ê bi tevşo kevirekî bişkînim.
(3) (2) (1)

Kevireki bi tevşo ez ê bişkînim.
(3) (2) (1)

Bi tevşo kevirekî ez ê bişkînim.
(3) (2) (1)

You can meet the inverted sentences in Kurdish. These sentences are appearing mostly in the poems, conversations and some other articles.

Piştî ku roja me bû tarî [predicate] mirin xweştir e [predicate] ji amberê (E. Xani).

An attractive characteristic of Kurdish is its ergativity. The sentences constructed with transitive verbs are different from the intransitive verb sentences. Therefore there are two groups of pronoun in Kurdish. As well as the verb is conjugated sometimes according to the subject and sometimes is appropriate to the object. Example:

Ez te dibînim. (I am seeing you)

Min tu dîtî. (I saw you)

In the first sentence the verb is conjugated according to the subject (*ez*), in the second one it is according to the object. With this specialty we accounted above, in transitive verbs the quantity of the noun in the past tense is known with the verb. Example:

Min sêv xwar. (I ate an apple)

Min sêv xwarin. (I ate the apples)

In the first example /sêv/ is singular and in the second sentence /sêv/ is plural.

In the present and future tense the plurality is known with the object.

Ez sêvê dixwim. (I am eating the apple)

Ez sêvan dixwim. (I am eating the apples)

Gender

In Kurdish there is a gender words and all the words are either masculine or feminine.

In addition the living creature the all things have genders too. But this is a grammatical gender. The word's gender appears in two ways, with the article and with the inflection affixes. Words are neutral by themselves. Example:

kevçî (spool), çav (eye), pêûs (pen), giyan (spirit), etc.

Gender with the article

Çavê şîn (blue eye), pêûsa zirîçî (pencil).

In this example the article /a/ is showing the feminine and the article /ê/ is showing the masculine.

Gender with the inflection

Siya darê (the shadow of the tree), nikulê dîkî (the beak of the hen).

In this example the affix /ê/ is showing the feminine and /ê/ is showing the masculine words.

Article

In Kurdish the compound is formed with the articles. These articles are masculine and feminine. As well as Kurdish articles have two forms; the definite and the indefinite. Since there is no state for the nouns in Kurdish, the compound is formed with the article and inflection affixes.

| | | |
|------|---|---|
| -ê | : | Singular, masculine and definite |
| -a | : | Singular feminine, and definite |
| -ên | : | Plural, definite (for both the genders) |
| -eki | : | Singular, masculine and indefinite |
| -eke | : | Singular feminine and indefinite |
| -ine | : | Plural, indefinite (for both the genders) |

Inflection

Another characteristic of Kurdish is the inflection. In Kurdish some elements of the sentence change according to their functions. In Kurdish the changeable elements (verb, noun, pronoun, article, and countable noun) inflect. The plurality of the simple nouns and pronouns are known with article and the verb, but in Kirmanckî (Dimilki) the plurality of the simple nouns are known with the (î) affix. Example:

Kurmancî:

Min pêûs bir (singular and definite)

Min pêûs birin (plural and definite)

Min pêûsek bir (singular and indefinite)

Kirmanckî:

Min say werd

Min sayî werdî

The inflexion of the masculine nouns in Kurdish is formed in two ways:

- a) The "î" affix comes to the word's end.
- b) If it contains /a/ or /e/ sound, these sounds change to /ê/. Example:

| Simple | Oblique |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| şivan | gopalê şivanî/şivên |
| nan | nên/nanî bîne |
| bajar | Zîlan Ronahî ji aşî/êş tê. |
| nîvîskar | Nivîskêr/nivîskarî xweş nivîsiye |
| gotîn | gotinê ez êşandim |

The inflexion of the feminine nouns:

The vowel "ê" comes to the word's end and forms the feminine inflection. Example:

Meha biharê

Porê jinikê

Since Kurdish is an oblique language, the personal pronouns have two forms.

One is the oblique form and the other is the direct form.

| The direct ones | The oblique ones |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| ez | min |
| tu | te |
| ew | wê/wî |
| em | me |
| hûn | we |
| ew | wan |

Note: When a preposition places in front of the word classes, inflects them.

Etymology

Kurdish is such a language that it takes affixes in the front, in the end and in the middle. These morphemes are divided into two groups. One of them is the affixes which only the constructed verbs are obtained with them. The other affixes, only the adjectives and nouns are obtained with them. And sometimes a change is made in the word, and the noun is found. Especially this state happens in the mood of the imperative verb. Example: *Bi + şewit + e*, /bi/ is the imperative mood, /şewit/ is the verb's root of the imperative mood, /e/ is the affix root of the verb in imperative mood, and change the /i/ in the second syllable to /a/. So we obtain the noun; in şewit /i/ is change to /a/ and şewit become *şewat*. Except this, from the verb root of the imperative mood, the affixes of the subject nouns are obtained. We obtained from şewitîn (to burn) şewat (fire). Example:

From the verb "*kuştin*" (to kill), *bi-kuj-e* (kill), if the /bi/ and /e/ is thrown then -kuj- is remained, if we bring it before the word *agir* (fire) a word like this is formed; "*agirkuj*" (firekiller it means fireman).

We won't mention widely about the articles, just for to make clear the subject and to make the topic more comprehensive we are going to stand on it. Firstly let's give articles for the verbs.

a) Verb forming affixes

| | | |
|--------------|---|-----------|
| ber + dan | = | berdan |
| der + anîn | = | deranîn |
| hil + kirin | = | hilkirin |
| ra + kirin | = | rakirin |
| ro + kirin | = | rokirin |
| ve + xwarin | = | vexarin |
| vê + xistin | = | vêxistin |
| ver + girtin | = | vergirtin |
| tê + koşîn | = | têkoşîn |

Now let's give some affixes which come to the end of the nouns and adjectives, and the simple word are formed with them:

andin, isandin, ijandin

With the affixes above transitive verbs are obtained. Examples:

| | | |
|----------------|---|-------------|
| saz + andin | = | sazandin |
| nerm + ijandin | = | nermijandin |
| rep + isandin | = | repisandin |

-în, -isîn, -ijîn

With these affixes intransitive verbs obtained.

| | | |
|-------------|---|----------|
| rep + isîn | = | repisîn |
| saz + îin | = | sazîin |
| nerm + ijîn | = | nermijîn |

b) Noun and adjective forming affixes

After all these, now let's try with the affixes which the noun and the adjective are formed with them. These nouns are in two groups: subject-noun and object-noun. These affixes come to both at the front of the word and at the end of it. For these ones let's give some examples. We are going to expose firstly prefixes; secondly the suffixes end thirdly the middle-affixes with the examples.

The derivation of words with suffixes:

| | | |
|-------------|---|----------|
| kar + ker | = | karker |
| ber + ek | = | berek |
| dar + ik | = | darik |
| ser + ok | = | serok |
| as + van | = | asvan |
| rim + baz | = | rimbaz |
| guh + ar | = | guhar |
| mal + dar | = | maldar |
| teng + asî | = | tengasi |
| kirîv + atî | = | kirîvatî |
| xwîn + î | = | xwînî |
| ser + oyî | = | seroyî |
| yekt + îtî | = | yektî |

The derivation of words with prefixes:

| | | |
|-------------|---|----------|
| a + aşûjin | = | aşûjin |
| ber + av | = | berav |
| ser + dest | = | serdest |
| ne + yar | = | neyar |
| tele + bext | = | telebext |
| hem + pa | = | hempa |
| hev + kar | = | hevkar |
| kele + girî | = | kelegirî |
| zir + keş | = | zirkeş |
| bi + kuj | = | bikuj |
| bele + guh | = | beleguh |
| gû + sterk | = | gûsterk |

The derivation of words with the middle affixes:

| | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------|
| ser + an + ser | = | seranser |
| dest + e + bira | = | destebira |
| şad + û + man | = | şadûman |
| rû + bi + rû | = | rûbirû |

Conclusion

Every language has means and methods and also has its own characteristics. In addition to this, there are some participant rules for languages. These common rules are generally viewed among the languages of the same family. These is why, it is a very natural and normal thing that some languages have common aspects in some ways and resemble to each other.

In these respect, from the subject we have pointed out above one by one it is seen that Kurdish is different, in many ways from both Arabic and Persian and Turkish. Especially we want to take the attention to the differences between Kurdish and Turkish. Because some Turkish linguists pretend that Kurdish is not an independent language and Kurds, originally, are Turkish too.

Since e clear idea to be mature about Kurdish and Turkish for the interested people. We are going to show the difference of the two languages in some concrete aspects.

- Kurdish is from the Indo-European language family, Turkish is from Ural-Altaiic.
- Kurdish is an inflective language; Turkish is an additive language,
- Kurdish has got genders but Turkish has not got.
- In Kurdish there are two groups of personal and demonstrative pronouns, there is not the same thing in Turkish.
- In Kurdish and in Turkish the compound is opposite to each other.
- Kurdish gets affixes in the front, in the middle and in the end. But in Turkish the affix is only in the end position.
- In Kurdish the word can take two or three consonants in the front. But in Turkish the word begins with just one consonant.
- The Kurdish and Turkish grammars don't resemble to each other. Their syntax and etymology are very different.

Let's come to the negotiations about Kurdish dialects and accents. As it is seen in other languages, there are accents and dialects in Kurdish too. They are:

- 1) Kurmancî
- 2) The Central Kurdish (Sorani)
- 3) Kirmanckî (Kirdkî, Dimilkî, Zazakî
- 4) Loranî

There are only Kurmancî and Kirmanckî of these dialects in Turkey. In the Kurmancî dialect there are three main accents; Botî, Silîvî and Mehmedî. The Botî accent is appreciated as the base for the written language among them. The grammar books, the orthography and dictionaries were prepared according to this opinion.

There are two accents of the Kirmanckî dialect; Dêrsimî and Siwêregî.

For a long time Kurdish language has been used as a teaching and education language. Kurdish religion schools are the evidence of this. In these schools except Kurdish, Arabic also was used.

The last word:

Kurdish is sufficient for itself, for the Kurds to be educated in their own language. There is no obstacle in the matter of the language. The obstacle is the current laws of Turkey.

Resources:

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